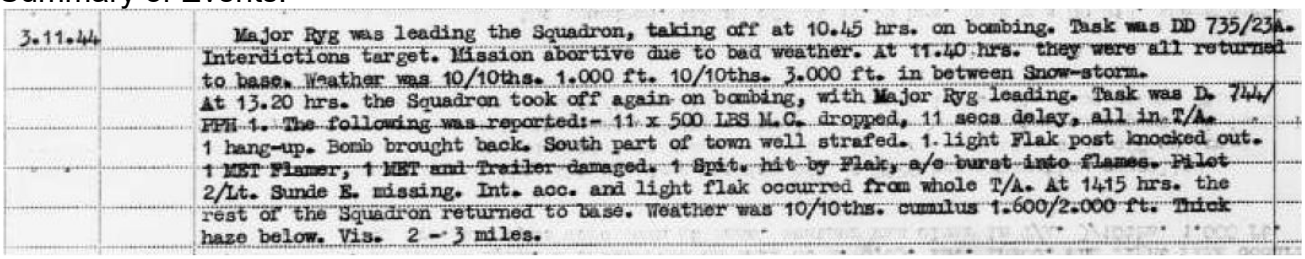
ORBs RAF 132 Wing and 332 Squadron wrt crash of Erik Sunde on 3 Nov 1944

Source: The National Archives, London (via www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/)

ORB 332 (No) Sq, nov1944

Summary of Events:



3.11.44	Major Ryg was leading the Squadron, taking off at 10.45 hrs. on bombing. Task was DD 735/23A. Interdictions target. Mission abortive due to bad weather. At 11.40 hrs. they were all returned to base. Weather was 10/10ths. 1.000 ft. 10/10ths. 3.000 ft. in between Snow-storm. At 13.20 hrs. the Squadron took off again on bombing, with Major Ryg leading. Task was D. 744/ PPH 1. The following was reported:- 11 x 500 LBS M.C. dropped, 11 secs delay, all in T/A. 1 hang-up. Bomb brought back. South part of town well strafed. 1 light Flak post knocked out. 1 MET Flamer, 1 MET and Trailer damaged. 1 Spit. hit by Flak, a/c burst into flames. Pilot 2/Lt. Sunde E. missing. Int. acc. and light flak occurred from whole T/A. At 1415 hrs. the rest of the Squadron returned to base. Weather was 10/10ths. cumulus 1.600/2.000 ft. Thick haze below. Vis. 2 - 3 miles.

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The last paragraph in normal layman's language is as follows (additions in square brackets are by the author):

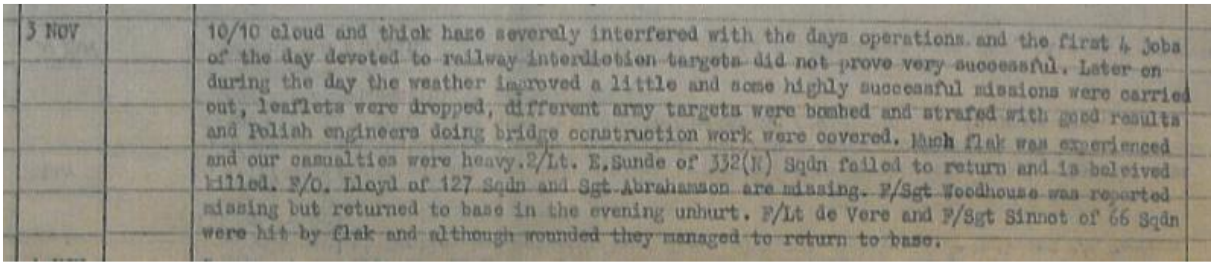
At 13.20 hours [British time] the Squadron took off again [from Grimbergen, Belgium] on a bombing mission, with Major Ryg leading. The task was D. 744/PPH 1 [the German strongholds south of the town Klundert; confirmed by the RAF Museum]. The following results were reported: 11 bombs of 500 lbs medium capacity each were dropped, with a 11 seconds delay and all fell in the target area. One bomb could not te released from the aircraft and was brought back [to Grimbergen]. He southern part of the town [of Klundert] were well strafed by the Spitfire guns. One light German Flak post [anti air gun] was knocked out. One medium enemy transport vehicle shot in flames, one ditto vehicle with its trailer damaged. One Spifire was hit by Flak and the aircraft burst into flames. The pilot, 2nd lieutenant Erik Sunde is missing. Intense accurate and light Flak occurred from the whole target area at 11.45 hours. The rest of the Squadron returned to base [safely]. The weather was heavily clouded with cumulus [low-level clouds, with a 'puffy' look] at a height of 1600 to 2000 feet [approx 500 to 600 meters]. There was a thick haze below the cloud base. The visibility was 2 to 3 miles [3,2 to 4,8 kilometers].

