

## PHANTOM

Phantom was a Wireless Communications Unit.

In 1944, F Squadron Phantom was in France carrying out a special role to provide communications for the SAS. This was called Operation Lovton.

The SAS had been parachuted behind enemy lines into the Vosges Mountains around Moussey, to organise and arm the local resistance. Their job was to disrupt the enemy in advance of General Patton's Seventh Army drive through the Vosges Mountains to Strasbourg. In fact General Patton stopped short at Nancy.

This memorial is erected to the memory of three members of F Squadron Phantom who were killed on Operation Loyton and to others who gave up their lives at the same time.





SERGEANT GERALD DONOVAN DAVIS Age 26 of Maidenhead.

Originally Queen Victoria Rifles and Royal Armoured Corps.

He was betrayed, captured, tortured and shot on 20th August 1944.

He is interred and has a memorial in the village churchyard in Moussey, Vosges, France.



SIGNALMAN GEORGE GOURLAY JOHNSTON Age 28 of Kirkcaldy, Fife.

Royal Corps of Signals.

He was killed in combat near Fontency-la-loute, France on 20th October 2944 when returning through enemy lines. He has no known grave.



SIGNALMAN PETER BANNERMAN Aged 23 of Inverbervie, Kincardineshire.

Royal Corps of Signals.

He was killed in combat near Fontency-la-joute, France on 20th October 1944 when returning through enemy lines.

He is interred and has a memorial in the village churchyard at Moussey, Vosges, France.



TO THE 31 MEN OF THE 2ND SAS REGIMENT AND THE 3 SERVICEWOMEN. The men were captured, many of them were tortured and all were shot by the Gestapo, Alsace, on the orders of Hitler. The women, one British and two French, were killed by lethal injection at Schirmeck Concentration Camp; their bodies were found later in a mass grave in Natzweiler.



TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE FRENCH RESISTANCE of that area of France, remembered with great humility, who gave their lives giving aid and support to the SAS. So many men were killed in the village of Moussey that it is now known as the Valley of Widows. Their sacrifice must never be forgotten.

In a lonely clearing at Viombois high up in the forests of Lorraine there is a memorial to those of the French resistance who fell in the campaigns of 1944.

The Gestapo commander in Alsace, the Gestapo chief of France and the Gestapo chief in Strasbourg were all tried, convicted and sentenced to death by hanging. Others were given prison sentences.

> This memorial has been erected by two Phantom survivors of Loyton with support from the remaining officers and other ranks of Phantom, the Allied Special Forces Association, Hereford and the Old Maidonians Association, Maidenhead.













