LAC Richard Henry Mercer 546929 RAF

Richard was born in 1920 in Ormskirk, Lancashire, the son of Richard Mercer and Elizabeth Mercer nee White. Richard joined the RAF in 1937.

On the morning of 15 April 1940, two Blenheims from 110 Sqn were tasked with a recconnaisance of the Heligoland area. Richard, operating as the WOp/AG, and the crew departed RAF Wattisham at 06:10 in Blenheim IV L8752 (VE-G) and proceeded in company with the other aircraft until they set course for individual targets. Richard and the crew proceeded towards Schilling Roads, the other aircraft for Wilhelmshaven.

During the course of the operation, the crew attacked an enemy patrol boat but, at 10:37 they were shot down West of St Peter-Ording by a Me 109 from 3./I.(J)/LG2. The aircraft crashed in the sea, killing all on board.

Also killed : Flt Lt Mervyn Lascelles Morris (Pilot); Sgt Leslie Bancroft (Observer)

Richard has no known grave and is commemorated at the Runnymede Memorial, Surrey

Richard is commemorated on Wall Panel 211