

AWM 65

[348]

BLOM, WALTER MICHAEL

R.A.F

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

NRA

The following biographical details are required for use at R.A.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, London.



SURNAME..... Blon..... NUMBER.....

CHRISTIAN NAMES..... WALTER MICHAEL.....

AIR FORCE RANK AND MUSTERING..... F/O.....

DEGREES ETC.....

DATE OF BIRTH..... 1917..... PLACE..... HOBBART.....

EDUCATED.....

DATE OF ENTERING SERVICE.....

PREVIOUS SERVICE EXPERIENCE.....

PLACES OF TRAINING.....

CIVILIAN CAREER AND ACTIVITIES.....

SPORT (TEAMS REPRESENTED) CLUBS ETC.....

FATHER.....

WIFE.....

HOME ADDRESS.....

SIGNATURE.....

DATE.....

DATE OF EMBARKATION.....

HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY - DO NOT FILL IN

AWARDS..... 15/12..... D.F.C.....

CATEGORY..... INTERVIEWS.....

RADIO..... OTHER REFERENCES.....

BLUM

1

25/6/43.

Flying Officer Walter Michael Blom was born at Hobart, Tasmania, in 1917. He was an ~~air~~ Air Cadet in the R.A.A.F. and was granted a short-service commission in the R.A.F. ~~on August 26, 1937, and after 3 months' training was appointed to a bomber squadron. He was promoted to Flying Officer in 1939.~~ on August 26, 1937, and after 3 months' training was appointed to a bomber squadron. He was promoted to Flying Officer in 1939.

Twelve awards---five to one squadron, four to another---were announced on May 24, 1940 to officers and men of the Advanced Air Striking Force. In action since Germany invaded Belgium and northern France, the force has dropped thousands of tons of bombs on enemy communication lines and other military objectives, flying day after day and night after night, often with only a few hours' rest.

The award of the D.F.C. to Blom was announced on 31/5/40, the citation being as follows:-

"Earlier this month, Flying Officer ~~W~~ Blom was detailed to lead a half-section of aircraft in a low-level bombing attack on an enemy motorised column of all arms advancing on a road in Luxemburg. Before reaching his objective a petrol tank was pierced by machine-gun fire, and although ~~it~~ unable to locate his allotted target through being drenched and almost blinded by the escaping petrol, he pressed home his attack on another enemy column with considerable success. During this time the aircraft was subjected to very heavy fire from the ground, and was repeatedly hit, receiving such damage as to render it beyond repair, but this did not prevent Flying Officer Blom from flying to base, a distance of 90 miles. He displayed outstanding courage and tenacity.

Blom died on active service, according to press announcement published on August 19, 1940.

u. m.
BLOM, (RAAF & RAF)

S.T. Wright F/O.

BLOM

1

25/6/43.

Bomber

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SECRET

[Handwritten signature]

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DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS AWARDED TO F/O WALTER MICHAEL BLOM. 31.MAY 1940.

CITATION AS FOLLOWS.

X Flying Officer Walter Michael Blom. X

Earlier this month Flying Officer Blom was detailed to lead a half section of aircraft in a low level bombing attack against an enemy motorised column of all arms advancing on a road in Luxemburg. Before reaching his objective a petrol tank was pierced by machine gun fire and, although unable to locate his allotted target through being drenched and almost blinded by the escaping petrol, he pressed home his attack on another enemy column with considerable success. During this time the aircraft was subjected to very heavy fire from the ground and was repeatedly hit, receiving such damage as to render it beyond repair, but this did not prevent Flying Officer Blom from flying back to base, a distance of 90 miles. He displayed outstanding courage and tenacity. X