



1943 – 2008

ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF THE CREW OF LANCASTER EE138 AR-E2  
OF 460 SQUADRON, ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

WHILE RETURNING TO RAF BINBROOK, LINCOLNSHIRE, FROM A RAID ON BERLIN WAS  
INTERCEPTED AT AN ALTITUDE OF 4300 METRES AND THEN SHOT DOWN IN THE EARLY  
MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1943 AT 02:33 HOURS BY A LUFTWAFFE NIGHT FIGHTER  
JUNKERS JU 88C-6 CODED D5+AX OF 12/NJG-3 BASED FROM GROVE, DENMARK

THE EIGHT AIRMEN KILLED AND 7 OF WHOSE REMAINS REST HERE WITH AR-E2, ARE

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE  
SQUADRON LEADER CARL RICHARD KELAHER 267504  
AGED 30 OF SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE  
FLYING OFFICER SIDNEY MILTON FORRESTER 416558, 2ND PILOT  
AGED 22 OF HIGHGATE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIA

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE  
WARRANT OFFICER CYRIL AUGUSTINE WALSH 401605, BOMB AIMER  
AGED 30 OF SOUTH PURRUMBETE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

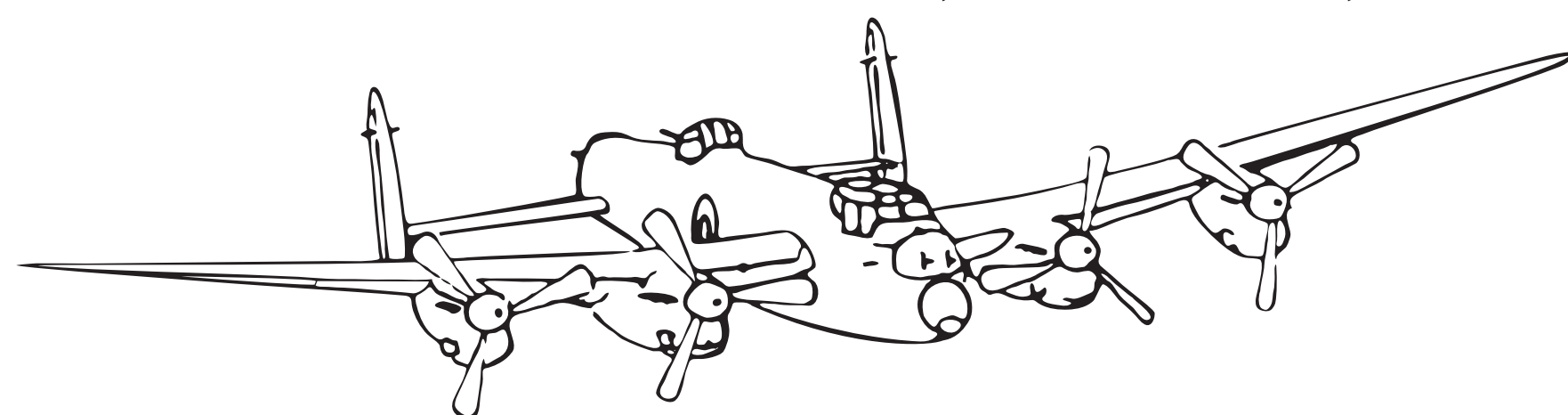
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE  
WARRANT OFFICER EWIN GARTH CARTHEW 407963, NAVIGATOR  
AGED 21 OF RENDELSHAM, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIA

ROYAL AIR FORCE  
SERGEANT HERBERT FREEMAN JOWETT 1685619, ENGINEER  
AGED 20 OF BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE, ENGLAND

