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FRIDAY, 16 MARCH, 1945

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

16th March, 1945.

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of His Majesty's New Zealand Ministers, to approve the following appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in recognition of conspicuous service in operations against the Japanese:—

To be Additional Members of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order.

Flight Lieutenant Douglas Augustine PATTERSON (N.Z.40660), R.N.Z.A.F.

Flying Officer Colin Thomson Bertram FITZGERALD (N.Z.39150), R.N.Z.A.F.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

16th March, 1945.

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of His Majesty's New Zealand Ministers, to approve the award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division) in recognition of distinguished service in operations against the Japanese to the undermentioned:—

N.Z.401520 Sergeant Laurence HUGHES, R.N.Z.A.F.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

16th March, 1945.

The KING has been graciously pleased, on the advice of His Majesty's Canadian Ministers, to approve the award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division) to the undermentioned:—

R.284266 Leading Aircraftman John Edward GELINEAU, R.C.A.F.

Air Ministry, 16th March, 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:—

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Douglas George HAYWARD (42565), R.A.F., 148 Sqn.

This officer is now on his third tour of operational duty. He has displayed a high degree of skill and courage and throughout a long operational career

his devotion to duty has been unfailing. Within the past year Wing Commander Hayward has participated in attacks against a wide range of targets in the Balkans, Italy, Austria and Southern Germany. This officer has displayed the greatest keenness and his example has won the highest praise.

Acting Wing Commander James Dean SOMERVILLE, D.F.C. (Can/C.1999), R.C.A.F., 409 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has displayed outstanding efficiency, great courage and determination, qualities which have been well reflected in the fine fighting spirit of the squadron he commands. He has completed very many sorties and has destroyed 7 enemy aircraft at night. He has set a fine example of loyal and devoted service.

Major John Edward GASSON, D.F.C. (279804V), S.A.A.F., 92 Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, this officer has participated in a large number of varied sorties. On several occasions towards the end of 1944, he led formations of aircraft in attacks against enemy strong points with excellent results. On one occasion in December, 1944, Major Gasson came down to a very low level, alone, to locate an enemy gun position. Although considerable fire was directed at his aircraft, he rejoined his flight which he led into the attack and all three guns were destroyed. On two other occasions, Major Gasson led his flight with great skill in close support of operations by our ground forces. This officer has displayed exceptional gallantry and determination in the execution of his attacks on the enemy. Much of the success of the squadron can be attributed to his undoubted ability.

Flight Lieutenant Douglas Alfred OXBY, D.F.C., D.F.M. (138413), R.A.F.V.R., 219 Sqn.

As observer, this officer has displayed skill of the highest order. He has taken part in a very large number of sorties and has assisted in the destruction of 21 enemy aircraft. These successes are an outstanding tribute to his great ability, praiseworthy courage and iron determination.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer James CASTAGNOLA, D.F.C. (169585), R.A.F.V.R., 617 Sqn.

As captain of aircraft this officer has completed a large number of sorties and throughout has displayed the greatest keenness. He has invariably pressed home his attacks with skill and resolution and his successes have been well proved by the good photographs he has secured. Flying Officer Castagnola took part in the final attack on the German battleship Tirpitz; he also flew with distinction in an attack against the Kembs Barrage.

During a daylight attack against shipping in Bergen this pilot obtained a hit on a merchantman. After releasing his bombs, Flying Officer Castagnola saw an enemy fighter engaging a badly damaged bomber from his own squadron. He promptly manoeuvred into a position where his gunners could engage the enemy aircraft which was driven off by their accurate fire. This officer has not once failed to complete his allotted task.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Ronald Thomas TURTON (83247), R.A.F.V.R., 683 Sqn.

This officer has completed a very large number of reconnaissances during which he has covered every variety of target in all the areas in which the squadron operates. Throughout, he has displayed the greatest enthusiasm for operations. His perseverance in the face of adverse weather and his eagerness to seize any and every opportunity to bring his camera into action have won him much success. He has set a fine example to all.

Acting Squadron Leader Thomas Clifford IVESON, (128539), R.A.F.V.R., 617 Sqn.

This officer has completed numerous sorties on his second tour of operational duty, including three attacks against the battleship Tirpitz. In January, 1945, he was detailed to attack the U-boat pens at Bergen. Whilst over the target his aircraft was attacked by two fighters. The first burst of machine-gun fire from the enemy aircraft struck the tailplane, rudder and elevator. The port inner engine was set on fire and the rear turret was put out of action. After the fighters broke off their attack Squadron Leader Iveson's aircraft came under heavy fire from the anti-aircraft batteries. It was almost impossible to maintain level flight. Squadron Leader Iveson instructed another member of the crew to lash the control column in such a way as to ease the strain. Under these most trying conditions, Squadron Leader Iveson flew clear of the fire zone and afterwards reached a home based airfield where he landed his seriously damaged aircraft safely. By his great skill, courage and determination, this officer was undoubtedly responsible for the safe return of the aircraft.

