Sgt George Herbert Stiles 580407 RAF



George was born on 11 February 1917 in Eganville, Ontario, Canada, the eldest son of Joel Herbert Stiles and May Garnet Stiles nee Thompson.

George left Canada in late 1939 to join the RAF and trained as an Observer.

On 27 March 1940, George and the crew were tasked with a visual and photographic reconnaissance sortie of the Hornum Seaplane Base on the southernmost tip of the island of Sylt, with the object of ascertaining the damage sustained as a result of a night raid carried out by Bomber Command a few days previously.

George and the crew departed RAF Wattisham at 1155 in Blenheim IV L8747 (OM-G). The last reported sighting of the aircraft was as it entered cloud with enemy fighters on its tail. They were shot down in the target area at 1413 by a Me109 of 11/JG77 flown by Lt. Heinz Demes and crashed into the North Sea near Blaavands Huk, Denmark.

Also killed were : FS David William Gibb Nichols (Pilot), LAC Jack Brian Roberts (WOp/AG)

George is buried in the Kiel War Cemetery, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. His remains were transferred in July 1947 from his original burial place in the List (Sylt) Cemetery.

George is commemorated on Wall Panel 248

Photo Source : Calgary Herald