

# STICHTING WINGS TO VICTORY

AIRWAR MUSEUM / AIRMEN MEMORIAL ZEELAND



**Crash No 514**

**Lancaster HK602**

**28-10-1944**

**Westerschelde**



## 28 oktober 1944

Luchtacties tegen doelen in en om het gehele Zeeuwse gebied maar met accenten op Duitse posities op Walcheren en het steeds kleiner wordende bezette deel van West Zeeuws-Vlaanderen alsmede de ondersteuning van de Canadese opmars door Zuid-Beveland.

Tellen we de missies van Bomber Command, 2 TAF en Fighter Command bij elkaar op dan komen we op een totaal van 798 sorties (de diverse verkenners en niet nader genoemde opdrachten niet meegerekend).

Het werd een dag van ongekende inzet in het Zeeuwse luchtruim!

### **Missies van Bomber Command tegen de kustbatterijen op Walcheren.**

Een dag van grootschalige acties door Bomber Command tegen een achttal Duitse kustbatterijen bij Vlissingen, Dishoek, Westkapelle, Domburg en Oostkapelle waarvoor 130 Halifaxes, 111 Lancasters en 36 Mosquito's van Nos. 4 en 8 Group werden ingezet.

Fighter Command bracht 106 Spitfires in de lucht om de bommenwerpers dekking te verschaffen.

Tussen 1000 en 1201 dropten 116 Halifaxes en 110 Lancasters 1125 ton explosieven nadat 26 Mosquito's de doelen met 225 x 250 lbs markeringsbommen hadden aangegeven. De Flak werd als gering tot middelmatig gekwalificeerd.

- Bij Vlissingen werden twee stellingen vanaf een hoogte van 6500 tot 10.000 voet met goed gevolg gebombardeerd. Helaas ging één Lancaster hierbij verloren.
- Bij Dishoek was het doel goed gemarkeerd maar, naarmate het bombardement vorderde, werd het doel door een dichte rookontwikkeling aan het zicht onttrokken.
- Bij Westkapelle werden twee opstellingen zeer geconcentreerd aangevallen maar ook van deze aanvallen keerde één Halifax niet op haar basis terug.
- Nabij Domburg werden twee locaties en bij Oostkapelle één batterij gebombardeerd waarbij in alle gevallen een goede concentratie werd verkregen.

### **War Diary Second Tactical Air Force.**

- **67 missions from Nos. 308, 302, 127, 332, 331 and 266 squadron.**  
Time up/ down between 0721 and 0922  
Eleven Spitfires from 308 squadron dropped 22 x 500 lbs on four heavy guns at D.09012525 with all bombs in target area and four probable direct hits.  
The twelve Spitfires from 302 squadron dropped 24 x 250 lbs on AA guns at 13262377 which were all in the target area which was strafed afterwards. Thirty-six Spitfires from Nos. 127, 332 and 331 squadron dropped 36 x 500 lbs on strongpoints at D.335245 with 34 hits in the target area which was strafed afterwards as well but no results could be seen.  
Eight Typhoons of 266 squadron fired 56 R/P's and cannon at guns at D.09012525 all in target area.
- **144 sorties from Nos. 222, 349, 74, 317, 66, 302, 331, 332, 340, 341 and 33 squadron.**  
Time up/ down between 0900 and 1416  
Twenty-four Spitfires from Nos. 222 and 349 squadron dropped 10 x 500 lbs on strongpoints at D.945160 of which 8 were near-misses and 11 x 500 lbs on strongpoints at D.935158 with one direct hit and 7 near-misses. The targets were also strafed!

Twelve Spitfires from 74 squadron strafed and dropped 12 x 500 lbs on firing guns at D.084258 with one direct hit. Twelve Spitfires from 317 squadron dropped 24 x 250 lbs on guns (W.33) with 8 bombs in target area but no results observed.

Twelve Spitfires strafed and dropped 12 x 500 lbs on suspected headquarters in woods at D.2821 with two direct hits on houses in the area. The mission of 12 Spitfires from 302 squadron to guns at Walcheren was abortive due to weather and the bombs were brought back.

