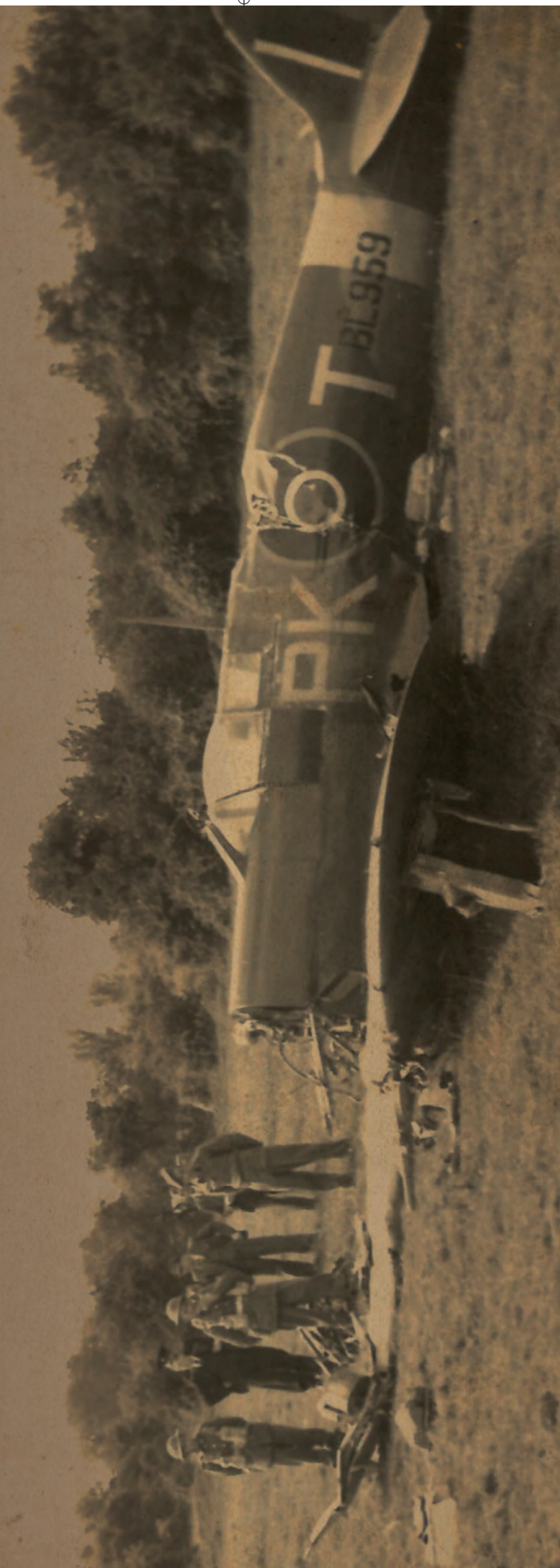


STRENGTHEN
THE NATION



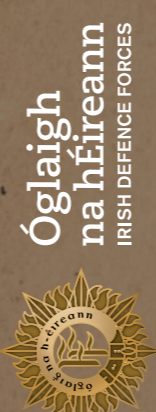
www.military.ie



Ireland in Neutral 1939 – 1945

Aircraft Crashes and Forced Landings

MILITARY ARCHIVES CALENDAR 2024



MILITARY ARCHIVES CALENDAR 2024

Aircraft Crashes and Forced Landings, 1939 – 1945 in Neutral Ireland

The production of a Military Archives calendar in cooperation with the designers and printing staff at the Defence Forces Printing Press (DFPP) is a long established tradition. This yearly endeavour is designed to showcase the archives, promote the service and highlight special projects undertaken by the Military Archives. The calendars are themed and filled with images and commentary, and inspiration is never hard to find: previous calendars included The Brother Allen collection (2017), 1916 Case studies – an exhibition (2016), Sports and the Defence Forces (2015), The Military Service Pensions collection (2014) and The Irish Volunteers to the Civil War (2005).

This year, in recognition of the launch of Military Intelligence and Air Corps Headquarters files on the subject of forced landings and crashes of foreign aircraft in neutral Ireland during the Emergency period, specifically 1939 - 1945, the calendar features key documents from that collection in tandem with select images from the Private collections of prominent authors and historians of the period including Lt. Col. (Retd) Michael O' Malley, and the late Donal McCarron, Tony (Anthony Paul) Kearns and Paddy Cummins who have sadly passed away in recent years. The size and scope of the aforementioned collections cannot be fully realized in this format nor fully credit the dedication and skill of the historians mentioned.

Close examination of the Military Intelligence and Air Corps Headquarters files, and images from the Private collections often conveys the surprise and pressure experienced by Military authorities and members of the public that came into contact with crash landed aircraft, and airmen during the Emergency period. However it would be remiss to overlook the tragedy that befell so many airmen on both sides of the war with some 223 airmen killed during the period, a large number buried in Ireland, or prepared for burial before repatriation to other jurisdictions. This number does not include the many bodies of airmen, seamen and other victims that “vanished into the blue” and washed ashore during the period. Military intelligence files show there was active cooperation between Military authorities, An Garda Síochána, the Department of External

Affairs, the Department of Justice, the Irish Red Cross Society and various legations to confirm identities, record burials, notify next of kin and return personal belongings from the point of recovery up to the mid-1950s.

This year's calendar also features extracts from a commissioned work by author Pat McCarthy on the subject to provide context and scaffolding to the images and documents selected. Pat McCarthy's work 'Air War over Ireland: Foreign aircraft crashes and landings in neutral Ireland 1939 - 1945' will feature in the guide to the forced landings and crashes of foreign aircraft collection coming in early 2024.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Mr. Gerry McCann and Lt. Col (Retd) Richard Cummins for their contributions to this year's calendar and ongoing commitment to volunteering in Military Archives.

