

Mr. Norman Stockton, War Correspondent



Norman Stockton (far right) pictured in Australia

Norman Stockton was the 40-year-old war correspondent of the Sydney Sun who flew, on the night of 2/3 December 1943, on a Bomber Command raid on Berlin. He was one of four correspondents who flew that night – two were to be killed, a third became a prisoner of war and only one, the famed US correspondent Ed Murrow, survived.

Norman Stockton was one of two journalists to fly with 460 (Australian) Squadron from Binbrook. Both he, and Nordhal Grieg who was representing the Daily Express, died when their bombers were shot down.

He flew with the experienced crew of P/O James English, who was on his 28th operation. As their Lancaster, W4881 AR-K, was approaching Berlin it was attacked by a night fighter, which killed the mid-upper gunner and badly wounded the rear gunner. Part of the tail section was shot away and, with a wing on fire, the Lancaster went into a dive. A series of explosions blew three of the crew clear (flight engineer Sgt. William Miller, navigator P/O Neville Anderson DFC RAAF and bomb-aimer Flt. Sgt. Arthur Catty) but the remainder died when the aircraft crashed at Groningen, near Brandenburg.

Norman Stockton, who had previously worked as editor of the Hong Kong Telegraph and as Far East correspondent of the Daily Express, lived in Sydney with his wife Pat.

He is now buried in the Berlin war cemetery along with the pilot P/O James English DFC RAAF, wireless operator Sgt. Arthur Cole, mid-upper gunner WO2 Ivan Rodin RCAF and rear gunner Flt. Sgt. Alex Kan RAAF.

Norman's name can be found on IBCC panel 102.

Photographic source: Aircrew Remembered