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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:—

Bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Richard Edgar Peter BROOKER, D.F.C. (39931), No. 232 Squadron.

This officer has continuously led the squadron into action against largely superior numbers of enemy aircraft at Singapore and in the Netherlands East Indies. He has displayed gallantry, determination and cheerfulness in the face of heavy odds.

Acting Squadron Leader Keith William TRUSCOTT, D.F.C. (Aus.400213), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 452 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer is a skilful and courageous fighter pilot. Since May, 1941, he has participated in a large number of sorties and convoy escorts. Throughout, he has shown a fine fighting spirit and, in combat, he has destroyed 11, probably destroyed 3 and damaged a further 2 hostile aircraft. One day in February, 1942, Squadron Leader Truscott participated in an attack on an enemy destroyer which was left in a damaged condition with black smoke issuing from behind the bridge. The next day, he assisted in the destruction of a German floatplane.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader Stanley Gordon STILLING (39579), No. 205 Squadron.

In January, 1942, whilst carrying out an attack on an enemy target in the face of intense ground fire, Squadron Leader Stilling's aircraft was damaged, the port oil tank being hit and one engine put out of

action. In spite of this, he succeeded, with great skill and coolness, in bringing the aircraft safely back to base. Squadron Leader Stilling has always displayed great courage and determination in carrying out his attacks.

Flight Lieutenant Richard Ashley ATKINSON (70030), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 205 Squadron.

This officer has carried out many long-distance reconnaissance sorties and, on several occasions, he has successfully beaten off attacking enemy aircraft. One morning in December, 1941, Flight Lieutenant Atkinson's flying boat was attacked by enemy aircraft when 300 miles N.E. of Singapore. The enemy were immediately engaged, but after a 15-minute combat the flying boat's petrol tank was hit and exploded; the aircraft caught fire and was forced to alight on the sea. The crew, of which 2 were wounded, were all suffering from burns. They were unable to launch the dinghy and had to remain in the sea for six and a half hours before being rescued by a Dutch submarine. Throughout, Flight Lieutenant Atkinson set an excellent example by his great steadiness and courage.

Flight Lieutenant Anthony Dockray PHILLIPS (70539), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

This officer has carried out numerous valuable long distance reconnaissances. These were often carried out in very bad weather and, on several occasions, his aircraft has been attacked and damaged by enemy aircraft. Flight Lieutenant Phillips has obtained much valuable information during his sorties and has always displayed great skill, courage and devotion to duty.

Flight Lieutenant Kenwyn Roland SUTTON (36182), No. 23 Squadron.

This officer has proved himself to be a first class operational pilot. He participated in the intensive air fighting in France during

May and June, 1940. During 1 sortie, he destroyed 1 and damaged another enemy aircraft before being shot down himself. Since then, Flight Lieutenant Sutton has taken part in numerous patrols both by day and by night. As a flight commander he has shown sterling qualities and he has been mainly responsible for the high standard of efficiency of his flight.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Alec Edward BERRY (43023), No. 3 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in operational flying over a long period during which he has participated in sorties over enemy territory, attacks on shipping and in night fighting operations. As a flight commander he has shown great skill and leadership, combined with excellent organising abilities. During January, 1941, Flight Lieutenant Berry shot down a Heinkel III, probably destroyed a Junkers 88 and assisted in the destruction of a Dornier 215.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Thornhill SHAW (108962), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 3 Squadron.

This officer has been engaged on operational flying since November, 1940. He has taken part in operations against enemy aircraft by night, in numerous daylight sorties over enemy occupied territory and in many attacks on shipping. Flight Lieutenant Shaw has led his detachment with exceptional skill and keenness and he has destroyed at least 3 enemy aircraft.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Vectis Carew WYLLIE (42669), No. 84 Squadron.

On the night of the 28th February, 1942, when the enemy were attempting to land in Java, this officer carried out 3 low level attacks in the face of accurate anti-aircraft fire and succeeded in scoring a hit on a 6,000 ton enemy transport. Flight Lieutenant Wyllie has always displayed great determination to press home his attacks and has proved himself to be an inspiration to all.

Flying Officer Arthur Gerald DONAHUE (81624), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 258 Squadron.

