

## Jack HOLTON

183746, Pilot Officer (Flt Engr.), Royal Air Force  
died Thursday 9th November 1944

*Memorial Book text:*

*Home address was 27 Cowper Street,  
Olney*

*1942 – 1624091 A/C 2. Hut 0.21  
4(TT) Wing, RAF St Athen,  
Glamorgan, South Wales.*

*1943 – LAC. Room 3, Block 2, 4  
Squadron, 3 Wing, RAF Kelstern, nr.  
Louth, Lincolnshire. Reported  
“missing”.*

*1945 – Missing believed killed.*

*Information from the Commonwealth  
War graves Commission - Killed 9  
November, 1944 interred Reichswald  
Forest War Cemetery, Germany (Ger.  
1) Plot 20 Row B grave 7.*

*Photo kindly provided by Jacks sister,  
Mrs Mollie Cony, of Lavendon Mill,  
Olney.*



*CWWG information:*

Jack HOLTON  
183746, Pilot Officer (Flt Engr.), 625 Sqdn., Royal Air Force.  
Died Thursday 9th November 1944.  
Buried in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery (Grave 20.B.7),  
Germany.

*Additional information:*

[4] Royal Air Force Bomber Command Losses of the Second World War.  
Volume 5. Aircraft and Crew Losses 1944

p482: 9th November 1944 625 Sqn. Lancaster I NG239 CF-A Op: Wanne-  
Eickel. F/O A Bruce RCAF (k); P/O J Holton (k); F/O L L Guthrie RCAF (k); F/O  
E J Brown RCAF (k); Sgt N G Marler RCAF (k); Sgt E D Wilmot RCAF (k); Sgt V  
D Campbell RCAF (k). T/o 0824 Kelstern. All rest in the Reichswald Forest  
War Cemetery.

625 Squadron ORB [AIR 27/2143]

Operation entry: 9.11.44

*Bombing Attack on Warne Kickel.*

*22 Aircraft were detailed to attack the Oil Refineries at this place. The aircraft  
flew to the target in formation but on attack, at the target found the area  
covered in 10/10ths cloud. Due to this fact bombing was carried out by  
means of H2S. Owing to cloud, the results of the attack could not be seen. A  
heavy bomb load was delivered, two of our aircraft failed to return to base.*

*Lancaster I (J) NG239 (?) up: 0824 down: -  
P/O J BRUCE Captain Pilot (CAN-RCAF) J.27351  
Sgt HOLTON; J F.Engineer  
F/O F J BROWN A/Bomber (CAN-RCAF) J.27886  
F/O F F GUTHRIE Navigator (CAN-RCAF) J.29986  
F/S MARLER; N G Wop/AG (CAN-RCAF) R184665  
F/S WILMOTT; E D MU/Gunner (CAN-RCAF) R147487  
F/S CAMPBELL; V D H R/Gunner (CAN-RCAF) R150386  
Failed to return – No news after take off.*

Monthly entry: 9.11.44

*“Operations: 22 aircraft were detailed to attack the target – WANNE KICKEL.  
Weather conditions on the outward journey were very bad, with 10/10ths  
cloud all the way. When over the target area, cloud was still very bad even up  
to 20,000 ft. Owing to this fact accurate bombing by visual means was not  
possible, and all the aircraft bombed by H2S or Gee. One of our aircraft “H”  
was seen over the target area losing height with its wheels down, and this  
aircraft was later reported missing from this Operation. Results of this attack  
could not be assessed. Altogether two of our aircraft failed to return from this  
Operation.”*

Previous missions: (in reverse chronological order, with serial of Lancaster:

6/11/44 PA175. Bombing attack on GELSENKIRCHEN. 22 aircraft, all returned to base.

4/11/44 NG253. Bombing attack on BOCHUM (Bochum in the Rhur). 25 aircraft. One aircraft failed to return.

2/11/44 Dusseldorf. 25 aircraft – all returned. (J H not on crew list for this op.)

31/10/44 NG239 (V). Cologne. Bombs dropped at 2104½ from 18,000ft. 24 aircraft, all returned.

30/10/44 NG239 (V). Cologne. Bombs dropped at 2104hrs from 17,300ft.

28/10/44 PB556 (Y). Cologne (t/o 1332). Bombs dropped at 1557 from 18,300ft. 18 aircraft, all returned.

14/10/44 PB581. Duisburg. (t/o 2230, back 0406). Bombs dropped at 0132 from 21,000ft. 29 aircraft, all returned. Second time during same day.

14/10/44 PB581. Duisburg. (t/o 0632, back 1131). Bombs dropped at 0858½ from 18,000ft. 31 aircraft detailed, 1 crashed just after take-off (F/Sgt Bennett), all others bombed then returned.

11/10/44 PB581 (Lancaster III). Frederick Hendrick. (t/o 1445, back 1803). Abortive sortie, all bombers were brought back.

07/10/44 PB581. Emmerich. (t/o 1148, back 1406). Bombs dropped at 1424 from 11,000ft. 28 aircraft, all returned.

05/10/44 PB581. Saarbrucken. (t/o 1857, back 0050). Bombs dropped at 2234½ from 16,500. 26 aircraft, all returned.

[During October 15 crews posted in]

27/9/44 PB536. Calais. (t/o 0754, down 1101). Bombs dropped at 0911 from 3000ft.

26/9/44 PB536 (Y). Calais. (t/o 1019, back 1320). Bombs dropped at 1141 from 9000ft.

23/9/44 PB581. Neuss. (t/o 1902, back 0008). Bombs dropped at 2130 from 16,500ft.

20/9/44 ND452. Calais. (t/o 1514, back 1923). Bombs dropped at 1644 from 2500ft.

17/9/44 PB531. Elkenhurst. (t/o 1708, back 2025). Bombs dropped at 1847 from 12,000ft.

16/9/44 BRUCE was 2nd pilot in Lancaster ND863 on ops to Rheine Salkbergen. (up at 0049, back down 0444).

1624091 Sgt HOLTON; J. noted in list of 26 Flight Engineers posted in from No.11 Base wef. 7.9.44

His pilot, J27531 F/O A BRUCE, was one of 25 Pilots posted in from No.11 Base wef. 7.9.44.

