



SIXTH SUPPLEMENT  
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*Air Ministry, 20th April, 1945.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations:—

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

Acting Squadron Leader Percival Sidney OSBORNE, (123964), R.A.F.V.R., 619 Sqn.

Flying Officer David John DAVIES (Aus.429880), R.A.A.F., 619 Sqn.

These officers were pilot and rear gunner respectively in an aircraft detailed to attack the Mittelland Canal at Gravenhorst one night in February, 1945. Shortly after leaving the target, Flying Officer Davies warned his pilot of the presence of an enemy fighter. Squadron Leader Osborne made the necessary manoeuvre and a burst of fire from Flying Officer Davies' guns drove the enemy aircraft off. But it closed in again. This time, Flying Officer Davies met the enemy aircraft with an accurate burst of fire which caused its destruction. A few minutes later another fighter attacked but Squadron Leader Osborne manoeuvred well and once again his rear gunner delivered a well placed burst which set the attacker on fire. Later on, yet a third enemy aircraft closed in. Although his guns had become unserviceable, Flying Officer Davies gave excellent direction to his pilot who manoeuvred well to prevent the enemy aircraft from pressing home any attack. Finally, Flying Officer Davies cleared one of his guns and delivered a short burst of fire which caused the attacker to terminate the engagement. Throughout the fights, Squadron Leader Osborne and Flying Officer Davies displayed great skill and co-operation, coupled with exceptional coolness and resolution.

Acting Squadron Leader David Buckley BRETHERTON (115776), R.A.F.V.R., 106 Sqn.

This officer was the pilot and captain in an aircraft detailed for a mine-laying mission in Northern Waters one night in February, 1945. On the outward flight, the starboard outer engine failed. The mid-upper turret then became unserviceable. Undeterred, Squadron Leader Bretherton continued his long flight to the target and executed his task with great accuracy. He afterwards flew safely back to a home based airfield. Throughout this well executed sortie, Squadron Leader Bretherton displayed skill and coolness of a high order. This officer has taken part in very many sorties and has proved himself to be an efficient and fearless captain.

Acting Flight Lieutenant George COLEMAN, D.F.M. (156629), R.A.F.V.R., 139 Sqn.

This officer has completed more than eighty sorties. He has displayed the finest qualities of skill and resolution and throughout his devotion to duty has been unfailing. One night in March, 1945, he piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. When nearing the target the aircraft was illuminated in the searchlights and subjected to considerable anti-aircraft fire. In spite of this, Flight Lieutenant Coleman pressed home his attack. Immediately afterwards, his aircraft was struck by bullets from an enemy fighter. The leading edge of the port mainplane was shot away, the main spar was holed and the underside of the port mainplane between the drop tank and the wing tip was torn away. The aircraft became difficult to control but showing superb skill, Flight Lieutenant Coleman flew to base and landed safely.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Robert Victor OSTLER (148524), R.A.F.V.R., 15 Sqn.

This officer was the pilot and captain of an aircraft detailed to attack Wiesbaden. Almost as the target was reached the aircraft sustained damage. Two petrol tanks were holed and much petrol was lost; nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant Ostler executed his attack. Just afterwards, the aircraft sustained further damage, the starboard outer engine being put out of action. Flight Lieutenant Ostler realised he would not be able to complete the return flight to base and set course for an airfield in allied territory. Soon after, the aircraft was attacked by 2 fighters. Coolly and skilfully, this pilot evaded the enemy fighters and eventually brought his badly damaged aircraft down safely at a landing ground. This officer displayed skill, courage and determination throughout.

Acting Flight Lieutenant Cyril Ebenezer PETERS (157670), R.A.F.V.R., 77 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Peters has completed numerous sorties and has set a very fine example of skill and determination. In February, 1945, he piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Bohlen. On the outward flight the starboard inner engine became defective and the propeller had to be feathered. Some airspeed was lost and Flight Lieutenant Peters was unable to keep his place in the main bomber force. In spite of this, Flight Lieutenant Peters went on to the target which he successfully attacked. On the return flight, whilst still over enemy territory, the starboard outer engine caught fire and had to be put out of action. The defective starboard inner

engine was re-started but little power could be obtained from it. The aircraft gradually lost height but displaying great skill and determination, Flight Lieutenant Peters flew back to an airfield in this country. He set a splendid example of devotion to duty.

Captain William John REA (103627V), S.A.A.F., 102 Sqn.

On his first tour of operational duty, Captain Rea participated in very many attacks on troop concentrations, mechanical transport and other targets in the battle area. He has now completed a second tour, involving bombing attacks on most of the enemy's heavily defended targets in Germany. He has at all times shown the greatest keenness for air operations and throughout has displayed skill, courage and determination of a high order.

Flying Officer Raymond Arthur BOGGIANO (148794), R.A.F.V.R., 156 Sqn.

