

Pilot Officer Henry Joseph Carrington 415761 RAAF

Australian Lancaster pilot Henry Carrington was one of six members of No. 49 Squadron killed during an attack on Duisburg in May 1944.

He and his crew were on their ninth operation with the squadron on this raid, which involved 510 Lancasters; at the same time another 97 aircraft were laying mines in Kiel Bay.

Nineteen aircraft from 49 Squadron had left RAF Fiskerton, 12 of them heading for Duisburg, late in the night of 21 May. Henry's aircraft, LM539 EA-D, was attacked by at least one night-fighter and caught fire. The bomb-aimer managing to escape by parachute before the Lancaster went out of control. LM539 crashed near the town of Roosendaal in Holland where the six men who died are now buried (Roosendaal-En-Nispen General Cemetery, Row 2 Grave 1).

Henry was 32 and lived in Kalgoorlie in Western Australia with his wife, Bessie. He was the son of William and Edith Carrington.

The others who died were the flight engineer Sgt. Ronald Coleman, navigator Sgt. Joseph Hales, wireless operator Sgt. Ronald Hill, mid-upper gunner Sgt. Robert Berry and rear gunner Sgt. Lawrence Foulkes. The one survivor was Flt. Sgt. S Silver RAAF.

Henry's name can be found on IBCC panel 017.

Sources: 49 Squadron Association/Bomber Command War Diaries by Martin Middlebrook.

