



THIRD SUPPLEMENT
TO
The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY, the 30th of NOVEMBER, 1943

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

FRIDAY, 3 DECEMBER, 1943

Air Ministry, 3rd December, 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.

Acting Wing Commander Guy Kempton LAWRENCE, D.F.C. (70387), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 78 Squadron.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, this officer has completed many sorties, including attacks on such targets as Berlin, Hanover, Kassel and Milan. Wing Commander Lawrence has invariably pressed home his attacks with great determination and his fearless example has inspired all. In addition, Wing Commander Lawrence has devoted much energy to the training of other air crews and the successes achieved are an excellent tribute to his great skill and untiring efforts.

Acting Squadron Leader John Milne CHECKETTS, D.F.C. (N.Z.403602), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 485 (N.Z.) Squadron.

In air operations this officer has displayed courage, fortitude and skill of a high order. He has taken part in a very large number of sorties and has proved his skill in many combats, having destroyed at least 11 enemy aircraft; he has also caused the destruction of 2 E. boats. By his exceptional keenness and fine fighting spirit, Squadron Leader Checketts has proved a source of inspiration to all.

Flight Lieutenant Edward KINSELLA (50190), Royal Air Force, No. 88 Squadron.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties and has displayed skill and courage of a high order. In spite of several trying experiences, his keenness for operations remains unabated and his unconquerable spirit of determination and unswerving devotion to duty have set an example which has inspired all.

Distinguished Service Order.

Flight Lieutenant Eric Arthur BLAND (100540), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 86 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Brian Brindal BURRIDGE (143213), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 86 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Bland and Flying Officer Burridge were pilot and navigator respectively of an aircraft which attacked a U-boat. In the face of fierce anti-aircraft fire, Flight Lieutenant Bland pressed home his attack, passing over the submarine at a height of 60 feet. The aircraft was extensively damaged, however, but Flight Lieutenant Bland, displaying great resolution,

executed another attack. Soon afterwards, he was compelled to bring his badly damaged aircraft down on to the sea. Flight Lieutenant Bland and Flying Officer Burridge who, throughout the fight had co-operated splendidly with his pilot, displayed courage and determination of a high order.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander John Frank SUTTON, A.F.C. (37835), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 10 Squadron.

Wing Commander Sutton has completed many sorties against important targets in Germany. He has displayed great skill throughout and his determination to press home his attacks, often in the face of heavy opposition, has been notable. Wing Commander Sutton is an inspiring leader, whose personal example has contributed materially to the high standard of efficiency of the squadron he commands.

Acting Wing Commander Alan Gatenby WILSON (70831), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 487 (N.Z.) Squadron.

One day in October, 1943, this officer led a formation of bombers in an attack on a target in Northern France. When crossing the enemy coast, heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Wing Commander Wilson's aircraft was repeatedly hit and sustained much damage. The navigator was mortally wounded and his parachute and equipment were set on fire. Wing Commander Wilson, unable to obtain the fire extinguisher, promptly smothered the flames with his hands and threw the smouldering equipment overboard. He afterwards flew the damaged bomber home to an airfield where he effected a successful crash-landing. This officer displayed great courage, skill and determination in the face of very trying circumstances.

Acting Squadron Leader William Hudson MAGUIRE (62249), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 85 Squadron.

This officer has undertaken many sorties at night and has shot down 4 enemy aircraft. He has displayed great skill and determination and his efforts have been most commendable.

Flight Lieutenant John Reginald Daniel DENNEHEY (102538), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 164 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Dennehey has participated in a large number of sorties and has invariably displayed commendable courage and determination. His keenness has always been apparent and has set an excellent example. In September, 1943, Flight Lieutenant Dennehey flew with great credit in an attack on lock installations in Holland. Although his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire this determined pilot pressed home his attack from a low level.