This officer has carried out many low level reconnaissance sorties and has successfully attacked enemy shipping and ground objectives. On one occasion, whilst carrying out an attack against enemy troops attempting a landing, Flying Officer Donahue silenced the enemy's fire, thus enabling the rest of the formation to press home their attacks with impunity. He has destroyed several enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer Robert Carl FUMERTON (Can/J.1352), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 89 Squadron.

One night in March, 1942, this officer engaged a Heinkel III during an enemy air raid over the Suez Canal zone. Observing the enemy aircraft in the moonlight, Flying Officer Fumerton delivered a good burst and, although he was wounded and his aircraft damaged by the enemy's return fire, he continued the attack and set the bomber on fire. Although the undercarriage of his aircraft had been put out of action, Flying Officer Fumerton made a safe landing. The raiding aircraft descended on to the sea, its crew being captured.

Pilot Officer Roy Mathias AHALT (Can/J.4889), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 150 Squadron.

As captain of aircraft, this officer carried out 2 operational missions on successive nights in March, 1942. In the face of heavy anti-aircraft fire he deliberately descended to a low altitude in order to identify the exact target which, on both occasions, was successfully bombed. Throughout a long record of operational flying, this officer has displayed high courage, determination and efficiency.

Pilot Officer John Moss, No. 208 Squadron.

One day in January, 1942, this officer carried out a photographic reconnaissance of the battle area. While making his run over the area at 20,000 feet, Pilot Officer Moss observed 3 enemy fighters flying to intercept him. Nevertheless, he continued his run for some 8 minutes and, when the attackers prepared to engage him, he put his aircraft into a violent turn and spiralled down to 4,000 feet, which caused the windscreens and hood to become iced-up and reduced his visibility to a minimum. When below 4,000 feet, the ice cleared and Pilot Officer Moss observed that the enemy fighters were still in pursuit but, adopting both skilful and disconcerting tactics, he cleverly evaded the enemy. He finally eluded his pursuers in a sand storm near a landing ground but he was unable to land there owing to the sand storm. Realising, however, that his petrol was becoming exhausted he flew clear of the tents and mechanised transports and made a safe landing with the undercarriage of his aircraft retracted and without incurring any damage to his camera. He then commandeered a vehicle and returned to his squadron with his photographs. Pilot Officer Moss displayed courage and resource in accomplishing a most valuable reconnaissance.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

581540 Flight Sergeant Stanley Robert STREETER, No. 23 Squadron.

This airman has been engaged on operational flying for the past 2 years. He has served with several squadrons and has participated in numerous missions over enemy and enemy occupied territory. Since joining his present squadron, Flight Sergeant Streeter has carried out many sorties. He is an exceptionally efficient air observer and he has always shown the greatest keenness and determination throughout his operational career.

1260983 Sergeant Ronald Leonard DOVELL, No. 242 Squadron.

On one occasion whilst over enemy territory, this airman engaged enemy fighters which were attacking our bombers and destroyed 4 of them, bringing his total victories to at least 6. He has always displayed great skill and determination in the face of heavy odds.

N.Z. 402916 Sergeant (now Pilot Officer) Charles Benedict WAREHAM, Royal New Zealand Air Force.

This airman has carried out many long distance reconnaissance sorties, often in bad weather. He has obtained much valuable information of enemy targets and he has displayed great skill, keenness and courage.

Aus. 402554 Sergeant Sydney George WELSHMAN.

One night, this airman was engaged on a reconnaissance flight over the Benghazi area when he observed enemy fighters below him. Nevertheless, he decided to complete his mission. Whilst making his run over the harbour, his aircraft was damaged by anti-aircraft fire and then attacked by Messerschmitt 109s. By skilful tactics, Sergeant Welshman finally evaded his attackers and

eventually succeeded in flying his badly damaged aircraft safely back to his base. He secured valuable information.

N.Z. 41388 Sergeant Bert Sam WIPITI, Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 243 Squadron.

Sergeant Wipiti has carried out a large number of operational flights against the enemy and he has displayed outstanding courage and determination whilst engaging large formations of enemy aircraft. He has set a fine example to all.

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