

9 Bomb Disposal Company

Royal Engineers

Was formed 1 July 1940, Headquarters at Birmingham, the Company was Independent of the 4 Bomb Disposal Groups and came under Western Command. This was the first Company to be formed.

The Company covered Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Staffordshire and Shropshire alongside 10 Bomb Disposal Company.

The nucleus of personnel initially came from 726 General Construction Company.

Their first billets were at the Drill Hall, Court Oak Road, Harborne.

September 1940 to December 1941 they were based at Birmingham.

January to December 1942 they were based at Birmingham and Wolverhampton

January to December 1943 they were based at Birmingham, Harborne, Coventry, Sedbury and Neston

January to December 1944 based they were based at Birmingham, Wythall and Cardiff

January to September 1945 they were based at Birmingham, Manchester and in Wales

Sections under Command

67 Bomb Disposal Section

68 Bomb Disposal Section

69 Bomb Disposal Section

70 Bomb Disposal Section

71 Bomb Disposal Section

72 Bomb Disposal Section

73 Bomb Disposal Section

74 Bomb Disposal Section

106 Bomb Disposal Section

108 Bomb Disposal Section

Personnel

September to December 1941

Captain AJ Biggs Officer Commanding later Major

Captain T Sharman 2 i/c later Major GM

Lieutenant Bocock Admin Officer

January to December 1942

Major AJ Biggs Officer Commanding

93424 Captain Meynell 2 i/c latter Major

January to December 1943

Major AJ Bliss GM and Major Meynell Office Commanding

January to December 1944

Major TO Miles Officer Commanding

Captain Drake from August

January to September 1945

Major TO Miles and A Cleghorn Officer Commanding

163226 Major S F Knight MBE

Major R H Lee GM

119053 Major C C Stewart GM

Others Who served with the Company

Captain

56967 Captain A J Biggs GM

271193 Captain E Bunting

Captain FB Dean

Captain Drake

155767 Captain J H Grant

Captain R M W Norris

135406 Captain D S F Rayner GM

Captain R J J Simons

C9-820 aptain R M Taylor

255917 Captain C Walker

Lieutenant

Second Lieutenant DH Anderson GM MBE

397056 Second Lieutenant RGB Baker

Lieutenant C R Bocock

135004 Second Lieutenant AF Campbell GC

377425 Lieutenant WF Denny

377871 Lieutenant J C Harper

Lieutenant WEK Kenway

Lieutenant Leach

Lieutenant R D Lee

165370 Lieutenant H E Lewis-Winn

165372 Lieutenant M F H Lloyd

372449 Lieutenant J Maywood

Lieutenant Maxwell

Lieutenant McClune

Lieutenant Meynell

Lieutenant Norris

Lieutenant Raynor

Lieutenant Revitt

154300 Lieutenant G A W Smith

291827 Lieutenant W A Tavener MBE

Lieutenant RM Taylor

118349 Lieutenant E J Tergoning

Lieutenant Vickers

171645 Lieutenant W T Worts

Unsure of Rank with the Unit

48133 Lieutenant Colonel A Cleghorn OBE

Warrant Officers

1866721 SQMS JE Freeman

2205172 Warrant Officer II W H Kearns

1867508 Warrant Officer II G K Longbottom

Senior Non-Commissioned Officers

Staff Sergeant

1929576 Staff Sergeant J P Wood

Sergeant

2058790 Sergeant IH Andrews

895083 Sergeant H Bown

1873172 Sergeant A Edwards

14941103 Sergeant JW Edwards

