



SECOND SUPPLEMENT

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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 Flying Cross.

Wing Commander Charles Stanley COOPER (33161), No. 254 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in several sorties during which many thousands of tons of enemy shipping have been sunk. In these operations, Wing Commander Cooper led the squadron with great skill and dash, setting a most inspiring example.

Squadron Leader Robert Nugent LAMBERT (37322), No. 236 Squadron.

This officer has participated in numerous sorties, including several attacks on enemy convoys during which 20 escorting vessels have been hit, a number of them being sunk. Squadron Leader Lambert has led his flight with great skill, courage and determination, contributing materially to the successes obtained.

Flying Officer William Burdette FEE (Can/J.9247), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 98 Squadron.

In June, 1943, this officer captained 1 of a formation of bombers detailed to attack an industrial target in Belgium. Shortly before reaching the objective the bomber was engaged by enemy fighters. One engine was hit and caught fire, while other equipment was damaged which caused the bomb doors to fall open and remain hanging. Flying Officer Fee continued with the formation, however, but was losing height. The enemy made 2 more attacks in quick succession and the bomber sustained severe damage, making it difficult to control. In spite of this, Flying Officer Fee succeeded in flying clear and course was set for home. On the return flight, the bomber lost height steadily, but, displaying fine airmanship, Flying Officer Fee flew the damaged aircraft to this country and effected a successful crash-landing at an aerodrome near the coast. In harassing circumstances, this officer displayed courage, skill and determination of a high order.

Flying Officer Keith Hartley OWENS (Can/J.16022), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 37 Squadron.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties most of which have been in the Middle East. In this theatre he has attacked a wide range of targets, latterly in Tunisia, Sicily and Pantellaria. Flying Officer Owens has invariably displayed great skill and courage, combined with outstanding determination to complete his task whatever the circumstances. He has rendered fine service.

Pilot Officer Kenneth Ross PAY (133002), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 10 Squadron.

In June, 1943, this officer was the rear gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack a target at Le Creusot. During the flight his aircraft was engaged by an enemy fighter. Coolly and skilfully, Pilot Officer Pay instructed his captain as to the necessary evasive action and, at the same time, used his guns with effect. Three of his guns jammed but he succeeded in clearing them as the attacker closed in and, with a devastating burst of fire, caused the enemy aircraft to dive steeply towards the sea when it exploded on hitting the water. This officer, who has taken part in numerous sorties, has displayed great courage and fine fighting qualities and has won the confidence of all with whom he has flown. He has destroyed 3 enemy aircraft in combat.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer J. Floyd ANDREWS (121781), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 115 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

958143 Sergeant William Birtles MASON, No. 115 Squadron.

Flying Officer Andrews and Sergeant Mason were pilot and rear gunner respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Mulheim one night in June, 1943. When over the target area, the bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire and, almost immediately, was attacked by an enemy fighter. Sergeant Mason skilfully drove off the aircraft with accurate gunfire, however, and the target was successfully bombed. Shortly afterwards, the bomber was again hit by fire from the ground defences whilst illuminated by the searchlights. One of the port engines and part of the fuselage caught fire. At this moment another fighter was observed at close range but it was driven off by the rear and mid-upper gunners. The flames inside the fuselage were put out by means of an extinguisher whilst, by violently diving the aircraft, Flying Officer Andrews succeeded in extinguishing the flames in the affected engine. He then flew the damaged bomber safely to base. Flying Officer Andrews displayed great skill and resource throughout, while Sergeant Mason, by his ability and alertness, rendered valuable assistance in a trying situation.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Wilbur David PARSONS (Aus.408134), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 464 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Aus.412021 Sergeant Brian Alphonsus MCCONNELL, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 464 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

In June, 1943, Flying Officer Parsons and Sergeant McConnell were pilot and air gunner