Record of Events:

Date.	Aircraft Type	and Number.	Crew.		Duty.	Time Up	Time Down	Details of Sortie or Flight.
3.11.44	O	PL 187	Capt.	Ulstein E.	Bombing.	1045	1140	
"	L	PT 936	Sgt.	Rohde H.	"	1045	1140	
"	D	PL 167	2/Lt.	Sunde E.	"	1045	1140	
"	E	PT 777	F/Sgt.	Høegh A.J.	"	1045	1140	
"	X	PV 141	2/Lt.	Lorentzen H.	"	1045	1140	
"	T	PT 843	Capt.	Tvedte J.	"	1045	1135	
"	U	PT 721	Sgt.	Hansen T.	"	1045	1135	
"	Z	PL 451	Lieut.	Bakke F.	"	1045	1135	
"	Y	PL 995	F/Sgt.	Kleppe I.M.	"	1045	1135	
"	S	RR 182	Major	Ryg J.	"	1320	1415	11 x 500 LBS M.C. dropped in T/A. 1 hang-up.
"	M	MK 669	Lieut.	Herfjord K.M.	"	1320	1415	Bomb brought back.
"	E	PT 777	Sgt.	Storaas B.	"	1320	1415	
"	T	PT 834	Capt.	Tvedte J.	"	1320	1415	
"	U	PT 721	Sgt.	Ludvigsen T.	"	1320	1415	
"	Y	PT 235	2/Lt.	Hagen E.	"	1320	1415	
"	X	PV 141	2/Lt.	Lorentzen H.	"	1320	1415	
"	D	PL 167	2/Lt.	Sunde E.	"	1320	(1415)	Did not return. Killed.
"	O	PL 187	Lieut.	Bolstad K.	"	1320	1415	
"	H	PV 205	Sgt.	Rohde H.	"	1320	1415	
"	A	NH 544	2/Lt.	Tidemand O.	"	1320	1415	
"	L	PT 936	F/Sgt.	Godø L.	"	1320	1415	

Date	A/c type	A/c no.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time down	Details
3.11.44	D	PL 167	2/Lt Sunde E.	Bombing	1320	(1415)	Did not return. Killed

ORB 132 (No) Wing, nov1944



3 NOV

10/10 cloud and thick haze severely interfered with the days operations and the first 4 jobs of the day devoted to railway interdiction targets did not prove very successful. Later on during the day the weather improved a little and some highly successful missions were carried out, leaflets were dropped, different army targets were bombed and strafed with good results and Polish engineers doing bridge construction work were covered. Much flak was experienced and our casualties were heavy. 2/Lt. E. Sunde of 332(N) Sqdn failed to return and is believed killed. F/O. Lloyd of 127 Sqdn and Sgt Abrahamson are missing. F/Sgt Woodhouse was reported missing but returned to base in the evening unhurt. F/Lt de Vere and F/Sgt Sinnot of 66 Sqdn were hit by flak and although wounded they managed to return to base.

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