

ADDRESS REPLY TO:

The Secretary,
Department of National Defence for Air,
OTTAWA,
Canada.



OUR FILE 1022-M-3651 (R04)

REF. YOUR

DATED

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

OTTAWA, Canada, 20th December, 1943.

Mr. John MacDonald,
Box 61,
Thorburn,
Pictou County, N.S.

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

I wish to thank you for your letter of
December 12th concerning your brother, Sergeant Irving
MacDonald.

Each belligerent power is required to set up
an official bureau to give information to the International
Red Cross Society at Geneva, regarding personnel who are
taken prisoner of war or who lose their lives in enemy ter-
ritory. If any word of your brother had become available
it would have been forwarded to these Headquarters.

Though Mrs. Fill has been advised that the
crew bailed out of the aircraft, one member of the crew
Sergeant Haines has been reported by the International Red
Cross Society quoting German information to have lost his
life. His death has now been officially presumed. However,
I wish to point out that although the Air Ministry now pro-
poses to presume your brother's death it is for official
purposes only and by such action the search being made for
him will not be affected or diminished in any way.

I wish to again offer my deepest sympathy.

Yours sincerely,

E. S. Honegler sp
(W.R. Gunn)

Squadron Leader,
R.C.A.F. Casualties Officer,
for Chief of the Air Staff.