

The Warrant set forth below is concerned with the establishment of the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Force Cross, the Distinguished Flying Medal and the Air Force Medal, the institution of which was announced in the London Gazette of 3rd June, 1918 (No. 30723, page 6533).



Royal Warrant Instituting Decorations And Medals For The Royal Air Force.

George R.I.

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India: To all to whom these presents shall come. Greeting!

Whereas We are desirous of signifying Our appreciation of acts of valour, courage and devotion to duty performed by Officers and Men in Our Air Force and in the Air Forces of Our Self-governing Dominions beyond the Seas, We do hereby, for Us, Our heirs and successors, institute and create two decorations to be designated the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Force Cross, and two Medals, to be designated the Distinguished Flying Medal and the Air Force Medal, and We do hereby direct that the following regulations shall be made governing the said Decorations and Medals:-

Firstly:

It is ordained that the Distinguished Flying Cross shall be granted only to such Officers and Warrant Officers of Our said Forces as shall be recommended to Us for an act or acts of valour, courage or devotion to duty performed whilst flying in active operations against the enemy.

Secondly:

It is ordained that the Distinguished Flying Cross shall be silver and shall consist of a Cross flory terminated in the horizontal and base bars with bombs, the upper bar terminating with a rose, surmounted by another cross composed of aeroplane propellers charged in the centre with a roundel within a wreath of laurels a rose winged ensigned by an Imperial Crown thereon the letters R.A.F. On the reverse the Royal Cypher above the date 1918. The whole attached to the clasp and ribbon by two sprigs of laurel.

Thirdly:

It is ordained that the Distinguished Flying Cross shall be worn on the left breast pendant from a ribbon one inch and a quarter in width, which shall be in colour violet and white in alternate horizontal stripes of one eighth of an inch in depth.

Fourthly:

It is ordained that the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross shall entitle the recipient to have the initials D.F.C. appended to his name.

Fifthly:

It is ordained that the Air Force Cross shall be granted only to such Officers and Warrant Officers of Our said Forces as shall be recommended to us for an act or acts of valour, courage or devotion to duty whilst flying though not in active operations against the enemy.

Sixthly:

It is ordained that the Air Force Cross shall be silver and shall consist of a thunderbolt in the form of a cross, the arms conjoined by wings, the base bar terminating with a bomb surmounted by another cross composed of aeroplane propellers, the four ends enscribed with the letters G.V.R.I. In the centre a roundel thereon, a representation of Hermes mounted on a hawk in flight bestowing a wreath. On the reverse the Royal Cypher above the date 1918. The whole ensigned by an Imperial Crown and attached to the clasp and ribbon by two sprigs of laurel.

Seventhly:

It is ordained that the Air Force Cross shall be worn on the left breast pendant from a ribbon one inch and a quarter in width, which shall be in colour red and white in alternate horizontal stripes of one-eighth of an inch in depth.

Eighthly:

It is ordained that the award of the Air Force Cross shall entitle the recipient to have the initials A.F.C. appended to his name.

Ninthly:

It is ordained that the Distinguished Flying Medal shall be granted only to such Non-commissioned Officers and Men of Our said Forces as shall be recommended to Us for an act or acts of valour, courage or devotion to duty performed whilst flying in active operations against the enemy.

Tenthly:

It is ordained that the Distinguished Flying Medal shall be silver and oval-shaped, bearing Our Effigy on the obverse and on the reverse within a wreath of laurel a representation of Athena Nike seated on an aeroplane, a hawk rising from her right arm above the words "For Courage." The whole ensigned by a bomb attached to the clasp and ribbon by two wings.

Eleventhly:

It is ordained that the Distinguished Flying Medal shall be worn on the left breast pendant from a ribbon of one inch and a quarter in width, which shall be in colour violet and white in alternate horizontal stripes of one-sixteenth of an inch in depth.

Twelfthly:

It is ordained that the award of the Distinguished Flying Medal shall entitle the recipient to have the initials D.F.M. appended to his name.

Thirteenthly:

It is ordained that the Air Force Medal shall be granted only to such Non-commissioned Officers and Men of Our said Forces as shall be recommended to Us for an act or acts of valour, courage, or devotion to duty performed whilst flying, though not in active operations against the enemy.

