

**SUPPLEMENT** 

TO

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## FRIDAY, 26 DECEMBER, 1941

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### Air Ministry, 26th December, 1941.

#### ROYAL AIR FORCE.

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The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operations against the enemy:—

### Bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Squadron Leader Alan Charles RAWLINSON, D.F.C. (Aus.386), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 3 Squadron.

This officer continues to show the same admirable qualities which earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross in October, 1941. He has fostered great keenness and a fine fighting spirit amongst pilots of his squadron which, under his leadership, have taken every opportunity to destroy the enemy. The squadron has destroyed over 100 hostile aircraft since the war in Libya began. One day in November, 1941, Squadron Leader Rawlinson led an attack on a number of Messerschmitt 109's and fought them until after dusk. In the course of the engagement, Squadron Leader Rawlinson himself destroyed I and damaged 2 others of the enemy's aircraft. He has destroyed at least 7 hostile aircraft.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Clive Robertson CALDWELL, D.F.C. (Aus.402107), Royal Australian Air Force, No. 250 Squadron.

This officer continues to take his toll of enemy aircraft. One day in December, 1941. Flight Lieutenant Caldwell led his flight against a number of Junkers 87's and, during the combat, he personally shot down 5 of the enemy's aircraft bringing his total victories to 12.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Wilfred George Gerald Duncan SMITH, D.F.C. (85684), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 603 Squadron.

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During 1941, this officer has carried out 190 operational patrols, 98 of which have been over enemy territory. By his skill, coolness and strong sense of duty, Flight Lieutenant Smith has set a splendid example to all. He has always devoted himself unselfishly to the success of his squadron thereby contributing materially to its achievements.. Flight Lieutenant Smith has destroyed at least 5 enemy aircraft.

#### Distinguished Flying Cross.

Wing Commander Malcolm John LOUDON (37293).

This officer has led the wing on operations throughout the present phase of the battle in Libya with great success; the squadrons conprobably destroyed cerned have and damaged more than 25 enemy aircraft. One day in November, 1941, the units under this officer's leadership, engaged a force of 30 Junkers 87's, escorted by some 20 fighters whose purpose was to dive-bomb our troops. During the engagement, 8 Junkers 87's were destroyed, 3 probably destroyed and a further damaged. The successes achieved undoubtedly prevented serious losses to our ground forces and greatly raised their morale. Much of the excellent work performed can be attributed to the courageous leadership of Wing Commander Loudon who has taken his own toll of enemy aircraft.

Lieutenant-Colonel Laurence Aubrey WILMOT (102596), South African Air Force.

This officer has led the wing with great skill. In a recent attack on the landing ground at Sidi Rezegh much damage was inflicted on enemy aircraft on the ground, 3 being set on fire and many others damaged. Under his courageous leadership, many successes have been achieved both in air combat and in the machine gunning of ground

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