

# MISSING AIRMAN: £500 FOR RESCUE

**A REWARD of £500 has been offered for the rescue of Flying Officer F. L. Curr, D.F.C., D.F.M., and Bar, one of the R.A.A.F.'s most distinguished pilots, who has been reported missing.**

His parents are Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Curr, of Oxley Road, Corinda, Brisbane. Mr. Curr said last night



F./O. Curr

that he had received a telegram from the Air Minister (Mr. Drakeford) giving him permission to offer the reward for anyone finding his son alive.

Mr. Drakeford had assured him that the R.A.A.F. had made every effort to trace his son.

While flying a Tiger Moth

plane from the mainland to a forward base, Flying Officer Curr was forced down on Daru Island, off Papua.

His parents received official notification of the forced landing and were told that the pilot of the plane was safe.

From Daru, Flying Officer Curr was to fly the plane to Horn Island, near Thursday Island, a distance of approximately 85 miles. It was during this flight that he was lost.

Between Daru and Horn islands are many small islands, many of them little visited, and Mr. Curr believes that his son may be on one of them. The plane was reported missing on September 24.

Flying-Officer Curr has had a most distinguished flying career. He enlisted under the Empire Training Scheme in 1940, and went to the Middle East in 1941, where he joined a Wellington squadron.

From the Middle East he went to Malta for three months. In 1942 he went to England, and was posted to a New Zealand squadron.

He won his D.F.M. while captain of a Pathfinder; and the bar to it when he was with a Lancaster squadron.

He returned to Australia in July, 1943, and saw service in northern areas. He has escaped injury in eight crashes.

When his son left England about a year ago, said Mr. Curr, he had more operational flights from England to his credit than any other pilot of the R.A.A.F. Only one R.A.A.F. pilot had a better record. He was a Sunderland pilot.

Anyone who can assist Mr. Curr in finding his son is requested to get in touch with him at his address.

lost 24.9.44