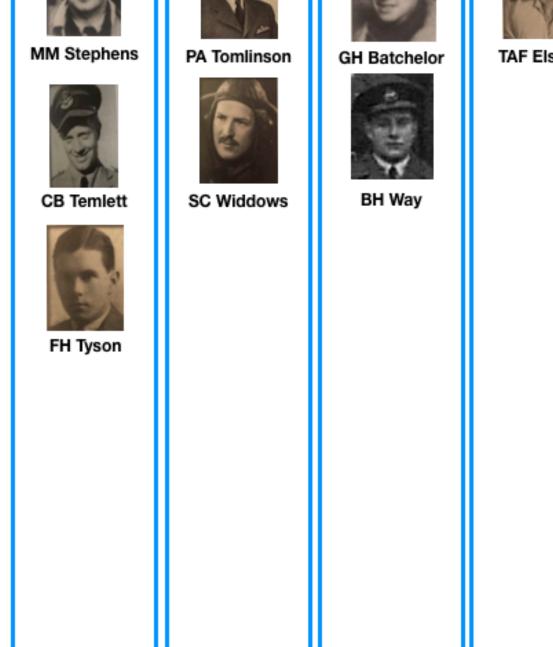
Fewest of the Few Supplement



Unspecified SFTS Course

SURNAME	INITS
BATCHELOR	GH
TIDMAN	AR

Place. Date. Time. Summary of Events. Lieutenant T.A. Tindle assumes the duties of Station Defence Officer. Education Officers - members of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve - recalled for duty. Aerodrome Council School closed owing to evacuation.	References to Appendices. D.R.O. 170.
Education Officers - members of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve - recalled for duty. Aerodrome Council School closed owing to evacuation.	D.R.O. 170.
	D.R.O. 168.
2.9.39. Lighting restrictions introduced, and guards posted at entrances to the Station.	
3.9.39. Receipt of message stating that War has been declared on Germany by the Allied Powers.	





Tidman, Alfred Roberts (SFTS Course Unknown, Possibly Course 12)



Tidman, of Lincolnshire, joined the RAFVR around March 1939, as am Airman u/t Pilot (754484). Called up on 1 September, he completed his training at the SFTS at Cranwell on 20 September. (These dates are taken from Kenneth Wynn's manual *Men of the Battle of Britain*, and would suggest that Batchelor attended SFTS Course 12, but there is no record of him either on the College's archived listing of Course 12 or on the course photograph.)

He was commissioned the next day and arrived at 7 OTU, Harwarden, and, after converting to Spitfires, he joined 64 Squadron at Leconfield on 6 October. Tidman flew his first sortie on the 11th.

He was posted to 123 Squadron, on its reformation at Turnhouse, on 10 May 1941. Later Tidman was posted to 602 Squadron at Kenley, to gain operational experience. He was shot down and killed on 17 September 1941, on his fourth flight with the squadron.

Tidman was 23. He is buried in Bergen-op-Zoom War Cemetery, Netherlands.