

**11 August 1942**

**Mont-Joli**



PL-11090

11 August 1942 #9 Bombing & Gunnery Wing Parade Mont-Joli Quebec, Course 35A.

Three airmen who graduated recently from the Royal Canadian Air Force Bombing and Gunnery School at Mont-Joli, Quebec. They are shown in front of a trainer aircraft shortly after receiving their air gunner's insignia.

From left to right in the picture are: A.H. Carling, 329 Manning Ave., Verdun; G.J.B. Neil, 9 Colquhoun St., Stirling, Scotland; Bernard Moody, 12 Nevison Ave., Ferry Bridge Road, Portefract (sic), York, England

A.H. Carling seemed to have survived.

Gilbert John Bingham Neil did not.

<https://losses.internationalbcc.co.uk/loss/220574>



[https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18585245/gilbert-john\\_bingham-neil](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18585245/gilbert-john_bingham-neil)

Bernard Moody also did not survive.

Found on a WWII forum

Rank: Sergeant

Trade: Air Gnr.

Service No: 1087282

Date of Death: 05/05/1943

Age: 31

Regiment/Service: Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve  
405 (R.C.A.F.) Sqdn

Grave Reference 15. F. 16.

Cemetery REICHSWALD FOREST WAR CEMETERY

Additional Information:

Son of Bernard and Annie Rebecca Moody, of Pontefract, Yorkshire; husband of Winifred Louisa Gough Moody, of Pontefract.

No photo

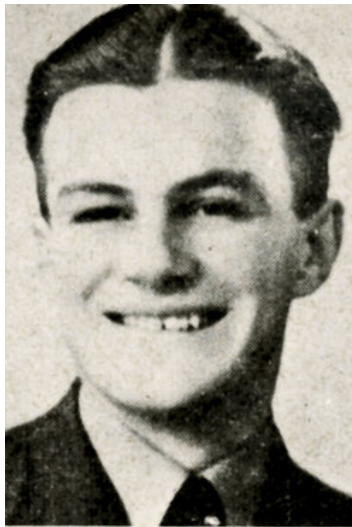
PL-11091

11 August 1942 #9 Bombing & Gunnery Wing Parade Mont-Joli Quebec, Course 35A, Two New Zealand airmen training in Canada who graduated recently as air gunners from the RCAF Bombing and Gunnery School at Mont-Joli, Que.

Shown in front of one of their training aircraft just after receiving their air gunners insignia are:  
L.C. Maunsell, NZ 414318, "Milford", Masteron, Wairarapa, New Zealand, left, and R.A.F. Woods, NZ 411964, 32 Edgars Road, Westmere, Auckland W.2., New Zealand.

**L.C. Maunsell**

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/13827293/leslie-cormac-maunsell>



**Sergeant L. C. Maunsell,**  
of Masterton, missing,  
believed killed.

<https://www.nzwargraves.org.nz/casualties/leslie-cormac-maunsell>



<https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/record/C29142>

<http://www.rafcommands.com/database/wardead/details.php?qnum=93232>

Date: 26 May 43 Aircraft: Lancaster III W4998 Unit 100 Sqdn Airfield /Crash Location ,  
Limburg

Details

Took off 2354 25 May 1943 from Grimsby. Shot down by Flak and crashed 0235 26 May 1943 at the hamlet of Het Voorst (Limburg) near Horst a small town 13 km NW of Venlo Holland where those killed were buried.

R.A.F. Woods

<https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/war-memorial/online-cenotaph/record/C21208?n=411964&from=%2Fwar-memorial%2Fonline-cenotaph%2Fsearch&ordinal=0>



**Sergeant R. A. F.  
Woods, of Auckland,  
missing on operations.**





PL-11092

11 August 1942

#9 Bombing & Gunnery Wing Parade Mont Joli Quebec, Course 35A, Two airmen who graduated recently from the Royal Canadian Air Force Bombing and Gunnery School at Mont Joli, Que. They are shown in front of a trainer aircraft shortly after receiving their air gunner's insignia.

From left to right in the picture are: J.C.B.E. Therrien, R120030, Washington, D.C.; J.V.R.J. Veys, R104910, 5712 16th. Ave, Rosemont, Montreal; G.E. Aubut, R10236, Dorion-Vaudreuil Co., Vaudreuil P.Q.

J.C.B.E. Therrien seemed to have survived.



