



FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 7th of JULY, 1944

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 11 JULY, 1944

Air Ministry, 11th July, 1944.

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.

Wing Commander Cecil St. George William CHAPMAN (Can/C.1009) R.C.A.F., 162 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties and has displayed a high degree of skill, courage and devotion to duty, qualities which were well in evidence on a recent occasion when he successfully attacked a U-boat. In the fight his aircraft was struck by anti-aircraft fire and extensively damaged. Height was rapidly lost but Wing Commander Chapman skilfully brought the aircraft down on the sea. The crew got safely aboard the dinghy and, some 4 hours later, were rescued. During the time spent in the dinghy, Wing Commander Chapman set a fine example which greatly inspired his comrades in a trying period. He has invariably displayed high qualities of leadership and tenacity.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Wing Commander Richard Eric BURNS, D.F.C. (34215), R.A.F., 254 Sqn.

This officer has displayed a high standard of skill and gallantry, qualities which have been reflected in the fine fighting spirit of the squadron he commands. In June, 1944, Wing Commander Burns took part in a successful attack on a large concentration of enemy shipping. By his great tactical ability and fine leadership, Wing Commander Burns contributed in good measure to the success obtained.

Acting Squadron Leader Colin George MILSON, D.F.C. (Aus. 402379), R.A.A.F., 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, this officer has completed numerous attacks on enemy shipping. He has led his striking forces with the greatest dash and his example has been most inspiring. In June, 1944, he flew the leading aircraft of a section which attacked a number of minesweepers near the Hook of Holland. In the face of intense anti-aircraft fire the attack was pressed home with exceptional resolution. His contempt for danger has been a noteworthy feature throughout his tour.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Wing Commander Anthony GADD (37557), R.A.F.O.

Within recent months this officer has taken part in numerous attacks on shipping. He has displayed a high degree of skill and courage and throughout his example of devotion to duty has been most praiseworthy. In June, 1944, he led a large formation of aircraft in an attack on a large merchant vessel and a naval auxiliary escorted by a number of minesweepers and R-Boats. In the fight, the large merchant vessel and a minesweeper were destroyed, the naval auxiliary hit and beached and several of the escorting ships damaged. By his brilliant leadership and great tactical skill Wing Commander Gadd played a prominent part in the success achieved.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Kenneth Thomas DAVIES (161385), R.A.F.V.R., 578 Sqn.

This officer has completed very many sorties during which he has successfully attacked such targets as Berlin and strongly defended industrial centres in the Ruhr area. He is a highly efficient and most resolute captain, whose fine fighting qualities and gallant leadership have been reflected in the high morale of his crew. Both in the air and on the ground his conduct has been exemplary.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Garland Ashton MILES (144764), R.A.F.V.R., 578 Sqn.

This officer has completed a notable tour of operations, involving attacks on a wide range of enemy targets. He is a navigator of high merit and his ability and resolution have played a good part in the many successes obtained. Flight Lieutenant Miles has also rendered valuable service in the training of other members of the squadron. His example has been most commendable.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Geoffrey Harry PROBERT (135407), R.A.F.V.R., 630 Sqn.

As captain of aircraft this officer has participated in very many attacks on targets in Germany, including 7 against Berlin. Throughout he has set a fine example of skill and his determination to make every sortie a success has won much praise. On a recent occasion, during a mine-laying mission, his aircraft was damaged in an encounter with a fighter. Although

the rear turret was put out of action and the starboard elevator and the tailplane were damaged, Flight Lieutenant Probert went on to complete his task successfully.

Flying Officer Wallace McINTOSH, D.F.M. (149980), R.A.F.V.R., 207 Sqn.

Pilot Officer Clarence Bentley SUTHERLAND (Can/J.86114), R.C.A.F., 207 Sqn.

One night in June, 1944, these officers were rear and mid-upper gunners respectively of an aircraft detailed to attack Cerisy. Just after crossing the enemy coast, Flying Officer McIntosh sighted a Junkers 88 coming in to attack. He promptly warned his pilot who took the necessary combat manoeuvre. Both gunners then opened fire, hitting the enemy aircraft with well placed bursts, causing it to spin towards the ground with both its engines on fire. Almost immediately another Junkers 88 was sighted. As the enemy aircraft came into close range, Flying Officer McIntosh and his co-gunner met the attacker with devastating bursts of fire which caused it to explode in the air. Half an hour later, these gunners engaged yet a third enemy aircraft. Following their accurately placed bursts of fire the enemy fighter fell away and was seen to catch fire before it hit the sea. Flying Officer McIntosh and Pilot Officer Sutherland defended their aircraft with great skill and resolution and undoubtedly played a large part in its safe return. Their achievement was worthy of high praise.

Flying Officer Laurence SHERMAN (Can/J.10591), R.C.A.F., 162 Sqn.

Recently this officer captained an aircraft which attacked a U-boat. In spite of heavy fire from the submarine's guns, Flying Officer Sherman pressed home his attack with great determination. His depth charges were released with such accuracy that within a few minutes of the ex-

plosions, the U-boat sank. In this well executed operation, Flying Officer Sherman displayed courage and coolness of a high order.

Warrant Officer James Muter CUNNINGHAM (1560849), R.A.F.V.R., 106 Sqn.

Warrant Officer Cunningham is a most determined and gallant captain of aircraft. He has participated in very many sorties against targets important to the enemy's war effort. On several occasions his aircraft has been damaged by anti-aircraft fire whilst over the target area. Despite this, he has persisted in his task and completed his mission successfully. He has set a fine example of courage and devotion to duty.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Aus. 420268 Flight Sergeant John Charles PAYNE, R.A.A.F., 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

This airman has participated in numerous sorties, including several attacks on shipping. He is a highly efficient and devoted member of aircraft crew, whose confidence and determination have greatly inspired his crew. On a recent occasion, when nearing base at the conclusion of a sortie, his aircraft commenced to vibrate violently. Soon afterwards it went into a spiral dive but Flight Sergeant Payne succeeded in regaining control. It was then discovered that the starboard elevator had broken away and was suspended in the air flow by the control wire. It seemed as though the aircraft would have to be abandoned as once more control was lost and the aircraft went into a steep dive. Flight Sergeant Payne succeeded in levelling out though, and as there seemed a slight improvement in control, he resolved to try and save the aircraft. Seven times in all the aircraft dived but this intrepid pilot succeeded in reaching base where he effected a masterly landing. He set an example of the highest order.

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:

York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh 2;

39-41 King Street, Manchester 2; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;

80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1944

Price Sixpence net

S.O. Code No. 65-36603