



FOURTH SUPPLEMENT  
TO  
**The London Gazette**

Of FRIDAY, the 10th of SEPTEMBER, 1943

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER, 1943

*Air Ministry, 14th September, 1943.*

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.*

Acting Wing Commander Ronald Bain THOMSON, D.S.O. (90370), Auxiliary Air Force, No. 206 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Forbes CLARK (106550), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 206 Squadron.

Flying Officer John Linsley HUMPHRIES (133343), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 206 Squadron.

These officers were captain, navigator and wireless operator respectively of an aircraft engaged on an anti-submarine patrol in June, 1943. During the flight a large submarine was sighted and promptly attacked. In the face of withering fire from the vessel, which took violent evading action, Wing Commander Thomson executed a devastating attack. The U-boat was extensively damaged and, as it sank, many of its crew were left in the water. Wing Commander Thomson's aircraft had been repeatedly hit and, soon after the engagement had terminated, he was forced to bring it down on to the sea. Flight Lieutenant Clark and Flying Officer Humphries who, throughout the fight displayed great devotion to duty, coolly remained at their posts almost to the last moment. On impact with the water, Flight Lieutenant Clark sustained injuries to his back but succeeded in scrambling aboard the dinghy with his comrades. For 3½ days, in bad weather they drifted before being rescued. During this trying period they displayed great fortitude. These officers have participated in a large number of sorties and have displayed outstanding efficiency and unswerving devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Albert Alton BISHOP (Can/J.7747), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 423 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer captained an aircraft which attacked a U-boat and caused its destruction. During the action the aircraft was extensively damaged and later it came down on to the sea. Whilst in the water, Flying Officer Bishop swam to the aid of one of his comrades who had been wounded and was without a life-saving jacket and unable to swim. Flying Officer Bishop supported his comrade until they were taken from the water by a naval vessel. This officer displayed gallantry and determination of a high order.

Flying Officer Charles FLETCHER (145788), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 682 Squadron.

This officer has undertaken many sorties with excellent results. In July, 1943, he was detailed to reconnoitre an area off the coast of Italy. In spite of bad weather, Flying Officer Fletcher accomplished his task with great skill and returned to base with valuable information. This officer has always displayed great keenness for operations.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flying Officer John Arthur Ayliffe Morgans DAVID (125991), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 76 Squadron.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1500020 Sergeant Cyril PENNA, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 214 Squadron.

In air operations this officer and airman have displayed courage and fortitude of a high order.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1234504 Acting Flight Sergeant Trevor George STEPHENS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 156 Squadron.

1528127 Sergeant Arthur Campbell CLEGG, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 156 Squadron.

1028166 Sergeant Thomas STOCKS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 156 Squadron.

One night in August, 1943, Sergeants Clegg and Stocks were navigator and wireless operator respectively of an aircraft piloted by Flight Sergeant Stephens detailed for an operation against Berlin. When approaching the target the aircraft was illuminated by the searchlights but Flight Sergeant Stephens held to his course to execute a successful bombing run. Shortly afterwards the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire which damaged 1 of the wings, rendered the inter communication unserviceable and set 1 engine on fire, while Sergeant Clegg and the mid-upper gunner were wounded. The bomber was then attacked by an enemy fighter but Flight Sergeant Stephens skilfully evaded it. A few minutes later, a second engine caught fire and had to be feathered. Flight Sergeant Stephens battled on, however, and meanwhile Sergeant Stocks rendered first aid to his comrades. Some time later, Sergeant Clegg recovered sufficiently to plot the position of the aircraft and, from then on, displayed great fortitude to execute his navigational duties. Sergeant Stocks accomplished much brilliant work during the return flight and proved of a great assistance to his pilot who, displaying outstanding deter-