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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 Air Commodore Arthur Mostyn WRAY, M.C., D.F.C., A.F.C., Royal Air Force.

Air Commodore Wray has participated in numerous sorties, including an attack on Hamburg in July, 1943. He is an extremely skilful and gallant captain whose keenness and personal example have proved an inspiration to all in his command. The value of the training he has imparted to the young crews with whom he has flown on operations is inestimable. His work both in the air and on the ground has been of the highest order.

Acting Squadron Leader Alexander Broom GREIG, D.F.C. (68753), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 101 Squadron.

This officer, who has completed many sorties since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, is a fearless and courageous captain. His great navigational ability and fine fighting qualities have inspired all with whom he has flown and have played a large part in the many successes obtained. His record of achievement is worthy of the highest praise.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Charles Patrick GREEN, D.F.C. (90134), Auxiliary Air Force, No. 600 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Reginald Joseph GILLIES (125945), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 600 Squadron.

In recent operations over Sicily, Wing Commander Green and Flying Officer Gillies, as pilot and observer respectively, have flown together on many sorties. They have displayed outstanding skill and determination and within a period of 3 successive nights, destroyed 7 enemy aircraft, 4 of them on 1 sortie. Wing Commander Green has displayed exceptional ability and his untiring efforts have been reflected in the fine fighting qualities of his squadron, which has destroyed some 56 enemy aircraft.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Elliott Ogilvie Beresford GRANT (Aus. 402345), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 262 Squadron.

In May, 1943, this officer piloted an aircraft engaged on an anti-submarine patrol. During the flight a U-boat was observed on the surface of the

sea and Flight Lieutenant Grant immediately dived to attack. In spite of heavy fire from the vessel it was successfully attacked by depth charges and raked by machine gun fire. Although his aircraft was damaged, Flight Lieutenant Grant flew it to base. This officer, who has completed a very large number of hours flying on operations, displayed great courage and determination.

Flying Officer Francis Richard Lee MELLERSH (105145), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 600 Squadron.

This officer is a tenacious and skilful fighter and has destroyed 5 enemy aircraft in combat. On 1 occasion in April, 1943, during a patrol off Algiers at dusk, he encountered a large formation of enemy aircraft. In the ensuing engagement, Flying Officer Mellersh shot down 2 of them. Although his aircraft was badly damaged he flew it to base. More recently, in July, 1943, Flying Officer Mellersh destroyed 2 enemy aircraft during 1 sortie. This officer has set a praiseworthy example.

Flying Officer Frederick James READ (N.Z.398715), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 34 Squadron.

This officer who has participated in 44 sorties, is an air gunner of high merit. In July, 1943, he was the rear gunner of an aircraft which attacked the airfield at Gerbini, Sicily. During the operation the bomber was attacked by a hostile aircraft but Flying Officer Read gave his pilot skilful evading directions and then, with an accurate burst of fire from close range, caused the attacker to break away and dive steeply out of control. His vigilance and skill contributed materially to the safe return of the bomber and was typical of the efficiency with which he performs his tasks.

Flying Officer Arthur John Alan ROBERTS (45717), Royal Air Force, No. 600 Squadron.

This officer has completed a large number of hours flying on operations at night. He has displayed outstanding keenness and devotion to duty throughout, setting a very fine example. He has destroyed 3 enemy aircraft.

Pilot Officer Cyril Norfolk SPURDENS (142210), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 70 Squadron.

This officer has completed 40 sorties and has invariably displayed great courage and determination in pressing home his attacks. One night in July, 1943, he took part in an attack on Syracuse and his excellent work contributed materially to the success achieved. On another occasion, Pilot Officer Spurdens undertook a mine-laying mission and, despite fire from the shore batteries and much searchlight activity, accomplished his task successfully. In other operations over the battle area, Pilot Officer Spurdens has achieved success. On 1