2128046 Sergeant J Fisher BEM

4445289 Sergeant M Gibson GC

Sergeant J Gordon

4746951 Sergeant J C Oxtoby

Sergeant H Smith

Sergeant D T Stockwell

1913135 Sergeant H Watson

Lance Sergeant

2036910 Lance Sergeant H Elliot

2021663 Lance Sergeant J H Hinton GM

2111066 Lance Sergeant G A Jackson

1903138 Lance Sergeant J Jackson

2074517 Lance Sergeant A Sanders GM

Junior Non-Commissioned Officers

Corporal

19042106 Corporal SH Allmark

14449879 Corporal H Anderson

Corporal WA Ashwood

14452526 Corporal JE Coleman

2073122 Corporal A Haines

19057115 Corporal J W Hewitt

19064912 Corporal S Holmes

1880443 Corporal W Hone GM

2018336 Corporal P J O'Neil

Corporal I M Sillinge

14453507 Corporal C H Simcock

14141166 Corporal K A Spencer

1894337 Corporal J S Willis

Lance Corporal

2009926 Lance Corporal FW Coyle BEM

4451619 Lance Corporal W Dawson

14705375 Lance Corporal J Gray

22018745 Lance Corporal C R Jones

16136670 Lance Corporal G E Keatinge

1991261 Lance Corporal F Lowe

1920394 Lance Corporal E C Oxford

14050396 Lance Corporal J E Pye

1883145 Lance Corporal E W Suttle GM

Sappers

1904351 Sapper T J Adams
6017444 Sapper LS Baker
6711953 Sapper JE Brown
2196474 Sapper JE Brown Kings Commendation
2090614 Sapper HW Carman BEM
22047727 Sapper DW Cartman
1447692 Sapper K Cole
4614821 Sapper N Cryer
2004138 Sapper WW Davies
14962676 Sapper GE Feilding
2067106 Sapper JA Fisher
2000787 Sapper L Fitchett
2004028 Sapper H Fox
1890139 Sapper W Gibson
2000532 Sapper G Gilchrist
14245642 Sapper R G Griffiths
14310285 Sapper J C Hughes
14089567 Sapper D Jennings
19007854 Sapper T F Johnson
1942461 Sapper F Joyce
2187897 Sapper R R Ketteringham
1930981 Sapper H J Kinsey
1891040 served as A Knight (Rabinowitz)
22070424 Sapper G Moss
22038519 Sapper D Parry
22069045 Sapper R Phillipson
2073635 Sapper R W Skelton
Sapper F Ward
2387170 Sapper G E W Wells
21069556 Sapper D M Wilson
1904830 Sapper W B Wisely
4124550 Sapper F Wright

Driver

Driver JW Edwards

2073309 Driver WH Fergusson

2158996 Driver H Garlick

14421770 Driver Holden

2019927 Driver T Howard

2011942 Driver G J Jones

Driver A Searle

Rank Unknown

14390368 DA Allam

S Barge

S Burge

1917357 JAC Chapman

14451710 J Cook

EJ Couchman

2078044 JW Edward

1879989 A C Hadfield

L R Hasler

D Hempshall

7041143 D Kane

13037681 P Melville

J Nelson

D Smith

D M Smith

H S Stevens

P J Tobin

F W S Wastall

K Yesford

Awards

George Cross

135004 2nd Lieutenant AF Campbell

4445289 Sergeant M Gibson

George Medal

100212 Second Lieutenant D H Anderson

56967 Captain H Biggs
 2021663 Lance Sergeant J H Hinton
 1880443 Corporal W Hone
 2217011 Sergeant E Laing
 Second Lieutenant R H Lee
 93424 Lieutenant L Meynell
 135406 Lieutenant D S F Rayner
 2071457 Lance Sergeant A Sanders
 71764 Captain T H Sharman
 119053 Captain C C Stewart
 1883145 Lance Corporal E W Suttle

Member of the British Empire

152403 Captain J E Drake
 291827 Lieutenant W A Tavener

British Empire Medal

2090614 Sapper H W Carman
 2036910 Sergeant H Elliott
 2128046 Sergeant J Fisher BEM
 2014169 Driver A E Green
 1920394 Lance Corporal EC Oxford

