

AWM 55

[4640]

SHARP, DONALD GEORGE

410387

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

OFFICERS AND AIRMEN

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

Surname... S.H.A.R.P...... Number... 410384.....
 Christian Names... RONALD G. EDGAR.....
 Air Force Rank and Mustering... ~~WAG~~ WAG.....
 Degrees, Decorations, etc..... DFC.....
 Present Appointment and Location... R.A.A.F. P.R.C. BOURMOUTH.....
 Date of Birth... ~~1922~~ 5.1.1923... Place... MELBOURNE.....
 Educated... MONT. ALBERT CENTRAL SCHOOL MELBOURNE.....
 Date of Entering Service... 6.12.41.....
 Previous Service Experience.....
 Places of Training in R.A.A.F. No. 1. ITS. SOMERS... 2. WAGS. PARKES
 3. RACS. PORT. BLAIR.....
 Civilian Career and Activities... CARPENTER.....
 Clubs, Recreations, etc... MONT. ALBERT DISTRICT.....
 FOOTBALL CLUB.....
 Fathers name... HENRY SHARP.....
 Wifes name.....
 Children.....
 Home Address... BELMORE RD. BALWYAN MELBOURNE.....

Signature DS SharpDate 20-3-43Date Embarked Australia 15-1-43Destination UNITED KINGDOM.

Personal file - W/O. D. Sharp

DEPARTMENT OF AIR

Directorate of
Public Relations
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R. A. A. F. CREW'S LUCKY ESCAPE

410387

215 Sgr

The award of the D.F.C. to Warrant Officer Don Sharp of Balwyn (Vic), has brought to light the story of an amazing escape, when he and his pilot, F/Lt. E.P. Coulin, of Newcastle, (N.S.W.), now personal pilot to the Governor of Bengal (Mr. Casey), were flying a Dakota on a supply-dropping mission on the Burma front.

When the supply parachute became entangled in the elevators, the controls locked, and Coulin was unable to gain enough height for the crew to bale out. The Dakota gradually lost height and Coulin was just about to attempt a crash landing when the parachute either came off, or was torn free by trees. Although the port elevator had been torn off, Coulin was able to regain enough height to climb over the hills and reach base.

"All the time we were in trouble, Sharp, who was wireless operator, was calmly sending out signals advising base and neighbouring aircraft of our difficulties", said Coulin.

Authorised by D.P.R.

Copy of Citation of Non-Immediate Award of D.F.C.

903 attched 3-4-45

Warrant Officer Donald George SHARP (Aus. 410387) No. 215 Squadron.

This warrant officer has shown himself to be an extremely efficient and hard working member of his crew. He has completed many sorties of an extremely hazardous nature. At one time he completed a number of supply dropping missions which were successfully accomplished in the face of appalling weather. Warrant Officer Sharp has contributed in no small way to the successful outcome of many operational sorties.

Copy of Citation of Non-Immediate Award of D.F.C.

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