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*Air Ministry, 8th August 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.*

Acting Wing Commander George Robert Arthur McGarel Johnson, D.F.C. (72082), R.A.F.V.R.

Wing Commander Johnston is an outstanding leader, whose rare qualities of skill, bravery and devotion to duty have been well reflected in successes of the squadrons he commands which have, within a few months destroyed 57 enemy aircraft and damaged many more. Within a short period Wing Commander Johnston himself has shot down 4 enemy aircraft. His example has inspired all.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Wing Commander Peter Duncan Felton (MITCHELL 37821), R.A.F.O., 236 Sqn.

Wing Commander Mitchell has completed much operational flying and has displayed the highest standard of efficiency and devotion to duty. In July, 1944, he participated in an attack on shipping. By his able and inspiring leadership, Wing Commander Mitchell contributed materially to the success achieved. This officer has rendered much valuable service.

Squadron Leader Paul Bingham ELWELL (74716), R.A.F.V.R., 264 Sqn.

This officer has displayed high qualities of leadership, bravery and skill, setting a fine example to the flight he commands. He has completed a large number of sorties and has destroyed 3 enemy aircraft at night. His keenness and devotion have been outstanding.

Flight Lieutenant Lewis Robert BACON (124695), R.A.F.V.R., 248 Sqn.

This officer has set a fine example of courage and determination in air operations. In June, 1944, he took part in an attack on enemy shipping. Although one engine of his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire, this did not deter Flight Lieutenant Bacon from pressing home his attack. Some days later he was again in action against an enemy convoy. In the fight, he was wounded in the arm which was rendered useless. Although suffering considerably, Flight Lieutenant Bacon, assisted by the navigator flew back to base. One engine was out of action and he could only control the aircraft with one hand. Nevertheless, he effected a masterly landing. This officer displayed a high degree of skill, fortitude and resolution.

Flight Lieutenant Robert Brown DAVIDSON (47295), R.A.F., 6 Sqn.

This officer has participated in a large number of sorties, including many attacks on shipping. One night in June, 1944, he took part in an attack on an enemy convoy. In the face of intense anti-aircraft fire, Flight Lieutenant Davidson pressed home his attacks with the greatest determination, causing the destruction of 4 vessels. The following night, Flight Lieutenant Davidson destroyed

another enemy vessel. Within a short period he has obtained hits on 11 surface craft and has successfully attacked other targets on land. His example of courage, keenness and determination has been of the highest order.

Flight Lieutenant James Douglas LINDSAY (Can/J.9081), R.C.A.F., 403 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

In July, 1944, this officer took part in an engagement against a large formation of enemy fighters, 3 of which he shot down. Flight Lieutenant Lindsay has invariably displayed praiseworthy courage and skill and his keenness to engage the enemy has always been apparent. He has destroyed 6 enemy aircraft.

Flight Lieutenant James Hugh McCaw (N.Z.414311), R.N.Z.A.F., 486 (N.Z.) Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of varied sorties, involving successful attacks on the enemy's railway communications, mechanical transport and other targets on the ground; he has also participated in several attacks on shipping during which 7 vessels have been destroyed. He is a most efficient flight commander whose ability and keenness have been reflected in the fine fighting qualities of his flight.

Flight Lieutenant Hugh Charles TRAINOR (Can/C.1697), R.C.A.F., 411 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Within a very short period, Flight Lieutenant Trainor has shot down 5 enemy aircraft. His successes are a fine tribute to his great skill and fighting qualities.

Flight Lieutenant Arnold Edgar WALKER (115919), R.A.F.V.R., 6 Sqn.

This officer has achieved much success in attacks on shipping, railway communications and mechanical transport. He has displayed the greatest determination throughout and his example in the face of the enemy has been most inspiring. One night in June, 1944, he attacked a small convoy and caused the destruction of a lighter. The following night, Flight Lieutenant Walker participated in a most successful attack on a small convoy consisting of 10 small craft, all of which were attacked with destructive effect. His keenness and devotion to duty have been outstanding.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Reuben (BERCOW 146629), R.A.F.V.R., 76 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Bercow has taken part in very many sorties against well-defended targets. He has invariably displayed a high standard of gallantry and devotion to duty and his successes are a good tribute to the accuracy of his bombing. His keenness has been exceptional.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Bernard Handley HOWARD (52715), R.A.F., 76 Sqn.

As flight engineer, this officer has completed very many sorties, involving attacks on a wide variety of targets. He is a most devoted member of aircraft crew, whose skill, co-operation and determination have contributed materially to the successes obtained. His example has been most praiseworthy.