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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.

Acting Wing Commander Richard Geoffrey ENGLAND, D.F.C. (90392), Auxiliary Air Force, No. 107 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in a very large number of sorties including attacks on important targets in Northern France. In August, 1943, Wing Commander England led a formation of aircraft in an attack on a target at Rennes. Bad weather was encountered on the outward flight but Wing Commander England unerringly led his force to the precise target which was successfully attacked from a low level. Some days later, this officer led a bomber force in an attack on a works at Demain. In spite of poor visibility and in the face of intense anti-aircraft fire, the objective was bombed accurately. Much of the success of these operations can be attributed to Wing Commander England's inspiring leadership, great courage and exceptional skill.

Acting Wing Commander Raymond Hiley HARRIES, D.F.C. (87447), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

This officer is an exceptionally skilful, courageous and determined fighter. Within the past weeks he has led his fighter force on various sorties during which 27 enemy aircraft have been shot down, 3 of them by his own guns. These successes pay an excellent tribute to this officer's inspiring leadership and great tactical ability. Wing Commander Harries has destroyed at least 15 enemy aircraft.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Acting Squadron Leader Michael Crofton BLACK (110650), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 10 Squadron.

This officer has undertaken very many sorties during which he has successfully attacked various industrial centres in the Ruhr and other important targets. Throughout, his efforts have been characterised by great tenacity, while on more than one occasion his superb airmanship has been responsible for the safe return of his aircraft. Squadron Leader Black is a most efficient captain whose personal example has proved a source of inspiration.

Acting Squadron Leader Eric George DEAN (42599), Royal Air Force, No. 10 Squadron.

This officer has taken part in a very large number of sorties many of them in the Middle East. He is a most efficient captain, whose determination to complete his tasks successfully has

been most praiseworthy. During a recent attack on Frankfurt, his aircraft was damaged by anti-aircraft fire but he skilfully flew it back to base. He has displayed unflinching devotion to duty.

Acting Squadron Leader Charles Cecil MORAN (Can/C.1063), Royal Canadian Air Force, No. 418 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

This officer has undertaken very many sorties at night and has attacked enemy airfields with much success. During these operations he has also shot down 2 enemy aircraft. In the latter of these combats, which occurred recently, Squadron Leader Moran pressed home his attack from close range, delivering a burst of fire which caused the enemy aircraft to explode in the air. His own aircraft was damaged by the force of the explosion but he flew it to within a few miles of the English coast before he was forced to abandon the aircraft when one of its engines caught fire. His efforts were typical of the tenacity and courage which has always been a feature of his work.

Flight Lieutenant Edward Nigel BUNTING (60523), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 604 Squadron.

This officer has completed a large number of sorties at night and has destroyed 3 enemy aircraft. He is a keen and determined fighter, whose skill and devotion to duty have set an inspiring example.

Flight Lieutenant John Finch McEWEN (77923), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 120 Squadron.

This officer has completed a very large number of sorties, many of them in the Middle East. Latterly, he has undertaken numerous anti-submarine and convoy escort patrols and, in the course of these duties has attacked 3 U-boats. In the latter instance, Flight Lieutenant McEwen pressed home a most vigorous attack in the face of heavy fire from the vessel. This officer has rendered excellent service.

Flight Lieutenant Arthur George PATSTON (103000), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, No. 85 Squadron.

As observer, Flight Lieutenant Patston has participated in a large number of sorties and has assisted in the destruction of 3 enemy aircraft at night. He is a most efficient member of aircraft crew, whose example of courage and devotion to duty has won great praise.

Flight Lieutenant John Naunton ROWLAND (33577), Royal Air Force, No. 12 Squadron.

Flight Lieutenant Rowland has completed very many sorties and has displayed outstanding determination and devotion to duty. On 2 recent occasions, when attacking Hanover, his aircraft has been damaged in encounters with enemy