

AWM 65

[3723]

MORRIS, LIONEL CHARLES ROBERT

404252

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
ACCESS STATION

OPEN

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

OFFICERS AND AIRCREW.

The following Biographical details are required for use at R.A.A.F.

Overseas Headquarters, LONDON.

Surname..... *Morris* Number. *404252*.

Christian Names..... *Lionel Charles Robert*

Air Force Rank and Mustering..... *Sergeant Pilot*

Degrees, Decorations, etc..... *D.F.C.*

Present Appointment and Location..... *3. P. R. C. Bowenmouth*

Date of Birth. *30th July 1921* Place. *Allora Queensland Australia*

Educated..... *Stots College Warwick, Queensland*

Date of Entering Service..... *18th July 1941*

Previous Service Experience.....

Places of Training. *I.T.S. Broadfield Park NSW. No. 2 F.F.T.S. Archerfield Queensland*
No. 3 F.F.T.S. Ambuly Queensland. No. 1 F.F.T.S. Point Cook Victoria

Civilian Career and Activities..... *Chemist*

Clubs, Recreation etc..... *Golf, Tennis, Boxing*

Father..... *Charles Henry Mortimer Morris*

Wife..... *Marcia Earl Morris*

Children..... *(One) Kenneth Barry Morris*

Home Address..... *Sailing Street Allora Queensland Australia*

Signature..... *L.C.M. Morris*

Date.....

Date Embarked. *16th June 1942*

R.A.A.F. Release No. 565

NOT FOR PUBLICATION, BROADCAST IN OVERSEAS BULLETINS OR USE ON CLUB TAPES BEFORE 2330 HOURS D.B.S.T. ON THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1944. NOT TO BE BROADCAST IN THE MIDNIGHT NEWS OF JUNE 8/9, OVERSEAS MESSAGES SHOULD BE PREFACED WITH THIS EMBARGO.

AUSTRALIAN FIGHTER PILOTS' PARALLEL CAREERS TO WIN D.F.C.

Two Australian fighter pilots who together enlisted, embarked and took part in the Salerno landing have won simultaneous D.F.Cs. The two -- who, as far as is known have never met -- are Pilot Officer Lionel Charles Robert Morris, of Allora, Queensland, and Warrant Officer Robert Bunting, of Sandringham, Victoria.

Bunting destroyed five enemy aircraft within two months, recently. Morris has destroyed three.

"In September, 1943, Warrant Officer Bunting was engaged in covering landing operations at Salerno," his citation says. "In February, 1944, he destroyed two F.W.190s. during one sortie, and a month later destroyed two Me.109s. on another sortie. In the following month he was wounded by a cannon splinter during an engagement with a F.W.190, which he promptly destroyed. Despite his wound, and severe damage to his own aircraft, he succeeded in returning safely to base. At all times his courage, determination and fighting spirit have been of a high order."

Pilot Officer Morris served in the Middle East, and took part in the invasion of Sicily and Italy, and the landing at Salerno.

"He has proved himself an extremely efficient pilot," his citation says, "and has destroyed three enemy aircraft. On one occasion he attacked five enemy fighters, pursuing them far into enemy territory and destroying one. He has always shown outstanding keenness to engage the enemy."

Morris was a chemist before the war, Bunting a mechanic.

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Photographs of Morris available at R.A.A.F. H.Q., Ref. Numbers S.U.K.11331 and 11587.

NON IMMEDIATE. GAZETTED 9th JUNE 44.

Copy of Citation of Award of Distinguished Flying Cross.

LIONEL.

Pilot Officer Charles Robert MORRIS (Aus. 404252) R.A.A.F.
No. 72 Squadron.

Pilot Officer Morris joined this squadron in North Africa and served in the conclusion of that campaign, later taking part in the invasion of Sicily and Italy and the landing at Salerno. He has proved himself an extremely efficient pilot. He has destroyed 3 enemy aircraft and, on one occasion, attacked a force of 5 enemy fighters, pursuing them far into enemy territory and destroying one. He has always shown outstanding keenness to engage the enemy.

Personal Files

1104/8/P.

R.A.A.F.H.Q.

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FOLLOWING AWARD WILL BE GAZETTED 9 JUNE(.)

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS(.) PILOT OFFICER LIONEL CHARLES ROBERT MORRIS (404252) NO. 72 SQUADRON(.) MORRIS JOINED THIS SQUADRON IN NORTH AFRICA AND SERVED IN CONCLUSION THAT CAMPAIGN LATER TAKING PART IN INVASION OF SICILY AND ITALY AND LANDING AT SALERNO(.) HAS PROVED HIMSELF EXTREMELY EFFICIENT PILOT(.) HAS DESTROYED THREE ENEMY AIRCRAFT AND ON ONE OCCASION ATTACKED FORCE OF FIVE ENEMY FIGHTERS PURSUING THEM FAR INTO ENEMY TERRITORY AND DESTROYING ONE(.) HAS ALWAYS SHOWN OUTSTANDING KEENNESS TO ENGAGE ENEMY(.)