



Military Service Summary Sheet

Douglas Roy Taylor

<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Taylor-94131>

WikiDegrees: 11



Birth Date: 13-Jan-1920

Birth Place Port Lincoln, South Australia

Died: 01-Feb-1945

Death Place Ambon, Maluku, Indonesia

Burial: Ambon War Cemetery, Ambon, Maluku, Indonesia

Plot 28. A. 8.

Rank Flight Lieutenant

Post Nominals

Relationship

Family Network

Enlistment

S14715	Army	12-May-1939	26-Apr-1941	Interservice Transfe	World War 2	Draughtsman
416465	RAAF	23-Jun-1941	01-Feb-1945	KIA	World War 2	Draughtsman

Units

No. 31 Sqn	09-Jul-1944	01-Feb-1945	KIA	first operational posting
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Events

12-May-1939	Enlisted in Militia with RAE as a Sapper.
26-Apr-1941	Discharged from Militia to join RAAF
23-Jun-1941	Enlisted RAAF
09-Jan-1942	Awarded Flying Badge
09-Mar-1942	Commissioned as Pilot Officer
09-Jun-1942	Commissioned as probationary Flying Officer
08-Jan-1943	Flying Officer rank confirmed
09-Mar-1944	Promoted to Flight Lieutenant
10-Jul-1944	First flight
31-Jul-1944	Top cover Force "E"
09-Aug-1944	Shipping sweep - LETI ISLAND, ROMA ISLAND and BABAR ISLAND
22-Aug-1944	Top cover M.L.
15-Sep-1944	Cover
04-Oct-1944	Sweep TIMOR, JACO ISLAND DILLY
20-Oct-1944	Strike on CAPE LORE

16-Nov-1944	No. 1 Rocket Bash large 3 storied building destroyed. Other ops logged
01-Feb-1945	Bombing strike TOMAHON. Failed to return.
01-Feb-1945	KIA Air operations over Indonesia (Netherland East Indies)

Memorials

Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour	Panel 102
Adelaide Technical High School Old Scholars WW2 Honour Roll	
Adelaide WW2 Wall of Remembrance	
Crystal Brook District WW2 Roll of Honour	
Crystal Brook WW2 Memorial	

Medals

Pacific Star
1939-45 Star
Defence Medal
War Medal
Australia Service Medal

Links:

Aviation Safety Net	https://aviation-safety.net/wikibase/262979
AWM - Roll of Honour	https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R1715973
AWM - Unit	https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/U59394
AWM Photo Collection	https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C232786
CWGC	https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/2172070/douglas-roy-taylor/
DVA	https://bit.ly/3GPeSNr
DVA	https://bit.ly/3CxUuOa
Find A Grave	https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/22744008/douglas-roy-taylor
NAA - Service Record	https://bit.ly/3w6o7CE
NAA - Service Record	https://bit.ly/3Xg8aG5
Oz at War Website	https://www.ozatwar.com/ozcrashes/wa127.htm
RAAF Aviation Heritage Musuem	https://aviationmuseumwa.org.au/afcraaf-roll/taylor-douglas-roy-416465/
RAF Command	http://www.rafcommands.com/database/serials/details.php?uniq=A8-10
RAF Command	http://www.rafcommands.com/database/wardead/details.php?qnum=44542

Trove Article	http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article43479952
VWMA	https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/510027
WikiTree	https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Taylor-94131

Service History

Douglas initially enlisted in the Militia in 1939 before WWII. He was a Draughtsman at the Waterworks Office at Crystal Brook, South Australia. He was allocated to RAE (Royal Australian Engineers) and held the rank of Sapper. In Jun 1941, he enlisted in the RAAF and was commissioned as a Pilot Officer.

His address at enlistment was 36 Barker Street, Prospect, South Australia and his father, Horace, was his next of kin.

He commenced his operational tour with No. 31 Sqn on 3 Jul 1944 which ended with his death 6 months later. He took part in 34 operations and logged about 200 hours with No. 31 Sqn. He flew Beaufighters. He was promoted to Flight Lieutenant on 9 Mar 1944.

During training he flew Tiger Moth, Avro Anson, Ryan, Falcon Four, Beaufort, Beaufighter and Moth Minor. He had total flying hours of about 1,400.

Shot Down

On the 1st February (1945), eight Beaufighters of No. 31 Squadron attacked a Japanese army personnel area at Tomohon (Sulawesi, Indonesia). This attack was carried out at about 12.40 p.m., the aircraft dropping depth-charges and 500-lb fragmentation clusters. The Japanese succeeded in shooting down a Beaufighter (A8-10) piloted by *Flight Lieutenant TAYLOR* with Flying Officer PACKHAM as navigator. This aircraft was seen by the others to crash on a plateau about one mile south of the town and break up.

TAYLOR did not survive the crash. F/O PACKHAM was captured by the Japanese and executed on 31 Mar 1945. 2 crew members of No. 30 Squadron Beaufighter aircraft A19-149 lost on 30 December 1944, Warrant Officer David Bernard Benson (402487) and Sergeant Robert Leonard Frederick Jones (69985) were executed with PACKHAM. PACKHAM's execution was the later subject of charges at the Australian War Crimes trials.

