

FOURTH SUPPLEMENT

TO

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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 Service Order.

Flight Lieutenant Peter NIXEY (42257), No. 214 Squadron.

One night in April, 1942, this officer was the captain of an aircraft detailed to attack a target in the Ruhr. During the operation his aircraft was subjected to heavy anti-aircraft fire whilst held in the glare of numerous The starboard engine, the searchlights. mainplane and aileron, the bomb doors and the tail plane were damaged. The navigator was dangerously wounded in the abdomen and thigh, the front gunner was injured about the eye and Flight Lieutenant Nixey himself was hit in the right arm by a In the face of harassing shell-splinter. circumstances, although deprived of the assistance of his navigator, Flight Lieutenant Nixey coolly and skilfully flew the damaged aircraft back to this country where he made a safe landing with the undercarriage retracted. This officer has completed numerous sorties and he has always displayed outstanding courage, leadership and skill.

Bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader Richard Macklow TROUSDALE, D.F.C. (42163), No. 409 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer is an exceptionally skilful and keen fighter pilot. He has destroyed 8 hostile aircraft, 5 of which he has shot down at night.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader John Filleul Castle (77786), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 226 Squadron.

In April, 1942, this officer was the leader of a bomber force which attacked the Power Station at Le Havre. Over the target area, heavy and concentrated anti-aircraft fire was encountered but Squadron Leader Castle, without deviating from his course, led his formation deliberately through the barrage to make an attack on the objective on which several hits were obtained; hits were also obtained on the dock gates and on barges. Much of the success achieved can be attributed to the masterly leadership and courage displayed by Squadron Leader Castle. He has completed many sorties, including a low-level attack on the Matford Works at Poissy.

Flight Lieutenant David John Colin PINCKNEY (72520), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 67 Squadron. (Since reported missing.)

As a flight leader, this officer has displayed great skill and determination in his attacks on the enemy. In the Far East, Flight Lieutenant Pinckney completed numerous sorties and destroyed several aircraft on the ground by machine-gun fire; he also destroyed 2 locomotives. He participated in the Battle of Britain during which he destroyed at least 4 hostile aircraft.

Flight Lieutenant Reginald Robert SANDFORD (42380), No. 44 (Rhodesia) Squadron. (Since reported missing.)

In April, 1942, this officer captained an aircraft which attacked Essen. Despite unfavourable weather, Flight Lieutenant Sandford skilfully reached the target and, in the face of intense enemy fire, he carried out

a determined and courageous attack. This officer has completed a large number of operational missions and he has always displayed exceptional ability and devotion to duty.

Flight Lieutenant John Fowler WILLS (80549), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 156 Squadron.

One night in April, 1942, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Cologne. Whilst over the target area the aircraft was hit by shell fire, causing a photographic flash to explode which completely denuded the air frame of fabric from the main plane to the rear turret. Other damage was sustained and the aircraft was forced down to a height of only 500 feet. Nevertheless Flight Lieutenant Wills, although deprived of wireless aid, decided to make the attempt to reach this country. During the return journey, his aircraft repeatedly came under fire from the ground defences but, displaying great perseverance and courage, he succeeded

in flying the damaged aircraft to England and eventually made a safe landing with the under-carriage retracted. This officer has completed over 30 operational missions and has displayed persistent determination and outstanding courage.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

N.Z.405356 Sergeant Gordon Albert WILLIAMS, Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 67 Squadron.

This airman has displayed great courage and determination in the face of the enemy. In December, 1941, he destroyed at least 2 as well as damaging several more hostile aircraft. On two occasions he undertook ground machine-gunning sorties with much success.

AMENDMENT.

In notification of 28th April, 1942 (p. 1852, col. 2), concerning Flight Sergeant Leonard Henry MUTTER, for Henry read Harry.

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