

The reason for the books on the tables is that there are photos relating to my talk from page 63 onwards.

As a quick introduction :- I was 15 when the second world war started and was already in the Air Training Corps at school, I subsequently volunteered for the R.A.F. voluntary reserve (all aircrew were volunteers) and I was called up in May 1943 just two months before my 19th. birthday.

My mother, whose elder sister had just lost her son in a R.A.F flying training accident , asked me to write to her as often as possible which I did and , when she died aged 93 I found a box containing all my letters written many years previously. With these to jog my memory and encouraged by my family I wrote a book about my family and my R.A.F. memoirs which I had published privately just two years ago.

In the R.A.F. I trained as a Radio and Radar Signaller, was in a Lancaster bomber crew consisting of five Canadians, a Welshman and me and we were posted to 514 Squadron in 3 group bomber command stationed at Waterbeach not far from Cambridge in December 1944. Our crew flew 19 operational bombing missions some in daytime and some at night before VE day on May 8th. 1945 which is the date from which my talk starts which I have entitled :-

HOW TO VISIT TWELVE DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AT NO EXPENSE
TO MYSELF DUE TO THE INCOMPETENCE OF THE AIR MINISTRY