Kings Commendations

2196474 Sapper J E Brown
 1942454 Sapper J Todd
 2 others name's unconfirmed

Roll of Honour

1922152	Driver	M T	ANDREWS	19-Sep	1940	Age 26
2072958	Sapper	O E	BRAYSHER	29-Oct	1940	Age 20
2196474	Sapper	J E	BROWN	29-Oct	1940	Age 25
6711953	Sapper	J E	BROWN	18-Oct	1940	Age 42
135004	2nd Lieutenant	A F	CAMPBELL GC	12-Dec	1940	Age 24
2009926	Lance Corporal	F W	COYLE	13-Apr	1941	Age 21
4614821	Sapper	N	CRYER	25-Aug	1940	Age 37
1942461	Sapper	F	JOYCE	8-9 April	1941	Age 46

2004138	Sapper	W W	DAVIES	25-Aug	1940	Age 20
4451619	Lance Corporal	W	DAWSON	17-Nov	1940	Age 23
2073309	Driver	W H	FERGUSON	25-Aug	1940	
2004028	Sapper	H	FOX	13-April	1941	Age 21
1890139	Sapper	W	GIBSON	18-Oct	1940	Age 22
4445289	Sergeant	M	GIBSON GC	18-Oct	1940	Age 34
2000532	Sapper	R	GILCHREST	18-Oct	1940	Age 23
2073122	Corporal	A	HAINES	25-Aug	1940	Age 21
1892057	Driver	C	HOLDEN	6-Nov	1940	Age 21
2019927	Driver	T	HOWARD	12-Dec	1940	
2011942	Driver	G J	JONES	13 April	1941	Age 26
1942461	Sapper	F	JOYCE	17-Nov	1940	Age 32
1930981	Sapper	H J	KINSEY	8-9-Apr	1941	Age 46
1895184	Lance Corporal	J M	KIRKBY	25-Aug	1940	Age 21
165372	Lieutenant	H E	LEWIS-WINN	13-Apr	1941	Age 35
165372	Lieutenant	M F H	LLOYD	18-Oct	1940	Age 25
1991261	Lance Corporal	F	LOWE	14-Sept	1944	
1942443	Sapper	J	PLUMB	18-Oct	1940	Age 20
1891040	Sapper	A	RABINOWITZ (Served as Knight)	13-Apr	1941	Age 26
2073635	Sapper	R W	SKELTON	12-Dec	1940	Age 35
154300	Lieutenant	G A W	SMITH	18-Oct	1940	Age 32
T/216142	Driver	E F G	TAYLOR	12-Dec	1940	Age 44
2073628	Sapper	W H	THORNE	25-Aug	1940	Age 27
1913135	Sergeant	J	WATSON	11-Apr	1941	Age 19
1894337	Corporal	J S	WILLIS	17-Nov	1940	Age 26
1904830	Sapper	W B	WISELY	25-Aug	1940	Age 24
4124550	Sapper	F	WRIGHT	17-Nov	1940	Age 26

Memorial for those who died 18 October 1940, Whitley Common, Coventry. Arranged by the Whitley Local History Group. REA BD Branch sent representation

Historic Detail

Heroes of the Birmingham Air Raids.

9 Bomb Disposal Company, Royal Engineers.

Some idea of the work done by this unit may be gained from the fact that more than 37 Officers and men lost their lives as a result of enemy action or while removing bombs, *(further research has shown casualties were 34 in this Company, through the War)*, 5 Officers and 10 other ranks gained awards, four other ranks being Commended. *(further research show that 9 Officers, 10 other ranks received awards, only two Commendations confirmed in total not just through 1940 and 1941).*

It is estimated that the Company dealt with more than 1,600 large calibre bombs. The largest number of outstanding incidents at any one time waiting to be dealt with being 305 on the 24 November 1940. Their work was carried out under especially difficult conditions, apart from frequent bombings, accommodation being a very knotty problem to solve. When the Drill Hall in Court Oak Road, Harborne was requisitioned only a small portion could be allotted to the Company and Officers and men had to take their meals together. Yet despite frequent casualties, periods of continuous raids and other troubles, the members of the Company always maintained a cheerfully attitude.

