



SECOND SUPPLEMENT  
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*Air Ministry, 23rd February, 1943.*

**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.*

Squadron Leader John Beauchamp SELBY, D.F.C. (88705), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 73 Squadron.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, this officer has completed much operational flying at night. Throughout, he has displayed outstanding leadership and determination, setting a splendid example to the squadron he commands.

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Wing Commander Howard Frizelle BURTON, D.F.C. (33227).

Since he assumed command of the wing in December, 1942, this officer has taken part in nearly all its sorties. On one occasion, the formation was attacked by a very large force of enemy fighters, 1 of which Wing Commander Burton shot down. He has displayed great keenness and devotion to duty.

Major William Andries NEL, D.F.C. (P.47233), South African Air Force, No. 40 Squadron.

During the advance in the Western Desert, this officer completed many reconnaissance missions of outstanding merit, including flights over Tobruk, El Agheila and Sirte. On several occasions his aircraft has been intercepted by enemy fighters, nevertheless Major Nel has succeeded in returning to base with valuable information. During a mission in November, 1942, he piloted 1 of 2 aircraft which were intercepted by 6 enemy fighters. Major Nel engaged the enemy and it was largely due to his efforts that valuable information was brought back.

Acting Flight Lieutenant William Lawrence CHISHOLM, D.F.C. (Can/J.15044), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 92 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in the squadron's activities since its arrival in the Western Desert. Throughout he has displayed gallant leadership and outstanding keenness. On one occasion he led the squadron in an attack on a force of enemy fighters and, in the ensuing engagement, 2 of them were destroyed without loss. Flight Lieutenant Chisholm, who has destroyed 6 enemy aircraft, has invariably displayed great courage and devotion to duty.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Charles James SAMUELLE, D.F.C. (113341), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 92 Squadron.

This officer is a very determined and courageous fighter. He has destroyed at least 7 and damaged several more enemy aircraft in combat. His excellent work has been reflected in the high standard of operational efficiency of the flight he leads.

Flying Officer Neville Frederick DUKE, D.F.C. (61054), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 92 Squadron.

One day in January, 1943, this officer led his flight in an engagement against a large force of enemy fighters over Beurat. During the combat, Flying Officer Duke fought with great resolution, destroying 2 enemy aircraft before all his ammunition was expended. Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross he has destroyed 3 hostile aircraft, bringing his victories to 11. Flying Officer Duke has led his section and the flight with distinction.

Flying Officer Mervyn Charles SHIPARD, D.F.C. (Aus.402257), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 89 Squadron.

This officer is a resolute and skilful pilot. Since the beginning of December, 1942, he has destroyed 6 enemy aircraft at night, bringing his total victories to 13. His great keenness and devotion to duty have been worthy of high praise.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Lieutenant Colonel Richard Adrian BLACKWELL (P.103010), South African Air Force.

This officer has completed a large number of operational sorties during his eight months service in the Western Desert. In night flying operations he has displayed a fearless determination to engage the enemy, regardless of the odds against him. His fine fighting spirit and devotion to duty have been an inspiration to his subordinates.

Lieutenant Colonel Clifford Steward COPPEN (P.203158), South African Air Force.

As squadron commander, this officer has displayed a high standard of operational efficiency. One night in January, 1943, he led an attack by Baltimore aircraft on enemy transport on the Misurata road. The sortie proved successful, giving the aircrews great confidence. Within the next 8 days Lieutenant Colonel Coppen led several of the 100 sorties which were made in this type of aircraft. His fine leadership and outstanding devotion to duty have been inspiring.

Major Frank KOTZE (P.203107), South African Air Force.

Since Major Kotze has been in command of his squadron he has led a number of operational sorties, the majority of which have been by night. His enthusiasm for night flying operations has set a splendid example to his crews while his unswerving devotion to duty has been of the highest standard.

Acting Squadron Leader Maurice Clinton Hinton BARBER (80027), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 450 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

During operations in the Western Desert this officer displayed great skill and unflagging devotion to duty. As flight and squadron commander his steady judgment and high morale