Acting Squadron Leader Wilbur Clark PIERCE (Can/J.29592), R.C.A.F., 433 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed very many operational missions and has proved himself to be an efficient and resolute captain. One night in January, 1945, Squadron Leader Pierce was the pilot in an aircraft detailed to attack Grevenbroich. On the outward flight the port inner engine became unserviceable. This did not deter Squadron Leader Pierce from continuing his mission and he went on to attack the target with his usual determination. He afterwards flew safely to base. Throughout the flight, Squadron Leader Pierce was unable to make use of the artificial horizon which was unserviceable. This officer has always shown the greatest determination to complete his missions successfully.

Flight Lieutenant John Kenneth GOLDIE (Can/J.5981), R.C.A.F., 428 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Goldie was pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Ludwigshafen in December, 1944. It was his first sortie as a captain. After becoming airborne it was discovered that only one of the guns in the rear turret was serviceable. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Goldie continued to the target and pressed home a successful attack. On another occasion a few days later, en route to Duisburg, the oxygen supply to the rear gun turret failed. Flight Lieutenant Goldie promptly instructed the wireless operator to effect repairs. The latter's oxygen supply also failed and this crew member lost consciousness. With great coolness and presence of mind, Flight Lieutenant Goldie descended to a very low altitude in order to enable his comrades to recover and then to repair the defective system. He afterwards continued to the target and executed a good attack. Flight Lieutenant Goldie displayed exceptional coolness and devotion to duty on both occasions.

Flight Lieutenant Ronald Hamilton MCGREGOR (123234), R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

Pilot Officer Geoffrey William HAM (Aus.420468), R.A.A.F., 524 Sqn.

As pilot and navigator of aircraft respectively, these officers have taken part in a good number of sorties, some of them in extremely adverse

weather. They have displayed commendable skill and courage and throughout have set a high standard of devotion to duty. On one occasion during a sortie in December, 1944, they sighted six E. boats leaving Ijmuiden, Flight Lieutenant McGregor immediately turned to the attack. In spite of fierce anti-aircraft fire, an excellent run was made and the bombs straddled the vessels. One of the boats fell out of formation and then apparently sank. After making another attack on the enemy force they shadowed the vessels and reported their position whilst further attacks were made by other aircraft. Flight Lieutenant McGregor and Pilot Officer Ham displayed exceptional resolution throughout this notable sortie.

Captain Hillary John Ellis CLARKE (21685V), S.A.A.F., 5 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed very many sorties on his second tour of operational duty. During these operations he has taken part in attacks on a variety of targets and has been responsible for putting out of action very many mechanical vehicles, a number of locomotives and many railway wagons; in air combat, Captain Clarke has shot down 3 enemy aircraft. In January, 1945, this officer flew with great distinction in a sortie during which the railway bridge at Roveredo was successfully attacked; a nearby road bridge was also effectively attacked. This officer has displayed great skill, courage and resource and his exceptional work has contributed in good measure to the success of the squadron.

Captain Granville Allan GILLET (99986V), S.A.A.F., 102 Sqn.

Captain Gillett, as pilot and captain of aircraft, has participated in numerous sorties, involving attacks on heavily defended targets. On several occasions his aircraft has been severely damaged by anti-aircraft fire and in fights with enemy aircraft. Nevertheless, Captain Gillett has invariably pressed home his attacks with great determination. Throughout his tour of operational duty, Captain Gillett has displayed commendable courage and devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Joseph Franklin BONNER (Can/J.27231), R.C.A.F., 420 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

In December, 1944, Flying Officer Bonner, as captain of aircraft, was detailed to attack an important airfield near Dusseldorf. On the run in to the target, his aircraft was repeatedly hit by anti-aircraft fire and large holes were torn in the fuselage and wings. Despite this, Flying Officer Bonner executed a perfect bombing run. He afterwards flew the badly damaged aircraft back to base. This officer displayed great courage and devotion to duty in the face of intense enemy fire. He has successfully completed many operational missions.

Flying Officer John Proctor DIXIE (Can/J.27305), R.C.A.F., 170 Sqn.

One night in February, 1945, Flying Officer Dixie was pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Ludwigshafen. On the return flight his aircraft sustained severe damage. The port rudder, half of the port fin and most of the starboard fin and rudder were severed. The port elevator and the rear part of the fuselage were also damaged. The aircraft dived steeply but Flying Officer Dixie regained control, and by skilful airmanship flew it to base where he landed safely without incurring further damage. Flying Officer Dixie set a fine example of courage and coolness in difficult circumstances.

Flying Officer Brian KEATING (Aus.429115), R.A.A.F., 115 Sqn.

