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# Anglesey Aviation Movements 1817-1940 [Pre RAF Valley]

## CREDITS:

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Abbreviations	
EA	Enemy Aircraft
Sqn	Squadron
Luftwaffe [German] Ranks equivalent RAF	
Hptm	Hauptmann - Flight Lieutenant
O/Lt	Oberleutnant - Flying Officer
Lt	Leutnant - Pilot Officer
S/Fw	Stabsfeldwebel – Warrant Officer
O/Fw	Oberfeldwebel – Flight Sergeant
Fw	Feldwebel – Flight Sergeant
Uffz	Unteroffizier - Corporal
O/Gefr	Obergefreiter – Leading Aircraftman
Gefr	Gefreiter – Aircraftman 1 <sup>st</sup> class
Flgr	Flieger – Aircraftman 2 <sup>nd</sup> class
Ff	Pilot
Bo	Observer/Navigator
Bf	Radio Operator
Bm	Flight Engineer
Bs	Gunner
R/R	Weather Service Official

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1817 [RS]**

	-	Balloon	Windham Sadler	
Departed Portobello Barracks, Dublin at 14:20. 5hrs later it came down at Pen-y-Bryn Farm, Holyhead.				

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 1850 [RS][Private letter]**

	-	Balloon	Lord Newborough	
One of his balloons came down in a field at Ty Croes Farm, Llanerchymedd some 28 miles from his estate at Glynllifon this evening as a result of a gas leak.				

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 1910 [RS]**

[Banshee]	-	Balloon	J Dunville & C Pollock	
Departed Dublin at 10:00. Flew over South Stack lighthouse at 12:20 and flew on to Chester.				

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 1910 [RS]**

	-	Farman Biplane	R Lorraine	R Lorraine
Ran out of fuel and landed at Bryn Goelcerth Farm, Llanfair-yng-Nghornwy whilst attempting to fly from Holyhead to Dublin. Initially he flew from Blackpool to Rhos-on-Sea then crossed the Straits heading towards Point Lynas & Cemaes but became disorientated and flew out to Sea before starting to run out of fuel. See 12.8.1910. A crowd had been gathering at Admiralty Pier in Holyhead shortly after 16:00. Tugs had been organised at every 7nms between Holyhead and Dublin to aid with the navigation and a temporary hangar had been erected at Salt Island, Holyhead.				

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August 1910 [RS][Holyhead Chronicle]**

	-	Farman Biplane	R Lorraine	R Lorraine
Attempted to take off from Bryn Goelcerth Farm, Llanfair-yng-Nghornwy to Salt Island, Holyhead but due to the field being downhill the biplane staggered into the air but crashed into a small hummock badly damaging the biplane. See also 10.8 & 4.9 Spares were then brought in 3 crates from Blackpool to Holyhead to repair the aircraft.				
Pilot	-	R Lorraine	Ok	

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September 1910 [RS][Holyhead Chronicle]**

	-	Farman Biplane	R Lorraine	R Lorraine
Attempted to take off again. However, the field chosen was reclaimed bog and after travelling a short distance the wheels started to sink into the soft ground at which point the undercarriage and centre fuselage collapsed pinning the pilot by his legs. This also quoted as 2.9 in the Holyhead Chronicle.				
Pilot	-	R Lorraine	Ok but badly bruised.	

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 1910 [Holyhead Chronicle]**

Lorraine's aircraft now at Penrhos Park, Lord Sheffield's Grounds.				
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**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September 1910 [RS][Holyhead Chronicle]**

	-	Farman Biplane	R Lorraine	R Lorraine
Initially carried out a short test flight around Holyhead Bay. Then just after 11:00 he departed for Ireland, a headwind then picked up and Lorraine wasn't sure if he would make it to Ireland. He circled Holyhead once and then set for N Stack. However, at 12:10				

he ditched 60yds off the Hill of Howth near Dublin. His intention had been to land on the foreshore at the golf links at Dollymount. The steamer 'Adela' picked up Lorraine and the aircraft at 16:30 and deposited both at the South Wall, Dublin. He mentioned the engine had failed and re-started several times possibly due to an air lock. See also 10.8, 12.8 & 4.9.1910

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 1912** [Holyhead Chronicle]

	-	Bleriot	D L Allen	
Set off from Chester to Dublin, last seen low in thick fog 2nms from Holyhead on a Southerly heading at 8:05. No trace of him thereafter.				

