

GERRIT BLAAUW

Resistance, Family and Reprisal on the North Veluwe, 1945

Revised cumulative English research edition | 29 October 2026

A chronological, source-aware historical narrative with the complete illustrated research dossier and subsequent update preserved in the same volume.

Editorial guide

This edition is arranged for reading rather than as a sequence of research addenda. Part I integrates the established story and later findings into chronological chapters. Part II reproduces all 63 pages of the earlier illustrated research booklet, including archival images, maps, captions and references. Part III reproduces all 11 pages of the later family research update, including its additional scans and source leads. The documentary parts remain intact to ensure no evidence is lost. Some repetition between Parts II and III is intentional; Part I is the preferred narrative starting point.

Dates, names and attributions are not silently harmonized. Where the records disagree, the differences remain visible. Recent correspondence is cited as correspondence, not promoted to contemporary historical proof. Living persons' private contact details are excluded.

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Part II: Complete 63-page illustrated booklet (original pagination retained).

Part III: Complete 11-page October update (original pagination retained).

Family and the North Veluwe

Geographical context and Gerrit Blaauw's portrait, placed alongside the opening family history.

Gerrit Blaauw

Resistance, family and reprisal on the North Veluwe, 1945



Portrait identified as Gerrit Blaauw by the Municipality of Elburg; original exposure and photographer not established.
Figure 3. [7,19]

Abstract

Gerrit Blaauw (1907–1945), a Doornspijk distribution official and father of five, belonged to the Netherlands Interior Forces' Doornspijk group, “Old Putten” section. Local accounts connect a Spitfire crash near his home with the arrest of his fourteen-year-old son Henk. They say Gerrit went to secure his release and was detained. Gerrit was held at De Kruisberg and executed at Woeste Hoeve on 8 March 1945 as part of the German reprisal for the unintended attack on Hanns Albin Rauter. His body was later exhumed from the Heidehof mass grave and reburied at Oosterwolde. [4,5,7,22,43,46,53]

This study places Gerrit, his work and his family at its centre. David Blair's evasion explains the aircraft incident and the subsequent investigation; it does not itself prove that Gerrit personally sheltered him. The documentary appendices present the archival, newspaper and illustrative evidence behind this account. [54]

