

FOURTH SUPPLEMENT

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Air Ministry, 23rd June, 1942.

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 George Kemp Gilroy, D.F.C. (90481), Auxiliary Air Force, No. 609 Squadron.

Since this officer was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in July, 1040, he has destroyed an additional 7 enemy aircraft and damaged a further 2, making a total of 10 destroyed and 4 damaged. Under his command his squadron has met with considerable success in the destruction of enemy aircraft. He is a first class fighter pilot and an excellent leader.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Patrick Henry WOODRUFF (39806), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 404 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

On 17th May, 1942, this officer led a formation of bomber aircraft in the attack on the German cruiser "Prince Eugen." Despite interference from enemy fighters, Wing Commander Woodruff accomplished his task in a skilful and determined manner. Throughout, he showed great leadership and determination. He has commanded the squadron since May, 1941, and, by his personal example, has contributed largely to its high standard of operational efficiency.

Squadron Leader Camille Enright MALFROY (90019), Auxiliary Air Force, No. 66 Squadron.

This officer is a most efficient and courageous fighter pilot, whose example has contributed materially to the high morale and fighting spirit of the personnel with whom he has served. He has destroyed at least 4 enemy aircraft and damaged several others.

Acting Squadron Leader John Swire DINSDALE

(40999), No. 42 Squadron.

On 17th May, 1942, this officer led a formation of Beaufort aircraft in an attack on the "Prince Eugen." Despite heavy fire from the cruiser and accompanying destroyers, a most determined attack was carried out. Squadron Leader Dinsdale has completed many operational sorties, including an attack on the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau in the English Channel. His leadership and skill are of a high order.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Victor Howard Ekins (63073), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve,

No. 501 Squadron.

This officer has carried out many offensive sweeps and reconnaissances, including attacks on shipping and ground targets in enemy territory, and has damaged 3 enemy aircraft. He is a skilful and gallant officer, whose indomitable spirit and cheerful courage have been an inspiration to his squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Richard Alfred Newbery (60104), Royal Air Force Volun-

teer Reserve, No. 118 Squadron.

This officer has participated in a large number of operational sorties over enemy territory. These sorties have included fighter sweeps, successful low level attacks against ground targets and ships at sea, and bomber escort flights. He has at all times shown the greatest keenness and enthusiasm for operational flying.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Dennis Arthur PARKINS (102961), Royal Air Force Volun-

teer Reserve, No. 15 Squadron.

One night in June, 1942, this officer was the captain of an aircraft which participated in a bombing attack on Essen. Despite unfavourable weather, industrial haze and smoke, and in the face of heavy anti-aircraft fire, Flight Lieutenant Parkins made repeated runs over his target to ensure accurate bombing. His aircraft was extensively damaged but, displaying fine airmanship, he flew it safely back to base. This officer showed great determination and devotion to duty

He has completed numerous sorties and, on all occasions, he has shown courage and reliability.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Walter James Rosser (102991), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve,

No. 130 Squadron.

This officer has participated in many sorties over Northern France and has destroyed 2 enemy aircraft and damaged 4 others. He shows great keenness in engaging the enemy and is an excellent leader.

Acting Flying Officer Horace Walter William Berridge (115634), Royal Air Force Volun-

teer Reserve, No. 219 Squadron.
This observer has participated in many night fighting sorties against the enemy and has taken part in the destruction of 3 enemy He has shown great skill and determination.

Acting Flying Officer Eric William SEABOURNE (105162), Royal Air Force Volunteer Re-

serve, No. 276 Squadron.

This officer is employed on air-sea rescue work and by his devotion to duty sets an excellent example to other operational pilots. He has undertaken rescue work in all weather conditions and, on one occasion, went 50 miles out to sea when visibility was less than 1,000 yards. Prior to starting his present duties he destroyed 3 enemy aircraft and assisted in the destruction of another.

Pilot Officer Alastair James HAY (67093),

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Pilot Officer Hay was pilot of the Hurricane on board a ship fitted with a catapult. On the approach of enemy aircraft he was catapulted off and immediately proceeded to attack and drive off a formation of six Heinkel 1111's and 115's which were preparing to deliver a torpedo attack on the port bow of the convoy; not only did this prevent with an synchronisation attack developed from the starboard bow, but he destroyed one Heinkel III and slightly damaged another. Pilot Officer Hay was himself wounded and he then baled out and was picked up by one of His Majesty's ships of the convoy escort. He showed great gallantry and his spirited attack was a great encouragement to all the convoy and escorts, and cannot but have been a great discomfort and surprise to the enemy.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Can/R.61216 Flight Sergeant Gordon Cecil Douglas Bell, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 404 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

On 17th May, 1942, this airman was the captain of a Blenheim aircraft which took part in the attack on the cruiser "Prince Eugen." Throughout the operation, he displayed great skill. An enemy fighter which attempted to intercept was engaged and resolutely driven off. Flight Sergeant Bell has shown a fine fighting spirit and never hesitates to volunteer for a sortie when the occasion arises.

Sergeant Roy Claude 751458 Flight SHERRINGTON, Royal Air Force Volunteer

Reserve, No. 23 Squadron.

This observer has completed a large number of intruder sorties, during which he has participated in the destruction of a number of enemy aircraft. He is a keen navigator who is also accurate in his bombing and coolly efficient at all times.

1022568 Sergeant Walter Colvin Ferguson,

No. 101 Squadron.

Sergeant Ferguson was the rear gunner of an aircraft which participated in a raid on Essen. Whilst over the target area, the aircraft was attacked by a Junkers 88 but, following a well directed burst of fire by Sergeant Ferguson, the enemy aircraft broke off the engagement. On the return journey, shortly after crossing the Dutch coast the aircraft was attacked by another enemy fighter. Coolly opening fire from close range, Sergeant Ferguson delivered an accurate burst of fire causing the attacker to break away and dive towards the sea in flames. This airman has taken part in numerous sorties and has always displayed great skill and devotion to duty.

915751 Sergeant Roy Samuel GIBBONS,

No. 86 Squadron.

On 17th May, 1942, this airman was the air gunner of a Beaufort aircraft which participated in an attack on the "Prinz Eugen" off the Norwegian coast. Whilst flying over the target area, the aircraft was intercepted by a strong force of enemy fighters. Sergeant Gibbons was wounded in the face and left hand and, shortly afterwards, his guns were put out of action. Despite this, he remained in his turret and gave directions to his pilot who was thus enabled to manœuvre his aircraft so as to bring the other guns to bear with good effect. This airman displayed great courage and coolness throughout.

The names of the undermentioned are as now described and not as originally described in notification of 11th June 1942 (p. 2534, col. 2).

A.F.C.Group Captain C. R. DUNLOP, R.C.A.F. Squadron Leader J. F. Hone, R.C.A.F. Flying Officer A. H. F. McNeil, R.C.A.F.

A.F.M.Flight Sergeant A. A. R. DEEKS, R.C.A.F. Corporal L. G. Harvie, R.C.A.F.

Mention in Despatches. Warrant Officer 1st Class C. M. GALE, R.C.A.F.

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