

# THE SEARCHLIGHT



AUGUST  
2022





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Winkelturm

Special and striking German bunkers, the Winkelturm



Narrow Gauge Museum

This year our foundation was a guest at the Narrow Gauge Museum in Erica.



Germany

The Project Lost Wings has crossed the border! The entire project now contains 37 informationpanels!



Lancaster ED550 EM-K

The bomber that crashed on a village



May 4th, commemoration

After several years of corona restrictions, we could finally commemorate again.





TILL WE MEET AGAIN

Would you like to help?

We are already happy and grateful with the smallest donation to support our work!

Do you have objects, photos or other materials from the war? We are highly recommended!

In addition, we are looking for volunteers who want to place a candle at Commonwealth war graves in their immediate living environment on Christmas Eve.

Air War Research Foundation Drenthe

IBAN: NL69 RABO 0359 4545 26

Sign up as a volunteer or for questions, please send an

**BUY WAR BONDS**



# 4 MEI ALS VOORHEEN

For several years now, the workgroup of War Graves Schoonebeek (chairman Rob Wethly of the Air War Research Drenthe Foundation) and the 4 May Committee Schoonebeek have been responsible for the May 4th commemoration in Schoonebeek. Now, after the long 'Coronat time' back as usual.

The commemoration started at 6:45 pm in the Dorpskerk. After the service, the traditional wreath was laid at the resistance monument opposite the church.

At 7:30 p.m. a silent march to the cemetery, with musicians with veiled drums leading the way.

After the clock had struck, the "Last Post" was played by musicians from "De Bazuin" followed by 2 minutes of silence.



# SMALSPOORMUSEUM

Every year the Air War Research Foundation Drenthe is present in the Narrow Gauge Museum in Erica.

The museum organizes annual events that connect the industrial narrow gauge with the past.

In addition, they offer other local historical institutions a stage in order to gain fame and to give the day an attractive interpretation for a wide audience.

We would like to thank the people of the Narrow Gauge Museum in Erica!

42-31135 "Suzy Sag Tits"  
338BG/562 Bomb Squadron





# Winkel- turm



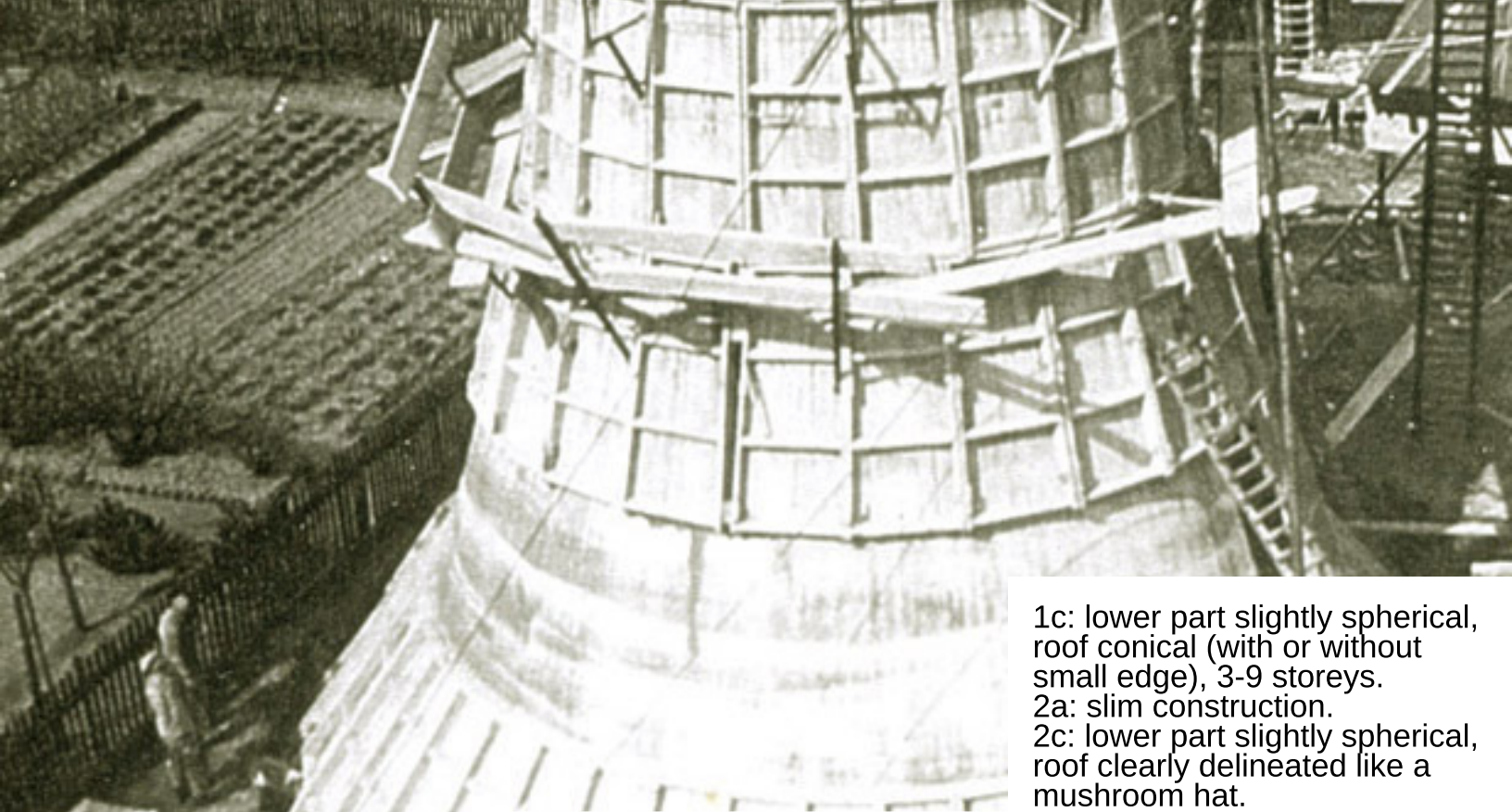
Hochbunker der Bauart Winkel, is a airraidbunker in a special shape intended as air raid shelter during airraids, of which there were about 200 copies in Germany during the Second World War.

