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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