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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

Group Captain Keith Raymond John PARSONS, D.F.C. (Aus.109), R.A.A.F.

Group Captain Parsons has an impressive war record, having participated in more than 100 sorties. A number of these have been bombing attacks against targets in Germany. On one occasion, in February, 1945, his aircraft sustained severe damage and went into a steep uncontrollable dive. Only at the last possible moment did Group Captain Parsons get clear of the aircraft before it crashed. This gallant officer was soon on operations again and executed a successful sortie against Misburg. Group Captain Parsons' last operational mission was an attack on Berchtesgaden. This officer has invariably displayed the highest qualities of skill, courage and leadership, qualities which have inspired all.

Lieutenant Colonel Geoffrey Courtney KRUMMECK (102645V), S.A.A.F.

This officer has a splendid operational record, having participated in a very large number of sorties during which a wide range of enemy targets have been attacked. Throughout, he has displayed unflinching devotion to duty, coupled with a high degree of skill and courage. In March, 1945, Lieutenant Colonel Krummeck led a formation of aircraft in an attack against an ammunition dump near Margherita. The operation was well executed and caused much destruction amongst a cleverly camouflaged target. In April, 1945, this officer took part in an attack against a locomotive with 12 coaches. In spite of strong opposing fire the attack was pressed home relentlessly. The target was set on fire. By his skilful leadership and personal example of bravery, Lieutenant Colonel Krummeck contributed materially to the successes obtained.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Wing Commander Ian Malcolm GUNDRY-WHITE (39660), R.A.F.O., 101 Sqn.

Wing Commander Gundry-White has taken part in many sorties. He has shown fine qualities of skill and courage and his example has inspired all with whom he has flown. His determination to make every sortie a success was well demonstrated on one occasion in April, 1945. Kiel was his target. On the outward flight the starboard inner engine failed. Nevertheless, Wing Commander Gundry-White continued to the target

which he eventually attacked at a height much lower than planned. His resolute work in the face of considerable anti-aircraft fire won great praise.

Squadron Leader Thomas Joseph DE COURCY (Can/J.17641), R.C.A.F., 443 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Squadron Leader De Courcy has participated in a very large number of varied sorties. He has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and courage and throughout his devotion to duty has been unflinching. In April, 1945, this officer led the squadron in an operation against the airfields at Schwerin and Neudstadt where numerous aircraft and much mechanical transport were most effectively attacked. By his skilful leadership, Squadron Leader De Courcy contributed materially to the success achieved. In air fighting, this officer has been responsible for the destruction of 3 enemy aircraft.

Flight Lieutenant James Rees ALVERSON (Can/J.15004), R.C.A.F., 357 Sqn.

On his first tour of operational duty, Flight Lieutenant Alverson participated in a good number of attacks against strongly defended enemy targets and throughout displayed a high degree of skill and devotion to duty. Since joining this squadron, Flight Lieutenant Alverson has taken part in many varied sorties, including a number of operational missions far into enemy territory. On these occasions his exceptional ability has been an important factor in the successes obtained.

Flight Lieutenant Percy Wilfred BOWLES (Aus.14407), R.A.A.F., 357 Sqn.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties, many of them involving flights over very difficult country and in most adverse weather. He has proved himself to be a highly efficient pilot and captain and has executed his allotted tasks with great skill and courage, obtaining a high measure of success. His keenness and determination have been outstanding.

Flight Lieutenant John Kennedy DAVENPORT (151538), R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

Flight Lieutenant Davenport has taken part in a large number of sorties against enemy shipping. He has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and determination and his example has been worthy of great praise. One night in April, 1945, Flight Lieutenant Davenport took part in an attack against an enemy force consisting of three medium sized merchantmen and two escort vessels. In spite of considerable opposing fire the attack was well pressed home. Flight Lieutenant Davenport obtained hits on one of the largest of the ships, setting it on fire. His resolution on this occasion was in keeping with that which he has shown at all times.

Flight Lieutenant Alfred Hartwell De-MILLE (Can/J.36365), R.C.A.F., 576 Sqn.

One night in March, 1945, this officer was pilot and captain in an aircraft detailed to attack Nurnburg. During the operation the aircraft was badly hit when attacked by an enemy fighter. A good part of the port aileron was shot away and the aircraft went into a steep dive. Flight Lieutenant De-Mille succeeded in levelling out after much height had been lost. Two petrol tanks had been pierced and much petrol was lost. Nevertheless, Flight Lieutenant De-Mille was able to conserve some of his remaining petrol by skilful use of the engines and flew the damaged aircraft to base. This officer has completed very many sorties and has invariably displayed a high degree of courage and determination.