Thirty-six Spitfires from Nos. 66, 331 and 332 squadron dropped 33 x 500 lbs on defence positions at D.006132 which were all in the target area but no results were observed.

Twenty-four Spitfires from Nos. 340 and 341 squadron of which 12 aborted due to weather. The other 12 dropped 12 x 500 lbs on guns on Walcheren (W.4) with one possible direct hit and one near-miss and the 12 Spitfires from 33 squadron finally dropped 11 x 500 lbs on enemy concentration area at D.278216 with 9 direct hits and strafing as well.

○ **15 missions from Nos. 197 and 266 squadron.**

Time up/ down between 1134 and 1252

Seven Typhoons from 197 squadron for a mission to Walcheren guns (W.2) but not attacked due to weather and flight was directed to other targets outside this province.

Eight Typhoons from 266 squadron fired 64 R/P's at dumps and buildings at D.338326 with all in the target area and one building left burning.

○ **83 missions from Nos. 302, 308, 317, 329, 341, 74 and 340 squadron.**

Thirty-seven Spitfires from Nos. 302, 308 and 317 squadron dropped 34 x 500 lbs and 72 x 250 lbs on Walcheren guns (W.3), 10 x 500 lbs and 20 x 250 lbs on battery at D.079263 after which the guns were silenced. The remainder of the bombs were dropped in the area of D.090252.

Twenty-three Spitfires from Nos. 329 and 341 squadron dropped 22 x 500 lbs on Walcheren guns (W.2) with 3 bombs in the target area and 3 bombs on buildings.

Twenty-three Spitfires dropped 22 x 500 lbs on Walcheren guns (W.4) with 11 bombs in the target area which was strafed as well.

○ **80 missions from Nos. 183, 609, 193, 198, 164, 257 and 263 squadron.**

Time up/ down between 0909 and 1433

Four Typhoons from 183 squadron fired 31 R/P's and cannon at houses at D.0213, all in target area and four from 609 squadron fired 31 R/P's at the same target which was destroyed.

Eight Typhoons from 193 squadron dropped 16 x 500 lbs on gun positions on South-Beveland after which the positions were strafed.

Four Typhoons each from Nos. 198 and 164 squadron fired 30 and 32 R/P's respectively at strongpoints at C.999168 and these points were strafed as well.

Three Typhoons of 183 squadron and four from 198 squadron fired 23 R/P's on strongpoints at D.0006180 and 24 R/P's on gunpositions at C.374164 as well as 8 R/P's and cannonstrikes on camouflaged shelters at C.991156.

Four Typhoons from 609 squadron fired 31 R/P's on farmhouses at D.004183 with two direct hits. Four planes from 164 squadron fired 30 R/P's in orchard at D.00017 after which two buildings were burning. Pillboxes were also strafed and hit!

Eight Typhoons from Nos. 183 and 609 squadron fired each 32 R/P's on heavy guns at C.974165 and on a farmhouse at C.9917 but all missed! Cannon strikes however were seen on two HDT with soldiers which were destroyed.

Eight Typhoons from 257 squadron dropped 8 x 500 lbs respectively on guns at D.370250 and mortar positions at D.392276 and the roads at 392276 were also strafed.

Three Typhoons from 257 squadron dropped 6 x 500 lbs on artillery positions at D.341230 after which 10 to 15 Huns were seen waving white flags which were strafed.

Four Typhoons from 263 squadron dropped 8 x 500 lbs on building at D.379269 and two near-misses were observed. Three others dropped 6 x 500 lbs on road junction at D.350287 but missed and the last three planes from this squadron dropped 6 x 500 lbs on buildings at D.379272 with one direct hit. In all 3 cases the targets were strafed after the bombs had been dropped.

Twelve Typhoons from 193 squadron of which the first four made no contact with VCP so there was no attack. The second four attacked strongpoints at D.409312 with 5 x 500 lbs and cannon and 4 bombs were seen to explode in the target area. The final four dropped 8 x 500 lbs on the same target with one direct hit observed and strafing in all cases to follow.

