AWM 65

[3687]

MOORE, QWEN MILTON

412018

CHRISTIAN AND SURNAME.

AW. 331B/324B. D.F.C.

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

Surname MOORE Number AUS. 412 218

Christian Names OWEN MILTON

Air Force Rank and Mustering ~~SGT.~~ PILOT P/O w.e.f. 28.11.43.

Degrees, Decorations, etc D.F.C.

Present Appointment and Location RAAF PRC BOURNEMOUTH

Date of Birth 28/5/22 Place TWEEDHEADS N.S.W.

Educated PADDINGTON TECH SYDNEY N.S.W. AUSTRALIA

Date of Entering Service 21/6/41

Previous Service Experience

Places of Training No 1 I.T.S. AUST. 26 E.F.T.S. RHODESIA 21 S.F.T.S. RHODESIA

Civilian Career and Activities CARPENTER

Clubs, Recreations, etc SWIMMING, CYCLING

Father E.M. MOORE

Wife

Children

Home Address 45 VIVIENNE ST KINGSGROVE SYDNEY N.S.W. AUST.

See misc: ~~775~~ ✓

~~460 file enc. 146~~

Signature O. Moore

Date 1/11/42

Date Embarked

Destination

R.T.H.

PRO. FORMA.
P/R.5.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

Overseas Headquarters,
Kodak House,
KINGSWAY, W.C.2.

SECRET & CONFIDENTIAL.

The following biographical details are required for R.A.A.F. Historical Records, Overseas Headquarters. These forms are to be filled in and returned to the Officer Commanding Repatriation Disposal Section, No.11 (R.A.A.F.) P.D.R.C.

NAME (in full). MOORE OWEN MILTON NUMBER A.412018

RANK AND MUSTERING F/O PILOT DECORATIONS D.F.C.

NUMBER I.T.S. COURSE ..... O.T.U. - A.F.U. etc. I.T.S. 16 COURSE O.T.U. 27 A.F.U. 35

DATE LEFT AUSTRALIA) 2:11:41
~~CANADA~~)
STH. AFRICA) 19:8:42 DATE OF ARRIVAL U.K. 30:9:42

SQUADRONS. 460

AIRCRAFT FLOWN. LANCASTER III

COMMAND & TYPED OF ACTIVITY. BOMBER COMMAND NIGHT BOMBING

OPERATIONS OR TRAINING WITH AMERICAN PERSONNEL, SQUADRONS, OR AIRCRAFT.....

DETAILS OF OPERATIONS - with dates: to be given as fully as possible under the following applicable headings:-

(a) Number Operational Hours
(b) Number Operational Sorties, Day-night
(c) Targets attacked
(d) Attacks on enemy surface vessels - type, size, etc.
(e) Attacks on enemy submarines
(f) Combats with enemy aircraft
(g) Outstanding sorties or incidents
(h) Other Australians in crews
(i) Personnel in Photographic Reconnaissance Unit, Transport Command, etc., should give a brief report of their work.

(A) 192:25 HRS (B) (C) DUSSELDORF OBERHAUSEN GELSENKIRCHEN ESSEN HAMBURG TURIN MANNHEIM LEVERKUSEN BERLIN NUREMBURG GLADBACH MUNICH HAGEN KASSEL HANNOVER MORANE LEIPZIG (F) SIGHTINGS & various activity

(H) NAVIGATOR: W/OP F/E A/B M.U.G. R.G.

(B) 29

DATE 20:12:44 SIGNATURE O'Moore F/O
(Use other side, or attach extra sheets, if necessary)

CITATION OF DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

Non-Immediate Award - Gazetted 15.2.44

Warrant Officer (now Pilot Officer) Owen Milton MOORE, Royal Australian Air Force, No. 460 (R.A.A.F.) Squadron

The above-mentioned officer has completed many successful operations against the enemy, in which he has displayed high skill and devotion to duty.

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Bomber Command 305A

775

AUSTRALIANS IN THE BERLIN ATTACK

SQ: 78
SQ 50.

For Australian Press

An Australian airman who took part in last night's attack - the second heaviest raid on Berlin in nine days - spoke of the new method that was used to light up our aircraft for the fighters that were circling in strength over the city.

78-

"Some enemy aircraft were dropping flares", said Sgt. H.J.Clark of Grenfell, N.S.W., the mid-upper gunner of a Halifax. "These flares fell gently from a good height and burned brilliantly with a white light. They were dropped on either side of our bombers, and made a sort of alane which looked like the flare path on the aerodrome.

When we arrived the defences had got going well. Searchlights were trying to get through the scattered cloud over the target, and there was quite a lot of light and heavy flak. As we made our bombing run, I looked down through a gap in the clouds and saw the river Spree, with the water reflecting the light of the fires where burning. We dropped our bombs right on the target, and then turned for home. Fights between bombers and fighters were going on over the city, and I saw one of our aircraft shoot down a fighter in flames".

Some of the Australian crews said that the defences did not seem so strong as during the previous attack. F/Sgt. C.Moore, of Sydney, captain of a Lancaster, said that the searchlights were hampered by the clouds. "We arrived", he said, "some little time after the attack was started. There were a fair amount of searchlights about but they could not get through clouds, and they were not very successful in lighting up our aircraft so as to make us a target for the fighters above. I expected the Germans to pile up a lot more flak than they had in other raid, but on the whole we met comparatively little gunfire."

The morale of the Australian squadrons operating with Bomber Command could hardly be higher. While the crews were being interrogated at one station, an Intelligence Officer noticed that the flying suit of the rear gunner was torn. "I guess that was done by cannon shell", he said. Up to then the crew had passed off the raid as "just another piece of cake" and almost as dull as a cross country flight. The Intelligence officer then heard the crew - it was their first trip - had been attacked by an enemy fighter, but as they did not shoot it down they did not think that the combat was worth talking about.

Among the Australians taking part in the attack were Sgt. P.Panos, of Cairns, Queensland; F/O J.H.Trobe, of Adelaide; F/Sgt. R.C.Tonkin of 50 Cowell, S. Australia; Sgt. R.C.Turner, of Launcestion, Tasmania; F/Sgt. M.J.Banks, of Geraldton, W.Australia. 50

Ends D. Martin 1715 1.9.43.

Moore.

146

RAID ON BERLIN 31.8.43.

The first Australian Lancaster squadron took part in last night's raid on Berlin which some of the pilots described as " a piece of cake". The crews reported a fair amount of cloud over the target area, and stated that at first the attack was rather scattered although towards the end it appeared to be more concentrated.

Pilot Officer Reg. White, a wireless operator from Albany, West Australia, completed his tour of operations on this raid. It was his third trip to Berlin. He was in the first phase over the target area and said that when he was there the attack didn't seem to have developed to any great extent.

"We didn't have any trouble with the fighters but saw a number of combats taking place. At one stage there was a lot of flak but that didn't worry us" he concluded.

Flight Sergeant Doug Baudinette, of Coleraine, Victoria, was taking part in his second raid on Berlin and said that it was much easier than his first. He reported seeing a large number of fighters but none attacked his aircraft.

"It was not as bad as when I was there before" said Flight Sergeant O.Moore, an aircraft captain, from Sydney. "There were not many searchlights and we didn't encounter much flak." he said. "When we arrived there was a lot of cloud over the target, but it had been well lit by earlier crews."

460