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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 James BLACKBURN, D.S.O., D.F.C. (70067), R.A.F.O., 159 Sqn.

This officer has an outstanding record. He has completed five tours of operational duty. He has commanded this squadron for the past few months and during the period has participated in a number of bombing attacks and several mine-laying missions. During these operations, despite very bad weather not once has he failed to attack his allotted target. Both in the air and on the ground his example has proved inspiring. His genius for leadership, great skill and fine fighting spirit have contributed in good measure to the high standard of efficiency of the squadron he commands.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Kossuth John NEWMAN, D.F.C. (N.Z.401286), R.N.Z.A.F., 684 Sqn.

Since the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross, Squadron Leader Newman has completed many sorties and continues to show the highest standard of skill and gallantry. On a recent occasion he was detailed to reconnoitre a stretch of the Burma-Siam railway system. In spite of extremely bad weather and in the face of intense light anti-aircraft fire Squadron Leader Newman displayed superb skill in the execution of this assignment. Almost as his task was completed the aircraft was struck by an anti-aircraft shell which damaged the propeller and smashed the pilot's oxygen regulator. Despite this, Squadron Leader Newman flew safely to base. He displayed outstanding determination and devotion to duty.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Joseph Yvon Alcide COTE, D.F.C. (Can/J.85354), R.C.A.F., 425 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed numerous sorties since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He continues to display a high degree of courage and determination and his example has been worthy of the highest praise. In September, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft in an attack on Osnabruck. When over the target the bomber was subjected to fire from the ground defences. A shell burst very close to one of the wings. Fragments of shell tore a large hole in the fuselage which was also pierced in many other places. Despite this, Flight Lieutenant Cote pressed home his attack with great coolness and determination.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Charles Alan McCall BARBOUR (120863), R.A.F.V.R., 168 Sqn.

This officer has set a fine example of skill, courage and resolution. He has completed a very large number of sorties, including numerous reconnaissances over well defended areas. The excellent photographs he has secured are a fine testimony to his great skill.

Flight Lieutenant Lindsay Stuart BLACK (N.Z.40961), R.N.Z.A.F. 485 (N.Z.) Sqn.

This officer has participated in a large number of sorties, including attacks on barges, locomotives, and road transport. He has displayed commendable skill and courage and throughout has set a fine example of devotion to duty. Among his successes is the destruction of a Dornier 217.

Flight Lieutenant Alexander Foch HALCROW (Can/J.6795), R.C.A.F., 411 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Halcrow is a keen and resolute fighter. He has led his flight and, on occasions the squadron, in many successful attacks on a variety of targets. He has displayed praiseworthy skill and determination throughout. In air fighting, Flight Lieutenant Halcrow has destroyed four enemy aircraft.

Flight Lieutenant Lloyd George MASON (N.Z.402028), R.N.Z.A.F., 33 Sqn.

This officer has displayed a high standard of skill and determination. He has participated in a large number of sorties, including many attacks on locomotives, barges, mechanical vehicles and numerous other targets. He is a most efficient flight commander, whose good leadership and fine fighting spirit have contributed materially to the successes obtained.

Acting Flight Lieutenant William John ANDERSON (Can/J.24471), R.C.A.F., 419 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed numerous sorties and has displayed courage and resolution of a high order. On one sortie his aircraft was attacked by three enemy fighters. Flight Lieutenant Anderson skilfully out-maneuvred the attackers and went on to execute a successful bombing attack. On another occasion, when over Versailles, his aircraft was intercepted by a Junkers 88. In the ensuing fight, which ended with the destruction of the enemy aircraft, Flight Lieutenant Anderson displayed great coolness and determination.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Vincent John MCFARLANE, D.F.M. (Aus.403360), R.A.A.F., 33 Sqn.

This officer is a most resolute fighter. He has participated in a large number of sorties, including many harassing attacks on transport in the battle area. Throughout Flight Lieutenant