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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:—

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Flying Officer Bob JONES (182962), R.A.F.V.R., 15 Sqn.

In December, 1944, this officer was pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed for an attack against Oberhausen. On the run in to the target his aircraft was hit by heavy anti-aircraft fire and sustained extensive damage. Flying Officer Jones was injured about the face. Both eyes were affected causing temporary blindness. The aircraft went into a dive. Although in dire distress, Flying Officer Jones displayed outstanding coolness. He succeeded in levelling out and then, with another member of the crew to direct him, rejoined the bomber forces to execute his attack. Still unable to see, Flying Officer Jones remained at the controls and left the target area in accordance with the directions given to him by his comrade standing by. When over the sea on the homeward flight, this pilot recovered vision in one eye. Finally he reached an airfield where he safely landed his badly damaged aircraft. This officer displayed unbeatable determination, high courage and fortitude and won through in the face of great physical discomfort and pain.

Acting Wing Commander William Edward COLES (41579), R.A.F.O., 233 Sqn.

This officer has displayed high qualities of leadership, great skill and courage in operations against the enemy. In September, 1944, he led the squadron on several supply dropping missions to our forces in the neighbourhood of Arnhem. On one occasion, whilst over the dropping zone, his aircraft sustained severe damage and became difficult to control. In spite of this, Wing Commander Cole made a second run over the target to release the remainder of his containers. He afterwards flew the badly damaged aircraft to base. He displayed superb skill and great personal courage.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Maurice BOOTH, D.F.C. (39810), R.A.F.O., 271 Sqn.

This officer has displayed high powers of leadership, skill and courage, qualities which have contributed in good measure to the success of the many operations in which the squadron has been concerned. In September, 1944, Wing Commander Booth participated in the operation whereby the first force of gliders was landed in the vicinity of Arnhem. Three days later, he took part in a

supply dropping mission to our ground forces. In the face of heavy enemy opposition, Wing Commander Booth displayed great determination and devotion to duty.

Squadron Leader Peter Dickson SQUIRES, D.F.C. (40954), R.A.F.O., 271 Sqn.

This officer has completed three tours of operational duty. He has at all times displayed the greatest keenness and his undoubted skill and fearless example have won great praise. He has participated in all the operations to which the squadron has been committed and his resolute and gallant efforts have contributed materially to the successes obtained. Squadron Leader Squires flew with great distinction on several sorties in the neighbourhood of Arnhem in September, 1944.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant James Keith O'Neill EDWARDS (123886), R.A.F.V.R., 271 Sqn.

In air operations, this officer has displayed skill, courage and fortitude of a very high order.

Flight Lieutenant Rooney Alexander HODGINS (Can/J.41894), R.C.A.F., 443 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Hodgins has completed very many sorties over Northern France, Belgium and Holland. He has destroyed three enemy aircraft and has also been responsible for putting out of action over 50 enemy mechanical vehicles. On one occasion in September, 1944, in a fight against a superior force of enemy aircraft, Flight Lieutenant Hodgins destroyed two Messerschmitt 109s. This officer has at all times displayed the greatest keenness to engage the enemy and has proved himself a skilful and intrepid pilot.

Flight Lieutenant David Henry Gason INCE (49606), R.A.F., 193 Sqn.

This officer has completed very many sorties and has set a fine example of determination and devotion to duty throughout. On a recent occasion he was detailed to reconnoitre a target immediately after it had been attacked by other aircraft. In the face of considerable concentrated anti-aircraft fire, Flight Lieutenant Ince commenced his run-in. His aircraft was hit. The oil system to the engine was damaged. The fluid gushed out and completely obscured the wind shield. Flight Lieutenant Ince was compelled to fly by instruments only. As he completed his run the aircraft became difficult to control. Nevertheless, he succeeded in flying to an airfield within the Allied lines and landed safely. This officer displayed a high degree of skill, courage and resolution throughout.

Flight Lieutenant Brian Pouncefoote LEGGE (41936), R.A.F.O., 575 Sqn.

This officer has completed much operational flying and throughout has displayed efficiency and zeal of a high standard. One evening in September, 1944, he piloted an aircraft on a mission involving the dropping of supplies to our ground forces near Arnhem. When approaching the target, the aircraft came under anti-aircraft fire and was hit in several places. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Legge went on to the dropping zone and released his containers with precision. Shortly afterwards the aircraft was again hit. Flight Lieutenant Legge was severely wounded in the leg; his co-pilot was also wounded. Undaunted Flight Lieutenant Legge remained at the controls. Although suffering severe pain and becoming weak through loss of blood he flew the aircraft to base where he effected a safe landing in difficult conditions. This officer displayed great courage and fortitude and was undoubtedly responsible for the safe return of the aircraft and its crew.

