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*Air Ministry, 26th 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*

Group Captain Keith Raymond John PARSONS, D.F.C. (Aus.109), R.A.A.F.

Group Captain Parsons has an impressive war record, having participated in more than 100 sorties. A number of these have been bombing attacks against targets in Germany. On one occasion, in February, 1945, his aircraft sustained severe damage and went into a steep uncontrollable dive. Only at the last possible moment did Group Captain Parsons get clear of the aircraft before it crashed. This gallant officer was soon on operations again and executed a successful sortie against Misburg. Group Captain Parsons' last operational mission was an attack on Berchtesgaden. This officer has invariably displayed the highest qualities of skill, courage and leadership, qualities which have inspired all.

Lieutenant Colonel Geoffrey Courtney KRUMMECK (102645V), S.A.A.F.

This officer has a splendid operational record, having participated in a very large number of sorties during which a wide range of enemy targets have been attacked. Throughout, he has displayed unflinching devotion to duty, coupled with a high degree of skill and courage. In March, 1945, Lieutenant Colonel Krummeck led a formation of aircraft in an attack against an ammunition dump near Margherita. The operation was well executed and caused much destruction amongst a cleverly camouflaged target. In April, 1945, this officer took part in an attack against a locomotive with 12 coaches. In spite of strong opposing fire the attack was pressed home relentlessly. The target was set on fire. By his skilful leadership and personal example of bravery, Lieutenant Colonel Krummeck contributed materially to the successes obtained.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Wing Commander Ian Malcolm GUNDRY-WHITE (39660), R.A.F.O., 101 Sqn.

Wing Commander Gundry-White has taken part in many sorties. He has shown fine qualities of skill and courage and his example has inspired all with whom he has flown. His determination to make every sortie a success was well demonstrated on one occasion in April, 1945. Kiel was his target. On the outward flight the starboard inner engine failed. Nevertheless, Wing Commander Gundry-White continued to the target

which he eventually attacked at a height much lower than planned. His resolute work in the face of considerable anti-aircraft fire won great praise.

Squadron Leader Thomas Joseph DE COURCY (Can/J.17641), R.C.A.F., 443 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Squadron Leader De Courcy has participated in a very large number of varied sorties. He has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and courage and throughout his devotion to duty has been unflinching. In April, 1945, this officer led the squadron in an operation against the airfields at Schwerin and Neudstadt where numerous aircraft and much mechanical transport were most effectively attacked. By his skilful leadership, Squadron Leader De Courcy contributed materially to the success achieved. In air fighting, this officer has been responsible for the destruction of 3 enemy aircraft.

Flight Lieutenant James Rees ALVERSON (Can/J.15004), R.C.A.F., 357 Sqn.

On his first tour of operational duty, Flight Lieutenant Alverson participated in a good number of attacks against strongly defended enemy targets and throughout displayed a high degree of skill and devotion to duty. Since joining this squadron, Flight Lieutenant Alverson has taken part in many varied sorties, including a number of operational missions far into enemy territory. On these occasions his exceptional ability has been an important factor in the successes obtained.

Flight Lieutenant Percy Wilfred BOWLES (Aus.14407), R.A.A.F., 357 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties, many of them involving flights over very difficult country and in most adverse weather. He has proved himself to be a highly efficient pilot and captain and has executed his allotted tasks with great skill and courage, obtaining a high measure of success. His keenness and determination have been outstanding.

Flight Lieutenant John Kennedy DAVENPORT (151538), R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Davenport has taken part in a large number of sorties against enemy shipping. He has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and determination and his example has been worthy of great praise. One night in April, 1945, Flight Lieutenant Davenport took part in an attack against an enemy force consisting of three medium sized merchantmen and two escort vessels. In spite of considerable opposing fire the attack was well pressed home. Flight Lieutenant Davenport obtained hits on one of the largest of the ships, setting it on fire. His resolution on this occasion was in keeping with that which he has shown at all times.