John Mossley



Rank: - Gunner

Number: - 1150181

Regiment: - Royal Artillery 178 Field Regt.

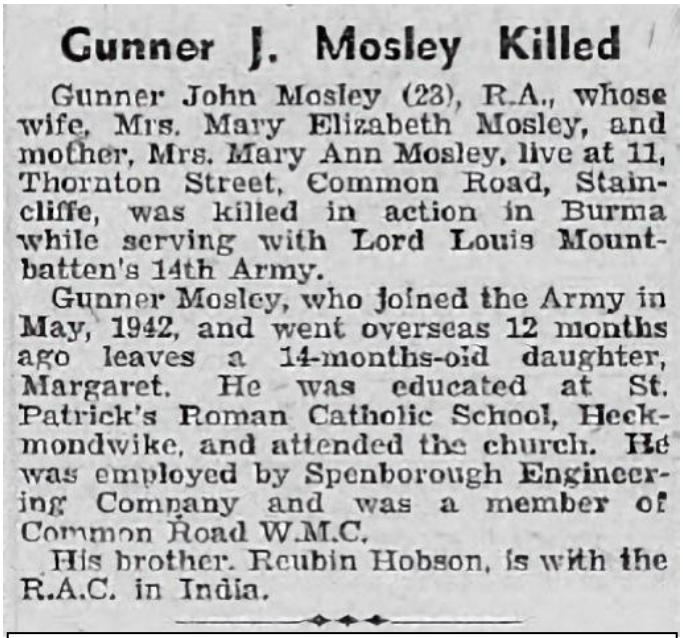
Died: - Killed in Action 6 March 1944

Cemetery: - Taukkyan War Cemetery, Myanmar 10. G. 1.

IN PROUD AND LOVING MEMORY OF DEAR JOHN REST IN PEACE
WIFE AND DAUGHTER MARGARET

John was born in Batley in the latter part of 1920 the son of John and Mary Hannah Mossley (formerly Hobson who had married in 1920, registered Dewsbury). John had previously married Bridget and had children Ann, James who died aged 7 months in 1911, Thomas 1914 who died aged 2 weeks in December and John Thomas but Bridget died in December 1915 shortly after his

birth. Sadly, he died aged 9 months. Mary Hannah had married Percy Hobson in 1912 and they had children Nellie 1912, Emily 1914 and Reuben 1916 who was with the Royal Army Corps in India in 1944. Percy died in 1916. John and Mary Hannah also had children Mary 1922, Thomas 1923 who died aged 14 months, twins, Winifred and Dorothy 1926 and Nora 1928-1929. His father John, who was a miner, died in 1935 and the family lived at 11, Thornton Street, near Common Road in 1939.



Gunner J. Mosley Killed

Gunner John Mosley (23), R.A., whose wife, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Mosley, and mother, Mrs. Mary Ann Mosley, live at 11, Thornton Street, Common Road, Staincliffe, was killed in action in Burma while serving with Lord Louis Mountbatten's 14th Army.

Gunner Mosley, who joined the Army in May, 1942, and went overseas 12 months ago leaves a 14-months-old daughter, Margaret. He was educated at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School, Heckmondwike, and attended the church. He was employed by Spenborough Engineering Company and was a member of Common Road W.M.C.

His brother, Reubin Hobson, is with the R.A.C. in India.

Batley News, 1 Apr 1944

John was educated at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic School, Heckmondwike and attended the church. He was employed by Spenborough Engineering Company and was a member of Common Road W.M.C.

In 1942 John married Mary Elizabeth Kelly and Margaret was born in 1943. They lived with his family at 11, Thornton Street, Batley.

John joined the Army in May 1942 and went abroad in March 1943. He went to Burma where the fighting in the Burma campaign in 1944 was among the most severe in the South-East Asian Theatre of WW2. It took place along the borders between Burma and India, and Burma and China, and involved the British Commonwealth, Chinese and United States forces, against the forces of Imperial Japan and the Indian National Army. British Commonwealth land forces were drawn primarily from the United Kingdom, British India and Africa. The Commander of the 14th Army was Lord Louis Mountbatten.

John was killed on the 6th March 1944.

Taukkyan War Cemetery is the largest of the three cemeteries in Burma (now Myanmar). It was begun in 1951 for the reception of graves from four battlefield cemeteries at Akyab, Mandalay, Meiktila, and Sahmaw which were difficult to access and could not be maintained. The last was an original 'Chindit' cemetery

containing many of those who died in the battle of Myitkyina. The graves have been grouped together at Taukkyan to preserve the individuality of these battlefield cemeteries.

John was the nephew of Thomas Mossley who was killed in action in WW1.

John is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group