Geographical setting: a wartime map

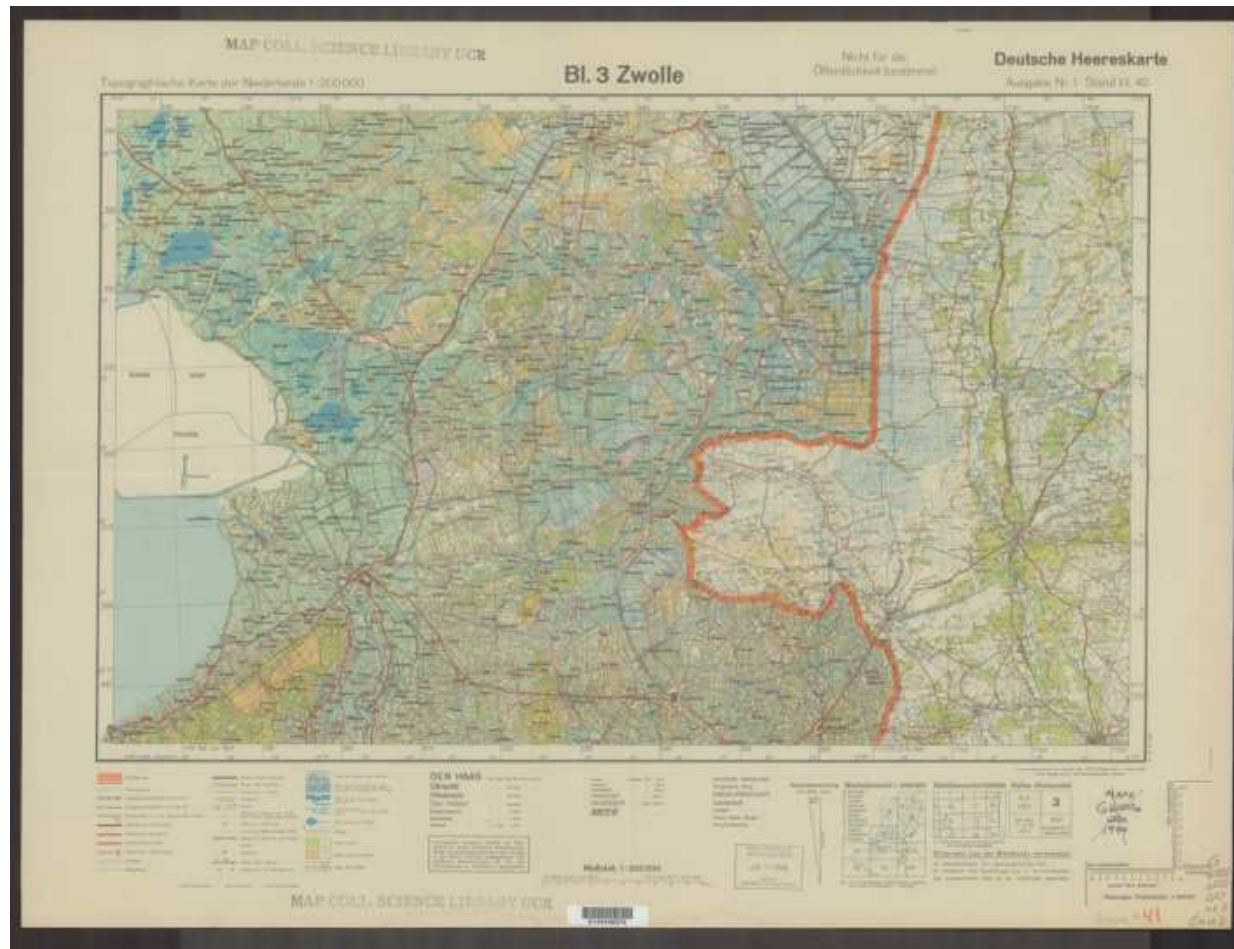


Figure 35. German military map, *Topographische Karte der Niederlande 1:200000*, Ausgabe Nr. 1, sheet 3, Zwolle. Published Utrecht, 1943; marginal dates “Stand XII 42” and “III 43.” Full sheet reproduced, including scale and marginal information. UC Berkeley Library, WWII Captured German Military Maps, G6000 s200.G47, record 105637; image b24387408x_C119140374.jpg. [57]

This map predates the February–March 1945 events and preserves wartime roads, railways, settlements and the IJsselmeer shoreline. It is a geographic source, not evidence of Gerrit's route or particular safe houses. The next page enlarges the North Veluwe locality.

Reading the North Veluwe map



Figure 36. Enlarged, unaltered local detail of Figure 35. The IJsselmeer lies to the northwest; Elburg, Doornspijk, Oldebroek, Oosterwolde, Nunspeet and the approaches to Zwolle belong to the locality of the family and aircraft episode. Consult the full sheet for its original scale; enlargement changes the printed scale. [57]

Places and their roles in the account

Place	Role and source boundary
Elburg / Doornspijk / Winterdijk	Family home, distribution work, crash and arrest accounts. Exact addresses and routes are not plotted. [4,7,43,46,53]
Oosterwolde	Reburial recorded on 15 May 1945. The municipal designation and cemetery register require comparison. [44,46,47]
Apeldoorn / Woeste Hoeve / Heidehof	Detention account, execution and recorded exhumation; south of this map's core coverage. [22,46,53]
Doetinchem / De Kruisberg	Prison detention before the reprisal; outside the enlarged view. [22,46]
Putten	Separate October 1944 roundup; not Huize Old Putten near Elburg. [16,56]

The wartime map is used for the principal North Veluwe setting. The later crash diagram and memorial panel in Appendix B remain modern illustrations with their own provenance. No line on either historical map is presented as a reconstructed evasion or prisoner transport route.

1. Gerrit and his family

Gerrit Blaauw was born on 6 May 1907 in Oldebroek. His parents were Hendrik Blaauw and Hendrikje Flier. He married Jannetje Fikse, born 6 September 1911 in Doornspijk, on 7 March 1929. Early records and family histories describe his work as a driver or bus operator before his later position in the distribution service at Elburg. His family lived in the Doornspijk/Oosterwolde area, including an address recorded as H-153, post Elburg. [17,43,44]

Gerrit and Jannetje had five children: Hendrik (“Henk”), born 4 June 1930; Dirkje, 15 March 1932; Batje, 22 June 1934; Gerritje, 21 September 1936; and Johan, 28 April 1940. These dates are preserved in postwar municipal records. Henk was fourteen when the aircraft landed in February 1945. The later family history matters because Gerrit’s death left Jannetje with five young children. [43,49]

The administrative sources identify Gerrit’s mother as Hendrikje Flier, but give slightly different readings for her February 1877 birth date. The original civil record is needed to settle that detail. The 1946 mayoral response also corrected an erroneous 1908 birth year to 1907. [43,44]

2. Resistance before February 1945

Gerrit’s position at the Elburg distribution office placed him close to the ration cards and papers that could be indispensable to people hiding from the German occupation. Local biographies credit him with securing coupons for people in hiding, carrying messages and other resistance activities. These descriptions are historically important, but the underlying documents for every individual operation have not been recovered. [7,17,19,22]

The strongest direct evidence of organized affiliation is a signed answer dated 31 October 1946 from the mayor of Doornspijk to a Ministry of War enquiry. It calls Gerrit a “very active” member of the Netherlands Interior Forces (NBS), Doornspijk group, “Old Putten” section. A printed postwar LO resistance history includes Gerrit’s portrait and identifies a Raad van Verzet (RvV) connection. Its short notation records arrest on 13 February 1945 on suspicion of helping pilots. These sources corroborate resistance involvement but do not provide a full personal operations log. [6,43]

“Old Putten” refers here to a resistance section. Huize Old Putten, raided in February 1945, and the town of Putten, subjected to a separate German atrocity in October 1944, are distinct historical references. No inspected source proves that Gerrit was at the Huize Old Putten raid or that it caused his arrest. [16,31,32,43]

3. The Spitfire and David Blair

On 6 February 1945, Spitfire TA837 of No. 349 (Belgian) Squadron RAF made a forced landing near the Winterdijk in the Oosterwolde area after anti-aircraft fire. Aircraft-loss records, local accounts and a first-person evasion narrative establish the general sequence, though they differ over details such as the departure time and some locations. [2,3,16,36,54]

The pilot is best identified as David Blair. The London Gazette entry published on 13 March 1945 connects enlisted number 1514313, the name David Blair and commissioned officer number 190913, with the commission effective 19 December 1944. The apparent mismatch between the two numbers is therefore explained by different service-number systems, rather than necessarily indicating two men. Some Dutch retrospective accounts call him Dick Blair, and other compiled sources have used Donald; these variant names should be reported as source variants rather than erased. [37; October 2026 National Archives correspondence]

Resistance and official records

The LO history and the postwar mayoral confirmation of resistance affiliation.



