

## **SUPPLEMENT** THIRD

# The Lo on Gazette

Of TUESDAY, the 28th of DECEMBER, 1943

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

### FRIDAY, 31 DECEMBER, 1943

Air Ministry, 31st December, 1943.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallantry dis-played in flying operations against the enemy:—

#### Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Squadron Leader Charles Bird John PORTER, D.F.C. (68137), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 51 Squadron. As flight commander, Squadron Leader Porter

As flight commander, Squadron Leader Porter has completed much operational flying and has a fine record. By his great skill and efficiency he has contributed in a large measure to the excellent results achieved in attacks against Berlin, Hamburg and the Ruhr area. Squadron Leader Porter's dogged determination, fearlessness and devotion to duty have proved most inspiring to all with whom he has flown.

#### Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Geoffrey Wilson Northcott, D.F.C. (Can./J.15088), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 402 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.
Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has participated in a large number of sweeps during which he has destroyed 4 enemy aircraft bringing his victories to at least 9. Squadron Leader Northcott's fine fighting spirit has been an inspiration to all members of the squadron been an inspiration to all members of the squadron he commands.

#### Distinguished Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader John Barry Selway (90219), Auxiliary Air Force, No. 85 Squadron. Squadron Leader Selway has participated in 139 operational sorties during which he has displayed resolute courage, initiative and devotion to duty. resolute courage, initiative and devotion to duty. In November, 1943, he intercepted a Focke Wulfe 190 and despite the violent evasive action taken, Squadron Leader Selway succeeded in destroying the enemy aircraft. Shortly afterwards in an engagement with a Junkers 88, Squadron Leader Selway was severely wounded in the stomach and momentarily lost control of his aircraft. Nevertheless this courageous pilot regained control and flew his damaged aircraft back to base. Squadron Leader Selway has destroyed 2 enemy aircraft.

cting Squadron Leader Richmond Fothergill ROBINSON (78849), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 157 Squadron. Squadron Leader Robinson is a skilful and Acting

courageous pilot, who has achieved much success in fighting operations at night. During his second tour of operations he has destroyed 2 enemy aircraft and damaged 16 locomotives, 8 of which were damaged during one sortie. Throughout his operational career he has displayed courage and determination worthy of high praise.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Vaughan Charles FITTALL (N.Z.411873), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 198 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Fittall is a pilot of exceptional merit. As flight commander he has led his flight in numerous sorties over France, Believed Millord during which would democrate the his flight in numerous sorties over France, Belgium and Holland during which much damage has been inflicted on the enemy. In October, 1943, when participating in an attack against enemy shipping, intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire was encountered and a shell exploded behind Flight Lieutenant Fittall's cockpit, wounding and dazing him; his radio transmitter was also set on fire. Nevertheless this officer returned to this country, flying a distance of some 100 miles over sea, and landed safely. Flight Lieutenant Fittall has shared in the destruction of 7 ships. 8 locohas shared in the destruction of 7 ships, 8 locomotives and 1 enemy aircraft. Many other ships have been damaged. This officer has set an inspiring example.

cting Flight Lieutenant Durward MIDGLEY (Can/J.18559), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 15 Squadron. Acting

As captain of aircraft, Flight Lieutenant Midgley As captain of aircraft, Flight Lieutenant Midgley has participated in many sorties against very heavily defended targets including Berlin, Hamburg and Kassel. On one occasion during an attack against Hanover his aircraft was heavily hit by anti-aircraft fire. Considerable damage was sustained but, despite this, he continued his mission and bombed the target. On another occasion his aircraft was held by searchlights for mission and bombed the target. On another occasion his aircraft was held by searchlights for some 4 minutes but by skilful airmanship re succeeded in flying clear and completed his task. In harassing circumstances, Flight Lieutenant Midgley has displayed skill, courage and devotion to duty.

Acting Flight Lieutenant David Rankin Scorr (157309), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 15 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in a large number of sorties and has displayed a high standard of skill and determination. In August, 1943, while flying over the Alps the propeller of the port outer engine sheared off and the engine failed. Flight Lieutenant Scott retained control of the aircraft Lieutenant Scott retained control of the aircraft and returned to base safely. On another occasion in September, 1943, whilst over Hanover his zircraft was attacked by a Messerschmitt 110 and much damage sustained by the bomber. Nevertheless Flight Lieutenant Scott bombed the target and flew the aircraft back to this country. Flight Lieutenant Scott is a keen and determined captain who is a source of inspiration to his crew.

Warrant Officer Stephen Robert Grant (745241), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 218 Squadron. Warrant Officer Grant has participated in

Warrant Officer Grant has participated in numerous sorties throughout which he has dis-