

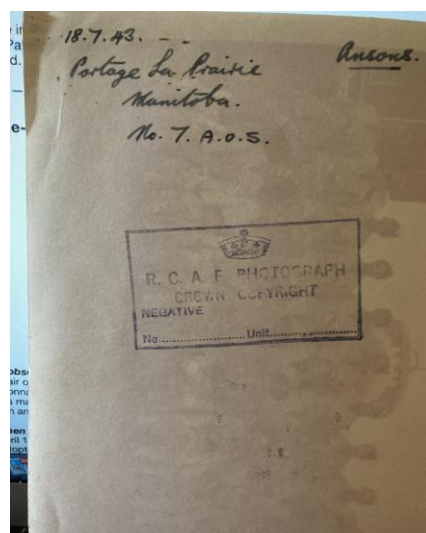
John Hussey was born 20th June 1923, in London, to Isabel (nee Crawford, of the Crawford's Mineral Water family of Newcastle-upon-Tyne), and Archibald Henry Charles Hussey.

The family moved from Fulham to Ashford in Middlesex, and it was from there that John enlisted in the RAF in 1942, having been in the ATC, and he underwent training in Canada (see photo), where it seems he flew Ansons.



Portage-la-Prairie, Manitoba, 18/7/43, No 7, AOS (Air Observers School)

John Hussey, back row, far right, last in line, aged just 20.



According to the record card, J was posted to **RAF Oulton** from **31 Base** wef **18/7/44**.
 Shown as **“Flying Officer J Hussey, Nav.”**

21792 No. 540/1944 401200 1470-4014 Co-51-0458

R.A.F. Form 540 Page No. 7

See instructions for use of this form in E.R. and J.C.F., para 540, and War Manual, Pt. II, chapter XI, and note in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 214 (P.N.S.) (R.S.) Squadron. No. of pages used for ~~day~~ ^{month} 9

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
OUTLON.			OFFICERS - MOVEMENTS-	
			F/O (A/P/L) F.H. HIBBERSON Pilot Posted to No.1699 T.F. w.e.f. 9.5.44.	
			F/O G.W.A. ROE T/Sign. Posted from Oulton w.e.f. 25.6.44.	
			F/O F.D. SMITH A/C Posted to No.192 Squadron w.e.f. 4.7.44.	
			F/O (A/P/L) R. OUTON F/Eng. Detached to School of Air Sea Rescue w.e.f. 12.7.44.	
			F/O I. THOMAS A/Tr. Posted to No.192 Squadron w.e.f. 27.7.44.	
			F/O K.J. HOVENS Nav. " " " " " " " "	
			F/O R. MURPHY Nav. Posted from No.31 Base w.e.f. 18.7.44.	
			F/L F.V. SAVAGE Pilot " " " " " " " "	
			F/O A.H. GRAYN A/Tr. " " " " " " " "	
			F/O J. HUSSEY Nav. " " " " " " " "	
			F/O C.A. MITCHINGS, DPM. Ass. 412956 A/C Detached to No.105. of T.F. w.e.f. 24.7.44.	
			F/L D.R. DICKSON (SCAF) J.9907 Nav. Detached to No.192 Squadron w.e.f. 1.7.44.	
			F/L D.R. DICKSON (SCAF) J.9907 Nav. Ceased to be detached to No.192 Squadron w.e.f. 12.7.44.	

I think his service number may have been 246650, according to a record I found online, (assuming this is the correct John Hussey).

Service Number	Family Name	Initials	Given Name	Service Number
27116	Hussey	HC	Herbert Clive	230070
297110	Hussey	HJ	Harry John	88615
47479	Hussey	HT	Henry Thomas	136320
34415	Hussey	J	James	196526
19613	Hussey	J	James	290919
250800	Hussey	J	James	328739
246650	Hussey	J	John	247846
31271	Hussey	JC	John Cates	268231
202175	Hussey	JW	John William	242334
69947	Hussey	PC	Percy Claude	127408
278026	Hussey	PW	Phillip White	242703
44030	Hussey	RV	Rolph Vernon	102436
67673	Hussey	SH	Sidney Hector	250290
94979	Hussey	TA	Thomas Arthur	207483
16006	Hussey	W	William	3009
26160	Hussey	W	William	227485
7382	Hussey	WJ	William James	222753
57904	Hussin	J	John	214196
09267	Husson	BWH	Bertram William Henry	250839
02802	Husthwaite	JT	John Thomas	132903
279442	Hustings	CJH	Charles John Hayman	240819
227450	Hustings	J	James	250840
34453	Hustivit	A	A	279624
39236	Hustler	T	Terry	119915