Named by the developer Luftschutztürme, these bunkers are named after their designer Leo Winkel (1885 - 1981), born in Cologne and living in Duisburg. He was master builder at Thyssen Hütte.

As early as 1934, Leo Winkel was thinking about how to protect people during a war against air raids and in particular against dropped bombs. After the experiences of the First World War, it was clear to him that a new war would no longer be a rigid frontal war and that the civilian population would have to be protected because of the new weapon "aircraft".

These point or pointed bunkers are also popularly referred to as "concrete cigar" and are better known today as Winkelturm (Winkeltower).





1c: lower part slightly spherical, roof conical (with or without small edge), 3-9 storeys.  
 2a: slim construction.  
 2c: lower part slightly spherical, roof clearly delineated like a mushroom hat.

### Development:

On September 18, 1934, the design idea was filed as a patent application with the Reichspatentamt. The patent was granted on April 9, 1938. The Winkel & Co. business application. Duisburg for the construction of air raid sirens, was dated December 31, 1936 and the cost of the patent application was 15,000 Reichsmarks.

The Winkelturm, which, depending on the design, could accommodate up to 500 people, was built by Winkel & Co. Duisburg developed and built after the granting of permits by twelve leading German construction companies. Each structure had to contain a plaque with reference to the construction company and the contractor who carried out the work.

The pointed, steeply sloping roof was intended to provide a small attack surface for bombs and, in the event of a hit, to ensure that the bomb would slide off, if possible without detonating. Only one hit is known to have destroyed a tower, on the "Focke-Wulf" site

in Bremen-Hemelingen, October 12, 1944, American high-explosive bomb, resulting in 5 deaths.

About 200 Winkelturm were built. Today these towers, insofar as they have been preserved, are listed as a monument. *Stempelbeton mit Eisenbetondecken für 500 Mann*

### Kinds:

Leo Winkel designed sixteen different building types, some of which were clearly distinguishable from the outside. The most common construction method was the construction method with stamped concrete and a composite cladding.