J.V.R.J. Veys

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2046618?Joseph%20Vincent%20Raymond%20Jean%20Veys>



**SGT. JOSEPH VINCENT VEYS,** 5712 16th avenue, Rosemount, has been reported missing after air operations. Born in March, 1922, in Montreal, he was educated at the Sacred Heart School and the Fortin Business College in Rosemount and was connected with the Montreal Tramways until his enlistment as wireless air gunner, in 1941. He received training at Quebec City, Montreal, Trenton, and won his wing at Mont Joli in August, 1942. He went overseas in September of the same year, and took part in air operations over Kiel and Essen. His father, Ernest Veys, lives at 5712 16th avenue, Rosemount.





PL-11093

11 August 1942 #9 Bombing & Gunnery Wing Parade Mont-Joli Quebec, Course 35A; L.E.J. **Cote**, R132351, Lampman, Sask., left, and R.E. Goldney, R118056, 141 Windsor Road, North Vancouver, B.C., right, who graduated recently from the RCAF Bombing and Gunnery School at Mont-Joli, Quebec.

They are shown in front of one of the training aircraft just after receiving their air gunner's insignia.

R.E. Goldney

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2356406?Robert%20Edward%20Goldney>





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5118056

422

Contribution by Mark Cote, son of L.E.J. **Cote**, R132351, Lampman, Saskatchewan

From the Operational Record Books (which are available online), it seems that 405 Squadron was detailed to attack Kiel, a vitally important port on the Baltic Sea coast of the Jutland Peninsula.

They departed RAF Leeming at 2045 on 4 April 1943. It appears that they were briefed to bomb from 16,000 feet and when they arrived, they found that there was significant cloud in the area (below their altitude). The markers for the bombing were not very accurate and the enemy lit decoy fires away from the target to draw the bombers away.

Most of the bombers from 405 Squadron reported dropping their ordnance through the clouds. There were 577 aircraft on this operation. Twelve aircraft failed to return. Reports from the enemy reported few industrial or commercial buildings were destroyed and 26 people died on the ground (meaning that the attacking forces likely lost more people),

Given the circumstances and where the aircraft crashed, it is my speculation that it was downed by antiaircraft artillery -- flak. My reason for saying this is that it appears to have happened over the target. If it was lost to an enemy aircraft, those usually occurred away from the target. That there is also no record of anyone claiming the downing of the airplane also suggests it was flak. Because of the overcast, the gunners on the ground would not be able to see what their (usually) radar controlled "predicted" flak was striking -- thus no reports. (German gun batteries would report if they actually witnessed any airplane brought down).

Flak was a capricious thing. There was little you could do to avoid it -- aside from some weaving and other prescribed tactics. But over the target, the pilot usually had to maintain a steady path -- making them more vulnerable. To me, flak would be the unknown and something that you could do little to defend against. It was flak that damaged my father's aircraft critically and injured him with multiple shrapnel wounds.

To make the aircraft unflyable with flak meant that the damage was severe and it is likely -- from the fact that all members of the crew were recovered and buried together -- that the end likely came quickly for them. The only possible consolation is that they likely did not suffer for long if at all. They might not have even been aware.

This, as I have said, is informed conjecture. No-one can ever know exactly, but the crew died together. Bomber crews were closer than brothers -- they depended on each other like few comrades in arms. I suspect -- and I know this from speaking to scores of veterans -- that they would want to be aside one another in their final resting places.

I am going to list several of the sites that I have found that cover the members of the crew.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18430884/robert-edward-goldney>

<http://www.rafcommands.com/database/wardead/details.php?qnum=75472>

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2356406?Robert%20Edward%20Goldney>

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18430848/william-joseph-foley>

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18430781/robert-arthur-damms>

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18431465/ralph-james-wright>

[https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18431348/james-alexander\\_campbell-taylor](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18431348/james-alexander_campbell-taylor)

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18431276/harry-bertram-sargent>

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18431024/william-francis-jordan>

Mark Cote

More about Mark's father...

<http://www.thatluckyoldson.ca/>

[https://youtu.be/gTaALz\\_3UjI](https://youtu.be/gTaALz_3UjI)



PL-11094

11 August 1942 #9 Bombing & Gunnery Wing Parade Mont-Joli Quebec, Course 35A, Five airmen who graduated recently from the Royal Canadian Air Force Bombing and Gunnery School at Mont-Joli, Quebec.

