



FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 9th of JUNE, 1944

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 13 JUNE, 1944

Air Ministry, 13th June, 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.

Acting Wing Commander John Randall Daniel BRAHAM, D.S.O., D.F.C. (40667), Reserve of Air Force Officers.

Since being awarded a Bar to the Distinguished Service Order, this officer has taken part in many sorties, including numerous successful attacks on rail targets and on mechanical transport. In air fighting he has destroyed many more enemy aircraft, bringing his victories to at least 29. This officer has displayed the highest qualities of skill and leadership and his achievements are a splendid testimony to his courage and fighting spirit.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Charles Cranston CALDER, D.F.C. (62699), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 158 Squadron.

This officer has completed a second tour of operations and has displayed the highest qualities of skill and gallantry throughout. He has displayed the greatest determination in pressing home his attacks and has achieved much success. On 1 occasion, in an operation against Frankfurt, 2 engines became unserviceable. In spite of this, Wing Commander Calder flew the aircraft back to this country after cleverly outmanoeuvring a fighter which had closed in to attack. This officer is an efficient and forceful squadron commander, whose genius for leadership has contributed in good measure to the success of the formation he commands.

Acting Wing Commander Geoffrey Horace GOODMAN, D.F.C. (70799), Reserve of Air Force Officers, No. 151 Squadron.

This officer has commanded the squadron for many months with great success. He is a fine leader whose ability and strong sense of duty have contributed materially to the great fighting spirit of the squadron. Wing Commander Goodman is a most tenacious fighter and has shot down at least 9 enemy aircraft, 3 of them at night. He has set an example of the highest order.

Acting Squadron Leader Harold Wright Bruce HENEY (N.Z.39918), Royal New Zealand Air Force, No. 582 Squadron.

This officer was the captain of an aircraft detailed to attack Dortmund one night in May, 1944. When over the target area the aircraft caught fire but Squadron Leader Heney continued his bombing run. The flames reached dangerous proportions and became a target for the enemy's

defences. Nevertheless, Squadron Leader Heney made an effort to extinguish the flames and, as they subsided, turned for home. One engine was useless but he maintained a steady course and later, although his aircraft sustained more damage in an attack by a fighter, he landed safely at base. This officer has participated in a large number of sorties and has displayed a high degree of skill, courage and devotion to duty.

Acting Squadron Leader Stanley Lees SMART, D.F.C. (124548), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 149 Squadron.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has participated in several sorties and has continued to display the highest standard of skill, bravery and devotion to duty. During a recent operation his aircraft came under considerable light anti-aircraft fire and was struck in the nose and in one of the engines; the rear turret was put out of action and other damage was sustained. In spite of great difficulty, Squadron Leader Smart flew the damaged aircraft to base. His achievement was most commendable. This officer is a most inspiring leader, whose great zeal and fine fighting qualities have contributed in a large way to the success of the squadron.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Joseph Ernest MORPHETT, D.F.C. (Aus. 407533), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 355 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in many sorties and has set the highest example of skill gallantry and devotion to duty, qualities which were amply demonstrated on a recent occasion. After attacking his target one engine of his aircraft failed but he flew on to reach friendly territory. Trouble then developed in the 3 remaining engines and Squadron Leader Morphett realised he would not be able to reach base. He therefore requested his crew to leave by parachute. With complete disregard for his own welfare, he remained at the controls until he was satisfied that his comrades were clear. By now the aircraft was too low to allow for a successful parachute descent and Squadron Leader Morphett attempted to effect a landing in the darkness. All the engines ceased to function, however, and as the bomber crashed, this gallant captain was seriously injured. Nevertheless, by his sacrifice and devotion to duty he was undoubtedly responsible for the ultimate safety of his crew.

Acting Squadron Leader William Nelson WHAMOND, D.F.C. (101532), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 619 Squadron.

One night in May, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack a target at Salbris.

Before reaching the objective the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire and one engine was rendered useless. This did not deter Squadron Leader Whamond from continuing his mission and he went on to execute his attack. Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, this officer has participated in many sorties and has successfully attacked such targets as Berlin, Stuttgart and Brunswick. He has set a fine example of skill and gallantry throughout.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Alfred HOWARD, D.F.C. (128372), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 619 Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Aus.425265 Flight Sergeant Leslie John BIRCH, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 619 Squadron.

