



FIFTH SUPPLEMENT
TO

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Air Ministry, 18th April, 1944.

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

Second Bar to Distinguished Service Order.

Wing Commander Geoffrey Leonard CHESHIRE, D.S.O., D.F.C. (72021), Royal Air Force, No. 617 Squadron.

This officer has commanded the squadron with notable success. Within recent months he has participated in many attacks on targets of vital importance to the enemy and the successes obtained are an excellent tribute to his outstanding tactical ability, great courage and iron determination. He is a splendid leader, whose personal example and untiring efforts have contributed in a large measure to the high standard of efficiency and fine fighting qualities of the squadron he commands.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Wing Commander John Raeburn BALMER, O.B.E. (Aus.68), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 467 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed a varied tour of operations and throughout has displayed great skill and devotion to duty. He is a most efficient squadron commander, whose keenness and zeal have set a fine example.

Acting Wing Commander Anthony Wilkinson HEWARD, A.F.C. (39044), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 50 Squadron.

This officer has completed numerous sorties, involving attacks on such targets as Berlin, Hanover and Frankfurt. He has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and courage and his determination to ensure success has been highly commendable.

Wing Commander Heward has devoted much of his skill and energy in the training of other members of the squadron with excellent results. His leadership has inspired all.

Acting Squadron Leader Albert MARKLAND, D.F.M. (101028), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 78 Squadron.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, most of which have been against the enemy's heavily defended targets. He is a gallant and determined leader, whose sterling qualities have been reflected in the work of his flight which has achieved much success. His record is worthy of high praise.

Flight Lieutenant Anthony James WOODRUFF (102956), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Woodruff has completed a very large number of sorties, involving attacks on a wide variety of targets. He is a keen and capable gunner, whose coolness and confidence in the face of the enemy, has won much praise. Latterly, Flight Lieutenant Woodruff has participated in many sorties over Germany including attacks on such targets as Berlin, Schweinfurt, Augsburg and Stuttgart. He has rendered most valuable service.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Donald Frank CONSTABLE (Aus.409383), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 78 Squadron.

One night in March, 1944, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart. On the outward flight the aircraft was attacked by a fighter and sustained damage. Undeterred, Flight Lieutenant Constable continued to the target and pressed home a determined attack. On many other occasions, Flight Lieutenant Constable has displayed his fine fighting qualities, setting an example worthy of emulation. He is an efficient and understanding captain whose courage and coolness in the face of the enemy have been inspiring.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Robert Audley Patrick HERBERT DUTTON (118476), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 259 Squadron.

Flying Officer Frank SEDDON (Aus.408759), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 259 Squadron.

These officers were captain and navigator respectively of an aircraft on reconnaissance patrol which sighted an enemy blockade runner or supply ship. In spite of adverse weather the ship was shadowed, until it was known that naval forces were approaching. Afterwards, Flight Lieutenant Dutton and Flying Officer Seddon made contact with these forces and guided them to the operational zone and the enemy vessel was subsequently attacked and destroyed. On this difficult and arduous sortie these officers displayed a high degree of skill and fortitude and their efforts contributed in a large measure to the success obtained. They have completed very many sorties and have displayed outstanding devotion to duty.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Forrest Guy LORD (Can. 14883), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 428 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has set a fine example of skill and determination, qualities which he has amply

demonstrated on numerous occasions when his aircraft has been damaged by enemy action. Recently, Flight Lieutenant Lord participated in an attack on a target in Northern France. On the outward flight one engine of his aircraft became useless. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Lord continued to the target and executed a successful attack. This officer has completed very many sorties and has invariably displayed a high degree of courage and devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Douglas Charles CAMERON, D.F.M. (148125), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

This officer, who was awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal for gallantry on his first sortie, has completed a large number of sorties, involving attacks on heavily defended targets in Germany. He has displayed a high degree of skill and courage and throughout his determination to inflict loss on the enemy has been most commendable. On one occasion, early in his operational career, Flying Officer Cameron's aircraft sustained severe damage whilst over the target area. Half the mid-upper turret was ripped away, whilst a hole some 5 feet in diameter was torn in the fuselage. In spite of this, Flying Officer Cameron flew the damaged aircraft home. On several other occasions, Flying Officer Cameron has proved his skill by flying his damaged aircraft to base. He is a model captain and his achievements have been outstanding.

Flying Officer Russell Halsey LLOYD (161596), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 50 Squadron.

This officer has completed very many sorties during which he has attacked Berlin on 10 occasions. On the last occasion on which Flying Officer Lloyd attacked the German capital his aircraft was attacked by a fighter and sustained damage. The hydraulic gear was affected and the mid-upper turret was rendered unserviceable. In spite of this, Flying Officer Lloyd went on to the target and pressed home his attack and afterwards flew the aircraft back to this country. His action was typical of the determination he has invariably shown in attacking his targets.

