



# FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO The London Gazette

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TUESDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER, 1944

*Air Ministry, 26th September, 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 Squadron Leader David John SHANNON, D.S.O., D.F.C. (Aus.407729), R.A.A.F., 617 Sqn.

Since the award of a bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross, Squadron Leader Shannon has completed many sorties which he has executed with outstanding resolution and success. He has at all times displayed courage and fortitude of a high order and his appreciation of the responsibilities entrusted to him have set a fine example to all.

*Distinguished Service Order.*

Acting Group Captain Laurence Charles DEANE, D.F.C., R.A.F., 83 Sqn.

Group Captain Deane has completed a large number of sorties against heavily defended German targets including attacks on Berlin five times in succession. He has at all times displayed the highest standard of courage and resolution in pressing home his attacks and has remained in the vicinity of the target for long periods despite heavy opposition. His leadership has been of a high order.

Acting Wing Commander Edward Dixon CREW, D.F.C. (74700), R.A.F.V.R., 96 Sqn.

Wing Commander Crew continues to display the highest standard of skill, courage and leadership. In air fighting he has destroyed 13 enemy aircraft and damaged several more. With the advent of the flying bomb attacks on this country, Wing Commander Crew displayed great skill and perseverance in devising tactics to meet the menace. As a result, he shot down numerous flying bombs, whilst other members of his squadron took a heavy toll of them. This officer has commanded the squadron with outstanding success.

Acting Wing Commander Peter Brian Newsom DAVIS (70499), R.A.F.V.R., 299 Sqn.

This officer has completed very many dangerous and difficult sorties and has displayed skill and devotion to duty of a high order. He is a forceful and gallant leader whose example has contributed in a large way to the operational efficiency of the squadron he commands.

Acting Wing Commander William Inglis DEAS, D.F.C. (87060), R.A.F.V.R., 630 Sqn.

This officer, now on his third tour of operations, has completed a large number of sorties, many of them against dangerous and difficult targets. Throughout he has never failed to bring his missions to a successful conclusion. His leadership and determination have been an inspiration to all.

Acting Wing Commander Donald Arthur GARNER (40528), R.A.F.O., 166 Sqn.

This officer is engaged on his second tour of operational duty and has completed numerous sorties against a variety of targets in Northern France. He has displayed the greatest gallantry and determination in pressing home his attacks and his example has been most inspiring. He is a very fine leader, whose exceptional skill and fine fighting spirit have been reflected in the operational efficiency of his squadron.

Acting Wing Commander Gordon Forbes GEORGESON, D.F.C. (67077), R.A.F.V.R., 83 Sqn.

Since the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has completed many sorties. He is a navigator of high merit and his technical skill has contributed to a large extent to the operational successes achieved by his flight. He has set a fine example to all.

Acting Wing Commander Frederick William THOMPSON, D.F.C., A.F.C. (60758), R.A.F.V.R., 44 Sqn.

Since assuming command of his squadron this officer has completed numerous sorties against a variety of targets. On one occasion en route to Stuttgart, his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire, disabling one engine, which caught fire. The fire was eventually extinguished although not before considerable height had been lost. Nevertheless, displaying the determination and efficiency which has characterized his operational career, Wing Commander Thompson continued his mission and completed a successful attack. On the return journey a second engine gave trouble, necessitating a landing in adverse weather shortly after crossing the English coast. By his personal example of determination, courage and enthusiasm this officer has raised the efficiency and morale of his squadron to a very high level.

Squadron Leader Geoffrey Wilson NORTHCOTT, D.F.C. (Can/J.15088), R.C.A.F., 402 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed two tours of operational duty and throughout has set an example of skill, gallantry and devotion to duty of the highest order. In recent operations in Normandy, his squadron has provided fighter cover over the beaches and convoy area, often in bad weather and, during these missions, Squadron Leader Northcott has displayed gallant and inspiring leadership. This officer has destroyed 9 enemy aircraft.

Acting Squadron Leader Alec Herbert BURTON, D.F.C. (84007), R.A.F.V.R., 90 Sqn.