They are shown in front of a trainer aircraft shortly after receiving their air gunner's insignia.

From left to right in the picture are:

D.L.H. French, 80 Queen St., Moncton, N.B.; W.E. Burroughs, White Lake Farm, Lafayette, Indiana; W.G. Runnerstrom, 1903 Koloroma Road, Washington, D.C., 5148 Upton Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.; F.F. Yeager, 1938 North 6th Street, Harrisburg, Pa.; G.L. Tyrone, Bogalusa, La



W.E. Burrows?

Found on a WWII forum

*I have been researching an 88 Squadron crew who appear to have been operational in the back end of 1943/early 1944 and was wondering if anybody might be able to help.*

*The pilot was Edward Wickins SIMKINS and he was awarded the DFC in 1944 (LG 19/05/1944). I think the navigator (Alistair Pirnie) was also awarded the DFC in 1945 (LG 26/01/1945) and I was wondering if a citation for the awards survives. I'm guessing they may have been end of tour awards, but cannot be certain. The DFC of Pirnie may actually have been for the end of his second tour.*

*The regular crew (although I think there were changes over time) were:*

*E W Simkins (RAFVR)*

*A Pirnie*

*D G Salmond*

***W E Burroughs (possibly RCAF)***

*An earlier post suggests that a citation might survive, if only for Pirnie:*

*<http://www.rafcommands.com/archive/20459.php>*

*but I am not certain.*

*Any help would be great.*

*Johnnie*

Reply

*Johnnie,*

*Pirnie's D.F.C. award was reported in a couple of the Scottish newspapers in January 1945. One article records that he was in the R.A.S.C. in France in 1939 aged 18 as a piper and was at the evacuation of Dunkirk. He joined the R.A.F. and trained in Canada.*

*The Perthshire Advertiser of January 27th 1945 quotes the citation as follows:*

*Now on his third tour of operational duty, Flying Officer Pirnie has attacked some of the enemy's most heavily defended targets. He has participated in sorties against flying-bomb sites and in low-level operations against important industrial targets. Since August, 1944, he has flown in close support of the Allied armies. He has always displayed coolness in [the] face of the enemy, and has achieved some excellent results.*

*Regards*

*Simon*

*Reply*

*SIMKINS, Edward Wickens, F/O (132170, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve) - No.88 Squadron - Distinguished Flying Cross - awarded as per London Gazette dated 19 May 1944. Born 1919. Educated at St. Roberts College, Chingford. Enlisted 1940; commissioned 1942. Public Record Office Air 2/9626 has citation drafted when he had flown 35 sorties (76 hours) as a pilot. Also in Air Ministry Bulletin 13985. "Now on his second tour of operational duty, this officer has flown on many sorties of a varied nature. He has proved himself a most competent box leader and on one occasion led the squadron with great success. In November 1943, he was detailed for an attack on Audinghen village and successfully identified and bombed the target in very adverse weather. An outstanding pilot, he has consistently displayed a fine fighting spirit and great devotion to duty."*

*Hugh A. Halliday*



PL-11095

11 August 1942 #9 Bombing & Gunnery Wing Parade Mont-Joli Quebec, Course 35A.

Three United States members of the Royal Canadian Air Force who graduated recently from the Bombing and Gunnery School at Mont-Joli, Quebec.

They are shown in front of an RCAF aircraft shortly after receiving their air gunners insignia.

From left to right are:

C.P. Surles, Box 588, Lake Providence, La.; F.W. Ralph, The Knoll, Fayetteville, N.Y.; J.H. Callahan, 59 West 46th Street, New York City.

C.P. Surles

<http://www.rafcommands.com/database/wardead/details.php?qnum=44014>

SURLES, CHARLES PITMAN P/O(AG) J89305. From Lake Charles, Louisiana, U.S.A. Killed in Action Aug 17/44 age 22. #420 Snowy Owl Squadron (Pugnamus Finitum). Halifax aircraft #MZ 687 went down in the Baltic Sea during a night raid against Kiel, Germany. P/Os R.H. Davies, A. Roski, K.G. Boucock, F/Os D.I. Block, F.W. Moffit, G.F. Pritchard, and WO D.B. Lorenz were also killed. Pilot Officer Air Gunner Surles is buried in the Kiel War Cemetery, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany.

