



Missing After Flight

Sergeant V. S. Payne of Swindon

News has just been received that Sergeant Victor Stanley Payne, R.A.F. of Devizes Road, Swindon, formerly employed as a salesman at Messrs. Mills and Merricks, furnishers, is missing following an operational flight over enemy occupied territory.

Sergeant Payne is a wireless operator air gunner and in the earlier part of his flying service was in the Norwegian coast patrol. Since that time, however, he had been transferred to another part of the front.

A native of Tidworth, he came to Swindon about two and a half years ago and was married a year before joining the R.A.F. shortly after the outbreak of war. He is very well known especially in local football circles, for he was Swindon Wednesday's centre forward for some time, during which he gained the reputation of being a prolific goal scorer.

Strong hopes for his safety are entertained by his wife, who has one child, and by his friends.

North Wilts Herald, 25 July 1941

OPC Note:-

Sadly, Victor Stanley Payne was registered as having been killed on 11 July 1941, whilst flying with Coastal Command out of R.A.F. St. Eval, Cornwall. He was lost off the Scilly Isles when returning from an ASW Patrol and was probably shot down by enemy aircraft. The CWGC records his parents as Alfred John & Elizabeth Payne. His wife is recorded as Valerie Priscilla Payne of Cranfield, Bedfordshire. He is commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial in Surrey.