- **24 missions from Nos. 198, 164, 609 and 183 squadron.**

Time up/ down between 1524 and 1755

Four Typhoons from 198 squadron fired 24 R/P's on houses at C.991181. The rockets missed but cannon strikes found their target. They were followed by 4 Typhoons from 164 squadron which fired 32 R/P's on strongpoints at C.982179 and four from 609 squadron firing 32 R/P's at fieldguns at D.003158 but no results were observed!

Four Typhoons from 198 squadron fired 32 R/P's on buildings at C.996166 and strafed with cannon after which 3 buildings were severely hit. Four from 183 squadron fired 32 R/P's at observation post at C.988164 with 12 direct hits but nevertheless still standing.

The final four came from 164 squadron firing 31 R/P's at the same target and hits seen on building which was on fire but still standing.

- **3 missions from 317 squadron**

Time up/ down between 1206 and 1315

Uneventful ASR patrol south of Flushing with 3 Spitfires.

### **War Diary Air Branche First Canadian Army.**

Saturday! The weather was mediocre, but provided the time to start the preparations on Operation "Infatuate". Effort was also used against the much hit Cadzand guns and targets on Zuid-Beveland.

FCP and VCP were both operated during the day with succes!

### **extracts from war-diaries.(en afgeleide bronnen)**

- **4 squadron:** A marked improvement was shown in the weather during the morning and there was very little cloud over any of the operations areas. By lunchtime however, currulus commenced to build up and therefore no late afternoon sorties were flown.

Nineteen sorties were flown all of them high level photorecce and of these four were unsuccessful due to weather and there was no enemy opposition during the day.

- **182 squadron** (bron de Hawk): Van 1625 tot 1715 namen vier Typhoons een observatiepost in de kerk van Retranchement onder vuur waarbij treffers werden waargenomen door zowel rocket projectiles als met boordvuur.

- **193 squadron:** The day was passed with "taxi rank"shows in support of our troops on South-Beveland Island. B-Flight worked the German positions near Goes in the morning and A-Flight carried on in the afternoon, the Commanding Officer leading both efforts. The targets laid on by the ground observers were for the most part effectively knocked out.

The last sections out in the afternoon took something of a knocking about themselves, two of the four planes being shot up. Flt.Sgt.Goodhew was hit in the tanks and barely managed to reach base with his cockpit full of petrol and himself nearly blinded. He executed a most skillfull landing with his flying fire-trap. Your correspondent was not so fortunate and was forced to set his Typhoon into a field near Merxem after the old Sabre gave up the ghost, a bit of 20 mm having carried away most of the oil cooler

First mission 1015 – 1110

Owing to a slight misunderstanding the spare man took off unnecessarily and so nine aircraft bombed the target being gun positions near the canal at the east end of South-Beveland.

Two attacks were made; the first bombing and the second strafing. The bombing was good and the gun positions were well camouflaged.

Second mission 1325 – 1345

The formation of eight Typhoons bombed and strafed a strongpoint west of the canal of South-Beveland Island.

Third mission 1515 – 1555

Sqn.Ldr.Plamondon had to force-land due to engine failure. He made a good wheels-up landing and his No.2 returned to base to give the position of the aircraft.

- **197 squadron:** In the morning the Commanding Officer led A-Flight with the intention of bombing heavy guns at Flushing but due to the weather the alternative target at Knokke was attacked.again heavy guns but no results were observed!
- **198 squadron:** Om 0852 steeg een sectie van vier toestellen onder leiding van Flt.Lt.Kirsch op met als doel C959165 zijnde het Zwin bij grenspaal 369. De sectie nam betonnen geschutsemplacements en loopgraven waar die prompt werden aangevallen. Drie salvo's lagen geconcentreerd temidden van deze doelen en het gehele gebied werd met de boordwapens beschoten.

Onze piloten namen geen Flak waar maar na de landing bleek dat één van de Typhoons geringe schade had opgelopen, waarschijnlijk veroorzaakt door lichte wapens.

Sqn.Ldr. Ridler steeg om 1020 uur met drie andere Typhoons op en – boven het doelgebied aangekomen – kregen ze de opdracht mitrailleurstellingen bij D0212 (Oostburgsche brug) aan te vallen. R/P's werden afgevuurd en drie strafings met boordwapens uitgevoerd waarbij treffers in het doelgebied werden waargenomen.

