

FS Richard Anderson Russell R/100818 RCAF

Richard was born on 16 January 1921 in Kansas City, Missouri, USA, the son of USA citizens Stanley Paul Russell and Hilda Russell nee Anderson.

Educated at Westport High School and Huff's Business College, Kansas City, Richard was employed as a Stenographer and had commenced civil pilot training when, in January 1941 he travelled to Toronto and volunteered for service with the RCAF.

Called up in April 1941, Richard completed his training in Canada with the award of his wings in November 1941 and embarked for England the following month. Richard completed advanced training before he was posted to 107 Sqn at RAF Great Massingham, Norfolk in May 1942.

On 28/29 July 1942, twelve 107 Sqn crews were tasked with night intruder ops against Dutch airfields. John's target was Alkmaar Airfield.

At 22:01 Richard and his crew departed RAF Great Massingham in Boston III AL765 (OM).

At 23:10 the aircraft was hit by light flak from 3./Lei Flak and 5./Res Flak Units whilst attacking the airfield, and crashed at Krommedijk, Egmond aan den Hoef, Noord-Holland, killing all on board.

Also killed : FS John Robert Collins RCAF (AG); Sgt Joseph Eric Percival (WOp/AG); Sgt Siddle Henry Schofield RNZAF (Observer)

Richard is buried in the Bergen General Cemetery, Noord-Holland, Netherlands

Richard is commemorated on Wall Panel 236