

Sergeant Garton Vincent.

Dawenport - Jones.

Died 8th Dec 1940.

On 7th Dec, Hampden's 'S' for sugar of 49 Squadron was one of a mixed force of 55 Blenheim, Whitley and Hampden aircraft that took off from various stations to attack airfields in occupied Europe. Only a few months earlier, the Battle of Britain had been won by the narrowest of margins and this raid would have been one of many to ensure that the Luftwaffe were kept on the back foot.

Just after midnight 49 Squadron's aircraft were returning to Scampton, but 'S' for sugar came to grief only a couple of miles from home and safety. Whilst in the circuit, the aircraft went out of control and crashed. We will never know what happened to cause the pilot to lose control, but fatigue after a stressful mission may well have played a part.

Three of the ~~five~~ four on board were killed. As well as those buried at Scampton, Sgt Thomas Goldie was buried in Lanarkshire.

Miraculously, although very badly injured, Sgt Barrier, a pilot acting in the capacity of navigator, survived the flight.

Slightly Below the Glide Path. B + G. Mennell.