A production such as this calendar would not be possible without the contribution of Donal MacCarron, Tony (Anthony Paul, A.P.) Kearns, Paddy Cummins and Lt. Col (Retd) Michael O'Malley, not only in terms of their published works but also their commitment to research and collecting, often in close collaboration with each other, and within wider researching community networks including the Warplane Research Group of Ireland. Collectively, MacCarron, Kearns, Cummins and O'Malley have left a treasure trove of material covering not only this period, but the history of aviation in Ireland. They have entrusted the Military Archives to preserve their collections and open their papers and this calendar gives some indication, however narrow, of the range and quality of the material they assembled.

Front Cover - British Spitfire VB. aircraft which crash landed at Fair Green, Ratoath, Co. Dublin on 23 August 1942.
IE/MA/PRCN/0966/P_Box 3 (Tony Kearns Private Collection)



1. Joseph Walshe, Secretary of the Department of External Affairs, pictured at the 1945 Military Tattoo and Exhibition pictured with Seán Lemass, Minister for Industry and Commerce.
 IE/MAV/Photos/66/074, Box titled "Emergency", Military Archives Photographs collection
2. Oscar Traynor, Minister for Defence and Lieutenant General Dan McKenna, pictured at Áras an Uachtaráin. Assembled group includes Major General Michael J. Costello, Major General Hugo McNeill, Major General Liam Archer (then Assistant Chief of Staff) and Colonel Dan Bryan (then Director of Intelligence).
 IE/MAV/Photos/90/018, Box titled "Emergency", Military Archives Photographs collection
3. Acting Major Florence O'Donoghue (Assistant I.O, Southern Command), Captain Joseph Kevin BIRTHISTLE (I.O Western Command and I.O Air and Marine Sector) Commandant Dominick Mackey (I.O Curragh Command), Lt. Colonel Niall Charles Harrington (I.O Eastern Command) and Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Anthony Mulcahy, Officer Commanding Air Corps 1935 -1942.

YEAR IN VIEW 2024

JANUARY / Eanáir 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY / Feabhra 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

MARCH / Márta 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL / Aibreán 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

MAY / Bealtaine 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JUNE / Meitheamh 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JULY / Iúil 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

AUGUST / Lúnasa 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SEPTEMBER / Meán Fómhair 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

OCTOBER / Deireadh Fómhair 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER / Samhain 2024

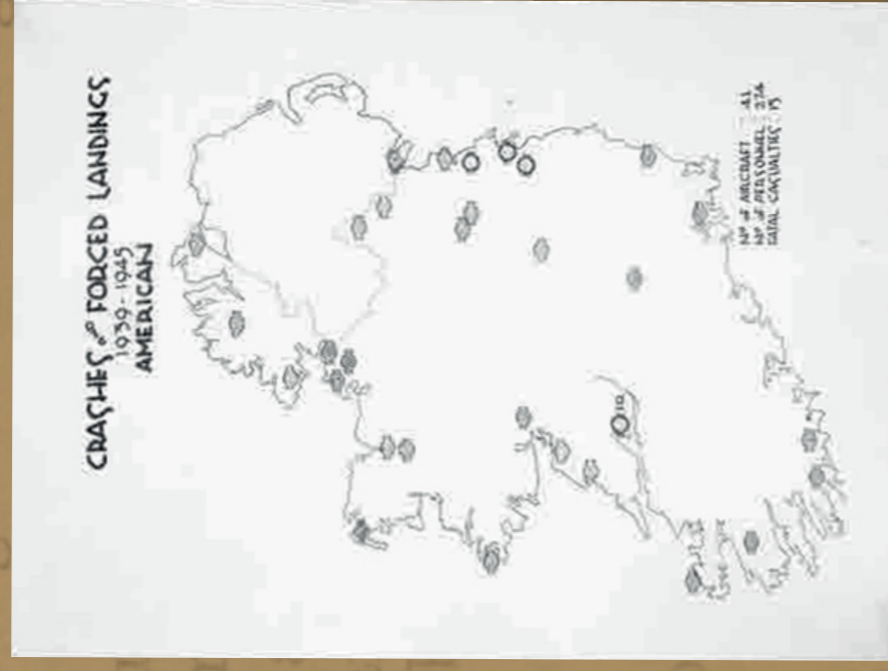
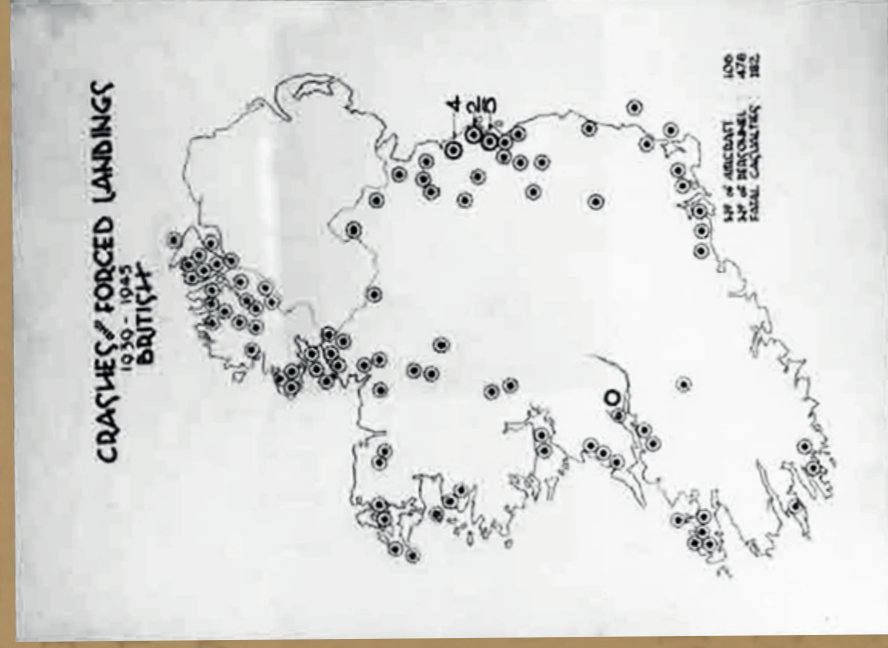
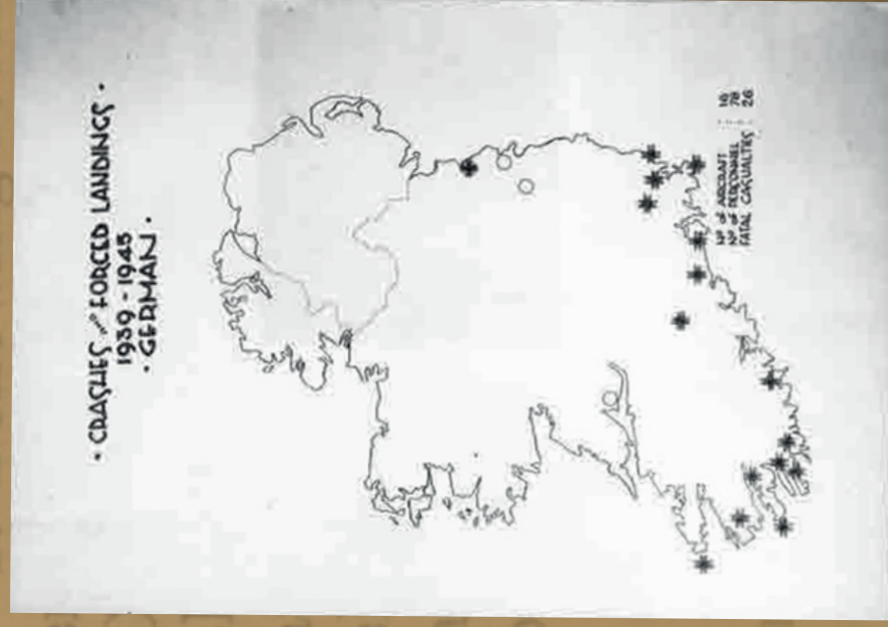
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

