## Menu Xavier (RAF n°87683)

Knight's Cross in the Order of Leopold with Palm, Belgian Croix de Guerre 1940 with Palm, ...



(André Bar Collection)

Xavier Menu was born on may 2nd 1916 at Lambermont. In 1940,the training school where he was on course evacuated to France and then to Oujda in Morocco. Xavier MENU joined the group of Captain Cajot and escaped to Great Britain with a part of the Belgian Flying School. On November 1940, he was on the French and Belgian F.T.S at Odiham where he flew on Master with P/O Dieu. He was posted to N°11 Flying Training School at Shawbury from 9/4/41 to 4/7/41, then to 58 OTU, at Grangemouth (17/7/41-25/8/41) where he made his first solo on Spitfire (July 20th 1941). On 25/8/41, Xavier MENU was posted to the "Belgian Flight" of 131 Squadron at Ternhill. November 17th saw his arrival to Valley where the 350 (Belgian) Squadron was formed (12th November 1941). On August 10th,1942, Xavier MENU and Jean RIGOLE departed from Friston for a offensive patrol over the Channel. Because of the bad weather over Friston, they were rerouted to Tangmere. Only Jean RIGOLE came back safely. Xavier MENU never reached Tangmere and was therefore declared "MISSING IN ACTION". He vanished completely and most probably sank into the sea with his plane.

(source: Philippe Deman)

His claims are :-