



FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 26th of MAY, 1944

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 30 MAY, 1944

Air Ministry, 30th 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 Flying Cross.

Wing Commander John Raymond JEUDWINE, O.B.E. (33116), Royal Air Force, No. 619 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in a large number of sorties and has displayed exceptional skill, courage and determination. On a recent occasion he took part in an attack on the railway junction at Tours and his gallant leadership and great tactical ability played a good part in the success of the operation. Wing Commander Jeudwine is a most efficient squadron commander whose example has impressed all.

Acting Wing Commander John Francis GREY (37767), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 207 Squadron.

One night in May, 1944, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack a target in Northern France. Shortly after leaving the airfield one engine became unserviceable but Wing Commander Grey flew on to the target at a lower altitude than planned and eventually made a successful attack. Just as the bombs had been released the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. Wing Commander Grey manoeuvred with great skill, however, and his gunners were enabled to bring their guns to bear on the enemy aircraft with destructive effect. This officer has participated in many sorties and has invariably displayed a high standard of skill and gallantry.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Sidney Launie BENNETT (135637) Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 78 Squadron.

This officer has completed a notable tour and has displayed a high degree of skill and resolution throughout. He has attacked very many heavily defended targets and his successes are an excellent testimony to his accurate bombing. Flight Lieutenant Bennett is a most able captain, whose gallant example has contributed materially to the fine fighting spirit of his crew.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Duncan BROWN (159567), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 433 (R.C.A.F.), Squadron.

One night in April, 1944, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Karlsruhe. When nearing the target area the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. A large hole was torn in the starboard mainplane; the starboard tailplane was

also damaged and the fuselage was pierced by shrapnel. Although the aircraft became extremely difficult to control, Flight Lieutenant Brown pressed home his attack and afterwards flew the damaged aircraft to an airfield in this country and made a safe landing in very difficult circumstances. This officer displayed the finest qualities of skill, determination and devotion to duty.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Bernard Sydney DOWNS (169114), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 78 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Downs is a highly efficient and devoted captain of aircraft. He has completed a large number of sorties and throughout has displayed the greatest determination to bomb his targets successfully. His example has greatly inspired his crews.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Ernest Arthur MCGREGOR (Aus. 413012), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 78 Squadron.

This officer has completed a tour of operations during which he has attacked many strongly defended targets. He has invariably pressed home his attacks with resolution and has gained much success. One night in April, 1944, his aircraft was attacked by a fighter when nearing the target. Although the aircraft sustained damage, Flight Lieutenant McGregor succeeded in evading the fighter and then successfully bombed his objective, afterwards flying the badly damaged aircraft home. He has set a high standard of skill and courage.

Flying Officer Thomas Charles COOKE (Can./J.11462), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 162 Squadron.

This officer was the captain of an aircraft which successfully attacked a U-boat in April, 1944. He sighted the vessel, which was fully surfaced, a few miles ahead and, despite heavy anti-aircraft fire, pressed home a perfectly executed attack. The success achieved reflects the greatest credit on the skill and courage displayed by Flying Officer Cooke.

Flying Officer Brian Edmund WILMOT (Can./J.23777), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed many sorties during which he has attacked such well defended targets as Berlin, Frankfurt and Dusseldorf. One night in April, 1944, in a sortie against the last named target, Flying Officer Wilmot displayed the greatest determination in pressing home his attack although one engine failed and some height had been lost before reaching the target. His fine fighting spirit has always been apparent and he has set a most commendable example.

Pilot Officer William Anthony STRATIS (171501), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 44 Squadron.

In May, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack a target in Northern France. Whilst over the target area the aircraft was engaged by a fighter which attacked with much persistence. Pilot Officer Stratis cleverly out-maneuvred the attacker, however, and, as the enemy aircraft closed in for the fifth time it was met with a devastating burst of fire. The attacker caught fire and fell to the ground where it exploded. On the return flight the aircraft was attacked by fighters on two occasions but each time the enemy aircraft were driven off. Throughout the sortie, Pilot Officer Stratis displayed great skill, courage and resolution. This officer has completed many more successful missions.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1283701 Flight Sergeant (now Warrant Officer) Kenneth John DUNMALL, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 75 (N.Z.) Squadron.

This airman has taken part in numerous sorties and has displayed much skill, great coolness and determination. On one occasion his aircraft was very badly damaged by enemy action. Later it became necessary to leave by parachute as the aircraft could no longer be flown. Although the bomber was down to a very low level, Flight Sergeant Dunmall ensured that his crew were all clear before he himself left the controls. His action was characteristic of this fine captain.

1388334 Flight Sergeant Kenneth Robert MEAD, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 236 Squadron.

This airman was the pilot of one of a formation of aircraft which attacked a large and heavily armed convoy off the Dutch coast in May, 1944. Whilst making his attack on one of the vessels, Flight Sergeant Mead sustained wounds in the face, elbow and leg when his aircraft was struck by anti-aircraft fire. In spite of much pain and discomfort, he coolly completed his attacking run

and afterwards flew his damaged aircraft to base. He displayed gallantry and devotion to duty worthy of high praise.

N.Z.422278 Flight Sergeant Alan Worrington GIBSON, Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 166 Squadron.
1588335 Sergeant Alfred BOWDEN, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 166 Squadron.

These airmen were pilot and rear gunner respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack a target in Northern France. The objective was successfully attacked but, whilst over the area, the aircraft was engaged by a fighter. Early in the fight the mid-upper turret was put out of action. Coolly and skilfully, however, the rear gunner, gave excellent combat manoeuvres to his pilot who flew to a good position from which Sergeant Bowden delivered a burst of fire which struck the attacker, causing it to dive steeply to the ground where it exploded on impact. In the engagement the bomber had sustained damage to the control surfaces, one of the tanks had been pierced and a quantity of petrol lost, whilst one engine was put out of action. Nevertheless, Flight Sergeant Gibson flew to an airfield in this country. When approaching the airfield, at a height of about 2,000 feet, the three remaining engines failed through lack of petrol but Flight Sergeant Gibson brought his aircraft down safely. These airmen set a fine example of skill, courage and determination throughout.

1814077 Sergeant Ernest Henry HAMLYN, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 78 Squadron.

As air gunner, this airman has taken part in very many sorties and has proved himself to be an efficient and fearless member of aircraft crew. On a recent occasion he was the rear gunner of an aircraft which attacked Montzen. During the operation the aircraft was attacked by a fighter and was struck by the enemy's bullets. Damage was sustained and a fire commenced in the fuselage. After the enemy aircraft had been finally evaded, Sergeant Hamlyn forced his way through the doors of his turret, which had become jammed, and fought the fire successfully. His coolness and promptitude undoubtedly averted serious consequences.

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:

York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh 2;

39-41 King Street, Manchester 2; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;

80 Chichester Street, Belfast;

or through any bookseller

1944

Price Sixpence net

S.O. Code No. 65-36536