DECEMBER / Nollaig 2024

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

CRASHING OR FORCED LANDING OF FOREIGN AIRCRAFT.

1. Following receipt of information of a foreign aircraft having



1. Contemporaneous map of Ireland showing the distribution of belligerent crashes and forced landings in Neutral Ireland 1939 – 1945 as recorded by the Air and Marine Intelligence service
Air Corps Museum Collection (glass plates) /ACPS/GPN/050/1-4

JANUARY 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1 New Years Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

“The Government of Ireland, in order to ensure and maintain the neutral status of Ireland during the present state of war in Europe, have decided to place immediate restriction on the use of Ireland’s territorial waters, ports and roadsteads by vessels of war, whether surface or submarine craft belonging to the belligerent Powers. They intend moreover, to prohibit the entry into Irish jurisdiction of belligerent military aircraft”.

Aide mémoire to British, French and German governments regarding restrictions on the use of Ireland’s territorial waters, 12th September 1939
NAI, DFA Secretary’s files A75 (see Documents on Irish Foreign Policy, Volume 6 1939- 1941, Document no. 19)

CRASHING OR FORCED LANDING OF



3



2

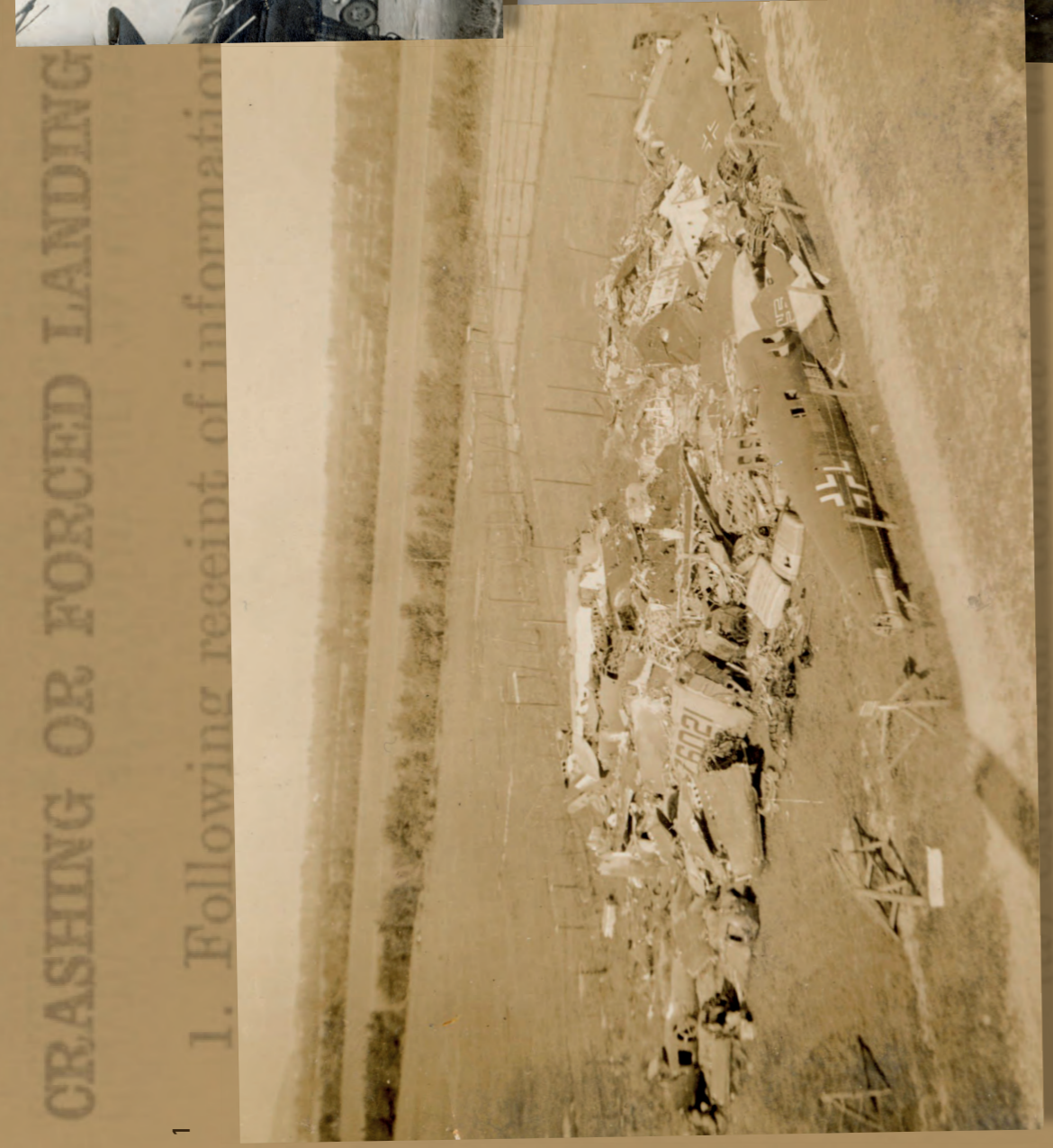
1. IE/MA/PRCN/00666/094 (Donal MacCarron Private collection)
