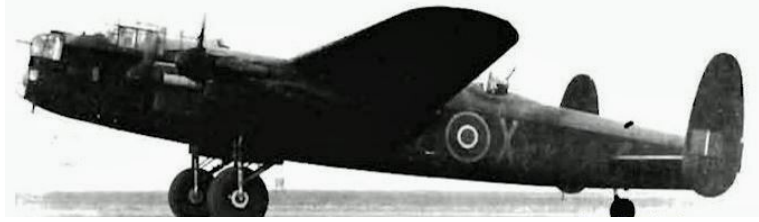


**Sgt. Thomas
Randall Evans
1299215 RAFVR**



Thomas Evans was a Welsh rear gunner who died along with five of his crew in a raid on Leipzig in February 1944.

His aircraft, Lancaster III LM384 (CF-X) (*pictured*) of 625 Squadron, had taken off from Kelstern shortly before midnight on the night of 19 February as part of a force of 833 bombers heading to attack aircraft factories in Leipzig. It was a bad night for Bomber Command when 78 aircraft were shot down, including three from 625 Squadron.

It is believed that the Lancaster was intercepted outbound by a night-fighter and shot down, crashing close to the village of Bledeln, south of Hanover. The only survivor was the bomb-aimer, Sgt. George Paterson.

Thomas and his crew had joined 625 Squadron earlier in February from 1656 Heavy Conversion Unit at Lindholme. Four of the casualties were buried locally before being reinterred in Hanover War Cemetery after the war. The bodies of two others, including Thomas, were not found after the war and he is remembered on the Runnymede Memorial.

He was the 22-year-old son of Thomas and Margaret Evans and came from the small village of Goginan, near Aberystwyth. Before enlisting, he worked as a grocer's assistant and is remembered on Ardwyn Grammar School War Memorial in Aberystwyth.

The others who died were the pilot Flt. Sgt. Charles Pearson, flight engineer Sgt. Adam Sinclair, navigator F/O Jack Pearl RCAF, wireless operator Sgt. George Cartwright and mid-upper gunner Sgt. Arthur Trivett

His name can be found on panel 033.

Sources: Aircrew Remembered/625 Squadron records.