This officer is now on his third tour of operations. As flight commander he has completed many sorties and has invariably displayed the utmost determination and skill to press home his

attacks to a successful conclusion. His calm efficiency and unfailing devotion to duty are worthy of the highest praise.

Acting Squadron Leader Henry TILSON, D.F.C. (Can/J 7343), R.C.A.F., 622 Sqn.

Since the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross, Squadron Leader Tilson has completed many sorties. On one occasion he was detailed to attack Stuttgart. On the outward flight, when a number of miles away from his objective, an engine became unserviceable. Considerable height was lost but Squadron Leader Tilson continued his mission, flying through a heavy barrage of anti-aircraft fire. After leaving the target, a course was set for base at a low altitude and eventually a successful landing was made. This officer has invariably displayed courage and devotion to duty and has proved himself an exceptional leader.

Acting Squadron Leader David John WILLIAMS, D.F.C. (Can/J.6991), R.C.A.F., 406 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties, including a number during which he has successfully attacked a variety of targets on the ground. In the air he has destroyed 5 enemy aircraft at night. He is a brave and resourceful pilot whose fine fighting qualities were well illustrated one night in July, 1944, when he destroyed 2 enemy aircraft in one sortie. In the fighting his own aircraft sustained damage but he flew it safely to base in the face of extremely adverse weather. This officer is a most efficient and inspiring flight commander.

Flight Lieutenant Bernhorst Hermanus BOTHA, D.F.C. (155758), R.A.F.V.R., 50 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Botha has a notable record of operations. He has completed a very large number of sorties, both as an air gunner and pilot, against many heavily defended targets in Germany. He has at all times displayed great determination and courage in pressing home his attacks and has undoubtedly assisted in maintaining the high standard of morale in his squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Bernard William CLAYTON, D.F.C., C.G.M. (143380), R.A.F.V.R., 617 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Clayton has completed a large number of sorties as captain of aircraft. Throughout, he has displayed courage, devotion to duty and gallantry of a very high order. His successes have been proved by the many excellent photographs he has obtained.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Richard Stansfield Derek KEARNS, D.F.C., D.F.M. (N.Z.405572), R.N.Z.A.F., 617 Sqn.

Throughout a long tour of operational duty Flight Lieutenant Kearns has displayed exceptional determination and courage. Since the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross he has completed very many sorties against heavily defended objectives in Germany. His consistent good work has resulted in much damage to the enemy and his skill and leadership have been an inspiration to all.

#### *Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader Norman Arthur KYNASTON, D.F.C. (89810), R.A.F.V.R., 91 Sqn.

Squadron Leader Kynaston has been in command of his squadron since August, 1943. He has completed a large number of sorties and his excellent leadership and fine fighting spirit have contributed in no small way to the exceptional record of his squadron. He has destroyed 17 flying bombs.

Acting Squadron Leader William Anderson DOUGLAS, D.F.C. (90896), A.A.F., 611 Sqn.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, including numerous attacks on enemy shipping. In recent air operations, Squadron Leader Douglas has led the squadron in many sorties over the Normandy beaches. On one occasion he attacked a Junkers 88. Although his gun sight was faulty, Squadron Leader Douglas pressed home his attack from close range. His bullets struck the enemy aircraft which exploded in the air. Although his own aircraft was damaged by flying debris, Squadron Leader Douglas flew safely to base. His devotion to duty has been unflinching.

Acting Squadron Leader Robin John McNAIR, D.F.C. (112522), R.A.F.V.R., 247 Sqn.

Since the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross, Squadron Leader McNair has completed very many sorties, involving attacks on a wide

range of targets. In July, 1944, while leading his squadron on an armed reconnaissance over Northern France, his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. A few minutes later the engine became useless. Displaying great coolness and skill, Squadron Leader McNair glided his aircraft over the enemy lines amidst a barrage of fire from the enemy's ground defences and completed a successful landing in a field. This officer has at all times shown courage, tenacity and skill in attacking the enemy. His keenness and fine leadership have been responsible for the high morale of his squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader Christopher David NORTH-LEWIS, D.F.C. (45073), R.A.F., 181 Sqn.

