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AWM 65

BLOM, WALTER MICHAEL R.A.F

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

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

SURNAME. BLOM: NUMBER.
CHRISTIAN NAMES. WALTER MICHAEL
AIR FORCE RANK AND MUSTERING
DEGREES ETC
DATE OF BIRTH. 1917. PLACE HORRET.
EDUCATED
DATE OF ENTERING SERVICE
PREVIOUS SERVICE EXPERIENCE
PLACES OF TRAINING
CIVILIAN CAREER AND ACTIVITIES
SPORT (TEAMS REPRESENTED) CLUES ETC
FATHER
WIFE
HOME ADDRESS
SIGNATURE
DATE
DATE OF EMBARKATION
HEADQUARTERS USE ONLY - DO NOT FILE IN
AWARDS UK 12 D.F.C.
CATEGORY INTERVIEWS
1
RADIO OTHER REFERENCES

25/6/43.

Flying Officer Walter Michael Blom was born at Hobart, Tasmania, in

1917. He was an aiz Air Cadet in the R.A.A.F. and was granted a short-service

on August 26, 1937, and after 3 months' training was appointed to
comkission in the R.A.F. Anthogogua 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:-

*Barlier this month, Flying Officer # Blom was detailed to lead a half-section of aircraft in a low-level bombing attack on an energy 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 g round, 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.

BLOM Grober

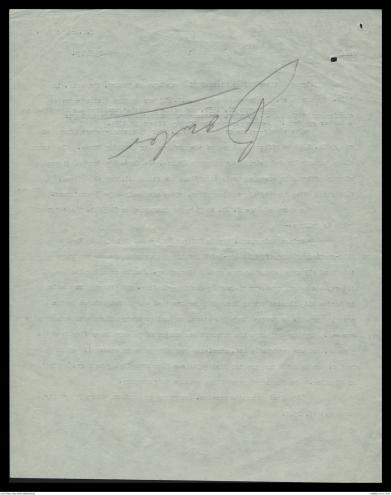
25/6/43.

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

Flying Officer Walter Michael Blom.

Earlier this month Flying Officer Blom was detailed to lead a half section of aircraft in a low level bombing attack against an encomy motorised column of all arms advancing on a read in Luxemburg. Boofre reaching his objective a petrol tank was perced by machine gun rire and, although unable to locate his allotted target through being drenched and almost blinded by the scaping 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 rander 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