

Operation

Crew details

RNZAF 42367 P/O Harold H Bruhns DFC – Pilot - age 22

1575513 Sgt Eric A Wilkes – Navigator – age 22

1601839 Sgt James W Harry – Flight Engineer – age 20

1395702 Sgt Woolf J Summers – Wireless Operator/Air Gunner – age 22

RAAF 417521 F/Sgt Arthur H Sawtell – Air gunner – age 19

RNZAF 421672 Sgt Laurie L Butler – Air Bomber – age 22

1392121 Sgt Robert E Hall - Air Gunner – age 35

Stirling EH948 took off at 18.10 from RAF Mepal on the 24 February 1944 on a mine laying operation. The aircraft was believed to have been involved in a flying battle and crashed in the Kiel Bay/Baltic Sea.

Arthur Sawtell's body was found washed ashore and he was buried in Aabenraa Cemetery, Denmark on 5 July 1944. The other crew are listed as missing in action and are commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial.