Flt. Sgt. Angus Thomas Jellicoe Lovett 423514 RAAF



Wireless operator Angus Lovett was one of three Australians and an Irishman who died when their

Lancaster was shot down in March 1945.

They were the four casualties in a 49 Squadron aircraft shot down by a Ju88 fighter during a raid on an oil facility at Harburg, on the outskirts of Hamburg on the night of 7 March. After the attack his Lancaster, PB537 EA-X, burst into flames and the pilot ordered the crew to bale out, three doing so successfully before the bomber crashed near Sandbostel.

The crew, who were on their 13th operation, had taken off from Fulbeck at 1745 hours as part of a force of 234 Lancasters and seven Mosquitoes from 5 Group which badly damaged the plant and an adjoining rubber factory. Fourteen Lancasters were lost, including four from 189 Squadron which shared Fulbeck with 49.

Angus (pictured here third from the right of this crew photograph) came from Stockton, a suburb of Newcastle, New South Wales, and was the 28-year-old son of John and Stella Lovett. He had been brought up in the Northern Rivers region of the state and had joined the RAAF in June 1942.

The others who died were the pilot F/O Roussel Stark RAAF, bomb-aimer WO Ralph Bairnsfather RAAF and mid-upper gunner Sgt. Robert Gilbert. The survivors were the flight engineer Sgt. Fred Brennan RAAF, navigator WO John Yeoman RAAF and rear gunner Sgt. Joe Dixon.

His name can be found on panel 065.

Forces: 49 Squadron Association/aviationmuseumwa.org/Bomber Command War Diaries by Martin Middlebrook.