



Alex Podolsky

**WARRANT OFFICER  
ALEX PODOLSKY**

WARRANT OFFICER (Class II) ALEX PODOLSKY, R-86547, R.C.A.F., of Edmonton, was officially presumed killed after air operations on April 17, 1943. He was buried in the Municipal Cemetery, Weisengrund, District of Mies, Czechoslovakia.

Warrant Officer Podolsky joined the air force on December 27, 1940 and proceeded overseas on September 15, 1941. He was posted to the No. 83 Pathfinder Squadron and had completed 33 missions before he was reported killed.

Born on June 10, 1918, in Winnipeg, Warrant Officer Podolsky was the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Podolsky of 10405-123rd Street, Edmonton. He was educated at Connaught School in North Battleford and Spruce Avenue, Oliver and Victoria High Schools in Edmonton. Warrant Officer Podolsky also attended the Talmud Torah. He had been an active member of the A.Z.A. and Young Judaea. Prior to his enlistment he had been employed by a dry cleaning establishment.

Source: Canadian Jewish Congress

Posted: 2011 December 29 02:01:53 PM

F/O N M McLennan (Bomb Aimer) and Sgt A Podolsky (Wireless Op) were in the same Lancaster crew of R 5622 OLC which crashed at Dobransy during the raid on Pilsen. No survivors. All were interred in the same cemetery.

The target was the Pilsen Skoda armaments works. The raid was not a success although carried out by full moon. Due to poor pathfinder marking, which was intended as general target marking guidance, the Skoda works was not hit but an asylum was identified mistakenly about 7 miles away. The redeeming feature, reported, was that 200 German soldiers were killed when their barracks adjacent to the asylum was hit.

All in all, a poor night for Bomber Command. 18 Lancasters and 18 Halifaxes lost which represented 11% aircraft losses.

No 408 Squadron (RCAF) lost 4 of the 12 Halifaxes put up for this operation that night.

(Pilsen...home of the genuine Pilsener but to us British....lager)