As squadron commander, this officer has at all times led his squadron with great coolness, courage and tenacity. During August, 1944, when on an armed reconnaissance over an area in Northern France, he sighted an enemy tank force and immediately led his squadron in to the attack. His aircraft was repeatedly hit by anti-aircraft fire. Undeterred, Squadron Leader North-Lewis pressed home his attack with skill and determination. His splendid example and leadership are an inspiration to all in his squadron.

#### *Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Squadron Leader Geoffrey Harry BRIGGS (45270), R.A.F., 298 Sqn.

This officer has completed many sorties. He is a most keen and efficient pilot, whose fearlessness and persistence have won him many successes. He is a fine leader and his example has greatly inspired the flight he commands.

Acting Squadron Leader William Henry IRESON (85945), R.A.F.V.R., 130 Sqn.

Squadron Leader Ireson has taken part in a very large number of sorties, many of them involving attacks on dangerous and difficult targets. He has displayed great skill and courage and throughout his devotion to duty has been unflinching. Within recent weeks he has taken part in many sorties over the Normandy beaches and convoy areas and his leadership has been masterly.

Acting Squadron Leader Louis Frank MIDDLETON (82729), R.A.F.V.R., 230 Sqn.

This officer commanded a formation of flying boats assigned to the duty of evacuating urgent casualties from the forward area in Central Burma. The operation was undertaken in bad weather and necessitated flying over difficult country. The lake from which the evacuations were made lay at the foot of surrounding hills infested by the enemy and was within range of small arms fire. Nevertheless, the operation was successfully completed. By his skilful and gallant leadership, Squadron Leader Middleton, who undertook many sorties during the operation, contributed in a large measure to the result achieved.

Acting Squadron Leader Albert Lloyd WIGGINS Aus.(407541), R.A.A.F., 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has participated in numerous sorties, including several successful attacks on enemy shipping. In July, 1944, Squadron Leader Wiggins flew the leading aircraft of a formation which attacked a convoy of 10 enemy ships. In spite of considerable anti-aircraft fire the attack was well pressed home. A merchantman was hit and several other vessels were set on fire. By his gallant and skilful leadership, Squadron Leader Wiggins played a prominent part in the success of a well executed operation.

Flight Lieutenant Ypres Robert William LOVEGROVE (47640), R.A.F., 299 Sqn.

This officer has participated in a large number of varied sorties. He is an extremely capable navigator and not once has he failed to guide his pilot to the target. He has at all times displayed great coolness and good judgment and his efforts have contributed materially to the success achieved.

Flight Lieutenant John RAND (118181), R.A.F.V.R., 230 Sqn.

Flying Officer Vernon Noel VERNEY (Aus.405891), R.A.A.F., 230 Sqn.

These officers were pilot and navigator respectively of a flying boat in which they undertook numerous flights to evacuate personnel from a zone of operations in Northern Burma. Extremely adverse weather prevailed throughout. Their course took them over difficult terrain. Flight Lieutenant Rand and Flying Officer Verney proved

their great skill and resolution, however, by successfully evacuating a large number of personnel. They displayed devotion to duty of the highest order.

Flight Lieutenant Charles Alexander WHYATT (127154), R.A.F.V.R., 252 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Whyatt has consistently displayed enterprise, determination and courage of a high order in all his operational undertakings. He has participated in many attacks on enemy shipping on which numerous vessels of varying type have been hit. One night in July, 1944, Flight Lieutenant Whyatt attacked a small merchantman which was heavily escorted. In spite of a fierce barrage, he pressed home his attack. He obtained hits which set the vessel on fire.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Erle Thomas BROUGH (N.Z.412197), R.N.Z.A.F., 182 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Brough has at all times displayed the greatest keenness and determination to engage the enemy. His ability as a flight commander has been outstanding. During August, 1944, he led three very successful attacks on enemy tanks and armoured vehicles. These attacks were pressed home with great determination, despite heavy opposition from the enemy's ground defences. Much damage was inflicted on the enemy. Four tanks and nine armoured vehicles were destroyed and a number of others damaged. Flight Lieutenant Brough has completed many sorties against a variety of targets.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Alexander Stewart CRUMP (53357), R.A.F., 644 Sqn.

