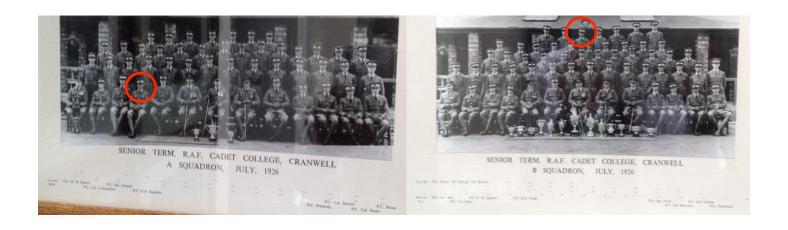
## **Fewest of the Few Supplement**



S24 Entry Graduated July 1926

SURNAME	INITS
HAMBLIN	RK
ROBERTS	DN





## Hamblin, Richard Kaye (S24 Entry, A Squadron)



Hamblin was born on 16 December 1906 at Fyzabad in India. By the time of the 1910 Census of Lymington in Hampshire, he was a four-year-old living with his grandfather a retired Indian civil servant.

Hamblin joined the Royal Air Force in September 1924, as a flight cadet.

On 30 July 1926, he was posted to No. 56 Squadron RAF as a pilot.

In 1930, he attended the Electrical and Wireless School to train as a signals officer.

In October 1932, he was posted to 31 Squadron in India, eventually becoming a flight commander with 5 Squadron and promoted to Squadron Leader before leaving India.

In 1938, he was appointed OC 142 Squadron, operating the Fairey Battle. This was followed by a staff appointment in the Deputy Directorate of War Organisation.

During the Battle of Britain, he flew one operational sortie with No. 17 Squadron, thereby qualifying him for the Battle of Britain clasp.

In November 1941, he was appointed OC 85 Squadron, operating the Douglas Havoc.

Hamblin was Mentioned in Despatches four times during the war and was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1946. After the war, he was back to staff duties, including Officer Commanding AHQ West Africa, AOA at 2 Group and Director of Personnel from 1954 until he retired in 1956 as an Air Commodore.

Hamblin died on 30 August 1988 in Hampshire.

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