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 1912** [RS][Holyhead Chronicle]

	-	Bleriot	V Hewitt	
Took off from Penrhos at 10:30, landed at Phoenix Park, Dublin at 11:45.				

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 1919** [Holyhead Chronicle]

Aerial trips to N Wales being considered by Great Northern Aerial Co.				
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**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 1919** [RS][Holyhead Chronicle 25.4 Edition]

		Short Shirl	Maj Wood & Capt Wylie	'Shamrock'
Departed from Eastchurch, Kent with the intention of flying to Dublin and then across the Atlantic. However, they were 12nms W of Holyhead at 3,000ft when the engine failed. They landed .5nm from shore at 19:20 and were picked up and brought ashore. The aircraft was then towed onto the sandy beach. The aircraft was recovered and sent back to Shorts Bros.				

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 1919** [Holyhead Chronicle]

Letter from General Seely to Sir Edgar Jones MP for surveys to be carried out for both North & South Wales air routes to Ireland.				
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**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 1919** [Holyhead Chronicle]

The Airship R33 flew over Holyhead enroute to Dublin during the evening. It departed from Pulham and made the 900nm round trip at an average speed of 20kts. The pilot was Captain Thomas.				
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**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 1920** [independent.ie][AIR 27/795/1]

J2259		HP 0/400	100 Sqn	
Ditched 15nms NW of Holyhead whilst routing: Chester [Shotwick/Sealand] to Baldonnel, Dublin, Ireland. The 0/400 bomber had been converted to carry passengers and sent a distress message with ditching imminent. The SS Itajehy pick up the SOS when 28nms away and made for the ditched aircraft. The Ship eventually picked up all seven survivors just 15 minutes before the aircraft sank. There were rumours that the unnamed passenger may have been from the Secret Service.				
Pilot	F/O	James John Williamson	Ok	
Nav	F/O	Robin Howard Haworth-Booth	Ok	

W/Op	[NCO]	Harold Milne Aspen	Ok
Mech	LAC	Burrows	Ok
Mech	LAC	Worsley	Ok
Pax	RIC	John Hennigan	Ok [ <u>Royal Irish Constabulary</u> ]
Pax		?	Ok

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 1929 [RS]**

		R101 Airship		Maj G H Scott.
Overflew Holyhead & Rhosneigr where the Airship's Navigator S/L E J Johnston's mother lived at 10:30 then onwards to Llandudno. The Officer in Command, Maj Scott was also RNAS Llangefni's first Commanding Officer.				

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 1930 [aviation-safety.net]**

G-ABAV	-	Avro 504K	Private	Northern Air Transport, Barton
Crashed into the Irish Sea off Holyhead [ex. RAF J8348]				
		?		Ok
		?		Ok

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 1933 [RS]**

		?	A Cobham	
National Aviation Display at Beaumaris enroute to Ireland.				

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 1935 [RS]**

		?	A Cobham	
National Aviation Display at Llangefni.				
		Tiger Moth		Idwal Jones
G-ADSC	-	Flying Flea		Idwal Jones

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 1936 [RS]**

G-AEFK	-	Flying Flea	C Scott	
		Tiger Moth	C Scott	Idwal Jones
National Aviation Display at Llangefni.				

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 1936 [RS]**

		?	T Campbell Black	
British Empire Air Display at Holyhead.				

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 1940**

K6927	[RF-]	Saro London II	240 Sqn	From Sullom Voe
Emergency landing at Porth-y-Felin, Holyhead Harbour due to bad weather. Aircraft broke its back. 11 crew ok. Routing Oban-Calshot, as the weather deteriorated the crew made for Holyhead Harbour. With visibility down to 200yds or less he saw another London II at moorings which flashed at him to indicate its position. Pilot then decided to land alongside but whilst making a very low-level right hand turn the starboard wing tip float				

hit the water and the aircraft crashed, sinking 10 mins later. Crew picked up by the Harbour motor boat, aircraft damaged beyond repair.

Pilot	P/O	H A B Porteous	Ok
Pilot	P/O	Smith	Ok
W/Op		D Lockyer	Ok
			Ok
			Ok
			Ok
			Ok
			Ok
			Ok
			Ok
			Ok

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 1940**

L1185		Blenheim I	[54 OTU]	From Bicester
Forced landing on Anglesey due to bad weather.				