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2356860>

R.W. Ralph

<https://aviation-safety.net/wikibase/51846>

Narrative:

Shot down by night fighter pilot Oberleutnant August Geiger of the 7./NJG 1, flying a Bf 110 G-4 from Twente airfield.

Target: Dortmund

Call Sign: AR-J

Crew:

Pilot F/Sgt. B.M.T. Davis 405966 RAAF Schoonebeek 3 1 752

Flight engineer Sgt. E. Rowlands 1040539 RAF Schoonebeek 3 1 751

Navigator F/Sgt. K.D. Dyce 412411 RAAF Schoonebeek 3 1 753

Bomb aimer F/Sgt. C. Goldthorpe 405849 RAAF Survived POW

Wo ag F/Sgt. J.S. Biffen 411839 RAAF Schoonebeek 3 1 748

Air gunner F/Sgt. C.S. Wright 421066 RAAF Schoonebeek 3 1 749

**Air gunner F/Sgt. F.W. Ralph R/152317 RCAF Schoonebeek 3 1 750**

J.H. Callahan seemed to have survived.



PL-11096

11 August 1942 #9 Bombing & Gunnery Wing Parade Mont-Joli Quebec, Course 35A.

Three Australian airmen training in Canada who graduated recently from the Bombing and Gunnery School at Mont-Joli, Quebec.

They are seen in front of a Royal Canadian Air Force training craft shortly after receiving their air gunners insignia.

From left to right are:

Aus 413495, L.H. Watters, 284 Park Road, Lidcombe, Sydney, Australia;

Aus 412666, W.J. Neilson, 3 Ewenton St., Balmain, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia;

Aus.412633, F. McGlinchy, 177 Augustus St., Lockhart, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.

L.H. Watters

<https://losses.internationalbcc.co.uk/loss/229646/>

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RAAF FATALITIES IN SECOND WORLD WAR AMONG  
RAAF PERSONNEL SERVING ON ATTACHMENT  
IN ROYAL AIR FORCE SQUADRONS AND SUPPORT UNITS

**413495 Flight Sergeant WATTERS, Leslie Harold**

**Source:**

AWM 237 (65) NAA : A705, 166/43/166 Digitised, Micro Film No 463 OAFH.  
Commonwealth War Graves records. WR Chorley : RAF Bomber Command Losses of  
the Second World War, Page 129, Volume 1943.

<b>Aircraft Type:</b>	Lancaster
<b>Serial number:</b>	W 4140
<b>Radio call sign:</b>	GF - K
<b>Unit:</b>	ATTD 156 SQN RAF

**Summary:**

Lancaster W4140 took off from RAF Warboys at 0043 hours on the night of 26/27<sup>th</sup> April 1943, detailed to bomb Duisberg, Germany. Nothing was heard from the aircraft after take off and it failed to return to base.

**Crew:**

RCAF Flt Sgt D H Waugh, Captain (Pilot)  
RAF Sgt S C Brown, (Flight Engineer)  
RAF FO Lindsey, L E (Navigator)  
RAF Sgt C N Bonar, (Air Bomber)  
RAF Sgt R E Funnell, (Wireless Air Gunner)  
RAF Sgt B P Ashcroft, (Mid Upper Gunner)  
RAAF 413495 Flt Sgt L H Watters, (Rear Gunner)

The aircraft crashed in the target area and all the crew were killed.  
They are buried in the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Locality Kleve, Nordrhein-  
Westfalen, Germany The cemetery is 5kms south west of Kleve.

W.J. Neilson

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R1522133>

F. McGlinchy

<https://losses.internationalbcc.co.uk/loss/115539>

<https://www.airmen.dk/e777929.htm>



PL-11097

11 August 1942 #9 Bombing & Gunnery Wing Parade Mont-Joli, Quebec, Course 35A.

Four airmen from the Maritimes who graduated recently from the Bombing and Gunnery School at Mont-Joli, Quebec.

They are shown standing by an R.C.A.F. service aircraft shortly after receiving their air gunners insignia.

From left to right are:

J.H. Walton, Mount Uniacke, Harts Co| N.S.; C.T. Hayward, Montague, P.E.I.;

W.L. Bovard, Hampton Village, Kings Co., N.B.; J.L. Stordy, Brookvale, Lot 30, P.E.I.

Walton

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2964967?Jonathan%20Harvey%20Walton>





Stordy

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2046202?John%20Lawrence%20Stordy>

