FS Roy Wesley Moller R/181806 RCAF



Roy was born on 3 January 1923 in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada, the son of Max Volmer Moller and Alvina Moller nee Zimmer.

Educated at Round Lake School, Saskatchewan, Roy was employed as a clerk in the family-owned summer resort in Round Lake when, in August 1942 he enlisted in the RCAF.

Roy completed his flying training in Canada in May 1943 with the award of his Air Gunner badge and embarked for the UK the following month.

Following advanced training at 10 OTU, RAF Abingdon, Oxfordshire and 1663 Conversion Flt RAF Rufforth, Yorkshire, in December 1943 Roy was posted to the Middle East where he joined 624 Sqn, a Special Duties Squadron, at Tocra, near Benghazi, Libya. In February 1944 the squadron moved to Blida, near Algiers, to concentrate their efforts over Southern France.

On 4 March 1944 Roy, operating as one of the Air Gunners, and the crew were tasked with a Special Duties op and at 20:05 they departed Blida in Halifax II BB386.

The aircraft appeared to depart satisfactorily after a normal take-off run with all 4 engines functioning normally. A few minutes after take-off a heavy rainstorm developed.

Shortly later, the aircraft reappeared west of the airfield at 400 feet, travelling from a southerly direction towards the north. Eyewitnesses stated that the aircraft appeared to be losing height and was not making the familiar Halifax sound. A few minutes later, Roy's aircraft crashed 5 miles NW of Blida, killing all on board.

The aircraft was destroyed in the crash, but the subsequent inquiry suggested that the aircraft may have hit the storm and instrument failure ensued, together with a possible port inner engine failure.

Also Killed: FO Francis Ira Elliott RCAF (AG); FO Gordon Mundell RCAF (AB); PO Harry Alexander Edward Gordon Smith RCAF (Nav); WO George Thomas Jackson RCAF (Pilot); Sgt Donald Garforth Browne (WOp/AG); Sgt William Dennis Hazeldine (FE)

Roy is buried in Dely Ibrahim War Cemetery, Algeria

Roy is commemorated on Wall Panel – Not Yet Erected

Photo Source: findagrave