

**F/O Roussel
William Galloway
Stark 429834
RAAF**

Pilot Roussel Galloway 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 Roussel 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.

Roussel (*who is pictured here on the far left in this crew picture*) was born in Surrey Hills, in Victoria, and had enlisted in September 1942. He was the 23-year-old son of Frank and Marjorie and came from the beachside suburb of Glenelg, Adelaide.

The others who died were the bomb-aimer WO Ralph Bairnsfather RAAF, wireless operator Flt. Sgt. Angus Lovett 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 101.

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