

*Distinguished Service Order.*

Squadron Leader Ian Costin PATTERSON (36178), No. 500 Squadron.

This officer has participated in many sorties, involving attacks on targets in enemy occupied territory and in anti-submarine patrols both in the North Sea and the Mediterranean. During a patrol in November, 1942, he observed a U-boat on the surface of the sea some distance away. Although it submerged before Squadron Leader Patterson could make his attack, he continued his patrol and, when the submarine re-surfaced he delivered a skilful attack which resulted in the destruction of the U-boat. During another patrol, later in the month, Squadron Leader Patterson observed a submarine on the surface. He immediately attacked and seriously damaged it. The U-boat was ultimately destroyed. This officer has displayed outstanding skill and devotion to duty, setting an example worthy of the highest praise.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Percy Alec MacKENZIE, D.F.C. (116149), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 83 Squadron.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, this officer has participated in numerous successful sorties. One night in January, 1943, he piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. Whilst crossing the coast on the homeward flight his aircraft was subjected to heavy and accurate anti-aircraft fire. Two of the aircraft's engines were damaged and rendered unserviceable. Height was lost but, although faced with a 300 mile flight over the sea, Flight Lieutenant MacKenzie continued his homeward journey. When half way across the water a third engine became overheated. The aircraft was now down to 600 feet and the situation appeared hopeless, but Flight Lieutenant MacKenzie, displaying grim determination, flew on at this height and eventually reached this country where he landed the damaged aircraft. By his high courage and superb skill, this officer was undoubtedly responsible for the safe return of his aircraft and its crew.

*Distinguished Service Order.*

Acting Squadron Leader Maechel Anthony ENSOR, D.F.C. (N.Z.402175), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 500 Squadron.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

962722 Sergeant Horace John ROE, No. 500 Squadron.

In November, 1942, Squadron Leader Ensor and Sergeant Roe were captain and rear gunner of an aircraft employed on an anti-submarine patrol. During the flight, a U-boat was observed on the surface of the sea and Squadron Leader Ensor attacked it from a height of 50 feet, causing it to blow up. The force of the explosion caused severe damage to the aircraft. Sergeant Roe, after reporting the damage to his captain, left his turret and, with complete disregard for his own safety, commenced jettisoning all moveable equipment in an effort to assist his captain to keep the aircraft airborne. Squadron Leader Ensor made great efforts to retain control but, although he succeeded in climbing to 1,500 feet, 1 engine failed and he was compelled to give orders for the aircraft to be abandoned. In the face of most harassing circumstances Squadron Leader Ensor, gallantly supported by Sergeant Roe, displayed courage and devotion to duty of a high order.

*Second-Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Wing Commander Petrus Hendrik HUGO, D.S.O., D.F.C. (41848).

In operations in North Africa, Wing Commander Hugo has taken part in many sorties on which he has destroyed at least 4 enemy aircraft. He has displayed gallant leadership and great skill during an outstanding record of operational flying.

Squadron Leader Robert Wardlow OXSPRING, D.F.C. (40743), No. 72 Squadron.

During initial operations from forward airfields in North Africa Squadron Leader Oxspring led his formation on many sorties. He destroyed 1 enemy aircraft, bringing his total victories to 8. His outstanding devotion to duty and fine fighting qualities have been worthy of high praise.

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader Arthur Charles BARTLEY, D.F.C. (41816), No. 111 Squadron.

In the operations in North Africa, Squadron Leader Bartley took part in numerous sorties on which he destroyed 2 hostile aircraft, bringing his total victories to 13. His great skill, courage and determination have been an inspiration to all.

Flight Lieutenant Alan SMITH, D.F.C. (102999), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 93 Squadron.

During the campaign in North Africa, Flight Lieutenant Smith has destroyed 4 enemy aircraft. His great skill and fine example have inspired the formation he leads.

Acting Flying Officer Leslie Patrick Sanford BING, D.F.C. (Can/J.15465), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 89 Squadron.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has continued to display great courage and skill. He has now taken part in the destruction of 11 enemy aircraft at night. On a recent occasion the aircraft in which he was flying was forced to descend on the sea and it was 2½ hours before Flying Officer Bing and his pilot were rescued.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader George Herald DENHOLM (32003), No. 236 Squadron.

In January, 1943, this officer was detailed to undertake a shipping reconnaissance off the Norwegian coast. In spite of extremely adverse weather, Squadron Leader Denholm completed his mission successfully, bringing back important information. Later in the month he completed 2 operational missions demanding a high degree of skill and fortitude. This officer has invariably displayed great courage and devotion to duty.

Squadron Leader John Bernard ENSOR (40521), No. 500 Squadron.

This officer has performed much operational flying, involving attacks on targets in enemy territory and anti-submarine patrols in the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean. In December he attacked a submarine and destroyed it. This officer has always displayed great determination and devotion to duty.

Squadron Leader John Howard PLAYER (40316), No. 255 Squadron.

This officer has completed much operational flying including operations at night. In operations in North Africa he has displayed great keenness and has destroyed 3 enemy aircraft. Throughout his operational career, Squadron Leader Player has displayed great devotion to duty and set a fine example.

Squadron Leader Michael ROOK (90077) Auxiliary Air Force, No. 43 Squadron.

This officer has rendered valuable service during an extensive period of operational flying. He served in France and later fought in the Battle of Britain when he destroyed 2 enemy aircraft. During operations in Russia he destroyed a Messerschmitt 109. On 8th November, 1942, during the assault on Algiers, this officer led his squadron on a flight to Maison Blanche airfield before it was known that the airfield had been captured. The squadron reached the airfield at an early hour and its arrival had a most beneficial effect on the fighting and on the negotiations that were proceeding. Squadron Leader Rook's energetic leadership and splendid example have contributed materially to successes achieved by his squadron, which has completed a large number of hours flying since its arrival in North Africa.

Flight Lieutenant Andrew William BARWOOD (81654), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 500 Squadron.

This officer has completed many operational sorties, including reconnaissances over the North Sea, the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. One night in June, 1942, he captained an aircraft which attacked a target in the Ruhr. During the flight his aircraft was intercepted on 3 separate occasions by enemy fighters. Although the bomber sustained much damage, making it difficult to control, and 2 of the crew were wounded, Flight Lieutenant Barwood displayed great skill and determination and flew the damaged aircraft back to base. In