



# DAKOTA 966

**Crashed**

***July 18, 1944***

## **Flight Crew of Dakota 966**

F/L TE Daniels Pilot, (Captain), C3817 Gardena, California, USA KIA

F/O WJ Curtiss, pilot (Copilot) J22337 Vancouver, BC KIA

WO1 LC Rideout WAG, R87913, Vancouver, BC KIA

F/S JH Pigdon, AEM, R10428, Burnaby, BC Slightly Injured

Sgt EJ Hillard, Crewman, R52914, Toronto, Ont Seriously Injured

*Passengers - killed:* LCol OW Steele, Can Dental Corps,

F/L WD Stroud, C3237, Sgt CD Kippan, R10684,

*Passengers - seriously injured:* Cpl ON Perry W307449,

Chief Skipper JM Olsen RCNR, LAW GE Dalton, W314716,

*Passengers - slightly injured:* F/S S Jurmain R80711,

LAC CH Wallace, R193990, , LAW BM Hartley, W314712,

Dakota 966 was scheduled to fly from Sea Island to Annette Island, Alaska to pick up an aircraft engine and deliver passengers on the 18 July 1944. F/L Daniels with a crew of four and thirteen passengers got airborne from Sea Island at 0840 and landed at Port Hardy at 1045 hrs. By 1100hrs 966 was refueled and the crew plus nine passengers were loaded. At 1115, at maximum take-off weight of 27,681 lbs, 966 started its takeoff roll and finally got airborne 2/3 the way down runway 07. It started to roll to port and was slowly climbing when the starboard wing hit the trees at the end of the runway. The aircraft swung right and crashed in the slash and caught fire. Six people were killed, four seriously injured and the remaining four were slightly injured. The aircraft and crew were part of 165 Squadron which became 435 Squadron after WWII.

## REQUIESCAT EN PACE FRATRES



22 September 2012