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OFFICE STAMP



HU/T 17 6/7 1945 +

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

6

7.15
From *[Signature]* m

106 12/2 HU/T OHMS 69

To

-PRIORITY CC- MR E. D BARR 17 BEECHWOOD AVE LONDONDERRY

NORTHERN IRELAND =

REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR SON SGT ERNEST HENRY
MACKENZIE BARR IS MISSING AS THE RESULT OF AIR

OPERATIONS ON THE NIGHT 6/7 JANUARY 1945 LETTER FOLLOWS

DA/Cd 51-9672

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form B or C at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form, and, if possible, the envelope

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TELEGRAM

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From *WJ* m ⁹² 106 e

To _____ m

ANY FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE IMMEDIATELY

COMMUNICATED TO YOU STOP PENDING RECEIPT OF WRITTEN

NOTIFICATION FROM THE AIR MINISTRY NO INFORMATION

SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE PRESS = OC UNIT +

D&Co 31-1672

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form B or C at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form, and, if possible, the envelope



158S/C.452/144/P1.

No.158 Squadron,
ROYAL AIR FORCE.

7th January, 1945.

Dear Mr.Barr,

It is with the greatest regret that I have to write confirming the news given in my telegram of today that your son, Sergeant Ernest Henry Mackenzie Barr, has been reported missing from an operational sortie against Hansu on 6th January.

The aircraft in which your son was Air Gunner took off at 15.44 hrs. on 6th January, since when nothing has been heard. There is of course a possibility that the crew may have landed safely, but it is too early yet to expect any news of such an eventuality. Should I hear anything I will communicate with you immediately.

The request in the telegram notifying you of the casualty was included to avoid his chance of escape being prejudiced by undue publicity should he still be at large. This is a precaution adopted in the case of all personnel reported missing.

I expect you may wish to write to the next of kin of the English members of the crew, but I regret that it is contrary to Air Ministry policy for me to disclose addresses of relatives of aircrew missing from operations. If you wish to write to them and will send me the letters sealed and addressed under cover I shall be pleased to forward them. I enclose a list of the crew with names and relationships of next of kin.

Your son's personal effects are being collected and sent to the Standing Committee of Adjustment, Colnbrook, Slough, for onward transmission to you in due course, and you will receive a detailed communication about them from the Effects Officer, R.A.F. Lissett.

May I, on behalf of myself and the Squadron as a whole, extend to you our sincere sympathy and understanding at this anxious time.

Yours sincerely,

J. D. Barr
Wing Commander, Commanding,
No. 158 Squadron. R. A. F.

Mr.E.D.Barr,
17, Beechwood Avenue,
Londonderry,
Nthn. Ireland.

158 Squadron.
158S/C.452/144/P1.

CONFIDENTIAL

CREW:

AUS429582 PILOT OFFICER
JOHN JULIUS KREFTER
PILOT (Australian)

x Killed

NEXT OF KIN:

Father - Mr. J. H. Krefter,

338722 FLIGHT SERGEANT
LESLIE GILBERT MORGAN
NAVIGATOR

x Killed

Wife - Mrs. O. P. Morgan,

1021154 SERGEANT
JAMES GORE
AIR BOMBER

x Killed

Father - Mr. J. Gore,

AUS433277 FLYING OFFICER
KENNETH ROY NERNEY
WIRELESS OPERATOR (Australian)

Killed

Mother - Mrs. E. W. Nerney,

1796037 SERGEANT
ERNEST HENRY MACKENZIE BARR
AIR GUNNER

x Missing

Father - Mr. E. D. Barr,

1815603 SERGEANT
PETER SAMUEL COTTERELL
AIR GUNNER

Killed

Mother - Mrs. A. Cotterell,

1595187 SERGEANT
ALEXANDER THOMAS CLYDE
FLIGHT ENGINEER

Killed

Wife - Mrs. S. Clyde,

NOTICE TO NEXT OF KIN: In order to avoid delay when writing to the Unit,
please address all letters to the Commanding Officer.

7th January, 1945.

PLEASE SEE BACK/

CONFIDENTIAL NOTICE

The names of all those who lose their lives or are wounded or reported missing whilst serving with the Royal Air Force will appear in the official casualty lists published from time to time in the Press.

Any publication of the date, place or circumstance of a casualty and particularly any reference to the Unit concerned, might give valuable information to the enemy, and for this reason only the name, rank and Service number are included in the official lists.

Relatives are particularly requested, in the national interest, to ensure that any notices published privately do not disclose the date, place or circumstance of the casualty, or the Unit.

The Press have been asked to co-operate in ensuring that no information of value to the enemy is published.

Any premature reference in the Press to those reported missing may jeopardise their chance of evading capture if they have survived without falling into enemy hands.

Royal Air Force Station,
Drifffield,
East Yorks.
England.
9th January 1945.

Dear Mr Barr,

You will already have been informed that your son Sergeant Ernest Henry Mackenzie Barr was recently reported missing from operations. May I add my expression of sincere sympathy with you in your sad and anxious hour.

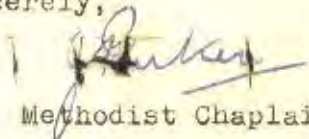
As far as I know up to the time of writing nothing has been heard of him. But there are possibilities of course that he and his crew may have baled out and are safe. Let's hope so at all events and pray that the time may soon come when he and all the splendid fellows now in enemy hands may return home once more.

You may be sure that everything possible is done to obtain news of the boys who are reported missing and anything which turns up will immediately be reported to you.

If there is anything I can do at any time, do please let me know and rest assured it will be done if at all possible.

God bless and keep you,

Yours sincerely,


Methodist Chaplain.

Mr. E. D. Barr,
17 Beechwood Avenue,
Londonderry,
Northern Ireland.



158S/C.452/144/P1.

No.158 Squadron,
ROYAL AIR FORCE.

23rd January, 1945.

Dear Mr. Barr,

Thank you for your letter of 12th January and also, on behalf of Wing Commander Dobson, for your very kind invitation to your home.

Wing Commander Dobson is at present on leave, but I will show him your letter when he returns. As he has only just taken leave I am afraid it will be quite a long time before he is able to get away again. You will understand that he is normally very occupied in present circumstances.

I have posted the letters you enclosed to the relatives of the other members of your son's crew.

I appreciate your remarks about the Squadron, and I am very glad that your son was so happy here. I most sincerely hope that more reassuring news may be heard in the near future, and you can be sure that you will be notified immediately any information is received.

Yours sincerely,

A. H. H. H.

Squadron Leader, Commanding,
No. 158 Squadron. R. A. F.

Mr. Ernest D. Barr, Phc.M.P.S.,
20, William Street,
LONDONDERRY,
Northern Ireland.