2. British Seaplane, a Saro Lerwick I (L 7252), which force landed 150 yards off the coast, Skerries, Co. Dublin on 3 September 1939
IE/MA/PRCN/00666/2506 (Donal MacCarron Private collection)
3. German bomber, Focke Wulf, which crash landed at Cloghane (Faha Mountain also known as "Magnetic Mountain"), Kerry on 20 August 1940
IE/MA/PRCN/00666/1909 (Donal MacCarron Private collection)

DECEMBER 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29
30	31					

“The fighting in Europe ended on 8 May 1945 with the formal surrender of Germany. Between then and the end of 1945 seven British or American aircraft crashed, or force landed in Ireland. Only one of these crashes resulted in a fatality”

‘Air War over Ireland: Foreign aircraft crashes and landings in neutral Ireland 1939 – 1945’
Patrick McCarthy



1. "Graveyard at Baldonnel": Various wrecked foreign aircraft scrapped at Baldonnel, Co. Dublin.
 IE/MA/PRCN/0066/2482 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)

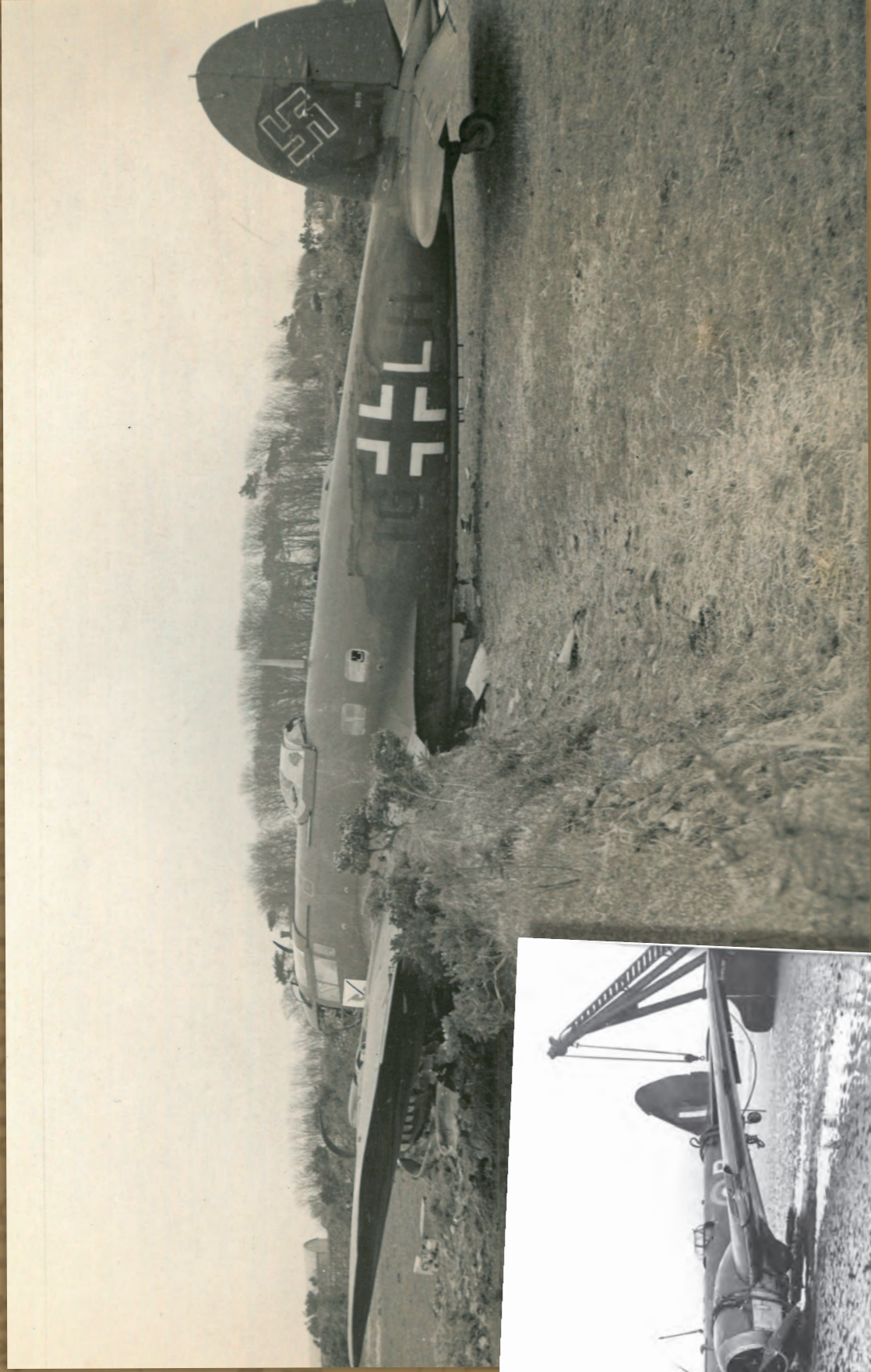
2. German Junkers 88 twin engine bomber which landed at Gormanston camp, Co. Meath, 5th May 1945. The crew, identified as Oberfeldwebel Herbert Gieseke, Unteroffizier Horst Schmidt and Gefreiter Bernhard Kruschyne, were questioned soon after landing in Gormanston. Paperwork on Military Intelligence file indicates that the landing of the German crew in neutral Ireland was intentional.
 IE/MA/PRCN/096/P_Box 20 (Tony Kearns Private Collection)