Burial

Douglas was eventually buried at the Ambon War Cemetery in Indonesia. It is unclear when his body was recovered as these details are not recorded on his service record or at the CWGC website. Douglas is buried at 28.A.8 and Damien Parer, the famous war correspondent, is buried at 28.A.11.

<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/2172070/douglas-roy-taylor/#&gid=1&pid=2>

Military Family Members

Douglas' brother, Gordon, is memorialised at Rabaul War Cemetery as his body was not recovered.

Physical

Height	Weight	Eyes	Complexion	Hair	Religion	Distinctive Marks
167.64	57.2	Blue	Medium	Fair	Church of England	Several scars right calf.

Citations

1945 'Private Casualty Advices', The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA : 1931 - 1954), 9 February, p. 7. , viewed 15 Jan 2023, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article43479952>

Australian War Memorial, Photograph, GROUP PORTRAIT OF THE OFFICERS OF NO. 31 SQUADRON RAAF, Aug 1944, Australia: Northern Territory, Coomalie, Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C232786>

Australian War Memorial, Roll of Honour, Douglas Roy Taylor, 416465, Panel 102, Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R1715973>

Australia's War Crimes Trials 1945-51, Authors: Georgina Fitzpatrick, Timothy L.H. McCormack, and Narrelle Morris
E-Book ISBN: 9789004292055
Print Publication Date: 01 Jan 2016

Aviation Safety Net, Beaufighter A8-10 (31 Sqdn RAAF) Code: EH-T, Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <https://aviation-safety.net/wikibase/262979>

AWM Collection, No. 31 Sqn (RAAF), Unit Page, Accessed 16 Jan 2023

CWGC Website, DOUGLAS ROY TAYLOR, Service Number: 416465, Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/2172070/douglas-roy-taylor>

DVA Nominal Roll, Taylor, Douglas Roy. Army, S14715. Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <https://bit.ly/3GPeSNr>

DVA Nominal Roll, Taylor, Douglas Roy. RAAF, 416465. Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <https://bit.ly/3CxUuOa>

Find A Grave, Australia, Taylor Douglas Roy KIA. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/22744008/douglas-roy-taylor>

Ozatwar website, CRASH OF A BEAUFIGHTER INTO THE SEA OFF BROOME, WA ON 18 SEPTEMBER 1944, Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <https://www.ozatwar.com/ozcrashes/wa127.htm>

Parnell, N.M. (Neville M.) Whispering Death: A history of the RAAF's Beaufighter Squadrons, AH & AW Reed, Terry Hills NSW, 1980

RAAF Aviation Heritage Musuem, TAYLOR Douglas Roy 416465, Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <https://aviationmuseumwa.org.au/afcraaf-roll/taylor-douglas-roy-416465>

RAF Commands Website, Beaufighter A8-10, Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <http://www.rafcommands.com/database/serials/details.php?uniq=A8-10>

RAF Commands Website, Flight Lieutenant Douglas Roy TAYLOR (416465) of the Royal Australian Air Force, Accessed 9 Jan 2023. <http://www.rafcommands.com/database/wardead/details.php?qnum=44542>

TAYLOR DOUGLAS ROY : Service Number - 416465 : Date of birth - 13 Jan 1920 : Place of birth - PORT LINCOLN SA : Place of enlistment - ADELAIDE SA : Next of Kin - TAYLOR HORACE

TAYLOR DOUGLAS ROY : Service Number - S14715 : Date of birth - 13 Jan 1920 : Place of birth - PT LINCOLN SA : Place of enlistment - Unknown : Next of Kin - Unknown

VWMA Website, Taylor, Douglas Roy. Accessed 9 Jan 2023.
<https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/510027>

WikiTree contributors, "Douglas Roy Taylor (1920-1945)," WikiTree: The Free Family Tree, (<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Taylor-94131> : accessed 26 November 2022).

Wilson, S. (Stewart) Beaufort, Beaufighter and Mosquito in Australian Service, Aerospace Publications Weston Creek ACT 2611, 1990

Family Tree Summary

Father	Horace Philip Taylor		
Military Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	Silverton, New South Wales	WikiTree: <i>Taylor-94132</i>
Mother	Edith Erna Kappler	03-Jun-1891	
Military Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	Angaston, South Australia	WikiTree: <i>Kappler-350</i>
Brother	Gordon Eric Taylor	23-May-1918	Died as a prisoner of war on the vessel Montevideo Maru.
Military Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Port Lincoln, South Australia	WikiTree: <i>Taylor-66444</i>
Uncle	Gordon Clyde Taylor		KIA, D Coy 10 Bn, WWI, France
Military Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Silverton, New South Wales	WikiTree:
Cousin	Jack Taylor Holman, MM	12-May-1913	KIA, El Alamein, WWII, 2/24 Bn
Military Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Port Pirie, South Australia	WikiTree: <i>Holman-2971</i>
Uncle	Frank Leslie Taylor	21-Oct-1894	Wounded in WWI, 27 Bn
Military Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Silverton, New South Wales	WikiTree: <i>Taylor-94134</i>

Compiled by: Australian Military Genealogy-
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*Please email me if you have additional
information, photos or stories
Hello@ozmilgenealogy.com*

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Battles attributed to individuals are based on the dates of the battles recorded at the Australian War Memorial and matched against the dates the individual served in the unit. This is not always accurate. If you have new or better information then please let me know.

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