

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.