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*Air Ministry.*  
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## ROYAL AIR FORCE.

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

### *Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Flight Lieutenant Desmond Ernest HAWKINS (40700), No. 240 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Jerauld George WRIGHT (Can./J. 15195), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 240 Squadron.

As captain of aircraft and navigator respectively, Flight Lieutenant Hawkins and Pilot Officer Wright recently carried out an extremely important mission. The flight which was of 24½ hours duration, necessitated flying more than 2,000 miles across the sea. That complete success was achieved despite adverse weather and intense cold, can be attributed to the skilful piloting of Flight Lieutenant Hawkins, combined with the brilliant navigation of Pilot Officer Wright. Throughout, both these officers showed great powers of endurance and their outstanding performance is worthy of the highest praise.

Acting Flight Lieutenant John Arthur SWORD (84698), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 115 Squadron.

One night in April, 1942, this officer was captain of an aircraft which took part in an attack on the Matford factory at Poissy. In spite of heavy enemy opposition, he attacked from a low level and scored several hits with his bombs. Afterwards, Flight Lieutenant Sword remained in the area until the attack had been completed by the main force and then made a further 5 runs over the target area and obtained some excellent photographs. This officer, who has carried out a

considerable number of operational sorties, has invariably displayed courage and determination of a high order.

### *Distinguished Flying Medal.*

627478 Flight Sergeant Cecil Thomas Theobald BRADY, No. 156 Squadron.

One night in April, 1942, this airman was the wireless operator of an aircraft which attacked Cologne. During the attack, the second pilot was severely wounded in the stomach by a piece of shrapnel. In harassing circumstances, Flight Sergeant Brady immediately applied first-aid to his wounded comrade. Throughout the return journey, this airman's exceptional wireless skill was of the greatest assistance to his captain and contributed materially to the safe return of his aircraft. Flight Sergeant Brady displayed great courage and devotion to duty.

748267 Flight Sergeant Victor Daniel POPE, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 502 Squadron.

In April, 1942, this airman was the captain of an aircraft engaged on a patrol over the Atlantic. An enemy submarine was observed on the surface. Flight Sergeant Pope immediately attacked it from a low level and it is believed he obtained at least one hit. The speed and accuracy with which the attack was delivered reflects the greatest credit on the efforts of this airman.

Aus.400155 Flight Sergeant Arnold James Frederick RAYMENT, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 83 Squadron.

This airman was the second pilot of an aircraft which recently attacked Essen. On nearing the target area the aircraft came under heavy fire and the captain was wounded in his right thigh, causing him to lose control of the aircraft. Flight Sergeant Rayment managed to extricate his wounded

captain from the pilot's seat and, taking his place, succeeded in regaining control of the aircraft which had gone into a spiral dive. He finally flew the aircraft safely back to this country. By his skill and promptitude, this airman undoubtedly saved his aircraft from destruction.

1168402 Sergeant John DAVIES, No. 7 Squadron.

One night in April, 1942, this airman was the captain of an aircraft which attacked Cologne. Whilst flying over the target area, his aircraft was held in a cone of numerous searchlights and subjected to heavy and concentrated anti-aircraft fire. Undeterred, he flew in to the attack and, although one of the propellers was dislodged by the enemy's fire, he dived to 800 feet and bombed his objective. On the return journey, his aircraft was twice intercepted by enemy fighters but, cleverly evading them, he succeeded in flying his damaged aircraft safely to base. Throughout, this airman displayed great courage and skill.

Can./R.64743 Sergeant Harold Clinton DUFFIELD, Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 83 Squadron.

On 28th March, 1942, this airman was the rear gunner of an aircraft which participated in an attack on Lubeck. During the operation his aircraft was attacked by an enemy

fighter whose fire rendered the rear turret unserviceable and wounded Sergeant Duffield in the head, stomach and in both his knees. Undismayed, he crawled from the turret and dragged himself to the mid-upper turret where he manned the guns in readiness to meet any further attack; the gunner in this turret had been wounded in the arm. The fighter had broken away, however, and did not return and Sergeant Duffield was then extricated from the turret, being unable to walk. Throughout the return journey he displayed great fortitude and cheerfulness in spite of his wounds, and his great devotion to duty was a fine example.

619126 Sergeant Ronald ROBERTS, No. 150 Squadron.

One night in March, 1942, this airman was the rear gunner of a bomber which was intercepted by an enemy fighter over Germany. By his accurate shooting, he coolly warded off the attacking aircraft and, it is believed destroyed it. A few nights later, whilst over Belgium, he engaged a Messerschmitt 110. Although his own aircraft was damaged in the combat, Sergeant Roberts used his guns most effectively and probably destroyed the enemy aircraft. This airman has participated in numerous operational missions and he has at all times shown fine qualities and set a most praiseworthy example.

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