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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 Service Order.

Acting Squadron Leader Peter Andrew Hannay MCKEAN, D.F.C. (119332), R.A.F.V.R., 240 Sqn.

This officer has a fine operational record. He has completed a large number of sorties, many of them within recent months, of a most hazardous nature. The successes he has achieved, sometimes in the face of almost impossible conditions, are a magnificent tribute to his brilliant skill, great courage and devotion to duty.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.

Flight Lieutenant John MACKAY, D.F.C. (Can/J.12635), Royal Canadian Air Force, 401 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Since being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Flight Lieutenant MacKay has participated in very many sorties. Throughout he has displayed the greatest keenness and has been responsible for the destruction of much enemy equipment. He is a highly skilled and fearless fighter, whose devotion to duty has been outstanding. Flight Lieutenant MacKay has destroyed 10 enemy aircraft in air fighting.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Herbert Eric MARTINEAU (42862), R.A.F.O., 211 Sqn.

Squadron Leader Martineau is a courageous and resolute fighter. He has participated in very many sorties during which he has been responsible for the destruction of a small ship of the coaster type, several locomotives and numerous mechanical vehicles. He has invariably displayed a high standard of tactical ability and has pressed home his attacks with the greatest determination.

Flight Lieutenant Jack Desmond COMPTON (121227), R.A.F.V.R., 247 Sqn.

In attacks on such enemy targets as enemy airfields, locomotives and various other objectives in the forward battle area, this officer has displayed notable skill, great courage and resolution. In March, 1945, Flight Lieutenant Compton led a section of aircraft on a sortie in support of our ground forces in the Gendringer area. During the operation his aircraft was badly hit. Nevertheless, he effected a successful crash-landing. The next day, Flight Lieutenant Compton took part in a harassing attack on enemy troop and mechanical transport concentrations. In spite of considerable opposing fire, this dauntless pilot pressed home his

attack although his aircraft was hit as he went in. As he pulled away from the target another shell struck the aircraft which turned over on its back. With great coolness Flight Lieutenant Compton righted the aircraft. Later, when nearing base, he was compelled to leave by parachute as the aircraft had become uncontrollable. He displayed exceptional resolution throughout.

Flight Lieutenant James Miller FARQUHARSON (133249), R.A.F.V.R., 20 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties over various battle areas in Burma. He has displayed the greatest keenness to engage the enemy and has been responsible for the destruction of much enemy equipment. On one occasion he took part in an attack on a force of Japanese tanks, 13 of which were destroyed. In this spirited action, Flight Lieutenant Farquharson pressed home his attacks with exceptional determination.

Acting Flight Lieutenant William John BUCHAN (Can/J.87399), R.C.A.F., 12 Sqn.

One night in March, 1945, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack Chemnitz. When over the target the aircraft was attacked by a fighter. Coolly and skilfully, Flight Lieutenant Buchan manoeuvred to a good position from which his gunners were able to bring their fire to bear on the attacker with great effect. The enemy aircraft was afterwards seen to be falling towards the ground with one engine on fire. On 3 other occasions, when over Pforzheim, Duisburg and Bottrop Wehheim respectively, Flight Lieutenant Buchan's aircraft was attacked by fighters. In the ensuing fights, 2 of the attackers were undoubtedly destroyed and the third was driven off with both engines on fire. By his good combat manoeuvres and excellent co-operation with his gunners, Flight Lieutenant Buchan played a worthy part in the success achieved. This officer has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and his example of courage and coolness in the face of the enemy has inspired all.

Flying Officer Reginald Geoffrey SCREEN (188559), R.A.F.V.R., 550 Sqn.

In March, 1945, this officer was pilot and captain in an aircraft detailed to attack Hanover. Early on the outward flight the starboard outer engine became defective and the propeller had to be feathered. Despite this, Flying Officer Screen continued to the target. A little later, frontal cloud was encountered. Owing to the loss of engine power, Flying Officer Screen was unable to climb above it. Ice began to form on the aircraft, which commenced to lose height gradually. On breaking cloud, Flying Officer Screen found himself well behind the main bomber force. In spite of this he went on to the target which he