FEBRUARY 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1	2	3	4
5 St Brigid's Day	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

"Germany launched its long-awaited offensive in May 1940 and within six weeks the Netherlands, Belgium and France were all under German control. Luftwaffe aircraft stationed in France could now attack the British homeland and the Atlantic convoys, Britain's lifeline. The impact in the air was soon evident. In April 1940 the Coast Watching Service had reported sightings of 50 belligerent aircraft, all offshore; in August the figure had jumped to 896- 60 of which were spotted inland"

'Air War over Ireland: Foreign aircraft crashes and landings in neutral Ireland 1939 - 1945'
 Patrick McCarthy



1. German bomber Heinkel 111 which crash landed at Bonmahon, Ballyristeen 1st April 1941.
IE/MA/PRCN/096/P, Box 20 (Tony Kearns Private Collection)
2. British Bristol Blenheim twin engine bomber, which landed in Clontarf, Co. Dublin 14th March 1941.
IE/MA/PRCN/096/P, Box 20 (Tony Kearns Private Collection)

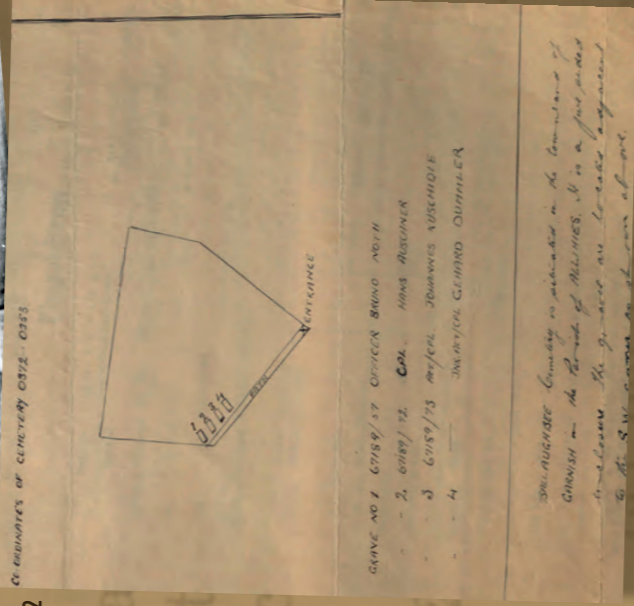
NOVEMBER 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

“Many young British, German, American, Polish, Canadian, Norwegian, New Zealander and Australian airmen lost their lives in those crashes. The Irish records contain the grim details of aircreews drowned when their plane ditched at sea, killed on impact with a mountainside or cliff-face or burned alive on crash-landing. Some of the corpses were never recovered from the sea. The bodies of all dead airmen were treated with respect. The coffins were draped in the appropriate national flag, flanked by military pallbearers, and military honours were always rendered at the graveside by an Irish Army detachment if they were interred in neutral Ireland”

‘Air War over Ireland: Foreign aircraft crashes and landings in neutral Ireland 1939 – 1945’

