

RAF COLLEGE CRANWELL

“January Casualties”



January Extract of the Cranwellian Roll of Honour

Version 1.1 dated 11 December 2020 IBM Steward 6GE

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Bomber Command Losses - Berlin

Cranwellian names in plain text have been verified between College and IBCC database lists

Cranwellian names in *italics> are believed to be the correct matches to corresponding surnames and initials in the official IBCC database*

Casualty	Decorations	Entry	Description	Date
Alcock SH	DFC	SFTS15	KIA 83 Sqn; Lancaster III JB724 OL-V; Wyton-Berlin; Shot down by night fighter; Belgium.	27/1/44
<i>Butler N</i>		<i>SFTS43</i>	<i>KIA 622 Sqn; Lancaster I R5915 GP-P; Mildenhall-Berlin; night ops; flak over Hamburg-Lüneburg.</i>	20/01/44
<i>Goule HW</i>	DFC	<i>SFTS25</i>	<i>KIA 12 Sqn; Lancaster III JB283 PH-W; Wickenby-Berlin; shot up by night fighter, Lower Saxony.</i>	27/1/44
Green RJG	DFC*	SFTS28	KIA 139 Sqn; Mosquito XVI MM132 XD-?; Upwood-Berlin; crashed Little Staughton Airfield.	15/1/45
Jeffreys GS	DFC	SFTS24	KIA 49 Sqn; Lancaster III ED444 EA-C; Scampton-Berlin; shot down by night-fighter, Flensburg.	17/1/43
<i>Read RW</i>		<i>SFTS18</i>	<i>KIA 83 Sqn; Lancaster I R5630 OL-T; Wyton-Berlin; shot down near Kiel.</i>	17/1/43
<i>Vickers G</i>		<i>SFTS30</i>	<i>KIA 156 Sqn; Lancaster III JA925 GT-L; Warboys-Berlin; one of 28 ac lost (of 421); shot down, Dahlem.</i>	2/1/44



Goule HW



Jeffreys GS



Alcock SH
Read RW



Green RLG



Vickers G



Butler N



Lancaster I 101 Sqn



Lancaster II 432 Sqn



Lancaster III 103 Sqn



Mosquito XVI 139 Sqn

The Battle of Berlin raged from 1942 until March 1944, when Bomber Harris conceded that his area bombing strategy, the only strategy left open to him at the time, just was not working. Where the strategy had succeeded in the Battle of the Ruhr and against Hamburg, Berlin posed too great a challenge not least because of the limited range of our own fighter support, the imprecision of the much longer range night operations to Berlin and the German air defences protecting their capital.



