

Bomb Armour Jordan Danny Zlateff

434 Bomber Squadron was first formed at Tholthorpe England on 13 June 1943 as a unit of No. 6 Bomber Group. It began operations on 12 August of that year and continued to operate from Tholthorpe until 11 December 1944, moving the following day to Croft. The Squadron operated there for the remainder of its stay in England. Equipped first with the Handley Page Halifax, the Bluenosers converted to Halifax III's in May 1944. The Squadron was adopted by the Rotary Club of Halifax and took the nickname "Bluenose" in reference to the common nickname for Nova Scotians. The schooner "Bluenose" is well known for it's fine record. 434 Bomber Squadron switched again this time to the Canadian built Lancaster in December 1944. During the war years they flew some 2600 combat sorties, dropped 10,575 tons of bombs and mines, and lost 68 crew. Besides acquiring approximately 150 individual decorations, honours and awards, the Bluenosers received the following battle honours;



English Channel; North Sea 1943-1944; Baltic 1943-1944; Fortress Europe 1943-1944; France and Germany 1944-1945; Biscay Ports 1944; Ruhr 1943-1945; Berlin 1943-1944; German Ports 1944-1945; Normandy 1944; The Rhine.



"Slats" as he was known during war time, was born in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The information below was taken from a diary that was kept during the war. Joined the R.C.A.F. on May 14th, 1942 as an Armourer at No.1 Manning Depot in Edmonton, Alberta. Completed the training course and was sent to Mountain View, Ontario for a course on Amament. August 25th, 1942 - arrived in Lethbridge, Alberta at 133 Fighter Squadron, which was made up entirely of Hurricanes. October 4th, 1942 - was posted to No. 10 Repair Depot in Calgary, Alberta. February 22, 1943 - reported to No.11 A.I.D Detachment in Montreal and went out to the Fairchild Plant to begin study on the Bristol Gun Turret. March 16, 1943 - posted to No. 8 B & G school in Lethbridge, Alberta. April 12, 1943 - reported to No.1 "Y" Depot in Halifax. May 16, 1943 - Loaded aboard the Empress Of Scotland and sailed out of Halifax at 1:30 A.M. on May 17th, 1943. Landed at Liverpool on May 24, 1943 and climbed aboard a train for Bournemouth. June 8, 1943 - Posted to 433 Squadron at East-Moor with Wellingtons & Lancasters. June 27, 1943 - Transferred to Tholthorpe where the Squadron was changed to 434 with Halifaxes. August 12, 1943 - Prepared kite for first operation to bomb Milan, Italy. December 10, 1943 - Moved to Croft.

Sadly, my uncle passed away after a long illness with cancer on January 12, 2001. He will always be remembered by his family.



Defence Medal, Voluntary Service Medal, War Medal



Defence Medal Back



Voluntary Service Medal Back



War Medal Back



R.C.A.F. Other Ranks Hat Badge

Width: 10mm

Height: 12mm

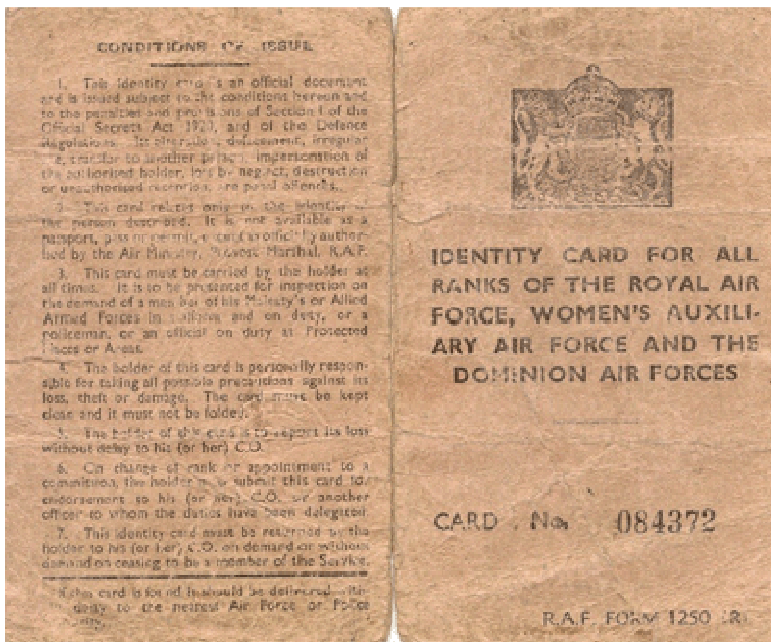
Pin/Clutch = Cotter Pin Loops



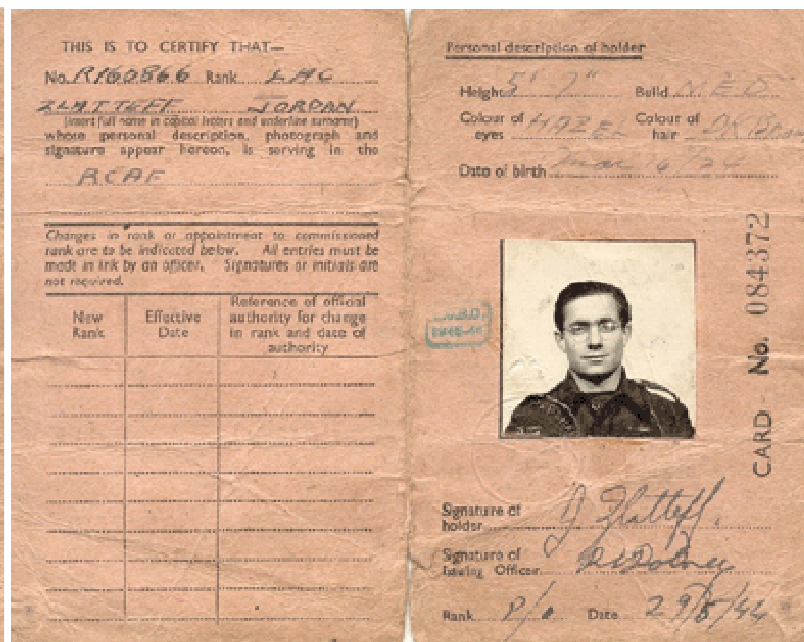
R.C.A.F. Shoulder Tittle

Width: 78mm

Length: 60mm



Identity Card (Front & Back)



Identity Card (Inside)



Bomb Armourers Of 434 Squadron (Blue Nose Squadron)



WL "N" Nuts
Hill & McCullough bombing up "N" Nuts



One For Adolf



Doc McLetchie & Harry fourmer at Croft in front of WL "U". The plane was lost November 18, 1943 on a bombing run to Mannheim, Germany



A top the ladder at Tholthorpe, Yorkshire 1944 cleaning the machine gun in the nose of a halifax bomber.



This picture of Trafalger Square was taken while on leave in London 1944