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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.

Group Captain Keith Macdermott HAMPSHIRE, D.S.O., D.F.C., R.A.A.F., 456 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has led the squadron on very many sorties during which 32 enemy aircraft have been destroyed. Much of the success achieved can be attributed to this officer's outstanding leadership and great skill. His iron determination and unflinching devotion to duty have set an example of the highest order. Group Captain Hampshire has inflicted much loss on the enemy including the destruction of seven aircraft.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Group Captain Vincent Alvan POPE, R.A.F.O., 644 Sqn.

This officer has taken part in a very large number of sorties, many of them with this squadron which he has commanded with outstanding success. He has displayed high qualities of leadership, great skill and courage and has set an example which has impressed all.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Henry Patrick LARDNER-BURKE, D.F.C. (87449), R.A.F.V.R., 1 Sqn.

This officer continues to display a high degree of courage and resolution in his attacks on the enemy. Recently, he has led the squadron on many missions in the Ruhr area and throughout has displayed great skill and tenacity. Squadron Leader Lardner-Burke has destroyed seven enemy aircraft in air fighting. He has also most effectively attacked enemy targets on the ground.

Flight Lieutenant Douglas Haig GREAVES, D.F.C. (113989), R.A.F.V.R., 25 Sqn.

This officer has completed very many sorties in his second tour of operational duty. He has at all times displayed the greatest keenness and has set a fine example of determination and devotion to duty. He has destroyed nine enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer Robert Richard Fernie BRUCE, D.F.C. (153354), R.A.F.V.R., 418 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has completed numerous sorties far into enemy territory. He is a navigator of exceptional skill whose faultless work has con-

tributed in good measure to the successes obtained. Flying Officer Bruce has proved himself to be a most devoted and valiant member of aircraft crew.

Flying Officer Frederick Mitton ROBBINS, D.F.C. (155563), R.A.F.V.R., 25 Sqn.

As observer, Flying Officer Robbins has participated in a very large number of sorties. Throughout he has displayed a high degree of skill and co-operation and has assisted in the destruction of nine enemy aircraft. His keenness and determination have set a very fine example.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Robert Barson COWPER, D.F.C. (Aus.407666), R.A.A.F., 456 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant William Watson (49287), R.A.F., 456 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

These officers have completed a second tour of operational duty and have consistently displayed a high degree of skill and co-operation. Their keenness to engage the enemy has always been evident and they have been responsible for the destruction of five hostile aircraft.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander John Reginald GRICE (39383), R.A.F.O., 297 Sqn.

This officer has completed much operational flying and has set a fine example of skill and devotion to duty throughout. For several months he has been in command of the squadron and much of the success of the airborne operations in which the formation has taken part can be attributed to this officer's untiring efforts and great ability.

Acting Wing Commander Basil HOWARD (Aus.404787), R.A.A.F., 456 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, setting a fine example of devotion to duty throughout. He has destroyed three enemy aircraft at night, successes which are a good tribute to his undoubted skill and resolution. In addition to his work in the air, Wing Commander Howard has rendered yeoman service in training other members of his formation.

Flight Lieutenant Kenneth Charles Michael GIDDINGS (113414), R.A.F.V.R., 118 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Giddings has completed a very large number of varied sorties. He has led his flight and, on occasions, the squadron with great skill and determination, factors which have con-