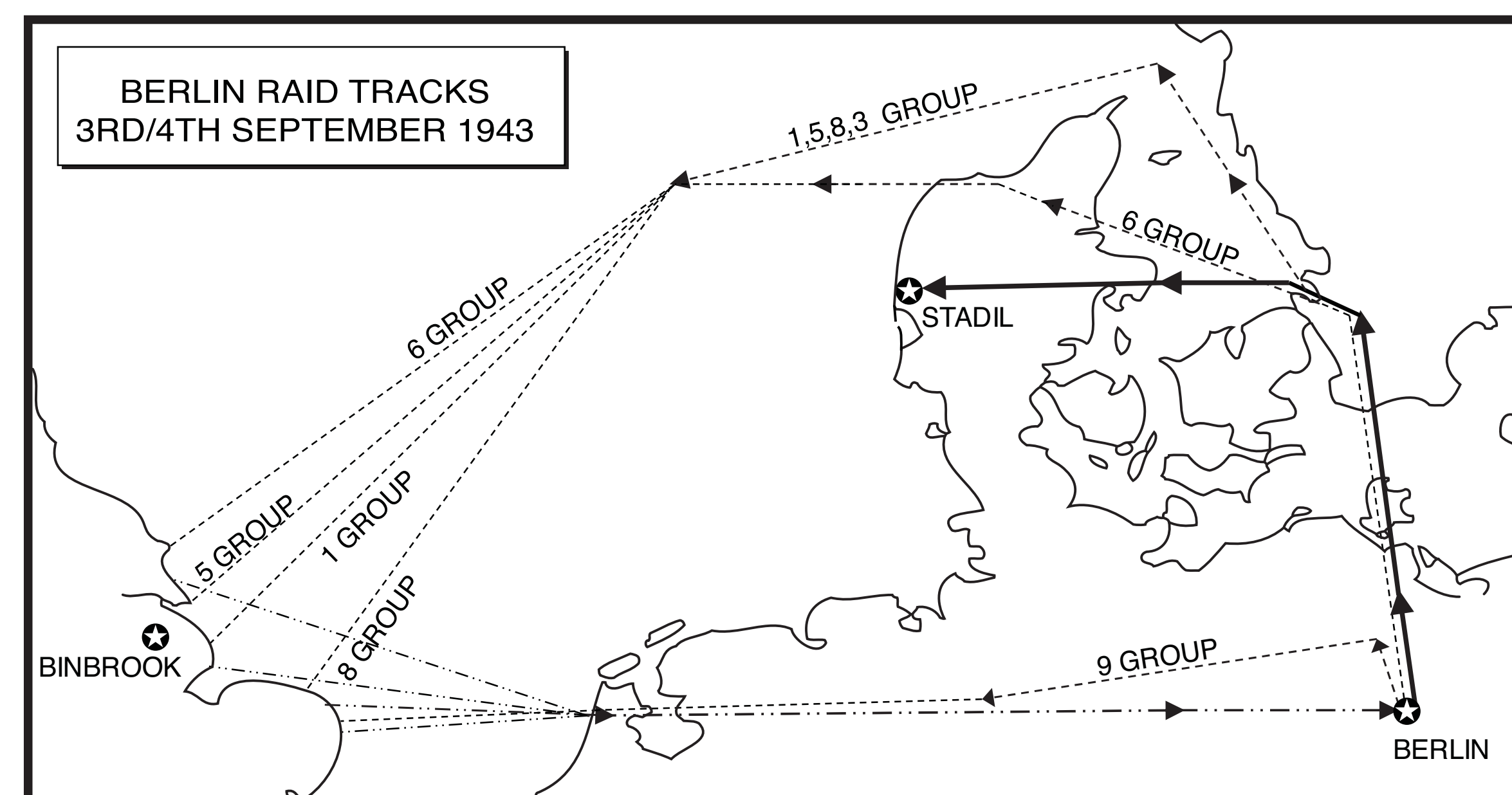
ROYAL AIR FORCE  
SERGEANT JOHN CRESWELL COOMBES 1388894, WIRELESS OPERATOR  
AGED 23 OF BOSHAM, SUSSEX, ENGLAND

ROYAL AIR FORCE  
SERGEANT ERNEST ALBERT CECIL THIRKETTLE 1217817, MID UPPER GUNNER  
AGED 22 OF WEST DULWICH, LONDON, ENGLAND

