



FOURTH SUPPLEMENT
TO
The London Gazette

Of TUESDAY, the 26th of JUNE, 1945

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

FRIDAY, 29 JUNE, 1945

Air Ministry, 29th 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 Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader Warren Edward SCHRADER, D F C (N Z 411944), R.N.Z.A.F., No. 486 (R.N.Z.A.F.) Sqn

As squadron commander, this officer has set a fine example of devotion to duty. He has proved himself to be a skilful, resolute and courageous fighter and has inflicted much damage on enemy targets on the ground. In air fighting, Squadron Leader Schrader has been responsible for the destruction of 9 enemy aircraft. His example has been most inspiring.

Acting Squadron Leader James Roy CULLEN, D F C. (N Z 416462), R.N.Z.A.F., 183 Sqn

This officer has participated in very many sorties since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He has consistently displayed the highest standard of skill and courage, setting a fine example to all. In April, 1945, Squadron Leader Cullen led the squadron in an attack against enemy shipping at Ems. Considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered both from various ships and batteries on shore. Despite this, the attack was well pressed home, Squadron Leader Cullen obtaining hits on a medium-sized merchantman. The skill and daring shown by this officer contributed materially to the success achieved.

Distinguished Flying Cross

Acting Squadron Leader John Douglas DERRY (128376), R.A.F.V.R., No. 182 Sqn

This officer has participated in a large number of sorties as air gunner and later as a pilot. He has at all times displayed great determination and skill and his courage has been of the highest order. In April, 1945, he led his squadron in an attack against enemy gun positions. Despite intense opposition the attack was pressed home with great accuracy. The success of this operation was due in no small measure to Squadron Leader Derry's gallant and skilful leadership. This officer has set a fine example to all.

Major Hugh Ernest WELLS (104021V), S.A.A.F. No. 72 Sqn

Major Wells has led his squadron on many sorties during which much success has been obtained. Many buildings, gun positions, much mechanical transport, and a number of railway trucks and several barges have been most effectively attacked. In April, 1945, this officer led his section against an enemy strongpoint. Despite

intense enemy opposition, hits were obtained on the objective which caused its destruction. As a result our ground troops were able to move forward and occupy the position. The example of courage, keenness and devotion to duty shown by Major Wells has inspired all members of his squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Ian Reginald PONSFORD (135689), R.A.F.V.R., No. 130 Sqn

Flight Lieutenant Ponsford is a most resolute fighter. He has participated in a large number of sorties and throughout has displayed the greatest keenness to engage the enemy. He has destroyed at least 7 enemy aircraft, three of them in one sortie in April, 1945. In harassing attacks on enemy targets on the ground, Flight Lieutenant Ponsford has been responsible for the destruction of many mechanical vehicles. This officer has set a fine example of courage and devotion to duty.

Flight Lieutenant Richard Gerald Cruickshanks RUSSELL (86703), R.A.F.V.R., No. 241 Sqn

This officer has participated in a large number of varied sorties. He has set a fine example of skill and courage and has invariably pressed home his attacks with accuracy and determination. On his last sortie in April, 1945, Flight Lieutenant Russell took part in an armed reconnaissance. When nearing Padova a convoy of enemy vehicles was sighted. In the face of considerable light anti-aircraft fire a good attack was pressed home. In the first run over the target, Flight Lieutenant Russell's aircraft was hit. Despite this, he made several more runs over the target. He afterwards flew back to an airfield where he executed a perfect landing although the tyre of one of the landing wheels was punctured.

Flight Lieutenant Douglas James Thomas HAMM (Can/J 13116), R.C.A.F., No. 409 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn

Flying Officer Evert Emanuel HERMANSON (Can/J 191175), R.C.A.F., No. 409 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn

As navigator and pilot respectively, these officers have displayed a high degree of skill, keenness and co-operation. On one occasion, a night in April, 1945, they were responsible for the destruction of 3 enemy fighters. Cool, resolute and determined, these officers have proved themselves invaluable to the squadron.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Brian DAVIES (186992), R.A.F.V.R., No. 10 Sqn

Throughout his tour of operational duty, Flight Lieutenant Davies has attacked many heavily defended targets in Germany and has also participated in numerous minelaying missions. On one occasion in April, 1945, when taking part in a mine-laying operation in the Baltic, despite the failure of an engine on the outward journey, he

completed a successful mission. Flight Lieutenant Davies has at all times displayed great skill and determination in pressing home his attacks. His efficiency and gallantry have been of a high standard.

