

Flying Officer Douglas Gordon Bush DFC J/39727 RCAF



Douglas Bush was the wireless operator/air gunner in a No. 82 OTU Wellington of Bomber Command lost during a leaflet drop (Nickel Raid) over Brest, France on 5 July 1944.

He and his crew were on board Wellington X HF485, having taken off from their base at RAF Ossington in Nottinghamshire. On regaining the English south coast it crashed at 0245 hours with engine trouble, near Liverpool Farm at Honiton, Devon. None of the crew survived.

Douglas was 21, the son of Earl Samuel and Annie Bush of Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada, nephew of Harriet Phipps of East Kelowna.

Killed with Douglas were the pilot Flt. Lt. F L Burston, navigator F/O G R Burston, bomb aimer F/O R S V Doupe and air gunners Sgt. O Miller & Sgt. N S Hurder.

It is one of the few tragic instances of brothers being lost from the same aircrew (Frank and Glen Burtson); this practice was normally discouraged.

All six are buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery in Surrey (grave ref. 52. B. 6).



Douglas' name can be found on IBCC panel 016

Photographic source: www.veterans.gc.ca; Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum