



SECOND SUPPLEMENT  
TO  
**The London Gazette**

Of FRIDAY, the 6th of NOVEMBER, 1942

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER, 1942

*Air Ministry, 10th 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.*

Flight Lieutenant Francis Timothy COLLINS (77911), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 462 Squadron.

One night in October, 1942, this officer was the navigator of an aircraft detailed to attack Maleme aerodrome, Crete. Whilst over the target area, the aircraft was hit by fire from the ground defences and Flight Lieutenant Collins who was lying in the bomb aimer's position was severely wounded. Both feet were almost severed at the ankles; he also sustained two serious wounds in the lower part of his back and several smaller wounds on other parts of the body. Although so seriously injured he refused morphia until he was satisfied that his aircraft was being flown on a correct course. Afterwards he directed his captain for some four hours, until friendly territory was reached. His example of self sacrifice, high courage and devotion to duty materially assisted to save a severely damaged aircraft and its crew.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Albert Lloyd WIGGINS (Aus. 407541), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 38 Squadron.

At dusk one evening in October, 1942, this officer led an unescorted section of three bombers to attack on enemy supply convoy off Tobruk. In the face of heavy defensive fire from escorting destroyers and shore batteries, Flight Lieutenant Wiggins secured two hits on an enemy merchant vessel of 6,000 tons, causing its destruction. He has displayed similar skill, courage and initiative on many occasions.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Flight Lieutenant Ronald GEE (61265), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 47 Squadron.

In October, 1942, this officer flew the leading aircraft of a formation which attacked an enemy convoy off Tobruk. In spite of heavy defensive fire a successful attack was completed. Flight Lieutenant Gee obtained a hit on a tanker which caught fire and was destroyed. This officer has taken part in many operational sorties and has always displayed great courage and determination.

Major Douglas Wallace PIDSLEY (102643), South African Air Force, No 15 (S.A.A.F.) Squadron.

In October, 1942, this officer led a formation of aircraft detailed to make a low level attack on an enemy supply convoy off Tobruk. In the face of intense anti-aircraft fire Major Pidsley gallantly pressed home the attack at mast height. He secured a direct hit on the stern of a tanker causing a fire which destroyed the ship. Although

his aircraft received severe damage, Major Pidsley displayed fine airmanship and flew it to a base safely. During his many operational sorties Major Pidsley has always shown fine powers of leadership.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flying Officer David Mackie SLEEP (89329), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 224 Squadron.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1270443 Flight Sergeant George Thomas LENSON, No. 224 Squadron.

One day in October, 1942, Flying Officer Sleep and Flight Sergeant Lenson were captain and flight engineer respectively of an aircraft which engaged a U boat far out in the Atlantic. During the attack an explosion, caused by what appeared to be a hit on the submarine, severely damaged the aircraft. It went into an almost vertical climb but, with a great effort, Flying Officer Sleep recovered control and manoeuvred to observe the result of his attack. It became necessary to jettison the remaining bombs but, to accomplish this they had to be man-handled. Regardless of his own safety, Flight Sergeant Lenson performed the task and, for one and a half hours, he worked on the narrow catwalk with the bomb doors open in order to release the bombs; the catwalk was extremely slippery and Flight Sergeant Lenson had to shed his boots and socks to enable him to obtain a firm grip. On reaching this country, Flying Officer Sleep executed an emergency crash-landing at night with great skill. On impact, however, the aircraft caught fire, but Flight Sergeant Lenson succeeded in extricating an injured comrade from the burning aircraft. In most trying circumstances, both these members of air crew displayed great courage and devotion to duty.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1118713 Sergeant George BUCHANAN, No. 38 Squadron.

In October, 1942, Sergeant Buchanan was captain of an aircraft detailed to attack a large enemy merchant vessel. Despite the protection of two escorting destroyers Sergeant Buchanan persisted in his attack and destroyed the ship. On two other occasions, this airman has made successful attacks on enemy supply ships. He has always displayed the utmost determination to complete his mission successfully.

Can/R.83457 Sergeant George Theodore CHRETIEN, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 405 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Can/R.79113 Sergeant Thomas Edward CARLON, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 405 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

One night in October, 1942, Sergeants Chretien and Carlon were pilot and navigator respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Kiel. Whilst over