## F/O Kenneth George Powell 176193

Kenneth was the son of George Thomas and Irene Elizabeth Florence Powell, of Abbots Leigh, Bristol.

He was a Wireless Operator serving with 170 Squadron, based at R.A.F. Hemswell, near Gainsborough, Lincolnshire; the Squadron motto being "Videre non videri" — "To see and not be seen".

Lancaster III ME388 TC-H took off at 1704 hours 7 March 1945, from Hemswell airfield, with 12 others from the squadron, on a night operation to bomb the jet engine factory supplying Junkers, at Dessau, Germany. Its intention was to dislocate supply lines, and disorganise the Germans. The weather for take-off was good, but very soon afterwards, due to heavy cloud, it was reported, instructions had been sent to the crews to bomb the Wanganui flares (target indicators). At 2031 hours ME388 was attacked by a night fighter, exploding in the air, and crashing at Leckmart, Germany, with the loss of all the crew.



Kenneth is buried at Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany. Coll. grave 30. E. 1-7. He was 20 years old.

F/O Kenneth George Powell RAF, Wireless operator (killed)

F/Sgt. John Mahoney RAFVR, Navigator (killed

F/Sgt. Wilfred Henry Charles Fuller RAFVR, Flight engineer (killed)

F/Sgt. David Charles Palmer RAAF, Air Gunner (killed)

F/Sgt. William Desmond Callaghan RAAF, Air Gunner (killed)

F/O John Stennett Walker RAAF, Pilot (killed)

F/Sgt. Leslie Thomas RAFVR, Air Bomber (killed)

He is commemorated on Panel 86

Photo courtesy of www.theguardian.com