



FOURTH SUPPLEMENT
TO
The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY, the 9th of JANUARY, 1945

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

FRIDAY, 12 JANUARY, 1945

Air Ministry, 12th January, 1945.

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.

Wing Commander Frederick Frank LAMBERT, D.F.C. (37858), R.A.F.O., 515 Sqn.

This officer has completed much operational flying and has displayed the highest standard of determination and devotion to duty throughout. His assignments have been many and varied and the successes obtained are an excellent testimony to his great skill and fine fighting qualities. Wing Commander Lambert is an excellent squadron commander, whose gallant and skilful leadership has greatly inspired the formation he commands.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Robert Edgar KNIGHTS, D.F.C. (155224), R.A.F.V.R., 617 Sqn.

This officer has displayed the highest qualities of devotion to duty in operations against the enemy. Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Flight Lieutenant Knights has completed a large number of sorties, many of them against well defended and difficult targets. He has invariably pressed home his attacks with great determination and precision and his coolness and courage under enemy fire has been most inspiring. Flight Lieutenant Knights took part in all three attacks on the German battleship Tirpitz. In the final operation, during which the vessel was sunk, this pilot pressed home his attack with great resolution. His was one of the several bombs which straddled the vessel.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Hugh George Ellard HEMSWORTH, D.F.C. (Aus.412510), R.A.A.F., 582 Sqn.

This officer has completed a very large number of operational missions. Among his recent operations, Flight Lieutenant Hemsworth has attacked such heavily defended targets as Duisberg, Wilhelmshaven, Stuttgart and Bochum. In October, 1944 this officer captained an aircraft detailed to attack Cologne. When approaching the target considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Hemsworth maintained a long, straight bombing run to attack the target accurately. His aircraft sustained damage but he flew it to base. This officer has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and courage and his appreciation of the responsibilities entrusted to him has set a very fine example.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer Joseph Arthur Laurent LYMBURNER, D.F.C. (Can/J.16573) R.C.A.F.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Robert Duncan McLAREN (73003), R.A.F.V.R.

Flying Officer Lyburner and Flight Lieutenant McLaren, as observer and pilot respectively were detailed for a reconnaissance far over enemy territory. The complete success achieved on this difficult mission reflects the greatest credit on the skill, courage and determination displayed by these members of aircraft crew.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Donald Carl HENRICKSON (Can/J.10516), R.C.A.F., 429 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has participated in very many sorties and has displayed notable skill, courage and perseverance. One night in October, 1944, he was captain and pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Cologne. Early on the outward flight the port outer engine became defective. Despite this, Flight Lieutenant Henrickson continued to the target where a successful bombing attack was executed. Engine trouble still persisted and an attempt was made to feather the propeller of the defective engine but without avail. Nevertheless this pilot flew the aircraft back to base. This officer is a cool and resourceful captain whose example has greatly inspired his crew.

Flight Lieutenant Terence Henry John PLAYFORD (133731), R.A.F.V.R., 617 Sqn.

This officer has participated in a large number of sorties, including 8 attacks on Berlin; he also took part in the 3 attacks on the German battleship Tirpitz. Flight Lieutenant Playford is a highly efficient navigator, whose ability has played a prominent part in the success of many operations. This officer has displayed exceptional keenness and devotion to duty and has set a fine example to all.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Joseph Emile Henri GOURDEAU (Can/J.28993), R.C.A.F., 425 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has participated in attacks on a wide range of enemy targets, including Sterkrade, Dusseldorf and Hamburg. On one occasion, when attacking Kiel, his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire whilst illuminated in the searchlights. Despite this, Flight Lieutenant Gourdeau pressed home a successful attack. He afterwards flew the badly damaged aircraft back to this country. His skill and resolution were characteristic of that which he has shown throughout his tour.