As far as Birmingham was concerned, there was no unit available to undertake the hazardous work of bomb disposal prior to July 1940, when the formation of the Company was commenced with a nucleus of officers and men mostly taken from Royal Engineers General Construction Companies. The first arrivals were Lieutenants Raynor and Leach and 47 other ranks from 726 GC Coy RE and they were joined three weeks later, following a air raid on the city lasting five hours by a further Officer. Lieutenant Campbell and another 45 other ranks. As time went on, more personnel arrived but, it was not until 1 September 1940 that Captain A J Biggs of Neath, arrived from 244 Field Company, where he had been 2 i/c and immediately got down to the task of forming the Company proper, with the assistance of Lieutenant C R Bocock as Administration Officer. The total personnel at this time were 7 Officers and 160 other ranks, few enough to deal with an area including the counties of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Staffordshire and Shropshire.

Captain Biggs who arranged certain big bangs including the explosion coming from the bottom of a hole 50 feet deep in a quarry near Oldbury. Some delayed action bombs had been unearthed by Lieutenant Raynor and his men in a residential suburb, and removed, at first, to a convenient sandpit. Even in the sandpit the bursting of the bombs might damage property, so it was decided they must be taken to the Oldbury quarry, where they would do no harm. Lieutenant W E K Kenway accompanied by his batman took three of the bombs, a 550lb and two 110lb bombs in a lorry, which he drove himself, along a circuitous route, so as to minimise the risk of damage to houses if the whole load blew up.

There, remained one other 110 lb bomb which was in a somewhat uncertain condition. With the bomb Captain Biggs himself set out on the journey to Oldbury. He thought that if it rode in a lorry the bomb might be detonated by the rattling and vibration, so he had it placed in the back seat of his own private car. He took it by a selected route to the quarry; dumped it in the fifty-foot hole and two or three hours later heard it detonate itself and the others already deposited there.

The Company sustained their first casualties on 31 August, 1940 when three bombs exploded during removal, killing seven other ranks and injuring five, *(not supported by CWGC Records)*, one of whom died in hospital, 14 November, *(records show no deaths in the Company on the 31/8/1941 but 5 on the 25/8/1940)*. 1940 brought the very concentrated enemy raid on Coventry. Roads were blocked, large fires started, communications dislocated, light and gas put out of action and the raid did not cease until 0616 am on the 15th. This was, if not the worst, one of the worst raids on any city in England. So bad was the raid that detachments were drawn from Manchester and Cardiff Companies to help in the disposal work. During this period too, it must be borne in mind that raids were still taking place in Birmingham. As early as 2 September, 1940 a raid left a legacy of 109 incidents to be dealt with, yet by the 20 only 14 unexploded bombs were outstanding. From 13 to 15 October, raids were made daily on Coventry and Birmingham with others daily during November.

It was during November that Major General D B C Taylor, On Inspector of Fortifications and Director of Bomb Disposal, visited the Company and expressed great satisfaction with the methods and progress of the work which had been done, and personally congratulated Maor as he had become A J Biggs. By the end of 12 months of particularly heavy bombing the Company had dealt with 2,174 incidents and there only being 23 unexploded bombs, all in the Category D outstanding.

The good work was recognised when the following awards to members of the Company were notified in the London Gazette; George Cross Lieutenant A F N Campbell and Sergeant M C Gibson; George Medal; Major A J Biggs, Lieutenant L C Meynell, D S F Rayner, R H Lee and Lance Sergeant J H Hinton; Member of the British Empire Lieutenant D H Anderson; British Empire Medal Sergeant K Ashton, E C Oxford, Sapper H W Carman; Kings Commendations Sappers T Todd and J E Brown.

At the same time a special badge was granted to Bomb Disposal Unit's to be worn on the left sleeve.

