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Air Ministry, 27th July, 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.

Flying Officer Brian Michael RIDGWAY (118082), R.A.F.V.R., 240 Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Alexander SMITH (Aus.421407), R.A.A.F., 240 Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1455600 Flight Sergeant Albert Edward SELLARS, R.A.F.V.R., 240 Sqn.

As captain, navigator and second pilot of aircraft respectively, these officers and this airman have completed many operational missions. The results obtained are a splendid testimony to their outstanding qualities of skill, fortitude and determination. On one occasion they successfully completed a sortie in the face of extremely adverse weather. At one stage of the flight a severe tropical storm was encountered. Turbulent conditions and fierce rain made the aircraft almost uncontrollable at times, and frequent alterations in course had to be made. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Ridgway well supported by Flight Lieutenant Smith and Flight Sergeant Sellars, flew back to base and effected a safe landing.

Distinguished Service Order.

Flying Officer Keith Vernon PANTER (162949), R.A.F.V.R.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties against a wide variety of targets. In attacks on the enemy's railway system, he has been responsible for the destruction of three locomotives. On one occasion he attacked an industrial building south of Gournay setting it on fire. In February, 1945, Flying Officer Panter took part in an attack on various enemy airfields. Whilst attacking the airfield at Landau his aircraft was engaged by a superior force of enemy fighters and sustained very severe damage. A little later the aircraft was hit by fire from the ground defences. It became necessary to abandon the aircraft. The navigator had apparently been hit and was dazed. In most difficult circumstances Flying Officer Panter coolly assisted his comrade to leave the aircraft before jumping himself. Flying Officer Panter came down safely in enemy country and was captured. He was released when Frankfurt was captured by the allies. On this occasion his

example of courage and resolution were well in keeping with that which he had shown throughout his tour of operational duty.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Philippe Elwyn ETIENNE (Can/J.15118), R.C.A.F., No. 406 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant William Aaron BOAK (Can/J.13413), R.C.A.F., No. 406 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

As pilot and navigator respectively these officers have participated in many sorties. They have consistently displayed a high standard of skill and co-operation and have set a fine example of devotion to duty. In air fighting Flight Lieutenants Etienne and Boak have destroyed 4 enemy aircraft at night.

Flight Lieutenant Frederick Morgan JARMAN (Aus. 420951), R.A.A.F., No. 161 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Jarman has participated in many sorties as wireless operator/air. He has at all times shown great keenness and skill and his courage has been of the highest order. One night in February, 1945, this officer and his crew were forced to leave the aircraft by parachute. The aircraft crashed with one crew member trapped inside. Displaying great coolness this officer returned to the scene of the crash in an endeavour to try to release his trapped comrade. Unfortunately his courageous attempts were unsuccessful and he received severe burns. His example has been most praiseworthy.

Flight Lieutenant Vernal Garnet SHAIL (Can/J.20663), R.C.A.F., No. 406 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

As navigator, Flight Lieutenant Shail has participated in many day and night sorties over enemy territory. He has proved himself to be a navigator of exceptional ability and has consistently displayed a high degree of courage and determination. As a result of his outstanding qualities, this officer has materially assisted his pilot in the destruction of six enemy aircraft, inflicting damage on numerous others. His example has been most praiseworthy.

Flight Lieutenant Michael John STANLEY (130790), R.A.F.V.R.

This officer has completed much operational flying at night. He has participated in a large number of patrols including many against the flying bomb raids on this country. During the course of his tour of duty, he has assisted his pilot in the destruction of three enemy aircraft and 36 flying bombs. The technical skill and great enthusiasm of Flight Lieutenant Stanley have made him an invaluable member of his squadron.

Warrant Officer Joseph Leslie CARBUTT (1234791), R.A.F.V.R., 240 Sqn.

Warrant Officer Carbutt is a navigator of high merit. He has taken part in many sorties which have called for the highest standard of skill and resolution and his efforts have contributed in good measure to the successes obtained. Tireless, brave and devoted, Warrant Officer Carbutt has proved himself to be a model crew-member.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1344694 Flight Sergeant Ernest Harford KITSON, R.A.F.V.R., 240 Sqn.