Bomber Command Losses - Rest of Germany



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Casualty	Decorations	Entry	Description	Date
Baker FW		SFTS28	KIA 12 Sqn; Lancaster I W4369 PH-Z; Wickenby-Essen; night ops; flak, crashing in Duisburg.	11/1/43
Barker R		SFTS50	KIA 100 Sqn; Lancaster III JB603 HW-E; Grimsby-Hannover; night ops; shot down Haarbroek.	5/1/45
Charlton WFD		SFTS25	KIA 408 Sqn; Hampden I AT191 EQ-A; Balderton-Essen; shot down by night fighter; Ijsselmeer.	21/1/42
Elliot A		SFTS20	KIA 158 Sqn; Halifax III NR251 NP-B; Lissett-Hannover; one of 31 ac lost (of 664) shot up by night fighter, Almelo.	5/1/45
Ellis GT		SFTS27	KIA 51 Sqn; Whitley V Z9301 MH-N; Dishforth-Emden; lost without trace.	17/1/42
Evans EW		SFTS16	KIA 103 Sqn; Lancaster I NF999 PM-T; Elsham Wolds-Munchen; crashed near the target area.	7/1/45
Evans WJ		SFTS40	KIA 7 Sqn; Lancaster III JB398 MG-C; Oakington-Brunswick; shot down by a night-fighter, Torfhaus.	14/1/44
Grant MC		SFTS35	KIA 424 Sqn; Halifax III LV998 QB-Y; Skipton on Swale-gardening off Flensburg; one of four ac lost (of 32 Halifax).	12/1/45
Holland E		SFTS42	KIA 218 Sqn; Lancaster I PD296 HA-B; Chedburgh-Köln; one of three ac lost (of 153); flak Bergisch-Gladbach.	28/1/45
Hughes F		SFTS46	Possibly KIA 76 Sqn; Halifax V LL185 MP-G; Holme-on-Spalding-Moor-Magdeburg; crashed Dutch coast.	21/1/44
Jackson AD		J35	KIA 207 Sqn; Lancaster I ED586 EM-F; Spilsby-Stettin; night ops; crashed in the target area.	6/1/44
Jacobs TF		SFTS22	KIA 49 Sqn; Hampden I AD909 EA-; Scampton-Mine laying; lost without trace.	9/1/42
Jarand AH		S31	KIA 102 (Ceylon) Sqn; Halifax III LW179 DY-Y; Pocklington-Magdeburg; crashed Langelsheim.	16/1/45
Lonsdale DHS	DFC	SFTS18	KIA 9 Sqn; Lancaster I W4840; Waddington-Essen; night-fighter on outskirts of Arnhem.	3/1/43
Mills AAF		SFTS30	KIA 115 Sqn; Lancaster I NG332 IL-D; Witchford-Vohwinkel; US flak homebound; Emines.	1/1/45
Moore SH		SFTS49	KIA 425 Sqn; Halifax III NP999 LW-W; Tholthorpe-Hannover; one of 31 ac lost (of 664). Others POWs.	5/1/45
Perry J		SFTS54	KIA 166 Sqn; Lancaster III ND635 AS-M; Kirmington-Nurnberg; rashed at Zell/Hilpoltstein.	2/1/45
Priest TF		SFTS14	KIA 408 Sqn; Hampden I AE286 EQ-T; Balderton-Wilhelmshaven; night ops; lost without trace.	10/1/42
Richards R		SFTS16	KIA 427 Sqn; Halifax V LK923 ZL-B; Leeming-Magdeburg; shot-up outbound, ditched after tgt attacked.	21/1/44
Ruddick J		SFTS17	KIA 44 Sqn; Lancaster III DV263 KM-M; Dunholme Lodge-Magdeburg; night-fighter, Waddenkathe.	21/1/44
Russell CD		SFTS42	KIA 40 Sqn; Wellington IC X9742 BL-; Alconbury-Hamburg; last heard 3 hrs post take-off, calling for assistance.	14/1/42
Spencer G		SFTS54	KIA 514 Sqn; Lancaster I PB906 JI-B2; Waterbeach-Wanne-Eickel benzol plant; lost without trace.	17/1/45
Wright JF		SFTS26	KIA 51 Sqn; Whitley V Z9423 MH-S; Dishforth-Emden; night ops; lost without trace.	26/1/42





Bomber Command Losses - France & BeNeLux

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LOST OVER FRANCE

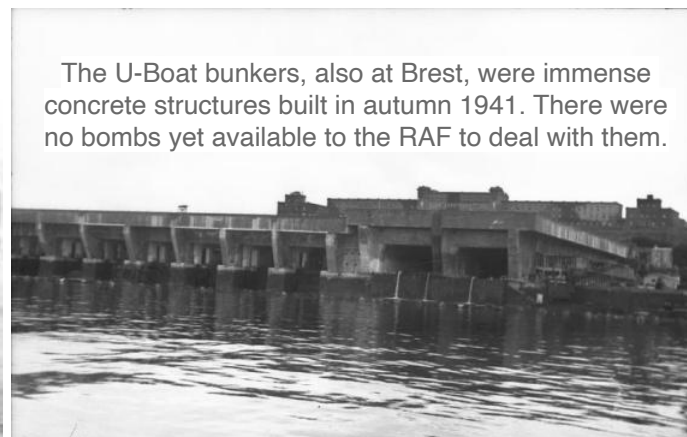
Casualty	Decorations	Entry	Description	Date
Bayley GR		SFTS14	KIA 207 Sqn; Manchester I L7322 EM-Q; Bottesford-Brest; crashed in the sea off Finistaire.	9/1/42



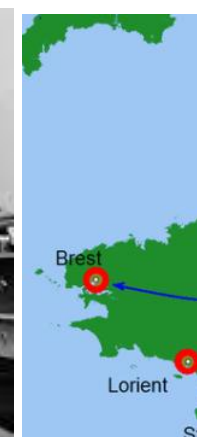
Bayley GR



Manchester Mk 1



Scharnhorst & Gneisenau



The German capital ships at Brest continued to be a prime target for RAF bombers for most of the 1941/2. There was some confidence that the repeated attacks in 1941 had caused sufficient damage to the Scharnhorst and the Gneisenau to disable them, but the absence of a clear 'knockout out' blow meant that they remained high on the target list during 1942.

