

FO Peter Huxley Looker 45339 RAF

Peter was born on 17 February 1920 in Kingston, Surrey, the only child of Charles Cecil Looker and Elsie Looker nee Henson.

Educated at Cranleigh School, Surrey, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lt into the Lincoln Regiment in October 1939, before transferring to the RAF as a Pilot Officer in March 1941. After pilot training he completed his conversion to the Blenheim IV at 42 OTU, RAF Andover, Hampshire with FS O'Neill and Sgt Cox. They were then posted as a crew to 13 Sqn at RAF Odiham in October 1941.

Although 13 Squadron was an army support unit, it was co-opted to Bomber Command throughout the period for which the "Thousand Bomber" raids were taking place. The squadron mainly flew intruder raids to key German aerodromes in an effort to neutralise the German night-fighter effort; however, on 25/26 June 1942 13 Squadron did fly as part of the main force in attack against Bremen.

On 25 June 1942, 13 Sqn were attached to 2 Group for bomber operations. Of the 9 aircraft flown, 5 were flown with the main "1000 Bomber" raid to Bremen, and 4 continued the "Intruder Operations". Peter and his crew were tasked with an attack on the Nachtjagd base at Venlo, Holland.

At 23:50 on 25 June 1942, Peter and his crew departed RAF Wattisham in Blenheim IV T2254 (OO-A). On 26 June 1942 at 02:39, the aircraft was hit by flak and crashed near Aartselaar, Belgium.

Two squadron aircraft failed to return - both from the intruder attacks.

Also killed were: FS William George O'Neill (Observer); Sgt Gordon William Cox (WOp/AG)

Peter is buried in Schoonselhof Cemetery, Antwerp, Belgium

Peter is commemorated on Wall Panel 200

Photo Source: Rootschat

