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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 Flight Lieutenant Winston Herbert KELLAWAY, D.S.O. (49688), Royal Air Force, No. 630 Squadron.

This officer has completed a third tour of operations and has continued to display the highest standard of skill and bravery. Notable amongst his achievements on his last tour are five attacks on Berlin, missions which he completed with great skill and determination. His example has been outstanding and has done much to foster a high standard of morale throughout the squadron. His record is worthy of the greatest praise.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Stanley HALLIWELL, D.F.C. (144045), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 61 Squadron.

This officer was the navigator of an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin one night in March, 1944. When nearing the target the port engine caught fire and, a few minutes later, a second engine became defective and was put out of action. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Halliwell guided his pilot to the target which was bombed. The aircraft was gradually losing height as course was set for this country. In very difficult circumstances, Flying Officer Halliwell plotted his way home with great skill, avoiding heavily defended areas as much as possible. At one time all movable equipment was jettisoned in an effort to maintain height and eventually the North Sea was safely crossed and an airfield reached. In the face of a trying ordeal, Flying Officer Halliwell proved himself to be a valiant member of aircraft crew and his skilful navigation contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader George Barry JOHNSON (66540), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 51 Squadron.

This officer has completed many sorties, including several attacks on Berlin and others on various centres in the Ruhr. On one occasion his aircraft sustained extensive damage during the early stages of a flight to a target in Germany. The controls were seriously affected and it became impossible to keep the aircraft level. Nevertheless, after jettisoning his bombs in the sea, Squadron Leader Johnson succeeded in re-crossing the English coast and afterwards landed the damaged bomber safely. On another occasion, in March,

1944, this officer displayed great skill and determination when completing his mission successfully in the face of difficulties caused by the failure of the pumping system of the overload petrol tank. Squadron Leader Johnson has set a very fine example of keenness and devotion to duty.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Frederick Wilson ADAMS (138683), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 49 Squadron.

As pilot and captain of aircraft, this officer has completed a very large number of sorties during which he has attacked most of the enemy's heavily defended targets. He has invariably displayed a high degree of skill, courage and determination and his example has proved most inspiring. On a recent occasion, Flight Lieutenant Adams piloted an aircraft detailed for a mine-laying mission. In spite of intense fire from the shore batteries and from armed ships, Flight Lieutenant Adams executed his task with great precision.

Flying Officer Robin Frederick ANDERSON (Aus. 410291), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 106 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in very many sorties, including 8 attacks on Berlin. On his last sortie, Flying Officer Anderson piloted an aircraft detailed for a mine-laying mission. The operation, which called for a high degree of skill and resolution, was successfully completed in spite of considerable light anti-aircraft fire. Throughout his tour this officer has displayed exceptional qualities of skill, courage and devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Joseph Beach LATHAM (150124), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 106 Squadron.

This officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed for a mine-laying mission one night in April, 1944. In spite of considerable opposition from the enemy's defences, Flying Officer Latham pressed home his attack with great determination and accuracy. His success was a fitting climax to a noteworthy tour during which he has attacked a wide range of targets. This officer has invariably displayed a high degree of courage and resolution.

Flying Officer Donald PAUL (158695), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 61 Squadron.

This officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Nuremberg one night in March, 1944. During the sortie the aircraft was attacked by a fighter and sustained damage to one of the engines before the enemy aircraft was driven off. Almost immediately another fighter attacked. This also was driven off and was seen to fall towards the ground with one engine on fire. The bomber was then attacked by a third fighter but Flying Officer Paul manoeuvred with great skill and his gunners, by their accurate bursts of fire,

caused the enemy aircraft to break away. Owing to loss of power from 2 of its engines the bomber gradually lost height. All movable equipment was jettisoned and when the enemy coast was crossed the aircraft was down to 2,000 feet. Eventually, this country was reached and Flying Officer Paul landed the damaged aircraft safely. This officer displayed great skill, courage and resolution throughout.

Pilot Officer Raymond Llewellyn CUTLER (171393), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 199 Squadron.

In April, 1944, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed for a sortie against a target far in enemy territory. On several occasions on the outward flight the aircraft was subjected to heavy fire from the ground defences and was hit in the starboard wing. Nevertheless, Pilot Officer Cutler accomplished his mission successfully. His skill and determination was typical of that which he has shown throughout the many sorties in which he has taken part.

