

FO Douglas Alexander Cameron 39455 RAF

Douglas was born on 14 June 1914 in Ivanhoe, Victoria, Australia, the son of Gordon Douglas Cameron and Amelia Emily Jessie Cameron nee Pepper. In 1938 he married Jessie Taylor Rennie in Wantage, Berkshire. They had one daughter.

In 1937 Douglas graduated as a pilot from RAAF Point Cook, Melbourne and was selected for a RAF Short Service Commission under the pre-war RAAF/RAF exchange scheme, arriving in England the same year. After further training he was posted to 211 Sqn at RAF Aldergrove, Northern Ireland.

By Spring of 1938, Douglas was a pilot on the strength of 226 Sqn. Equipped with Fairey Battles, in September 1939 226 Sqn was deployed to France as part of the Advanced Air Striking Force and was based in Reims.

On 10 May 1940, 32 Battles from 13, 103, 105, 142, 150, 218 and 226 Squadrons were tasked with an attack against German troops advancing through Luxembourg. As it was impossible to provide a fighter escort, the bombers were briefed to make a very low approach to target and attack from as little as 250 feet using bombs with delayed fuses.

Douglas and his crew departed Reims at 17:00 in Battle I K9183 (MQ-R). At 18:30, whilst engaged in a dive-bombing attack on enemy columns between Wallendorf and Diekirch, Douglas's aircraft was shot down by ground fire and crashed at Hirzenhaff Farm, South of Bettendorf, Luxembourg. All of the crew survived the crash and were taken prisoner, although Douglas was badly wounded.

Douglas died of injuries sustained in the crash whilst undergoing surgery in Diekirch Hospital, Luxembourg.

Douglas is buried in Diekirch Communal Cemetery, Luxembourg

Douglas is commemorated on Wall Panel 140

Photo Source: 211squadron.org

