



SECOND SUPPLEMENT  
TO  
**The London Gazette**

Of FRIDAY, the 13th of NOVEMBER, 1942

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER, 1942

*Air Ministry, 17th November, 1942.*

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 Service Order.*

Flying Officer William Donaldson LITSTER (128427) Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 223 Squadron.

In October, 1942, this officer was the observer of the leading aircraft of a formation detailed to attack a landing ground near Daba. When near the target an intense and accurate defensive barrage was encountered but, in spite of this the objective was heavily bombed. Flying Officer Litster was severely wounded when his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire. His left arm was almost severed while he suffered other wounds in his head and body. He was unable to speak to his pilot as the inter-communication was unserviceable. Displaying great fortitude, Flying Officer Litster wrote instructions setting out the course for base and contrived to pass them to his pilot. Throughout, this officer's example of courage and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Royal Air Force.

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Wing Commander John DARWEN, D.F.C. (33237), No. 234 Squadron.

In October, 1942, this officer participated in a low level attack on a landing ground near Daba. Wing Commander Darwen pressed home his attack with great vigour and probably destroyed two enemy aircraft and a vehicle on the ground with machine-gun fire. He flew so low that the propeller of his aircraft struck the ground. Although his aircraft was damaged, Wing Commander Darwen skilfully led his formation from the target area in spite of interference by fighters. Later he was forced to make an emergency landing in the desert but was rescued the next day by one of our armoured cars. This officer is an inspiring leader who has won the complete confidence of his fellow pilots.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Squadron Leader Lloyd Julius JOEL (41027), No. 223 Squadron.

One day in October, Squadron Leader Joel flew the leading aircraft of a force of bombers which attacked enemy positions in daylight. Although his aircraft was severely damaged by anti-aircraft fire, he flew it back to base. The next day, in an attack on a landing ground, his aircraft was hit by enemy fire and his observer was seriously wounded. In the face of many difficulties, Squad-

ron Leader Joel skilfully led his formation to base and landed his damaged aircraft safely. This officer, who has completed a large number of sorties, has at all times displayed gallantry and devotion to duty.

Acting Squadron Leader Ivan Cornwallis STRUTT (72438), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 104 Squadron.

During an operational sortie one night in October, 1942, this officer displayed exceptional determination to complete his allotted task. In the face of heavy anti-aircraft fire he flew over the target area for some 40 minutes, pressing home his attacks and obtaining photographs. His aircraft sustained much damage making it difficult to manoeuvre, and he was unable to take avoiding action when anti-aircraft fire and searchlights were encountered on the homeward flight. Before reaching his base he observed one of our aircraft which had come down on the sea. In spite of his own difficulties Squadron Leader Strutt flew over the position for half an hour until he saw torch-light signals from the stranded crew. He then flew on to base and finding a means of lowering his undercarriage, was able to land his damaged aircraft safely. His example of courage and devotion to duty was most praiseworthy.

Flight Lieutenant John Ellis Munro WILLIAMS (77370), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 605 Squadron.

This officer is an exceptionally keen and skilful air gunner. During the intense air fighting over Dunkirk in May, 1940, he assisted in the destruction of five enemy aircraft within two days. This officer, whose fine record of service includes a large number of sorties by night as well as by day, has set a praiseworthy example.

AMENDMENT.

In Gazette of 20th October, 1942 (p. 4542, col. 2), notification of awards of Air Force Cross. *Below* Flying Officer A. F. MADORE (Can/C2851), Royal Canadian Air Force *insert* Can/R72340 Warrant Officer Second Class Alan E. HORE, Royal Canadian Air Force.

*Air Ministry, 17th November, 1942.*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH.

Richard Heron WALLER, Lt. Indian Army (49982) to be Plt. Off. (tempy.) on being employed with the R.A.F. 29th June 1942.

To be Plt. Offs. on prob. (emergency):—  
Wt. Offs.

520583 Anthony Paul REEN, D.F.M. (49996).  
3rd Aug. 1942.