



THIRD SUPPLEMENT  
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*Air Ministry, 26th October, 1943.*

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.*

Flight Lieutenant Cecil Frederick RAWNSLEY, D.F.C., D.F.M. (102089), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 85 Squadron.

As observer, Flight Lieutenant Rawnsley has participated in more than 200 sorties and his brilliant work has been beyond praise. He has assisted in the destruction of 17 enemy aircraft, 16 of them at night. In addition to his work in the air, Flight Lieutenant Rawnsley has devoted much service towards the training of other members of aircraft and his efforts have been attended with excellent results. Flight Lieutenant Rawnsley has rendered invaluable service.

*Second Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader Robert Wendell McNAIR, D.F.C. (Can./J.4745), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 421 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Squadron Leader McNair is a tenacious and confident fighter, whose outstanding ability has proved an inspiration to the squadron he commands. He has completed a large number of sorties and has destroyed 15 and damaged many other enemy aircraft. His keenness has been outstanding.

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Squadron Leader Geoffrey Leonard HOWITT, D.F.C. (81037), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 85 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Howitt is a skilful and relentless fighter whose continued good work has been highly commendable. He has destroyed 6 enemy aircraft at night. Squadron Leader Howitt is an efficient flight commander, whose courageous example has proved most encouraging.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader Alan Dennistoun GRACE (32141), Royal Air Force, No. 277 Squadron.

This officer has undertaken very many air/sea rescue patrols and searches during which he has rescued numerous personnel. On one occasion, he flew to the assistance of 10 members of an allied air force, who were reported adrift in their dinghies. The sea was very rough but Squadron Leader Grace brought his aircraft safely down on to the water and, with difficulty, succeeded in getting his comrades aboard. As it was impossible to take-off again, Squadron Leader Grace decided to taxi his aircraft to his destination. All through the hours of darkness he held to his task and

eventually reached a safe anchorage. His skill, courage and resource were of a high order.

Acting Squadron Leader Richard James BENNELL (Can./C.1376), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 418 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed many sorties over enemy territory at night. He has attacked numerous airfields with success, while in operations against rolling stock he has damaged several locomotives. In addition, he has shot down 3 enemy aircraft. Squadron Leader Bennell is an inspiring leader, whose great skill and determination have been reflected in the high standard of efficiency of his flight.

Acting Squadron Leader Richard Samuel GUNNING, D.F.M. (44873), Royal Air Force, No. 88 Squadron.

This officer has participated in many daylight sorties during which important targets have been attacked from a low level. He has displayed outstanding determination and faultless leadership, qualities which have contributed in a large measure to the successes obtained. He has set a splendid example of courage and devotion to duty.

Flight Lieutenant David Henry BLOMELEY (40665), Royal Air Force, No. 605 Squadron.

This officer has undertaken a very large number of sorties and his efforts have been featured by great skill and resolution. One night in August, 1943, following a successful attack on an enemy airfield, he engaged an enemy fighter and shot it down. In operations since then, Flight Lieutenant Blomeley has destroyed 2 Junkers 88s. His excellent record is worthy of high praise.

Flight Lieutenant William George BRINN, D.F.M. (46462), Royal Air Force, No. 88 Squadron.

As navigator, Flight Lieutenant Brinn has taken part in a large number of sorties, many of them demanding a high degree of skill to ensure success. On all occasions, he has played his part worthily, setting an example of the highest order.

Flight Lieutenant Geoffrey GOODMAN (45491), Royal Air Force, No. 29 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Goodman has taken part in a very large number of sorties and has destroyed 4 enemy aircraft. He has rendered excellent service and his example of keenness and devotion to duty has been highly commendable.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Rolleston HEAP (100567), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 65 Squadron.

This officer has completed very many sorties and has destroyed at least 3 enemy aircraft. He is an efficient flight commander, whose keenness and unflinching devotion to duty have been most praiseworthy.