

Public Relations Directorate,  
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FIRST INDIAN AIR COMMODORE  
NEW SENIOR RIAF APPOINTMENTS

NEW DELHI, May 15 - The first Indian officer to be promoted to the rank of Air Commodore is Group Captain Subroto Mukerjee, O.B.E., the most senior officer in the Royal Indian Air Force, who to-day assumes the appointment of Deputy Assistant to the Air Officer-in-charge of Administration at Air Headquarters, India.

Trained at Cranwell in 1930, he was the first Indian officer to be commissioned in the Indian Air Force in August, 1932, and also the first Indian Squadron Commander and Station Commander in the IAF.

Previously in charge of Flying Training at Air Headquarters, India, Air Commodore Mukerjee has seen service in the United Kingdom in No 16 RAF Squadron in which he served for nine months and on the North-West Frontier with No. 1 Squadron of the Indian Air Force which he commanded.

A further chain of promotions has been announced by Air Headquarters, India.

Wing Commander Mehr Singh, D.S.O., member of the Armed Forces Nationalisation Committee, assumes the appointment of Group Captain in charge of Flying Training and Wing Commander Narendra fills the post of Senior Officer in charge of Administration at No. 2 Indian Group Bangalore also with the rank of Group Captain.

Other appointments as announced by Air Headquarters with the rank of Wing Commander are:

S/Ldr S.D.Singh, Officer Commanding No 12 RIAF Squadron,

S/Ldr H.N.Chatterjee D.F.C., Chief Instructor at the School of Flying Training at Ambala, S/Ldr H.S.Ratnagar, Officer Commanding RAF Station Poona, S/Ldr Ranjan Dutt, Officer in charge of Flying Operations at No. 1 Indian Group at Peshawar, S/Ldr. R.Atmaram Officer Commanding the Initial Training Wing at Coimbatore and S/Ldr M.M. Engineer D.F.C., Officer Commanding the RIAF Depot at Arkonam.