Er was geen Flak maar Flt.Lt. Oden vloog door de brokstukken, die door zijn eigen R/ P's waren opgeworpen en waardoor een gat in zijn brandstoftank ontstond. Niettemin slaagde hij erin om veilig op zijn basis terug te keren.

Om 1245 steeg, wederom onder leiding van Flt.Lt.Kirsch, een sectie van vier Typhoons op. Men vloog naar een doel dat door de FCP werd opgegeven als geschutsstellingen in een boomgaard bij C974164, een versterking ten westen van Cadzand (tegenwoordig kruising Retranchementseweg/ Zuidzandseweg). Acht rocket projectiles werden op de doelen afgevuurd welke tevens met boordwapens werden bestreken.

- **257 squadron:** After a threatening night the weather broke this morning with a slight haze and a virgin blue sky. The first operation commenced at 1145 hours with A-Section, led by Sqn.Ldr.D.P.Jenkins consisting of four aircraft altogether, atatched an orchard hiding a gun position south of Eversdijk. Blue Section (4 aircraft), led by Flt.Lt.J.D.Haworth, bombed and strafed mortar positions east of Kapelle at 1215 hours but results were unobserved.

Later Plt.Off.W.H.Upperton had a section of four aircraft to attack AA positions near Hoedekenskerke. Bombs and cannons evidently brought the Boche to heel, for a number of German soldiers appeared frantically gesticulating and displaying white flags!

On each operation the sections were controlled by VGP in the South-Beveland area.

- **263 squadron:** The weather has improved considerably and about midday 10 aircraft in three sections ( 4+3+3) are briefed to carry out attacks on targets in close support of the army. The first section attacked a railway station just south of Kapelle. The main buildings were missed but other buildings were hit and the line was out. The road running west from Kapelle was strafed as well.

The second section was under control of a VCP over the battle area and the target given was a road junction. This was missed by bombs but well strafed and one MT smoker claimed.

The third section attacked the railway in the same area as the first section and a direct hit was scored on some buildings.

- **266 squadron:** B-Flight took the air very early to attack gun positions south of Goes with rocket projectiles and then again with cannon. Meanwhile A-Flight carried out some airtests in preparation for their operation, an attack on Huts and dumps at Wilhelminadorp.

- **268 squadron:** One photorecce and five tactical recce's were successfully completed. Two P-51 Mustangs - FD444 and FD544 with Flg.Off.G.W.G.Buckland and Flt.Lt.H.H.J.Skinner - for tactical recce Knokke, Schelde and Schouwen region with little seen on the roads but a fair amount of waterborn activity.

A considerable amount of Rocket-Flak was fired at this section.

Time up/ down 0734 - 0826

Two P-51 Mustang - FD481 and FD475 with Flg.Off.R.B.Garside and Flg.Off.J.Bowskill - for tactical recce Knokke, Schelde and Schouwen region with some MT and HDT seen.

Time up/ down 0930 - 1050

Two P-51 Mustangs - FD558 and FD560 with Flt.Lt.R.I.Mackintosh and Flt.Lt.J.B.Lyme - for tactical recce Knokke, Schelde and Schouwen region with Flushing harbourseen blocked by sunken vessels but otherwise nothing.

Time up/ down 1157 - 1313

Two P-51 Mustang - FD481 and FD498 with Flt.Lt.O.R.Chapman and Flt.Lt.H.A.Wilton - for tactical recce Knokke, Schelde and Schouwen with three tanks and some waterborn activity observed.

Time up/ down 1453 - 1537

Two P-51 Mustangs - FD564 and FD444 with Flg.Off.A.T.Lord and Flt.Lt.E.R.Lowry - for tactical recce Knokke, Schelde and Schouwen with little seen.

Time up/ down 1630 - 1712

- **302 squadron:** There were in all three operations today the first being to dive bomb targets at "ged 5" and in which 24 x 250 lbs were dropepd all falling in the target area. During the second operation the primary and secondary targets were not attacked due to cloud cover and the aircraft returned with their bombs to base.