By the 29 February 1941 the Company had dealt with 2,290 incidents. Then there came a welcome lull broken on the 8 April 1941 by a concentrated raid on Coventry. The following day, a concentrated raid was made on Birmingham. Both cities had yet another raid on the 10. By the 13 April there was quite a lot of work on hand and 6 Auxiliary Bomb Disposal Squads, Home Guard from Austin Motors Ltd, commenced Bomb Disposal work under the supervision of the Company Commander. Four firms in Birmingham sent members of their Auxiliary Bomb Disposal Squads for practice training. Enemy activity continued at intervals during the next few months and the work of the Company had more gratifying recognition in the following awards which were announced at the end of September.

George Medal Captain T H Sharman, Sergeant E Laing, A Sanders, Corporal W Hone, Lance Corporal E W Suttle; British Empire Medal Lance Sergeant H Elliott, Corporal AE Green; Kings Commendation to two others not named.

In order to commemorate the Officers and Men of the Unit who lost their lives whilst employed on Bomb Disposal Duties in 1940 and 1941, two large oak candlesticks, **(see photos at the end of this piece, the candles are still in use today)** were purchased by the Company and installed in St Faith's Church, (later the Parish Church of St Faiths and Saint Laurence), Harborne where the Company had held a parade service weekly during the last 3 years. Many Officers who had served with the unit during the "Blitz" returned for the Dedication Ceremony, chief of them being Major A J Gibbs GM, who had commanded the Company in 1940 -1941. The Reverend W Sissons conducted the service and a short but impressive dedication ceremony was carried out by the Major. The Rev Alex Birkmire, Senior Chaplain to the Forces, Birmingham Area. At the end of the service, which was held on the 7 November 1943 officers and men filed slowly past in Remembrance of their lost Comrades.

We want your bombs is their heroic motto.

The following article appeared in "The Birmingham Gazette 18 September 1940"

We want your bombs, that death defying motto, chalked by hand of some unknown hero on the sides of a military lorry seen yesterday in a Midlands town, typifies the spirit of the men of Bomb Disposal Sections of the Royal Engineers who have just won the world-wide admiration by their removal of a large bomb which threatened St Pauls Cathedral with destruction.

Because it was one of the world's great cathedrals which was endangered their heroism has, of course attracted single attention, but deeds of equal devotion and bravery performed in less spectacular circumstances by other officers and men of the sections must not be overlooked.

Early in the raiding season the Midland Region had three of these sections under the command of Lieutenant D S F Rayner formerly a Territorial, whose home is in Birmingham.

It was a party of his men in charge of Sergeant Bodsworth, of Thorpe Street, Drill Hall, Birmingham, who investigated a small hole in a field near Redditch. The hole was believed to contain a delayed action bomb and as it had been there for three days it could be expected to blow up at any moment.

The Sappers nevertheless, dug down in search of the bombs, found it at last about 20 feet below the ground and heard its clock fuze still ticking.

It was a 500lb bomb so anyone may guess what would have happened to Sgt Bodsworth and his party if, the bomb had done its worst at that moment, or if they had accidentally touched it.

They removed the fuze and carted the bomb away for examination by other interested experts.

Subsequently a large number of unexploded bombs were reported from various districts, of the Midlands Region. Some of them were creatures of the imagination, but others were far from being harmless. All of them had to be investigated and Captain A J Biggs, from Neath came with reinforcements for the disposal parties.

Captain Biggs "arranged" the innocuousness of certain big bangs that were heard on evening by most people in the Birmingham area. The explosions came from the bottom of a hole 50 foot deep in a quarry near Oldbury.

Some delayed action bombs had been unearthed by Lieutenant Rayner and his men in a residential area and removed at first, to a convenient sandpit, lest their explosion wrecked houses near the spot where they had fallen.

The RE's then thought that even in the sandpit the bursting of the bombs might damage property, so it was decided that they must be taken away to the Oldbury quarry, where they could do no harm at all.

