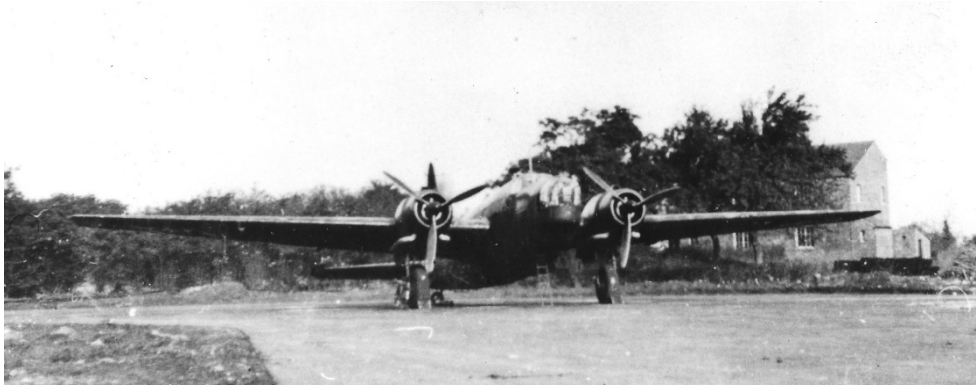


Sgt. Colin Millis Campbell 402436 RAAF



A 460 Squadron Wellington pictured at Brighton

Colin Campbell was an Australian rear gunner who died in captivity from the wounds he had received when his Wellington crash-landed in Holland after a running battle with a night fighter.

The other members of the crew survived, although several were injured during three attacks by a Ju88 as the 460 Squadron Wellington headed back towards England following a raid on Essen on the night of 8/9 June 1942.

The aircraft, Wellington IV Z1412 UV-W, had taken off from Brighton, in Yorkshire, at 2314 hours as part of a force of 170 aircraft sent to Essen for the fourth time in little more than a week. After bombing the target the aircraft was heading home when it was attacked by the Ju88 flown by Oblt. Leopold Fellerer, of the 5./NJG 2. The fighter came in three times as the badly damaged Wellington flew lower and lower across Holland. Finally, with the aircraft on fire, the pilot warned the crew to be prepared to jump but by that time it was too low and he force-landed in a sandy area at Sint Maartensvlotbrug, close to the North Sea coast.

Colin was among those badly injured and he was later admitted to hospital where he finally died on 29 August from his wounds. He was later buried in Durnbach War Cemetery. The other crew members all survived. They were the pilot Sgt. Douglas Hurditch RAAF, observer Flt. Sgt. Cyril Henden, wireless operator Sgt. Eric Maher RAAF and wireless operator/air gunner Sgt. Donald Tinkler.

Colin came from the small town of Quirindi in Liverpool Plains Shire, New South Wales. He was the 29-year-old son of Peter and Ada Campbell and had worked as an accountant before enlisting almost exactly two years before his death.

His name can be found on panel 017.

Sources: 460 Squadron Association/Aviation Safety Net/Jim Petersen.

