

3 of 15 Halt in Azores As Bluenoses Fly Home

Halifax, June 14 (CP).—A long swoop earthward, a gentle bump, and the Lancaster bomber Bluenose Outlaw, reached the end of a two-day flight from England and became the first plane of the Bluenose Squadron to touch Canadian soil after spending months blasting targets in Nazi Europe.

The Outlaw came to earth at 2:29 p.m. E.D.T., as the forerunner of 11 Bluenose Squadron "Lankies" of the 6th Canadian bomber group. Within a few minutes it was followed by such planes as Hellzahoppin', Exotic Angel, L'il Abner, Dauntless Donald and Gallopin' Gael. Still later in the afternoon Tamara, Piccadilly Princess and Pugwash roared in for a landing.

However, three of the 15 aircraft in the first wave of the Bluenose Squadron failed to complete the trip on schedule. They are still in the Azores where the squadron stopped on the first leg of its flight from the United Kingdom.

The 15th Lancaster, R for Rotary, is expected to arrive tonight along with members of the Iroquois Squadron.

On hand at the airport were three members of the Rotary Club to greet the members of the squadron which the organization adopted two years ago. Foster Chittick, president of the Halifax Rotary Club, officially welcomed the squadron's commander, Wing Cmdr. J. C. Mulvihill, of Britannia Heights, Ont.

Mulvihill piloted the aircraft L'il Abner, which had 12 runs over enemy targets to its credit. He had been squadron commander since March and in the RCAF since 1939.

First skipper to set foot on Canadian soil was Flt. Lt. W. Yuill of Winnard, Sask., a veteran of 26 missions.

He was closely followed by his crew, including WO.2 Roy Saunders of Hampstead, Que., and Flt. Sgt. Larry Lawlor of St. John's, Nfld.

One DFC winner, Mike Williams of Toronto, was among the returning airmen. FO. B. B. Glazer of Montreal said his aircraft, Gallopin' Gael, had made 15, plus one, missions. The plus one was a bit mysterious so he explained.

"That one was a mercy mission. We flew a prisoner of war from France to England."

The returned group pretty well represented the Dominion. Among the pilots were FO. Curt Voegell of Winnipeg; Flt. Lt. R. E. Purnell of Hamilton, Ont., and FO. Jack Dawson of Montreal.

Other men returning were PO. R. P. Connor of Vancouver; FO. A. G. Hiller of Edmonton; PO. A. C. Kay of New Westminster, B.C.; PO. Robert McKay of Regina; FO. W. E. Dear of Bright House, B.C.; FO. D. G. White of Toronto; Flt. Sgt. T. P. Kelly of Toronto; Flt. Sgt. E. P. Macdonald of Owen Sound, Ont.; FO. H. F. Payne of Hanna, Alta., and FO. E. A. Bishop of Calgary.

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