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Air Ministry 14th April 1944

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 Flying Cross

- Flying Officer Michael Seamer ALLEN DFC (120723), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No 141 Squadron
 Flying Officer Harold Edward WHITE DFC (119508), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No 141 Squadron

As observer and pilot respectively these officers have completed many sorties since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. They have set a fine example of keenness and devotion to duty throughout and have now destroyed at least 5 enemy aircraft at night. Their achievements have been worthy of much praise.

Distinguished Flying Cross

- Acting Group Captain George Francis Keller DONALDSON AFC, Reserve of Air Force Officers

In recent operations involving the use of transport aircraft this officer has displayed great skill, leadership and devotion to duty, qualities which have been reflected in the achievements of the formations he commands. He has displayed a high standard of organising ability throughout and his efforts have contributed in a large measure to the successes obtained.

- Acting Flight Lieutenant Wilfred ADAMS (161324), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No 149 Squadron

As captain and pilot of aircraft, Flight Lieutenant Adams has taken part in a large number of sorties involving attacks on a variety of strongly defended targets. He has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and courage and his determination to complete his tasks successfully has earned him high praise.

- Acting Flight Lieutenant Leonard Joseph HALLEY (156622), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No 115 Squadron

This officer has participated in very many sorties against targets in Germany, including 9 attacks on Berlin. On one occasion when detailed to attack the German capital the mid-upper and rear turrets of the aircraft became unserviceable before reaching the enemy coast. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Halley went on to this strongly defended target and bombed it. His action was typical of the determination he has shown to make every sortie a success.

- Flying Officer Bertie Towner FOLEE DFM (Aus 404595), Royal Australian Air Force, No 617 Squadron

As front gunner this officer has taken part in a large number of sorties many of them demanding a high degree of skill and resolution. On a recent occasion he participated in an attack on a target in Southern France. During the operation the aircraft was subjected to intense light anti-aircraft fire and sustained much damage. Nevertheless Flying Officer Folee raked the enemy's gun positions with his bullets and his unflinching fire and deadly aim played a good part in silencing the opposition. By his undoubted skill, great courage and fine fighting qualities, this officer has contributed materially to the successes obtained.

- Flying Officer Stanley HALLIWELL (144045), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No 61 Squadron

This officer has completed many sorties against well defended targets in Germany. He is a most able and resourceful navigator, whose example of keenness and devotion to duty has been of a high order. On one occasion, following an attack on Munich, Flying Officer Halliwell became deprived of the use of much of his navigational equipment. Despite this, he successfully navigated the aircraft to a home-based airfield.

- Flying Officer Gordon David Le Messurier SEDDON (Aus 416460), Royal Australian Air Force, No 115 Squadron

Flying Officer Seddon has completed a large number of bombing sorties during which he has attacked various targets with success. He has displayed great skill and determination, qualities which were amply demonstrated on a recent occasion when attacking Berlin. In spite of fierce anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Seddon made several runs over the target area to release his bombs. He is an efficient captain whose example has proved most inspiring.

Distinguished Flying Medal

- 1217454 Flight Sergeant Derek SCHOFIELD, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No 619 Squadron
 Can/R 129608 Flight Sergeant George Eric HEXTER, Royal Canadian Air Force, No 619 Squadron

These airmen were pilot and bomb aimer respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart one night in March, 1944. When about 150 miles from the target the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. Before the enemy aircraft could evade the bomber had sustained much damage, while Flight Sergeant Hexter had been wounded in the hand and foot. Undeterred Flight Sergeant Schofield continued his mission and eventually reached the target over which he was ably guided.

by Flight Sergeant Hexter who, though in considerable pain, had insisted on remaining at his post. Shortly afterwards, the oxygen supply failed but Flight Sergeant Schofield came down to a lower altitude and afterwards flew the damaged aircraft to this country where he effected a safe landing at an airfield near the coast. This airman displayed skill, courage and determination of a high order, Flight Sergeant Hexter also set a fine example of courage and fortitude and his conduct in trying circumstances was worthy of great praise.

