

NOT FOR PUBLICATION, BROADCAST, OR USE ON CLUB TAPES
BEFORE 0030 B.S.T. (FOR MORNING PAPERS) ON
WEDNESDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER, 1943
THIS EMBARGO SHOULD BE RESPECTED OVERSEAS BY PREFACING
ANY MESSAGES FILED WITH THE EMBARGO

Air Ministry News Service

Air Ministry Bulletin No. 11355

AIR MINISTRY STAFF APPOINTMENT

Air Commodore Strang Graham, M.C., G.M., has been appointed Director of Air Force Welfare at the Air Ministry, having previously been Deputy Director.

NOTE ON CAREER

Air Commodore Graham was granted a permanent commission in the Royal Air Force in October, 1919, after he had served in the Army from September 1914, in the ranks in the Cameron Highlanders and as an officer in the Royal Highlanders, gaining the M.C. in 1917.

After serving with various home units in the R.A.F. he proceeded to India in 1923, returning home five years later when he attended an engineering course. He was then employed on engineering duties, largely at training establishments, until 1936, being promoted Squadron Leader in 1932.

In 1936 he returned to flying duties and in the following year, as a Wing Commander, assumed command of No. 10 Squadron. After a subsequent period of liaison duty at a civil aircraft works he was appointed to command a station in 1942, and was similarly employed until his recent appointment as Deputy Director of Air Force Welfare.

He was promoted Group Captain in June, 1940, and was awarded the George Medal a few months ago following an incident when a bomber overshot on landing and crashed into another aircraft, the impact carrying both against a hangar where they burst into flames.

The citation said: "Disregarding the danger from exploding ammunition, petrol tanks and oxygen bottles, and although he was aware that one of the aircraft carried a 250 lb. bomb, he led the rescue party in extricating three members of the crew from the blazing aircraft."

Born in Lanarkshire in 1895, Air Commodore Graham was educated at Mossend and Thornwood public schools, Glasgow.

+++++