

Pilot Officer Remi 'Mony' Van Lierde was to win the Distinguished Flying Cross and 2 Bars during World War 2. Joining 609 on 6th January 1942 after 3 months at Hawarden with No. 57 Operational Training Unit, he was with the squadron for nearly two years when on 22nd December 1943 he was posted to Central Gunnery School at Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire, before returning to RAF Manston on 7th February 1944. An outstanding Typhoon pilot, he was the first person to drop bombs from a Typhoon on 14th May 1943, shooting down a Heinkel He111 on his return journey. On 27th April, Remi was posted to No. 3 Squadron, flying Hawker Tempest MKV's, before taking command of No. 164 Squadron on 20th August 1944 with the rank of Squadron Leader. By the end of the war, he had been credited with a total of 7 enemy aircraft destroyed, and 44 V1 flying bombs confirmed solo, with another 9 shared, the second highest-scoring 'Doodlebug' killer.

VAN LIERDE, Remy, flew in Belgium in 1940 with 3/Ile G.C. on Fairey Foxes. He escaped to the United Kingdom, and served with 87 Squadron during the Battle of Britain. In April 1941 he was posted to the Belgian flight in 609 Squadron, and in 1942 converted to Typhoons, and flew many ground-attack and anti-shipping sorties in these aircraft. He claimed his first victory on 20th January 1943 when he destroyed a Bf109G during a fighter-bomber raid on the south coast. On 26th March he shot down a Ju52, and on 14th May got a He111. He claimed another Bf109 on 30th July, and on 5th October destroyed a Ju88 at night, and destroyed another aircraft on the ground. His last victory, a Bf110, was claimed on 30th November, bringing his score to 6 and 1 on the ground. He left the squadron, and during 1944 flew with 3 Squadron, flying Tempests against the V-1's. He was one of the most successful pilots against these robots, destroying forty of them. He later commanded 164 Squadron, flying Typhoons again, and late in the war commanded 350 Squadron as part of the Belgian Spitfire wing.

(Remy van Lierde had been a Belgian Air Force cadet born 1915, who had arrived in Bristol by air 22 741. He had made several attempts to escape via Spain and each time was sent back. Interrogation details at the Royal Patriotic School in W0208 3664).

Remy Van Lierde b 148 1915, a Belgian air force cadet, was interrogated at RPS in 1941 WO 208 3664. Unless one is a nickname).