

AWM 65

[4160]

PENDER, HAROLD ARTHUR

415178

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES  
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

Wireless air gunner

See 460<sup>38</sup> file enc: 118

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

OFFICERS AND AIRCREW.

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

Overseas Headquarters, LONDON.

Surname..... PENDER ..... Number..... 415178

Christian Names..... Harold Arthur

Air Force Rank and Mustering..... Sergeant, Wireless Air Gunner

Degrees, Decorations, etc.....

Present Appointment and Location..... 3 PRG HQF

Date of Birth..... Place..... Perth West Australia

Educated..... Technical School Perth  
West Australia

Date of Entering Service..... 21st July 1941

Previous Service Experience..... none

Places of Training..... No 5 I.T.S. Pearce West Aust  
No 1 W.A.G.S. Victoria Aust, No 2 B.A.G.S. Perth Aust

Civilian Career and Activities..... musician - Engineer -  
Yachtsman

Clubs, Recreations, etc..... Swimming, shooting, yachting

Father..... Joseph Pender

Wife..... Ethel Florence Pender

Children..... Janice Fay

Home Address..... 34 Hill St. Perth, West Australia

Signature..... H. Pender

Date..... 19/8/42

Date Embarked..... 2nd July 1942

Destination..... Liverpool, England

120- FORM 1.  
P/R. 5.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

Overseas Headquarters,  
Kodak House,  
KINGSWAY, N.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 II (R.A.A.F.) P.D.R.C.

NAME (in full).. PENDER, HAROLD ARTHUR NUMBER 415178  
RANK AND BRANCH.. FLYING OFFICER DECORATIONS..  
NUMBER I.T.S. COURSE.. 17 O.T.U. - A.F.U. etc. 29 Base School  
DATE LEFT AUSTRALIA 3.6.42 DATE OF ARRIVAL U.K. 21.7.42  
C.M.D. (a) STH AFRICA  
SQUADRONS.. 103 SQDN. - 460 SQDN.  
AIRCRAFT FLOWN.. LANCASTERS MK I & III  
COMMAND AND TYPE OF ACTIVITY.. BOMBER  
OPERATIONS OR TRAINING WITH ALLIED AIR FORCES, SQUADRONS, OR AIRCRAFT NIL

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

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| (a) Number of Operations; 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) Outstanding sorties or incidents.   |
| (f) Combats with enemy aircraft. | (g) Personnel in Photographic Reconnaissance Unit, Transport Command, etc., should give a brief report of their work. |
| (h) Other Australians in crew.   |   |

(a) 132.45  
(b) 18 NIGHT - 2 DAY  
(c) ST. NAZAIRE - DORTMUND - GELSENKIRCHEN - COLOGNE -  
TURIN - HAMBURG - MILAN - (2) - PEENEMUNDE - BERLIN - (4)  
MUNICH - FRANKFURT - SCHWEINFURT - AUGSBURG - CAEN  
KROSS - NIESSE

(d) - NIL. - (e) - NIL. (f) - SEVEN. (g) - PEENEMUNDE -  
MUNICH - (h) - (FLEW AS SPARE FOR ALL BUT FIRST TRIP).

(i) N/A

DATE 19/7/45 SIGNATURE H.A. Pender

Use other side, or attach extra sheets, if necessary.

Pender.

118

For the Australian Press

Bomber Command.

Serial No. 2868.

AUSTRALIANS OVER TURIN

There were many Australians from a Lancaster squadron of Bomber Command over Turin last night.

"The journey over the Alps was to me the highlight of the trip," said F/Sgt. J.H. Petersen, a bomb aimer of Brisbane. "The mountains were covered with clouds but through them great peaks jutted. They were snow topped and looked just as if huge fingers were trying to reach up to touch you. In the flares over Turin it was as bright as day. After the Ruhr the Italian anti-aircraft fire seemed very poor indeed. We were able to make two bombing runs. I was not satisfied with the first and asked for a second. We turned and again went over the target. In all we were ten minutes level over the target. We did not see a single enemy night fighter throughout the trip."

"Fatigue and monotony are the two things you have to fight on a long flight like this," said F/Sgt. H.A. Pender, a wireless operator of Perth, W.Australia. "Some of us sang and at times we chatted as if we were in a railway carriage instead of an aircraft. After the Ruhr the trip seemed an easy one to me."

"I was in the first Lancaster to bomb the target. You could see everything plainly. The barrage, after what we know about barrages, was nothing. All around us we could see Lancasters flying in undisturbed formation. We hit our objective without a doubt. Just as we released our bombs several other aircraft bombed simultaneously. We did not see a solitary fighter throughout the long trip. But I now feel as if I could go to sleep for a fortnight."

The attack is generally reported as highly successful. One Lancaster pilot said, "It was quite easy to pick out the target. It was like flying over a photograph. We dropped our 4,000 lb. bomb on a factory and there was a yellowish flare which rose to 500 ft."

Other Australians who took part in the attack were:-

Sgt. K.E. Harris of Rose Bay, Sydney. Sgt. G. Halstead of Townville, Sydney. F/Sgt. V. Begarthy of Portlinton, S.Australia. F/Sgt. A.E. Kan, of Melbourne. Sgt. G.J. Lightfoot of Victoria. Sgt. W.G. Osmotherly of Beechworth, Victoria. F/O. E.O. Kane of Sydney. F/O. K.L. Sheppard of Merrywether, N.S.W.

End. 1615. 13.7.43. JMC.....