As flight engineer this officer has participated in a large number of sorties, some of them in connection with the air operations in support of the allied landing in Normandy. His efficiency has always been evident and his strong sense of discipline and zeal have set a fine example to all.

Flying Officer John Oswald BIRCH (Can/J.23888), R.C.A.F., 103 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this officer was pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart. At the commencement of the bombing run the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. The starboard fin and rudder and a portion of the tail plane and elevator were shot away. The mid-upper and rear turrets were rendered unserviceable. A fuel tank was pierced, whilst much damage was sustained to the control surfaces. In spite of this, Flying Officer Birch executed his attack. On the long flight home it was very difficult to maintain control and it was necessary for another member of the crew to assist by maintaining pressure on the rudder controls, but an airfield was eventually reached and a safe landing effected. In most difficult circumstances, Flying Officer Birch displayed notable skill, courage and tenacity.

Flying Officer Charles Stewart COSSAR (169110), R.A.F.V.R., 247 Sqn.

This officer has taken part in very many operational sorties and has led his flight with great skill and ability. One morning in July, 1944, he was flight leader in an attack on enemy mortar positions near Cussy. Despite intense and accurate enemy fire the target was successfully bombed. Flying Officer Cossar is a cool and efficient leader and has at all times displayed courage and skill of a high order.

Flying Officer Clarence Joseph KIRKPATRICK (Can/J.20662), R.C.A.F., 406 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

As observer this officer has participated in a large number of sorties. Several of them were over the Normandy beachhead and 3 locomotives, 2 heavily laden barges and some trucks were effectively attacked. Throughout these operations, Flying Officer Kirkpatrick displayed a high degree of skill and co-operation and played a good part in the successes obtained. In air fighting he has assisted in the destruction of 4 enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer Donald William MILLER (111751), R.A.F.V.R., 644 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this officer was a gunner in an aircraft detailed for an operational mission. During the flight an enemy aircraft was encountered closing in. Flying Officer Miller promptly engaged the enemy aircraft which he shot down with his second burst of fire. A little later, Flying Officer Miller engaged another enemy

aircraft and caused its destruction. This officer has displayed exceptional keenness and ability and is a most valuable member of aircraft crew.

Flying Officer Thomas Lloyd STEELE (Can/J.20246), R.C.A.F., 419 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties and has displayed commendable courage and devotion to duty throughout. He is a navigator of high merit whose ability has been an important factor in the successes obtained. His conduct has at all times been exemplary.

Flying Officer Allistair William STEPHENS (Can/J.21661), R.C.A.F., 299 Sqn.

This officer has completed numerous difficult sorties and has displayed a high degree of skill, determination and devotion to duty throughout. He has invariably pressed home his attacks with great accuracy, often in the face of considerable anti-aircraft fire. On one occasion whilst over the target his aircraft was hit and the propeller of one engine flew off. Despite this, Flying Officer Stephens made two runs over the target to ensure accuracy of bombing.

Flying Officer Donald Hall SUTHERLAND (169083), R.A.F.V.R., 247 Sqn.

Flying Officer Sutherland has completed many sorties against a wide range of targets. On a recent sortie his aircraft was hit and severely damaged by anti-aircraft fire. Despite this he flew the aircraft back to base. A few hours later he attacked the same target, when his aircraft was again hit. This officer has proved himself a most skilful pilot and he has at all times displayed great courage and determination.

\*Flying Officer Ronald William George VAUGHAN (142855), R.A.F.V.R., 210 Sqn.