Lieut Kenway, accompanied by his batman, took three of the 500lb bombs and two 110lb bombs in a lorry, which he drove himself along a circuitous route, so as to minimise the risk of damage to houses if the whole load blew up.

There remained one other 110lb bomb which owing to a mischance during its previous treatment, was in a uncertain condition.

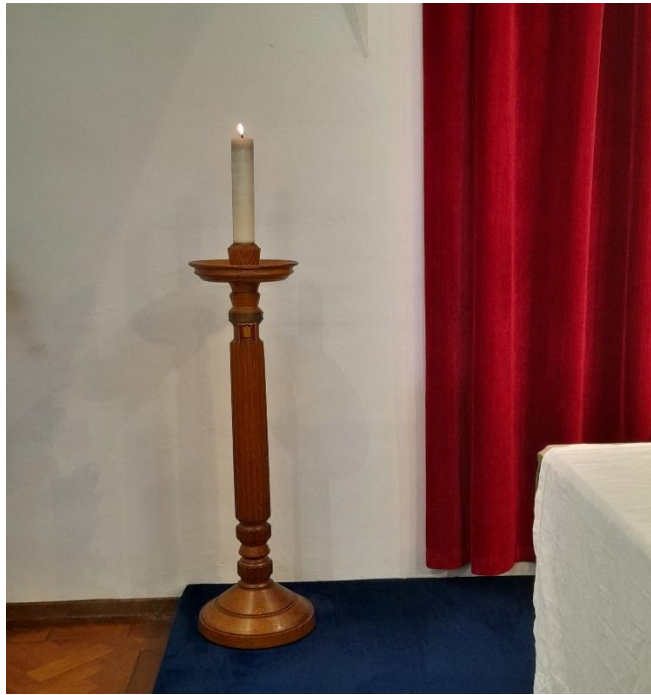
With this bomb Capt Biggs himself set out on the seven-mile journey to Oldbury. He rather thought that if it rode in a lorry the bomb might be detonated by the rattling and vibration to which lorries are prone, so he had it placed in the back seat of his of his own private car. He took it by a selected route to the quarry, dumped it in the fifty-foot hole. And two or three hours later= heard it detonate itself and the others already deposited there.

The Disposal Company had done its work without grievous loss. A party of Sappers had dug down to a bomb and were looking it over, when they heard a fizzing sound. They retreated for a few minutes, but a water works employee told them that the fizzing had come from a punctured water main.

They accordingly returned to the crater they had dug and two of the men went down to tackle the bomb once again, while the others watched them from above. At this very moment the bomb exploded.

Seven men were killed on the spot another was fatally injured these were Corporal R Haines, Sappers N Cryer, W W Davies, W E Fergusson, A Knight, W E Thorne, Lance Corporal W Dawson, Sappers J C Cottrell and W Hardy, Driver E Ablett were injured. (Incorrect information, M T Andrews, R Haines, N Cryer, W W Davies, W E Thorne, W B Wisely all died on the 25/8/1941, Andrews died on the A Rabinowitz (served as Knight) died on the 13/4/41, WE Fergusson 27/8/1940.

This document is from the Royal Engineers Association, Bomb Disposal Branch Archives. Actual source or date unknown.

