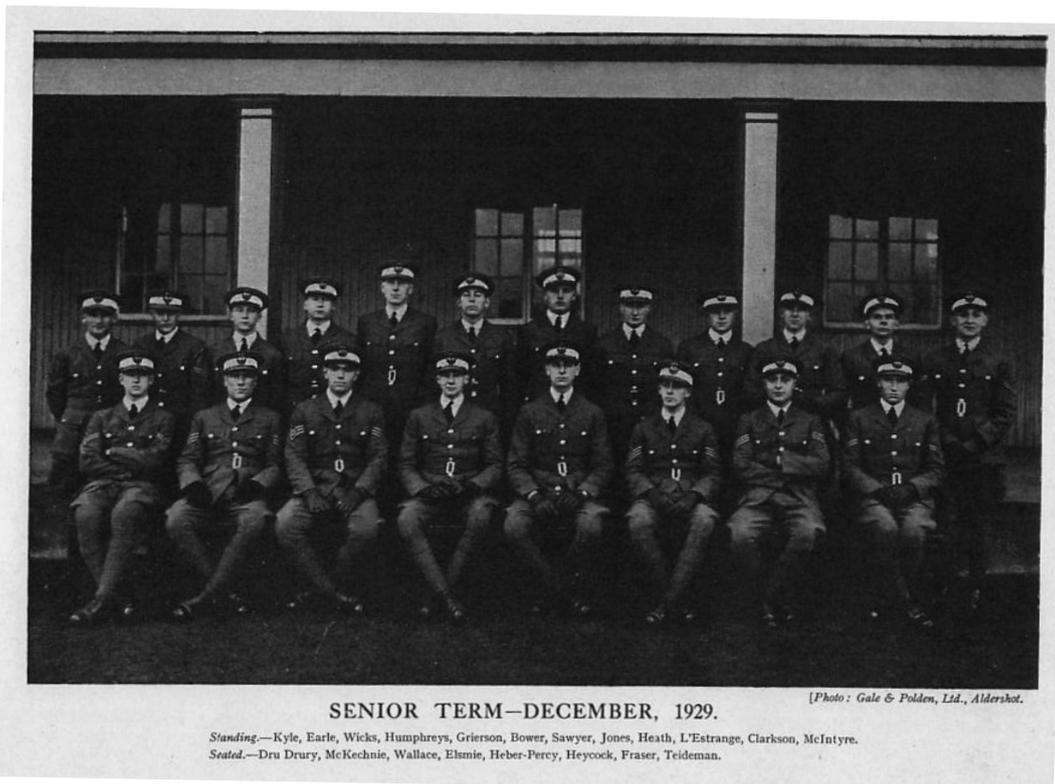


Fewest of the Few Supplement



J28 Entry Graduated December 1929

SURNAME	INITS
HEYCOCK	GFW





**Heycock, George Francis Wheaton
(J28 Entry, A Squadron)**



23



111



141

George Francis Wheaton Heycock was born on 17 September 1909. He went to Haileybury School and Imperial Service College, and entered the RAF College Cranwell in January 1928 as a Flight Cadet. On graduation in December 1929, he was commissioned and joined 111 Squadron at Hornchurch.

Heycock went back to Cranwell on 5th August 1931 as a flying instructor. In January 1933, he was appointed PA to the AOC Inland Area, Air Vice Marshal Longmore, at Bentley Priory. On 22nd October 1934, Heycock went to CFS Wittering as an instructor.



AVM Longmore

He joined 823 (Fleet Spotter-Reconnaissance) Squadron on 30 August 1935 on HMS Furious and land-based at Hal Far, Malta.

On 14 January 1938, Heycock went to the Experimental Section at the RAE Farnborough as a test pilot. He was there until 1 June 1940, when he was posted to 5 OTU Aston Down for a refresher course. He moved to 7 OTU Hawarden on 15 June as a Flight Commander.

On 8 August Heycock took command of 23 Squadron at Wittering, leading it until November. After a spell away, he commanded the squadron again from January to March 1941.

He took command of 141 Squadron at Ayr on 6th July 1941. From August, he converted the squadron from Defiants to Beaufighters.

On 1 May 1942, Heycock gained a probable Do 217 at night.

With his tour completed, he was posted on 9 September 1942 and awarded the DFC (gazetted 29th September 1942). Promoted to Group Captain, he was appointed Head of Night Operations at HQ 9 Group.

From June 1943 to June 1944, he commanded 35 OTU in Canada.

Heycock returned to the UK and on 13 August 1944 became Station Commander at West Raynham.

Mentioned in Despatches (gazetted 14th June 1945), he was posted to a Staff course at the RAF Staff College at Bracknell in August 1945.

Heycock held a series of appointments at home and abroad, his final one as Air Attache in Paris from March 1959 until March 1964. For his services there, he was made a Commander of the Legion d'Honneur by the French Government.

Heycock was created a CB (gazetted 8th June 1963) and retired from the RAF on 1 May 1964 as an Air Commodore. He died on 27th June 1983.