Figure 4. Printed page 203 of the digitised LO resistance history. Gerrit's portrait, RvV association and pilot-assistance suspicion appear together. Reproduced as a documentary source; scan hosted by Stichting LO-LKP. [6]

A.7 Printed history and contemporary mourning

The printed LO history records an RvV association and an arrest on suspicion of pilot assistance. It does not identify David Blair or establish a particular encounter. The following newspaper plates record the family's public notice and the report of Gerrit's body at Beekbergen. The Hague card records exhumation from Heidehof; the exact recovery and identification sequence remains to be checked. [6,42,53]

A.8.1 Archival facsimile 1 of 10

Figure 21. Ministry of War enquiry and mayor's reply. 26–31 October 1946. [43]

MINISTERIE VAN OORLOG.
Afd. B.IX Bur. 4 Nr. 2693.

Deze nota wordt beantwoord terugverwacht

Antwoord:

In deze gemeente is woonachtig aan het adres N- 153 (post Elburg) de echtgenote van Gerrit Blaauw: t.w. Jannetje Fikse, geb. 6 Sep 11 te Doornspijk. Jannetje Fikse heeft te verzorgen 5 minderjarige kinderen: t.w. Hendrik, geb. 4 Jun 30, Dirkje, geb. 15 Mrt 32, Batje, geb. 22 Jun 34, Gerritje, geb. 21 Sep 36 en Johan, geb. 26 Apr 40.

Gerrit Blaauw werd geboren 6 Mei 07 te Oudebroek. Datum overlijden 8 Mrt 45 te Apeldoorn, Woonste Hoove.

Blaauw was een zeer actief lid der Nederlandsche Binnenlandse Strijdkrachten. Hij behoorde tot de Groep Doornspijk, afd. "Old Ritten".

Doornspijk, 31 October 1946
De Burgemeester,

's-Gravenhage, 26 October 1946

NOTA VOOR den Burgemeester van DOORNSPIJK.

Ik verzoeek U dringend mij omgaand hierna te willen berichten, of er in Uw gemeente woonachtig zijn de naaste verwanten, van den overleden

Gerrit Blaauw.
Geb. 6 Mei 07 te Oudebroek.
Overl. 8 Mrt 1945 te "Oude Hoove".

Er is mij een adres bekend.

Wimderdijk H. Doornspijk.

Zoo ja, welke zijn juiste naam, adres en graad van verwantschap.
Zoo niet, naar welke gemeente werden zij afgeschreven en wanneer.
Zijn U elders nog nadere verwanten bekend.
Zijn naam, voornaam, datum en plaats van geboorte en overlijden juist.

Kunt U mij inlichten of wijlen G. Blaauw behoort heeft tot de Binnenlandse Strijdkrachten, zoo ja, zijn dan RANG en ONDERDEEL bekend.

Voor den Minister,
Het Hoofd van Afdeeling B.IX,
De Referendaris,

GEM. DOORNSPIJK
Ingk 3 D. OCT. 1946
No. 606a

Nr. 89 A.L. 13221-46-N 1013

The Ministry asks for next of kin, corrected personal data and service in the Binnenlandse Strijdkrachten. The mayor replies on 31 October: five minor children, birth 6 May 1907, death 8 March 1945, and very active membership of the Doornspijk group, Old Putten section.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0014.
Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

Spitfire TA837 and the helpers

Photographs, the crash site, squadron aircraft, the local memorial and the evasion testimony.

Appendix B. Blair and the aircraft evidence



Figure 32. Portrait identified by the user as Blair. This is the same composition as the locally captioned portrait in Figure 5; it adds a supplied copy, not an independent identification. Photographer and date remain unknown. Surface marks and image edges are preserved. [36,55]

The accompanying report image (Figure 33) is the most consequential new evidence for the pilot's route. It is a first-person typescript headed "1. EVASION." The visible date marking reads "7 Jul 45." [54]

Attribution and evidentiary weight

The user identifies the page as Blair's evasion report. Its date, departure base, crash area and return chronology fit the Blair case. However, the supplied image contains no name, service number, squadron, aircraft serial or report number. It is therefore treated as a primary narrative provisionally attributed to Blair, not as a fully authenticated copy of the indexed MI9 report 3058. That archival association should be checked against the complete file and its identifying sheet. [3,13,54]

What the page changes

Crash and first assistance. It describes flak and a crash landing, followed by help from an unnamed English-speaking boy, a bicycle journey, a hut, civilian clothing, and two Dutch policemen. It does not describe parachuting or returning to recover a parachute. [54]

