

## **Sgt. George Donald Arnott R/179877 RCAF**



### **460 Squadron Lancasters at Binbrook, 1943**

George Arnott was the 20-year-old mid-upper gunner in a multi-national Lancaster crew of 460 (Australian) Squadron at RAF Binbrook in 1943. He came from Toronto, Ontario, and was one of two Canadians, two Englishmen, a Welshman, a gunner from Northern Ireland and an Australian pilot in his crew.

They were all killed on the night of 26 November 1943 when their aircraft was hit by flak on its return from a raid on Berlin. They had left RAF Binbrook on board Lancaster I ED370 AR-B2 shortly after 1700 hours, as part of a force of 443 Lancasters sent to Berlin, and crashed five and a half hours later at Grossenkneten, near Oldenburg in northern Germany, one of 28 aircraft lost over Germany with a further 14 crashing on their return.

Their Lancaster is reported to have come down close to the railway station in Grossenkneten and the crew were later buried in Neuer Friedhof before being reinterred in the nearby Sage War Cemetery.

George was the son of Thomas and Maude Arnott of New Jersey, USA.

Killed with him were the pilot Flt. Sgt. Edward Stones RAAF, flight engineer Sgt. Richard Jones, navigator Sgt. Kenneth Smith, bomb-aimer Flt. Sgt. Nathaniel McNair RCAF, wireless operator Sgt. William Belton and rear gunner Sgt. Joseph McIvor.

His name can be found on IBCC panel 003.

Photographic source: Australian War Memorial Museum.