This officer has completed very many attacks against targets in Germany. He is a highly skilled pilot whose determination to complete his missions successfully was well illustrated on one occasion in March, 1945, when detailed to attack Mannheim. On the outward flight the port outer engine became unserviceable. Although much height and some airspeed were lost, Flying Officer Boggiano went on to the target and executed a successful attack. This officer has displayed exceptional keenness and has set a fine example to all.

Flying Officer William McHardy DAVIDSON (182000), R.A.F.V.R., 550 Sqn.

In March, 1945, this officer was pilot and captain of one of a formation of bomber aircraft detailed to attack a target in the Mannheim area. On the outward flight the starboard outer engine failed and the mid-upper turret became unserviceable. Undeterred, Flying Officer Davidson flew on to the target which he attacked at a much lower height than first planned. He afterwards flew safely to base. This officer has completed a very large number of sorties and has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and efficiency.

Flying Officer William Frederick KEELER (176234), R.A.F.V.R., 156 Sqn.

Flying Officer Keller has taken part in very many sorties, involving attacks on a variety of enemy targets. He is a fine pilot and captain whose zest for air operations has set an excellent example. One night in February, 1945, Flying Officer Keeler took part in an attack on a target at Pforzheim. Although the port outer engine failed on the outward flight, this pilot went on to execute a good attack. Some days later, en route to Mannheim, an engine failed. Displaying his usual determination, Flying Officer Keeler flew on to the target which he reached on time. During the bombing run his aircraft sustained some damage but he pressed home his attack and afterwards flew safely to base. This officer has invariably displayed praiseworthy skill and gallantry.

#### *Distinguished Flying Medal.*

Can/R.268590 Flight Sergeant Rodney Rupert BROWNE, R.C.A.F., 429 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

One night in February, 1945, this airman was rear gunner in an aircraft detailed to attack Worms. Whilst over the target the aircraft was intercepted by a fighter. Flight Sergeant Browne gave a timely warning to his pilot who took the necessary combat manoeuvre. Flight Sergeant Browne then opened up with his guns, firing several bursts at the attacker which fell away and afterwards exploded. This airman is a cool and confident air gunner. He has taken part in very many sorties and his skill and vigilance have made him a valuable member of aircraft crew.

Can/R.211088 Flight Sergeant Donald Hugh LANCOT, R.C.A.F., 419 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

This airman has taken part in numerous sorties and has proved himself to be a most reliable crew member. One night in November, 1944, he was rear gunner in an aircraft which was attacked by 2 fighters. During the engagement, Flight Sergeant Lantot defended his aircraft well but was wounded in the head and arm. In spite of this he remained in his turret and did not inform any one of his injuries until the enemy aircraft had been driven off. His determination and devotion to duty were typical of that which he has shown on all occasions.

*Air Ministry, 20th April, 1945.*

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

#### *Distinguished Service Order.*

*Acting Squadron Leader.*

Robert Wilkinson TURKINGTON, D.F.C. (117519), R.A.F.V.R., 601 Sqn.

#### *Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Acting Wing Commander.*

Laurence Hinton STYLES, D.F.C. (44882), R.A.F., 600 Sqn.

*Acting Squadron Leader.*

John Cecil JOHNSON, D.F.C. (127958), R.A.F.V.R., 104 Sqn.

#### *Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Acting Squadron Leaders.*

Kenneth Gilbert HUBBARD (66539), R.A.F.V.R., 70 Sqn.

Thomas Brian MARSHALL (102085), R.A.F.V.R., 39 Sqn.

Basil Walter TAYLOR (124405), R.A.F.V.R., 37 Sqn.

*Flight Lieutenant.*

James Amsler GRAY (108634), R.A.F.V.R., 72 Sqn.

*Acting Flight Lieutenants.*

Ian Donald BOLTON (126827), R.A.F.V.R., 50 Sqn., with effect from 1st Dec. 1943.

Jack PERFECT (127264), R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn., with effect from 21st Nov. 1943 (since deceased).

Anthony Vernon RIPPENGAL, D.F.M. (158328), R.A.F.V.R., 40 Sqn.

Robert Matthew SMALLY (51893), R.A.F., 83 Sqn., with effect from 26th Nov. 1943 (since deceased).

Robert Frank SOMERVILLE, D.F.M. (53093), R.A.F., 18 Sqn.

*Flying Officers.*

George Frederick COLLIER (158982), R.A.F.V.R., 35 Sqn., with effect from 25th Nov. 1943.

Edward DOUGLAS (185357), R.A.F.V.R., 500 Sqn.

Alfred Edward Walter GARDNER (130580), R.A.F.V.R., 57 Sqn., with effect from 17th Nov. 1943 (since deceased).

Kenneth HERMISTON (175194), R.A.F.V.R., 682 Sqn.

