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C o p y

Ref: 4/3886.

Grave Identification No:

Stalag 344  
Germany

Row 1. Grave 1

7th December, 1944.

Dear Sirs,

It is with very deep regret that I have to inform you that 30 British prisoners of war, details of whom are shown on the attached list, were killed during an air attack on Saturday, 2nd December, 1944, at Working Party E/793 (formerly Bau u. Arbeits Batt.21) and Working Party E/3 Blechhammer, O/S.

The two last named only lost their lives at Working Party E/3, while the remaining 28 were killed at Working Party E/793, when a shelter within the camp was directly hit by bombs.

The mass burial was carried out on Wednesday, 6th December, 1944, at Ehrenforst, and was accorded such military honours as the prisoners of war themselves could provide. The burial service was conducted jointly by Captain J. McManus, U.D.F. Chaplain's Department, Captain R.G. Griffiths, N.Z. Chaplain's Department and Captain G.T. Tudor, U.D.F. Chaplain's Department.

Comrades of the deceased prisoners of war and myself also attended the burial.

When next-of-kin are advised of these painful details, I would be grateful if expressions of deepest sympathy could be passed to them on behalf of all prisoners of war of Stalag 344.

I anticipate that our Chaplains will write to the next-of-kin of the deceased and I will do so myself in the course of the next two weeks, by which time no doubt the official advice will have been given.

The grave identification numbers are, I presume, only temporary, for the plot of ground will, in due course, and when consecrated, be incorporated in the Cemetery, Ehrenforst.

I thank you in advance for taking care of this painful matter.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) S. Sherriff, R.S.M.

Camp Leader.

- 1. (Mother) 6 Guthrie Road, Saltcoats, Scotland
- 2. (Wife) 51 Edinburgh Drive, Horrabay
- 3. (Mother) 37 Sturhill Gate, Morpeth
- 4. (Mother) 4 Park Street, Irlams Height, Salford, Lancashire
- 5. (Wife) 36 Marygold Ave., Oldford Estate, Gateshead, Co. Durham
- 6. (Mother) 25 Wells Square, Radstock, Somerset
- 7. (Mother) 37 Sturhill Gate, Morpeth
- 8. (Mother) 4 Park Street, Irlams Height, Salford, Lancashire
- 9. (Wife) 36 Marygold Ave., Oldford Estate, Gateshead, Co. Durham
- 10. (Mother) 25 Wells Square, Radstock, Somerset

- Row 1. Grave 1
- Row 2.
- Row 1. Grave 2
- Row 1. Grave 3.
- Row 1. Grave 4.
- Row 1. Grave 10

PARTICULARS

NEXT-OF-KIN

Grave identification No:

- 38
- |                                                                                                              |                                                                         |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Able Seaman<br>James ALEXANDER<br>P.O.W. No.98577<br>Royal Navy<br>Army No. P/JX 209976                      | (Mother)<br>6 Guthrie Road<br>Saltcoates<br>Scotland                    | Row 1. Grave 1  |
| 2. Private<br>Edward ANDREWS<br>Pow No.10593<br>Kensington Regiment<br>Army No.6210069                       | (Mother)<br>2 Kither Road<br>Ashford<br>Kent                            | Row 1. Grave 2. |
| 3. Sapper<br>Josef BLOUNT<br>Pow.No.4001<br>Royal Engineers<br>Army No4539549                                | (Mother)<br>23 Church View<br>Darfield<br>Barnsley<br>Yorkshire         | Row 1 Grave 3.  |
| 4. Private<br>Ralph BOYE<br>Pow No.10495<br>The Border Regiment<br>Army No.3601364                           | (Mother)<br>16 West Street<br>Kendal<br>Westmoreland                    | Row 1. Grave 4. |
| 5. Private<br>Edward DOCHERTY<br>Pow No.5813<br>The Black Watch<br>Army No.2750501                           | (Wife)<br>36 Loanhead Ave.<br>Lochre Fife<br>Scotland                   | Row 1. Grave 5. |
| 6. Private<br>Henry DOUGLAS<br>Pow.No.10504<br>The Border Regiment<br>Army No.3601111                        | (Mother)<br>51 Lightfoot Drive<br>Horraby<br>Carlisle                   | Row 1. Grave 6. |
| 7. Fusilier<br>James Campbell DUNN<br>Pow. No. 1782<br>Royal Northumberland<br>Fusiliers<br>Army No. 4268129 | (Mother)<br>70/2nd Avenue<br>Sturhill Gate<br>Morpeth<br>Northumberland | Row 1. Grave 7  |
| 8. Gunner<br>John GORING<br>Pow No.1053<br>Royal Artillery<br>Army No.204313                                 | (Mother)<br>4 Park Street<br>Irlams Height<br>Salford<br>Lancashire     | Row 1. Grave 8. |
| 9. Private<br>Michael GRANT<br>Pow. No.1852<br>Durham Light Infantry<br>Army No.4454381                      | (Wife)<br>36 Marygold Ave.<br>Oldford Estate<br>Gateshead<br>Co. Durham | Row 1. Grave 9  |
| 10. Private<br>Frederick GREGORY<br>Pow No.3530<br>Queens Royal Regiment<br>Army No.56744884                 | (Mother)<br>25 Wells Square<br>Radstock<br>Somerset                     | Row 1. Grave 10 |

