

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, in recognition of distinguished service:—

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

Flight Lieutenant Geoffrey Talbot CHINCHEN, D.F.C. (Aus.250704), Royal Australian Air Force.
Flight Lieutenant Ralph Henry LUCKY, M.C. (79272), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.
Flight Lieutenant Frederick Lionel RIPPINGALE (62005), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Air Ministry, 1st June, 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:—

Second Bar to Distinguished Service Order.

Group Captain John Emilius FAUQUIER, D.S.O., D.F.C. (Can./C.1399), R.C.A.F., 617 Sqn.

Since assuming command of the squadron in December, 1944, this officer has taken part in almost all the sorties to which the formation has been committed. Early in February, 1945, Group Captain Fauquier led the squadron in an attack on the U-boat pens at Poortershaven. Photographs obtained showed that the bombing was accurate and concentrated. Since then, this officer has participated in a number of sorties during which the railway viaduct at Bielefeld, a railway bridge over the river Weser at Bremen and a viaduct over a flooded meadow near Ardbergen bridge were all rendered unusable by the enemy. By his brilliant leadership, undoubted skill and iron determination, this officer played a good part in the successes obtained. He has rendered much loyal and valuable service..

Distinguished Service Order.

Wing Commander Terence Berkeley MORTON (32250), R.A.F.O., 100 Sqn.

This officer, now on his third tour of operational duty, has completed a large number of sorties against a variety of strongly defended targets. On one occasion in March, 1945, he was detailed to attack an oil installation at Misburg. During the bombing run, his aircraft was illuminated in a cone of searchlights and heavily engaged by anti-aircraft fire. In spite of this, Wing Commander Morton held to a steady course and enabled his bomb aimer to attack the target with precision. Wing Commander Morton has displayed the highest standard of skill, coupled with the greatest determination to bring his missions to a successful conclusion. Undaunted by the heaviest of opposition he has invariably pressed home his attacks, setting a fine example to all under his command.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader Frederick Oliver BARRETT (40355), R.A.F., 305 Sqn.

One night in April, 1945, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack enemy movements by road and rail in the Bremen-Hamburg area. When south-east of Bremen, Squadron Leader Barrett sighted some 15 trucks in a railway siding. He immediately went into the attack, raking the target with cannon and machine gun fire over its entire length. As he was pressing home another attack some of the trucks exploded with great violence. Squadron Leader Barrett's aircraft was thrown out of control by the force of the explosion. It was also struck by debris which was hurled high in the air. He quickly regained a measure of control but the aircraft had been severely damaged. It seemed as though it would have to be abandoned but Squadron Leader Barrett was determined, if possible, to reach allied territory. At times the aircraft became almost uncontrollable but, finally, Squadron Leader Barrett reached an airfield where he executed a successful crash landing. This officer displayed exceptional skill, great courage and coolness throughout.

Acting Squadron Leader Doyne Garnet Thornton Rutter HAYES (44760), R.A.F.

This officer has participated in a very large number of sorties. He has at all times displayed great determination in the face of the enemy and his skill and enthusiasm have combined to make

him an ideal gunnery leader whose example both on the ground and in the air has been an inspiration to all.

Flight Lieutenant Terence HELFER (127041), R.A.F.V.R., 161 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Helfer has completed many operational sorties and throughout has displayed the highest standard of efficiency and devotion to duty. He has undertaken many hazardous missions and on two occasions has had to bring his damaged aircraft down on the sea, being rescued after being adrift in the dinghy for some time on each occasion. Despite these experiences he has shown outstanding keenness for operational flying and has proved a most valuable asset to his squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Thomas Dreghorn MACMILLAN (138908), R.A.F.V.R., 635 Sqn.

In March, 1945, this officer was pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed to attack Hamburg. During the bombing run the aircraft was attacked and damaged by an enemy fighter. Both gun turrets were put out of action and severe damage was caused to the elevators. In spite of this, Flight Lieutenant Macmillan took successful evasive action and the target was afterwards attacked. On leaving the target the aircraft dived steeply out of control. With difficulty Flight Lieutenant Macmillan regained control. He afterwards requested two members of the crew to tie a rope around the control column. By pulling on the rope they were able to assist their pilot to fly the aircraft straight and level. On reaching an airfield in this country, Flight Lieutenant Macmillan brought the damaged aircraft down safely.

Acting Flying Officer Jerrold Harcourt JACKSON (Aus.428390), R.A.A.F., 57 Sqn.

Flying Officer Jackson has completed many sorties against strongly defended enemy targets. In January, 1945, he was captain of an aircraft detailed to attack the oil plants at Brux. When some 300 miles from the target on the outward flight, one engine failed completely. Nevertheless, this officer did not hesitate to continue his mission. Some height had been lost as the target was reached but he made an accurate attack in the face of considerable enemy fire. He afterwards flew his aircraft safely back to base. Flying Officer Jackson has consistently shown courage and determination of a high standard.

Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).

1804406 Sergeant Jeffery George WHEELER, R.A.F.V.R., 101 Sqn.

Sergeant Wheeler was flight engineer in an aircraft detailed to attack the heavily defended target of Bremen in March, 1945. Whilst over the target area the aircraft was hit and damaged by enemy fire. Sergeant Wheeler was seriously wounded in the thigh. Although in great pain this resolute airman concealed the fact until well clear of the target. After receiving attention, Sergeant Wheeler insisted on being allowed to carry on with his duties. Two of the starboard engines had sustained slight damage but so well did this engineer fulfil his tasks that his captain was enabled to have full use of the four engines throughout the homeward flight. In spite of much physical distress, Sergeant Wheeler displayed outstanding devotion to duty, setting a splendid example to all. This airman has completed a large number of sorties and has invariably displayed a high degree of skill.

Air Ministry, 1st June, 1945.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards:—

Second Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant.

Frederick Anthony Owen GAZE, D.F.C. (60096), R.A.F.V.R., 610 Sqn.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leaders.

Ronald EDMOND, D.F.C., A.F.C. (129960), R.A.F.V.R., 226 Sqn.

Philip Whaley Ellis HEPPELL, D.F.C. (86370), R.A.F.V.R., 118 Sqn.