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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.

Acting Squadron Leader Geoffrey Berrington WARNES, D.F.C. (78429), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 263 Squadron.

Since the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has been engaged on numerous operational sorties, both by day and night, which have included low level attacks on heavily defended railway targets and attacks on enemy shipping. One night in May, 1943, Squadron Leader Warnes participated in the destruction of a medium sized motor vessel. He has displayed considerable powers of leadership and his skill and enthusiasm have been an example to others.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Colin Braidwood WALKER (Aus.404610), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 461 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Kenneth Macdonald SIMPSON (Aus.403778), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 461 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

576061 Flight Sergeant Alfred Eric FULLER, No. 461 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Aus.407499 Flight Sergeant Roy Marston GOODE, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 461 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

One day in June, 1943, Flight Lieutenant Walker and Flying Officer Simpson were captain and navigator respectively while Flight Sergeants Fuller and Goode were gunners in a Sunderland flying boat which was attacked by 8 Junkers 88's when in the Bay of Biscay. The flying boat sustained much damage and a fire was started which caused burns to Flight Lieutenant Walker. Nevertheless, this officer continued the engagement and due to the superb teamwork of Flying Officer Simpson, who acted as fire controller, and Flight Sergeants Fuller and Goode 3 of the attacking aircraft were destroyed and 2 others were severely damaged. Despite his burns, Flight Lieutenant Walker ably assisted by the skilful navigation of Flying Officer Simpson, who was wounded in both legs, successfully flew his aircraft nearly 300 miles back to this country. These officers and airmen displayed great skill, courage and fortitude.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Henry Neal George WHEELER, D.F.C. (33296), No. 236 Squadron.

Flying Officer Robert Augustine IRVING, D.F.C. (119447), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 236 Squadron.

Wing Commander Wheeler has led a wing in 5 attacks on enemy shipping during which many thousands of tons have been sunk. By his skilful and determined leadership this officer contributed materially to the successes obtained. During these operations, Flying Officer Irving, as the navigator of Wing Commander Wheeler's aircraft, displayed a high standard of ability and proved a valuable asset. Both these members of aircraft crew have set an example worthy of the highest praise.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander William Oswald Victor BENNETT, A.F.C. (70059), No. 143 Squadron.

Wing Commander Bennett has led his squadron with great determination in several attacks on enemy shipping during which great success has been achieved. His courageous example has been inspiring.

Squadron Leader Wilfrith Peter GREEN (39518), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 85 Squadron.

This officer has displayed exceptional skill and determination in night flying operations during which he has destroyed 2 enemy aircraft. He is an excellent flight commander and has contributed materially to the high standard of operational efficiency of his formation. Squadron Leader Green has displayed great courage and devotion to duty.

Acting Squadron Leader Walter Frame GIBB (88881), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 611 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Gibb has displayed great skill as a pilot during operations both by day and night. During one day he severely damaged 7 locomotives in France. On another occasion, he led a section of 3 aircraft which engaged 2 Junkers 88's over the Bay of Biscay. Owing to his skilful leadership both of the enemy aircraft were destroyed. This officer has displayed great courage and tenacity.

Lieutenant Commander George DOUGLAS, Royal Naval Reserve.

This officer has taken part in a large number of offensive patrols, and has displayed great skill and tenacity. One night in February, 1943, he participated in an attack on 9 enemy motor boats. Although his aircraft was damaged by anti-aircraft fire from the vessels, Lieutenant Commander Douglas pressed home his attack and destroyed 2 of them. One night in May, 1943, when his squadron attacked 12 R. boats, 4 of which were