Dates. It gives 6 February and 11:45 for take-off; departure from the underground headquarters on 21 February; Apeldoorn on 20 March; movement west on 21 March; liberation on 18 April; and arrival in Britain on 20 April. [54]

Limits. It names no helper or Blaauw family member, no arrest, and no execution. "7 Jul 45." is a document marking; its administrative meaning cannot be settled from this crop alone. [54]

B.2 Evasion narrative: supplied source image

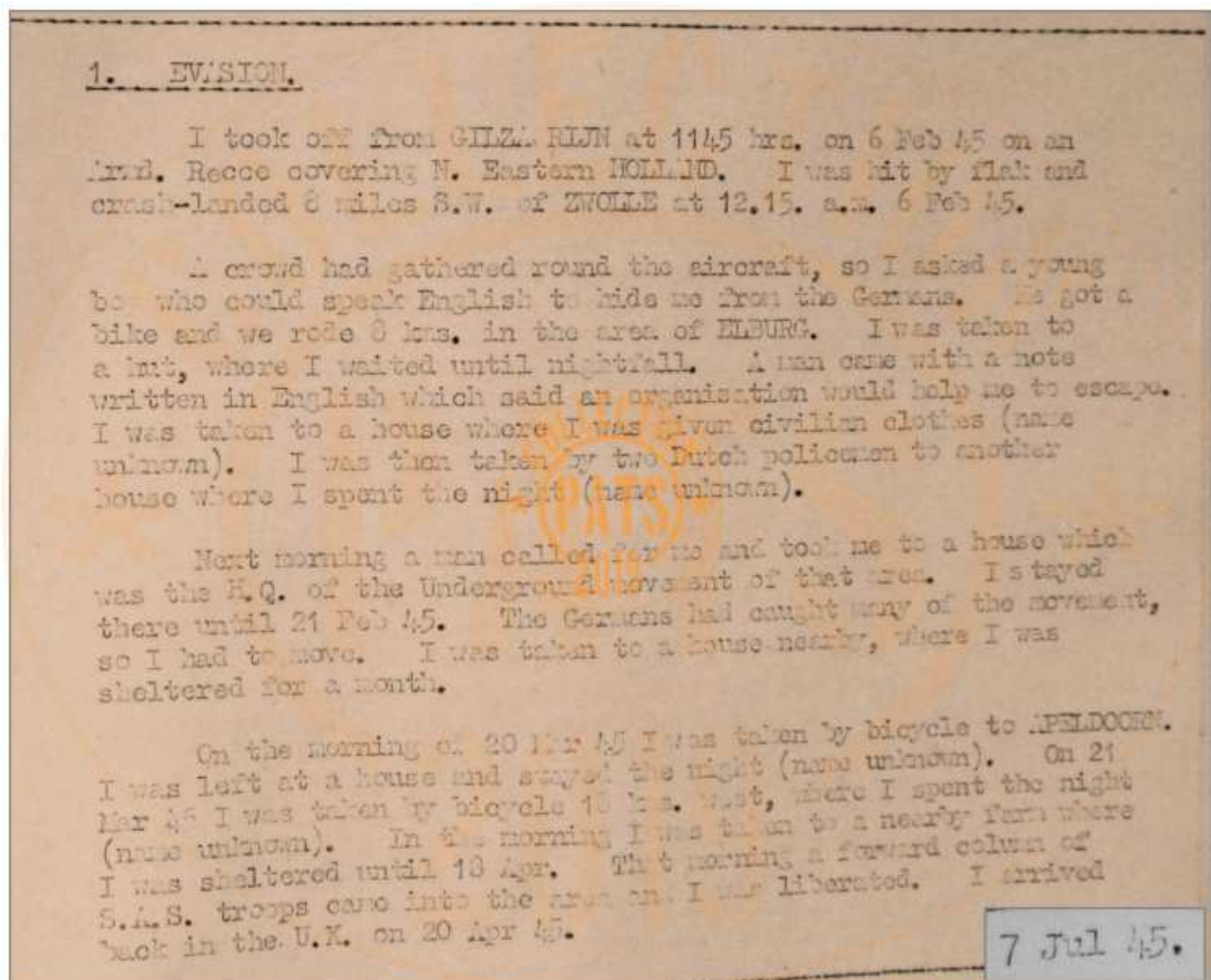


Figure 33. Supplied image IMG_9761.jpeg, reproduced in full, including border, orange overprint and date marking. The visible narrative is transcribed on the following page. No source watermark has been removed and no faded lettering has been reconstructed. [54]

The page is strong evidence for what this first-person account says. Authentication of the complete archival document is a separate question. The close agreement with the local panel may reflect the panel's use of this report; it must not automatically be counted as independent corroboration. The original file would also help resolve faint wording and the anomalous "a.m." time.

B.3 Transcription and editorial notes

Reading transcription of Figure 33. Line breaks and capitalization are regularized; wording and the apparent time error are retained. Square brackets identify uncertain reading or editorial comment. The final distance appears to read "16 kms." but is faint. [54]

1. EVASION.

I took off from GILZE RIJN at 1145 hrs. on 6 Feb 45 on an Armd. Recce covering N. Eastern HOLLAND. I was hit by flak and crash-landed 8 miles S.W. of ZWOLLE at 12.15. a.m. 6 Feb 45.

