



EIGHTH SUPPLEMENT TO The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 29th of DECEMBER, 1944

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

TUESDAY, 2 JANUARY, 1945

Air Ministry, 2nd January, 1945.

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.

Squadron Leader Nigel BICKNELL, D.F.C. (73041), R.A.F.V.R.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Many of his assignments have necessitated flights far into enemy territory, often in adverse weather. He has at all times displayed the highest standard of skill and resolution and his example has been well reflected in the efficiency and success of his flight. This officer has rendered exceptional service.

Acting Squadron Leader Bransome Arthur BURBRIDGE, D.F.C. (100067), R.A.F.V.R., 85 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Frank Seymour SKELTON, D.F.C. (106675), R.A.F.V.R., 85 Sqn.

These officers are pilot and observer of aircraft respectively. They have completed a very large number of sorties and throughout have displayed keenness and devotion to duty of the highest standard. They have destroyed 14 enemy aircraft, 4 of them during a recent sortie at night. This feat well illustrates their superb skill and unbeatable determination.

Acting Squadron Leader Alfred William Gordon COCHRANE, D.F.C. (N.Z.403429), R.N.Z.A.F., 156 Sqn.

This officer has displayed the highest standard of skill and courage in operations against the enemy. He has completed a very large number of sorties, involving attacks on a wide range of enemy targets and throughout has displayed outstanding determination and devotion to duty. On a recent occasion, Squadron Leader Cochrane participated in an attack on the airfield at Eindhoven. His accurate and determined bombing in the face of concentrated anti-aircraft fire set a very fine example. His achievements have won great praise.

Acting Squadron Leader Gerald Ernest FAWKE, D.F.C. (111547), R.A.F.V.R., 617 Sqn.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, many of them against dangerous and difficult targets. He has shown the greatest determination in pressing home his attacks, often in the face of bitter opposition, and the accuracy of his bombing has been proved by the excellent photographs taken. This officer has displayed exceptional leadership, great courage and zeal. His record is outstanding.

Acting Squadron Leader Charles Davie KEIR, D.F.C. (63792), R.A.F.V.R., 9 Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has completed many successful

sorties. He has continued to display the highest standard of courage and resolution and his sound leadership, good judgment and great skill have greatly impressed all. In addition to his work in the air, Squadron Leader Keir has rendered yeoman service in the training of other members of the squadron.

Acting Squadron Leader George McKEAND, D.F.C. (101511), R.A.F.V.R., 692 Sqn.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, involving attacks on a wide range of heavily defended targets in Germany. He has displayed conspicuous gallantry and determination in pressing home his attacks and has set an example of a high order. His achievements have been worthy of the highest praise.

Acting Squadron Leader John Wycliffe PERRY, D.F.C. (Can/J.9192), R.C.A.F., 405 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This officer is a highly efficient pilot and captain of aircraft. He has completed two tours of operational duty, during which he has attacked a wide variety of enemy targets. His successes are a splendid tribute to his outstanding ability, great personal courage and iron determination. His example both in the air and on the ground has been most inspiring.

Acting Squadron Leader Graham Lloyd MANDENO, D.F.C. (64937), R.A.F.V.R., 139 Sqn.

This officer has set a fine example of skill and gallantry in operations against the enemy. He has completed a very large number of sorties, including 12 attacks on the German capital. He has displayed courage and determination of a high order.

Flight Lieutenant Harold Adrian BROWN, D.F.M. (126488), R.A.F.V.R., 578 Sqn.

This officer has completed a second tour of operational duty during which he has attacked many heavily defended targets in Germany. Throughout he has displayed the highest standard of skill and gallantry, qualities which have inspired all with whom he has flown. He is a most efficient flight commander whose fine leadership and unswerving devotion to duty have contributed in good measure to the success of the formation he commands.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Philip Louis Ulric Cross, D.F.C. (133060), R.A.F.V.R., 139 Sqn.