Fourteenthly:

It is ordained that the Air Force Medal shall be silver and oval-shaped, bearing Our Effigy on the obverse and on the reverse within a wreath of laurel a representation of Hermes mounted on a hawk in flight bestowing a wreath. The whole ensigned by a bomb attached to the clasp and ribbon by two wings.

Fifteentlyly:

It is ordained that the Air Force Medal shall be worn on the left breast pendant from a ribbon one inch and a quarter in width, which shall be in colour red and white in alternate horizontal stripes of one-sixteenth of an inch in depth.

Sixteentlyly:

It is ordained that the award of the Air Force Medal shall entitle the recipient to have the initials A.F.M. appended to his name.

Seventeentlyly:

It is ordained that Foreign Officers and gradings of an equivalent rank to those above mentioned who have been associated in Military operations with Our Army or Our Indian, Dominion or Colonial Military Forces, shall be eligible for the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Force Cross, the Distinguished Flying Medal, and the Air Force Medal.

Eighteentlyly:

It is ordained that in cases where Officers, Warrant Officers, and Men who have been awarded one of the above decorations or medals shall be recommended for a further act of valour, courage or devotion to duty, he shall be awarded a bar to be attached to the ribbon by which the decoration or medal is suspended, and for every additional such act an additional bar may be awarded.

Nineteentlyly:

It is ordained that the names of those upon whom We may be pleased to confer the above decorations and medals shall be published in the London Gazette, and that a Register thereof shall be kept in the Office of Our Secretary of State for the Royal Air Force.

Twenteentlyly:

It is ordained that any person whom by an especial Warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual We declare to have forfeited the above decorations, medals and bars shall return the same to the Office of Our Secretary of State for the Royal Air Force, and that his name shall be erased from the Register of those upon whom the said decorations, medals and bars shall have been conferred.

Lastly:

We reserve to Ourselves, Our heirs and successors full power of annulling, altering, abrogating, augmenting, interpreting, or dispensing with these Regulations or any part thereof by a notification under Our Royal Sign Manual.

Given at Our Court at St. James's under Our Sign Manual this third day of June, in the ninth year of Our Reign and in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and eighteen.

By the Sovereign's Command.

William Weir.



Royal Warrant Amending The Third, Seventh, Eleventh And Fifteenth Clauses Of The Royal Warrant Instituting Decorations And Medals For The Royal Air Force.

George R.I.

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India: To all to whom these Presents shall come. Greeting!

WHEREAS We did, by Royal Warrant under Our Sign Manual dated 3rd June, 1918, institute and create two decorations designated the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Force Cross and two Medals designated the Distinguished Flying Medal and the Air Force Medal to be awarded to Officers and Men in Our Air Force and in the Air Forces of Our Self-governing Dominions beyond the Seas, in recognition of acts of valour, courage and devotion to duty:

AND WHEREAS We are desirous that certain alterations should be made in the regulations governing the said Decorations and Medals:

NOW, THEREFORE, We do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, ordain that the following ordinances shall be substituted for the corresponding ordinances in the said Royal Warrant, and shall henceforth be construed and have the same effect as if they formed part of the said Royal Warrant: -

Thirdly:

It is ordained that the Distinguished Flying Cross shall be worn on the left breast pendant from a ribbon one inch and a quarter in width which shall be in colour violet and white in alternate diagonal stripes of one-eighth of an inch in width running at an angle of 45 degrees from left to right.

Seventhly:

It is ordained that the Air Force Cross shall be worn on the left breast pendant from a ribbon one inch and a quarter in width which shall be in colour red and white in alternate diagonal stripes of one-eighth of an inch in width running at an angle of 45 degrees from, left to right.

Eleventhly:

It is ordained that the Distinguished Flying Medal shall be worn on the left breast pendant from a ribbon of one inch and a quarter in width which shall be in colour violet and white in alternate diagonal stripes of one-sixteenth of an inch in width, running at an angle of 45 degrees from left to right.

Fifteenthly:

It is ordained that the Air Force Medal shall be worn on the left breast pendant from a ribbon one inch and a quarter in width which shall be in colour red and white in alternate diagonal stripes of one-sixteenth of an inch in width running at an angle of 45 degrees from left to right.

Given at Our Court at St. James' this 24th day of July, in the tenth year of Our Reign and in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and nineteen.

By His Majesty's Command,

W. S. Churchill.