As wireless operator (air) this airman has taken part in numerous operational missions and throughout has displayed skill, courage and resource of a high order. During a recent sortie, the hull of the flying boat in which Flight Sergeant Kitson was a crew member, was badly damaged when coming down on to the water in heavy seas. Water poured into the damaged portion. First attempts to repair the damage failed. Finally Flight Sergeant Kitson, working in poor light effected a skilful repair, as a result of which, the ingress of water could be kept under control. Even then he worked on unremittingly in very difficult conditions. As a result the flying boat was kept afloat for several hours. In a dangerous and difficult situation this airman displayed coolness and initiative of a high standard.

Air Ministry, 27th July, 1945.

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

Distinguished Service Order.

Acting Wing Commanders.

John Joseph Kells FLEETWOOD (39380), R.A.F., 86 Sqn.

Harold Hardwicke Clarke HOLDERNESS, D.F.C., A.F.C. (74351), R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant.

Henry James COBB, D.F.C. (143083) R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leaders.

Archibald FREEDMAN, D.F.C. (114265), R.A.F.V.R., 254 Sqn.

Herbert Horatio Kitchener GUNNIS, D.F.C. (61508), R.A.F.V.R., 248 Sqn.

Joseph Herbert SPURGEON, D.F.C. (128360), R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant.

Ralph Edward JONES, D.F.C. (151862), R.A.F.V.R., 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander.

Donald MacKENZIE (39292), R.A.F.O., 547 Sqn.

Squadron Leader.

Richard Gerald ENGLISH (41568), R.A.F.O., 220 Sqn.

Acting Squadron Leaders.

Frank Leslie DODD, D.S.O., A.F.C. (89766), R.A.F.V.R., 544 Sqn.

John Aylmer Fitzgerald LEAVER-POWER (88725), R.A.F.V.R., 254 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenants.

Leslie Frederick BANKS (123250), R.A.F.V.R., 206 Sqn.

Francis William BARKER (117441), R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

Stanley Alfred BARRY (150152), R.A.F.V.R., 517 Sqn.

Thomas Lawson BRINTON (151121), R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

William Reginald BROWN (122728), R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

Douglas John Denys CLARK (115678), R.A.F.V.R., 542 Sqn.

John Gilbert COOPER (112371), R.A.F.V.R., 248 Sqn.

George William COTTERILL (84664), R.A.F.V.R., 540 Sqn.

George DAVISON (44782), R.A.F., 58 Sqn.

Leslie Seward DEARLING (49729), R.A.F., 541 Sqn.

John Francis Jerome DEWHURST (130872), R.A.F.V.R., 612 Sqn.

Eric Charles William FIELDER (138911), R.A.F.V.R., 220 Sqn.

William Francis John HARWOOD (61465), R.A.F.V.R., 86 Sqn.

Roger Atherstone HILTON-BARBER (41022), R.A.F.O., 540 Sqn.

John KELWAY (141842), R.A.F.V.R., 236 Sqn.

Desmond Franklyn MEDHURST (144346), R.A.F.V.R., 86 Sqn.

Kenneth McKenzie MURRAY (89817), R.A.F.V.R., 210 Sqn.

Henry John RAYNER (54809), R.A.F., 224 Sqn.

Donald James SAVAGE (151675), R.A.F.V.R., 236 Sqn.

Ronald Henry SMYTH (103514), R.A.F.V.R., 541 Sqn.

Arthur John Winterstoke STANCOMB (106104), R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

Eric Arthur STONE (130928), R.A.F.V.R., 220 Sqn.

Sidney George TURNER (68718), R.A.F.V.R., 88 Sqn., with effect from 12th Aug. 1944 (since deceased).

Acting Flight Lieutenants.

Richard William BOON (158321), R.A.F.V.R., 228 Sqn.

Desmond Lord VANSTONE (162583), R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

Michael WARD (134564), R.A.F.V.R., 83 Sqn., with effect from 23rd July 1944 (since deceased).