This officer has set a fine example of keenness and devotion to duty. He has participated in a very large number of sorties, most of which have been against such heavily defended targets as Berlin, Hamburg, Ludwigshaven and industrial centres in the Ruhr area. He is a brave and resolute member of aircraft crew, whose exceptional navigational ability has been an important factor in the successes obtained. His services have been of immense value.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Bruce Cunynghame DAYMOND (Aus.403323), R.A.A.F., 628 Sqn.

This officer has completed very many sorties and has set a fine example of keenness and devotion to duty throughout. On a recent occasion, Flight Lieutenant Daymond piloted an aircraft detailed for a mission involving a flight far into enemy territory. In spite of extremely adverse weather, this resolute pilot displayed great skill and fortitude in successfully completing a difficult mission.

Flight Lieutenant John Stewart FIFEELD (83274), R.A.F.V.R., 169 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Fifeeld has set a fine example of skill, keenness and devotion to duty. He has completed a very large number of sorties and throughout his determination to inflict loss on the enemy has been most commendable. Among his successes is the destruction of 2 enemy aircraft at night.

Flight Lieutenant John Arthur Munro HADDON (103567), R.A.F.V.R., 604 Sqn.

Flying Officer Robert James McILVENNY (158981), R.A.F.V.R., 604 Sqn.

As pilot and observer respectively these officers have participated in a large number of sorties and have displayed a high standard of skill and devotion to duty throughout. They have invariably shown the greatest keenness and have been responsible for the destruction of 5 enemy aircraft. One of their victories was achieved by forcing the pilot of the enemy aircraft to take such violent evading action that it struck the ground and crashed.

Flight Lieutenant Peter Frederick MALLENDER (74680), R.A.F.V.R., 627 Sqn.

This officer has displayed the greatest keenness for air operations. On a recent occasion he piloted an aircraft detailed to attack the submarine pens at Bergen. The target was small and, to ensure success, accurate bombing was essential. In spite of poor visibility, Flight Lieutenant Mallerder located his objective. As he went in to make his attack he was met with considerable fire from the ground defences. Undeterred, this resolute pilot went on to execute a steady, deliberate and accurate attack. On this dangerous and difficult sortie, Flight Lieutenant Mallerder displayed skill, courage and determination of a very high order.

Flight Lieutenant Donald Ridgewell HOWARD (124165), R.A.F.V.R., 239 Sqn.

Flying Officer Frank Albert Walter CLAY (144336), R.A.F.V.R., 239 Sqn.

These officers have participated in numerous sorties as pilot and observer of aircraft respectively. They have displayed a high degree of skill and co-operation and have destroyed 3 enemy aircraft; they have also attacked several locomotives with damaging effect. Flight Lieutenant Howard and Flying Officer Clay have set a fine example of keenness and devotion to duty.

Flying Officer Alan Joseph OWEN, D.F.M. (155788), R.A.F.V.R., 85 Sqn.

Flying Officer James Samuel Victor McALLISTER, D.F.M. (148826), R.A.F.V.R., 85 Sqn.

As pilot and observer respectively these officers have completed very many sorties. They have proved themselves to be highly efficient, courageous and devoted members of aircraft crew, whose keenness to engage the enemy has been most commendable. They have destroyed at least 8 enemy aircraft.

Flying Officer Robert Edward Joseph FITZGERALD (Can./J.15398), R.C.A.F., 408 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

As air gunner, Flying Officer Fitzgerald has completed two tours of operational duty. He has at all times displayed the highest standard of keenness for air operations and most of his assignments have necessitated flights to attack heavily defended targets. On many occasions his vigilance and timely warnings have enabled his pilot to evade enemy fighters. Flying Officer Fitzgerald has proved himself to be an invaluable member of aircraft crew.

Flying Officer James Stanley REED (145816), R.A.F.V.R., 138 Sqn.

In air operations this officer has displayed courage, fortitude and determination of a high order.

Acting Flying Officer Hubert Leon MERRETT (182447), R.A.F.V.R., 514 Sqn.