LOST OVER NETHERLANDS

Casualty	Decorations	Entry	Description	Date
Fox LA		SFTS23	KIA 83 Sqn; Hampden I AE133; shot down by AAA, Kampen.	10/1/42



Fox LA



Hampden Mk 1 Crews of 83 San



AAA over Kampen, Sylt Island



Kampen is a town on the Island of Sylt, which was the subject of Bomber Command's first raid over German soil in 1940. Until that point, the RAF had been reluctant to bomb German territory with the risk to its civilian population. However, the first raid on Sylt (see the video clip above) was in retaliation for the Luftwaffe attack on the RN at Scapa Flow causing accidental civilian casualties.



Fighter Command Losses

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Casualty	Decorations	Entry	Description	Date
Charles GP	OBE	J27	KIA 208 Sqn; Hurricane I Z4864; enemy action, Antelat, Aerodrome, North Africa.	13/1/42
<i>Heninger HF</i>		SFTS47	KIA 91 Sqn; Spitfire XII EN223; Ramrod; fuel problem, baled out.	6/1/44
MacDonald JM	MiD	S38	KIA 268 Sqn; based Weston Zoyland, Somerset; USAAF Mustang.	22/1/43
Moreac J		SFTS38	KIA 340 Sqn; Spitfire IX BS406 D; Circus 248 to Abbelville; engaged by Fw190s of JG26.	9/1/43
<i>Weaver C III</i>	DFC, DFM	1ATU	KIA 403 (RCAF) Sqn; Spitfire IX MA642; Ranger-Amiens; shot down by JG26.	28/1/44
Zegers JAA		SFTS41	KIA 609 Sqn; Typhoon Ib JP425 B; Ranger; shot down by Fw190, Bapaume.	3/1/44



Hurricane I



Spitfire XII EN223 of 91 Squadron



Spitfire IX



Heninger HF



Charles GP



MacDonald JM



Moreac J



Weaver C III



Zegers JAA



Typhoon Mk Ib of 609 Squadron



USAAF Mustang of 268 Squadron



Fw190 of JG26 at Abbeville



Coastal Command Losses



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Casualty	Decorations	Entry	Description	Date
Anderton W		SFTS23	KIA 48 Sqn; Hudson Mk V AE652; Sola, Norway.	7/1/42
Coles DGG		SFTS5	KIA 22 Sqn; Beaufort Mk 1 N1151; failed to return from operational flight.	22/1/41
Fishwick JR		S34	KIA 22 Sqn; Beaufort I W6489; failed to return from an operational flight.	15/1/41
Humphris JH		S34	KIA 276 Sqn; Anson I MG552; shot down by German flak over Dunkirk.	8/1/45



Beaufort I 22 Sqn



Coles DGG
Fishwick JR



Anderson W



Humphris JS



Hudson V 53 Sqn



Avro Anson I
of Coastal Command

The primary task of Coastal Command was to protect convoys from the German *Kriegsmarine's* U-boat force. It also protected Allied shipping from the aerial threat posed by the *Luftwaffe*.

The main operations of Coastal Command were defensive, defending supplies lines in the various theatres of war, most notably the battle of the Atlantic. A limited number of detachments served in the Mediterranean, Middle East and African theatres under the Command from 1941, operating from a headquarters in Gibraltar. Coastal Command squadrons operated from bases in the UK, Iceland, Gibraltar, the Soviet Union, West Africa and North Africa.

Coastal Command also served in an offensive capacity. By 1943 Coastal Command finally received the recognition it needed and its operations proved decisive in the victory over the U-boats.



