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22 ARMD Brigade 7 ARMD Division 30 Corps

Date recommendation passed forward 25

Received
 Brigade 14 June 44
 Division 19.6.44
 Corps 27 June 44
 Army 5 JUL 1944

Passed
 2 July 44
 2 July 44
 12 JUL 1944

Schedule No. Unit 4 SHARPSHOOTERS
 (To be left blank)

Rank and Army or Personal No. WS/Capt (T/Maj) 97115

Name Ian Basil AIRD
 (Christian names must be stated)

Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
<p>On 13 Jun 44 Maj AIRD commanded a Squadron of 4 SHARPSHOOTERS when this Regt captured VILLERS BOUCAGE, map ref 817578, Regt H₂ and one Sqn suffered extremely heavy casualties and Maj AIRD assumed Command. The enemy counter attacked and Mark VI tanks entered the town together with infantry. This situation called for the very highest display of leadership, resourcefulness and cool judgement. These qualities were not lacking in Maj AIRD and the skill with which he fought his command resulted not only in the destruction of nearly every enemy tank that entered the town but also in the successful defence of the position in cooperation with our infantry. Subsequently when ordered to rejoin the Bde this officer covered the withdrawal of the infantry and brought his command out almost without loss. It is not possible to exaggerate the excellence of Maj AIRD's leadership nor to over-estimate the influence which he personally exercised on this most important operation.</p> <p>I recommend him for the immediate award of DSO.</p> <p><i>Awarded D.S.O.</i> <i>16. 31. 8. 44</i></p>	<p>Brig WRN HINDE Comd 22 Armd Bde <i>WRN Hinde Brigade Comd 22 Armd Bde</i> <i>1 strongly advised</i> <i>This - G. L. ...</i> COM. 22 ARMD. BDE</p>	<p>Immediate DSO</p>	<p><i>21534</i> P.T.O.</p>

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Reference:-