



FIFTH SUPPLEMENT TO The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY, the 19th of JUNE, 1945

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

FRIDAY, 22 JUNE, 1945

Air Ministry, 22nd 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:—

Bar to Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Group Captain Robert Norman BATESON, D.S.O., D.F.C., R.A.F.O.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Service Order this officer has completed very many sorties and the successes obtained are a splendid tribute to his exceptional skill, great courage and unflinching devotion to duty. In March, 1945, Group Captain Bateson led a large formation of aircraft in an attack on the headquarters of the German Gestapo in Copenhagen. The operation called for the highest standard of skill as the target was small and well defended. Nevertheless, the attack was pressed home with a determination and accuracy which ensured success. In April, 1945, this officer led his squadrons in an attack against a similar target at Odense. In spite of opposition from the ground defences the attack was vigorously and accurately pressed home. By his brilliant leadership, Group Captain Bateson played an important part in the success of these notable sorties.

Distinguished Service Order.

Group Captain Leslie William Clement BOWER, D.F.C., R.A.F.

This officer has set a magnificent example of courage and devotion to duty in operations against the enemy. He has commanded the squadrons at his station for a considerable time and much of the success achieved during the period can be attributed to Group Captain Bower's high powers of leadership, unsurpassed skill and iron determination. His services have been of immense value.

Acting Wing Commander Leonard William George GILL (70244), R.A.F.O., 68 Sqn.

This officer's operational record has been worthy of high praise. He has always displayed the greatest keenness, coupled with a high degree of skill and courage. His personal example has been well reflected in the fine fighting spirit of the squadron which he commanded for a period. He has completed a large number of sorties and throughout his devotion to duty has been unflinching. Wing Commander Gill has destroyed 3 enemy aircraft at night.

Acting Wing Commander George Herbert WESTLAKE, D.F.C. (84019), R.A.F.V.R.

This officer has displayed skill, courage and devotion to duty of a high order. He has par-

ticipated in a large number of sorties and his achievements have won the greatest praise. In March, 1945, Wing Commander Westlake led a large formation of aircraft in an attack on the docks and shipping in the port of Venice. Harbour installations and stores were extensively damaged, whilst a medium sized merchantman, a naval vessel and a small coaster were destroyed. In April, 1945, Wing Commander Westlake took part in an air attack against forward enemy positions in support of an assault by our ground forces. The attack was pressed home with results which greatly facilitated the task of the infantry in their subsequent successful attack. By his excellent leadership, great tactical ability and exceptional determination, Wing Commander Westlake played a good part in the success achieved. In air fighting this officer has been responsible for the destruction of 11 enemy aircraft.

2nd Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Edward Barnes SISMORE, D.S.O., D.F.C. (130208), R.A.F.V.R.

In March, 1945, Squadron Leader Sismore was the navigator in the leading aircraft of a large formation detailed to attack the Gestapo headquarters at Copenhagen. The operation, necessitating a flight of more than 1,000 miles, demanded the highest standard of navigational ability. In this direction, Squadron Leader Sismore's work was outstanding and contributed materially to the success obtained. Again, in April, 1945, this officer flew with great distinction in an attack against a similar target at Odense. This officer, who has completed much operational flying, has rendered very valuable service.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Air Vice-Marshal Basil Edward EMBRY, C.B., D.S.O., A.F.C., R.A.F.

On three occasions within recent months, Air Vice-Marshal Embry took part in air attacks on Gestapo headquarters. The targets were at Aarhus, Copenhagen and Odense respectively. In the first operation complete surprise was achieved and the attack proved highly successful. At Copenhagen the operation was also well executed and success obtained. At Odense, the target was cleverly camouflaged; making the task on hand even more difficult. In spite of this, several runs were made over the target, which was finally attacked with great precision. In these hazardous missions, Air Vice-Marshal Embry pressed home his attacks with a skill and gallantry in keeping with his outstanding reputation.

Acting Squadron Leader James Hughes BEATTY (Can/J.14471), R.C.A.F., 439 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties during which he has successfully attacked a wide range of enemy targets. He has displayed a high degree of courage and determination in pressing home his attacks and has set a very fine example. Over a long period of operational flying, his devotion to duty has been unflagging.

Acting Squadron Leader John Stewart HART (41696), R.A.F.O., 112 Sqn.

