

100 GROUP BOMBER COMMAND AND THE RCAF LOSSES

100 Group was a very secret, special duties Group of Bomber Command, operating from a number of airfields in the County of Norfolk from very late in 1943 to War's end and were engaged in the complex business of electronic warfare and radio countermeasures.



As a direct result of their work Bomber Command calculated that the Group was directly responsible for the saving of 1000 heavy bombers and the preservation of the lives of the 7000 aircrew that flew in them.

With the development of radar and radio as weapons of war, the associated art of radio countermeasures (RCM) became a very important factor. The most important organisational decision was to establish a specialist RAF unit to become responsible for the operational development, application and co-ordination of all RCM programmes, from the air and from the ground. Bomber Command initially suggested the role for what became No. 100 Group in June 1943; it became operational in December 1943.

The main purpose of the Group was to reduce escalating losses of the night bombers to the ever-increasing effectiveness of the German air defence system. The bomber squadrons of 100 Group utilised various specialist electronic jamming devices to disrupt German radio communications and radar. During 100 Group's existence over 32 different devices were evaluated and used. Specially equipped 100 Group aircraft would fly within the bomber stream.

As well as electronic devices, 100 Group utilized German speaking radio operators who would identify and jam the ground controllers broadcasts and also pose as ground controllers themselves with the intention of steering the night fighters away from the bomber streams. Boeing Fortress and Short Stirling as well as other aircraft were used.

The group was a pioneer in countering the formidable force of radar-equipped Luftwaffe night fighters, using a range of electronic 'homers' fitted to de Havilland Mosquito fighters which detected night fighter radar and radio emissions and allowed the RAF fighters to home in onto the Axis aircraft and either shoot them down or disrupt their missions against the bomber streams. Other Mosquitoes would patrol around Luftwaffe fighter airfields ready to attack night fighters as they landed.

From 1944–45, the Mosquitos of 100 Group claimed 258 Luftwaffe aircraft shot down for 70 losses. The gradually increasing threat from the RAF fighters also created what the Luftwaffe crews nicknamed *Moskito Panik* as the night fighter crews were never sure when or where they may come under attack from the marauding 100 Group fighters.



100 Group 214 Squadron Short Stirling (left) and Boeing Fortress

100 GROUP BOMBER COMMAND –RCAF LOSSES

Date	Day	Year	Rank	Surname	Forenames	Position	Sqn	Base
Sept	13	1944	F/O	Breithaupt	William Ransom	P	239	W. Raynham
Apr	17	1945	F/O	Brown	Robert Allan	BA	171	N. Creake
May	13	1944	F/O	Byrne	Frank Paul	P	515	Little Snoring
Feb	23	1945	F/S	Campbell	Thomas George	AG	192	Foulsham
Sept	16	1944	P/O	Campbell	James Duncan	AG	199	N. Creake
Mar	21	1945	P/O	Carter	Hilton Mackay	AG	214	Oulton
Jan	14	1945	F/S	Clark	Donald Kenneth	AG	223	Oulton
Mar	7	1945	F/O	Coutts	Harold Alexander	BA	171	N. Creake
Apr	25	1944	F/O	Crowdy	Charles William Cyril	P	192	Foulsham
Mar	4	1945	F/O	Darlington	William	N	192	Foulsham
Sept	16	1944	P/O	Dennison	Gordon Joshua	AG	199	N. Creake
Mar	21	1945	F/O	Donald	Douglas Nugent	Sp/Op	214	Oulton
Apr	25	1944	P/O	Elliott	Thomas Harold	BA	192	Foulsham
Apr	25	1944	Sgt.	Etienne	Francis	AG	192	Foulsham
Jan	14	1945	Sgt	Evens	Arthur Leslie	P	223	Oulton
Nov	27	1944	F/O	Fisher	Jack Glen Millan	P	192	Foulsham
Jan	14	1945	F/S	Gray	William Alexander	W/Op	223	Oulton
Mar	7	1945	P/O	Henderson	Harry Leonard	AG	214	Oulton
Nov	25	1943	WO2	Johnston	Ernest Gerald	N	1678 HCU	Foulsham
Sept	16	1944	P/O	Kesselman	Murray	N	199	N. Creake
Mar	21	1945	F/O	Kingdon	Robert Verdun	P	214	Oulton
Sept	16	1944	P/O	Langley	Lloyd George	BA	199	N. Creake
Nov	16	1944	F/O	Leitch	Archibald Havill	N	214	Oulton
May	25	1944	P/O	MacGillivray	Arthur Clarence	BA	192	Foulsham
Jan	22	1945	Cpl	Mason	Charles Richard	Radar Me	1692 Flt	Gt. Massingham
Jan	17	1945	F/O	McKee	Terrance Velleau	BA	214	Oulton
Jan	6	1945	P/O	Mison	Charles Donald	AG	171	N. Creake
Nov	16	1944	Sgt	Mooney	Richard Edmond	AG	214	Oulton
Apr	25	1944	P/O	Morris	Frederick William	W/Op AG	192	Foulsham
Apr	25	1944	F/O	Mortimer	Lester Lloyd	N	192	Foulsham
Mar	19	1944	P/O	Panton	Charles Lawrence	BA	192	Foulsham
Mar	21	1945	P/O	Pellant	James Walter	BA	214	Oulton
Mar	7	1945	F/O	Peters	Nicholas	Sp/Op	214	Oulton
Nov	6	1944	WO1	Picciano	Raymond Daniel	BA	214	Oulton
Nov	23	1944	F/O	Preece	Charles James	P	1692 Flt	Gt. Massingham
Mar	21	1945	P/O	Routley	William Arthur	N	214	Oulton
May	25	1944	P/O	Sabine	Eugene Preston	N	192	Foulsham
May	25	1944	P/O	Stroud	Claire Douglas	AG	192	Foulsham
Nov	23	1943	F/S	Sweeney	Wilfred	AG	214	T/O Chedburgh
Mar	7	1945	F/O	Thomas	Kenneth George	N	171	N. Creake
Feb	21	1945	F/O	Thompson	John Willard	P	223	Oulton
Mar	5	1945	F/L	Thurlow	Jack Alvin	P	199	N. Creake
Apr	25	1944	F/S	Vincent	Peter Horace Gordon	AG	192	Foulsham
Mar	21	1945	WO2	Wilson	Robert Geroge	AG	214	Oulton
Feb	21	1945	F/S	Wood	Ronald Mark	AG	223	Oulton