

Flight Sergeant Stanley 'Joe' Spallin was a Canadian who tragically lost his life on 5th November 1942, when he flew Typhoon R7818 into the balloon barrage over Dover harbour. The Operational Records Book records: "More patrolling, and air firing over Goodwin's. At 1153 F/O Wells and Sgt Spallin are scrambled after a Dornier bombing Deal. Weather is 10/10 at 600ft, and it is raining. At Deal section is told to follow coast to Dungeness. Wells flies offshore, skirting Dover, then patrols up and down probably chasing his own plots. Spallin has disappeared, and soon it is learnt that he has hit a balloon cable at Dover, crashed into the water. It is thought he attempted to cut across Dover harbour instead of skirting it. Balloons were invisible, flying in cloud. Nothing is found but a patch of oil. Thus 609 has to record the loss of the 4th pilot of the year not due to enemy action. Spallin had been with the squadron since April, had become a reliable and enterprising pilot. "I have a lot of time for Spallin", remarked his acting flight commander, F/O Wells, only the day before. Cheerful and obliging, he did much to make Canada popular in the eyes of both British and Belgians".

R76956 WO2 Stanley Hubert Spallin. From Edmonton, Alberta. Killed in action 5th November 1942 aged 21. W/O Spallin was killed when he flew his Hawker Typhoon aircraft into a balloon cable over Dover Harbour, England. WO2 Pilot Spallin has no known grave, his name is inscribed on the Runnymede Memorial, Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey, England.