Captain Edgar Desmond THOMPSON (328699V), S A A F, No 33 Sqn

Captain Thompson has displayed a high standard of keenness, courage and devotion to duty. He has participated in a large number of sorties and has most effectively attacked a wide range of targets including mechanical transport, barges and locomotives. On numerous occasions his aircraft has sustained damage from enemy fire but he has consistently pressed home his attacks and completed the sortie. In April, 1945, whilst leading his section on an armed reconnaissance, an enemy fighter force was encountered. In the ensuing combat, Captain Thomas shot down an enemy aircraft before his own was hit and badly damaged. The port aileron was almost shot away; the port main plane was also hit. Nevertheless, Captain Thompson flew the damaged aircraft to an airfield where he effected a masterly landing.

Pilot Officer Reginald TIBBLE (190184), R A F V R., 13 Sqn.

In March, 1945, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack the pontoon ferry terminals at Guardo Veneta on the river Po. In making his attack, Pilot Officer Tibble went in at low level. He was met with much light anti-aircraft fire. His aircraft was repeatedly hit. Nevertheless, Pilot Officer Tibble pressed home his attack with precision. In this well executed operation, this officer displayed the highest standard of skill and gallantry. He has completed very many sorties and throughout has set a fine example of keenness and devotion to duty.

Warrant Officer Lawrence Kenneth KEVAN (1399897), R A F V R., 680 Sqn.

Warrant Officer Kevan was a crew member detailed to participate in a reconnaissance of the Dodecanese in April, 1945. When crossing the coast of Rhodes Island the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. The pilot was mortally wounded. The aircraft went out of control. Acting with great promptitude, Warrant Officer Kevan righted the aircraft. He was unable to move his stricken comrade from the pilot's seat but, in circumstances of difficulty succeeded in retaining a measure of control. Although not in any way as skilled as a regular pilot, Warrant Officer Kevan flew the aircraft several hundred miles over the sea and finally reached an airfield. Believing that his pilot was still alive, Kevan decided to attempt a landing, a task which he had never previously tried. Nevertheless, he brought the aircraft down safely. His example of courage, resource and devotion to duty will long be remembered.

Air Ministry, 29th June, 1945

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

Distinguished Service Order

Wing Commander

William Joseph SCOTT, A F C (28117), R A F, 107 Sqn

Acting Squadron Leader

Arthur Gill GARDNER, D F C (101571), R A F V R., 613 Sqn

Second Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross

Flight Lieutenant

Arthur Norman CROOKES, D F C (135428), R A F V R., 488 (R N Z A F) Sqn

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross

Acting Flight Lieutenant

John Gordon ELDRIDGE, D F C (67652), R A F V R., 166 Sqn, with effect from 23rd May, 1943 (since deceased)

Flying Officer

James Noel THOMAS, D F C (53470), R.A.F., 613 Sqn

Distinguished Flying Cross

Squadron Leaders

William Chapman DUNCAN (40092), R A F, 613 Sqn.
Richard Streatfield EASBY (82670), R A F V R., 66 Sqn

Acting Squadron Leaders

James Charles ALLISON (124217), R A F V R., 88 Sqn
Arthur Llewellyn WILLIAMS (61974), R A F V R., 106 Sqn, with effect from 25th August, 1944 (since deceased)

Flight Lieutenants

Frederick Cecil Walter CLEMENT (150238), R A F V R., 106 Sqn., with effect from 6th July, 1944 (since deceased)
Robert Johnson COOMBS (60324), R.A.F.V.R., 487 Sqn
George James KING (136540), R A F V R., 609 Sqn.
Gordon Bonville MILNE (138449), R A F V R., 56 Sqn
Wyndham Rhyddian OWEN (115429), R A F V R., 35 Sqn, with effect from 15th April, 1943.
Hamish Rattray SELKIRK (48784), R A F, 2 Sqn.
James Gordon SIMPSON (100642), R A F V R., 193 Sqn
Ronald Frederick SWEETING (67027), R A F V R., 174 Sqn
James Thomas Reckie TAYLOR (143232), R A F V R., 7 Sqn, with effect from 13th April, 1943
George Wallace VARLEY (85670), R A F V R., 222 Sqn

