

This incident was at Faygate Sussex Oct 1940.

Documents from the Royal Engineers Museum Archives.

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REPORT by Lieut. K. C. Revis, R.E.

Concerning

Two unexploded German H.E. bombs which were dropped on Oct. 28th. 1940, in the grounds of Captain ~~the~~ Lord Claud Hamilton, of "Beechwoods", Faygate, Sussex.

During the night of Oct. ^{26/27} 28/29th. 1940, Lord ^(Claud) Hamilton and family heard the "swish" of two bombs falling, but no explosion followed.

At 12.50 hrs. 11th. June 1941 (nearly 8 months afterwards) a bomb, at "Beechwoods", detonated, producing a crater 45ft. in diameter and about 13ft. deep.

Acting on instructions from my Coy. H.Q., I took a party of men to the site of the remaining bomb (some 100 yds. away) and started excavating for it, on 27th. June. After 5 days work, the tail fins were seen and were those of a S.C. 500 kg. bomb.

Later, a fuze was seen, nearest the tail end, which was identified as a "15" and withdrawn by remote control. The gaine of this fuze was unscrewed with great difficulty and it was seen that the fuze had "flashed" but that the gaine, which was of the Picric Acid type, had not been initiated.

The bomb case was badly split and the main filling could be chipped out. The second (nose end) fuze was next found. This was also a "15" and also "Flashed" but this time the gaine had fired, but had not, in turn, exploded the Picric Acid pellets. The Fuze-pocket was completely shattered by the explosion of the gaine.

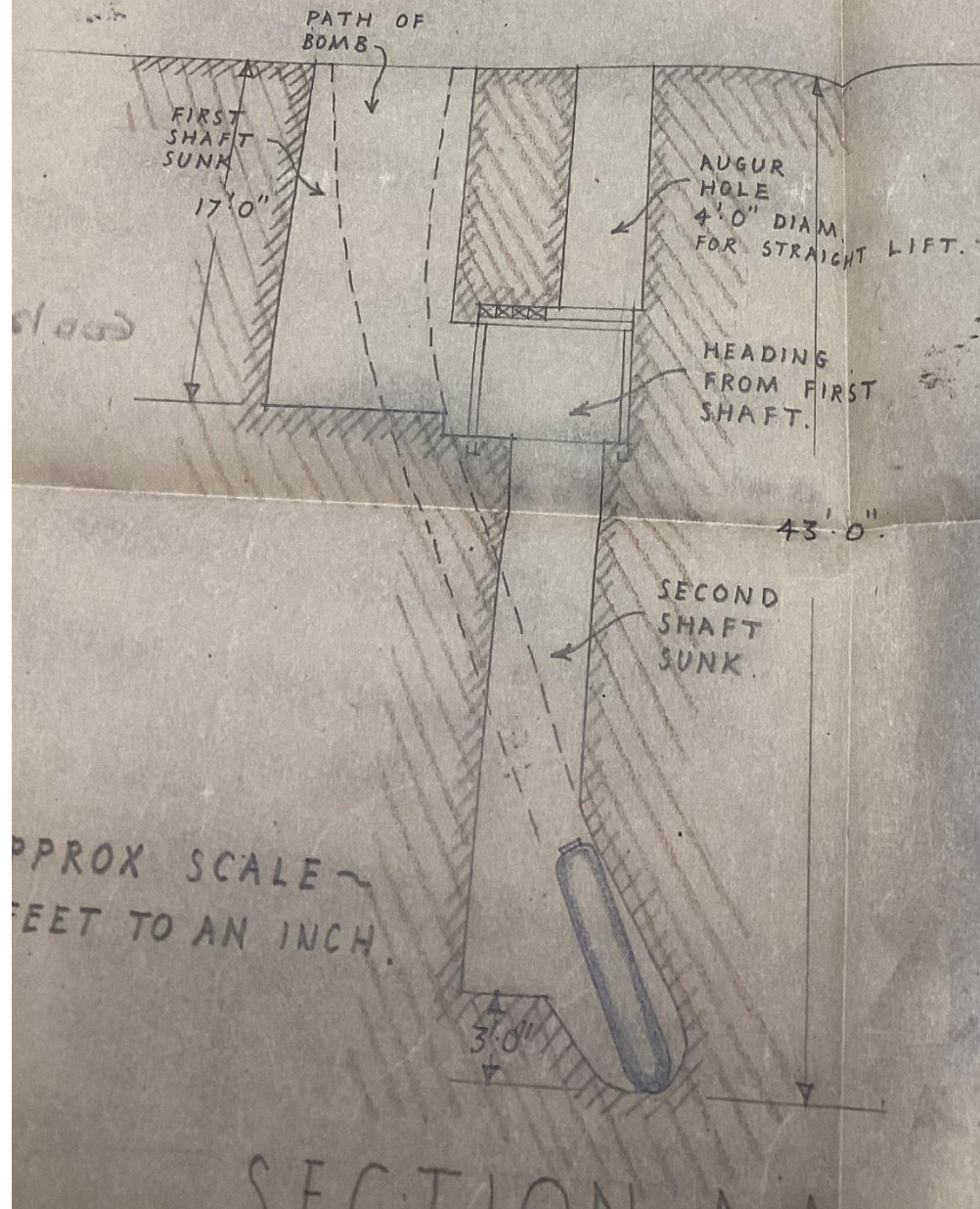
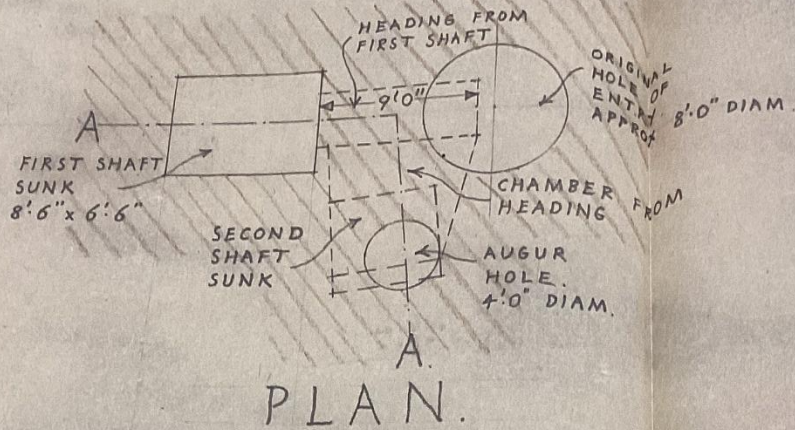
I have contacted the local Police and the Controller of the Horsham Observer Corps. The latter's records show that no hostile aircraft were reported in that area on the night of 10/11th. June (the night before the other bomb detonated) or at a reasonable time beforehand. This discredits the theory that this bomb was a normal Direct-Action bomb, dropped during that night, and not in October. A photograph is attached, showing the hole-of-entry of this bomb; taken by Lord Hamilton, on the day after the bomb had fallen.

K.C. Revis

Horley,
July 41.

Lt. R.E.
Officer Commanding Horley Detachment,
No.12 Bomb Disposal Coy.R.E.

EXCAVATION FOR U.X.B. AT WICKHAM COURT FARM.



APPROX SCALE ~
FEET TO AN INCH.