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Air Ministry, 16th May, 1944.

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.

Flight Lieutenant Harold Fleming KERRIGAN, D.F.C. (Can/J.6002), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 120 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Paul Remby RACKHAM (Can/J.14658), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 120 Squadron.

In March, 1944, these officers were pilot and navigator respectively of an aircraft which successfully attacked 2 U-boats. In the fight against the first of these vessels intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire was encountered. The aircraft was hit and one engine was set on fire. Despite this Flight Lieutenant Kerrigan pressed home his attack and the explosion of his depth charges completely enveloped the submarine. Almost immediately the second submarine was sighted. Although the starboard engine was still burning, Flying Officer Kerrigan promptly prepared to attack and made his run in the face of withering fire, the aircraft was repeatedly hit and sustained extensive damage. Flying Officer Rackham was wounded in the head, body and leg but bravely remained at his post to continue his navigational duties. Throughout the long fight home the aircraft was difficult to control but Flight Lieutenant Kerrigan flew it safely to this country. This officer displayed outstanding skill, courage and determination in his fight against the enemy's underwater craft. Flying Officer Rackham also proved a gallant and resolute member of aircraft crew. Although suffering acutely he did everything within his power to assist his pilot to reach home.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Pilot Officer Douglas Tasker Cook (Can/J.18875), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 419 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties, involving attacks on a wide range of heavily defended targets in Germany. He has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and courage and his determination to make every sortie a success has won high praise.

Pilot Officer Robert Harold JARMAN (Can/J.19705), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 426 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed many sorties, including 8 attacks on the German capital. On one occasion whilst over Berlin his aircraft was attacked 6 times by fighters. Nevertheless, he succeeded in frustrating the attackers and after-

wards bombed the target. His determination was characteristic of that he has shown throughout his tour. He is a gallant and skilful pilot whose fine qualities have been reflected in the high standard of efficiency of his crew.

Pilot Officer George Richard Hamilton PECK (Can/C.18516), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 419 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed for a mine-laying mission one night in March, 1944. On the outward flight one engine caught fire and had to be put out of action. Some height was lost but Pilot Officer Peck continued to the target to complete his task. On the return flight a second engine became useless. Height could not be maintained but Pilot Officer Peck brought the aircraft down on to the water successfully. All the crew got safely aboard the dinghy and were rescued some 3 hours later. On this, his first sortie as a captain, this officer displayed inspiring leadership, great determination and devotion to duty.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1437583 Flight Sergeant William ASPEY, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 149 Squadron.

As rear gunner, Flight Sergeant Aspey has participated in a large number of sorties against heavily defended targets. He has at all times displayed vigilance and skill, qualities which have made him a valuable member of aircraft crew. On one occasion on the outward flight to Bochum, Flight Sergeant Aspey defended his aircraft with great skill in repeated attacks by 3 enemy aircraft, one of which he shot down. He displayed great courage and coolness and played a good part in the safe return of the aircraft.

569429 Flight Sergeant Denis MCGREY, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 149 Squadron.

As flight engineer this airman has participated in very many sorties, involving attacks on such targets as Berlin, Hamburg and centres in the Ruhr area. On one occasion, Flight Sergeant McGrevy was badly wounded when his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. In spite of this he continued his engineering tasks and did everything possible to assist his pilot in his endeavours to fly the severely damaged aircraft home. Whilst over the North Sea, however, height could not be maintained. Nevertheless, the pilot brought the aircraft safely down on to the water. Flight Sergeant McGrevy was unable to escape in the normal way but, with great presence of mind, dived through a gaping hole in the fuselage and got clear. In spite of his injuries he gallantly assisted two of his comrades aboard the dinghy. Thirteen hours were subsequently spent adrift and, during this extremely trying time, Flight Sergeant McGrevy displayed great fortitude, although

suffering considerably. Upon recovery, several months afterwards, this airman resumed flying and has executed his tasks with the same keenness and determination. On one occasion, whilst over Turin, Flight Sergeant McGrevy was injured. In spite of this he continued his duties and, later on the return flight, when an acute shortage of petrol developed he controlled the supply with great skill. His efforts contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft. This airman has set an example of the highest order.

1577706 Flight Sergeant Charles Ralph WALE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 149 Squadron.

As rear gunner, Flight Sergeant Wale has taken part in a large number of sorties, involving attacks on a variety of well defended targets in Germany. Throughout he has displayed great keenness and devotion to duty, setting a fine example. On one occasion his aircraft was attacked by 2 enemy aircraft, one of which he shot down from close range. He has proved himself to be a most dependable member of aircraft crew.

1278411 Sergeant Ivor Donald HANCOCKS, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 77 Squadron.

This airman has completed a large number of sorties in the role of rear gunner. On several occasions his aircraft has been engaged by enemy fighters but Sergeant Hancock has fought with great skill and coolness and his good shooting has played a worthy part in warding off the attackers. During a sortie one night in April, 1944, his aircraft was intercepted by a fighter. In the ensuing

fight, Sergeant Hancock gave excellent directions to his pilot who was enabled to evade the enemy's fire. Then following a most effective burst of fire from Sergeant Hancock's guns, the enemy aircraft exploded in the air. His vigilance, coolness and good marksmanship on this occasion were worthy of great praise.

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Air Ministry, 16th May, 1944.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallant and distinguished service:—

Bar to Military Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Forest Frederick Edward YEOTHOMAS, M.C. (89215), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Military Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Oliver Lawrence Spurling PHILPOT, D.F.C. (88131), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Flight Lieutenant Allan Frank McSWEYN (Aus. 402005), Royal Australian Air Force.

Flight Lieutenant Howard Douglas WARDLE (41761), Reserve of Air Force Officers.

Military Medal.

1265632 Sergeant Alfred Roy COTTLE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

613614 Corporal James Reginald SMITH, Royal Air Force.

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