One night in May, 1944, this officer and airman were rear and mid-upper gunners respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack a target at Salbris. At the commencement of the bombing run, Flight Sergeant Birch sighted a fighter coming in to attack. He promptly warned his co-gunner, Flight Lieutenant Howard, who opened fire at long range to prevent the enemy aircraft from pressing home its attack until the target had been bombed. Afterwards, these gunners directed their pilot in the necessary combat manoeuvres and the engagement was successfully terminated with the destruction of the attacker. This officer and airman displayed great skill, coolness and co-operation. Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Flight Lieutenant Howard has completed very many sorties and has invariably displayed praiseworthy gallantry and devotion to duty. Flight Sergeant Birch, who has also taken part in many missions, has also proved himself to be a courageous and dependable member of aircraft crew.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Roy Aubrey McLERNON (Can/C.1637), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has taken part in many successful sorties and has displayed skill, gallantry and resolution of a high order. His example has been most inspiring and has contributed in a large measure to the operational efficiency of the squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Charles George FORD (Can/J.21372), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 428 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Ford is a fine captain and a skilful and resolute pilot. He has completed a notable tour of operations during which he has attacked such strongly defended targets as Berlin, Mannheim and Stuttgart with success. One night in April, 1944, his aircraft was badly damaged and several members of the crew were injured in an encounter with a fighter. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Ford flew back to friendly territory. Whilst attempting to land his crippled aircraft safely this brave pilot was injured. Despite this he did everything possible to extricate the members of his crew from the burning bomber before he collapsed. He displayed great courage and determination throughout.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Frank HART (147189), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 578 Squadron.

This officer has participated in a large number of sorties, including attacks on Berlin, Duisberg, Stuttgart and Kassel. He is a skilful, fearless and devoted member of aircraft crew and his successes pay an excellent tribute to his determination to bomb his targets with accuracy. In addition to his work in the air this officer has devoted much of his technical knowledge and energy in the training of other members of the squadron with good results. He has rendered loyal and devoted service.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Ralph Holmes Vernon HUNT (133617), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 429 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

In the course of his tour, Flight Lieutenant Hunt has attacked very many well defended targets. He has at all times displayed the greatest keenness and his example in pressing home his attacks has won great praise. He is a most under-

standing captain and has given much valuable service. Five of his sorties have been against Berlin.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Robert Allen WESTELL (Can/J.16965), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 428 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has completed a notable tour of operations and throughout has displayed navigational ability of a high order. He is a zealous and resolute member of aircraft crew and his example has been worthy of much praise.

Flying Officer Beverley Donn ARDIS (Can/J.26495), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 428 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

As air gunner this officer has taken part in many attacks on targets in Germany, including several on the capital. He is a keen, vigilant and resolute member of aircraft crew and has played a worthy part in the successes obtained.

Flying Officer Hubert Stanley BOARDMAN (126590), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 153 Squadron.

This officer has completed very many sorties and has set a fine example of skill, courage and resolution. He has destroyed 3 enemy aircraft, 2 of which he shot down in one night recently.

Flying Officer Frederick Charles BONE (169501), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 169 Squadron.

Flying Officer Wilfred Handel MILLER (169022), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 169 Squadron.

As observer and pilot respectively, these officers have participated in many sorties. They have displayed a high degree of skill and co-operation and have destroyed 8 enemy aircraft at night, 3 of them in one sortie in May, 1944. Their achievement on this occasion merited the greatest praise. These officers have set a fine example of devotion to duty.

Flight Lieutenant Charles Cleveland CUNNINGHAM (Can/J.10105), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 162 Squadron.

This officer has completed much operational flying and has displayed praiseworthy skill, perseverance and keenness. In February, 1944, he sighted a fully surfaced U-boat, on which he pressed home an accurate and determined attack in face of fierce anti-aircraft fire. His action on this occasion was typical of the resolution he has shown throughout his tour.

Flying Officer Dennis Albert DERBY (151251), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 39 Squadron.