Type 1 for 500 persons, costs approx. 57000 RM\*

Type 2 for 391 persons, costs approx. 49000 RM\*

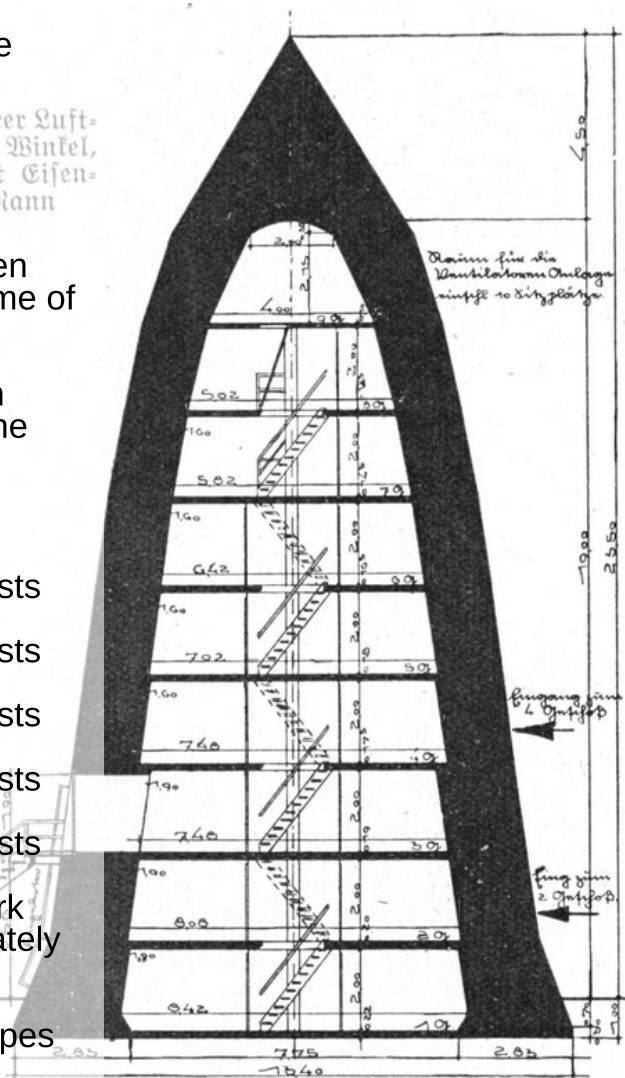
Type 3 for 305 persons, costs approx. 40000 RM\*

Type 4 for 220 persons, costs approx. 35000 RM\*

Type 5 for 164 persons, costs approx. 28000 RM\*

\* Reichsmark, 1 Reichsmark (1939) would be approximately equal to €3.70.

The three most common types are:





## Layout of the Winkelturm:

The Winkelturm was quite simply and functionally furnished, with wooden staircases in the center of the tower and wooden benches in the outer circle of each floor. At the top of the Winkelturm was a technical room with an air ventilation system, this installation was electrically driven and could also be operated manually in case of emergency. Via a central high inlet in the Winkelturm, each room was supplied with fresh air after the incoming air had been purified.



# Winkelturm Lingen

Research and photo's Rob Wethly

Located directly on the edge of the Kurt Schumacher Bridge in Lingen, there is still one of the preserved Winkeltürme in Germany.

This Winkelturm was built around 1938 for the benefit of the personnel of the wagon workshop of the then Reichsbahn. The Winkeltürme was left to its own devices after the end of the war and has

survived various demolition plans, partly due to its isolated location and difficult accessibility at the time.

Currently, the Winkelturm has been brought back to the attention of the public and has also been given the status of a protected object. Nevertheless, there are still voices advising the

demolition of the Winkelturm.



Cross-section  
Winkelturm



# ACROSS THE BORDER



We did it! Project Lost Wings has crossed the Dutch/German border! "Erinnern um nicht zu vergessen", the German subtitle for our 13 Lost Wings information panels in Germany. Located in the border area near Schoonebeek, around Twist and Emlichheim.

Twelve Lost Wings information panels of the project "Erinnern, um nicht zu vergessen" were made possible with financial support from the Ems Dollard Region (EDR), Gemeinde Twist, Gemeinde Emlichheim, Province of Drenthe and Emsländische Landschaft e.V.