Flying Officers.

George Frederick BARNES (170235), R.A.F.V.R., 236 Sqn.

Gordon William CALDER (53471), R.A.F., 236 Sqn.

Ian CAY (185465), R.A.F.V.R., 254 Sqn.

Eric HILL (187098), R.A.F.V.R., 544 Sqn.

Peter Evelyn LAIRD (158126), R.A.F.V.R., 206 Sqn.

Leslie George Robert OLIVER (176916), R.A.F.V.R., 540 Sqn.

John William PATERSON (161641), R.A.F.V.R., 83 Sqn., with effect from 25th July 1944 (since deceased).

John Bruce RICHARDSON (54857), R.A.F., 228 Sqn.

Percival Charles SMITH (185435), R.A.F.V.R., 144 Sqn.

George William Wilfred SMITHSON (177505), R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

Stanley WATSON (173099), R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

Gerald YEATS (176744), R.A.F.V.R., 540 Sqn.

Pilot Officers.

Reginald Robert James GENNO (195388), R.A.F.V.R., 248 Sqn.

Ronald Henry THOMAS (195265), R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

Warrant Officers.

Philip BRETT (1395401), R.A.F.V.R., 144 Sqn.

David COULTER (1127963), R.A.F.V.R., 179 Sqn.

Charles Hewitt EYRE (541574), R.A.F., 540 Sqn.

Harold Bertie OFFORD (581524), R.A.F., 224 Sqn.

George RANKIN (802560), R.A.F.V.R., 119 Sqn.

Arthur Ernest SMITH (1578585), R.A.F.V.R., 489 (R.N.Z.A.F.), Sqn.

Arthur Kenneth Joseph WILLIAMS (1020786), R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Flight Sergeants.

1459130 James BARKER, R.A.F.V.R., 172 Sqn.

1042988 Donald FOWLER, R.A.F.V.R., 210 Sqn.

1434225 Brian Charles Spencer DADSWELL, R.A.F.V.R., 612 Sqn.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenants.

Eric Vernon FISHER (Aus.421798), 206 Sqn.

John Henry LANYON (Aus.3478), 10 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Robert Charles McCOLL (Aus.413227), 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

William Kenneth WATSON (Aus.404874), 540 Sqn.

William Frank WOOD (Aus.401169), 612 Sqn.

Acting Flight Lieutenant.

Michael Frederick Carew JACKSON (Aus.405227), 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Pilot Officer.

William Stanley KRUGER (Aus.410348), 542 Sqn.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.**Squadron Leader.*

John Carleton WADE (Can/J.5219), 162 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Lieutenants.

John Aiken ELVISS (Can/J.24499), 206 Sqn.

Joseph Norman FARREN (Can/J.23013), 423 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Keith Steward GOODMAN (Can/J.8613), 407 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Francis Joseph GRANT (Can/J.10110), 423 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

John Konrad GUTTORMSON (Can/J.13602), 162 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Edward Benjamin Aycrigge LE MAISTRE (Can/C.89545), 53 Sqn.

Patrick Joseph McMANUS (Can/14558), 502 Sqn.

Oke OLSON (Can/J.22046), 407 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Wallace Malcolm THORVALDSON (Can/J.17019), 547 Sqn.

Flying Officers.

Arthur Andrew BRUNEAU (Can/J.29136), 547 Sqn.

Alexander Lawrence LYTTLE (Can/J.28573), 502 Sqn.

Joseph Roger SAVARD (Can/J.24821), 404 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Warrant Officer.

Augustin Megantic NETREFA (Can/R.225514), 311 Sqn.

*Distinguished Flying Medal.**Flight Sergeant.*

Can/R.54603 Ernest Edward Roy KERR, 162 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.**Acting Squadron Leader.*

Kenneth Allister SAWYER (N.Z.421775), 489 (R.N.Z.A.F.) Sqn.

Warrant Officer.

Frederick Edward BAILEY (N.Z.416040), 53 Sqn.

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

LONDON

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