

FS Douglas Harold Morton Jacques R/76606 RCAF

Douglas was born on 14 September 1922 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, the son of Harold Alfred Jacques and Edyth Morton Jacques nee Hopkins.

Educated at Sunalto Connaught and Oliver Schools, Edmonton and Strathcona Composite, Douglas was employed as a clerk by G C Proctor Food Stores, Edmonton when, in August 1940, he volunteered for service with the RCAF.

Called up in October 1940, Douglas completed his aircrew training in Canada in June 1941 with the award of his WOp/AG badge and he embarked for the UK the following month.



Whilst undergoing advanced training at 12 OTU RAF Chipping Warden, Oxfordshire, on 17 January 1942 Douglas and his crew departed for a night flying exercise in Wellington X9931. On return from the cross country and flying in the circuit and NE of the runway, at 00:05 on 18 January the aircraft crashed near Redhill Wood, injuring the whole crew. After 3 weeks sick leave the crew was soon back in training, and on 6 April 1942 they were posted to 214 Sqn at RAF Stradishall, Suffolk.

On 14/15 April 1942, Bomber Command was tasked with an attack on Dortmund, located in the heart of the Ruhr Valley. Dortmund was home to steelworks, military production factories and synthetic oil plants, all vital to the German war effort. A combined force of 208 aircraft, including six 214 Sqn crews, were allocated to the op.

At 23:12 on 14 April Douglas, operating as the WOp/AG, and the crew departed RAF Stradishall in Wellington IC Z1148 (BU-L).

At 03:30 on 15 April Douglas's aircraft was intercepted by Oblt Alois Lechner flying a Ju88 of the E./NJG2 from Gilze Rijen Airfield, and crashed at Overrepen, Tongeren-Borgloon, Limburg, killing all on board.

Also Killed: PO Robert Balfour Halliday RCAF (Obs); FS Billy Orin Gates RCAF (Pilot); FS Reginald Marcus Lawrence RCAF (Pilot); Sgt Samuel Cox (AG); Sgt Eric Mason (WOp/AG)

Originally buried in St Trond (Brustem) Cemetery, Limburg, Belgium, in January 1947 Douglas was moved to Heverlee War Cemetery, Vlaams-Brabant, Belgium.

Douglas is commemorated on Wall Panel 188

Photo Source: veterans.gc.ca