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TUESDAY, 6 MARCH, 1956

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
 OF KNIGHTHOOD.

St. James's Palace, S.W.1.

6th March, 1956.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, in recognition of gallant and distinguished service in Kenya:—

To be an Additional Officer of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order.
 Squadron Leader Richard Gordon Battensby SUMMERS, A.F.M. (49629), Royal Air Force.

Air Ministry, 6th March, 1956.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Kenya:—

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer George Combe TAYLOR (2603175), Royal Air Force.

Air Ministry, 6th March, 1956.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication of the names of the following personnel who have been Mentioned in Despatches for distinguished service in Kenya:—

Squadron Leader Herbert Dennis JOHNSON, D.F.C. (119186), Royal Air Force.
 1588315 Flight Sergeant Ernest CROSS, Royal Air Force.

Flying Officer Francis Antonin BERNARD (120209), Royal Air Force.

525342 Sergeant Charles Forman PATERSON, Royal Air Force.

Flight Lieutenant Douglas Charles Robert CATER (1319109), Royal Air Force.

Air Ministry, 6th March, 1956.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following award in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty.

Air Force Cross.

Master Pilot Leopold PENCZEK (780123), Royal Air Force, No. 242 Operational Conversion Unit.

On 24th November, 1955, while flying a Valetta aircraft as staff captain on a cross country flight, Master Pilot Penczek suddenly found that the elevator controls had seized and that there was no fore and aft control. However, he found that by varying the power settings he was able to

control the pitch altitude of the aircraft. He made a Pan call and was "homed" to Marham where, after ordering his crew to crash positions, he made a flapless approach. This required great skill and very considerable courage, since he was quite unaware of the cause of the failure of the elevator control and he had no means of knowing whether or not it was due to some form of structural failure which might well be aggravated by the additional stresses involved in landing. Nevertheless, he landed the aircraft safely and without damage. Throughout the whole of this emergency, Master Pilot Penczek displayed the highest qualities of courage, coolness and leadership. There is no doubt that his fine airmanship, for which he has previously received the Commendation of the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, was once again responsible for saving a valuable aircraft and, possibly, the lives of its crew.

Air Ministry, 6th March, 1956.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication of the names of the undermentioned personnel who have been commended for gallantry displayed in connection with an aircraft crash at Royal Air Force Station, Dishforth.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct.

Flying Officer Geoffrey Ronald JACKSON (3504864), Royal Air Force.

Master Signaller Douglas Russell BAILEY (4022368), Royal Air Force.

Air Ministry, 6th March, 1956.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

Appointment to commission (permanent).

As Flight Lieutenant:—

Noel Arthur DAVIES (3504748). 1st Oct. 1955.

As Flying Officers:—

1st Oct. 1955.

John Edward BORE (4062881).

Christopher Robin COATES (2377748).

John Stuart CRANE (4074465).

David DAVIE (3046002).

Kenneth Roland EDMONDS (2565280).

Thomas John HARDIE (582608) (since promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant).

Ian Howard PANTON (3110062).

Anthony Monteclefe POLLARD (4048098).

James Robertson RHIND (2509000).