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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 Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Roderick Illingsworth Alpine SMITH, D.F.C. (Can/J.4561), R.C.A.F., 401 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross Squadron Leader Smith has completed numerous sorties against the enemy. In four days he achieved the remarkable feat of destroying seven enemy aircraft. As squadron commander this officer led 412 Squadron on six missions in three days during which period the squadron destroyed 27 enemy aircraft and damaged nine others. This was accomplished during the enemy's persistent efforts to destroy bridges in the Arnhem and Nijmegen area which were vital to our ground forces.

Flight Lieutenant George William JOHNSON, D.F.C. (Can/J.9262), R.C.A.F., 401(R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross Flight Lieutenant Johnson has continued his attacks against the enemy with great success. On two recent occasions while he was leading his squadron large formations of enemy aircraft were engaged. Owing to his fine leadership five enemy aircraft were destroyed and two were damaged. Flight Lieutenant Johnson has destroyed three and damaged one enemy aircraft. In addition he has destroyed a large number of enemy mechanical transport vehicles often in the face of intense anti-aircraft fire. Flight Lieutenant Johnson continues to display outstanding courage and coolness in the face of danger.

Flight Lieutenant Donald Currie LAUBMAN, D.F.C. (Can/J.14013), R.C.A.F., 412(R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross Flight Lieutenant Laubman has completed many sorties against the enemy. He continues to show tenacity of spirit and outstanding courage in the face of overwhelming odds. Flight Lieutenant Laubman has led his flight with such ability that the formation shot down 16 out of 26 enemy aircraft destroyed by the squadron in 3 days. Flight Lieutenant Laubman was responsible for the destruction of 8 and the damaging of 2 of these aircraft, bringing his total to 13 enemy aircraft destroyed and two damaged. This officer's squadron was outnumbered by the enemy on all three occasions but with undaunted courage and determination they successfully broke up repeated enemy attempts to destroy bridges vital to our ground forces in the Arnhem and Nijmegen area.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Peter. HILLWOOD (120107), R.A.F.V.R., 127 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Hillwood has completed very many sorties against the enemy and has led his

flight with outstanding skill and courage. He has shown determination in always pressing home his attacks, often at low level, in the face of intense enemy anti-aircraft fire. Flight Lieutenant Hillwood is an excellent flight commander.

Flight Lieutenant Gartrell Richard Ian PARKER, D.S.M. (47140), R.A.F., 219 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Parker has completed many operational sorties against the enemy, and has destroyed five enemy aircraft. He has also destroyed six flying bombs at night. Flight Lieutenant Parker has always shown a fine fighting spirit and the utmost keenness and courage to seek out and destroy the enemy.

Flight Lieutenant Borden Earle MIDDLETON (Can/J.7820), R.C.A.F., 442(R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Middleton has completed very many sorties against the enemy. He has destroyed much enemy mechanical transport, often pressing home his attacks in the face of intense enemy anti-aircraft fire. He is extraordinarily keen and daring, deliberately attacking the most heavily defended areas, thus setting a fine example of courage and ability.

Flight Lieutenant Gordon WONNACOTT (Can/J. 9868), R.C.A.F., 414(R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Wonnacott has completed a large number of operational sorties of low level photography and tactical reconnaissance. In the initial stages of the liberation of Normandy this officer twice flew long sorties directing Naval bombardments. His day intruder activities have resulted in the destruction of two enemy aircraft and numerous trains and barges damaged. He has shown exceptional keenness and devotion to duty throughout a long period and has set a magnificent example to all. He is an outstanding officer who shows great qualities of leadership as a flight commander.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Walter Horace Brooke SHORT (136419), R.A.F.V.R., 137 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Short has completed numerous sorties against the enemy and has displayed great skill and courage. In August, 1944, Flight Lieutenant Short, as flight commander, led his section against some enemy mechanical transport of which six vehicles were destroyed, and also one armoured car. This intrepid officer then led his section in an attack against an anti-aircraft post. His own aircraft was badly damaged but he pressed home his attack with great skill and determination. When Flight Lieutenant Short landed at base, it was discovered that the port gun bays were on fire. On another occasion Flight Lieutenant Short's aircraft was badly damaged by anti-aircraft fire whilst attacking dug-in tanks at Esquay. His engine stopped, but by skilful airmanship he made a successful forced landing. Flight Lieutenant Short has, at all times, shown considerable skill, courage and determination to engage the enemy.