

AWM 65

[4208]

PILE PHILIP JOHN TUDOR

420416

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

OFFICERS AND AIRCRAW

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

Surname..... PILE..... Number Aus. 420316.....
 Christian Names..... Philip John Tudor.....
 Air Force Rank and Posting..... Sgt./Pilot.....
 Degrees, Decorations, etc..... nil.....
 Present Appointment and Location..... R.A.A.F. P.R.C. BOURNEMOUTH.....
 Date of Birth..... 2.13/11/22..... Place Narara via Grafton NSW Aust
 Educated..... Grafton Primary School & Grafton High School
 Date of Entering Service..... 22/17/41.....
 Previous Service Experience..... nil.....
 Places of Training in R.A.A.F. R.I.T.S. Lower Victoria Aus; 3E.F.T.S
Narara NSW Aust; 3E.F.T.S. Calgary, A.C. Canada
 Civilian Career and Activities..... Junior Analytical
Chemist in Colonial Sugar Refining Co.
 Hobbies, recreations, etc..... Sailing, Surfing
Swimming
 Fathers name..... Claude Tudor Pile
 Wifes name..... none ~~that given~~
 Children..... " for. died
 Home Address..... 30 Pacific Highway, Grafton
 Signature..... Philip J Pile
 Date..... 9/1/43
 Date Embarked Australia..... 23/6/43
 Destination..... UNITED KINGDOM

Copy of Citation of Award of D.F.C.

Pilot Officer Phillip John Tudor FILE (Aus. 420416) No. 104 Squadron.

This officer has completed numerous sorties and has invariably displayed a high standard of skill and bravery. One night in July, 1944, he participated in a mine-laying mission. When approaching the target area considerable searchlight activity and intense anti-aircraft fire were encountered. Despite this Pilot Officer File held to a steady course and dropped his mines in the specific area. His skill and determination on this occasion were typical of that which he has invariably displayed.

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M.E.
FROM MIDDLE EAST 15/7/44

When the port engine of his Wellington bomber cut, 250 miles from his Squadron's base in Italy, 420416 P/O. Phil Pile, of Cosgrove, N.S.W. brought his aircraft back home and made a most successful landing. Pile, who was commissioned towards the end of April, set out with other bombers whose task it was to block the railway line leading through the Brenner Pass. He was well across the Alps when the port engine began to lose power and he decided to turn back. Recrossing the Alps, he made for the Adriatic in case it was necessary to bale out, and was flying over the sea when the engine cut completely, still 250 miles from home. Ammunition and incendiaries were jettisoned to lighten the load for the starboard engine. Three other Australians in Pile's crew, and all of them paid a warm tribute to the coolness and skill he displayed, especially in making a single engine landing.

