

ASN Wikibase Occurrence # 209961

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Date: 23-NOV-1939
Time: day
Type: [Handley Page Hampden Mk I](#)
Owner/operator: 49 Squadron Royal Air Force (49 Sqn RAF)
Registration: L4034
C/n / msn:
Fatalities: Fatalities: 4 / Occupants: 4
Other fatalities: 4
Aircraft damage: Written off (damaged beyond repair)
Location: RAF Waddington, Lincolnshire - [United Kingdom](#)
Phase: Landing
Nature: Military
Departure airport: RAF Waddington, Lincolnshire
Destination airport: RAF Waddington

Narrative:

Handley Page Hampden Mk.I L4034, 49 Squadron, RAF Waddington: Written off (destroyed) 23/11/39 when flew into a hangar while landing in poor visibility at RAF Waddington, Lincolnshire. There was eight fatalities:

Squadron Leader Percy McGregor (Willy) Watt (pilot, Service Number 16257, aged 33) killed
Corporal Archibald McDonald Henderson (Ground Crew, Service Number 565893, aged 24) killed
Corporal Thomas Alexander Keating (Navigator, Service Number 348825, aged 46) killed
LAC Walter Gerald Kelly (Ground Crew, Service Number 620024) killed
LAC George Thomas Landing (Ground Crew, Service Number 619132, aged 30) killed
AC.1 Leslie McGarvie (Ground Crew, Service Number 535916, aged 26) killed
AC.1 Stanley Taylor (Air Gunner, Service Number 552191, aged 18) killed
AC.2 Frank Leslie Talbot (W/Op Air Gunner Service Number 351857, aged 18) killed
Corporal A Cooke (Airframe fitter) injured
AC.2 M Bastow (Ground Crew) injured

Of the eight fatalities, these included all four of the aircrew, plus four personnel working in the hangar that L4034 crashed into; they were killed when they were crushed by one of the engines of L4034, which crashed through the roof of the hangar and fell on them from a great height

Corporal Henderson is buried at WADDINGTON (ST. MICHAEL) Churchyard, Lincolnshire;
Squadron Leader Watt is buried in NETTLEHAM (ALL SAINTS) NEW CHURCHYARD, Lincolnshire
Corporal Keating, Corporal Taylor and LAC Kelly are buried in SCAMPTON (ST.JOHN THE BAPTIST) Churchyard, Lincolnshire
AC.2 Talbot is buried in BLACKBURN CEMETERY, Lancashire;
AC.1 McGarvie is buried in PRESTWICH (ST. MARY) Churchyard, Lancashire

49 Squadron was the first squadron to receive the Hampden, L4034. following the completion of

handling trials conducted by the Central Flying School at Upavon Aerodrome, Wiltshire, become the first aircraft to enter RAF squadron service, being delivered to No. 49 Squadron on 20/9/38.

It was not an easy aircraft to fly due to control problems. It had a tendency to swing when taking off, combined with an occasional reluctance to unstick. It was also liable to yaw badly during a circuit - on a climbing turn at low speed and altitude if the wing dropped a yawing dive would occur, often too late for recovery. This may have been the cause of the crash of L4034