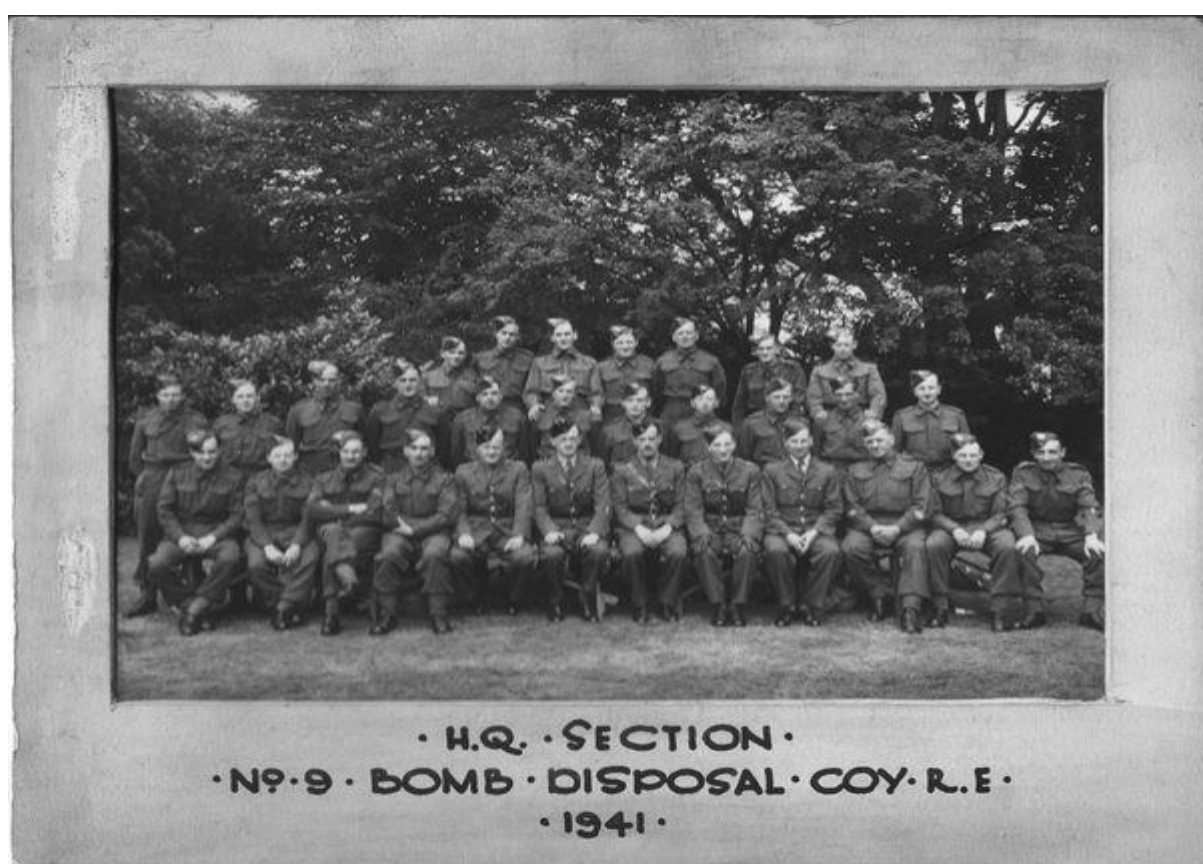


Candlestick Photos Credit Reverend David Parker

Incidents

On the 14 December 1940 at Chapel Street Coventry, members of 9 Bomb Disposal Company were tasked with a 250 kg bomb. After nearly 4 days it was uncovered. It was fitted with standard fuzes, these were so badly damaged they could not be removed. The electric charge was thought to have been dissipated due to the time period from when it had been dropped. However, a discharge tool was applied. On the 18 October 1940 the bomb now believed to be inert was removed from site by a lorry to Whitley Common, as it was being unloaded it detonated killing all.

Photos



From Peter Markham Collection

Whitley Common Memorial, Coventry



Photo Credit Peter Markham

Bomb heroes' memorial brings it all back for son

Sad to miss memorial day

MY mother, Eleanor had a twin brother William Gibson, they were born on July 7, 1918, in the Manchester area. Unfortunately my mother died on October 17, 2005, the day before the anniversary of Bill's death.

When Billie, as he was called by friends and family, was 21, he joined the Royal Engineers. He was a qualified electrical engineer. I am not sure how he came to be in 9 bomb disposal squad in Coventry, but he was killed tragically with six of his comrades taking an unexploded bomb to Whitley Common.