539154 Sergeant Alfred Ernest HARRIS, Royal Air Force, No 61 Squadron.

As flight engineer, Sergeant Harris has completed a large number of sorties, including 11 attacks on the capital of the German Reich. Throughout his tour he has been of inestimable help to his captain and has played a worthy part in the many successes obtained. His example of courage and devotion to duty has been highly commendable.

Air Ministry, 14th April, 1944

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:—

Distinguished Service Order

Wing Commander Arthur Edmond CLOUSTON, D.F.C., A.F.C. (29162), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 224 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Edgar Jacques WICHT, D.F.C. (41546), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 224 Squadron.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross

Acting Wing Commander Ian James SPENCER, D.F.C. (40150), Reserve of Air Force Officers

Acting Squadron Leader Herbert Edward TAPPIN, D.F.C. (89304), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 157 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Wing Commander Lord Malcolm Avendale DOUGLAS-HAMILTON, O.B.E. (70189), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 540 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Paul Wade ARBON (41893), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 29 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Vincent Joseph CLARKSON (67679), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 502 Squadron

Acting Squadron Leader John FINCH (64308), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 102 Squadron

Acting Squadron Leader John Vincent HADLAND (206845), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 98 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Cyril Arthur Trevor JONES (43693), Royal Air Force, No. 79 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader James Gordon KEEP (78729), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 181 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Percy Walter MASON (41721), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 168 Squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Kenneth Cornell RITCHIE (41739), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 21 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Harold Amos GASS (119730), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 179 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Frederick Andros GRANTHAM (104542), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 174 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Victor Albert HESTER (112695), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 613 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Donald Drummond LIPMAN (117475), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 233 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Menzies PATERSON (61232), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 179 Squadron

Flight Lieutenant Arthur Edward TOMBLIN (114080), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 132 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Raymond George WITCOMBE (119100), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 280 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Robert Ronald WRIGHT (69514), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 235 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Robert William LONSDALE, M.M. (127169), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 88 Squadron

Acting Flight Lieutenant John George MEJOR (119016), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 112 Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Harold Edward WALMSLEY (139425), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 132 Squadron.

Flying Officer David Murray ELLIS (144294), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 236 Squadron.

Flying Officer Eric PHILLIPS (159056), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 236 Squadron.

Flying Officer Isaac Hopkin THOMAS (129538), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 157 Squadron.

Warrant Officer Brian SPENCER (1131825), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 86 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

816240 Flight Sergeant Robert William BARRETT, Auxiliary Air Force, No. 120 Squadron.

628588 Flight Sergeant Kenneth Vivian ERRINGTON, Royal Air Force, No. 215 Squadron.

1107720 Flight Sergeant William Alan JOHNSON, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 502 Squadron.

1543940 Sergeant Eric WASS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 202 Squadron.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

Distinguished Flying Cross

Acting Squadron Leader Rene Maurice CROOKE (Aus.400914), No. 30 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Stephen Edward CALDER (Aus.416069), No. 247 Squadron.

Flying Officer Wesley Glen LONEY (Aus.400279), No. 59 Squadron.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Hugh Constant GODEFROY, D.F.C. (Can/J.3701).

Acting Wing Commander Robert Wendell McNAIR, D.F.C. (Can/J.4745).

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader George Clinton KEEFER, D.F.C. (Can/J.5022), No. 412 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron

Distinguished Flying Cross

Acting Flight Lieutenant Jack Andrew Hubert De Le PAULLE (Can/J.8964), No. 422 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Kail Raymond LINTON (Can/J.17417), No. 421 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Flying Officer Vernon Irving GORRILL (Can/J.18534), No. 541 Squadron

Flying Officer Robert Huycke WATT (Can/J.18309), No. 415 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron

Flying Officer James Edward WILLIAMS (Can/J.17906), No. 215 Squadron.

The above awards are in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations.

AMENDMENT.

In notification of 7th April 1944 (p. 1616, col. 1), regarding award of Distinguished Flying Cross to acting Wing Commander H. S. GRIMSEY (121202) for "No. 105 Squadron" read "No. 52 Squadron."

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