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*Air Ministry, 12th December, 1944.*

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

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Squadron Leader William Thomson BROWN, D.F.C. (N.Z.415405), R.N.Z.A.F., 76 Sqn.

Squadron Leader Brown has now completed a second tour of operational duty, involving many sorties against a variety of heavily defended targets. He has displayed outstanding determination and devotion to duty and his leadership has been of a high order. On more than one occasion his aircraft has been hit by anti-aircraft fire whilst on the bombing run. Despite this, Squadron Leader Brown has pressed home his attack and flown his damaged aircraft to base.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Flight Lieutenant William Richard DENNIS (175297), R.A.F.V.R., 158 Sqn.

This officer has completed a tour of operational duty during which he has successfully attacked very many enemy targets. He has displayed high qualities of leadership and courage and throughout his devotion to duty has been unflinching. In October, 1944, Flight Lieutenant Dennis captained an aircraft detailed to attack Bochum. During the operation his aircraft was hit several times by anti-aircraft fire. In spite of this he executed a successful bombing attack. This officer is a most efficient flight commander, whose personal example has greatly inspired his crews.

Flying Officer Lawrence Ernest James DAY (173520), R.A.F.V.R., 158 Sqn.

In October, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Duisburg. When nearing the target considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Almost at the commencement of the bombing run the aircraft was hit. Although control was temporarily lost, Flying Officer Day quickly regained control and executed a successful attack in the face of fierce fire from the ground defences. His determination and devotion to duty were typical of that which he has shown throughout his tour.

Flying Officer Donald Boyd FREEBORN. (Can/J.35289), R.C.A.F., 153 Sqn.

One night in October, 1944, this officer captained an aircraft detailed to attack Stuttgart. On the bombing run the aircraft was subjected to anti-aircraft fire. Flying Officer Freeborn was struck by a piece of shrapnel in the thigh. The wound was serious. Nevertheless, this pilot withheld the fact from his crew and pressed home his attack. Not until the bombs had been released did he call for assistance. It became necessary

to apply a tourniquet to his leg, an operation which Flying Officer Freeborn himself superintended. In spite of much physical suffering, this resolute pilot flew the aircraft to this country. He displayed courage, fortitude and devotion to duty of a high order.

Flying Officer Bernard William McCOSKER (Aus.413009), R.A.A.F., 466 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

As air gunner, Flying Officer McCosker has taken part in a large number of sorties, involving attacks on a wide range of enemy targets. He has displayed great keenness and ability throughout and has proved himself to be a most dependable member of aircraft crew. On one occasion, in an attack on a railway siding, his aircraft was engaged by a fighter. As the enemy aircraft attempted to close in, Flying Officer McCosker opened fire. After his first burst his guns became jammed. The mid-upper gunner also was unable to fire his guns. Nevertheless, Flying Officer McCosker gave clear and concise evading directions to his pilot who finally out-maneuvred the attacker. By his skill and coolness, Flying Officer McCosker contributed materially to the safe return of the aircraft.

Acting Flying Officer Ronald Desmond CAMPBELL (182957), R.A.F.V.R., 158 Sqn.

This officer has set a fine example of courage and devotion to duty. He has completed a large number of bombing missions against various enemy targets and has invariably pressed home his attacks with great resolution. On one occasion he captained an aircraft detailed to attack a target in the Forêt de Nieppe area. When approaching the target considerable anti-aircraft fire was directed at the bomber and it was hit. One engine was put out of action. Despite this, Flying Officer Campbell pressed home his attack and afterwards flew the damaged aircraft to base.

Acting Flying Officer Derek Arthur John Brooks WATERMAN (182869), R.A.F.V.R., 158 Sqn.

This officer has displayed a high standard of skill, courage and determination in operations against the enemy. In September, 1944, Flying Officer Waterman was the pilot of one of a formation of aircraft detailed to attack an oil refinery at Gelsenkirchen. When nearing the target the starboard engine became unserviceable. Some height was lost but Flying Officer Waterman continued to the target which he attacked in the face of intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire. He set a fine example of courage and resolution.

Warrant Officer Ernest Bell HUDSON (Can/R.154623), R.C.A.F., 70 Sqn.

One night in July, 1944, this warrant officer was the rear gunner in an aircraft detailed to attack an enemy airfield. Soon after leaving the