During a sortie one day in May, 1944, Flying Officer Derby sighted a Junkers 88. After a long pursuit he successfully engaged the enemy aircraft and shot it down. In the fight, Flying Officer Derby was badly wounded in the arm and back. Despite this he flew more than 200 miles to reach base where he effected a safe landing. On this his second sortie, Flying Officer Derby displayed great gallantry, fortitude and devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Melvyn Curtis SHERWOOD (Can/J.23409), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 424 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Flying Officer Grant Lawrence SPACKMAN (Can/J.23988), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 424 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

These officers were pilot and air bomber of an aircraft detailed to attack the railway junction at Aulnoye one night in April, 1944. Just as the bombs were being released over the target the aircraft was struck by shrapnel. The wings and the bomb doors were pierced by fragments of flying metal. The mid-upper turret was put out of action and its occupant was wounded. Displaying great promptitude, Flying Officer Spackman went to the assistance of his comrade and rendered efficient first aid. A fire had started just behind the bulkhead of the port outer engine. Quickly realising the danger of an explosion of one of the petrol tanks near to the flames, Flying Officer Sherwood ordered all the engines to be fed from this tank thus to reduce the contents as soon as possible and minimise the danger. Eventually, Flying Officer Sherwood reached this country and made a safe landing. This officer displayed great courage and determination in hazardous circumstances. Flying Officer Spackman also proved himself to be a gallant and cool member of aircraft

crew. Throughout the homeward flight he never spared himself in his endeavours to be of assistance to his captain.

Flying Officer Harry Smith REID (159582), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 144 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Leslie Donald COOPER (169497), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 144 Squadron.

As pilot and navigator respectively these officers have completed very many sorties and have displayed commendable skill and determination throughout. Recently they took part in an attack on enemy shipping off the French coast. Considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered and Flying Officer Reid's aircraft was struck. Although he was wounded by flying fragments, which caused severe lacerations to one of his arms and minor injuries to his legs, Flying Officer Reid pressed home his attack and afterwards flew the aircraft to base where he effected a safe landing with the undercarriage retracted. He displayed great courage and tenacity. Throughout the sortie, Pilot Officer Cooper displayed great resolution and co-operated splendidly with his pilot to whom he rendered valuable aid. He set a fine example of devotion to duty.

Lieutenant Vernon John ARNOLD (9343V), South African Air Force, No. 12 (S.A.A.F.) Squadron.

In May, 1944, this officer led a formation of aircraft to attack an enemy harbour. The operation was executed with great skill and precision and the success achieved reflects the greatest credit on the efforts of Lieutenant Arnold whose leadership was brilliant. This officer has completed a large number of sorties and has invariably displayed skill, courage and tenacity of a high order.

Pilot Officer Robert Alexander GRAY (Can/J.19799), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 158 Squadron.

As pilot and captain, Pilot Officer Gray has completed a large number of sorties against dangerous and difficult targets. He has invariably displayed a high degree of skill, courage and resolution, qualities which have on more than one occasion enabled him to complete his mission in the face of heavy odds. He is an ideal leader, whose example has been most impressive.

Pilot Officer Ernest Alton LOGAN (Can/J.19067), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 432 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has taken part in a large number of sorties, involving attacks on a variety of strongly defended targets. On one occasion he was the mid-upper gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack Magdeburg. When over the target area the aircraft was struck by a burst of machine-gun fire from a fighter. A large hole was torn in the fuselage just below the mid-upper turret and a fire started. Pilot Officer Logan was wounded in the leg and foot but, in spite of his injuries, he promptly stamped on the burning portion and thus put out the flames. He then re-manned his guns as his pilot went on to bomb the target. Pilot Officer Logan has invariably displayed a high degree of courage, determination and zeal.

Warrant Officer Joseph Jean Baptiste Gaston LAPIERRE (Can/R.148486), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 408 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

As air gunner, Warrant Officer Lapierre has completed a large number of sorties, including 9 attacks on Berlin. On one occasion, after successfully bombing the German capital, Warrant Officer Lapierre sighted a fighter closing in. He promptly gave his pilot the necessary evading directions but the bomber was struck by a burst of machine-gun fire. His turret was damaged and he was deprived of the use of the inter-communication system. The lead of his oxygen supply was also severed. Nevertheless, this resolute gunner finally drove off the attacker. Displaying exceptional devotion to duty he manned his post throughout the remainder of the flight despite the lack of oxygen. He set an example of a high order.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1503804 Flight Sergeant Frank DAY, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 418 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

As observer this airman has taken part in a large number of sorties and has displayed a high degree of ability, determination and devotion to duty. He has assisted in the destruction of at least 3 enemy aircraft in the air and in damaging

attacks on 3 more on the ground. His keenness has always been apparent and has set a praiseworthy example.