Patrick McCarthy



3

1. **Funeral cortege accompanying remains of German Air Force Officer Friedrich Schultz to Old Kenmare Cemetery, 3rd March 1941.**
 Funeral cortege accompanying remains of German Air Force Officer Friedrich Schultz to Old Kenmare Cemetery, 3rd March 1941.
2. **Plan of Ballagbeg Cemetery, Allihies, Co. Cork showing the burial place of German airmen Gerhard Dummmler, Johannes Kuschidlo, Bruno Noth and Hans Auschner, within the cemetery.**
 IE/MA/G2/X/0661 'Aircraft German. Crash at Ballinacarrigga, Co. Cork, 23/7/1943'
3. **Guard of Honour and bearer parties at the funeral of Pilot Officer J.K. Hill, Sergeant G. Wright, Sergeant J.T. Lamb and Sergeant F. Erdwin in Blessington, Co Wicklow. The four members of a British Handley Page Hampden aircraft crew died following crash at Kylebeg, Blessington, Co. Wicklow, 18th April 1941.**
 IE/MA/PRCN/00666/2514 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)

MARCH 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 St Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Good Friday	30	31 Easter Sunday

“During the war many training units operated from airfields in Northern Ireland. Their specific roles can be readily identified from the unit names such as Air Navigation and Bombing School, Armament Training School, Air Observers School, RAF Bombing and Gunnery School, Operational Training Unit, Elementary Flying Training School, Naval Air Fighting School etc. With so many trainee pilots and navigators flying from Northern Ireland airfields it is little wonder that some got lost and ended up south of the border”

‘Air War over Ireland: Foreign aircraft crashes and landings in neutral Ireland 1939 – 1945’
 Patrick McCarthy

1
 These aircraft have infringed our neutrality and caused further annoyance and trouble by crashing on our territory. In the circumstances, I am of opinion that we should merely strip the aeroplanes of the types mentioned under 2 and 3 above of any valuable equipment and reduce the remainder of the aeroplane to scrap for easy storing in an open compound. We should have no responsibility for such scrap other than to ensure that no unauthorised person removes any of it.
 The matter of the expense of salvage is one requiring consideration.



2

1. Extract of letter posing "The Salvage Question" from Colonel P.A. Mulcahy, Officer Commanding Air Corps to Quartermaster General, Army Headquarters, 18th April 1941. IE/MA/G2/X/0681 'Aircraft German, Crash at Tacumshin [Tacumshane], Co. Wexford, 3/3/1941'
2. Series of photographs showing some of the hand over points on the Northern Irish border used by Air Corps transport crew when returning salvaged aircraft and equipment. IE/MA/PRCN/00666/2518 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
3. British Royal Navy Hellicat prior to being lifted on to a low loader with salvage crew at Greencastle Golf Club, Moville, Co Donegal. Landing reported 24th June 1945. IE/MA/PRCN/00666/2526 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)



3

OCTOBER 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Public Holiday	29	30	31			

Military Intelligence Officers often relayed, with great admiration and appreciation, the variety of roles played by civilians in the aftermath of reported crashes and landings, with many assisting in search and rescue operations. One such file contains a report detailing the role played by Miss Mary Nugent in the aftermath of a German aircraft crash at Cashelane Hill, Durrus, Bantry 5th February 1941.

"The bodies of the men killed were also thrown forward, some of them to a considerable distance. The survivor was found near the burning wreckage by Miss Mary Nugent who lives in the nearest house to the place where the crash took place. Having had previous experience in first aid, she took an outfit with her when going up the mountain, dragged the body away from the immediate vicinity of the fire and did everything possible for the injured man".

Extract from report prepared by Major J.P. O'Connell, G2, Southern Command, dated 6th February 1941 from IE/MA/G2/X/0661 'Aircraft German. Crash at Cashelane Hill, Durrus, Bantry 5th February 1941'



An t-oirgheall & b'fh
 An t-éim Mairiúna
 do Dainseán,
 Co. Chiarraí

Blioscadh na h-
 Dúnaí
 Co. Chiarraí
 9.10.1940
 12.1
 18: do eass callaigh, sa m
 an eadice d'fhág na m
 Some agann do Chiarraí
 agann Co. Chiarraí. ag an t-é
 ag an t-éim an mairiúna
 d'fhág na mairiúna.
 ag an t-éim te mairiúna
 mairiúna do Chiarraí
 Mairiúna do Chiarraí
 Sean O'Carraí

12.1
 18: do eass callaigh, sa m
 an eadice d'fhág na m
 Some agann do Chiarraí
 agann Co. Chiarraí. ag an t-é
 ag an t-éim an mairiúna
 d'fhág na mairiúna.
 ag an t-éim te mairiúna
 mairiúna do Chiarraí
 Mairiúna do Chiarraí
 Sean O'Carraí

From Blasket Island,
 Dunquin, Co. Kerry,
 29. 11. 40.
 I am submitting the following statement regarding
 the incident which took place on the Blasket Islands.
 The report was made to me by the four men
 who were on the island at the time of the crash.
 It will be a pleasure to have the report published
 if you are so kind as to let me know the result
 of my efforts to get this report, as the four
 of us were in it.
 Yours respectfully,
 (4) General O'Sullivan,
 10, Whitehall,
 Dublin 2,
 John Heaney.

