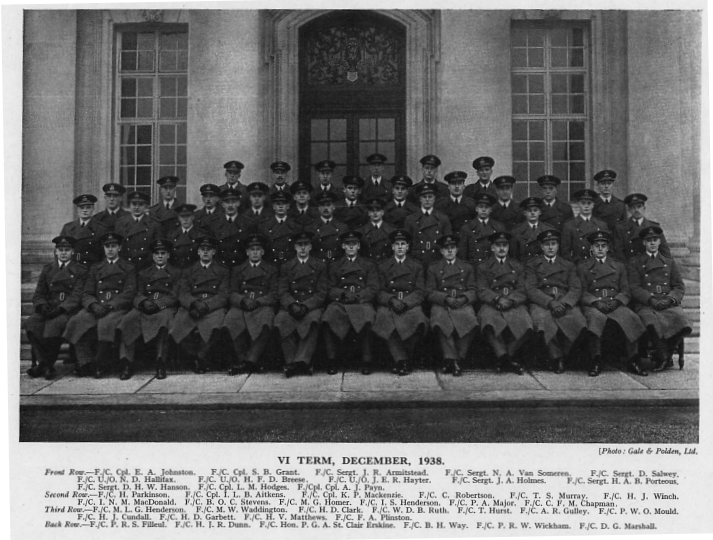


# Fewest of the Few Supplement



## J37 Entry Graduated December 1939

SURNAME	INITS
CLARK	HD
CROFTS	PG
GRANT	SB
HOMER	MG
WAY	BH



Crofts withdrew from J37 in May 1938, for academic reasons.



**Clark, Hugh Desmond  
(J37 Entry, A Squadron)**



Born 30 March 1919, attended Wellington College from 1933 to 36 and entered the College in January 1937. He went on to become a King's cadet.

He joined 213 Squadron in early 1939 from where he was posted to 85 Squadron in France on May 13 1940. He was shot down and wounded on the 16th and had recovered sufficiently to rejoin 213 Squadron at Exeter on August 19th. He was again wounded on August 26th over Portland and did not fly again until November.

He retired in 1960 as a Wing Commander.

---



**Crofts, Peter Guerin (J37 Entry, Withdrew)**



Crofts was born in St George's Square, London on 2 January 1918 and attended Wellington College, Sevenoaks. He entered the RAF College in January 1937, but withdrew in May the following year on academic grounds. Nonetheless he was granted a short service commission, completed flying training and joined the SHQ staff at Gosport in September 1938.

In mid-July 1940, Crofts was with 150 Sqn, flying Blenheims and he may have been in France when the squadron was with the AASF.

Crofts probably volunteered for Fighter Command in August 1940 and joined 615 Squadron at Prestwick on 3 September and thence 605 Squadron on the 18th.

He was shot down by Bf 109s over Ticehurst on 28 September, baled out but fell to his death at Red Pale, a mile and a half from Dallington. He was probably machined gunned as he floated down. His Hurricane, V6699, crashed in a paddock at Earls Down and exploded.

Crofts is buried in All Saints' churchyard, Tilford in Surrey. There is a memorial cross on the spot where he fell, a few yards from Red Pale.

---



**Grant, Stanley Bernard (J37 Entry, B Squadron)**



Grant was born on 31 May 1919. He entered the RAF College as a Flight Cadet in January 1937, graduated on 17 Dec. 1938 and appointed to a Permanent Commission.

1At the outbreak of war, he was with 65 Squadron at Hornchurch. Over Dunkirk on 26 May, he claimed a Bf 110 destroyed and on the 27th another Bf 110 probably destroyed and a Do 17 shared. Grant claimed a Bf 109 probably destroyed on 9 July 1940.

After attending 5 OTU, Aston Down as an instructor, between 1 August and and 24 February 1941, he rejoined 65 Squadron at Tangmere and was made as a Flight Commander in August.

Grant was posted to 601 Squadron at Duxford in December. In February 1942, he went to Gibraltar in the carrier HMS Eagle, with 16 Spitfires for Malta, the first to be allocated to the island. He led 15 of them off the carrier on 7 March, leaving one behind with engine trouble.

Grant joined 249 Squadron at Ta Kali, as a supernumerary Squadron Leader, taking command of the squadron on 14 March.

He probably destroyed a Bf 109 on 11 March, damaged a Bf 109 on the 17th, claimed a Ju 87 and a Bf 109 on the 25th, probable destroyed a Ju 87 and damaged a Ju 87, a Ju 88 and a Bf 109 on 1 April, shared in a Ju 88 on the 21st, and destroyed a Regianne 2001 on 10 June.

Awarded a DFC (gazetted 5 June 1942), Grant was posted to the Middle East on 30 June 1942. He returned later in the year and took command of the Spitfire Wing. He shared a Bf 110 and destroyed a Ju 52 on 11 December. He was awarded a Bar to the DFC (gazetted 29 January 1943).

Grant later went to 203 (Training) Group in the Middle East and in 1944 was at the Advance HQ Mediterranean Allied Air Force in Italy, as Command Training Officer.

After the war, Grant was at the Air Ministry in 1946/47, with Flying Training Command from 1948 to 1954, with Flight Command in 1955/56, after which he went to SEATO a a Group Captain.

Grant returned to Fighter Command in 1960 and undertook a course at the Imperial Defence College (IDC) in 1962. After two years with NATO in 1963/64, he was appointed as an Air Commodore to the staff of the IDC, remaining there till 1968.

Grant's final tour of duty was as Commander of British Forces in the Persian Gulf. Created a CB in 1969, he retired from the RAF on 6 June 1970, as an AVM.

He died on 6 July 1987.



**Homer, Michael Giles (J37 Entry, C Squadron)**



Homer, of Swanage, Dorset was at Wellington College from 1933 to 1936. He entered the RAF College in January 1937 and, on graduation, joined 106 Squadron at Thornaby on 17 December 1938.

In early 1940, Homer was with 44 Squadron, operating in Hampdens from Waddington. On 12 April, he was captain of an aircraft which carried out a high-level bombing attack on two enemy cruisers in Christiansand Bay. He pressed home his attack in the face of intense anti-aircraft fire and attacks by enemy fighters, one of which his air gunner shot down. He then got his damaged aircraft safely back to base. For this operation Homer was awarded the DFC (gazetted 26th April 1940).

In August, he volunteered for Fighter Command and joined 1 Squadron at Northolt in early September 1940. On the 7th he damaged a Do 17.

Homer was posted to 242 Squadron at Coltishall on 21 September. He was shot down and killed on the 27th, when his Hurricane P2967 crashed in flames at Bluetown, Mintching Wood, Milstead near Sittingbourne.

Homer was 21. He is buried in Godlingston Cemetery, Swanage.

---



**Way, Basil Hugh (J37 Entry, A Squadron)**



Way, of Hinton St George, Somerset was educated at Malvern College before entering the RAF College, Cranwell in January 1937 as a flight cadet. Whilst there he won the Groves Memorial Prize as the best all-round pilot. On graduation in December 1938, Way was posted to 54 Squadron at Hornchurch.

On February 13th 1940 he shared in destroying a He111 off the north Kent coast. In May he was appointed 'B' Flight Commander and over Dunkirk on the 25th and 26th he probably destroyed two Me110's.

On 3 July Way shared a Do17, on the 8th he claimed a Me 109 destroyed and shared another, on the 24th two probable Me 109's and on the 25th another Me1 09 destroyed. Immediately after this victory, Way was shot down and killed, crashing into the Channel in Spitfire R6707.

Way was 22 years old. He is buried in Oostdunkerke Communal Cemetery, Belgium.