In July, 1944, this officer was the captain of an aircraft which successfully engaged and destroyed a U-boat. In the face of fierce fire from the submarine, Flying Officer Vaughan pressed home his attack with great skill and determination and obtained a perfect straddle with his depth charges. In the fight the aircraft was repeatedly hit and sustained severe damage, but Flying Officer Vaughan flew it back to base. This officer displayed a high degree of courage and determination throughout.

Acting Flying Officer Charles Edward ANSLEY (N.Z.422094), R.N.Z.A.F., 103 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart. Some distance from the target the aircraft was attacked by a fighter and sustained much damage. The starboard rudder control was smashed. The starboard elevator, fin and mainplane were damaged. Coolly and skilfully, Flying Officer Ansley manoeuvred and his gunners were enabled to open fire from good positions. Their bullets struck the attacker which burst into flames and fell out of control. A little later, another enemy aircraft closed in but it was driven off. Flying Officer Ansley then went on to the target and bombed it and afterwards flew his badly damaged aircraft to base. This officer displayed great skill, courage and devotion to duty.

Acting Flying Officer Norman Robertson WISHART (177530), R.A.F.V.R., 614 Sqn.

Flying Officer Wishart has participated in very many sorties during which he has successfully attacked a variety of well defended targets. On one occasion, when over Berlin, 2 engines became unserviceable. The aircraft went into a spiral dive. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Wishart regained control, continued his bombing run and made a successful attack. This officer has invariably displayed notable skill and resolution.

Pilot Officer Ralph Gordon BULLIVANT (Can./J.86703), R.C.A.F. 432 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed very many sorties on his second tour of operational duty. He is a cool, confident and skilful air gunner and has displayed a worthy part in the defence of his aircraft. One night in July, 1944, whilst over enemy territory his aircraft was attacked by a Junkers 88. In the ensuing fight Pilot Officer Bullivant co-operated excellently with his co-gunner and their good shooting caused the destruction of the enemy aircraft.

Pilot Officer Charles Blackley HAMILTON (174685), R.A.F.V.R., 85 Sqn.

Pilot Officer Hamilton is a highly skilled, resolute and keen observer. He has participated in

many sorties and has assisted in the destruction of 4 enemy aircraft.

Pilot Officer John IRVINE (172901), R.A.F.V.R., 605 Sqn.

This officer has participated in very many sorties, including numerous missions far into enemy territory. He is a most skilful observer, whose great zeal and fighting spirit have set a very fine example. He has assisted in the destruction of 2 enemy aircraft in the air at night.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flying Officer James Marshall McRAE (Can/J.20176), R.C.A.F., 162 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Warrant Officer Second Class Joseph Jean Charles BERCEVIN (Can/R117327), R.C.A.F., 162 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

Can/R.22030 Acting Sergeant Robert Francis CROMARTY, R.C.A.F., 162 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

These members of aircraft crew participated in an attack on a U-boat in 1944, and displayed a high standard of skill and co-operation which contributed materially to the success obtained. In the fight the aircraft sustained severe damage and afterwards the captain was forced to bring it down on to the sea. The inter-communication system had failed and, owing to the rapidity of the action, there was no time to plan for the landing. Nevertheless, with great presence of mind and good judgment, Sergeant Cromarty lowered the wing tip floats and thus enabled the aircraft to touch down successfully. Meanwhile, Warrant Officer Bercevin had remained at his wireless apparatus transmitting distress signals and only left his post when the aircraft was on the verge of sinking. Subsequently the crew were adrift in the dinghy for some 7 hours. During the period, Flying Officer McRae and his two comrades displayed great fortitude and cheerfulness and did much to succour and inspire other survivors in their distress. Their example throughout was of the highest order.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flying Officer William Boris TILLEY (Aus.418483), R.A.A.F., 10 Sqn.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

Aus.434243 Flight Sergeant Lance Esmond COOKE, R.A.A.F., 10 Sqn.