Translated 2022

1. British Spitfire following forced landing at Poulawillin near Miltown Malbay, Co. Clare 7th April 1945.
 IE/MA/PRCN/0066/2528 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
2. Letter written in Irish requesting compensation from Fishermen involved in the search for survivors following the crash of a German Blohm and Voss Flying boat near Inishvickillane Island, 25th November 1940.
 IE/MA/G2/X/0584, Aircraft German. Crash, [Inishvickillane], Co. Kerry, 22-11-1940'

APRIL 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1 Easter Monday	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

'During the Emergency certain equipment was supplied by both the British and American authorities under special arrangements made separately from the ordinary purchase channels. The supplies included equipment for the salvage of crashed aircraft together with equipment for general Air Corps use e.g., spare parts and radio equipment. The total value of the equipment so supplied was £14,600 of which supplies to the value of £10,600 were expressed to be a free gift... The balance of £4,000 represents transport equipment of which £2,400 worth was received from the British and £1,600 worth from the American authorities'

Memorandum for the Government, DOD 3/2314, May 1949, cited in Michael C. O'Malley, Military Aviation in Ireland 1921-45, (Dublin, 2010), pp237-8. See PRCN-0090-0089 (Michael C. O'Malley Private Collection)



1



2



3

1. American Douglas C-47 troop transport plane, and crew, following forced landing at Rineanna. Co. Clare, 6th July 1942.
IE/MA/PRCN/0090/P0386 (Michael C. O'Malley Private Collection)
2. British Catalina flying boat following a forced landing on Lough Gill, Co Sligo on the 17th November 1942.
IE/MA/PRCN/0066/2540 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
3. German Junkers 88 on fire following a crash landing at Towergare, near Tramore, Co. Waterford, 23rd August 1942.
IE/MA/PRCN/0066/2466 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)

SEPTEMBER 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

“The 19th of June 1944 was a black day for 59 Squadron of the RAF, based at Ballykelly, county Derry. Early that morning a B24-liberator took off on a routine Atlantic patrol. Less than ten minutes later it flew into Glengad Head killing all eight of the crew. A few hours later, unaware of what had happened, another Liberator took off from Ballykelly on a similar mission. It crashed into Shrove Hill on the Inishowen peninsula - again the complete crew were killed. The bodies from both crashes were taken to the L.D.F. hall in Carndonagh and put into coffins. That evening the coffins were driven to the border post at Bridgend, escorted by an Irish army guard of honour. At Bridgend the remains were received by an RAF guard of honour. The squadron had suffered 16 fatalities in just a few hours”

‘Air War over Ireland: Foreign aircraft crashes and landings in neutral Ireland 1939 – 1945’
Patrick McCarthy

THREE BOMBERS CRASH IN DONEGAL

Eighteen Airmen Killed

GALLANT RESCUE EFFORTS

Irish Defence Forces' Military Honours For R.A.F. Victims

The charred and mutilated remains of the sixteen members of the crews of the two R.A.F. Liberators which crashed in foggy weather into the hillsides at Glengad and Shrove in the hush-hour penitents on Monday were removed from Curdonsagh to Derry last night.

Derry Journal
21/6/44



2

1

1. American B.24 Liberator aircraft following a forced landing in Curradrish Bog, Foxford, Co. Mayo, 5th May 1944. IE/MA/PRCN/0066/1888 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
2. British Halifax bomber following forced landing near Skibbereen Co Cork, 21st April 1944. Note the army boots of photographer in foreground. IE/MA/PRCN/0066/2499 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
3. Newspaper clipping from Military Intelligence file on the crash of a British B.24 Liberator aircraft at Knockdubh, Glengad Head, Co. Donegal on 19th June 1944. It was the first of three aircraft to crash at various locations in Donegal on 19th June 1944. IE/MA/G2/X/1323, Aircraft British. Crash at Glengad Head, 19/6/1944

MAY 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Public Holiday	7	8 DF Holiday	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

“The first USAAF plane to land in neutral Ireland was a C-47 transport with crew plus a replacement bomber crew, in total 15 airmen, which landed at Rineanna on 6 July 1942. The crew rested overnight, their aircraft was refuelled, and they left the next day”

‘Air War over Ireland: Foreign aircraft crashes and landings in neutral Ireland 1939 – 1945’

Patrick McCarthy



1



2

1. Aerial view of No. 2 Internment camp c.1944. B Camp (left) was used for the Allied internees, and G Camp (right) for German internees.
IE/MA/ACPS/GPN/193/2/1 (Air Corps Glass Plates, Air Corps Museum Collection)
2. Wedding photo of Canadian Flight Sergeant Roswell Frank Tees and Eileen Lewis at St. Paul's Garrison Church, Curragh camp, 14th September 1943. Tees landed in Athboy, Co. Meath, 21st August 1941 and was subsequently interned.
IE/MA/PRCN/0066/021 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
3. German internees on parade, Curragh camp.
IE/MA/PRCN/0066/1918 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
4. Typed account of fuel issues given to German internees. It details the quantity of turf and wood supplied and costs for period January to June 1945.
IE/MA/PRCN/0016/01/62 (Collins Powell Private Collection)



3

FUEL ISSUES - GERMAN INTERNEES - ALL THROUGH - 26.12.44 to 27. 6, 45 Institutes.

A/COS PERIOD	TUPP L.S.	FUEL WOOD ETC.	QTY OF STUFF			QTY OF FUEL ETC.			TOTAL QTY		
			M.	B.	D.	S.	B.	D.	S.	B.	D.
JANUARY, 1945	27,228	116,624	27	9	0	100	2	0	107	15	0
FEBRUARY	25,107	91,016	10	4	3	77	27	0	91	1	8
MARCH	4,010	119,873	4	10	10	103	9	1	107	1	11
APRIL 1/2/45 to 11/4/45	---	69,071	---	---	---	76	10	7	76	19	7
APRIL 13/4/45 to 22/4/45	---	20,006	---	---	---	64	9	1	65	9	1
MAY	---	73,026	---	---	---	7	10	6	35	7	9
JUNE	27,489	9,103	27	12	3	---	---	---	---	---	---
TOTAL L.S.	89,843	499,898	73	4	4	418	9	1	501	15	0

APPROXIMATE MONTHLY QTY - WINTER PERIOD 2116, 0, 0
 " " " " SUMMER PERIOD 25, 0, 0
 AVERAGE MONTHLY QTY OVER SIX MONTHS PERIOD 83, 10, 0