A crowd had gathered round the aircraft, so I asked a young boy who could speak English to hide me from the Germans. He got a bike and we rode 8 kms. in the area of ELBURG. I was taken to a hut, where I waited until nightfall. A man came with a note written in English which said an organisation would help me to escape. I was taken to a house where I was given civilian clothes (name unknown). I was then taken by two Dutch policemen to another house where I spent the night (name unknown).

Next morning a man called for me and took me to a house which was the H.Q. of the Underground Movement of that area. I stayed there until 21 Feb 45. The Germans had caught many of the movement, so I had to move. I was taken to a house nearby, where I was sheltered for a month.

On the morning of 20 Mar 45 I was taken by bicycle to APELDOORN. I was left at a house and stayed the night (name unknown). On 21 Mar 45 I was taken by bicycle [16 kms.?] West, where I spent the night (name unknown). In the morning I was taken to a nearby farm where I was sheltered until 18 Apr. That morning a forward column of S.A.S. troops came into the town and I was liberated. I arrived back in the U.K. on 20 Apr 45.

Visible date marking: 7 Jul 45.

Editorial notes

"Armd. Recce" means armed reconnaissance; H.Q. means headquarters. The typed "a.m." at 12:15 would precede the stated 11:45 take-off on the same date, so a midday landing is the contextual interpretation. "A month" is approximate: 21 February to 20 March is 27 days. The narrative describes a farm near a town, but does not name either. "Next morning" makes the first headquarters arrival 7 February and the farm arrival 22 March by inference; neither date is separately typed.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE, 13 MARCH, 1945		1375
25th Jan. 1945.		
1377680 William Henry ATKINSON (190781).		
1306685 Maurice William GEE (190833).		
1138896 Joseph GIBSON (190752).		
1247335 Alfred Norman RICKETTS (190849).		
1332579 Alan Kenneth WILCH (190863).		
1260284 Leonard Maurice POTTER (190830).		
28th Jan. 1945.		
1379090 Frank Avelly KIRBY (190830).		
29th Jan. 1945.		
Flt. Sgts.		
1311362 Fred Winston COPE (190837).		
13th July 1944.		
1394202 John Walter GOULSTONE (190366).		
8th Aug. 1944.		
1292313 Harry Raine BARNER (190927).		
7th Sept. 1944.		
1320116 Robert James Heath ANDERSON (190872).		
9th Oct. 1944.		
798582 Andrew George Beric BEARCE (190698).		
28th Oct. 1944.		
1100658 William KERR (190832).		
8th Nov. 1944.		
1038020 Norman MATHER (190700).		
12th Nov. 1944.		
1282216 John ROME (190749).		
22nd Nov. 1944.		
1582034 Charles William GARNETT-BOTFIELD (190688).		
23rd Nov. 1944.		
933738 Leonard James DUNN (190632).		
3rd Dec. 1944.		
1311305 Albert Norman BRUMWELL (190873).		
5th Dec. 1944.		
1399562 Alan Charles HILLS (190714).		
9th Dec. 1944.		
2214681 David Edward Saxby CHIFFS (190771).		
11th Dec. 1944.		
12th Dec. 1944.		
1490580 Edwin Albert LAWRENCE (190881).		
1434985 Paul Donald TINKES (190862).		
1439765 Reginald Hoole BOKKINGS (190812).		
13th Dec. 1944.		
14th Dec. 1944.		
1491618 Joseph GRAY (190951).		
1350799 David Fotheringham McKINLAY (190799).		
1808228 James Herbert BADCOCK (190739).		
15th Dec. 1944.		
18th Dec. 1944.		
1378732 Edward Charlton NORVELL (190815).		
1546933 Frederick Brydone REED (190860).		
1514313 David BLAIR (190913).		
19th Dec. 1944.		
1892790 George William GODFREY (190787).		
21st Dec. 1944.		
23rd Dec. 1944.		
1237068 Gordon Henry JONNELL (190743).		
1564285 Thomas MacDonald KERR (191000).		
14th Dec. 1944.		
658334 Roy Preston Arthur CASE (190883).		
1452343 Idris Owen POWELL (190763).		
1461738 Ronald Albert GILLAM (190945).		
26th Dec. 1945.		
1st Jan. 1945.		
1450662 Kenneth HAYWARD (190689).		
1512476 Robert Oliver HARRISON (190738).		
2nd Jan. 1945.		
1395678 Jeffrey ALANASTER (190835).		
1453163 Roger TROWELL (190864).		
3rd Jan. 1945.		
1283579 Thomas McGRAW (190754).		
1451311 John Michael Hubert GORDEN (190859).		
865123 Walter Lionel REEVES (190737).		
1493303 Arthur Edwin WINDASS (190861).		
4th Jan. 1945.		
1801318 Ian Alfred Hallier CROAD (190866).		
2111432 Stanley HIBBERT (190789).		
1399111 Billie WATFORD (190857).		
5th Jan. 1945.		