Acting Flight Lieutenant

George Grafton Haig FARARA, D F M (143472), R A F V R., 630 Sqn, with effect from 6th July, 1944 (since deceased)

Flying Officers

Jack Kenneth BARRETT (115775), R A F V R., 207 Sqn, with effect from 16th May, 1943 (since deceased)
Maurice Archer COLLINS, D F M (179327), R A F V R., 226 Sqn
Norman Guy FAZAN (174237), R A F V R., 219 Sqn.
William HANNAH (155897), R A F V R., 97 Sqn, with effect from 20th July, 1944 (since deceased)
Frederick David HAWKINS (182170), R A F V R., 107 Sqn
Albert HOLT (152842), R A F V R., 21 Sqn.
Arthur Thomas LINN (148795), R A F V R., 605 Sqn
Roderick John Angus MACLEOD (155116), R A F V R., 88 Sqn.
Douglas Albert STOTT (55930), R A F., 130 Sqn.
William John TYTHERLEIGH (120851), R A F V R., 50 Sqn, with effect from 16th May, 1943 (since deceased)
Ernest Peter WARING (183345), R A F V R., 107 Sqn
John Henry WICKEN (165057), R A F V R., 418 (R C A F) Sqn,

Pilot Officer

Warner OTTLEY (141460), R A F V R., 207 Sqn, with effect from 16th May, 1943 (since deceased)

Warrant Officers

Philip Henry Thornton CLAY (1331525), R A F V R., 130 Sqn
Walter HARRISON (1475435), R A F V R., 605 Sqn.
Basil Grenville LEIGH (1807530), R A F V R., 33 Sqn

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Flying Officer

Edward Forbes REID (Aus 427044), 460 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn, with effect from 29th October, 1944.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Squadron Leader

William Thomas KLETSY, D.F.C. (Can/J.12199), 401 (R C A F), Sqn.

*Distinguished Flying Cross**Flight Lieutenants.*

John Baskerville CONLIN (Can/J.21125), 107 Sqn.
 James Donald INCHES (Can/J 20146), 609 Sqn.
 Roderick Wray MacDONALD (Can/J 9156), 418
 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn
 Alastair MacLean NICOL (Can/J 24973), 418
 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn
 Eric George SMITH (Can/J 12889), 107 Sqn.
 Roy Daryl THOMAS (Can/J 23052), 418 (R.C.A.F.),
 Sqn

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE

*Distinguished Flying Cross**Flight Lieutenants*

Norman Jonathan INGRAM, D.F.M. (N.Z. 2408), 21
 Sqn.
 Kenneth William STEWART (N.Z. 413145), 488
 (R.N.Z.A.F.) Sqn.

Flying Officers

Matthew Andrew BARRY (N.Z. 411974), 107 Sqn.
 Harold Edward BRUMBY (N.Z. 421827), 488
 (R.N.Z.A.F.) Sqn

The above awards are in recognition of gallantry
 and devotion to duty in the execution of air
 operations

Air Ministry, 29th June, 1945

The KING has granted unrestricted permission for
 the wearing of the undermentioned decorations con-
 ferred upon the personnel indicated in recognition
 of valuable services rendered in connection with
 the war:—

CONFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
 STATES OF AMERICA.

Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer).

Squadron Leader Cecil Percival RENSRAW (79976),
 R.A.F.V.R.

Bronze Star Medal

Acting Wing Commander Stanley Herbert WISDOM
 (104837), R.A.F.V.R.
 1439718 Leading Aircraftman Alfred Victor Ronald
 STOCKER, R.A.F.V.R.

Soldier's Medal

Warrant Officer Edward Arthur HYDE (346052),
 R.A.F.

Amendment.

In notification of 14th June 1945 (Birthday
 honours) Mentions in Despatches Flight Lieutenants
 (p. 2998, col 2) *delete* "A. B. H. REED (86439)
 R.A.F. Regt." Award previously announced on 1st
 January, 1945 (New Year honours).

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
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 39-41 King Street, Manchester 2, 1 St Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff,
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1945

Price Sixpence net

S.O. Code No. 65-37154