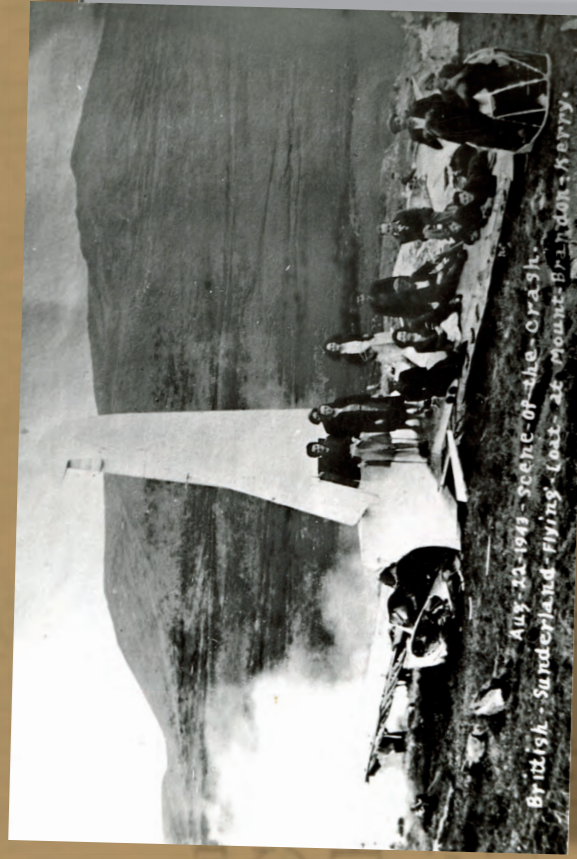
4

AUGUST 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
5 Public Holiday	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 DF Holiday	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

“As the U.S. contribution to the air war increased, there was a massive increase in aircraft sightings and overflights. Between April 1943 and March 1944 21,000 were reported near or over Ireland. Overflights more than doubled to 1,600 compared to 778 in the previous twelve months. In response to the increase in the number of belligerent aircraft crossing Ireland, many on ferry flights, the Irish Defence Forces took a simple step – they ordered the construction of large “Eire” signs with an accompanying identification number adjacent to the lookout posts of the Coast Watching Service”

‘Air War over Ireland: Foreign aircraft crashes and landings in neutral Ireland 1939 – 1945’
Patrick McCarthy



1. Photos of the tail section of a **British Overseas Airway Corps Sunderland** flying boat at the crash scene, Cloghane, Mount Brandon Co. Kerry, 28th July 1943.
IE/MA/PRCN/0066/1376 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
 IE/MA/PRCN/0066/2510 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
2. **American B.17 Flying Fortress following a forced landing, Clonakilty, Co. Cork, 7th April 1943.**
IE/MA/PRCN/0066/1889 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)



JUNE 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
3 Public Holiday	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

“For those who were detained in K-Lines life was not bad and certainly was much better than life in an Allied or German prisoner-of-war camp or in the internment camp for IRA members just a mile away on at the other end of the Curragh Camp. Though surrounded by barbed wire fences complete with watchtowers and armed guards, both camps were spacious and the accommodation comfortable. The camps had facilities for gardening and sports and the internees could use the swimming pool and gym in the Curragh Camp. Radio sets were given to the internees, and they listened to the news, cheering loudly if a victory for their side was announced”.

‘Air War over Ireland: Foreign aircraft crashes and landings in neutral Ireland 1939 – 1945’
 Patrick McCarthy

CRASHING OR FORCED LANDING

2



3



1

1. Crash site of German Heinkel 111 aircraft at Carnsore Co Wexford, 10th June 1941.
IE/MA/PRCN/0066/0114 (Donal MacCarron Private Collection)
2. Cloth badges from the uniforms of Sergeant Francis Augustine Weaver, Royal Air Force (New Zealand), Sergeant John "Jack" Rostern, Royal Air Force and Sergeant Alexander Sherlock Beard Royal Air Force.
IE/MA/G2/X/0466 'Bodies washed ashore'
3. The remains of a tin tube, which once contained the rolled up text of two biblical passages from The Book of Deuteronomy in Hebrew (since unrolled and mounted).
IE/MA/G2/X/0759, Aircraft German: Heinkel HE111 bomber crashed at Churchtown, Carnsore, Wexford 10/6/1941'

JULY 2024

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 DF Holiday	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Military Intelligence files connected to forced landings and crashes contain mainly paperwork but in the case of two files, hold personal artefacts relating to airmen that died. The armbands featured belonged to Royal Air Force personnel, namely Sergeant Rostern and Sergeant Beard, whose bodies were discovered 24th February 1942, and Sergeant Weaver, discovered 6th October 1942.

There is some intrigue over the tin tube and the text it once encapsulated. The tube was initially discovered by a youth who visited the Carnsore crash site and forwarded to Military Intelligence. Paperwork on the Carnsore crash file shows that the tube and its contents were subsequently examined by Dr. Richard Hayes (Director, National Library of Ireland) who confirmed the language was Hebrew. The file also contains a copy newspaper article by Dr. Ronan Fanning, Professor of Modern History, UCED, who at some point in the 1990s, arranged for the modern examination of the script by a Linguist and also by the Curator of the Irish Jewish Museum. The experts offered a translation and explanation of the text, with the Curator concluding that the tube bore "all the hallmarks of a mezuza case of the type that existed 50 years ago"

Death of a Jewish Airman"; Ronan Fanning, published Sunday Independent, 15th December 1996