6th Jan. 1945.		
1457573 Stanley Lewis (190916).		
710273 Beville Charles Dacre MILLER MUNDY (190249).		
1474583 Leon WILDER (190657).		
7th Jan. 1945.		
1562736 Francis Love BODAN (191005).		
8th Jan. 1945.		
9th Jan. 1945.		
1580785 Derek Arthur BRADBURY (190658).		
1394135 Norman DALE (190914).		
1600894 Harold Edwin WELLS (190847).		
10th Jan. 1945.		
1808923 Peter Edward LONG (190715).		
1554800 George Ferguson McDONALD (190871).		
11th Jan. 1945.		
655728 Stephen William GIBBONS (190701).		
1805165 Edward Maxwell JONESON (190720).		
1439044 Donald STUART (190784).		
12th Jan. 1945.		
14th Jan. 1945.		
1317323 Basil CORNWALL-NASH (190786).		
1199591 Ronald MILLS (190811).		
15th Jan. 1945.		
2874864 William Sidney BOULTER (190770).		
1605591 George Frederick FELSTEAD (190773).		
968267 Norman Edwin HENRY (190732).		
1043373 Edwin SMITH (190736).		
16th Jan. 1945.		
1459358 Patrick Beresford TOMES (191003).		
1670246 George WESTWELL (190639).		
1636845 Ronald Walter WEST (190660).		
17th Jan. 1945.		
18th Jan. 1945.		
1684980 Arthur Knowles BOLTON (190823).		
1551190 John GRAHAM (190753).		
1800476 Angus Cuthbert Fleetwood Benjamin FINNON (190831).		
19th Jan. 1945.		
1454339 Thomas McGUIDNESS (183441).		
20th Jan. 1945.		
21st Jan. 1945.		
1622953 Leslie Sharpe BARRACLOUGH (190879).		
1600055 Peter Richard WAINWRIGHT (190648).		
22nd Jan. 1945.		
1339804 Gordon Reginald CARDEW (190836).		
1006474 John Alfred HEAL (190915).		
24th Jan. 1945.		
1390612 Kenneth Charles CUTTING (190647).		
990383 Leslie Matthew HOLLAND (190824).		
1804739 Patrick Ernest RAYMOND (190813).		
25th Jan. 1945.		
1622471 George Thomas CHARLTON (190774).		
1313863 John Montgomery PEACE (190649).		
1493288 John Arthur DAVIES (190828).		
26th Jan. 1945.		
27th Jan. 1945.		
1625943 Kenneth Clark FISHER (190904).		
1576752 John Walker HORRIDGE (190747).		
28th Jan. 1945.		
1324919 Keith GAMBLE (191004).		
983154 Peter LEES (190875).		
1850335 Jack Raymond PARKER (190837).		
1487069 William Joseph PATTERSON (190870).		
30th Jan. 1945.		
1054411 George Lyndell AUFERN (190840).		
1529843 Alan BLUE (191002).		
995455 Jack JOWETT (190880).		
913829 Joseph Henry WRIGHT (190848).		
31st Jan. 1945.		
1577069 John Leslie DUFFY (190814).		
2nd Feb. 1945.		
4th Feb. 1945.		
1670062 Joseph Douglas DAVISON (190906).		
1323305 George William Gordon WARREN (190874).		
1394383 Derek Singleton BARR (190947).		
5th Feb. 1945.		
1607151 Harold Maurice BOYE (191006).		
8th Feb. 1945.		
Actg. Flt. Sgt.		
2211546 Sydney James MOORES (190427).		
30th Jan. 1945.		
Sgts.		
1875980 Samuel John HORDAY (183201).		
21st Apr. 1944.		
1852251 Kenneth Roy LANG (183206).		
28th Apr. 1944.		
1586412 William James Jenkins HUDSON (186543).		
4th June 1944.		
1895984 John Balloch LERLIE (187224).		
25th July 1944.		
1603587 William James CAMPBELL (190637).		
28th Sept. 1944.		
1128174 Venizelos Efstathiou (190839).		
11th Oct. 1944.		
18th Oct. 1944.		
1896285 Philip Rees JACKSON (190772).		
1833328 Herbert LEES (190740).		
1591136 Hugh Frederic TURNER (190741).		
1591196 James ROTHWELL (190746).		
9th Nov. 1944.		
1392439 Charles Alfrid Arthur CATHORNE (190750).		
11th Nov. 1944.		
1062712 Trevor EVANS (167473).		
1st Dec. 1944.		

Figure 1. Supplement to the London Gazette, 13 March 1945, p. 1375. In the left column, the entry for 1514313 David BLAIR (190913) is dated 19 December 1944. The notice provides a contemporary link between the two service identifiers and the name David. [1]

B.5 Pilot identity and aircraft illustrations

The Gazette establishes a service and commission identity; it does not authenticate the supplied evasion page. The following plates distinguish portraits, modern memorial interpretation and representative squadron imagery. The local panel and helper account are compared in B.4, rather than merged into a single route. [1,36,41,54]

Photographic evidence: Blair and his helpers



F/Sgt. David Blair 
RAF

Figure 5. David Blair, as identified by the local TA837 history site. The identifying caption is part of the source image. Original photographer, date and family/archive provenance remain unknown. It has not been matched with a service-file photograph. [36]