The third operation was bombing target W 3 with the whole Wing carrying 54 x 500 lbs and 72 x 250 lbs which were dropped on a battery at D079263 resulting in guns being silenced.

Flak from Flushing being intense heavy and light!

- **308 squadron:** The weather improves and the squadron takes off on dive bombing near Flushing where four direct hits were observed on target. Very intense Flak was encountered but all aircraft returned to base.  
Squadron takes off once more later in the day for weather recce and the possible attack on enemy gun positions near Flushing. The attack was carried out successfully and enemy guns were seen to cease fire after our attack.
- **317 squadron:** Today kicked off early on weather and armed recce in which the target at D153237 was strafed. On the road from D0633 to D0605(?) eight Huts were destroyed with one MT flamer and 9 MET damaged. Flak experienced north of Roosendaal being very intense light and heavy.  
The pilots also observed a lot of movement on the roads north of Roosendaal going east and south whilst at D126246 one big ship with guns in action was seen.  
Second mission saw eleven aircraft bombing and strafing gun positions two miles east of Flushing, bombs being dropped on the target at D233937 all bombs well concentrated on the target and in the target area. Flak from 123045 being intense heavy and light and from the east of the target intense.
- **341 squadron:** Belle matinée avec givre. Le squadron de 12 avions commandé par le capitaine Andrieux décolle à 11 h 45 pour bombarder une place de canon dans la région de la côte à l'ouest de Flushing. Au-dessus de l'objectif le temps est mauvais. Le squadron fait demi-tour et se pose à 16 H 55 pour bombarder un emplacement de canons sur la route entre Middelburg à Flushing commandé par le capitaine Andrieux. L'objectif est trouvé - une petite Ile - et douze bombes de 500 livres sont lâchées avec 3 coups directs et intense DCA légère et précise aux l'objectif. Le squadron se pose à 17 H 40.

#### **Samenvattingen Seekommandant Süd-Holland.**

- 0200 Nach Meldung der 64<sup>ste</sup>.Infanterie Division ist der Feind im Gegenangriff von Cadzand nach Osten zurückgeworfen. Erfolg im wesentlichen durch gutliegendes Feuer der Walcheren-Batterien erzielt. Fortgesetzter Einsatz der 2./- und 4./810 sowie 5./-, 8./- und 9./202 auf Raum Schelde-Süd.  
Hafen Vlissingen, 9./202 sowie 3./- und 4./810 unter feindliches Artillerie Feuer!  
Bei Zerstörung der Raketensperre Wemeldinge auf der Ostseite des Kanals wurde Lt. Driebold schwer verwundet und fiel in Feindeshand.  
Sperrung des Hafens Vlissingen durch eine zweite Linie mit 4 Binnenschiffen fortgesetzt.
- 0600 Minenaufgabe Breskens mit 20 LMB durchgeführt.
- 0930 Ab dieser Zeit laufend Bombenangriffe durch Lancaster und Jabo's auf alle Batterien der MAA 202 sowie auf 3./- und 4./810.
- 1500 Laufend Jabo-Angriffe und schwere Artillerie Beschuß auf AK-Stand MAA 203 und 4./203.  
Die Batetrie bekämpft vorgehenden Feind mit VB.  
2./- und 4./810 sowie 7./- und 8./202 werden auf Landziele im Raume Nieuwvliet eingesetzt.
- 1600 Raum Vlissingen unter Feindfeuer!  
Die bisherige Ausfälle des Tages sind:  
Bei 3./810 ein Geschütz durch Artillerie Treffer.  
Bei 4./202 ein Schartengeschütz, ein Munibunker, drei Tote, ein Vermißter und 28 Verwundete sowie ein Rundumgeschütz verschüttet.

Bei der 5./202 ein Munibunker mit 600 Schuß 22 cm in die Luft geflogen und Leitstand ausgefallen. Ein Geschütz hat großen Bettungsfehler und Batterie ist zur Zeit nicht schießklar.

Bei der 6./202 ist ein Schartengeschütz zerstört und 7./202 meldet noch drei Geschütze einsatzbereit! Bei der 8./202 ist ein Geschütz versandet.

