SGT CYRIL DUMMER, RAFVR

Just 12 days after Cyril’s crew were posted to the Squadron in June 1944, they were assigned Halifax G-George (LV825) for a bombing raid on a V1 flying-bomb site construction works at Domleger, some 10 miles north-east of Abbeville in Northern France. Their pilot was Australian Plt Off Norman C.C. Leitch from Innaloo, Western Australia.

Their Halifax took off from Melbourne just after midnight at 0020hrs on 17 June and almost immediately the right-inner engine caught fire. Intending to return to Melbourne after jettisoning their bombs in the North Sea, the crew were unable to make the coast and crashed at Cuckoo Farm outside the village of Rawcliffe, just to the west of Goole in South Yorkshire. All except the tail gunner, FS Mervyn Coleman were killed – he being thrown clear and able to get away before the bombs exploded.

Mid Upper Gunner - Sgt Cyril Albert Reginald Dummer RAFVR (1866298), aged 19, of Kenton, Middlesex was later buried in the Harrogate Stonefall Cemetery, Yorkshire. (Grave B/G/4).

The crew of Halifax LV825 at the time it crashed on 17 June 1944
(Back row L-R) Crawford, Lewington, Cyril Dummer and Coleman
(Front row L-R) Pearce, Leitch and McCarrol.

Extract from the 10 Sqn Ops Record Book Form 541 – reporting the crash