Flying Officer Herbert Blackmore MARSHALL, D.F.M. (157387), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties and his example of skill, courage and devotion to duty has been beyond praise. On one occasion, when returning from Berlin, one of the starboard engines burst into flames owing to a leakage of oil. The aircraft began to lose height. Efforts to extinguish the flames were unavailing and finally the propeller tore away from the red hot motor and crashed through the forward part of the fuselage. The whirling blade completely severed the wiring to the main instrument panel. All lights went out. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Marshall held to his course and, although deprived of the use of most of his instruments, eventually reached this country. He displayed courage and resolution of the highest order. On two more recent occasions his skill has been mainly responsible for the safe return of his aircraft after damage has been sustained.

Pilot Officer Herbert Edwin FINNEY (169492), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

As flight engineer, this officer has participated in very many sorties. He has invariably displayed high technical ability, great determination and coolness, factors which have played a good part in the success of the missions in which he has participated. On a recent occasion, when returning from Berlin, one engine of the aircraft caught fire and became useless. Although deprived of the use of his instruments, Pilot Officer Finney fulfilled his engineering tasks with much skill, contributing in no small measure to the successful return of the aircraft.

Pilot Officer John Stewart LEECH (N.Z.421068), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 158 Squadron.

This officer has participated in very many sorties and has invariably displayed keenness, courage and devotion to duty of a high order. His navigational ability has always been apparent and not once has he failed to guide his pilot to the allotted target. On a recent occasion he was a member of the crew of an aircraft which attacked Berlin. On the return flight one of

the engines caught fire. The propeller flew off and tore a large hole in the fuselage. Other damage was sustained, putting many of the instruments out of action and extinguishing all the lights. Nevertheless, Pilot Officer Leech, using a torch for illumination, plotted his way home with his usual accuracy. His efforts were of the greatest assistance to his captain.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1395686 Flight Sergeant George Cyril FERGUSON, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

This airman was the air bomber of an aircraft detailed to attack Leipzig one night in February, 1944. Whilst over the target area, the bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire. The wireless operator was wounded in the head and later became unconscious. Having completed the task of directing his captain on the bombing run, Flight Sergeant Ferguson rendered first aid to his injured comrade and afterwards executed the essential duties of this member of the crew. His actions were typical of the resource and determination he has shown on many occasions. Flight Sergeant Ferguson has participated in a large number of sorties and has always displayed noteworthy keenness and devotion to duty.

1232573 Flight Sergeant Norman GAMBLE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

As air gunner, Flight Sergeant Gamble has taken part in a large number of sorties. He has proved himself to be a cool and confident member of aircraft crew and his skill and resolution in the face of the enemy have set an excellent example.

1333525 Flight Sergeant Thomas William John HALL, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 106 Squadron.

One night in March, 1944, this airman was captain and pilot of an aircraft which attacked Berlin. On the return flight the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire which caused damage to the port main plane, the rear turret, the bomb-aimer's compartment and to two of the engines. Coolly and skilfully, however, Flight Sergeant Hall overcame a difficult situation and afterwards flew the damaged bomber to base. On this, his first sortie as captain of aircraft, this airman displayed a high standard of efficiency, great courage and determination.

952346 Sergeant Harry HULME, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

As flight engineer, Sergeant Hulme has completed a tour of operations on which most of the enemy's well defended targets have been attacked. Throughout he has displayed a high standard of technical ability which has contributed materially to the very many successes his captain has achieved. Sergeant Hulme is a most valuable member of aircraft, whose exemplary conduct at all times has been highly commendable.

1078177 Sergeant David John JONES, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

As wireless operator, Sergeant Jones has taken part in very many sorties over Germany, including attacks on targets in the Ruhr area, Berlin, Hanover and other such targets. Throughout he has displayed exceptional skill and determination and has proved himself to be a most dependable member of aircraft crew. On a recent occasion, whilst over Leipzig, Sergeant Jones was struck over the eye by a piece of shrapnel when his aircraft came under fire from the ground defences. In spite of the severity of his injury, this gallant airman insisted on attempting to fulfil his duties. He was unable to do so, however, as he had sustained a fractured skull and became unconscious. This airman's fine record has been worthy of great praise.

622554 Sergeant Ronald ROONEY, Royal Air Force, No. 640 Squadron.

As flight engineer, Sergeant Rooney has taken part in attacks on very many targets in Germany, including Berlin, Hamburg and centres in the Ruhr. He is a most competent member of aircraft and, on several occasions, when engine trouble has been experienced, his skill and resource have contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft. He has at all times displayed great determination and devotion to duty.

Air Ministry, 18th April, 1944.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of distinguished services:—

Distinguished Conduct Medal.

553789 Flight Sergeant (now Warrant Officer) James Downs, Royal Air Force, No. 83 Squadron.

AMENDMENT.

In notification of 14th January, 1944 (mentions in despatches) (p. 292, col. 1), Flight Lieutenants, *delete* "G. R. Shea (69541) R.A.F.V.R." (p. 293, col. 2) below "T. H. Sheppard (101715) (Acting) R.A.F.V.R." *insert* "G. R. Shea (69541) (Acting) R.A.F.V.R."

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