- 11. Private  
George GROEGER  
Pow No. 3609  
Royal West Kent Regt.  
Army No. 6347934  
(Wife)  
104 Devonshire  
Forest Hill  
London  
Row 1. Grave 11  
Row 2. Grave 7.
- 12. Gunner  
Frederick HOPKINS  
Pow. No. 6285  
Royal Artillery  
Army No. 1530681  
(Wife)  
18 Newstead Road  
Kingstanding  
Birmingham  
Row 1. Grave 12  
Row 2. Grave 8.
- 13. Gunner  
Charles JOHNSON  
Pow. No. 3578  
Royal Artillery  
Army No. 875184  
(Wife)  
Trouts Farm  
East Church  
Isle of Cheppey  
Kent  
Row 1. Grave 13
- 14. Private  
William LANGTON  
Pow. No. 3510  
Durham Light Infantry  
Army No. 4459315  
(Mother)  
13 Roper Street  
Sunderland  
Row 1. Grave 14
- 15. Sapper  
William LOUGHNAN  
Pow. No. 5475  
Royal Engineers  
Army No. 1895204  
(Mother)  
9 Factory Street  
Ramsbottom  
Manchester  
Row 1. Grave 15
- 16. Signalman  
Arthur LUDLAM  
Pow. No. 220718  
Royal Corps of Signals  
Army No. 4752584  
(Mother)  
338 Queens Road  
Sheffield  
Yorkshire  
Row 2. Grave 1  
Row 2. Grave 13.
- 17. Trooper  
Charles McKELLAN  
Pow. No. 6522  
Lothian & Border Yeomanry  
Army No. 7891750  
(Wife)  
121 Rose Street  
Edinburgh 1.  
Row 2. Grave 2  
Row 2. Grave 14.
- 18. Private  
Ben Charles MILLER  
Pow. No. 249  
Leicestershire Regt.  
Army No. 4859362  
(Mother)  
Lullington Road  
Overseal  
Burton-on-Trent  
Row 2. Grave 3
- 19. Lance-Corporal  
Douglas PRICE  
Pow. No. 1785  
Royal Welsh Fusiliers  
Army No. 4197242  
(Father)  
20 Deacons Drive  
Bank Lane  
Irlams o th'Height  
Salford, Lancs.  
Row 2. Grave 4  
Row 2. Grave 13
- 20. Private  
James A. SHARP  
Pow. No. 4840  
Ox. & Bucks. Light Inf.  
Army No. 5383556  
(Father)  
18 Penn Road  
Southport  
Aylesbury  
Bucks.  
Row 2. Grave 5
- 21. Rifleman  
William Alfred SMITH  
Pow. No. 3852  
Rifle Brigade  
Army No. 4445160  
(Wife)  
68 South Street  
South Pellow  
Chester-le-Street  
Col. Durham  
Row 2. Grave 7

Handwritten notes and scribbles on the right edge of the page, including the number '23' and other illegible markings.

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- 22. Private  
James SPRIGGS  
Pow.No.1462  
Royal West Kent Regt.  
Army No.6348023  
(Mother)  
Mrs.Norris  
32 Grimscott Str.  
Bermondsey  
London S.E.1.  
Row 2. Grave 7.
- 23. Sapper  
Leslie Howard VEREY  
Pow. No.2366  
Royal Engineers  
Army No.1866557  
(Wife)  
69 Cranleigh Gardens  
Luton  
Bedfordshire  
Row 2. Grave 8.
- 24. Private  
Jack Harold WELLS  
Pow. No.688  
Ox.&Bucks. Light Inf.  
Army No.538249  
(Wife)  
The Bungalow  
33 Little Marlow  
Marlow, Bucks.  
Row 2. Grave 9
- 25. Rifleman  
Reginald Percy Wells  
Pow.No.4260  
Kings Royal Rifle Corps  
Army No.684326  
(Father)  
26 Cartnell Gdsn.  
Morden  
Surrey  
Row 2. Grave 10
- 26. Sapper  
Albert V. Moore  
Pow. No.4821  
Royal Engineers  
Army No.6913650  
(Mother)  
29 Alexander Road  
Dagenham  
Essex  
Row 2. Grave 11
- 27. Sapper  
John Turner SPEAK  
Pow. No.995  
Royal Engineers  
Army No.2188987  
(Mother)  
49 Scott Lane  
Black Rock  
Lancashire  
Row 2. Grave 12.
- 28. Private  
David O'NEILL  
Pow.No.997  
Auxiliary Military  
Pioneer Corps  
Army No.2090103  
(Wife)  
19 Dean Place  
Hanley  
STOKE-ON-TRENT  
Row 2. Grave 14.
- 29. WORKING PARTY E/3  
Sapper  
Harry ALLSOPP  
Pow.No.221037  
Royal Engineers  
Army No.1888333  
(Wife)  
25 Holbrook Road  
Belper  
Derbyshire  
Row 2. Grave 14
- 30. Private  
Herbert HALLARD  
Pow.No.221350  
Highland Light Inf.  
Army No.3660951  
(Wife)  
6 Highgate Crescent  
Gorton  
Manchester  
Row 2. Grave 15

Stalag 344, Germany

7th December 1944.

Private  
Royal West Kent Regt.  
Army No.6348023

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P. 14

retreat from a low alti-  
column from the rear. The  
minutes.