



THIRD 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:—

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Edward Francis John CHARLES, D.F.C., D.F.M. (36198), No. 611 Squadron.

This officer is a first class fighter, whose fine leadership, cool judgment and efficiency have set an admirable example. He has destroyed 13 enemy aircraft and damaged several more.

Acting Flight Lieutenant William James GREGORY, D.F.C. (115577), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 141 Squadron.

As observer, this officer has completed much operational flying and, by his outstanding ability, has proved himself to be a most valuable member of aircraft crew. By his personal example, tuition and zeal, Flight Lieutenant Gregory has contributed materially to the high standard of efficiency of the observers of his squadron. Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross he has taken part in many sorties and has contributed to the destruction of at least 4 enemy aircraft.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant John Stephen More BARKEL (89059), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 23 Squadron.

This officer has undertaken a large number of sorties during which he has invariably displayed great determination. In a period of air operations in Tripolitania, Flight Lieutenant Barkel destroyed many enemy vehicles. In Italy and Sicily he has attacked rail installations, locomotives and other targets with great success. On one occasion his bombing started a large fire in a railway siding at Metaponte and, on another occasion, he attacked a factory and caused violent explosions inside the building. His persistence, keenness and devotion to duty have set an excellent example.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Gunnar Rolf CHRISTOPHERSEN (113432), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 221 Squadron.

This officer has completed many reconnaissances over the Mediterranean. On four occasions his skilful work has enabled successful attacks to be made on enemy shipping. Flight Lieutenant Christophersen has displayed great courage and determination, often flying at low level in face of enemy fire to ensure accuracy.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Archibald FREEDMAN (114265), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 221 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in many sorties and has displayed great courage and tenacity. On 1 occasion in January, 1943, he undertook a mine-laying mission off the Crete coast. Heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered and the aircraft was badly damaged, while the navigator was wounded. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Freedman accomplished his task and flew the damaged aircraft to base. In February, 1943, he took part in an attack on an enemy convoy and obtained a hit on a naval vessel. The following month, during a reconnaissance, he located a convoy in the Sicilian Narrows. He illuminated the target thus enabling following aircraft to execute a successful attack. Flight Lieutenant Freedman has set a most inspiring example.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Donald Robert MORRISON, D.F.M. (Can/J.15475), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 401 Squadron.

This officer has displayed great skill and tenacity in air operations and has destroyed 15 hostile aircraft. His gallantry was amply demonstrated on 1 occasion when, a few minutes after being picked up by a rescue launch in the North Sea, after being compelled to leave his damaged aircraft by parachute, he plunged overboard and rescued a naval rating from drowning. Flight Lieutenant Morrison's conduct was worthy of high praise.

Flying Officer Francis DEACON (Aus.408138), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 221 Squadron.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties, involving reconnaissances, anti-submarine patrols and attacks on shipping. In February, 1943, he took part in a successful attack on a large tanker. On two subsequent occasions it was due to his efforts that enemy convoys were attacked by following aircraft. Flying Officer Deacon has displayed great skill and courage.

Flying Officer John Edward McCLURE (Can/J.15505), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 137 Squadron.

This officer has completed much operational flying, including a number of reconnaissances and attacks on shipping. In attacks on the enemy lines of communication, Flying Officer McClure has destroyed 4 locomotives and damaged several more. In addition he has destroyed a barge and caused damage to rolling stock. Flying Officer McClure has displayed skill, keenness and determination of a high order.