



THIRD SUPPLEMENT

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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:—

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Donald Frederick William DARLING (40368), No. 151 Squadron.

Since November, 1940, this officer has carried out a large number of operational sorties at night. Throughout, he has shown a strong sense of duty. He has often voluntarily undertaken flights many miles out to sea in appalling weather in an endeavour to intercept enemy raiders. By his untiring efforts and continued encouragement he has contributed materially to the high standard of operational efficiency of his flight.

Flight Lieutenant Alistair Murray TAYLOR (77612), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 39 Squadron.

This officer has proved himself to be a capable and courageous flight commander. Late in January, 1942, the formation of which he was the leader attacked an Italian convoy which was protected by a battleship and a number of cruisers and destroyers. Flight Lieutenant Taylor led his formation through a fierce barrage and himself scored a hit on one of the merchant ships. Subsequently, in March, he led an attack on another convoy when a cruiser, a merchant vessel and a destroyer were torpedoed by the formation. A Junkers 88 was also destroyed on this occasion.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Lawrence Wemyss ELLACOMBE (43031), No. 151 Squadron.

This officer is a keen and courageous fighter pilot. Although he was severely

wounded in the Battle of Britain, Flight Lieutenant Ellacombe immediately resumed operational flying upon recovery. He has carried out numerous flights by night in all weather conditions and he has destroyed 2 and probably destroyed a further 2 enemy aircraft.

Pilot Officer Henry Erskine BODIEN (45720), No. 151 Squadron.

This officer has carried out many night patrols. As a night fighter pilot he has shown great devotion to duty and a complete disregard of danger. On one occasion, despite having trouble with his own aircraft, Pilot Officer Bodien kept up a series of attacks on an enemy aircraft for some 45 minutes and finally destroyed it. He has destroyed 3 hostile aircraft at night.

Pilot Officer Robert Inglis LAING (N.Z.391360), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 73 (N.Z.) Squadron.

This officer has flown for a large number of hours during arduous operations in the Western Desert. Throughout, he has displayed outstanding courage and ability, particularly in low level machine-gunning raids on enemy aerodromes and motor transport columns. Such an occasion occurred in December, 1941, when, in a raid on the aerodrome at Jedabya, 13 enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground. In this operation, Pilot Officer Laing pressed home his attack with determination.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

901005 Sergeant Harry Walpole CHARNOCK, No. 19 Squadron.

This airman has displayed great skill and courage in air combat and has destroyed at least 4 enemy aircraft. He has, on occasions, led his flight, and his high standard of morale has set an inspiring example.