Flight Lieutenant Martin Reay Sutherland MACKAY (r31570), R.A.F.V.R., 48 Sqn

This officer was pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed for a sortie, entailing the dropping of supplies to our ground forces near Arnhem in September, 1944. In the first run-in to the target the aircraft came under considerable fire from the enemy's ground defences. The starboard engine was hit. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Mackay made a second run over the dropping zone to release all his containers. Despite the loss of engine power, this resolute captain flew the aircraft to base where he effected a masterly landing. This officer has completed numerous sorties and has invariably displayed the highest standard of devotion to duty.

Flight Lieutenant William Burton PEARSON (124680), R.A.F.V.R., 512 Sqn.

This officer has completed a number of successful sorties in connection with airborne operations and has invariably displayed a high degree of gallantry and resolution. On one occasion, in September, 1944, he piloted an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to our troops in the vicinity of Arnhem. Whilst over the dropping zone considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Flight Lieutenant Pearson's aircraft was hit and badly damaged. Nevertheless, this gallant pilot made two runs over the target to ensure that all his panniers were released. He afterwards flew the damaged aircraft to base and brought it down safely.

Flight Lieutenant Albert Ernest SAUNDERS (89578), R.A.F.V.R., 512 Sqn.

This officer has participated in numerous sorties and has set a fine example of skill and resolution. In September, 1944, he was a pilot in an aircraft which towed a glider during the airborne operations against Arnhem. When nearing the landing zone, the aircraft was badly hit and caught fire. The situation was extremely serious but, with the utmost coolness and with complete disregard for his welfare, Flight Lieutenant Saunders executed a successful crash landing. He was trapped in the cockpit but was thrown clear when the aircraft exploded. He sustained serious injuries and was badly burned. In the face of extreme danger this officer displayed courage and devotion to duty of a high order.

Flying Officer Alexander McPherson CAMPBELL (143672), R.A.F.V.R., 512 Sqn.

In September, 1944, this officer was the captain of an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to troops in the Arnhem area. In spite of a hail of light anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Campbell released all his supplies, making 2 runs over the target to accomplish this task. His aircraft had been repeatedly hit. One engine was put out of action and the aileron control had been rendered inoperative. Nevertheless, this resolute and gallant pilot flew the aircraft to base and touched down safely. This officer has completed numerous sorties and has invariably displayed the highest standard of devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Samuel Stevenson FINLAY (Can/J. 14734), R.C.A.F., 48 Sqn.

In September, 1944, this officer was the pilot of an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to our forces near Arnhem. After the containers had been suc-

cessfully dropped and course had been set for home the aircraft was attacked by fighters. Although Flying Officer Finlay manoeuvred with much skill his aircraft was hit by a hail of bullets. The starboard engine was put out of action. The starboard wing and part of the fuselage were set on fire. All attempts to extinguish the flames were unsuccessful. The port engine now became erratic. Flying Officer Finlay decided to attempt a crash landing. In spite of fumes and smoke which partially obscured his vision, this resolute pilot brought the aircraft down safely without injury to any of his crew. He set a splendid example of coolness, courage and determination in perilous circumstances.

Flying Officer Bruce Layton GILBERT (177250), R.A.F.V.R., 197 Sqn.

This officer has completed much operational flying and has set a splendid example of determination and devotion to duty throughout. In attacks on such targets as railway junctions, airfields, shipping, bridges and roads, Flying Officer Gilbert has invariably pressed home his attacks relentlessly. Among his successes is the destruction of a good number of mechanical vehicles.

Flying Officer Gerald Purvis HAGERMAN (Can/J. 14437), R.C.A.F., 437 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

In September, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to our ground forces near Arnhem. In the face of intense concentrated anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Hagerman displayed exceptional resolution in executing two successful runs over the target to release all his containers successfully. Later, after leaving the target area, the aircraft was involved in a fight with six enemy aircraft. Such extensive damage was sustained that it became necessary to leave the aircraft by parachute. When he was satisfied that the remaining members of his crew had left, Flying Officer Hagerman jumped himself and descended safely behind our own lines. This officer displayed great coolness and courage in most hazardous circumstances.

Flying Officer John William NEIL (Can/J.16638), R.C.A.F., 421 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed many and varied sorties during which he has displayed commendable skill, courage and determination. He has displayed the greatest keenness to engage the enemy and has destroyed five and damaged several more hostile aircraft; he has also most effectively attacked very many mechanical vehicles.

Flying Officer Lynus Raitt PATTEE (Can/J.20152), R.C.A.F., 48 Sqn.

