

The Lost

The following are the *known* aircraft losses. It is likely that many of the 'failed to return' missions ended up disappearing into the dark waters of the Bay. Tidal forces would have quickly dispersed any wreckage, and rescuers could not reach the crews in a timely manner.

The lack of rescue resources and the pressures of operations during the War meant that searching for the lost could not be exhaustive. It is likely that many other airmen rest in the Bay, and that there are losses that will never be known. As well, it is possible that some of these men were found, but not identified, and rest in local graveyards in communities around the Bay of Fundy.

Please note that OM is 'Ottawa Memorial'. RAFVR is the Royal Airforce Volunteer Reserve, RAAF is Royal Australian Air Force, RNZAF is Royal New Zealand Air Force. WAG is an aircrew trade: Wireless Air Gunner.

Hudson Mk III (BW382) - 14 Dec 41. This aircraft was lost while flying from 31 (RAF) Operational Training Unit (OTU) at Debert, NS. The Hudson had taken off at 18:25 for one hour local flight, last radio contact at 18:29. Wreckage presumed to be from this aircraft washed up on beach at Cape Pleasant on 24 December 1941.

114172 P/O Maurice Edward Bird (RAFVR) (Pilot) – OM
136159 P/O Kenneth Whinray Blyth (RAFVR) - OM
114173 P/O Amos Pickles (RAFVR) (Navigator) – OM
R90074 Sgt Clyde Burton Rourke (RCAF) WAG – OM (*Allenford, Ont*)

Hudson Mk III (BW631) - 1 Jun 42. This aircraft went missing near the mouth of the Bay of Fundy while on an anti-submarine patrol. The mission was flown by 113 (Bomber Reconnaissance) Squadron from Yarmouth.

J9235 P/O Trask O'Neil Johnson (RCAF) – OM (*Charlottetown, PEI*)
R101638 Sgt John Roderick McPherson (RCAF) – OM (*unk*)
R86943 Sgt Joffre Kitchener McDonald (RCAF) – OM (*unk*)
R94763 Sgt Charles Leonard Scholey (RCAF) – OM (*from Ryerson, Sask*)

Hudson Mk III (BW700) - 8 Oct 42. This aircraft struck a wing tip on the water and crashed into the Bay of Fundy four miles north of Port George, Nova Scotia. The mission was flown from 36 (RAF) OTU Greenwood.

J4748 F/O Jack Campbell McFarlane (RCAF) – OM (*Youngstown, Alta*)
745922 F/S Daniel Shackell (RAF) – OM (*London, England*)
J12998 P/O George William Knowles (RCAF) – OM (*Sarnia, Ont*)
J13145 P/O Henry Raymond Woodman (RCAF) – OM (*Smith's Cove, NS*)
R124668 Sgt Benoit Desmarais (RCAF) – OM (*St. Boniface, Man*)
R/117525 Sgt Douglas William Armstrong (RCAF) – OM (*Montreal, PQ*)
R99737 Sgt Robert Oliver Barrett (RCAF) – OM (*unk*)

Hudson Mk III (BW634) - 26 Feb 43. This aircraft suffered an in-flight fire, may have exploded, and crashed into the Bay of Fundy about 17 miles north-west of Digby, Nova Scotia while escorting the S.S. Princess Helene. The mission was flown by 113 (Bomber Reconnaissance) Squadron from Yarmouth. Sgt Beverly is buried at his home in Winnipeg, P/O Daly is interred at Montreal..

"Aircraft crashed into sea. Aircraft was seen to catch fire in the air and explosion took place. Two bodies were picked up by crash boat, both having been killed in explosion of aircraft or by crash."

Recommendation: *"Practice of smoking in this type of aircraft be prohibited due to possibility of petrol fumes congregating in cockpit from leaky fuel system."*

J12025 P/O John Basil Bond (RCAF) – OM (*Kelowna, BC*)
J13747 P/O John Nathan Treadwell (RCAF) – OM (*Ottawa, Ont*)
J13837 P/O James Lorne Kenneth Daly (RCAF) - *Montreal*

R116049 Sgt George Beverly (RCAF) - *Winnipeg*

Hudson Mk V (AM773) - 19 Apr 43. This aircraft disappeared when flying on a “special” anti-submarine patrol from 31 (RAF) OTU. The body of Sgt Longstaff (RAF) was found on the shore of the Bay of Fundy near Greenwood. He is buried in Middleton. Sgt Burns is buried in Truro while Sgt Gillis and P/O Howard-Bangs were never found.

