

**Flt. Lt.
Geoffrey
Edward Bray
88650 RAFVR**

Geoffrey Bray was a
Mosquito pilot
whose photo-
reconnaissance

aircraft was shot down off the Dutch coast in the autumn of 1944.



He was the pilot of one of four Mosquitoes from No. 627 Squadron which left RAF Woodhall Spa in Lincolnshire on the late afternoon of 7 October 1944. They were to provide photographic evidence of what the Germans were planning on the island of Walcheren in the Scheldt estuary. This was seen as the key to the Allies seizing the key port of Antwerp, as they moved through Belgium following the D-Day invasion earlier in the year.

Geoffrey and his navigator/camera operator F/O Peter Herbert DFC were flying Mosquito XX KB195 AZ-B and had taken off at 1625 hours. Three hours later it was reported the Mosquito had been hit by flak and crashed in the Westerschelde Zeeland. Neither of the bodies of the two men were recovered and both are now remembered on the Runnymede Memorial (panel 201).

Geoffrey is believed to have come from King's Lynn and was on his second tour of operators when he lost his life. He had joined the RAFVR early in the war, commissioned in January 1941 and had joined 627 Squadron from No. 1655 Mosquito Training Unit in July 1944.

Geoffrey's name can be found on IBCC panel 012.

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