My mum never quite recovered from losing her beloved brother and she never felt that his brave sacrifice and that of his comrades had been properly acknowledged.

New Full Time In
For Ages 11 to
Open
November 9
Training Stars Of The Future
The Old Fire Station, 287 Moseley Road, Birmingham, B12 0DX
Tel: 0845 463 6157
www.bispa.co.uk

A few weeks ago I took my dad to the Imperial War Museum North and we found all Bill's details on the computer there and printed it off. Dad has a friend who lived in Coventry as a boy, and upon hearing about Bill, got on to the internet and Googled the tragedy. To our amazement he discovered that on October 18, a memorial stone was unveiled as a tribute to the bravery of my uncle Bill and his comrades. How sad we are that we did not know that this was taking place, or we could have been there. Sadder still that his twin sister has not lived to know that his great sacrifice has as last been recognised.

I believe that we have to thank Reg Kimber of the Whitley Local History Group for bringing this to fruition. We would love to be able to speak to him.

My father who is 93 and in good health, loved my mother dearly and accompanied her and all the family to Coventry to attend the funeral of the seven men in the Cathedral. I am planning to bring him and my aunt to see the memorial as soon as I can organise the trip.

Sue Whitmore.

THE recent unveiling of a memorial to seven bomb disposal officers who were killed attempting to defuse a device in a Coventry park brought back particularly strong memories for one city man.

William Blagburn, from Stoneleigh Village, is the son of James Blagburn, the former managing director of E Laxon & Co Limited - a former food wholesalers in Chapel Street where the bomb landed on October 18, 1940.

The bomb crashed through the roof and into the basement of Laxons, but did not detonate on site and was removed to Whitley Common where it did go off, killing the seven men who were handling it.

James Blagburn survived the attack but in a cruel twist of fate was killed the following month while on firewatching duty at the same building on the night of the Coventry Blitz.

William said: "I recently did some research into Laxons, and I was quite

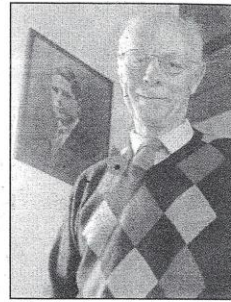
shocked to see the pictures of the damage from the first bomb, because I remembered my father taking me to see it when I was about 10.

"He was very upset when he learned those seven men had died, but it was only a few weeks later when he was killed in the same warehouse when the site was bombed again."

The memorial was unveiled on Saturday, October 18, following several years' research and fund-raising by Whitley Local History Group.

William added: "The first I knew of this memorial was when I read about it in the paper - I would have loved to have attended, but obviously the people arranging it had no way of knowing about me."

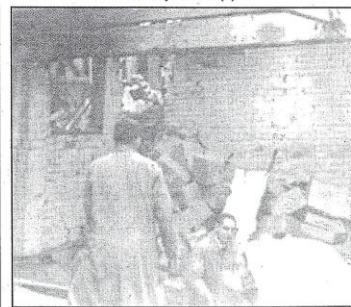
"But it's very nice that they've remembered it and put something in place so the sacrifices these people made will be remembered in the future. It was a very dangerous job they did, but you don't realise how dangerous until something goes wrong."



William Blagburn with a photo of his father, Jim Blagburn. 44.08.013.Jg

Below - James Blagburn (right) inspects the damage to the building. Picture courtesy of Coventry History Centre. (S)

Below left - Bomb damage at the E Laxon & Co Limited building in Chapel Street. Picture courtesy of Coventry History Centre. (S)



Paper Clipping from Reg Kimber

References Nation Archive Files

9 Bomb Disposal Company, War Diaries

WO166/4001	01 September 1940 to 31 December 1941	Independent Western Command
WO166/8415	1942	Independent Western Command
WO166/12357	1943	Independent Western Command
WO166/15468	1944	Independent Western Command
WO166/16938	01 January 1945 to 30 September 1945	Independent Western Command