HV02 ist nach zwei Bombentreffer gesunken, jedoch ohne Personalverluste.

Bei Abwehr der feindlichen Bomber durch 2./810, 6./202 und mittlere und leichte Waffen der MFA 810 und 6./815 wurden zwei Lancaster abgeschossen!

Schäden der Flakbatterien sind:

Bei 2./810 ist ein Bunker zerstört, bei der 3./810 ist ein weiteres Geschütz ausgefallen und bei der 4./810 ist ein Vierling unklar.

1640 (bis 1730) 9./202 unter feindliches Artillerie Feuer.

2000 Das fünfte Cadzand-Geleit läuft unter Lt. Hungar Vlissingen aus.

Kurz nach Auslaufen gibt MAA 203 einen Funkspruch in dem sie bittet, das Geleit wegen Feindgefahr zu stoppen. Ein Zurückholen ist aber nicht mehr möglich.

Das vierte Geleit läuft zur selben Zeit mit zwei Leichtern und einem Fischkutter, ohne den mitgeführten Proviant ganz gelöscht zu haben, Cadzand-Hafen aus.

Jabo-Angriffe und Störfeuer auf 2./- und 4./810 und eigener Einsatz mit 7./- und 8./202 auf Erdziele im Raume Schelde-Süd.

MAA 203 hält mit Resten den Stützpunkt Bathuis von AK-Stand bis westliche Grenze der 4./203.

Das Heer setzt sich über Uitwateringskanal nach Westen ab.

Bisherige Verluste der MAA 203 sind 10 Offiziere und 700 Unteroffiziere und Mannschaften.

#### **KTB Führer der Motorbootsverbände.**

0230 **HF35** und **HF36** laufen mit zwei Motorschiffen und Fähre "**Zuiderzee**" aus Veere Dordrecht ein.

0240 **HR17** läuft mit Wassertanker "**Viking**" aus Vlissingen kommend Hafen Dordrecht ein.

0600 **AF 92** und **AF 48** laufen aus Veere kommend Hafen Dordrecht ein.

0800 Lazarettschiff **ZRD10** läuft von Dordrecht aus nach Middelburg.

1730 NS-Geleit läuft in zwei Gruppen mit 7 Sicherungsbooten aus nach Veere.

SN-Geleit mit **P-Mot.241**, die Fährschiffe "**IJveer 2**" und "**IJveer 6**", zwei Motorschiffe und zwei Schleppzüge, dazu 4 Sicherungsboote der Rheinflottille laufen Hafen Veere aus.

#### **KTB der Rheinflottille.**

--/-- Position 11 war mit den Booten **HR04**, **HR09**, **HR45** und **HR51** besetzt und Position 12 mit den Booten **HR02**, **HR10**, **HR24** und **HR52**.

0350 (bis 0540) Laufen die Boote **HM38** und **HM52** in der Nähe Hoek auf eigene Minen!  
**Die beiden Boote - welche zum NS-Geleit gehörten - haben 11 Tote und 3 Schwerverwundete und gingen verloren.**

--/-- Auf Vlissingen erfolgt am Vor- und Nachmittag Bombenabwürfe und Jabo-Angriffe auf die Batteriestellungen und Deiche.

1700 Läuft aus Veere ein SN-Geleit aus mit als Geleitführer **HR41** sowie die Geleitboote **HF37** und **HR62**. Geleitet werden die Fahrzeuge Fähre "**IJveer 2**" und "**IJveer 6**", die Motorschiffen **D 241**, **Conkordia II**, **Adriana** und **Vios** sowie mehrere Schleppzüge und das AKB-Boot **HR11**.

2100 Liegt auf dem Hafen von Sas van Goes und dem Kanal bis Goes feindliches Artillerie Feuer.



Die Fähre **Zandkreek** setzt Truppen von Nord – nach Süd-Beveland über und die Fähre **Zuidvliet** transportiert Verwundete von Vrouwenpolder nach Arnhem. Von Norden läuft ein NS-Geleit mit den Booten **HR78**, **HR61**, **HR83** und **HM34** mit dem Motorschiffen **Onderneming**, **Wachsamkeit**, **Terneuzen** und **Geleira** in Veere ein.