William Frederick JOHN (135284), R.A.F.V.R., with effect from 13th Nov. 1943 (since deceased).

Desmond Ewart Abel LANDER (157305), R.A.F.V.R., 35 Sqn., with effect from 25th Dec. 1943.

Ernest WILSON (174247), R.A.F.V.R., 70 Sqn.

*Pilot Officers.*

William ANDERSON (156592), R.A.F.V.R., 156 Sqn., with effect from 22nd Nov. 1943 (since deceased).

Norman Sidney Francis PALMER (159931), R.A.F.V.R., 35 Sqn., with effect from 25th Nov. 1943.

Alan Victor SABOURIN (187925), R.A.F.V.R., 250 Sqn.

William George SUGAR (189392), R.A.F.V.R., 34 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Terence John Patrick WALSH (161010), R.A.F.V.R., 7 Sqn., with effect from 17th Nov. 1943 (since deceased).

Alexander McCracken WATSON (155594), R.A.F.V.R., 50 Sqn., with effect from 1st Dec. 1943 (since deceased).

*Warrant Officer.*

James PETTEY (1539605), R.A.F.V.R., 500 Sqn.

#### *Distinguished Flying Medal.*

*Flight Sergeants.*

1346665 Robert Craig FORRESTER (now Flying Officer), R.A.F.V.R., 50 Sqn., with effect from 1st Dec. 1943.

658167 Terence James GOSLING (later Pilot Officer), R.A.F., 40 Sqn., with effect from 26th Nov. 1943 (since deceased).

1439458 George Derek LEACH, R.A.F.V.R., 40 Sqn.

1391441 Robert Henry PENNELLS, R.A.F.V.R., 83 Sqn., with effect from 25th November, 1943 (since deceased).

*Acting Flight Sergeant.*

1155015 Bertram George TUCKER, R.A.F.V.R., 83 Sqn., with effect from 22nd November, 1943 (since deceased).

*Sergeant.*

1183014 Ronald Francis OWEN, R.A.F.V.R., 31  
(S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

## ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.**Squadron Leader.*

Robert Gurney KNIGHT (Aus.403111), 458 Sqn.

*Pilot Officer.*

Maxwell Morley PATRICK (Aus.412028), 156 Sqn.,  
with effect from 22nd November, 1943.

## ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.**Acting Flight Lieutenants.*

Harry James HAUS (Can/J.26151), 601 Sqn.  
Henry Keith LEFROY (Can/J.7598), 405 (R.C.A.F.)  
Sqn., with effect from 22nd November, 1943.

## SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Service Order.**Lieutenant-Colonel.*

Derrick Dunbar MOODIE, D.F.C. (102683V).

*Distinguished Flying Cross.**Majors.*

Cornelis Jan ANDERSON (206693V), 16 (S.A.A.F.)  
Sqn.

Evenor Tanguy DESMARAIS (102793V), 34 (S.A.A.F.)  
Sqn.

George Charles Henry FREEMAN, A.F.C. (47312V),  
25 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Harold Eric PLATT (1410V), 16 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

George Charles Henry FREEMAN, A.F.C. (47312V),  
25 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Harold Eric PLATT (1410V), 16 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

*Captains.*

Basil George BENSEN (103646V), 25 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Johannes LOUW (210601V), 16 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Robert Scott PARSONS (47648V), 34 (S.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Richard George SANDFORD (102536V), 34 (S.A.A.F.)  
Sqn.

Jacob Naude SMITH (33468V), 34 (S.A.A.F.) 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.

20th April, 1945.

## ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE.

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve  
the following awards in recognition of gallantry  
and devotion to duty in the execution of air operations  
in the South-West Pacific Area:—

*Distinguished Flying Cross.**Acting Squadron Leaders.*

Douglas Fitzclarence St. GEORGE (N.Z.40664), 17

(R.N.Z.A.F.) Sqn.

Donald Percy WINSTONE (N.Z.40250), 15

(R.N.Z.A.F.) Sqn.

*Pilot Officer.*

Phillip John REID (N.Z.415421), 4 (R.N.Z.A.F.)

Sqn., with effect from 29th March, 1945.

*Warrant Officers.*

Stuart Maxwell CULLEN (N.Z.413290), 3 (R.N.Z.A.F.)

Sqn.

Robert Gordon McSPORRAN (N.Z.415543), 3

(R.N.Z.A.F.) Sqn.

## AMENDMENT.

In notification of 3rd April, 1945 (p. 1784, col. 1)  
Air Force Cross. Below Acting Wing Commander  
Charles Edward Francis RILEY (70573), R.A.F.O.,  
for heading "Acting Squadron Leaders" read  
"Squadron Leaders."

For "William Bentley, D.F.C. (130704),

R.A.F.V.R." read "William Bentley, D.F.C.

(06216), R.A.F.O."

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