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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 Wing Commander Robert Clifford ALABASTER, D.F.C. (81065), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 97 Squadron.

Since being awarded a Bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross, this officer has participated in many sorties, including two attacks on Berlin. His fearlessness and skill have been an important factor in the many successes obtained. He is a most efficient flight commander and his example both in the air and on the ground has proved an inspiration to all.

Acting Wing Commander Mervyn Matthew FLEMING, D.F.C. (39975), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 419 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Wing Commander Fleming has displayed outstanding skill, courage and devotion to duty. He has undertaken a large number of sorties during which he has attacked many important targets with success. Wing Commander Fleming is an ideal leader, whose example has contributed materially to the operational efficiency of the squadron he commands.

Acting Squadron Leader Harry John DAVIES, D.F.C. (102577), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 7 Squadron.

This officer has displayed high powers of leadership, great courage and skill, qualities which have enabled him to achieve much success during his tour of operations. In the course of his activities, Squadron Leader Davies has attacked many well defended targets, including centres in the Ruhr, Berlin and targets in Northern Italy. His achievements have been most commendable.

Acting Squadron Leader John Hubert DUNK, D.F.C. (61950), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 83 Squadron.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Squadron Leader Dunk has completed many sorties, involving attacks on many centres important to the enemy's war effort. Throughout, his work has been of a high order and the successes obtained are an excellent tribute to his great efficiency. Squadron Leader Dunk has rendered most valuable service.

Acting Squadron Leader Kenna HUMBY, D.F.C. (81059), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 199 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Humby has undertaken a very large number of sorties, involving attacks on a variety of targets, including Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne and Turin. Throughout his tour,

Squadron Leader Humby has displayed great skill and determination and his cool judgment in the face of opposition has inspired great confidence in his crew. He is a highly efficient flight commander, whose fine record is worthy of the greatest praise.

Acting Squadron Leader Ernest Edward RODLEY, D.F.C. (61472), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 97 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Rodley has displayed great courage, skill and resource throughout his tour of operations. He has completed a very large number of sorties, involving attacks on industrial centres in the Ruhr and many other important targets. He has displayed outstanding devotion to duty and his example has inspired all.

Acting Squadron Leader Joseph Henry Jean SAUVAGE, D.F.C. (43045), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 97 Squadron.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Squadron Leader Sauvage has participated in numerous sorties, including three attacks on Berlin. He is highly skilled and a determined pilot, whose gallant efforts have contributed materially to the successes obtained. Squadron Leader Sauvage is a great leader, whose example has proved a source of inspiration.

Acting Squadron Leader Guy de Grave SELLS, D.F.C. (84002), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 83 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Sells has participated in a very large number of sorties, involving attacks on targets in the Ruhr and many other important centres. He is an outstanding leader, whose achievements have been highly commendable.

Acting Squadron Leader Ambrose Branton SMITH, D.F.C. (64917), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 83 Squadron.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, many of which have been against important and well defended targets. He has invariably pressed home his attacks with great determination and not once has he failed to complete a sortie. His efforts have been attended with much success and his example of skill, courage and devotion to duty has been beyond praise.

Acting Squadron Leader Cyril Albert Johong SMITH, D.F.C. (111563), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 83 Squadron.

Squadron Leader Smith has participated in a very large number of sorties, including three attacks on Berlin. He has never failed to reach his target and his attacks have invariably been pressed home with great determination. This officer has displayed outstanding skill, courage and devotion to duty, qualities which have impressed all.