This officer has participated in a large number of varied sorties, including many attacks on heavily defended targets such as road and rail bridges, gun positions, strong points and mechanical transport. Throughout, he has displayed skilful leadership, great determination and devotion to duty. In April, 1945, Squadron Leader Hart took part in an armed reconnaissance during which 11 locomotives were successfully attacked. Some days later, Squadron Leader Hart participated in another sortie during which a number of locomotives and trucks were most effectively attacked. This officer has invariably displayed the greatest keenness and has set a fine example to all.

Acting Squadron Leader Terence SPENCER (47269), R.A.F. (Lieut., Corps of Royal Engineers).

This officer's keenness for air operations has won great praise. He has completed a very large number of sorties and has invariably attacked his targets with great courage and determination thereby achieving much success. On one occasion in February, 1945, Squadron Leader Spencer was forced to come down in enemy territory. He was captured, but subsequently rejoined his unit. He has been responsible for the destruction of one enemy aircraft and a good number of mechanical vehicles.

Acting Squadron Leader John Douglas WRIGHT (89594), R.A.F.V.R., 68 Sqn.

Throughout a long period of operational flying, this officer has set a fine example of keenness. Highly skilled and resolute at all times he has set a splendid example. In air fighting, Squadron Leader Wright has destroyed 2 enemy aircraft.

Flight Lieutenant Kenneth GREENWOOD (67669), R.A.F.V.R., 487 (N.Z.) Sqn.

During his tour of operational duty, Flight Lieutenant Greenwood has executed many sorties during which he has attacked enemy airfields, railways and road transport, causing much damage and disruption. He has invariably displayed a high degree of courage and determination and has set a fine example to all. In an attack on the Gestapo headquarters at Odense, Flight Lieutenant Greenwood secured photographs which well proved the success of the operation. His determination on this occasion was characteristic of that which he has shown at all times.

Flight Lieutenant Harold Rodney LEA (121074), R.A.F.V.R., 127 Sqn.

This officer has set a fine example of devotion to duty over a long period of operational flying. He has completed a large number of sorties including many attacks against heavily defended targets. In operations against the enemy's

railway systems, Flight Lieutenant Lea has assisted in the destruction of five locomotives. He has at all times proved himself to be a keen and resourceful pilot.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Frederick Wallace MOSSING (Can/J.88877), R.C.A.F., 274 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties during which he has attacked a wide range of enemy targets such as airfields, locomotives, mechanical transport and other targets on the ground with a good measure of success. He has invariably displayed a high degree of courage and determination in pressing home his attacks and on many occasions his aircraft has been damaged by enemy fire. On one occasion he himself was wounded. Among his successes is the destruction of 2 enemy aircraft.

Captain Allen Quinton DE WET (48142V), S.A.A.F., 5 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Captain De Wet is a highly skilled and resourceful pilot. He has taken part in very many sorties during which much damage has been inflicted on the enemy. Early in April, 1945, Captain De Wet took part in an armed reconnaissance during which a good number of mechanical vehicles were destroyed. Some days later, Captain De Wet led a formation of aircraft in an attack against an enemy bridge. Pressing home his attack with great skill, this officer obtained a hit which demolished the central part of the objective. On another occasion in April, 1945, Captain De Wet undertook a reconnaissance over the battle area and located numerous gun positions. He afterwards led a formation of aircraft in a most successful attack against these positions. This officer has set a fine example of skill, courage and determination at all times.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1324827 Flight Sergeant (now Pilot Officer) Bruce Thomas Alfred ROUTLEDGE, R.A.F.V.R., 112 Sqn.

This airman is a keen and efficient pilot. He has completed a large number of varied sorties and his example of courage in pressing home his attacks has been most commendable. In April, 1945, Flight Sergeant Routledge led a section of aircraft on an armed reconnaissance. Some 12 miles west of Trieste an attack was pressed home on a train just as it was heading for a tunnel. As a result, the locomotive was destroyed and 20 trucks derailed. In other sorties, Flight Sergeant Routledge has put out of action numerous locomotives, secured hits on various bridges and has destroyed a number of mechanical vehicles. His skill and daring have set an excellent example.

AMENDMENT.

In notification of 8th June 1945 (p. 2897, col. 2) under heading Royal Canadian Air Force, insert: Distinguished Flying Cross.

In notification of 14th June 1945 (p. 2993, col. 2) immediately under entry referring to Honorary Squadron Leader A. CHARLESBY (71125), R.A.F.V.R., insert: F. MORGAN (71193), R.A.F.V.R.

On p. 2993 (col. 1) delete entry referring to the Revd. F. MORGAN (71193), R.A.F.V.R.

LONDON

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1945

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S.O. Code No. 65-37142