

**F/O Dennis
Herbert
Acworth DFC
141163 RAFVR**



Dennis Acworth
was a young

Mosquito navigator from Yorkshire who died along with his pilot when their aircraft crashed into the sea during a bombing attack on a coastal gun battery a little over a week before D-Day.

His aircraft, DZ468 AZ-D from 627 Squadron, was one of the Pathfinders for an attack involving 272 aircraft hitting five batteries on the Channel coast. DZ468's target was a site at St Valery-en-Caux, north of Le Havre and they had taken off from Woodhall Spa at 0020 hours on 28 May 1944. During the action, the aircraft was heard over the radio to be going down into the sea off the French coast. The bodies of Dennis and his pilot, F/O Phillip Foxcroft DFC, were not recovered and both are remembered on the Runnymede Memorial.

Dennis, who was 21, had joined 627 at Oakington, from the 1655 Mosquito Training Unit at Warboys, in mid-December 1943 and was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross, which was promulgated after his death on 12 June 1944.

He was the son of Herbert Douglas and Hilda Florence Acworth and came from Plaistow in Essex. His brother, George, was a wireless operator in Bomber Command who became a prisoner of war on 2 November 1944 when his 622 Squadron Lancaster, LL803 based at Mildenhall, was shot down during a raid on Homburg.

His name can be found on panel 001.

Sources: Aviation Safety Network/At First Sight by Alan B Webb.