



**FIFTH SUPPLEMENT**  
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TUESDAY, 25 JULY, 1944

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF  
KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.  
25th July, 1944.*

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of His Majesty's New Zealand Ministers, to give orders for the following appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

*To be an Additional Officer of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—*

Acting Wing Commander John Joseph Busch (N.Z.1132), Royal New Zealand Air Force.

*To be Additional Members of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:—*

Acting Flight Lieutenant Frederick de Mulford Hyde, A.F.C. (N.Z.1331), Royal New Zealand Air Force.  
Flying Officer Ronald Robert Smith (N.Z.30127), Royal New Zealand Air Force.

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF  
KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.  
25th July, 1944.*

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of His Majesty's New Zealand Ministers, to approve the award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division) to the undermentioned:—

N.Z.437053 Sergeant Ian William Walther, Royal New Zealand Air Force.

*Air Ministry, 25th July, 1944.*

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 Wing Commander Roland Prosper BEAMONT, D.S.O., D.F.C. (41819), R.A.F.O.

This officer by his exceptional skill, brilliant leadership and great drive has quickly built up a fine fighting force whose notable successes are a splendid testimony to their efficiency and resolution. Within a short period recently, Wing Commander Beamont has destroyed 2 enemy aircraft and attacked numerous locomotives, barges and mechanical transport. His record is most impressive.

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Wing Commander Wilbur Provence PLEASANCE, D.F.C. (Can/C.1395), R.C.A.F., 419 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Pilot Officer Morley David MCGILL (Can/C.19702), R.C.A.F., 419 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

One night in June, 1944, these officers were pilot and flight engineer respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack the railway junction at Versailles. In the take-off both the port engines faltered at a time when the aircraft had barely left the ground. Wing Commander Pleasance was unable to climb but, by just clearing immediate obstacles and by taking advantage of low-lying ground, he flew on for 20 miles at a height of about 200 feet. By then, Pilot Officer McGill had succeeded in restoring power to the engines and Wing Commander Pleasance went on to the target and bombed it. Both these officers displayed great coolness and skill in a difficult and dangerous situation.

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Wing Commander Christopher Smales BARELETT, D.F.C. (39928), R.A.F.O., 434 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

In the course of his second tour of operations this officer has attacked many strongly defended targets, including several attacks on Berlin and numerous others on industrial centres in the Ruhr. He is a forceful and courageous leader whose example has inspired all.

Flight Lieutenant Arthur Ernest UMBERS, D.F.C. (N.Z.404003), R.N.Z.A.F., 3 Sqn.

This officer has led his flight on very many sorties during which military transport, railway communications, ammunition dumps and other targets on the ground have been attacked with excellent results; on one occasion 8 locomotives were destroyed. By his great skill and unbeatable determination, Flight Lieutenant Umbers has played a worthy part in the successes achieved. He is a most inspiring leader.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader Woodward Bowers COOPER (Can/J.4539), R.C.A.F., 226 Sqn.

In his first tour of operations this officer participated in many attacks on enemy shipping and obtained much success. Since then Squadron Leader Cooper has completed many more sorties, including numerous attacks on railway junctions in Northern France with good results. This officer has always evinced the greatest keenness and his example of courage and determination has been most inspiring.