Pilot Officer Gordon Sheppard MILNE (Can/J.19630), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 106 Squadron.

This officer has completed very many sorties, 9 of which have been against Berlin. He has displayed great skill, gallantry and determination, qualities which were amply demonstrated on a recent mine-laying mission. In spite of considerable anti-aircraft fire and searchlight activity, Pilot Officer Milne pressed home his attack with great precision. He is a fine leader and a model captain.

Pilot Officer Albert William SHINN (170943), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 49 Squadron.

This officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Essen one night in March, 1944. Whilst over the target area the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. The gun turrets were rendered unserviceable, fires commenced in 2 places and, when the inner starboard engine failed the aircraft went into a steep dive. Almost as Pilot Officer Shinn regained control another enemy fighter attacked and the bomber sustained further damage. Some instruments were shot away and the hydraulic and inter-communication systems were wrecked. Nevertheless, Pilot Officer Shinn retained control and the fighter was evaded. The bomber was gradually losing height but the fires had been extinguished and course was set for home. Pilot Officer Shinn eventually reached an airfield where he effected a successful crash-landing. This officer displayed great skill, courage and coolness in most harassing circumstances.

Pilot Officer Philip Joseph WILSON (Can/J.19982), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 166 Squadron.

One night in March, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Nuremberg. Whilst over the target area the aircraft was hit by machine gun fire from a fighter and sustained damage to the port elevators, the bomb bay and other parts of the structure. The tailplane caught fire and was seriously burnt. Although the bomber dived steeply, Pilot Officer Wilson succeeded in regaining control. Throughout the long flight home it was necessary to exert great pressure on the control column but Pilot Officer Wilson, at times assisted by the flight engineer, kept the aircraft steady and eventually reached base. He displayed skill, resolution and endurance of a high order.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Pilot Officer Desmond Clayton FREEMAN (172828), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 61 Squadron.

Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).

1576762 Sergeant Leslie CHAPMAN, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 61 Squadron.

This officer and airman were pilot and wireless operator respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Nuremberg one night in March, 1944. During the operation the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. It was driven off but shortly afterwards two more enemy aircraft attacked. Before they also were driven off the bomber had sustained much damage. The starboard wing, the flaps and the undercarriage nacelle were all hit by bullets. The mid-upper and front turrets were damaged. The windscreen was shattered

and other parts of the airframe were shot away. Four members of the crew were wounded. Most of the navigational equipment was useless but course was set for home. Sergeant Chapman had been wounded in the back, neck and head but bravely remained at his post obtaining fixes which were of inestimable value in establishing the aircraft's position at various stages on the return flight. Finally the English coast was reached and Pilot Officer Freeman landed the aircraft safely although a tyre on one of the landing wheels had been punctured. Pilot Officer Freeman displayed great skill, courage and determination throughout; Sergeant Chapman also proved himself to be a gallant member of aircraft crew. It was not until the aircraft had been safely landed that he informed his captain of his wounds. He set a splendid example.

Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).

1515563 Sergeant Edward Dyson DURRANS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 90 Squadron.

This airman was the wireless operator of an aircraft detailed for a sortie one night in April, 1944. On the return flight the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. Sergeant Durrans was severely wounded by flying fragments of shrapnel. Although suffering acutely and affected by the loss of blood, Sergeant Durrans would not leave his post and continued working his wireless apparatus until the aircraft reached the English coast. His courage, fortitude and utter disregard for his own welfare set an example in keeping with the best traditions of the Royal Air Force.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1299165 Sergeant Ralph Algernon BRIARS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 49 Squadron.

1578343 Sergeant Arthur WARD, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 49 Squadron.

1626273 Sergeant Roy MACHIN, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 49 Squadron.

These airmen were rear gunner, wireless operator and mid-upper gunner respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Augsburg one night in February, 1944. When approaching the target the aircraft was attacked by a fighter and sustained severe damage. The controls were affected and the bomber went into a steep dive. As the pilot and flight engineer endeavoured to regain control, Sergeants Briars, Machin and Ward directed their efforts towards extinguishing the fire. Bullets were exploding in the ammunition ducts but, completely ignoring this danger, they laboured strenuously to beat out the flames. As the task was accomplished, Sergeant Briars collapsed through lack of oxygen. Sergeant Machin promptly tended his comrade, whilst Sergeant Ward returned to his turret ready to defend his aircraft if again necessary. In the face of a most trying situation these airmen maintained perfect discipline and displayed courage and resolution of a high order.

