



SEVENTH SUPPLEMENT
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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
12th June, 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:—

Can/R.82420 Flight Sergeant Robert Benjamin CAMPTON, R.C.A.F.

Air Ministry, 12th 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:—

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Ronald George KNOTT, D.F.C. (39442), R.A.F.O., 524 Sqn.

This officer has commanded the squadron with outstanding success for many months. During the period he has participated in numerous attacks on enemy shipping. In these operations he has displayed the highest standard of skill, courage and leadership, qualities which have contributed in good measure to the successes obtained. His devotion to duty over a long period of operational flying has been unflinching.

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commander Robert James WALKER (39915), R.A.F.O., 45 Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Frank James HARPER (133659), R.A.F.V.R., 45 Sqn.

In March, 1945, these officers were pilot and navigator respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack an important enemy bridge in Burma. The target was well defended. Despite this, Wing Commander Walker made several runs over the target before releasing his bombs. As he made a final run over the target to secure a photograph the aircraft was hit. The windscreen around the pilot's compartment was smashed. Wing Commander Walker was cut about the eyes and temporarily blinded. Flight Lieutenant Harper at once took over the controls and flew clear of the target. He then rendered first aid to his injured comrade and afterwards assisted in flying the aircraft to base. Wing Commander Walker's sight was badly impaired but, at the third attempt, he brought the aircraft down safely. He set a fine example of courage and determination in the face of much physical distress. Flight Lieutenant Harper also displayed fine qualities. Cool, resolute and resourceful in moments of great stress he proved himself to be a worthy crew member.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

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

This officer has displayed the highest standard of devotion to duty in air operations. In April, 1945, he led a formation of aircraft detailed to attack a target in the battle area. In spite of heavy cloud conditions the target was located and a successful attack was made. Afterwards, Major Gasson reconnoitred enemy positions in the forward area along the Sillaro river. As a result of his brilliant work several strong points were relentlessly attacked. A self-propelled gun was knocked out, two heavy tanks were destroyed and several more put out of action. Consequently, our ground forces were enabled to push forward and establish themselves across the river barrier. In this notable sortie Major Gasson displayed skill, courage and determination of the highest standard.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Terence Patrick O'BRIEN (88689), R.A.F.V.R., 357 Sqn.

This officer has completed much operational flying. In the early part of his operational career he took part in bombing missions against such targets as Brest and St. Nazaire; he also participated in many attacks on enemy shipping. For many months he has commanded this squadron. During the period, Squadron Leader O'Brien has completed many sorties, several of them calling for the highest standard of skill and fortitude. The successes obtained are a splendid tribute to his sterling qualities. In addition to his work in the air, this officer has rendered yeoman service in the training of other members of the squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Ben Loraine GARNER (106649), R.A.F.V.R., 92 Sqn.

This officer has completed many sorties on his second tour of operational duty. During these operations he has attacked a variety of enemy targets such as barges, mechanical transport and other objectives on the route of battle. He has displayed a high standard of skill and resolution and throughout has set a fine example of devotion to duty. Among his successes is the destruction of 2 enemy aircraft.

Flight Lieutenant Douglas Lawley Stevens WOOD (139940), R.A.F.V.R., 145 Sqn.

This officer has completed much operational flying. He has at all times displayed the greatest keenness and throughout has shown skill and resolution of a high standard. In March, 1945, Flight Lieutenant Wood led a small formation of aircraft in an attack against a house being used as a strong point by the enemy. The target was very close to the forward position occupied by our ground forces. Despite this, Flight Lieutenant