



SECOND SUPPLEMENT
TO
The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 30th of OCTOBER, 1942

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER, 1942

Air Ministry, 3rd November, 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:—

Distinguished Service Order.

Wing Commander Arthur Hay DONALDSON, D.F.C., A.F.C. (34150).

During the period 11th to 14th October, 1942, this officer participated in engagements against enemy aircraft attempting to attack Malta. Brilliantly leading his formation in attacks on bombers, regardless of the fighters which escorted them, Wing Commander Donaldson played a large part in the success achieved. Attacks on the islands were frustrated and several enemy bombers and fighters were shot down. On the 14th October he received wounds in the feet and head and two of his fingers were shot away. Despite this, he flew to base and skilfully landed his aircraft. Wing Commander Donaldson displayed leadership, courage and fighting qualities in keeping with the highest traditions of the Royal Air Force. He destroyed three enemy aircraft, bringing his victories to five.

Wing Commander Leonard Cain SLEE (32021), No. 49 Squadron.

Flying Officer Arthur Stanley GRANT (Aus. 404765), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 49 Squadron.

On 17th October, 1942, Wing Commander Slee and Flying Officer Grant were captain and navigator respectively of the leading aircraft of a large force of Lancaster bombers which attacked the Armament and Locomotive Works at Le Creusot. Much depended on their efforts but each in his respective role displayed superb skill and determination and a large measure of the outstanding success achieved can be attributed to their sterling work. By his great powers of leadership, Wing Commander Slee won the complete confidence of all crews of the attacking force.

Acting Wing Commander Peter Prosser HANKS, D.F.C. (37351).

One day in October, 1942, this officer led his squadron in an engagement against a force of seven enemy bombers, escorted by 25 fighters, which attempted to attack Malta. The enemy were intercepted before reaching the island and, in a head-on attack, three of their aircraft were destroyed; one of them a Junkers 88, was shot down by Wing Commander Hanks. This officer is a fearless fighter whose example and leadership have instilled great confidence in his fellow pilots. Whilst flying from Malta, Wing Commander Hanks has destroyed four enemy aircraft.

Squadron Leader Anthony Desmond Joseph LOVELL, D.F.C. (40402).

This officer is an outstanding squadron commander who has played a considerable part in the defence of Malta. One day in October, 1942, he led his squadron in an attack against six Junkers 88's escorted by a number of fighters. In the combat, Squadron Leader Lovell shot down a Junkers 88, bringing his total victories to nine. On many occasions, his skilful leadership has enabled his squadron to intercept enemy air formations bent on attacking Malta. This officer's gallantry and determination have set an example worthy of the highest praise.

Pilot Officer George Frederick BEURLING, D.F.C., D.F.M. (128707), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 249 Squadron.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Pilot Officer Beurling has destroyed a further six enemy aircraft, bringing his total victories to 28. During one sortie on 13th October, 1942, he shot down a Junkers 88 and two Messerschmitt 109's. The following day, in a head-on attack on enemy bombers, he destroyed one of them before he observed his leader being attacked by an enemy fighter. Although wounded Pilot Officer Beurling destroyed the fighter. Then climbing again, although his aircraft was hit by enemy fire, he shot down another fighter before his own aircraft was so damaged that he was forced to abandon it. He descended safely on to the sea and was rescued. This officer's skill and daring are unexcelled.

Second Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Maurice Michael STEPHENS, D.S.O., D.F.C. (33522) No. 229 Squadron.

From the 8th to 15th October, 1942 this officer has destroyed five enemy aircraft in air combats over Malta. On one occasion he followed an enemy bomber down to sea level and, after pursuing it out to sea for some 20 miles, shot it down into the water. He was afterwards attacked by six enemy fighters but he destroyed one of them and fought the others off. Although his aircraft was badly damaged he flew it to base and made a crash-landing. This officer has greatly enhanced the gallant reputation he so worthily holds.

Acting Squadron Leader Adrian WARBURTON, D.S.O., D.F.C. (41635), No. 69 Squadron.

Since August, 1942, this officer has completed numerous operational photographic sorties, many of them at low altitudes and often in the face of opposition from enemy fighters. His work has been of the utmost value. In October, 1942, his gallantry was well illustrated when he directed an enemy destroyer to a dinghy in which were the crew