Not Secure — airhistory.org.uk



Crew:

F/O Frank W. Savage – Pilot
F/O A. N. Craven – Assistant Navigator
F/O J. Hussey – Special Operator
F/Sgt S. A. R. Pike – Navigator
Sgt N. J. Lee – Flight Engineer
Sgt D. Astbury – Gunner
Sgt N. Rishworth – Wireless Operator
Sgt C. Hamblett – Gunner
Sgt S. Judge – Gunner
Sgt R. D. Kenney – Gunner

John Hussey, 2nd from the right at the back, with crew at Oulton

Under an entry for F/Sgt Sidney Pike on the *Heroes of Our Time* website there are several accounts of missions flown by this crew, including that of a forced landing at Juvincourt airfield in France, on the return flight from Saarbrücken on the Ruhr on 10th November 1944 (all crew survived).

John kept several items of his RAF uniform throughout his life - notably his flying boots, and his RAF scarf which always hung on a hook by the kitchen door. But he never recounted anything of his time in the RAF, and was always very reserved and secretive about his war years.

We always understood that he had trained as a Navigator, (his uniform carried the "N" brevet) and had believed he was in the Pathfinders, but when I posted on Facebook asking for help in tracing his records now I know he was part of the 100 Group.

Post-War:

From letters in my possession, I see that in June 1947 John applied for a post as Airport Manager of Woolsington Airport. He describes his Transport Command training at Northolt and Croydon airports, followed by command of Colombo airport in Ceylon, and Bangalore airport.

I also found several dense-typed pages of a *Report on an airport in Nagpur, July 1945 by F/O J Hussey, Traffic Officer, HQ, 109 Wing, RAF* (there is a Wiki page listing RAF wings by numbers - shows 109 as a Transport Wing (??), established 10/10/1944, disbanded 1/3/1946. Presumably this is this?).

On his return to the UK, in September 1951 he was appointed Sales Manager for the Brush Group (which was bought by Hawker Siddeley in 1957), with a mandate to secure business in Russia and China, and he spent many years working for the company travelling abroad in Russia, Poland and other countries behind the Iron Curtain. He left the company in late 1960, and soon joined Sharples of Camberley (part of the Pennsault Chemical Corp, USA) as a General Manager again dealing with trading in Russia. He left in July 1965, and took retirement. He sadly died in February 1992 in Surrey, from complications of dementia, having never married.

A Strange Co-incidence:

Late in his life, when he was living in Okeford Fitzpaine, my father told me of an amazing coincidence: he'd been at a party in the village and during conversation he must have mentioned that he originated from Ashford. The man to whom he was speaking said "How strange! I don't suppose you ever knew a man called John Hussey? He was responsible for me joining the RAF! He was a friend at the time, and one day I ran into him at the bus-stop in Ashford. I asked him where he was off to, and he told me he was going to join up, so I just tagged along with him!" My father was staggered, and of course replied that John had been his brother-in-law.

Then after I posted on FaceBook asking for info on John, I received a message from a woman who asked me if John had lived in Ashford, as her father had run into him at a bus-stop, etc etc. I couldn't believe that this story had suddenly come back to life, and replied that yes, it must be him, and explained I'd heard about this from my father a party in Dorset - was her father in that area? Of course, it turned out he too lived in the village, and we exchanged several messages. A small world!



Miscellaneous Photos:

Fun in the mess (location / date unknown). John Hussey is 2nd from the right (in profile, with black hair & prominent side parting), others unknown.



John Hussey - 5th from the left



John Hussey - 6th from left



April 1944.
No. 10 (9) A.F.U.
DUMFRIES,
SCOTLAND

John Hussey - front row, 3rd from left



Unidentified men, location & date unknown
(posted in case of interest to anyone)