AC2 Thomas Gardner Moran 1053259 RAFVR



Thomas was born on 3 December 1920 in Cowie, Stirlingshire, the son of John Moran and Jane Murray Moran nee Gardner.

Prior to enlisting in June 1940, Thomas was employed at Bannockburn Colliery. He was a member of RAF Wattisham Ground Crew.

At 0745 on 1 November1940, a low flying DO172 dropped a stick of ten 50Kg HE bombs on RAF Wattisham. The bombs started detonating in the married quarters before sweeping across the administration site and ending near the hangers. Bombs scored direct hits on 3 barrack blocks and the station married quarters. The concrete floor in one of the barrack blocks collapsed onto the sleeping airman on the ground floor, and damage was considerable. 12 were killed, 4 seriously injured and 15 were slightly hurt.

At 0800, the Dornier (Do 17Z-2 3387 of 4./KG3), based in Belgium and piloted by Lt Fritz Bräuer, was shot down over the North Sea off Orfordness by a Hurricane fighter.

Also killed were :
FS Frederick George William Cason
Cpl Donald Fox
AC2 William Ernest George Greenhead
AC2 John Heyes
Cpl Emrys George Howells
LAC William Robert Lambe
Sgt John Menzies Lister
Sgt William Hubner Minihane
Sgt Llewellyn Frank Webb
Cpl Frederick Wheatley
AC2 Frederick Wright

Thomas is buried in All Saints Churchyard, Hitcham, Suffolk together with 10 other Servicemen killed at RAF Wattisham in the raid.

Thomas is commemorated on Wall Panel 214

Photo Source: Stirling Observer