

Sergeant EDWARD WILLIAM PAGE

1412481, 2923 Sqdn., R.A.F. Regt., Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve
who died age 22 on 18 December 1944

Son of Harold John and F. M. Page, of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.
Remembered with honour at PHALERON WAR CEMETERY, Greece.



Edward William Page, (Ted) was younger brother to **Almeric**, who, with his son, David, has been an invaluable source of historical information and this photo. He was, therefore, the son of Harold and Florence Page of Chance Street. Born 22 May 1922, he attended the Senior Council School in Chance Street before working at Healings Mill - along with his father and brothers.

Unmarried, he was involved in many voluntary activities such as the St. John's Ambulance Brigade and forming a British Legion Band. He was one of the first members of the Home Guard Unit (along with his father and brother). He volunteered to join the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve and served for two years in the 'Middle East'.¹ Again he volunteered for service in Greece, at that time as a member of the *R.A.F. Regiment*. This branch

of the RAF is tasked with defending RAF installations in the role of an infantry/artillery unit. **2923 Squadron** was formed in the Middle East in May 1943, it converted to the Light Anti-Aircraft role in December 1943, serving in Greece in 1944.²

Whilst serving in Greece, the *Register* reported that he wrote "several interesting and cheery letters" before he went missing. Eventually, he was declared "killed on active service" at Kafixia in Greece on 18 December 1944.

His family were, however, advised - unofficially and subsequently - that there were certain irregularities about the bodies of Edward and a colleague which suggest that he might have been murdered. The question is by whom?³



¹ Because of censorship the *Register* had to be very vague about the location of servicemen.

² Website: <http://www.rafweb.org/Regiment3.htm> . The Squadron then served in Palestine in 1945, becoming a Rifle squadron in 1945. It disbanded in April 1946.

³ Various guerrilla groups that had originally fought against their occupiers began to fight each other upon the withdrawal of German and Italian forces beginning in late 1943. This bitter war lasted until 1949. Microsoft® Encarta® Reference Library 2002.