49980 F/O Jeffery Howard-Bangs (RAF) – OM (*Surrey, England*)
421242 Sgt Philip Maxwell Burns (RAAF) – (*New South Wales, Australia*)
R104470 Sgt John Archibald Gillis (RCAF) – OM (*unk*)
645930 Sgt Arnold Longstaff (RAF) – (*from Newcastle-on-Tyne*)

Ventura GR Mk IV (FN973) - 10 Aug 43. The crew went missing into the Bay of Fundy while returning from a cross country training flight. The Ventura was flown from 34 (RAF) OTU in Pennefield Ridge. P/O Ledingham is buried in his home town of Moose Jaw.

421515 Sgt Russell Laws (RNZAF) – OM (*Hawke's Bay, NZ*)
J27450 P/O Robert Alexander Ledingham (RCAF) – *Moose Jaw*
425583 Sgt Trevor Alexander Albrey (RNZAF) – OM (*Wellington, NZ*)
C6555 F/O Joseph Cletus Allen (RCAF) – OM (*Prince Rupert, BC*)

Mosquito B Mk XX (KB163) - 10 Jun 44- While flying with 36 (RAF) OTU at Greenwood, this aircraft as lost at sea on a cross country exercise. The aircraft was destroyed.

J26136 F/O John Nelson McDowell (RCAF) – OM (*Toronto, ON*)
1603956 Sgt Ronald Allen Fuller (RAFVR) – OM (*unk*)

Mosquito B Mk XX (KB285) - 8 Jul 44 - It is likely that this Mosquito, flying from Greenwood, caught fire and exploded over the western end of the Bay of Fundy.

J6215 F/L Alfred Herbert Rutledge (RCAF) – OM (*London, Ont*)
1396480 Sgt Anthony Cordery Connor (RAFVR) – OM (*unk*)

Mosquito B Mk XX (KB248) - 16 Sep 44 - It is believed that this Mosquito, flying from 8 (RCAF) OTU at Greenwood, disintegrated or exploded in flight, crashing several miles north of Harbourville, Nova Scotia.

C24441 F/O John Earl Moon (RCAF) – OM (*Edmonton, Alberta*)
J45527 P/O James Arthur Walker (RCAF) – OM (*Perth, ON*)

Ventura GR Mk (V 2149) - 7 Dec 44. The Ventura exploded in mid-air about 12 miles South of Pennfield Ridge while over the Bay of Fundy. This crew belonged to the Operational Training Squadron (Bomber Reconnaissance) from Pennefield Ridge.

J23975 F/Lt AS White, DFC (RCAF) – OM (*Yarmouth, NS*)
J16971 F/O Harold Charles Beresford Reynolds (RCAF) – OM (*Montreal, PQ*)

Bolingbroke Mk IVT (9096) - 2 Apr 45. This aircraft crashed into the Bay of Fundy 400 yards off shore of Port George, Nova Scotia. The Bolingbroke was flown from 36 (RAF) OTU Greenwood. The aircraft was a target towing plane in a normal gunnery exercise; it crashed into the sea with appearances of the port engine being on fire.

R/152430 WO2 James Francis Walterhouse (RCAF) – OM (*unk*)

Mosquito B Mk XX (KB144) - 22 May 45. Went out of control and crashed into Bay of Fundy one mile south of Grindstone Island Lighthouse, Chignecto, Nova Scotia. The aircraft, flown from 7 (RCAF) OTU, Debert, was destroyed. Sgt MacDonald is buried at Truro, the navigator, Sgt A DeTessier-Prevost, was seriously injured.

1820164 Sgt Ian Alastair Norman MacDonald (RAFVR)