FS George Martin Dann 427445 RAAF



George was born on 17 March 1914 in Leederville, Western Australia, Australia, the son of George Edward Percy Dann and Sarah Elizabeth Dann nee Clark. In March 1937 he married Mavis Edeline Mena Cook in Fremantle; they had one son.

Educated at Fremantle Boys' State School, George was employed as a Master Butcher in Beaconsfield, Western Australia when, in December 1941, he volunteered for service in the RAAF.

Called up in July 1942, George completed his aircrew training in Australia in April 1943 with the award of his Air Gunner badge and embarked for the UK the following month.

Following advanced training at 27 OTU RAF Lichfield, Staffordshire and 1660 HCU RAF Swinderby, Lincolnshire, in March 1944 George was posted to 463 Sqn at RAF Waddington, Lincolnshire.

On 10/11 May 1944 Bomber Command was tasked with attacks on the Belgian and French marshalling yards at Courtrai, Dieppe, Ghent, Lens and Lille. A combined force of 506 aircraft, including fourteen 463 Sqn crews was allocated to the op. The squadron's target was Lille, used by enemy forces for the transportation of supplies to the Western Front.



At 22:14 on the 10 May George, operating as the Rear Gunner, and the crew departed RAF Waddington in Lancaster I LL881 (JO-E).

Post war it was established that, whilst outbound, George's aircraft exploded mid-air and the bulk of the wreckage fell on a factory in the southeast suburbs of Lille, France, killing all on board.

Also killed: FO George Oswald Jones RAAF (Nav); FO Dudley Francis Ward DFC RAAF (Pilot); PO William John Lewis RAAF (FE); WO Lloyd George McKenzie RAAF (AB); FS John Henry Brown RAAF (WOp/AG); FS Colin Henry Eastgate RAAF (AG)

George is buried in Forest-Sur-Marque Communal Cemetery, Nord, France

George is commemorated on Wall Panel 26

Photo Source: naa.gov.au