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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 Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Geoffrey Trevor WYNNE-POWELL (90915), Auxiliary Air Force, No. 90 Squadron.

This officer has participated in many sorties, involving attacks on targets in the Ruhr and many other important centres. He has displayed great skill throughout and, although his aircraft has been hit by anti-aircraft fire on several occasions, Wing Commander Wynne-Powell has invariably pressed home his attacks with great determination. By his personal example of courage and resolution this officer has contributed materially to the high standard of morale of the squadron he commands.

Flight Lieutenant Thornton Vernon CLARKE (Aus.408954), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 622 Squadron.

This officer is a keen, competent and resolute pilot. He has taken part in a large number of sorties, involving attacks on many well defended targets which he has attacked with determination. On several occasions his great skill has been largely responsible for the safe return of his aircraft when damage has been sustained in engagements with fighters. Flight Lieutenant Clarke has set a fine example of courage and devotion to duty.

Flight Lieutenant Cyril Horatio HAWKINS (111681), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 21 Squadron.

In December, 1943, this officer was detailed to attack a target in Northern France. During the operation his aircraft was hit by fire from the ground defences. Flight Lieutenant Hawkins was wounded in the foot and the leg. Although suffering greatly he flew the damaged aircraft to base. He displayed great fortitude and devotion to duty. This officer has completed very many sorties and has invariably displayed praiseworthy determination.

Flight Lieutenant Henry Richard LEVEN, D.F.M. (115287), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 487 (N.Z.) Squadron.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal, Flight Lieutenant Leven has completed very many sorties, involving attacks on airfields, railway junctions, military installations and other targets in enemy occupied territory. On a recent occasion, in an operation against targets in Northern France, his aircraft was badly damaged

when hit by anti-aircraft fire on crossing the enemy coast. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Leven led his section on to the target which was heavily attacked. He afterwards flew back to base where he effected a successful crash-landing. His effort was typical of the determination he has shown throughout his tour.

Flight Lieutenant Ronald William Alexander MACKICHAN (106195), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 3 Squadron.

This officer has completed many sorties, involving bombing attacks on airfields, other military targets and industrial installations; he has also executed many low level attacks on shipping and has damaged a number of tugs, barges, small merchant ships and minesweepers. He is a gallant leader whose skill and fine fighting qualities have been reflected in the high standard of operational efficiency of the flight he commands.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Henry William BRISTOW (132734), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

This officer has participated in many sorties, including several attacks on Berlin. He is a first class gunner, whose coolness and resolution in the face of the enemy have set a fine example. On one occasion, whilst over Berlin, his aircraft was attacked by 4 fighters. In the ensuing engagement, Flight Lieutenant Bristow displayed great efficiency. Although his turret became unserviceable, he gave skilful evading directions to his pilot who thus was enabled to out-manoeuvre the attackers. His cool work contributed materially to the successful completion of the sortie. In addition to his work in the air, this officer has rendered yeoman service in the training of other members of the squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant George Henderson LAING (Can/J.22778), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 57 Squadron.

One night in December, 1943, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. Although engine trouble developed during the outward journey, Flight Lieutenant Laing continued to the target and bombed it. He afterwards flew safely to base although 2 of the aircraft's engines were out of action. Flight Lieutenant Laing has participated in many sorties and has always displayed praiseworthy skill, courage and determination.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Dennis Charles WOODRUFF (156311), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 15 Squadron.

As captain of aircraft Flight Lieutenant Woodruff has participated in a large number of sorties, including attacks on such targets as