An exception is the Lost Wings information panel of the USAAF P-47D-5-RE Thunderbolt 42-8636 'Luzon' of pilot Albert Niccolai, this Lost Wings information panel is fully funded by the Air War Research Foundation Drenthe

For more detailed information on each individual crash, you can visit our webpage:

[www.slodrenthe.nl/lost-wings-duitsland](http://www.slodrenthe.nl/lost-wings-duitsland)





# LANCASTER ED550 EM-K



**About 79 years ago, on the night of August 23-24, 1943, 727 aircraft, including 335 Lancasters, 251 Halifaxes, 124 Stirlings and 17 Mosquitos, were ordered to bomb "The Big City" (Berlin). A total of 1,765 tons of bombs were dropped over the capital of the Third Reich. A total of 56 aircraft were lost, including Lancaster ED550 EM-K.**

Lancaster ED550 EM-K of 207 RAF Squadron took off from RAF Langar Air Base at 20:33 (UK time). On the way there, the aircraft encountered technical problems. Due to these problems, the crew decided to abort the mission. During the return trip Lancaster ED550 EM-K was attacked by a German night fighter just before it crossed the Dutch border.

Due to the technical problems of the aircraft and

in response to the attack by the German night fighter, the crew released part of the bomb load as a precaution. The bombs unintentionally came down on the ash between Noordbarge and Emmen and this caused a lot of glass damage. Just before Lancaster ED550 EM-K crashed, many houses and buildings were badly damaged and some even completely destroyed. This was because the crew dropped the remaining bomb load in order to gain altitude.

Lancaster ED550 EM-K crashed into the house of the De Vries family on the Herenstreek in Nieuw Dordrecht, killing six crew members. The shooting down of Lancaster ED550 EM-K was claimed by Hauptmann Hans-Dieter Frank of Stab 1/NJG1 at midnight.

am 23.8 24,00 Uhr Abschuss 1 Lancaster bei Neudordrecht/Emmen,  
10 km ostw. Zwolle, durch Nachtjäger; von Besatzung 1  
Mann gefangen, 5 Mann tot, 1 Mann flüchtig.



Jan de Vries was standing outside at the time because he had been talking to the neighbors shortly before. The aircraft crashed at the front of the house, killing Jan de Vries, his wife Annigje de Vries-Jalving and son Willem de Vries. The other children in the family, Els, Bouke, Bertus, Grada, Annie and Grietje survived the disaster.

Of the Lancaster ED550 EM-K crew, only Flight Engineer Sergeant Julian G.S. Walker survived the crash. He was seriously injured by bystanders helped from the wreckage and transferred to

the Diaconessen Hospital on Angelsloërdijk in Emmen. Here one of his legs was amputated. A German doctor judged after two months that Julian G.S. Walker had recovered sufficiently, and was fit enough for transport to a German POW camp. He was to be picked up by German soldiers between 11 and 14 October 1943, but three months later he was still in hospital.

On January 23, 1944, his doctor, Dr. S. van Heerde, heard that Julian G.S. Walker would be picked up after all in the night of January 24 to 25.

Because Van Heerde did not consider Julian G.S. Walker suitable for transport, he was able to prevent this. A week later, on February 1, 1944, J.G.S. Walker was picked up and transferred to a German POW camp.

Let's keep alive the memory of what Pilot Officer George William Osmer, Sergeant Julian George Seymour Walker, Pilot Officer Cyril Peter Backlog, Sergeant William Martin Ewing Reid, Sergeant John Ward Standish, Sergeant Thomas Elder Charles McKeith and Sergeant Donald Fells .

Yannic Wethly

## Sergeant verpleegd in Emmen

EMMEN — Het vliegtuig van sergeant Walker werd neergehaald door een Duits afweergeschut in de omgeving van Klazienaveen. Zwaar gewond aan zijn been werd de piloot overgebracht naar het Diaconessen ziekenhuis in Emmen waar een verbrijzeld been werd geconstateerd. De sergeant moest het been missen maar omringd (zie foto) door 5 diaconessen werd hij liefdevol verzorgd in het Emmer ziekenhuis. Een periode van korte duur. In januari 1944 werd de ongelukkige piloot gevangen gezet in een kamp in Duitsland. Het was uiteindelijk zijn been die hem het leven kostte. In 1958 werd Walker overreden door een militair voertuig omdat hij door zijn handicap -een houten been- niet snel genoeg opzij kon stappen. Een triest einde voor een dapper soldaat.





Klazienaveen, 24 Augustus 1943.

No. 823.

## ONDERWERP:

Het neerstorten van brandende vliegtuigen.

Ik moge U berichten, dat in den nacht van 23 op 24 Augustus 1943, te omstreeks 23.30 uur, een luchtgevecht heeft plaats gehad boven het dorp NIEUW-DORDRECHT in de gemeente EMMEN, tusschen verschillende vliegtuigen, welke uit Westelijke richting naderde.