This officer and airman were captain and front gunner respectively of an aircraft which successfully attacked a U-boat in 1944. In the run-in, heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered but Flight Sergeant Cooke, shooting brilliantly, sprayed the deck of the submarine with his bullets and silenced the enemy's guns. Flying Officer Tilley was enabled to press home his attack from close range and released his depth charges in a perfect straddle, causing the submarine's destruction. The success achieved reflects the greatest credit on the skill, gallantry and resolution of this captain and his gunner.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

1555480 Flight Sergeant Ian Alastair Campbell BLUE, R.A.F.V.R., 182 Sqn.

One day in August, 1944, Flight Sergeant Blue led a section of his squadron to attack an enemy tank force. Despite intense and accurate enemy fire the attack was pressed home so successfully that at least six tanks were destroyed. This airman has completed many sorties and has proved himself a courageous and efficient pilot.

1850681 Flight Sergeant Frederick Charles BRICE, R.A.F.V.R., 578 Sqn.

As air gunner this airman has participated in a large number of sorties, including attacks on such targets as Berlin, Stuttgart and Frankfurt. On one occasion his aircraft was badly damaged in an engagement with 2 enemy fighters. When coming in to land at base the aircraft crashed and Flight Sergeant Brice was injured. Since his recovery he has undertaken many sorties and has displayed the greatest keenness, determination and devotion to duty.

569640 Flight Sergeant Ronald Fletcher WEBBER, R.A.F., 230 Sqn.

As flight engineer of a flying boat this airman took part in a number of sorties, involving the evacuation of casualties from a forward area in Central Burma. Throughout he displayed ex-

ceptional determination and devotion to duty and played a worthy part in the success of a difficult and dangerous operation.

1460855 Flight Sergeant (now Pilot Officer) Francis KERSHAW, R.A.F.V.R., 158 Sqn.

In June, 1944, this airman was the air bomber in an aircraft detailed to attack Villers Bocage, a village vital to the passage of enemy ground forces and in which supplies were centred. In the face of a hail of light and heavy anti-aircraft fire, Flight Sergeant Kershaw directed the bombing run with great coolness. The aircraft was hit repeatedly and many holes were torn in his compartment. Nevertheless, Flight Sergeant Kershaw continued to direct a steady course and pressed home his attack with great determination. This airman has participated in a large number of sorties and has displayed courage and devotion to duty of a high order.

Aus.433132 Flight Sergeant Douglas James PEGG, R.A.A.F., 103 Sqn.

This airman was the mid-upper gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart one night in July, 1944. On the outward flight the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. In the engagement, Flight Sergeant Pegg was severely injured in the leg and the foot. His turret was rendered un-serviceable but, injured as he was, he insisted on remaining at his post alert to the danger of any further fighter opposition. On this his first sortie, Flight Sergeant Pegg displayed praiseworthy courage and devotion to duty.

Can/R.163541 Flight Sergeant Douglas Richard PENNY, R.C.A.F., 432 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

As rear gunner this airman has participated in very many sorties most of which were against targets in Germany. He is a fearless and efficient member of aircraft crew, whose devotion to duty has been unflinching. One night in July, 1944, when returning from Hamburg, his aircraft was attacked by a Junkers 88. In the ensuing fight his excellent evading directions and good shooting assisted in the destruction of the enemy fighter.

Can/R.161467 Flight Sergeant Jack Albert PHILLIS, R.C.A.F., 419 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this airman piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Villeneuve St. George. When crossing the enemy coast the bomber was involved in a fight with an enemy aircraft. One engine was put out of action, a fuel tank was pierced and the fuselage was damaged. Despite this, Flight Sergeant Phillis went on to the target which he attacked after evading 2 more fighters which tried to close in. His determination and devotion to duty were typical of that which he has shown throughout his tour.

Aus.401752 Flight Sergeant Donald Walter Norman SMITH, R.A.A.F., 640 Sqn.

This airman has completed a tour of operational duty on which he has taken part in attacks on a wide range of strongly defended targets. He is a cool, and courageous gunner whose vigilance and good shooting have on more than one occasion contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft. He has set a fine example of devotion to duty.

