

Mission: Bomber escort.

Date: 12th August 1940

Time: 13.00 hours.

Unit: 2 Staffel./Jagdgeschwader 52

Type: Messerschmitt Bf 109E-1

Werke/Nr.3367

Coded: 14 + (Red)

Location: Berwick Rail Crossing, Mays Farm, Selmeston, Sussex, England.

Pilot: Unteroffizier. Leo Zaunbrecher. - Wounded.

REASON FOR LOSS:

Took off from an aerodrome near the coast of France at mid-day. While flying at 19,500 ft. attacked in the rear by a Spitfire, the controls and petrol tank being shot away, so the pilot forced landed.

Markings: on the port side there was a Red Devil with a bow and arrow, also a red triangle with two red rings below the machine gun port on the port side of the fuselage. 14 + in red. The aircraft was fitted with an armoured bulkhead.

DIV. REF. _____ H.Q. REF. 27/CA.2.

CRASHED AIRCRAFT REPORT

Parish SELMESTON: Date 12th August, 1940 Time 12.45.

Exact Location Mays Farm, Berwick. In a wheatfield.

Map Reference _____

British, Allied or Enemy German. Type Messerschmitt 109.

Condition of Machine Riddled with machine gun bullets.

CREW

Killed _____ Seriously Injured 1 Slightly Injured _____ Unhurt _____

Not traced _____

Disposal of crew Taken by Military to Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne.

Which R.A.F. Station notified Biggin Hill.

Time and Date of notification _____

P. 20493

Detail of Occurrence

Pilot:- Leo ZOUNBRECHER. Born. 14.2.1917. No L. 37120.
Shoulder blade and head injured.

Machine was in combat with British machine when it was forced
down. R.A.F. Guard.

Machine had a large 14 on side. On tail was a small 11 with
3367 beside .

Time and Date information received by Police

Signature Frederick Binley. P.O.



Captured wounded, the young pilot Leo Zaubrecher. (Net).

EAST SUSSEX CONSTABULARY.

Bexhill Station Bexhill Division

13th. August 1940.

Subject: Forced landing of Messerschmitt 109 aeroplane at Mays Farm, Berwick, at about 1pm on the 12th. Inst.

EAST SUSSEX CONSTABULARY
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
BEXHILL DIVISION
14 AUG 1940

I beg to state that at 1pm on the 12th instant, a telephone message was received from Mrs FINLEY at Selmeston Police Station, to say that an enemy aeroplane had crashed at Selmeston, that the pilot was injured, an ambulance had been sent for and that P.C. FINLEY had gone to the scene of the landing. Bexhill Police and Hailsham Control Room were informed at once, in addition to R.A.F. (Tel. Ravensbourne 0194)

I at once went to the scene of the landing with P.C's HEARD and ASBY and D.C. TAYLOR. We arrived at the same time as Hailsham Ambulance. (At 1.25pm)

Sergt. Maj. MOULE O/C "D" Troop, 326 Batt. R.A. (Tel. Alfriston 153) was in charge of the plane when I arrived. He had posted armed sentries round the plane. He had also searched the pilot and taken possession of his papers etc. He stated that he was detailed to act for the military at all aeroplane landings in that district.

The prisoner was taken to Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne with two Military Guards. He had a bullet wound in his left scapula and other minor injuries)

It was later ascertained that his name is Leo ZOURBRECHER and that he was born on 14-2-1917. His number was L.37120.

This plane landed in a field of wheat that was being harvested. There was no damage to the crop as the plane landed where the crop had been out. All unauthorised persons were removed from the field without delay.

At 2pm a telephone message was received from F.O. EALS at Biggin Hill to say he was coming to scene of landing and asking if there were more than one prisoner to keep them apart and to keep people away from the plane. (The R.A.F. arrived during afternoon)

The plane had a very large number 14 on its side. On the tail was a smaller 11 with a still smaller number 3367 beside it.

The above particulars were telephoned to Bexhill Police at about 2.20pm on the 12th. instant.

J. Morris
Inspector.

EDP
W. J. 4.24
14/8/40

EAST SUSSEX CONSTABULARY
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
BEXHILL DIVISION
14 AUG 1940

Transmitted
H. Morris
Supt



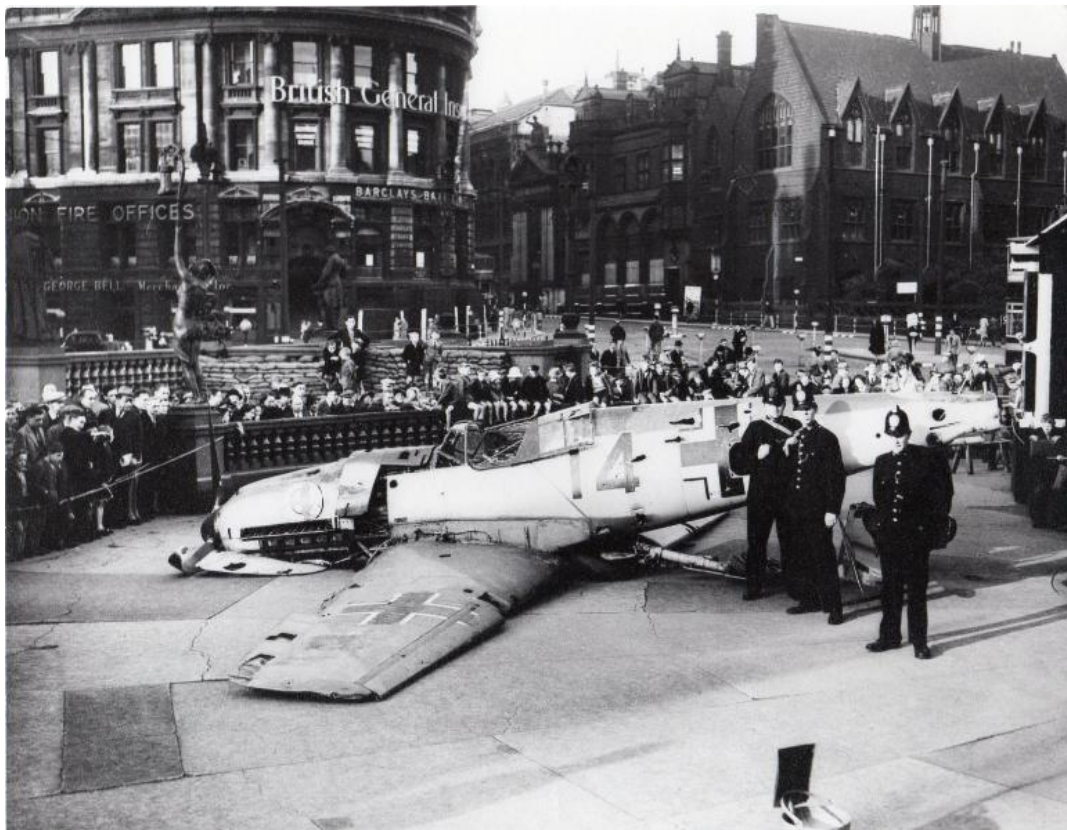
The "Red" 14 under close examination and guard after the forced landing(IWM).





Close up of the cockpit area (Saunders).





"Red" 14 on display to the public, location not known (Net).

Researched and compiled by Melvin Brownless, with special thanks to Pat Burgess Collection, Andy Saunders, and the IWM for use of images. Updated March 2015