WO1 Douglas Clark Lisson R/73337 RCAF



Douglas was born on 5 March 1919 in St John, New Brunswick, Canada, the son of Robert Adair Lisson and Scottish born Mary Jane Lisson nee Craik.

Educated at Victoria Elementary and St John High, New Bruswick, Douglas was employed by the Canadian National Railway as a Freight Clerk. Volunteering for aircrew duties with the RCAF in November 1940, Douglas was called up for training in March 1941.

Douglas completed his training in Canada with the award of his wings in August 1941. Travelling to the UK the following month, Douglas completed his advanced training before joining 138 Sqn at RAF Tempsford, Bedfordshire via 19 OTU in July 1942.

On 14 March 1943, Douglas and the crew were tasked with "Operation Bronse", the insertion of a 3 man Czechoslovakian SOE Bronse team to Bohemia. The team was tasked to organize the resistance, carry out intelligence surveillance activities, and transmit information back to London. The group radio was codenamed "Blanka" .

Douglas, operating as 2nd Pilot, and the crew, together with the 3 man Czech team departed RAF Tempsford, Bedfordshire, in Halifax II BB281 (NF-O) destined for a drop zone near Brno, SE of Prague. Deteriorating weather conditions in the drop area prevented the planned operation continuing and the decision was made to return to base. Whilst flying to the south of Munich, the aircraft was hit by German anti-aircraft fire and crashed in the Perlacher Forest. Only one crew member and one Agent survived the crash, but they died later of their injuries.

Also Killed: Sqn Ldr Christopher Francis Gibson DFC (Pilot); WO2 Maurice Tallier Peter Myers RCAF (WOp/AG); FS John Stanley Rigden (Nav); FS Arthur Stokes DFM (WOp/AG); Sgt Malcolm John Hudson (FE) died 11 April; Sgt Harold John Sharood (AG); Sgt Leo Peter Ward (AG); Lt Bohumir Martinek (Agent); František Vrbka (Agent)died 23 March; Antonin Kubec (Agent)

Originally buried in Munich West Cemetery, in November 1947 Douglas was moved to Durnbach War Cemetery, Bayern Germany

Douglas is commemorated on Wall Panel 199

Photo Source: IBCC