PO Jack Richard Stone 65515 RAFVR



Jack was born on 4 September 1917 in Newton Abbot, Devon, the second son of Frank Putt Stone and Elsie Ada Stone nee Boucher.

Educated at Exeter Technical School, Jack joined the Metropolitan Police, serving until he volunteered for service with the RAF.

Commissioned in March 1941, Jack was posted to 18 Sqn at RAF Oulton, Norfolk on 26 April 1941 from 13 OTU at RAF Bicester, Oxfordshire together with his Pilot.

On 3 May 1941 twelve crews from 18 Sqn were detached from RAF Oulton to RAF Portreath, Cornwall.

On 9 May 1941 six aircraft were tasked with anti-shipping operations on the Southern end of Beat 16 and North West end of Beat 17.

At 13:30 Jack, operating as the Observer, and the crew departed RAF Portreath in Blenheim IV V6379 (WV). Four aircraft returned to base on completion of the Beat without encountering any shipping. One aircraft spotted three stationary vessels; however, Jack's aircraft failed to return.

A witness reported that at 15:25 following an attack on a 1000-ton vessel, possibly a destroyer, his Blenheim was seen at 200 ft off Camaret-sur-Mer with its left engine on fire. A subsequent investigation revealed that his plane had probably been hit by gunfire from a British warship. All three crew members were killed.

Also Killed: Sqn Ldr Richard Langebear (Pilot); FS Alec Kenneth Newbery MiD (WOp/AG)

Jack has no known grave and is commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial, Surrey.

Jack is commemorated on Wall Panel 248

Photo Source : The Western Times