

Sgt Siddle Henry Schofield 404950 RN

Siddle was born on 19 October 1919 in Hastings, Hawke's Bay, New Zealand, the son of Charles James Schofield and Elsie Schofield nee Siddle.

Educated at Norsewood District High School, Siddle was working on the family farm when, in December 1939, he applied for service in the RNZAF.

Called up in November 1940, Siddle initially commenced pilot training but, in April 1941, he re-mustered to Observer and was sent to Canada for training under the Empire Air Training Scheme.

In September 1941 Siddle was awarded his Observer badge and, following further navigation training, he embarked for England in December. Siddle completed advanced training before he was posted to 107 Sqn at RAF Great Massingham, Norfolk in May 1942. Siddle re-mustered as Air Navigator on 23 July 42.



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

At 22:01 Siddle, operating as the Observer, and the 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 Richard Anderson Russell RCAF (Pilot); FS John Robert Collins RCAF (AG); Sgt Joseph Eric Percival (WOp/AG)

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

Siddle is commemorated on Wall Panel 238

Photo Source: Hawkes Bay Aviation Heritage Association