958380 Flight Sergeant Raymond William George SULLIVAN, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 419 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

Flight Sergeant Sullivan is a cool, resolute and devoted member of aircraft crew. As air gunner he has participated in very many sorties against targets in Germany. On one occasion his turret became unserviceable on the outward flight to Munchen Gladbach. Soon after the target had been attacked the aircraft was engaged by a fighter. Although unable to bring his guns to bear on the attacker, Flight Sergeant Sullivan gave excellent directions to his pilot who evaded the enemy aircraft. Before this country was reached the bomber was intercepted by fighters on 5 more occasions. Though trapped in his turret and deprived of the use of the inter-communication system, Flight Sergeant Sullivan coolly directed his pilot's combat manoeuvres by means of the call light method and, each time, the enemy aircraft were evaded. He displayed skill and courage worthy of the greatest praise.

Can/R.187075 Sergeant Joseph Marcel Albert CROTEAU, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

As rear gunner, this airman has participated in several sorties, including attacks on such targets as Essen, Frankfurt and Karlsruhe. During the attack on the last named target his aircraft was engaged by a fighter. Sergeant Croteau used his guns with deadly effect, however, and his bullets set the enemy aircraft on fire. It fell to the ground and exploded on impact. His skill and determination were characteristic of that he has shown on all occasions.

1813968 Sergeant Victor Arthur ROE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 35 Squadron.

One night in May, 1944, this airman was the rear gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack an enemy target. During the operation a fighter was encountered which attacked with much persistence. The rear turret was struck by the enemy's bullets and rendered unserviceable. As a result, Sergeant Roe was covered with oil. Nevertheless, he coolly fought off the attacker which finally caught fire. This airman is a fearless and devoted member of aircraft crew and he has rendered valuable service.

1544372 Sergeant Leslie Eric WESTBROOK, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 218 Squadron.

This airman was the rear gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack Chambley one night in May, 1944. After bombing the target the aircraft was attacked by 2 Junkers 88s. In spite of accurate fire by Sergeant Westbrook the aircraft was repeatedly hit by the enemy's bullets. Much damage was sustained and Sergeant Westbrook and his co-gunner were wounded, whilst a third member of the crew was killed. The aircraft went into a violent sideslip and, as Sergeant Westbrook left his turret, believing the aircraft to be no longer airworthy, he saw a small fire had started. He promptly put out the flames and then became aware of the plight of his wounded comrade to whom he rendered first aid. By now, the pilot had regained control. Although his leg was soaked in blood, Sergeant Westbrook insisted on returning to his turret where he remained until the English coast was crossed. In the face of a trying ordeal, this airman displayed courage, fortitude and devotion to duty beyond praise.

The KING has also been graciously pleased to approve the undermentioned awards in recognition of gallantry displayed in the following circumstances:—

One night in May, 1944, several crews of Mosquito aircraft were detailed for a difficult and dangerous mine-laying mission. The operation called for the highest standard of skill and accuracy. In the face of intense anti-aircraft fire, balloon defences and considerable searchlight activity the attack was pressed home with great precision from low level. That complete success was achieved in spite of such hazards is a high tribute to the calm courage and iron determination shown by the following officers who participated in various capacities as leaders and members of aircraft crew.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Stephen Delancy WATTS.
D.F.C. (N.Z. 404008), Royal New Zealand Air
Force, No. 692 Squadron.
Acting Squadron Leader Edward John SAUNDERSON
(84319), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No.
692 Squadron.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Cyril HASSALL, D.F.C. (134026).
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 692
Squadron.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader George McKEAND (101511).
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 692
Squadron.
Flight Lieutenant John Hollis BARRON
(Can/J.9161), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 692
Squadron.
Flight Lieutenant James Phillip FARROW, D.F.M.
(N.Z. 402136), Royal New Zealand Air Force,
No. 692 Squadron.
Flight Lieutenant Deryck Nevil GRAINGER, D.F.M.
(113860), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve,
No. 692 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Derrick Newton RILEY (120979).
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 692
Squadron.

Flying Officer Sidney AINSWORTH (145844), Royal
Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 692 Squadron.
Flying Officer Edward Burt CHATFIELD (136339).
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 692
Squadron.

Flying Officer Vernon Peter Bruce HILL
(Can/J.16255), Royal Canadian Air Force,
No. 692 Squadron.

Flying Officer John PAGE (142144), Royal Air
Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 692 Squadron.

Government House, Canberra, 13th June, 1944.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve
the following award with effect from 24th May,
1944, in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying
operations against the enemy in the South-West
Pacific area:—

Distinguished Service Order.

Wing Commander William Arthur Charles DALE
(Aus.260182).

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;
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or through any bookseller

1944

Price Sixpence net

S.O. Code No. 65-36560