Op gemeld tijdstip zag ik, dat twee brandende voorwerpen uit de lucht omlaag vielen en vermoedde ik dat dit vliegtuigen waren.

Met het personeel dezer groep en dat van de post NIEUW-DORDRECHT heb ik mij direct ter plaatse begeven waar ik vermoedde dat bedoelde vliegtuigen waren neergestort.

Na aankomst ter plaatse zag ik, dat verschillende deelen van vliegtuigen over een afstand van eenige kilometers over het veld verspreid lagen en in enkele deelen een hevige brand woedde.

Ook bleek mij dat een bom was gevallen en geexplodeerd voor een der woningen staande aan de Heerenstreek te NIEUW-DORDRECHT.

Op verschillende plaatsen lagen nog niet geexplodeerde brandbommen (z.g.n. Fosforbommen).

Door den bominslag zijn drie personen gedood, terwijl voort drie personen ernstig, twee niet ernstig en vijf en twintig a dertig personen licht gewond werden.

Voorts zijn negen woningen geheel vernietigd, vijf zwaar beschadigd, zes en veertig licht beschadigd en negen en twintig hebben alleen glasschade opgelopen.

Verder is een houten schoolgebouw geheel vernield, een van steen opgetrokken schoolgebouw zwaar beschadigd, terwijl het aldaar staande kerkgebouw van de Ned. Herv. gemeente met het daarnaast geplaatste verenigingsgebouw eveneens vrij ernstig is beschadigd.

Drie leden van de bemanning van een Engelsch vliegtuig werden gevonden, welke waren overleden.

Een lid van dit vliegtuig zat bekneld in een gedeelte van de romp van dit vliegtuig en is door den Hoofdwachtmeester S, van der HOEK, behoorende tot opgemelde groep na zijn bevrijding uit het toestel gearresteerd en onder politiebewaking overgebracht naar het Ziekenhuis te EMMEN, daar deze zwaar gewond bleek te zijn.

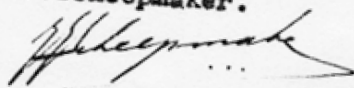
Een schuur staande achter een der woningen aan de Heerenstreek, waarin een hoeveelheid koren en hooi was geboregen is vermoedelijk door een of meer brandbommen getroffen en geheel afgebrand.

Door het mij onderhebbend personeel heb ik de wrakstukken van de vliegtuigen daan bewaken.

Op 24 Augustus, omstreeks 9.00 uur, is door het personeel der Duitse Weermacht, die inmiddels ter plaatse waren gekomen, deze bewaking overgenomen.

De omgeving van de woningen en gebouwen, welke schade hebben geleden, worden bewaakt en het publiek op een behoorlijke afstand gehouden.

De Onderluitenant,  
Groepscommandant,  
J.J. Scheepmaker.



Aan  
den Heer Commandant Mar, Gewest Groningen.  
Afdeulingscommandant der Mar. te Emmen.  
Districts-Commandant der Mar. te Assen.  
Polizei Offizier te Assen.  
Burgemeester der Gemeente Emmen.



EST GRONINGEN.  
VASH/ TEL. 6.

1702

25. III. 1944

V E R B A A L  
en van een Engelsch-  
er) in den avond van  
rtmeer, gemeente Emmen,

Naar aanleiding van het op Woensdag 22 Maart 1944, te on-  
gevoer 21,30 uur, neerstorten van een brandend Engelsch Vlieg-  
tuig (bomwerper) aan de Westzijde van de Kamerlingwijk on-  
der Zwartemeer, gemeente Emmen, heb ik -  
Sietze van der Hoek, Hoofdwachtmeester, behoorende tot opgemeld  
Groep, na bekomen opdracht van mijn Groepscommandant een onder-  
zoek ingesteld.

Bij aankomst bleek mij, dat het omlaag gestorte Engelsch  
vliegtuig was een vier motorige bomwerper, waarvan de wrak-  
stukken over eenige honderden meters verspreid lagen.

In verschillende deelen daarvan woeede een hevige  
Bij het vliegtuig werden geen brisant- of brandbom-  
gevonden.

De motoren en de overgrootste deel van de wrakstukke  
onder het vliegtuig en over het veld lagen ver-