In November, 1944, this officer piloted an aircraft in an attack on Homberg. When approach-

ing the target the aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire and sustained much damage. Two engines were put out of action. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Merrett kept the aircraft straight and level until the bombs had been released. Before leaving the target area further damage was sustained. A third engine was affected and a number of flying instruments were rendered unserviceable. Even so, Flying Officer Merrett flew the extensively damaged bomber to base. He displayed coolness, courage and airmanship of a high order. This officer has completed very many bombing missions against various enemy targets.

Pilot Officer Maxwell Aubrey PHILLIPS (Aus.423881), R.A.A.F., 78 Sqn.

This officer has displayed exceptional keenness and devotion to duty. He has participated in a large number of sorties and throughout has shown ability of a high standard. On one occasion, when attacking Blainville, his aircraft was extensively damaged by anti-aircraft fire. Although deprived of the use of many of his instruments, Pilot Officer Phillips navigated the aircraft home with unerring skill. This officer has proved himself to be a most valuable crew member.

Pilot Officer Henry Thomas WIGLEY (179769), R.A.F.V.R., 138 Sqn.

One night in November, 1944, this officer was air bomber in an aircraft detailed for a sortie. The weather was very bad. Whilst over the sea, at a low altitude, the aircraft was struck by lightning. Both the starboard engines were rendered unserviceable. The pilot was temporarily blinded. Control was lost and the aircraft dived towards the sea. Displaying great coolness, Pilot Officer Wigley stood beside his pilot who, under Wigley's able directions, was enabled to level out and then regain altitude. Until his pilot had fully recovered his sight again, Pilot officer Wigley continued to assist in maintaining control. By his promptitude and resource, this officer undoubtedly staved off serious consequences. He has participated in very many sorties and has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and determination.

Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying).

Can/R.173576 Flight Sergeant Jackson Chartis COOKE, R.C.A.F., 103 Sqn.

One night in October, 1944, this airman was captain and pilot of an aircraft detailed to attack Cologne. Whilst over the target considerable anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Just as the bombs were released the aircraft was struck by high explosive shells. Much damage was sustained. The starboard rudder controls were severed. The petrol tanks were badly pierced and the contents streamed out. Within ten minutes the petrol supply became practically exhausted. By now, Flight Sergeant Cooke had reached friendly territory. He thereupon instructed the crew to leave the aircraft by parachute. As he prepared to leave himself, Flight Sergeant Cooke saw that one of his comrades still remained in the aircraft, having accidentally released his parachute inside the fuselage. Height was being rapidly lost. Nevertheless Flight Sergeant Cooke was determined not to leave his crew member and promptly returned to the controls and attempted to effect a crash landing in a field. During his approach, with undercarriage and flaps retracted, two engines failed. Coolly and skilfully, however, this intrepid pilot achieved his purpose and effected a landing, incurring little further damage to the aircraft in his effort. This airman set a magnificent example of skill, courage and captaincy in most difficult and dangerous circumstances.

1580298 Flight Sergeant Stanley William WALTERS, R.A.F.V.R., 44 Sqn.

This airman has participated in a number of sorties, including attacks on Karlsruhe, Nuremberg and Munchen Gladbach. In November, 1944, he was air bomber in an aircraft detailed to attack Homberg. In the vicinity of the target the aircraft came under heavy fire and was struck by high explosive shells. The cockpit was shattered. The pilot was killed and the flight engineer was badly wounded. Flight Sergeant Walters promptly assisted another member of the crew to remove his dead comrade from the pilot's seat and then took over the controls. The aircraft had sustained severe damage. One engine had been put out of action, whilst a second and a third were reduced in power and vibrating badly. The hydraulic system was damaged and the flaps had edged down.

Despite this, Flight Sergeant Walters, though lesser experienced than a regular pilot, brought the aircraft to an even keel and headed for home. Although only one engine was giving full power he reached an airfield near the English coast. The aircraft was too badly damaged for Flight Sergeant Walters to attempt to bring it down safely. He gave orders to the crew to release their dead captain by parachute and then to abandon the aircraft themselves. Not until his comrades were all clear and he was satisfied that the aircraft was headed out to sea did this gallant air bomber leave himself. His cool courage, outstanding resource and determination set an example of the highest order.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1501713 Flight Sergeant Peter JEZZARD, R.A.F.V.R., 622 Sqn.

