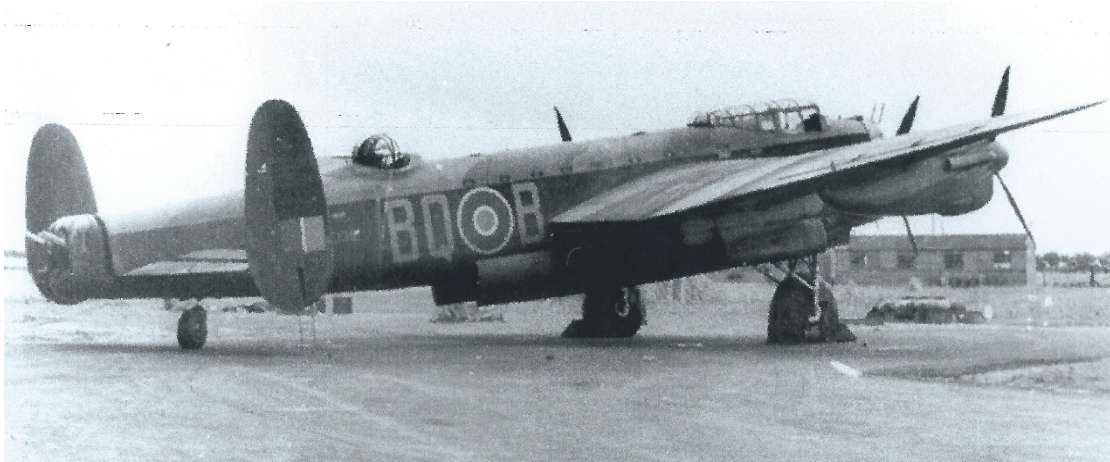


## Sgt. David Anthony 1826667 RAFVR



**David Anthony, right, and, above, an earlier BQ-B at North Killingholme**

David Anthony was a Scottish rear-gunner killed in what was one of Bomber Command's last major battles with Luftwaffe night fighters.

He was part of the crew of one of the 23 1 Group Lancasters lost in an attack on the city of Nuremburg on the night of 16/17 March 1945. The bombers were intercepted outbound by night fighters and most of those lost were shot down in running battles as the Lancasters approached Nuremburg.

David was the rear gunner in Lancaster NG336 BQ-B – a successor to the Squadron's earlier 'B' Phantom of the Ruhr – which was one of 18 provided by 550 Squadron for the raid, leaving North Killingholme at 1724 hours. The Lancaster was attacked on the outbound leg and crashed in Einkorn Forest, not far from Schwabish Hall in Baden-Wurttemberg. The only survivor was the French-born Belgian pilot F/L Robert Liefoghe. The six casualties are now buried in Durnbach War Cemetery.

He had joined 550 in November 1944 along with four of the others who died from 170 Squadron. His home was in the West Lothian village of Stoneyburn and he was the 25-year-old husband of Anne and the son of Robert and Elizabeth Anthony.

The others who died were the flight engineer Sgt. Ivor Jones RAFVR, navigator Flt. Sgt. Albert Higgins RAFVR, bomb-aimer F/O Robert Hughes RAFVR, wireless operator Flt. Sgt. Vincent Davidson RAFVR and mid-upper gunner Sgt. Frederick Self RAFVR – who was flying as a last-minute replacement for the crew's regular gunner Sgt. Robert Anderson.

His name can be found on panel 003.

Sources: 550 Squadron Association/'Five-Fifty': The Story of a Wartime Lancaster Squadron by Patrick Otter.



