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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 Squadron Leader Ernest Bernard HORN (60306), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 27 Squadron.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties. He has effectively attacked 2 railway buildings, some 22 locomotives and many more trucks. On other occasions he has damaged or destroyed 13 small steamers, 285 sampans and numerous larger rivercraft. In operations against industrial installations, Squadron Leader Horn has attacked very many factories, a power plant and 2 wireless buildings with good results. This officer is a magnificent leader, whose achievements are a splendid tribute to his great skill, iron determination and unflinching devotion to duty.

Acting Squadron Leader Mehar SINGH (Ind.1559), Indian Air Force, No. 6 (I.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed a very large number of operations, and has displayed great skill, courage and determination. He is a most inspiring leader, whose example has been reflected in the fine fighting spirit of the squadron. This officer has rendered most valuable service.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Wing Commander Patrick Edward MEAGHER (34072), Royal Air Force, No. 211 Squadron.

In February, 1944, this officer flew the leading aircraft of a formation detailed to attack a ground target. During the operation, Wing Commander Meagher observed 4 enemy aircraft a few thousand feet above him. He promptly climbed to engage them and, after cleverly manoeuvring to close range, shot two of the enemy aircraft down. The other two fighters then attempted to engage Wing Commander Meagher but he frustrated them and flew safely to base. In this spirited action, during which he drew the enemy force completely away from his formation, Wing Commander Meagher displayed great skill, courage and determination. His success brought his total victories to 8.

Acting Major Cecil CORMACK (47211V), South African Air Force, No. 15 (S.A.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer is now engaged on his third tour of operations. He flew with great distinction in the Abyssinian and North African campaigns during which he attacked a wide range of targets. In the present phase of the fighting, Major Cormack continues to show the same determined qualities which have won him so many successes. In February, 1944, he flew one of two aircraft

detailed for a reconnaissance. Many bays and harbours were reconnoitred and finally a convoy was located. In spite of the escort the convoy was photographed. Soon afterwards, Major Cormack was attacked by a large force of fighters, one of which was shot down by his gunner before the engagement terminated. Throughout the action this officer displayed great skill and resolution. He is a fine leader, whose example of gallantry and devotion to duty has been most commendable.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Howard DEALL (80361), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 266 Squadron.

In air operations this officer has displayed great skill, courage and determination, qualities which have been reflected in the efficiency of the flight he commands. In February, 1944, he participated in a sortie over Northern France. During the operation his section destroyed 6 enemy aircraft, 2 of which fell to Flight Lieutenant Deall's guns. In this action, he led his formation with great resolution. On other occasions, Flight Lieutenant Deall has shared in the destruction of 4 enemy aircraft.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Jack Carlisle DOYLE (Aus.404604), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 3 Squadron.

This officer has participated in a very large number of sorties and has led the squadron on many successful attacks against road and rail transport and shipping, and others in close support of the ground fighting. On one occasion, early in March, 1944, he led the squadron in an attack on mechanical transport. Some 29 vehicles were destroyed and many others damaged. In addition, Flight Lieutenant Doyle obtained a hit on a large building which caught fire. Many vehicles garaged in the building were destroyed. This officer has displayed commendable skill, courage and determination.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Howard Edward Tidswell TRIPLOW (Aus.416808), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 149 Squadron.

This officer has completed a tour of operations during which he has attacked very many heavily defended targets with success. During a sortie one night in March, 1944, Flight Lieutenant TripLOW's aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. The control cocks of 3 of the petrol tanks were shot away, the rear turret was rendered un-serviceable and a compass was damaged. In spite of this, Flight Lieutenant TripLOW went on to attack the target with his usual determination. He is a courageous captain, whose example of keenness and determination has been worthy of great praise.