Flight Lieutenant Angus Alexander McINTOSH (146325), R.A.F.V.R., 248 Sqn.

Now on his second tour of operational duty, Flight Lieutenant McIntosh has completed many sorties including convoy escorts, reconnaissances and numerous attacks on enemy shipping. On one occasion, in February, 1945, he was detailed to complete a reconnaissance of the Norwegian coast between Utsire and the Naze. In the course of this patrol, his aircraft was severely damaged by enemy fire and an engine was rendered unserviceable. Nevertheless, displaying great coolness and skill, Flight Lieutenant McIntosh flew his aircraft back to base, over many miles of sea, where he effected a successful crash landing. On another mission, in April, 1945, he pressed home a very accurate and determined attack upon an enemy U. boat in the Kattegat. A few days later, despite the continued attacks of two enemy fighters, Flight Lieutenant McIntosh made a successful attack on enemy shipping in Pasgrund harbour. His enthusiasm, skill and courage have set a splendid example.

Flight Lieutenant Frank John MAIR (Can/J.25271), R.C.A.F., 502 Sqn.

One night in April, 1945, Flight Lieutenant Mair piloted an aircraft engaged on a sortie over an area of the Skaggerak and Kattegat. During the flight, a merchant ship escorted by a naval vessel were located. In spite of much opposing fire, Flight Lieutenant Mair came down to a low altitude to execute a straight and level bombing run. Two hits were obtained on the merchantman from which smoke began to issue in great clouds. This officer has taken part in many attacks on enemy shipping and has invariably displayed a high degree of skill and courage.

Flight Lieutenant John Stevenson MILLINGTON (133427), R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

This officer has displayed the highest standard of devotion to duty in air operations. He is a highly skilled pilot, whose keenness to engage the enemy on every possible occasion has been exceptional. Within a period of a few weeks prior to the cessation of hostilities in the European theatre, Flight Lieutenant Millington participated in numerous sorties against enemy shipping. In these operations a number of E. boats were attacked with a measure of success. Throughout, Flight Lieutenant Millington displayed a high degree of skill and courage, pressing home his attacks with great determination. He has set an example worthy of much praise.

Flying Officer Ronald HAYNES (152777), R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

Throughout his tour of operational duty this officer has set a fine example of determination and devotion to duty. As navigator/bomb-aimer, Flying Officer Haynes has taken part in numerous attacks on shipping with a good measure of success. Highly skilled, cool and confident in the face of the enemy, his work has won much praise.

Flying Officer Leonard MURPHY (152134), R.A.F.V.R., 235 Sqn.

As navigator, this officer has participated in a large number of sorties including many attacks on enemy shipping. Throughout, he has displayed commendable skill and courage and his devotion to duty has been worthy of high praise. On numerous occasions he has taken part in attacks on enemy shipping and his ability has contributed materially to the successes obtained. He has proved himself to be a resolute and devoted crew member.

Flying Officer Ernest Peter TAYLOR (N.Z.421543), R.N.Z.A.F., 489 (N.Z.) Sqn.

This officer has taken part in numerous attacks on enemy shipping and has set a fine example of courage and resolution. In February, 1945, Flying Officer Taylor successfully attacked a medium-sized vessel, carrying a cargo of mines. In April, 1945, he led a formation of aircraft in an attack against a medium-sized ship in a Aardals fjord. The success achieved reflects the greatest credit on the skill and leadership shown by this officer.

Acting Flying Officer Stephen ABEL (191247), R.A.F.V.R., 514 Sqn.

In April, 1945, this officer piloted an aircraft detailed to attack enemy troop concentrations at Bremen. When nearing Wilhelmshaven on the outward flight the aircraft came under anti-aircraft fire and was hit. The perspex around the pilot's compartment on the starboard side was shattered. The rudder control sustained some damage. When nearing the target the aircraft was again hit. The aileron controls were affected. A petrol tank was holed and one engine had to be put out of action. The aircraft was difficult to control but Flying Officer Abel completed a good bombing run. Course was set for home but later, it was evident that, owing to loss of petrol, base could not be reached. Flying Officer Abel thereupon headed for the nearest available airfield. Before this could be reached the petrol supply became exhausted. Nevertheless, this resourceful pilot brought his aircraft down safely, landing in a large field. Not one of his crew was hurt. In harassing circumstances this officer displayed skill, resource and determination of a high order.