Overseas Commands' Losses

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Casualty	Decorations	Entry	Description	Date
Beet CH		SFTS23	KIA 252 Sqn; Beaufighter Ic T4833; failed to return from an operational flight north of Benghazi, Libya.	18/1/42
Downland-Ryan JN	GC	J34	KIA 69 Sqn; Martin Maryland bomber; Luqa-Pantellaria; maritime recce; crashed Silema.	13/1/42
Rowland ITBT	MiD	J35	KIA 100 Sqn <i>Vildebeest III</i> ; Far East.	26/1/42
Scott FA		<i>SFTS27</i>	<i>Possibly KIA 30 Sqn; Hurricane I Z4418; crashed at sea during convoy protection off coast of Tobruk.</i>	4/1/42
Smith-Rewse BE		J34	KIA 153 Sqn; Beaufighter VI f V8621; Algeria.	3/1/43
Wilkins SP		A38	KIA 205 Sqn; Catalina I W8409; operational flight over Singora Railway Station, Thailand.	12/1/42



Hurricane I 257 Sqn
Flown by Cranwellian
Coke DA The Hon



Scott FA **Dowland-Ryan JN** Rowland ITBT Smith-Rewse BE Wilkins SP Beet CH



Martin Maryland



Vildebeest III

Prior to the establishment of the Desert Air Force (DAF), several RAF formations operated in North Africa. On 3 September 1939, RAF Middle East Command—under Air Chief Marshal Sir William Mitchell, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Middle East - comprised four separate groups: Egypt (designated Middle East), RAF Iraq, Mediterranean at Malta, and RAF Aden (8, 203, and 94 Squadrons). Mitchell handed over to Air Vice Marshal Sir Arthur Longmore (RAF College Commandant 1929-1933) in early May 1940. When Italy declared war in June 1940, Longmore had just 29 squadrons numbering less than 300 aircraft in the four groups detailed above.

The DAF, also known chronologically as Air Headquarters Western Desert, Air Headquarters Libya, the Western Desert Air Force, and the First Tactical Air Force (1TAF), was an Allied tactical air force created from No. 204 Group RAF under RAF Middle East Command in North Africa in 1941, to provide close air support to the British Eighth Army against Axis forces. Throughout World War II, the DAF was made up of squadrons from the RAF, the South African Air Force (SAAF), the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) and other Allied air forces.



Beaufighter VI f



Beaufighter Ic
of 252 Sqn



Catalina I
of 205 Sqn

In October 1941, the Western DAF had 16 squadrons of aircraft (nine fighter, six medium bomber and one tactical reconnaissance) and fielded approximately 1,000 combat aircraft by late 1941. By the time of the Second Battle of El Alamein, the DAF fielded 29 squadrons (including nine South African and three USAAF units) flying Boston, Baltimore and Mitchell medium bombers; Hurricane, Kittyhawk, Tomahawk, Warhawk and Spitfire fighters and fighter-bombers. There were over 1,500 combat aircraft, more than double the number of aircraft the Axis could field.

John Noel DOWLAND-RYAN GC



GC ACTION

On 11 Feb 40, the SS Kildare was hit by two bombs. One exploded in the grain cargo, which shifted, causing the ship to list heavily; the other lodged in the after deck cabin, but did not explode. The ship limped into Immingham Dock.

Dowland-Ryan, with Armament Instructor Leonard Harrison GC, fitted a voltmeter to drain the electric charge. The locking rings were removed and the defused bomb was lowered into a truck for further examination.

In Jun 40, Dowland-Ryan performed a similar feat of bravery with the same efficiency and promptitude on board a trawler.

He was killed in action near Malta in January 1942.



Squadron Leader
John Noel DOWLAND-RYAN
69 Sqn
(b. 06/11/1914 Lewisham.
d. 13/01/1942 Malta.)