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 1940 [AIR 81/2241]**

L3432		Henley III	1 AACU	From J Flight, Penrhos
Hit the sea whilst low flying off Rhosneigr in misty conditions.				
Pilot	P/O	John David Thomas Pritchard	Killed [Runnymede]	
TTO	AC1	Norman Frederick Williams	Killed [Runnymede]	

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 1940 [AIR 81/2364]**

L3418		Henley III	1 AACU	From J Flight, Penrhos
Hit the sea off Malltraeth Bay after engine failure due to a glycol coolant leak.				
Pilot	Sgt	Robert Ivan Perry	Killed [buried Pwllheli]	
TTO	Sgt	Edwin Clifford Jacobs	Killed [Runnymede] tow operator	

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 1940**

[0015]	F8+KH	Fw.200C-1	I/KG40	
Damaged by anti-aircraft fire whilst attacking the SS Orford off Anglesey. Ended up crashing into Faha Ridge, Mount Brandon, Ireland. Crew were interned at the Curragh Internee Camp for the rest of the War. The aircraft was enroute from Bordeaux to Norway.				
Ff	O/Lt	Kurt Mollenhauer	Ok	
	R/R	Dr Erich Georg Krueger	Ok Meteorologist	
	Ofw	R Beaumer	Ok	
	Ofw	Ludwig Wockner	Ok	
	Uffz	H Bell	Ok	
Bf	Gefr	Kurt Kyck	Ok	

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 1940**

R6942		Spitfire	7 OTU	Sgt L S Pilkington
Cannon armed Spitfire shot down a Ju.88 east of Anglesey. It actually crashed at Mallwyd near Machynlleth. It was on a photo reconnaissance sortie routing: Paris-Isle of Wight-Bristol-Liverpool.				
	4U+BL	Ju.88	3[F]123	
Ff	Lt	Erich Bohle	Wounded	
Bo	O/Lt	Hans Kauter	Wounded	
Bf	Uffz	Gotthard Leisler	Wounded	
Bs	Fw	Walter Kobold	Wounded	

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 1940** [AIR 50/473]

N3235		Spitfire I	7 OTU	F/O G F Brothcie
Shot down the Do.215 whilst on a patrol out of Hawarden.				
		Do.215		

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 1940** [AIR 27/2109/26]

P7322	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Heath
P7323	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Dewey
P7284	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Hay
Anglesey patrol carried out in the evening, landed at Sealand.				

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 1940** [AIR 27/141/26]

N1483	ZA-I	Whitley V	10 Sqn	
Ditched 15nms off Holyhead on return from a raid on Berlin. Crew were picked up by a trawler off Waterford and taken to Holyhead where they were transferred to a Hospital suffering from shock. Normally based at Leeming.				
Capt	F/O	Wood	Ok	
Co-pilot	P/O	Humby	Ok	
Obs	Sgt	D-Browne	Ok	
W/Op	Sgt	Mounsey	Ok	
[AG]	Sgt	Thomas	Ok	

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 1940** [AIR 27/2109/27]

P7302	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/L Leather
P7314	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Pollard
P7375	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Sutton
P7322	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Heath
P7301	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Williams
P7284	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/S Sadler
Anglesey sweep patrol carried out in the evening, landed at Sealand.				

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 1940** [AIR 27/2109/27]

P7302	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/L Leather
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P7356	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Williams
P7375	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Sutton
P7284	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Heath
P7299	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Hay
Anglesey sweep patrol carried out in the evening, landed at Ternhill.				

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 1940** [AIR 27/2109/27]

611 Sqn from Ternhill flew Combat Air Patrols over Anglesey & North Wales Coast. 3 EA were claimed but the 3 <sup>rd</sup> actually made it back to France.				
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Combat No.1				
P7302	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/L Leather 'RED1'
P7314	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Pollard 'RED2'
P7356	FY-	Spitfire IIA*	611 Sqn	P/O Williams
*Landed at Sealand due to damage caused during the air combat.				
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2772	7T+EH	Do.17Z-3	KFG 1/606	
One of 3 aircraft from Lanveoc-Poulmic Airfield in Brittany, France to bomb Speke Aerodrome, Liverpool. They were routing Bristol Channel, N Wales Coast when a Spitfire from 611 Sqn detachment at Ternhill shot both engines in flames. The crew ditched the aircraft between the Skerries and Holyhead at 19:15 and were picked up by a Trawler. It is possible that 312 Sqn were also involved in this combat with their Hurricanes or it might have been against 7T+EK as Prestatyn is mentioned in both Sqn ORB's. P/O Jaske in V6846 312 Sqn was damaged attacking an enemy aircraft in the same area. The 3 surviving crew members were picked up by boat and taken to Holyhead Police Station where their uniforms were placed on display for an entrance fee of 1 penny.				
Pilot	Fw	Josef Vetterl		Missing presumed drowned
Bo	Lt	Jurgen von Krause		Wounded
Bf	Gefr	Helmut Sudermann		Ok
Bm	Uffz	Heinz Arpert		Ok
-				
Combat No.2				
P7371	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Watkins 'YELLOW1'
P7356	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Williams
-				
3475	7T+EK	Do.17Z-3	2/KFG606	
Crashed in the Irish Sea 50nms W of Holyhead at 18:35, also quoted as off Abersoch. A body was washed ashore 26.10 at Clogher Head, Co Louth, Ireland. Additionally, another body was washed ashore 27.10 at Bull Bay, Amlwch. The Unit was identified by the disc and a Feldpostnummer [Post Box No.] of the body at Bull Bay, Anglesey. This Officer always flew with Gefreiter Koopmann who was washed ashore in Ireland 26.10. The aircraft had been lost in the Irish Sea whilst on a Raid on Liverpool.				