1551762 Sergeant John MacPherson CHALMERS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 100 Squadron.

This airman was the wireless operator (air) of an aircraft engaged on an operational mission. During the sortie the aircraft was badly damaged in an engagement with a fighter. Sergeant Chalmers was wounded in the hand to which he also received burns in an attempt to prevent flames from a defective engine spreading to the fuselage. Despite his injury, Sergeant Chalmers continued his wireless duties and proved of great assistance to his pilot during the homeward flight. His exemplary conduct and devotion to duty were most commendable. He has taken part in many sorties, including attacks on such targets as Berlin, Stuttgart, Frankfurt and Essen.

Can/R.56103 Sergeant Edwin Omer GEORGE, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 426 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This airman has taken part in several sorties and has displayed notable courage and devotion to duty. On one occasion he was the mid-upper gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. In the very early stages of the flight, Sergeant George slipped and fractured his leg. Although suffering acutely he stubbornly refused to leave his post. Some time later heavy anti-aircraft was encountered and the bomber was hit. In the pilot's subsequent manoeuvring, Sergeant George proved of great assistance by his skilful evading

directions. After the target had been bombed and enemy territory crossed, the crew were forced to leave by parachute as the aircraft could no longer be flown. The rear gunner was trapped in his turret but, in spite of his own sufferings, Sergeant George secured an axe with which he hacked a way clear to release his comrade. This airman displayed courage, fortitude and devotion to duty of a high order.

1305510 Sergeant Robert Hall HUDSON, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 49 Squadron.

As air gunner, this airman has taken part in many sorties and has proved himself to be a fearless and determined member of aircraft crew. On a recent occasion, during a fight with enemy aircraft, his gun turret was put out of action. Coolly and skilfully, however, Sergeant Hudson gave the necessary evading directions to his pilot and thus played a good part in frustrating the attackers. He set a fine example of courage and devotion to duty.

1801001 Sergeant Paul MCGIBNEY, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 61 Squadron.

As air gunner, this airman has participated in very many sorties. One night in March, 1944, he was the rear gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack Nuremberg. During the operation the aircraft was attacked by 3 enemy fighters. On each occasion, Sergeant McGibney's good shooting and concise evading directions to his pilot greatly assisted in driving off the enemy aircraft, one of which was seen to lose height rapidly with an engine on fire. This airman displayed great coolness and determination and defended his aircraft with much skill.

Air Ministry, 9th May, 1944.

The KING has granted unrestricted permission for the wearing of the undermentioned decorations conferred upon the officers indicated in recognition of valuable services rendered in connection with the war:—

CONFERRED BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS.

Flight Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Robert Norman BATESON, D.S.O., D.F.C. (39054), Reserve of Air Force Officers.

CONFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND.

Virtuti Militari (5th Class).

Flight Lieutenant Edward Joseph HARROD (45654), Royal Air Force.

Krzyz Walcznych (Cross of Valour).

Pilot Officer John Anthony WELLS (Aus.407922), Royal Australian Air Force.

Pilot Officer Noel WILCOCK (172889), Royal Air Force.

CONFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Legion of Merit (Officer).

Squadron Leader Henry Campbell WALKER, A.F.C. (N.Z.1138), Royal New Zealand Air Force.

Government House, Canberra, 9th May, 1944.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards *with effect from 19th April, 1944*, in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operations against the enemy in the South-West Pacific area:—

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader Herbert Clarence PLENTY, D.F.C. (Aus.582), Royal Australian Air Force.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander John HICKEY (Aus.270542).
Squadron Leader Frederick John MACGUIRE, A.F.C. (Aus.261537).

Acting Flight Lieutenant Colin Travers ADAMS (Aus.407397).

Acting Flight Lieutenant Arthur Watson BADGER (Aus.403892).

Warrant Officer Gordon Leslie BLAND (Aus.407519).

Warrant Officer George Firth Spencer BROWN (Aus.400776).

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