## "Mich" de Hepcée Michel (RAF nº 1379178)

Belgian Croix de Guerre 1940 with Palm (Posthumous), Croix des Evadés, ...



(Philippe Deman Collection)

Born on 2 October 1916 at Etterbeek (Brussels). Joins the Military Flying School on 1 March 1939. Posted to 3Aé Rgt 15 January 1940. When Germans invaded the country, his unit left for France (15/05/1940). Returned to Belgium after the capitulation where he arrived 20 August 1940. Evaded early 1941 and arrived in the UK on 8 July 1941. Joined the RAFVR on 7 August 1941. He followed training at 5 ITW (8/12/41), 10 EFTS (4/04/42), RAF Depot (8/07/42), RAF College (22/07/42) and 58 OTU (12/01/43) Posted in to 350 (Belgian) Squadron on 17 March 1943. Killed on 13 November 1943: "RHUBARB OPERATIONS. F/S BOUTE and SGT DE HEPCEE. UP 11.30 Hours. Intention was to cover LOKEREN, LIERRE, NINOVE area. Both pilots did not return and both are reported missing."

His claims are :-