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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 Leonard Arthur VAUGHAN, D.F.C. (78666), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 40 Squadron (since deceased).

This officer has completed a large number of operational missions, including sorties over Germany and enemy territory and in the Middle East. Throughout, he has displayed outstanding leadership and great determination while his high skill has been of incalculable assistance to his fellow gunners. During a recent period of intense aerial activity his fine fighting qualities and courageous example have been worthy of the highest praise.

### *Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader Roy MARPLES, D.F.C. (70868), No. 238 Squadron.

In November, 1942, this officer participated in intensive attacks on the enemy's transports and supply lines. During the period, his squadron destroyed 50 and disabled 90 more transports and 3 aircraft. By his skilful leadership and courageous example Squadron Leader Marples contributed materially to the successes obtained.

### *Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader John Edward Stewart MORTON (36245), No. 40 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in many sorties in the Mediterranean area, including attacks on Sicily, Bizerta and Tunis; he has also participated in sorties over Germany. In November, 1942, in a raid on Bizerta docks, Squadron Leader Morton had to attack from an extremely low level owing to thick cloud over the target area. In spite of heavy opposing fire he pressed home his mission and all his bombs fell on important objectives. In December, 1942, he successfully bombed a merchant ship. This officer is an outstanding pilot whose courage and determination have set a splendid example.

Squadron Leader Peter OLVER (84963), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 213 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Olver has flown with great distinction on recent sorties during which fierce attacks have been made on aircraft and transport well behind the enemy's lines. In November, 1942, when his squadron attacked an airfield at Agedabia, 6 enemy aircraft were destroyed; 3 of these were destroyed by Squadron Leader Olver. Although one of the fuel tanks in his aircraft caught fire and exploded, he led his squadron back

to a landing ground. In spite of many difficulties and adverse weather he kept his formation together and so enabled further operations to be undertaken on subsequent days.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Cameron BRIDGER (103516), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 161 Squadron.

This officer is a highly skilled pilot whose determination to complete his mission, however, hazardous, has won great admiration. He has undertaken many sorties, all of which were successful, and has frequently flown his aircraft to base after it has been damaged by enemy action. He has set a splendid example.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Oliver Charles KALLIO (Can/J.6494), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 33 Squadron.

In October, 1942, this officer led a formation against a force of enemy dive bombers protected by a strong escort of fighters. The attack was so skilfully executed that the enemy bombers were compelled to jettison their bombs on their own lines. A few days later, in a similar sortie, a superior formation of enemy bombers was forced to release its bombs prematurely. Throughout the engagement, Flight Lieutenant Kallio, who destroyed a Junkers 87, displayed fine leadership. He has at all times set an inspiring example.

Pilot Officer Tom St. Barbe FREER (112452), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 227 Squadron.

In attacks on enemy shipping, this officer has displayed high skill and courage. In October, 1942, he participated in an attack on an armed motor vessel escorted by a destroyer. In spite of heavy opposing fire, Pilot Officer Freer pressed home his attack. His aircraft sustained much damage but he flew it back to base. In November, 1942, he bombed a motor vessel off Pantelaria. Some days later, in the same area, he obtained hits with his bombs on another vessel. In this attack, which was executed in face of heavy fire from the shore defences, Pilot Officer Freer flew so low that 1 of his propellers touched the ship's funnel. His outstanding determination to achieve success has been worthy of the highest praise.

### *Distinguish Flying Medal.*

1059877 Sergeant Thomas Joseph McLEAN, No. 102 Squadron.

1354876 Sergeant Ronald Frank LILLYWHITES, No. 102 Squadron.

One night in December, 1942, Sergeants McLean and Lillywhite were mid-upper and rear gunner respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Mannheim. During the attack the aircraft was intercepted by a Junkers 88. Slight damage was sustained but accurate return fire by Sergeants McLean and Lillywhite caused the enemy aircraft