Figure 6. Henk Baud and Kitta outside Nova Zembla on De Haere, shortly after liberation. Credit: Archief Wolter Noordman, Heerde, via Elburg in Oorlogstijd. The photograph shows the helpers and hideout; Blair's stay is supported by the accompanying testimony, not his presence in the picture. [16]

Old Putten and the hideout network



Figure 7. Huis Old Putten, 2010. Modern view of the property associated with the resistance group and February 1945 raid. It is not Nova Zembla. Photograph: Kasteelbeer, via Wikimedia Commons / Mijn Gelderland; host credit CC BY-SA, version unspecified. Image scaled without cropping. [37]

Source comparison: household sequence

Stage	Helper account [16]	Memorial panel [36]
De Haere	Departure on 16 February.	Early route includes several additional helpers.
Zwaluwenburg	About one week with J. Akster.	Names Jan Akster. Identity match is plausible, not proved.
Oldebroek	Then the Hagen family.	Names Corrie Hagen; 19 February–19 March.
Apeldoorn	Second half of March.	20 March; farther south the next day.

The TA837 memorial and interpretation panel



Figure 8. TA837 memorial at Winterdijk. Downloaded from Oldebroek in Oorlogstijd; photographer and exposure date not supplied. Credit to Arjan Vrieze applies to the separate TracesOfWar photographs, not automatically to this file. [11,36]

Figure 9, below. Published panel artwork. A modern interpretation, including a portrait, map, helper names and dates. The inset Spitfire photograph is illustrative; no provenance establishes it as TA837. [36]

CRASH SPITFIRE MK TA837

Di. 6 februari 1945, 12.15 uur

Het toestel

Supermarine Spitfire LF MK.IXe TA837

De Supermarine Spitfire was een Brits jachtvliegtuig. Het toestel werd in 1938 in productie genomen door Supermarine Division, Vickers Armstrong Ltd. Het toestel werd gedurende de gehele Tweede Wereldoorlog ingezet door de geallieerden, voornamelijk door de RAF.

Er werden in totaal 20.340 stuks Spitfires gebouwd. Daarnaast bestond ook nog de variant Seafire, waarvan er 2.594 werden gebouwd. De Spitfire valt op door zijn stroomlijn en ellipsovormige vleugels. Het vliegtuig is vooral bekend door de beslissende rol die het speelde tijdens de Slag om Engeland.

Het Air Ministry bestelde op 3 juni 1936 310 vliegtuigen van het nieuwe model dat de naam Spitfire kreeg. De naam was een verwijzing naar een meisje of vrouw met een sterk temperament. Tot 1942 werd uitsluitend de Merlin motor variant gebruikt, zowel bij de Seafire als bij de Spitfire. Vanaf dat jaar schakelde men echter over op de Griffon motor variant. In totaal waren er 34 types (Marks) bij de Spitfire. Er zijn er in totaal 20351 stuks van gebouwd.

De Spitfire TA837 is door de fabriek op 2 oktober 1944 afgeleverd aan het Royal Air Force 8 Maintenance unit (RAF Little Rissington) en op 9 november 1944 is het afgeleverd bij het 349 Squadron.

Op 26 november 1944 heeft het van uit Maldegem 8.65 België, zijn eerste operationele vlucht gemaakt. Het toestel heeft in totaal 29 operationele vluchten gemaakt met een totale tijdsduur van 36 uur!

De bemanning

Tijdens de Tweede Wereldoorlog heeft in de middag van dinsdag 6 februari 1945 de Supermarine Spitfire LF MK.IXe TA837, van het Belgische 349 Squadron, een noodlanding gemaakt in een weiland tegenover de Grote Alee aan de Winterdijk te Oosterwolde (het was toen Gemeente Doornspijk en is nu Gemeente Oldebroek).

De bemanning van de Spitfire bestond uit één piloot, f/Sgt. David Blair. De Spitfire TA837 vertrok om 11.33 uur van de basis E.77 Gilze-Rijen voor een "Gewapende verkenning" in de omgeving van Bremen met zeven andere toestellen. Het toestel is in het oosten van Nederland door lichte luchtafweer geraakt en de piloot David Blair heeft een succesvolle noodlanding gemaakt, Blair is daar zonder verwondingen vanaf gekomen.

Aalbertha van Hattem en onderduiker Marchelien Rene Peters uit Blaricum en Henk Blaauw waren als eersten bij Blair. Hij wilde een fiets om aan de Duitsers te ontkomen.

Peters is met Blair in noordelijke richting vertrokken en ze hebben de nacht in een hutje (de Taramieten) doorgebracht. Gerard van Heerde, politieagent te Doornspijk, heeft hem daarna in samenwerking met Aart Klompmaker op de fiets langs de 16 SD'ers gesmokkeld.

Achtereenvolgens is Blair naar H. van der Brink op 't Eekt, Hendrik Boeve (LO Oldebroek) en Jan Akster op Zwaluwenburg gebracht. Daarna is hij van 19 februari tot 19 maart bij Corrie Hagen (verzetvrouw) geweest.

Op 20 maart is Blair naar Apeldoorn gebracht en de volgende dag verder naar het zuiden. Op 18 april 1945 is Blair bevrijd toen een voorwaartse colonne van S.A.S. troepen kwamen in het gebied.

