

AWM 65

[2922]

JORDAN, ALAN JOSEPH

410599

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

OFFICERS AND AIRCREW

The following Biographical details are requested for use at
R.A.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, LONDON,-

Surname..... JORDAN..... Number AUS 410599.....
 Christian Names..... ALAN JOSEPH.....
 Air Force Rank and Mustering..... W.A.G. GROUP 2 SGT......
 Degrees, Decorations, etc.....
 Present Appointment and Location..... R.A.A.F. P.R.C. BOURNEMOUTH.....
 Date of Birth..... 22/12/21..... Place..... VICTORIA AUSTRALIA.....
 Educated..... MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE.....
 Date of Entering Service..... 30/1/42.....
 Previous Service Experience.....
 Places of Training in R.A.A.F. W.I.T.S. VICTOR HARBOUR. WAGS BALLARAT.
3 BAGG. SALE.
 Civilian Career and Activities..... WAREHOUSE CLERK.
MILITIA. SWIMMING.
 Clubs, Recreations, etc..... WEST ST KILDA LIVESAVING CLUB.
 Fathers name..... JOSEPH EDWARD JORDAN.
 Wifes name.....
 Children.....
 Home Address..... 1A CENTRAL AVE MOORABBIN VICTORIA AUST.
 Signature..... A Jordan
 Date..... 8/3/43
 Date Embarked Australia..... 6/1/43
 Destination..... UNITED KINGDOM.

MANY AUSTRALIANS IN DUSSELDORF RAID

4.11.45

Pilot Officer R.M. Stanford, former South Australian district cricketer who represented his State in an interstate match on one occasion, piloted one of the Australian Lancasters, with Flight Sergeant W.T. Butler, of Brisbane, as his navigator, and Flight Sergeant G.R. Clark, of Newcastle, N.S.W., as his air bomber, and Flight Sergeant A.J. Jordan of Melbourne, as the wireless operator-air gunner.

The highlight of the journey for this crew - it was their first visit to Dusseldorf - was a near collision with another Lancaster when making their run in over the target. Stanford pulled the stick back just in time to pass over the top of the other. Stanford went on to the target then, and with the Lancaster bathed for a few seconds in the glare of a flare released by an enemy fighter, Clark let his bombs go, to create fresh havoc among the glowing red fires the crew could see down below in the streets of the city, once regarded as the administrative capital of the Ruhr, and the home of many steel and iron foundries, machine tool factories, and armament works.

Stanford and the others saw plenty of flak rising around their aircraft, but they escaped hits, and were not attacked by any of the enemy fighters sent up to meet the raiders. The crew has been together on many raids, including visits to Berlin.
