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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,
10th April, 1942.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division) to:—

741675 Flight Sergeant George Douglas Gamble, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

In January, 1942, whilst flying over Northern Ireland, this captain of an aircraft engaged on a non-operational flight was forced to attempt a landing owing to the weather. With great skill he succeeded in making a landing in the face of a heavy snowstorm. On impact, Flight Sergeant Gamble was stunned but, recovering quickly, he managed to scramble through the starboard window on to the starboard wing which was on fire. After rolling himself in the snow to extinguish the flames from his burning clothing, Flight Sergeant Gamble observed the second pilot jammed in the starboard window and, dashing through the flames, he pulled him clear. He then collected the crew but, on finding one member missing, he re-entered the burning aircraft and attempted to reach the wireless cabin. He was driven back by the flames, however, but called out several times before being forced to retire. He then found that the missing airman had escaped through the broken fuselage. Thereafter, Flight Sergeant Gamble took charge of the party, all of whom were suffering from burns and abrasions and two from broken ankles. Throughout, this airman displayed great courage and a complete disregard of his own safety.

567988 Flight Sergeant Daniel Ernest Crittall Lockyer, Royal Air Force.

One night in January, 1942, an aircraft, whilst returning from an operational patrol,

crashed in the Shetlands and caught fire. Flight Sergeant Lockyer, a member of the crew, sustained injury to an ankle. In spite of exploding ammunition and the knowledge that a depth charge was in the aircraft, this airman succeeded in extricating an officer from the blazing wreckage and rolling him to a place of safety. Flight Sergeant Lockyer then returned to the aircraft but was unable to rescue other members of the crew owing to the flames. Subsequently, without boots and in complete darkness, gale and rain, he tramped 4 miles over boggy country to get assistance. Flight Sergeant Lockyer displayed great fortitude and determination with a complete disregard of his personal safety.

*Air Ministry,
10th April, 1942.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operations against the enemy:—

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Robert Findlay BOYD, D.F.C. (90165), Auxiliary Air Force.

Since December, 1941, this officer has led a wing on many operational missions. Much of the outstanding successes which have been obtained can be attributed to the leadership, skill and fighting spirit of this officer. Since being awarded a bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross, Wing Commander Boyd has destroyed a further 12 enemy aircraft, bringing his total victories to 22.

Bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Group Captain Arthur Mostyn WRAY, M.C., D.F.C., A.F.C.

One night in March, 1942, this officer participated in an attack on the Ruhr. To

ensure success, Group Captain Wray deliberately descended to a low altitude, in the face of fierce opposing fire, to bomb his objective. His gallantry and exceptional leadership have set a most inspiring example.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Donald William Alfred STONES, D.F.C. (42276).

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, this officer has destroyed at least 6 enemy aircraft besides damaging many more. By his exceptional ability and complete disregard of danger, Flight Lieutenant Stones has set an example worthy of the highest praise.

Flying Officer Maurice Arthur SMITH, D.F.C. (88658), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 83 Squadron.

On 12th February, 1942, this officer was the captain of an aircraft which participated in an attack on German battleships at sea. When nearing the objectives, his aircraft was attacked by 3 enemy fighters. The rear gunner was wounded in the hand and chest but he opened fire on one of the attackers, causing it to dive away. It was then shot down by the front gunner. Although another of the fighters was shot down, Flying Officer Smith's aircraft had sustained much damage. The starboard wing was pierced by a cannon shell, the starboard rudder shot away in shreds and other damage was sustained. Nevertheless, by a fine display of airmanship, Flying Officer Smith succeeded in flying the aircraft safely back to this country where he made a safe landing. In the face of difficult circumstances, this officer displayed great skill and courage.

Pilot Officer Robert McFARLANE, D.F.C. (111222), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 83 Squadron.

On 12th February, 1942, this officer was the captain of an aircraft which participated in an attack on the German warships at sea. When approaching the battleships at an altitude of 500 feet, his aircraft was attacked by 2 enemy fighters whose pilots made 3 separate attacks. The hydraulic system was rendered unserviceable and the bomb doors could not be opened. Unaware of the damage sustained, Pilot Officer McFarlane skilfully evaded his attackers and made his run over the battleships. His aircraft was thereupon subjected to a fierce barrage and sustained further damage. The port and starboard rudders were pierced in innumerable places and large gaps were torn in the fuselage by shell-fire. Meanwhile, the elevator cables had been damaged and were only holding by 2 strands of wire. Nevertheless, Pilot Officer McFarlane flew the aircraft back to this country and finally made a safe landing. Throughout, this officer showed great skill, courage and determination.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Donald Osborne FINLAY (36031).