“Rome” Looseleaf Books 158 Sp. 42074
J. W. Ruddock & Sons, Lincoln and London

COLLEGE SEQUENCE NUMBER 826.		CHRISTIAN NAMES John Noel		SURNAME Dowland-Ryan	
BORN	DATE 6.11.14	NATIONALITY English	DATE 19	RELIGION E.O.E.	DATE 26
JOINED COLLEGE	11.1.34	ORDER OF MERIT ON JOINING 19		NO. IN CLASS ON JOINING 26	
LEFT COLLEGE	13.12.35	ORDER OF MERIT ON LEAVING 22		NO. IN CLASS ON LEAVING 24	
PROMOTED		JOINED		DROPPED	
CADET CORPORAL		1ST CLASS	12.1.34	AFTER	TERM
CADET SERGEANT		2ND CLASS	7.9.34		
UNDER OFFICER		3RD CLASS	11.1.35	AFTER	TERM
		4TH CLASS	6.9.35		
COMMISSIONED IN R.A.F.		REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL IF COURSE NOT COMPLETED			
14.12.35					
NAME OF PARENT OR NEXT OF KIN The Rev. F. H. Dowland M.C.		ADDRESS The Vicarage, Twyford, Berks.			
PROFESSION OF PARENT OR NEXT OF KIN Blenheim, Holy Orders. Vicar of Twyford. Chaplain to the Forces (R.O.D.) (Living)		CHANGE OF ADDRESS			
WHERE EDUCATED Leatherhead School, Surrey (1926-1933).					
PRIZES, ETC., ON JOINING		PRIZES, ETC., ON LEAVING			
REMARKS AND FURTHER HISTORY Entered to No. 101 (B) Squadron, R.A.F. Bicester, W. & F. 14.12.35. Authy: Am. & L. No. 18 dated 20.1.36. Promotions: Flying Officer 14.6.37. Flight Lieutenant 14.6.39. Squadron Leader 1.7.40. Awarded the George Cross for conspicuous courage and devotion to duty in circumstances of exceptional danger and difficulty, i.e. removing enemy bombs from a steamship and a trawler in February 1940 and June 1940 respectively - London Gazette dated 7.1.41.					
COLLEGE SEQUENCE NUMBER 826.		CHRISTIAN NAMES John Noel		SURNAME Dowland-Ryan P.T.O.	

Killed On Active Service

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Casualty	Decorations	Entry	Description	Date
Bourton SJH		SFTS20	KOAS 1 Sqn RAFC; Oxford Mk II R6400.	9/1/41
<i>Campain G</i>		<i>SFTS35</i>	<i>KOAS 12 OTU; Wellington III X3338 JP-P; Chipping Warden bombing ex; engines cut, Kettering.</i>	<i>13/1/43</i>
<i>Fayers RC</i>		<i>SFTS45</i>	<i>KOAS 19 OTU; Wellington X NC716 UO-O; Kinloss-night nav ex; recalled but lost in bad weather.</i>	<i>2/1/45</i>
<i>Franks T</i>		<i>SFTS19</i>	<i>KOAS 10 OTU; Whitley V BD272; anti-submarine patrol, lost without trace.</i>	<i>6/1/43</i>
Fullerton W		SFTS13	KOAS 10 OTU; Whitley V N1494; Abingdon-night bombing practice; snowstorm, crashed Wootton Road.	17/1/41
<i>Gee GM</i>		<i>SFTS28</i>	<i>KOAS 22 OTU; Wellington IC DV481; Wellesbourne Mountford-nght trg; stalled, crashed nr Charlecote.</i>	<i>14/1/42</i>
<i>Harper FF</i>		<i>SFTS13</i>	<i>KOAS 46 Sqn; Hurricane I V6816; accident.</i>	<i>13/1/41</i>
<i>Henderson WJ</i>		<i>SFTS27</i>	<i>KOAS Air Observers' School; Anson 536; accident near RAF Millom.</i>	<i>10/1/42</i>
<i>Huston JC</i>		<i>SFTS16</i>	<i>KOAS 12 OTU; Wellington Ic R1340; Chipping Warden-circuits; engine failed, crashed into trees.</i>	<i>17/1/42</i>
<i>Jennings RHB</i>		<i>SFTS30</i>	<i>KOAS 18 OTU; Wellington III BK273; Worksop-night conversion; practised overshoot, prop blade broke.</i>	<i>20/1/44</i>
Lascelles DP		J27	KOAS; travelling onboard SS Zealandic, sunk by enemy action.	17/1/41
Payne DL		J38	KOAS 2 SAC; Blenheim IV L4854; Reserve Pool (Andover); aircraft accident.	8/1/40
Stevens BOC		J37	KOAS 75 Sqn; Anson I N5024; Harwell-trg navex; severe snowstorm; crashed on Dartmoor.	18/1/40
<i>Yardley WJT</i>	<i>DFC</i>	<i>SFTS17</i>	<i>KOAS 17 OTU; suggestion he had been screened previously from ops with 138 Sqn.</i>	<i>23/1/45</i>