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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:—

Bar to Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Bertie Rex O'Bryen HOARE, D.S.O., D.F.C. (37853), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 605 Squadron.

This officer has participated in more than 100 sorties, involving attacks on airfields in Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Holland and France, escorts to bomber formations and a variety of other missions. He is a magnificent leader whose personal example of courage and devotion to duty has inspired all. In addition to his activities in the air, Wing Commander Hoare has devoted much of his energy and skill towards the training of other members of the squadron with excellent results. This officer, who has destroyed at least eight enemy aircraft, has rendered most valuable service.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Squadron Leader Anthony SPOONER, D.F.C. (82948), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 53 Squadron.

This officer has participated in a large number of sorties and has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and courage. One night recently he piloted an aircraft which attacked two U-boats. The vessels were surfaced and in close proximity and Squadron Leader Spooner released several depth charges over both of them in the same attacking run. Some nights later, Squadron Leader Spooner attacked two more U-boats. In all his encounters with the enemy, this officer has displayed great determination and has pressed home his attacks in the face of heavy opposition. He has set a very fine example to all.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander William David Loraine FILSON-YOUNG, D.F.C. (39725), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 47 Squadron.

In February, 1944, this officer led the squadron in an attack on a medium sized ship which was heavily escorted. In spite of heavy anti-aircraft fire and some fighter opposition the attack was pressed home with great determination and hits were obtained which caused the destruction of the vessel. In this action, Wing Commander Filson-Young displayed skilful and inspiring leadership and played a good part in the success obtained. He has participated in numerous attacks on enemy shipping and his fine work has always been evident.

Acting Squadron Leader John Stuart Roland MULLER-ROWLAND, D.F.C. (103497), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 211 Squadron.

This officer has participated in very many sorties since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and his continued excellent work has merited high praise. On a recent occasion he led a formation of aircraft detailed to attack targets at Moulmein. The attack was pressed home with great vigour and accuracy. Industrial premises, much rolling stock and a railway installation were bombed with damaging effect; a small pier was set alight, a large barge was hit and other damage was inflicted. In this spirited action, Squadron Leader Muller-Rowland displayed skill, courage and leadership of a high order.

Acting Squadron Leader Alan Lestocq ROBERTS, D.F.C. (115023), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 514 Squadron.

One night in February, 1944, this officer captained an aircraft detailed to attack Schweinfurt. Early on the outward flight it was discovered that, owing to a broken pipe-line, the whole of the oxygen supply had been lost. Nevertheless Squadron Leader Roberts came down to a lower altitude and flew on to the target. Whilst over the area the aircraft was set on fire but the flames were extinguished and Squadron Leader Roberts flew back to base to complete his mission successfully. This officer displayed great determination throughout, setting a high example of devotion to duty.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Geoffrey Horace GOODMAN (70799), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 151 Squadron.

This officer has commanded the squadron for the past 6 months and has proved himself to be a gallant and successful leader, whose sterling qualities have proved most inspiring. He has destroyed three enemy aircraft, two of which he shot down one night in March, 1944.

Squadron Leader Frank John FRENCH (72120), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 210 Squadron.

Recently this officer captained an aircraft which attacked a U-boat. In spite of considerable anti-aircraft fire, Squadron Leader French pressed home his attack with such accuracy that the submarine was destroyed. This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, many of them in adverse weather, and has displayed great keenness and devotion to duty throughout.

Acting Squadron Leader Denis Barberry BENNETT (81663), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 227 Squadron.

This officer has participated in several successful attacks on shipping during which his fine

leadership and great skill have played a good part in the successes obtained. On a recent occasion, Squadron Leader Bennett participated in an attack on a large merchant vessel which was escorted by other ships and by fighter aircraft. By his gallant leadership, good judgment and resource, this officer contributed materially to the success of the sortie. He has at all times displayed great keenness and devotion to duty.

Acting Squadron Leader Lorne Maxwell CAMERON (Can/J.15378), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 401 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer led a large formation of fighters detailed to escort a very large force of bombers on an operational mission in March, 1944. Throughout the sortie, during which several enemy aircraft were shot down, Squadron Leader Cameron displayed great skill and determination and played a good part in the success achieved. He has invariably displayed high courage, setting an example which has been reflected in the fine fighting qualities of the squadron he commands.

Acting Squadron Leader Stanley William KELLOW (89825), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 489 (N.Z.) Squadron.

This officer has participated in several successful attacks on shipping. In January, 1944, he led a formation of aircraft in an attack on a convoy. In spite of heavy opposition, the attack was successfully pressed home. In a recent attack on shipping, Squadron Leader Kellow obtained a hit on a medium sized merchant vessel. This officer has displayed leadership, skill and courage of a high standard.

Flight Lieutenant John NIBLETT (47516), Royal Air Force, No. 198 Squadron.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties and throughout has displayed a high degree of skill, courage and resolution. His successes include the destruction of at least 5 enemy aircraft and several damaging attacks on barges and tugs. He is a most efficient flight commander, whose achievements have been highly commendable.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Charles Curnow SCHERF (Aus.413671), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 418 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed many sorties at night during which he has attacked a variety of targets with much success. He has at all times displayed exceptional keenness and his example of courage

and determination has been worthy of great praise. He has destroyed 4 enemy aircraft at night.

Flying Officer John Todd CAINE (Can/J.22379), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 418 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed many sorties during which he has shot down 4 enemy aircraft, 2 of them at night; he has also destroyed 2 more on the ground. He has displayed exceptional devotion to duty and his successes are an excellent tribute to his skill and determination.

Flying Officer William Michael DAVIES (136020), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 227 Squadron.

Flying Officer Davies is a gallant and resourceful pilot, whose keenness to engage the enemy has always been apparent. He has participated in a very large number of sorties, including many successful attacks on shipping. On a recent occasion he took part in an attack on a heavily-escorted merchant vessel. Despite fierce anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Davies dived to attack the leading escort vessel which he raked from stem to stern with cannon and machine gun fire. Throughout the operation this officer displayed outstanding determination, setting a praiseworthy example.

Flying Officer Arthur Hubert ELLIS (123836), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 179 Squadron.

This officer has displayed great skill, courage and resolution in several engagements with the enemy's under water craft. On one occasion, in January, 1944, his aircraft sustained severe damage, making it very difficult to control. Despite this, Flying Officer Ellis pressed home his attack and afterwards flew the damaged aircraft to base. This officer has participated in a very large number of sorties and has displayed outstanding keenness and great devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Ernest Leopold WILLIAMS (80424), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 605 Squadron.

This officer is a courageous and determined fighter, whose keenness to inflict loss on the enemy has always been evident. He has completed a large number of sorties during which he has attacked airfields and a variety of other targets, including rail and road transport, with good results. Amongst his other successes, Flying Officer Williams has destroyed 5 enemy aircraft at night. His example has been worthy of the highest praise.

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