From September, 1940, to August, 1941, Wing Commander Finlay was the commanding officer of No. 41 Squadron. He participated in many sorties during which he destroyed at least 3 enemy aircraft in combat. On one sortie, he attacked a German ship,

leaving it a mass of flames. During the period his squadron destroyed 66 enemy aircraft. Since joining his present unit, Wing Commander Finlay has participated in several sorties. On 3rd March, 1942, he destroyed a Messerschmitt 109 following a courageous head-on attack, thus bringing his victories to 4. This officer has always shown great keenness and he has set a splendid example to all.

Acting Squadron Leader John Champion CARVER (72396), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 118 Squadron.

This officer has carried out numerous operational flights of a varied character, including an attack on the German battleships at sea on 12th February, 1942. On 13th March, 1942, during a patrol, his aircraft sustained damage from the fire of a Junkers 88 and Squadron Leader Carver was forced to leave the aircraft by parachute. Whilst so doing, he struck his face against the hood and was stunned; thus, when entering the water following his descent, he was still harnessed to his parachute. With some difficulty he disentangled himself from the shrouds and then succeeded in inflating his dinghy and clambering safely aboard. Unperturbed by the hazards which confronted him, Squadron Leader Carver decided to paddle his way to the English coast a distance of some 70 miles. Excepting for unforeseen circumstances, he estimated that the task could be accomplished within 3 days. Although his 2 compasses had been rendered unserviceable through immersion, Squadron Leader Carver checked his course and position in daylight by the sun and at night by the stars. In this way he maintained his correct course and estimated rate of travel. During the journey, he adopted a strict rationing of his supplies and quenched his thirst by drinking, at regular intervals, small quantities of rain water which collected in the apron of his dinghy. At about 0130 hours on the 16th March, Squadron Leader Carver had reached a point 7 miles from the English coast where, after being afloat for 57 hours in wintry conditions, he was rescued by one of His Majesty's ships whose attention he had attracted by blowing his whistle. Throughout, this officer's conduct and actions, in a situation which demanded a high degree of fortitude, courage and determination, were worthy of the highest traditions of the Service.

Flight Lieutenant Ronald John Sinclair WOOTTON (42088), No. 69 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Wootton has completed a large number of operational flights in the Middle East. His reconnaissance work has been executed with exceptional skill and gallantry and has produced most valuable results. Throughout a long period, he has shown great devotion to duty.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Anthony Richard Henry BARTON (30104), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 124 Squadron.

This officer has proved himself to be a keen and courageous pilot. He fought with great distinction in the Battle of Britain and destroyed 5 enemy aircraft before he himself

was shot down and severely wounded. Flight Lieutenant Barton resumed operational flying in February, 1941, since when he has participated in many sorties against the enemy. Throughout, he has set a magnificent example.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Eric Percy William BOCOCK (61215), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 602 Squadron.

Since July, 1941, this officer has participated in many operational sorties. Throughout, he has displayed courage, initiative and great energy. He has destroyed at least 3 enemy aircraft, 2 of which he shot down on one sortie.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Clive Newton WAWN (Aus.400163), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 452 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed a large number of operational sorties. He has proved himself to be a sterling pilot and a good leader. He has destroyed at least 2 hostile aircraft.

gallantry displayed in flying operations against the enemy:—

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Wing Commander John Margrave LEREW, Royal Australian Air Force.

Flight Lieutenant David Watt Ian CAMPBELL, Royal Australian Air Force.

These officers have displayed outstanding courage, determination, skill and tenacity in the course of bombing raids on enemy positions in New Britain.

Flight Lieutenant William Allan PEDRINA, Royal Australian Air Force.

In February, 1942, this officer took part in a low level attack on enemy destroyers and transports, in the face of intense fire, at Gasmata, New Britain. Later in February he carried out a single daylight reconnaissance of enemy shipping at Rabaul. In spite of being attacked by enemy fighters and ground defences and having his gunner killed and aircraft damaged he completed his reconnaissance and returned over 500 miles to his base with extremely valuable information.

AMENDMENTS.

In notification of 7th April, 1942 (p. 1556, col. 2). concerning John Henry JACKSON (Aus. 493) *for* Henry *read* Francis, and (p. 1557, col. 2), *for* Aus. 40783 Sergeant Ronald David MILLAR, Royal Australian Air Force *read* N.Z. 40783 Sergeant Ronald David MILLAR, Royal New Zealand Air Force.

Air Ministry,
10th April, 1942.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of

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