



FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 23rd of FEBRUARY, 1945

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY, 1945

Air Ministry, 27th February, 1945.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations:—

Bar to Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander George William CURRY, D.S.O., D.F.C. (86389), R.A.F.V.R., 627 Sqn.

Wing Commander Curry has completed a second tour of operational duty during which he has completed many notable sorties. On one occasion he took part in an attack which resulted in the breaching of the Dortmund-Ems Canal. On another occasion, Wing Commander Curry led the squadron on a target far into enemy territory. Whilst over the target considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Every aircraft was hit. Nevertheless, the operation was completed successfully. Munchen-Gladbach, Stuttgart, Brunswick and Bremerhaven have been among the various targets Wing Commander Curry has attacked. This gallant and resourceful squadron commander has set a splendid example to all.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Group Captain John Arthur INGHAM, D.F.C., A.F.C., R.A.F.V.R., 83 Sqn.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties against strongly defended enemy targets, including 5 attacks on the German capital. He has displayed the highest qualities of leadership and bravery and throughout his skill has been outstanding. In December, 1944, Group Captain Ingham took part in an attack against targets at Gdynia. In spite of fierce fire both from batteries on the shore and the guns of all the German ships in the harbour, this brave pilot executed his attack with the greatest skill and coolness. His sterling qualities have impressed all.

Flight Lieutenant Leo Charles Evan DEVIGNE, D.F.C. (113859), R.A.F.V.R., 627 Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has completed many sorties, including attacks against the Mittelland Canal on two occasions and the heavily defended targets of Munchen Gladbach and Munich. Throughout these operations, Flight Lieutenant Devigne has displayed the highest standard of skill and gallantry. His meritorious efforts have contributed in good measure to the successes obtained.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Maurice Armstrong SMITH (72029), R.A.F.V.R.

This officer has participated in very many sorties against a wide range of enemy targets. In November, 1944, he took part in an attack on the Dortmund-Ems Canal which resulted in the waterway being breached. Some days later Wing Commander Smith participated in an attack on the Mittelland Canal at Gravenhorst. During the operation his aircraft was illuminated by the searchlights and much anti-aircraft fire was directed at his aircraft. Despite this, he executed his task successfully. This officer has, by his skill, perseverance and resource, contributed much towards the success of many sorties.

Flying Officer Alan John CARD (152665), R.A.F.V.R., 35 Sqn.

This officer was the air bomber in an aircraft detailed to attack the Gremburg railway sidings near Cologne. When over the target, much anti-aircraft fire was directed at the bomber, which was hit. A piece of shrapnel from a close burst struck Flying Officer Card over the eye. The wound bled profusely but this resolute member of aircraft crew made no complaint. He continued to direct the bombing run. The aircraft was again hit. The microphone leads part of Flying Officer Card's equipment and his oxygen tube were torn away. Despite this he displayed excellent co-operation with his pilot, to whom his directions were passed by the flight engineer, and thus the target was successfully attacked. This air bomber set a fine example of determination and devotion to duty.

Acting Flying Officer Harold John MUSSELMAN (Can/J.88125), R.C.A.F., 166 Sqn.

In December, 1944, this officer was pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed to attack an enemy target. On the outward flight the starboard inner engine failed. Despite the loss of engine power, Flying Officer Musselman continued his flight. Some time later the port outer engine became defective. Nevertheless, this resolute pilot went on to attack a target at a lower level than planned. Much anti-aircraft was directed at his aircraft which sustained damage but Flying Officer Musselman flew it back to base. Although beset by many difficulties this officer was fully determined to make his mission a success. He set a very fine example.