This officer, who has participated in numerous operational missions, has set a fine example of efficiency and zeal. In September, 1944, Flying Officer Pattee took part in an operation involving the dropping of supplies to our fighting forces near Arnhem. In spite of intense anti-aircraft fire, Flying Officer Pattee successfully dropped his containers at the second attempt. Shortly afterwards his aircraft was badly hit. Extensive damage was sustained but Flying Officer Pattee headed his crippled aircraft towards our own lines behind which he executed a successful crash landing. In circumstances of great danger this officer displayed commendable courage and determination.

Pilot Officer Robert Venters JUBB (Aus.426609) R.A.A.F., 462 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Pilot Officer William Norman WAUDBY (179586) R.A.F.V.R., 245 Sqn.

In air operations these officers have displayed courage, fortitude and devotion to duty of a high order.

Warrant Officer Knivett Carton CRANEFIELD (1384663) R.A.F.V.R., 233 Sqn.

In September, 1944, this officer was pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to our forces in the vicinity of Arnhem. When approaching the dropping zone heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered. The aircraft was struck by a high explosive shell which tore a large hole in the starboard wing and took away a part of the aileron. Although the aircraft became difficult to control, Warrant Officer Cranefield continued to the target. When over the area the aircraft was again hit. Warrant Officer Cranefield was wounded in the leg. Although suffering acutely he remained at the controls and all the containers were successfully dropped. Not until he had flown well clear

of the target area would he allow anyone to leave their post to attend to his injuries. Warrant Officer Craneheld proved himself to be a courageous and resolute captain, setting a very fine example.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer David William SUMMONS (Aus.410749)
R.A.A.F., 550 Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1877605 Sergeant Clifford Charles JERMAN,
R.A.F.V.R., 550 Sqn.

This officer and airman were pilot and flight engineer respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Dortmund in November, 1944. During the operation the aircraft sustained serious damage. Two engines were put out of action, whilst the main plane was badly affected. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Summons retained a good measure of control and flew the crippled aircraft to an airfield in this country. He displayed exceptional skill and coolness in most dangerous circumstances. Sergeant Jerman also proved himself to be a most determined and devoted crew member. His expert work in the face of considerable difficulty greatly assisted his pilot in his endeavours to bring the crippled aircraft home.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Can/R.175078 Flight Sergeant Norman Frankland HALL, R.C.A.F., 12 Sqn.

Flight Sergeant Hall has participated in many attacks on targets in Germany, including Frankfurt, Duisburg, Stuttgart and Essen. Throughout he has proved himself a skilful navigator whose accurate work has played a good part in the successes obtained. In November, 1944, he took part in an attack on Dortmund. When nearing the target the aircraft was hit by an anti-aircraft shell and Flight Sergeant Hall was wounded in the leg by a piece of shrapnel. The injury caused him much physical distress but, after receiving first aid, he continued with his duties. The bombing task was successfully executed and Flight Sergeant Hall afterwards navigated the aircraft back to base. This airman set a fine example of courage and fortitude.

1378949 Flight Sergeant Andrew McHUGH,
R.A.F.V.R., 437 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Sergeant McHugh has taken part in many sorties and has proved himself to be a confident and highly skilled crew member. In September, 1944, he was the navigator in an aircraft detailed to drop supplies to our troops in the vicinity of Arnhem. Some time after leaving the target the aircraft was attacked by enemy fighters. The captain and his co-pilot were killed. Flight Sergeant McHugh promptly went forward and took over the controls, although not as experienced as a regular pilot. Soon afterwards the aircraft was again hit. It became necessary to abandon the aircraft. Displaying the qualities of a true captain, Flight Sergeant McHugh ordered his comrades to leave by parachute. Not until he was satisfied all were clear did he jump himself. This airman displayed great coolness and initiative, setting a fine example.

1384215 Flight Sergeant John Edward MASINI,
R.A.F.V.R., 512 Sqn.

This airman has participated in many sorties and has displayed commendable skill, determination and devotion to duty throughout. On one occasion in September, 1944, Flight Sergeant Masini piloted an aircraft on a mission, involving the dropping of supplies to our ground forces fighting near Arnhem. When approaching the target his aircraft came under intense light anti-aircraft fire. In spite of this Flight Sergeant Masini executed a good run in to release his supplies with accuracy. His aircraft had been hit by shells and bullets in innumerable places but he flew it to base. This airman displayed courage and resolution of a high order.

AMENDMENT.

In notification of 30th January, 1945 (p. 640, col. 2) (Awards of Legion of Merit). Under heading "Degree of Chief Commander," regarding Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford LEIGH-MALLORY, K.C.B., D.S.O., R.A.F. for "since deceased" read "since missing."

Delete heading and all reference to award of Order of Kutuzov (1st Class) to Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford LEIGH-MALLORY, K.C.B., D.S.O., R.A.F., award previously announced on 31st October, 1944 (p. 4980, col. 2).

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