

Pilot Officer Gordon Alan Bullock J/89261 RCAF

Gordon Bullock was a 20-year-old American-born navigator who was killed when his parachute failed after his crew abandoned their flak-damaged Lancaster.

He was part of the crew of LE269 LE-I from No. 630 Squadron which was hit by flak during a daylight attack on the French port of Bordeaux on 18 August 1944. It was just two months after the crew had joined the squadron.

His aircraft was one of nine Lancasters from 630 Squadron taking part in an attack by 64 No. 5 Group Lancasters and five Mosquitos on an oil storage depot at Bordeaux, and was the only one lost on this operation.



After leaving RAF East Kirkby in Lincolnshire at 1542 hours on what was their 17th operation, Gordon's aircraft was in formation over the target when it was hit by anti-aircraft fire, later crashing near the village of St-Crepin, near Rochefort.

Gordon's body was later found near the village of Muron. The other crew fatality was the bomb-aimer, Flt. Sgt. Ronald Bishop. Gordon was later buried in Muron Communal Cemetery.

He was born the city of Nampa in Idaho, the son of B H and Audrey Bullock. In 1930 the family moved to Canada and settled in the Toronto suburb of Agincourt, where Gordon was educated in the city's Continuation School.

The other crew members were pilot P/O John Bolton, flight engineer Sgt. C Goodman, bomb-aimer Sgt. William Dunbar, mid-upper gunner Sgt. J Gurney and rear gunner Sgt. W Hunt - all of whom survived and evaded capture. Bill Dunbar was to be killed in a flying accident in March 1945 while serving as an instructor in the No 1 Radio School, while P/O Bolton remained in the RAF and was killed in an air crash in 1951.

Gordon's name can be found on IBCC panel 015.

Sources: 630 Squadron Association/Canadian veterans.