

F/O John Stennett Walker 430231 RAAF



John was born on 19 April 1924, the son of Arthur and Bessie Mildred Walker, of Birmingham.

He was a Pilot 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.

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

F/O John Stennett Walker RAAF, pilot (killed)
F/S William Desmond Callaghan RAAF, Air Gunner (killed)
F/S Wilfred Henry Charles Fuller RAFVR, Flight Engineer (killed)
F/S John Mahoney RAFVR, Navigator (killed)
F/S David Charles Palmer RAAF, Air Gunner (killed)
F/O Kenneth George Powell RAF, Wireless Operator (killed)
F/S Leslie Thomas RAFVR, Air Bomber (killed)

He is commemorated on Panel 111

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