This officer was the air bomber in an aircraft detailed to attack the railway siding at Gremberg, near Cologne, in January, 1945. Just as the bomb doors were being opened the aircraft was struck by a shell. Flying Officer Keating was wounded in the neck. In spite of his injury, which he did not disclose, this gallant air bomber remained at his post to give clear and precise instructions throughout the bombing run. Not until his aircraft was well clear of the target did Flying Officer Keating mention his injury. Even then, he would not leave his post until his captain almost forced him to do so. Shortly afterwards he collapsed and was unconscious for at least an hour. Flying Officer Keating, who has completed many sorties, displayed a high degree of courage and devotion to duty.

Flying Officer John Earl Rowe (Can/J.37072), R.C.A.F., 429 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

One night in January, 1945, Flying Officer Rowe, as captain of aircraft, took part in an attack on Magdeburg. On the outward journey one of his engines became unserviceable and the propeller had to be feathered. Some height was lost and Flying Officer Rowe was unable to maintain his place in the main bomber formation. Despite this, he continued to the target and made a successful bombing attack. Flying Officer Rowe has participated in many attacks on enemy targets, most of which have been heavily defended. He has at all times shown great coolness and skill, setting a fine example to all.

Lieutenant John Charles BUDDLE (103947V), S.A.A.F., 7 Sqn.

This officer has participated in a large number of sorties, involving low-level bombing and machine gun attacks on a variety of targets. During these operations, Lieutenant Buddle has assisted in the destruction of several locomotives and many mechanical vehicles. Throughout his tour of operational duty, this officer has set a fine example of courage and resolution.

Warrant Officer John Mervyn McCUBBEN (Aus. 414719), R.A.A.F., 58 Sqn.

Warrant Officer McCubben set a fine example of efficiency and zeal in air operations. As wireless operator (air) he has participated in very many sorties, including a number of recent attacks on enemy shipping. His excellent work on these last-named operations has contributed materially to the good results obtained. Warrant Officer McCubben has proved himself to be a most valuable member of aircraft crew.

*Office of the Minister of Defence, Wellington,
New Zealand, 16th March, 1945.*

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations in the South-West Pacific area:—

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Squadron Leader John Albert Axel GIBSON, D.F.C. (40969), R.A.F.O., 15 Sqn.

The KING has also been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication of the names of the following R.N.Z.A.F. personnel who have been mentioned in despatches:—

Squadron Leader.

M. WILKES (N.Z.1168).

Acting Squadron Leaders.

D. W. COCKS (N.Z.41878).

A. G. SIEVERS (N.Z.391848).

Flight Lieutenants.

F. J. ADAMS (N.Z.1120).

H. E. BOUCHER (N.Z.402845).

J. W. EDWARDS (N.Z.39908).

T. R. F. JOHNSON (N.Z.401276).

J. H. MILLS (N.Z.401285).

B. E. OLIVER (N.Z.401027).

E. H. PERRY (N.Z.404938).

R. E. SCOTT (N.Z.404951).

Acting Flight Lieutenants.

J. C. BROUGHTON (N.Z.401455).

A. T. ROWE (N.Z.401233).

P. S. TENNENT (N.Z.416211).

G. L. WELLS (N.Z.1696).

Flying Officers.

K. C. BOLLAND (N.Z.438004).

L. H. F. BROWN (N.Z.414582).

N. A. FREW (N.Z.426097).

J. B. GORDON (N.Z.413409).

W. A. HARDHAM (N.Z.412685).

R. M. McKECHNIE (N.Z.413870).

A. R. MILLER (N.Z.415417).

P. MOLLOY (N.Z.413454).

A. L. PARLANE (N.Z.38199).

A. G. PIERARD (N.Z.42673).

Pilot Officers.

N. E. BAILEY (N.Z.391962).

K. T. P. CHAPMAN (N.Z.425689).

A. W. CLIFFE (N.Z.425236).

G. H. CRAY (N.Z.4213648).

R. F. HOWE (N.Z.426045).

H. E. PRIEST (N.Z.1857).

Warrant Officers.

F. J. HARVEY (N.Z.391278).

L. A. HOPPE (N.Z.415533).

Flight Sergeants.

N.Z.403223 R. B. ANDERSON.

N.Z.391639 B. G. CRAIGHEAD.

N.Z.428787 C. W. HALFORD.

N.Z.425916 L. F. LE LIEVRE.

Sergeants.

N.Z.39497 C. F. MILLER.

N.Z.401600 F. M. PALMER.

Acting Sergeants.

N.Z.401669 G. H. FARMER.

N.Z.392045 L. B. JOLLY.

Corporals.

N.Z.402578 W. ADAIR.

N.Z.413646 R. I. STEWART.

Aircraftman 1st Class.

N.Z.426511 A. H. ROSS.

Aircraftman 2nd Class.

N.Z.4310928 J. EASTON.

AMENDMENT.

In notification of 11th June, 1944 (Birthday Honours List) (p. 5285, col. 2) regarding award of M.B.E. to Acting Flight Officer Mary HODGSON, W.A.A.F. for (5581) read (2962).

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