Pilot Officer Kenneth Vivian JOHNSON (196448), R.A.F.V.R., 241 Sqn.

Pilot Officer Johnson is a most keen and resolute fighter. He has participated in a large number of sorties, including many harassing attacks on various targets in the battle area. In these operations he has displayed great skill and gallantry, pressing home his attacks from a low level regardless of enemy fire. On one occasion, in April, 1945, Pilot Officer Johnson took part in an attack against a concentration of enemy armoured vehicles, 5 of which he put out of action. His determination on this occasion was typical of that which he has shown at all times.

Pilot Officer Leonard KNIGHT (191091), R.A.F.V.R., 625 Sqn.

This officer was pilot and captain in an aircraft detailed to attack Berchtesgaden on the night of 25th April, 1945. On the outward flight the port engine became troublesome and had to be put out of action. Despite the loss of engine power, Pilot Officer Knight flew on. High mountains had to be crossed but the target was reached. In the face of much anti-aircraft fire a successful attack was executed. Soon after leaving the target the starboard outer engine failed. The propeller had to be feathered. Even so Pilot Officer Knight flew the damaged aircraft to base. He set a splendid example of skill, courage and determination throughout.

Warrant Officer John Colin AYLIFFE (Aus.417036), R.A.A.F., 455 (R.A.A.F) Sqn.

Warrant Officer Ayliffe has rendered excellent service. He has completed very many sorties, including numerous attacks on enemy shipping. In these operations he has displayed the greatest keenness to engage the enemy and has invariably pressed home his attacks with the utmost determination. On several occasions his aircraft has been badly damaged by enemy fire but each time he has flown back to base. Warrant Officer Ayliffe has set a splendid example of devotion to duty.

Warrant Officer Bertie Graham GORDON (1621025), R.A.F.V.R., 489 (N.Z.) Sqn.

Warrant Officer Gordon has taken part in many sorties, including fifteen attacks on enemy shipping. In these operations he has shown navigational ability of a high order and has secured photographs which have proved most valuable in assessing the success achieved. His keenness for air operations has always been apparent and has set an excellent example.

Warrant Officer Noel Paige TURNER (Aus.411980), R.A.A.F., 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Warrant Officer Turner has displayed great skill and daring in attacks against enemy shipping. In April, 1945, he took part in an attack against shipping in the anchorage of Moldoy in the Sor

Vaagso. In spite of fierce fire from the vessels and from land based batteries, Warrant Officer Turner pressed home a most determined attack. He displayed the highest standard of bravery and devotion to duty throughout.

Warrant Officer Ivor Montague GORDON (Aus.415782), R.A.A.F., 455 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Warrant Officer Gordon has taken part in a good number of sorties, including numerous attacks against enemy shipping. In April, 1945, he was the navigator in an aircraft detailed to attack shipping in the narrow Risnes fjord. During the operation the aircraft was hit. The cannon installations caught fire. Although Warrant Officer Gordon promptly used the extinguishers the flames spread. Undeterred, this crew member worked strenuously to get the fire under control. Finally, he succeeded. In so doing he did not hesitate to beat out the flames with only his gloved hands. He afterwards navigated the aircraft to base. His courage and determination were typical of that which he has shown at all times.

Distinguished Flying Medal.

1027588 Flight Sergeant John Hoile O'KANE, R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

Flight Sergeant O'Kane is a most keen and devoted crew member. He has taken part in many

sorties, including numerous attacks on enemy shipping. In the latter operations, he has displayed exceptional navigational ability which, together with his accurate bombing has played a good part in many notable successes. His example of courage and coolness has been worthy of great praise.

1433005 Flight Sergeant Joseph William SHOWELL, R.A.F.V.R., 524 Sqn.

As wireless operator, Flight Sergeant Showell has taken part in a large number of sorties, including many attacks on enemy shipping. Highly efficient, cool and resolute at all times, Flight Sergeant Showell has co-operated splendidly with his captain and his efforts have contributed much to the successes obtained. Throughout his tour of duty his keenness has been exceptional and his conduct exemplary.

Amendment.

In notification of 22nd June, 1945 (p. 3272, col. 2) below citation for Captain A. Q. DE WET (48142V), S.A.A.F., *delete* heading "Distinguished Flying Medal." For "1324827 Flight Sergeant (now Pilot Officer) Bruce Thomas Alfred ROUTLEDGE, R.A.F.V.R., 112 Sqn." *read* "Pilot Officer Bruce Thomas Alfred ROUTLEDGE (196534), R.A.F.V.R., 112 Sqn.

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