1809189 Sergeant Frank Frederick John BUTLER, R.A.F.V.R., 640 Sqn.

As rear gunner Sergeant Butler has taken part in a large number of sorties. He is an alert, resolute, and efficient gunner and on more than one occasion has driven off enemy fighters. He has proved a valuable member of aircraft crew.

1607313 Sergeant Ronald Frederick DAWSON, R.A.F.V.R., 103 Sqn.

2210552 Sergeant Vincent Charles YATES, R.A.F.V.R., 103 Sqn.

These airmen were mid-upper and rear gunners respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart one night in July, 1944. On the outward flight their aircraft was attacked by two enemy fighters within the space of a few minutes. Both the attackers were shot down and the success achieved reflects the greatest credit on the efforts of these members of aircraft crew whose efficiency, good shooting and excellent co-operation set a fine example.

1868905 Sergeant James NORMAN, R.A.F.V.R., 419 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

In July, 1944, Sergeant Norman was the flight engineer in an aircraft detailed to attack Siracourt. It was a daylight sortie. When crossing the

enemy coast heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered. The aircraft was hit. Two petrol tanks were pierced by fragments of shell. Displaying quick resource, Sergeant Norman switched all four engines on to one of the damaged tanks in order to use as much petrol as possible before it all leaked away. He afterwards rendered much assistance in the careful treatment of 2 defective engines. His skill, resource and determination contributed materially to the success of the operation. This airman has participated in numerous sorties and has displayed great coolness and good judgment.

2210337 Sergeant Robert SUMMERS, R.A.F.V.R., 103 Sqn.

As air gunner this airman has taken part in many sorties. He is a cool, confident and determined member of aircraft crew whose skill and vigilance have been most commendable. One night in July, 1944, Sergeant Summers was the mid-upper gunner of an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart. Before reaching the target the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. In the fight, Sergeant Summers co-operated well with his co-gunner. Their machine gun fire struck the attacker which burst into flames. Shortly afterwards another enemy aircraft closed in. Sergeant Summers delivered a long burst of fire at the attacker which was seen to fall away apparently out of control. In these spirited actions, Sergeant Summers displayed skill and resolution of a high standard.

*Air Ministry, 26th September, 1944.*

The KING has granted unrestricted permission for the wearing of the undermentioned decorations conferred upon the personnel indicated in recognition of valuable services rendered in connection with the war:—

CONFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

*Legion of Merit (Commander).*

Air Vice-Marshal John Henry D'ALBIAC, C.B., D.S.O., R.A.F.

*Legion of Merit (Officer).*

Acting Air Commodore Colin Logan FALCONER, O.B.E., R.A.F.  
Acting Air Commodore Edmund Cuthbert HUDLESTON, C.B.E., R.A.F.

Acting Air Commodore Eric Leighton RIDLEY, R.A.F.

Acting Air Commodore James Rowland SCARLETT-STREATFIELD, C.B.E., R.A.F.

Acting Group Captain Sidney LUGG, C.B.E., R.A.F.  
Acting Wing Commander Eric Lawson FULLER (75320), R.A.F.V.R.

Acting Wing Commander Roland David GEORGE, D.S.O., O.B.E. (75777), R.A.F.V.R.

Acting Wing Commander Joseph HURST (67744), R.A.F.V.F.

Acting Wing Commander James Edgar Walsh WHEATLEY, M.C. (83807), R.A.F.V.R.

*Government House, Canberra, 26th September, 1944.*

#### ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards *with effect from 23rd August, 1944*, in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operations against the enemy in the South-West Pacific area:—

#### *Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Wing Commander Grant Forsyth WALKER (Aus. 260312).

Squadron Leader Adam Rowis BRYDON (Aus. 578).

Squadron Leader Glen Albert COOPER (Aus. 251426).

The KING has also been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of distinguished services:—

#### *Military Cross.*

Flying Officer Raymond Arnold GRAETZ (Aus. 417175).

*Office of the Minister of Defence, Wellington, New Zealand.*

*26th September, 1944.*

#### ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of brave conduct:—

#### *Military Medal.*

NZ426008 Flight Sergeant Murray SCOFIELD.

LONDON

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