2300 Wird die Position “W” in der Oosterschelde durch die Boote **HR77**, **HR20**, **HR44** und **HR47** bezogen.

**KTB 32<sup>ste</sup>. Minensuch Flottille.**

--/-- Aufgabe: **M3245** und **M3249** werfen im Anschluß an die am 20/10 geworfene Sperre auf Befehl Seekommandant eine zweireihige Sperre von 23 LMB's.

0445 **M3245** und **M3249** laufen Hafen Vlissingen aus.

0550 Boote beginnen mit Minenwerfen bei Breskens Tonne.

0600 Minenwerfen beendet! Die Boote gehen auf Einlaufkurs.

0620 Beide Boote sind Hafen Vlissingen eingelaufen und verlegen Abends nach Middelburg, da keine Aufgaben mehr und um aus gefährdetes Gebiet herauszukommen.

Außer Jabo – und Artillerietätigkeit keine besonderen Vorkommnisse.

**Geallieerde vliegtuig verliezen in en om Zeeland.**

- Halifax Mk.III MZ599 van 76 squadron - om 0913 gestart van Holme-in-Spalding Moor (Yorkshire) - stortte als gevolg van Flaktreffers ter hoogte van Westkapelle in zee.

De gehele bemanning is sindsdien vermist gebleven.

Sqn.Ldr. Robert Thomas Langton mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 200

Flg.Off. John Gordon Cossins mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 205

Flg.Off. John Simpson Blair Corry mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 205

Flt.Sgt. Ernest Charles Care mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 216

Sgt. Robert Wood McGrain mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 233

Sgt. William Law Sandilands mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 237

Sgt. Frederick George Whittaker mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 240

- Lancaster Mk.I HK602 van 90 squadron – om 0818 gestart van Tuddenham Suffolk met als doel de batterijen bij Vlissingen - stortte om 1002 als gevolg van Flaktreffers in de Westerschelde.

Met uitzondering van één enkel bemanningslid is de gehele bemanning vermist gebleven. Volgens het rapport van de luchtwacht van scheepswerf “De Schelde” kwamen vier parachutes juist buiten de Buitenhaven in zee terecht. De Bomber Command Losses maken echter melding van twee verdrinkingen op zee en twee para's, die in de explosies van de afgeworpen bomladingen terecht kwamen en waarvan (uiteraard) niets meer te vinden was.

In de daaropvolgende maanden spoelden de stoffelijke overschotten van verschillende Britse vliegers nabij Ritthem aan, waarna deze tijdelijk in de zeedijk ter aarde werden

besteld. Geen van deze lichamen kon worden geïdentificeerd maar het is vooralsnog niet uit te sluiten dat één of meerdere van hen tot deze bemanning hebben behoord.

Flg.Off.Robert Josephus Constable Higgins mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 206

Sgt. David Alexander Robertson Walker mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 239

Flt.Sgt. Lawrence Gordon Calman RNZAF mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 263

Flt.Sgt. Francis Frederick Austerberry RAAF +

Zijn stoffelijke resten werden in een later stadium overgebracht naar de militaire begraafplaats te Bergen op Zoom.

Flt.Sgt. Bernard Coward mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 216

Flt.Sgt. Donald George Headland mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 218

Sgt. Alfred William Denby mia

Runnymede Memorial Panel 228

- Typhoon Mk.1B MN767 van 193 squadron werd door lichte 2 cm Flak boven Zuid-Beveland getroffen waarna de piloot een noodlanding in een weiland nabij Merksem moest uitvoeren (op nog slechts ± 20 km van Deurne). De machine moest vervolgens worden afgeschreven.

Sqn.Ldr. J.M.G.Plamondon safe

- Een tweede Typhoon Mk.1B van eveneens 193 squadron werd op vrijwel dezelfde wijze (in de loop van de middag) door lichte Flak op Zuid-Beveland getroffen. De piloot slaagde er echter in om zijn zwaar gehavende toestel terug te vliegen naar Deurne.

Flt.Sgt. K.R.Goodhew safe