

Press Release

For immediate release:

RAF Operations Record Books for the Dambusters squadron go online

[TheGenealogist](#) is marking the anniversary of the famous **Royal Air Force Dambusters raid** on the Ruhr Valley dams in May 1943 by releasing a massive tranche of fully searchable **RAF Operations Record Books (ORBs)** including those ORBs for the famous **No 617 Squadron** giving an insight into their lives.



Wing Commander Guy Gibson and his crew boarding their Lancaster bomber

With a release of **1,550,018 records**, bringing the total to **6,748,021** these new diary-like RAF documents paint a picture of the goings on in a squadron on a day-to-day basis for those units under British control.

These are uniquely fully searchable by:-

- Forename and Surname
- Squadron
- Date Range

Using keywords users can also search for Service Number, Rank, and Duty, Aircraft type and location where the fields appear in the record. This makes it possible to easily find your Royal Air Force ancestors and discover more about their war time activities on the base and in the air.

See the usefulness of these contemporary daily diary entries in a short video that spotlights the famous leader of No 617 Squadron, **Wing Commander Guy Gibson, V.C., D.F.C. and Bar, D.S.O. and Bar** as he and his unit prepare for their mission to drop the bouncing bombs on the German dam targets.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vd0gcQdbV_4

The Operations Record Books are for squadrons primarily from after the First World War, although there are a few early squadron records from 1911 to 1918. These ORBs follow the daily happenings in the air and on the base, and frequently name the brave aircrew who battled against the odds.

You can use the collection to follow an airman's war time experiences from these fully searchable Air Ministry operations record books which cover various Royal Air Force, Dominion and Allied Air Force squadrons that came under British Command. The **AIR 27 records** allow the family history researcher a fascinating insight into their relatives serving in a number of wartime air force units, as can be seen in the video and article that shines a light on Wing Commander Gibson and his squadron.

- See the wartime operations of air crew
- Discover pilots, navigators, radio operators and gunners mentioned in the diaries
- Find airmen receiving an Honour or a Medal
- Note the names of squadron members wounded, killed, or who did not return
- Fully search these National Archives records and images

This release expands TheGenealogist's extensive Military records collection for Diamond subscribers.

To take a deeper look into these records read TheGenealogist's feature article and see how 617 Squadron recorded the famous Dambuster operation in the ORBs from the time.

<https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/featuredarticles/2021/guy-gibson-and-the-dambuster-raid-found-in-raf-operations-record-books-1411/>

About TheGenealogist

[TheGenealogist](#) is an award-winning online family history website, which puts a wealth of information at the fingertips of family historians. Their approach is to bring hard to use physical records to life online with easy to use interfaces such as their Tithe and newly released Lloyd George Domesday collections.

[TheGenealogist's](#) innovative SmartSearch technology links records together to help you find your ancestors more easily. [TheGenealogist](#) is one of the leading providers of online family history records. Along with the standard Birth, Marriage, Death and Census records, they also have significant collections of Parish and Nonconformist records, PCC Will Records, Irish Records, Military records, Occupations, Newspaper record collections amongst many others.

[TheGenealogist](#) uses the latest technology to help you bring your family history to life. Use [TheGenealogist](#) to find your ancestors today!

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