Pilot	Hptm	Friedrich-Wilhelm Richter		Body washed up Bull Bay 7.11.40
Bo	Lt	Horst Felber		Body washed up Ireland 26.10
Bf	Gefr	Walter Koopmann		Body washed up Anglesey 27.10
	Uffz	E Weber		Body never recovered
-				
Combat No.3				
P7322	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Heath 'BLUE1'
P7323	FY-	Spitfire IIA*	611 Sqn	Sgt Pattison 'BLUE2'
*Later force landed near Kidderminster. Died of his injuries 13.10 at Barnsley Hall Military Hospital, Bromsgrove. [Kenneth Clifton Pattison]				
P7281	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	Sgt Angus 'BLUE3'
'BLUE' section took off from Ternhill at 17:45 for to patrol the Point of Ayr area. At 18:20 whilst flying SW over Prestatyn 2 Do.17's were sighted heading for Speke. As a result of the attack the EA split with one turning right and the other heading for Hoylake				
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During the attack 2 of the German crew baled out with the Spitfire pilots claiming the aircraft crashed near Capel Curig. In fact; after the war; it transpired that whilst the remaining crew were preparing to bale out the fire extinguished. The 2 remaining crew then flew single-engined all the way back to Brest. Uffz Johannsen's body was found near Deiniolen having most probably hit the rear fuselage whilst baling out.				
2787	7T+HH	Do.17Z-3	KFG 1/606	From Lanveoc-Poulmic
Ff	O/w	Hagen		Returned to base
Bo	O/Lt	Heine		Returned to base
Bf	Fw	Hans Staas		Ok, landed near Bethel
Bm	Uffz	Heinz Johannsen		Killed
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### Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 1940 [AIR 27/2109/27]

P7283	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	S/L McComb
P7354	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Williams
P7314	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Pollard
P7322	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Heath
P7299	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/S Sadler
P7292	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Hay
Anglesey sweep patrol carried out in the evening, landed at Penrhos.				

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 1940 [AIR 27/2109/27]

P7374	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Watkins
P7375	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	Sgt Scott
P7300	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	Sgt Freese
Anglesey sweep landed at Ternhill.				
P7283	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	S/L McComb
P7354	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Williams

P7314	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Pollard
P7281	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Hay
P7299	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/S Sadler
P7322	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Heath
Anglesey sweep patrol carried out in the evening, landed at Penrhos.				

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 1940 [AIR 27/2109/27]**

P7322	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Heath
P7299	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/S Sadler
P7281	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Hay
P7283	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Williams
P7354	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Pollard
P7314	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	S/L McComb
Anglesey sweep patrol carried out in the evening, landed at Penrhos.				

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 1940 [AIR 27/2109/27]**

P7875	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Sutton
P7448	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Heath
P7300	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Williams
Anglesey sweep patrol carried out in the evening, landed at Penrhos.				

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 1940 [AIR 27/2109/27]**

P7448	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	F/O Heath
P7375	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Sutton
P7300	FY-	Spitfire IIA	611 Sqn	P/O Williams
AM patrolled Holyhead to Penrhos. PM patrolled Nefyn to Holyhead.				

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 1940**

Body of a Luftwaffe crewman recovered off the N Wales coast.				

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 1940**

N9742	MW-Y	Anson I	321 Sqn	From Carew Cheriton
Ditched in the sea off Holyhead with engine problems.				
Pilot	Sgt	C L Van Kooy		