ROYAL AIR FORCE  
SERGEANT ARTHUR ROLFE 1681963, REAR GUNNER  
AGED 39 OF YEADON NR. LEEDS, YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND



LANCASTER EE138'S LAST BOMBING RAID ON BERLIN — WHERE IT WAS SHOT DOWN  
OVER STADIL DENMARK ON THE RETURN FLIGHT

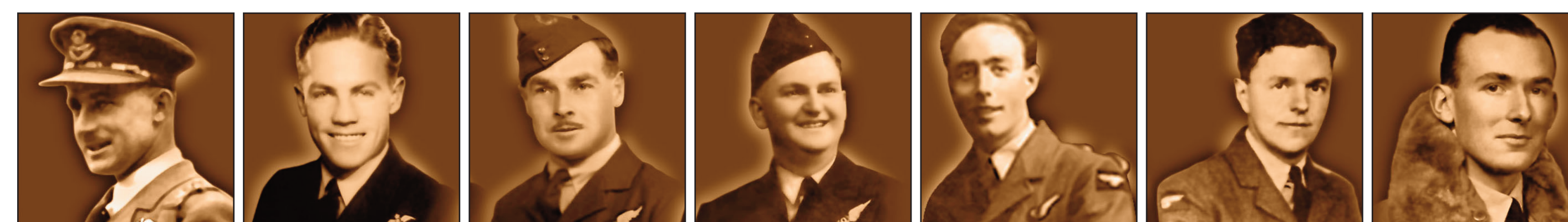


460 SQUADRON FROM THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE WAS FORMED IN ENGLAND IN  
NOVEMBER 1941 AND FOUR MONTHS LATER THE SQUADRON WAS FULLY OPERATIONAL.

IN OCTOBER 1942 THE SQUADRON WAS EQUIPPED WITH FOUR ENGINE LANCASTER  
BOMBERS. DURING THE WAR 460 SQUADRON CARRIED OUT 6,264 SORTIES, DROPPED  
24,856 TONS OF BOMBS AND SUFFERED OVER 1,000 AIRCREW CASUALTIES.

WHEN LANCASTER EE138 WAS SHOT DOWN DURING THE NIGHT OF 3RD SEPTEMBER 1943,  
IT WAS THE BOMBER'S 24TH OPERATION. MANY PLANES WERE LOST BEFORE THEY COULD  
ACHIEVE THAT NUMBER.

IN THE BOMBING RAID ON BERLIN ON THE NIGHT OF 3 SEPTEMBER 1943, BETWEEN THE  
HOURS OF 23:11 AND 23:42 A TOTAL OF 65 MISCELLANEOUS FACTORIES, INDUSTRIAL  
PREMISES, ENGINEERING AND ELECTRICAL PLANTS WERE EITHER SEVERELY DAMAGED  
OR DESTROYED INCLUDING HIGH PRIORITY TARGETS.



CARL  
RICHARD  
KELAHER

SIDNEY  
MILTON  
FORRESTER

CYRIL  
AUGUSTINE  
WALSH

EWIN  
GARTH  
CARTHEW

HERBERT  
FREEMAN  
JOWETT

JOHN  
CRESWELL  
COOMBES

ERNEST  
ALBERT  
CECIL  
THIRKETTLE

NO PHOTO EXISTS FOR ARTHUR ROLFE

"BUT I GO WHERE THE LAST YEAR'S LOST LEAVES GO  
AT THE FALLING OF THE YEAR"

(ADAM LINDSAY GORDON 1833 – 1870)

IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF THE CARE AND RESPECT GIVEN TO THIS SITE BY  
INGEMANN HALKJÆR & RESIDENTS OF THE STADIL DISTRICT OF DENMARK

THIS PLAQUE MADE AVAILABLE BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS OFFICE OF AUSTRALIAN WAR GRAVES –  
OVERSEAS PRIVATELY CONSTRUCTED MEMORIAL RESTORATION PROGRAM 2008

THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF RELATIVES OF AUSTRALIAN CREWMEN  
CARTHEW, FORRESTER, KELAHER AND WALSH