In air operations this airman has displayed skill, courage and fortitude of a high order.

Air Ministry, 2nd January 1945.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards—

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant.

Peter Henry CUTCHEY, D.F.C. (118608), R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn., with effect from 5th October, 1944.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leaders.

Alan Lawrence LAW (44777), R.A.F., 680 Sqn.
Adhemar Auber MELVILLE-JACKSON (89365), R.A.F.V.R. 205 Sqn.
Charles Augustine Henry Cross OGILVIE (108168), R.A.F.V.R., 47 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenants.

William Alfred DOWNES (62674), R.A.F.V.R., 355 Sqn.
Phillip Harold GARRITY (127815), R.A.F.V.R., 644 Sqn.
Maurice John WRIGHT (117704), R.A.F.V.R., 19 Sqn.

Acting Flight Lieutenants.

John GARDEN (49320), R.A.F. 126 Sqn.
William Norman JUDD (148379), R.A.F.V.R., 159 Sqn.

Flying Officers.

Wilfred St. George CHANDLER (141356), R.A.F.V.R., 680 Sqn.
John Philip HUDSON (145347), R.A.F.V.R., 38 Sqn.
Stanley Lionel HUTT (143680), R.A.F.V.R., 113 Sqn.
Robert William Lowe (50283), R.A.F., 680 Sqn.

Pilot Officer.

Frederick Frank Harry BURNETT (178642), R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn., with effect from 24th August, 1944.

Warrant Officer.

Raymond Gibson WAPSHOTT (925854), R.A.F.V.R., 47 Sqn.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Flight Sergeant.

1506161 Jack Stafford WELTON, R.A.F.V.R., 190 Sqn.

Sergeant.

591576 Kenneth WITHNALL, R.A.F., 40 Sqn., with effect from 30th June, 1944.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader.

Kenneth Victor INGHAM (Aus.406456), 230 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenants.

Frederick Leslie LOMAS (Aus.400892), 680 Sqn.
Lyndon Stanley MELLOR (Aus.401134), 680 Sqn.

Acting Flight Lieutenants.

Kenneth Pearce ALCORN (Aus.415599), 159 Sqn.
William Stewart QUINN (Aus.421048), 159 Sqn.

Flying Officers.

Donald McColl ANDERSON (Aus.415014), 177 Sqn.
Rupert Stanbridge HORWOOD (Aus.416677), 177 Sqn.
Jack Dalton SANDILANDS (Aus.405937), 159 Sqn.

Pilot Officer.

Maurice Blaney MURPHY (Aus.415217), 159 Sqn.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leaders.

George Henry BAYLY (Can/J.5810), 413 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.
John Roberts GOWANS (Can/J.12820), 413 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Flight Lieutenants.

David Esplin FORSYTH (Can/J.11310), 418 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.
John Douglas HOPKINS (Can/J.5812), 113 Sqn.

Flying Officers.

David Norman McINTOSH (Can/J.23956), 418 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.
Sidney Platt SEID (Can/J.22036), 418 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flying Officer.

John Basil Francis BRETHERTON (N.Z.392010), 644 Sqn.

The above awards are in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations.

*Office of the Minister of Defence, Wellington,
New Zealand.*

2nd January, 1945.

The KING has granted unrestricted permission for the wearing of the undermentioned decorations conferred upon the personnel indicated in recognition of valuable services rendered in connection with the war:—

CONFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant Robert Hamish BALFOUR (40958), R.N.Z.A.F., with effect from 22nd November, 1944).

Air Medal.

Flying Officer George Eric GUDSELL, R.N.Z.A.F., with effect from 8th November, 1944.

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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1945

Price Sixpence net

S.O. Code No. 65-36873

