

'Gaby' Seydel Gabriel M. (RAF n° 116541)

Distinguished Flying Cross, Belgian Croix de Guerre 1940 with Palm, Knight in the Order of the Crown with Palm, Knight in the Order of Léopold, Croix de Guerre 1940 with 2 Palm, Croix des Evadés, 1939 - 1943 Star, 1939 - 1945 Star, France and Germany Star, Atlantic Star, Defence Medal, Croix de Guerre 1940 Grand - Duché de Luxembourg, ...



(Collection)

Born at Ixelles, 05 April 1920. Was a pupil at the Flying School of the Aé Mil when War broke out. Transferred to France and Morocco, he escaped to Great Britain, where he arrived on 5 August 1940. He was sent to Training Command to complete his training. P/O Seydel was posted in from 58 OTU to 131 Sqn for flying duties on 26 November 1941. He joined the newly formed 350 (Belgian) Squadron on 17 November 1941. Transferred to 349 Squadron in July 1943, he returned to 350 Squadron in November 1944 and finally rejoined 349 Squadron with whom he finished the War. A DFC was awarded for his actions on 4 December 1945. After war he joined Colonial Service (1946-1947) that he left for the English Electric Co in 1949. He became British citizen on February 1951. He died on 10 January 1991.

DFC citation of 4 December 1945:

" As Flight Commander on his third operational tour, Flight Lieutenant Seydel has inflicted severe damage to the enemy, both in the air and on the ground destroying at least 1 aircraft and damaging 3 others as well as destroying transport of all kind. Throughout his 242 operational sorties, he has always displayed initiative and courage and has been an inspiration to all pilots under his command."

(source: Guy De Win)

His claims are :

19/08/1942	1/2 FW-190 Damaged	Dieppe (Operation Jubilé)
19/08/1942	1 FW-190 Damaged	Dieppe (Operation Jubilé)
06/06/1944	1/2 Ju-88 Damaged	(349 Sqn)
07/06/1944	1 FW-190 Damaged	(349 Sqn)
08/06/1944	1/2 FW-190	(349 Sqn)
26/07/1944	1 Me-109	(349 Sqn)

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