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Astonishing progress has been made with the Royal Air Force Colour Portrait Collection. Nearly 700 portraits have already been secured.

The collection is intended to keep alive the memory of those who distinguished themselves in the Service, who helped to shape its destiny and that of the Commonwealth and Empire.

It is a gift costing many thousands of pounds and demanding much hard work. The money was anonymously subscribed. All services are voluntary. The complete collection, which is for the benefit of the Royal Air Forces Association and the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, will include 1,000 portraits. These will be exhibited throughout the country so that the public may see photographic studies in colour of many of the leaders of what we may be forgiven for regarding as the finest Service in the greatest Empire in the World.

These exhibitions will be of considerable value to the R.A.F. as well as R.A.F.A. and R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, while affording great pleasure to the public.

Colour portraits have already been taken of many famous airmen. Among them are Marshals of the Royal Air Force Lord Trenchard, Lord Portal, Lord Dowding, Sir Edward Ellington and Sir Arthur Tedder; and Air Chief Marshals Sir Christopher Courtney, Sir Sholto Douglas, and Sir Arthur Coningham. The following are among the several hundred battle pilots already portrayed:

Group Captain L. Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C.

Group Captain 'Duggie' Bader, D.S.O., D.F.C.

Group Captain "Sailor" Malan, D.S.O., D.F.C.

W/Cdr. R. R. Stanford Tuck, D.S.O., D.F.C.

F/Lt. G. A. Cruikshanks, V.C.

Checking the lists and tracing distinguished men has presented a tremendous task, involving much work and effort. Every endeavour is being made to ensure that the collection may be widely representative. The co-operation of Station Commanders in sending the names of decorated Warrant Officers and N.C.O.'s to the Organiser, Portrait Collection, 14A, Basement, Air Ministry, King Charles Street, Whitehall (Abbey 3411, extension 5567) will be appreciated.

An imposing album is to be published, in full colour, of portraits of the more famous. A strictly limited edition will be published at 5 guineas. The publishers have most generously undertaken the work without the customary trade profit. Not only are services voluntary, fully equipped premises have been lent rent free. Thus it has been possible to secure for air charities a very high percentage of the published price of each album sold, without lowering the standard of the publication.

The portraits are printed in direct colour by a novel process which compensates for loss in reproduction. In this way the purity and strength of colour are assured. That results are superb and are regarded as outstanding by those who have seen them.

## Royal Air Force Colour Portrait Collection



Famous battle pilots survey progress

G/Capt. 'Duggie' Bader, D.S.O., D.F.C., W/Cdr. Stanford Tuck, D.S.O., D.F.C., G/Capt. F. R. Carey, D.F.C. A.F.C., and W/Cdr. P. R. Brothers, D.S.O., D.F.C.

Air Commodore Howard-Williams raised £45,000 for the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund without any expense whatever, and was also responsible for the recent R.A.F.A. Pageant at the Royal Albert Hall, the entire proceeds of which were handed to air charities without any deductions whatsoever. The *Daily Telegraph* generously paid every expense. Over £7,000 was obtained. This new project under his direction will realise considerably greater sums.

Sir Arthur Street, referring to this said:

"A fine scheme of real historic value; bold and imaginative, involving much toil, devotion and skill, to bring to fruition. It will be well worthy of the R.A.F. and I can give it no higher praise than that."

This publication will give pleasure to many. A page in each album has been specially reserved so that a portrait

may be added by the subscriber of a friend or relative who gave his or her life.

Those who wish to earmark an album may send a request for reservation. Orders are not yet being accepted, therefore *no money should be sent*. Many reservations have already been received, which are being listed and will be supplied in order.

Please send your reservation to the Balcombe Publishing Company, 134 Fleet Street, E.C.4. By its articles of incorporation, any surplus this company achieved is returnable to Air Charities.