

Sgt. John Bishop 1067279
RAFVR



John Bishop was a young Wellington bomber wireless operator from the city of Hull

who was killed along with the rest of his crew just three weeks after joining his squadron.

He was part of the crew of Wellington Z8523 PH-Y of No. 12 Squadron, one of two aircraft from the squadron lost in a major raid on the port of city of Bremen in the early hours of 14 September 1942. The attack involved 446 Bomber Command aircraft, of which 21 failed to return.

John and his crew had taken off from RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire at 0025 hours. They were later reported to have been caught in searchlights over the target and then likely hit by heavy anti-aircraft fire, crashing near the village of Barrien, 10 miles south of Bremen.

He and his crew had come together at No. 20 Operational Training Unit at Lossiemouth in Scotland before arriving at Binbrook on 21 August 1942. At the age of 20, John was the youngest member of the crew. He was the son of Matthew and Annie Bishop.

The others who died were the pilot Sgt. Hubert Feast, observer Sgt. Frank Logan, navigator Sgt. William Thompson and American-born rear gunner Flt. Sgt. George Waters RCAF. All were initially buried locally and later reinterred in the Rheinberg War Cemetery (grave ref. 17. G. 23).

John's name can be found on IBCC panel 009.

Sources: Aviation Safety Network/Bomber Command War Diaries by Martin Middlebrook and Chris Everitt.