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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 Charles Llewellyn GREEN, D.S.O., D.F.C. (41527), R.A.F.O.

Within recent weeks this officer has led formations of aircraft on numerous sorties during which outstanding successes have been obtained. On two occasions he was responsible for locating large concentrations of enemy armour which were subsequently attacked with great effect. Eighty-nine tanks were destroyed and a large number damaged; many other armoured vehicles, transport wagons and guns were also destroyed. Throughout these operations, Wing Commander Green set an example which inspired all. His leadership was exceptional and his skill and bravery of the highest order.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Blair Dalzell RUSSELL, D.F.C. (Can/C.1319), R.C.A.F.

In recent intensive air operations the squadrons under the command of Wing Commander Russell have completed a large number of sorties. Within a period of three days a very large number of enemy transport vehicles were attacked of which 127 were set on fire and a bigger number were damaged. In addition 4 hostile aircraft were destroyed and seventeen tanks and nineteen other armoured vehicles were damaged. By his masterly leadership, sound judgment and fine fighting qualities, Wing Commander Russell played a good part in the success achieved. His example inspired all.

Acting Wing Commander James Roger WHELAN, D.F.C. (40330), R.A.F.O., 680 Sqn.

This officer has commanded the squadron since June, 1942. During the period he has completed a very large number of photographic reconnaissances and has displayed the highest qualities of skill, courage and leadership. By his untiring zeal, initiative and excellent organising ability he has contributed in a large way to the successes of the squadron which has undertaken many notable missions, the results of which were of immense value.

Flying Officer Alan Ronan BRODRICK (142069), R.A.F.V.R., 2 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of reconnaissances and his great skill and determination have been proven by the excellent photographs he has secured. In August, 1944, he was detailed to reconnoitre an enemy headquarters south of Caen. The target proved to be heavily defended and Flying Officer Brodrick was met by a hail of shells. Defying the barrage he maintained a straight course over the objective. When about

to leave the target area the aircraft was hit in several places. The pilot's cockpit was shattered and Flying Officer Brodrick was badly wounded. Undaunted, this brave pilot set course for base where he made a safe landing. Almost immediately afterwards he fainted through loss of blood. In the successful execution of a vital task this officer displayed the finest qualities of skill, courage and endurance.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander James Michael BIRKIN, D.F.C., A.F.C. (81350), R.A.F.V.R., 571 Sqn.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Ivor Gordon BROOM, D.F.C. (112392), R.A.F.V.R., 571 Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Richard Yorke ASHLEY, (79744), R.A.V.F.R., 571 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Leonard THRUMBLE (49266), R.A.F., 571 Sqn.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Thomas John BROOM (51227), R.A.F., 571 Sqn.

Flying Officer Albert Frank WALTERS (126769), R.A.F.V.R., 571 Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1349577 Flight Sergeant Alexander ARBUCKLE, R.A.F.V.R., 571 Sqn.

One night in August, 1944, these officers and airman participated in a sortie, involving a mine-laying mission over the Dortmund-Ems Canal. The operation called for the highest standard of resolution as the area is most heavily defended. Nevertheless the mines were laid with great precision. The success achieved reflects the greatest credit on the outstanding skill and great daring of these members of aircraft crew, so ably led by Wing Commander Birkin who also planned the operation.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Alfred Kitchener GATWARD, D.S.O., D.F.C. (83251), R.A.F.V.R., 404 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has led the squadron with great skill and gallantry in many sorties. In July 1944, he participated in an operation which resulted in the destruction of an enemy convoy, comprising 3 medium sized merchant vessels and 6 escorting ships. In August, 1944, Wing Commander Gatward led his squadron in an attack on a target in the Gironde area. During the operation his aircraft was repeatedly hit by anti-aircraft fire and sustained serious damage. Nevertheless, he flew safely to base in the face of great difficulty. This officer has displayed leadership of the highest order.