

A FINE SECOND WORLD WAR A.F.C. GROUP, AWARDED TO A FLYING OFFICER, ROYAL AIR FORCE VOLUNTEER RESERVE



AIR FORCE CROSS G.VI, THE REVERSE DATED 1945, IN ROYAL MINT CASE OF ISSUE, DEFENCE AND WAR MEDALS, THE LATTER MOUNTED AS WORN. WITH A FINE SET OF CORRESPONDING MINIATURES, MOUNTED AS WORN.

A.F.C. *London Gazette* 3 April 1945. Flying Officer R.A.F.V.R.

Alfred Alan Gardiner, original served as a Sergeant in the Royal Air Force, before being commissioned. His R.C.A.F. Personnel Identification Card dated 7 March 1942, lists him as born on 1 February 1911 and then serving at No. 35 Service Flying Training School (35 S.F.T.S.) at North Battleford, west-central Saskatchewan, Canada. *London Gazette* entries list Gardiner as Sergeant (1532169) to be Pilot Officer on Probation (161737) 29 August 1943. Confirmed Flying Officer 29 February 1944, he was awarded the A.F.C. in April 1945 and advanced to Flight Lieutenant on 29 August 1945. No detailed research has been done on Gardiner's service or into what his award was for. However given his medal entitlement, it is likely it was a Flight Instructor or such.



In addition to the full sized medals, the group contains the following:

- a) Named Buckingham Palace enclosure for A.F.C.
- b) Box of issue for Second War medals addressed to 'F/Lt. A. A. Gardiner. This complete with medal slips in postal box of issue, Air Council enclosure and tapes giving medal entitlement, rank and number 161737
- c) Royal Canadian Air Force Personnel Identification Card
- d) Two snapshot portrait photographs of Gardiner in uniform
- e) An R.A.F. sweetheart brooch
- f) An Athletics enameled brass lapel badge dated 1932 for Johnston School
- g) A Festival of Britain 1951 crown
- h) The recipient's father's Great War Victory Medal '20456 Pte. R. B. Gardiner, North'd Fus' this officially renamed. In registered envelope of issue.

A good group, generally in NEF condition



DESCRIPTION

Age 1:2:1911
Height 6'0"
Weight 185 lbs
Eyes Blue
Hair LIGHT BROWN
Complexion FRESH
Visible marks, scars NIL

RCAF G84
25M-8-41 (028)
H.Q. 885-E. 84




IDENTIFICATION

ROYAL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL

Name GARDINER A. A.
Rank Sgt ~~LC~~ AR No. 1532169
Signature of holder A. A. Gardiner
Signature of issuer J. Forden P/O
Place 35 S.F.T.S Date 7.3.42
Card Serial No. 24910





The Under-Secretary of State for Air presents his compliments and by Command of the Air Council has the honour to transmit the enclosed Awards granted for service during the war of 1939-45.

Campaign Stars, Clasps and Medals instituted in recognition of service in the war of 1939-45

THE AWARDS ISSUED ARE MARKED X
ON THE ACCOMPANYING SLIP

Order of Wearing	Description of Ribbon	Clasp or Emblem (if awarded)
1	1939-45 Star Dark blue, red and light blue in three equal vertical stripes. This ribbon is worn with the dark blue stripe furthest from the left shoulder.	Battle of Britain
2	Atlantic Star Blue, white and sea green shaded and watered. This ribbon is worn with the blue edge furthest from the left shoulder.	Air Crew Europe or France and Germany
3	Air Crew Europe Star Light blue with black edges and in addition a narrow yellow stripe on either side.	Atlantic or France and Germany
4	Africa Star Pale buff, with a central vertical red stripe and two narrower stripes, one dark blue, and the other light blue. This ribbon is worn with the dark blue stripe furthest from the left shoulder.	8th Army or 1st Army or North Africa 1942-43
5	Pacific Star Dark green with red edges, a central yellow stripe, and two narrow stripes, one dark blue and the other light blue. This ribbon is worn with the dark blue stripe furthest from the left shoulder.	Burma
6	Burma Star Dark blue with a central red stripe and in addition two orange stripes.	Pacific
7	Italy Star Five vertical stripes of equal width, one in red at either edge and one in green at the centre, the two intervening stripes being in white.	
8	France and Germany Star Five vertical stripes of equal width, one in blue at either edge and one in red at the centre, the two intervening stripes being in white.	Atlantic
9	Defence Medal Flame coloured with green edges, upon each of which is a narrow black stripe.	Silver laurel leaves (King's Commendation for brave conduct. Civil)
10	War Medal 1939-45 A narrow central red stripe with a narrow white stripe on either side. A broad red stripe at either edge, and two intervening stripes in blue.	Oak leaf