Op 20 april 1945 arriveerde Blair weer in het Verenigd Koninkrijk, waar hij op 7 juli 1945 door het MB is verhoord.

De crashlocatie

De crashlocatie, u staat bij het begin van de pijl.

Als u linksaf gaat met de bocht mee tot aan de dam in de sloot dan is het 600 m tot aan de locatie van de noodlanding. De Spitfire is door de door de Duitsers opgeblazen en door omwonenden is van alles meegenomen.

Zoekactie Duitsers

Al spoedig beginnen de Duitsers een zoekactie naar de piloot. Henk Blaauw heeft o.a. een rubberboot en parachute meegenomen en verstoppt.

Op 13 februari is Henk weer bezig onderdelen van het vliegtuig af te slopen en schieten twee Duitsers op het vliegtuig. Ze wenken Henk en vragen wat hij aan het doen is, omdat ze het niet vertrouwen gaan ze mee naar zijn huis. Daar vinden ze de parachute en vragen hoe hij eraan komt, het verhaal geloven ze niet en hij moet mee naar Elburg naar de commandant van de Grüne Polizei, Lehmann.

Ook zijn vader, die ondergedoken was, moest komen en is gegaan omdat hij bang was dat zijn zoon in de problemen zou komen. Henk's vader werd vastgehouden en naar Apeldoorn gebracht.

Na de aanslag op Rauter, in de nacht van 6 op 7 maart 1945 bij Apeldoorn, werden als represaille 117 mensen bij de Woeste Hoeve gefusilleerd. Onder hen was ook de vader van Henk Blaauw, Gerrit Blaauw. Hij is begraven in Oosterwolde.

Voor aanvullende informatie, scan de QR code

Gemeente Oldebroek

www.oldebroekoorlogstijd.nl

The panel is retained at its downloaded resolution. Its claims are compared with the helper account in the narrative and Appendix B.4; it is not used to authenticate its own underlying testimony.

Additional location evidence



Figure 12. Local source's crash-location diagram. The source identifies the circled field as the emergency-landing location and the arrow's starting point as the memorial. This reproduces the source's placement; the aerial base, date and positional accuracy are unspecified. It is not an independently surveyed coordinate fix. [36]

What this image adds

The memorial's position should not be used as the aircraft's precise stopping point. The panel describes a walk of about 600 metres along the dyke to the landing location. That distance is a route instruction from a later display, not a measured crash-site radius. The photograph and diagram together clarify why a map pin at the memorial and the field location can differ. [36]

Reproduction record

Source: Oldebroek in Oorlogstijd, TA837 page; image file `img_smsta837_locatie-1.jpg`. Retrieved and inspected 6 October 2026. Displayed without alteration except proportional scaling. The available file is 565 × 288 pixels; no invented detail has been added.

349 Squadron: wartime aircraft and insignia



Figure 13. Spitfire IXCs of No. 349 (Belgian) Squadron RAF at Friston, Sussex. Official wartime photograph by F/O A. Goodchild; Imperial War Museums, Air Ministry collection, CH 12434. The catalogue describes the aircraft in snow before the squadron joined 2 TAF. This supplies squadron context; neither TA837 nor Blair is identified in the image. Wikimedia Commons records the photograph as public domain under expired Crown copyright. [41]



Figure 14. Badge reproduced as that of 349 Squadron. Source: the local TA837 page. The displayed words identify the Belgian squadron; the artwork's maker and date are not stated. This emblem provides unit context, not evidence about an individual sortie or pilot. [36]

Aircraft illustration from the TA837 history page



Figure 15. Spitfire in flight, used by Oldebroek in Oorlogstijd to illustrate its TA837 article. The visible aircraft markings differ from TA837. The host supplies no photographer, exposure date or full airframe identification. It is reproduced as a general aircraft illustration, not as a wartime photograph of Blair's machine. Source file: img_spitfire.jpg. [36]

How to read the aircraft images

Figure 13 has a museum catalogue identity and a direct connection to 349 Squadron. Figure 15 is an illustrative photograph hosted beside the local crash narrative. The Spitfire inset on the memorial panel is another illustration whose aircraft identity is not established here. None authenticates the individual airframe TA837. The loss register and operational records remain the relevant evidence for that identification. [2,36,41]

Image treatment: proportional scaling only. Original markings, borders and source image content are preserved; no colourisation, reconstruction or sharpening has been applied.

The helpers' account and its family context



Figure 16. Postwar family photograph accompanying “Uniek document.” The source’s media title is *gezin 1957* (“family 1957”). The article concerns Henk Baud, Kitta and the family transmission of her account, but provides no individual image caption. The identities of the four sitters and exact occasion are therefore not asserted here. Photographer and original ownership are unspecified. Source: Elburg in Oorlogstijd. [16]

The image documents the article’s family context; it does not independently verify Blair’s movements. The separately reproduced Nova Zembla photograph (Figure 6) has the more specific source description and archive credit.

An attributed first-person evasion page describes help from an English-speaking boy, a bicycle ride, shelter in a hut, civilian clothes, and assistance by two Dutch policemen. It does not name the boy or the Blaauw family. Local histories identify Henk Blaauw as the boy associated with the aircraft and recovered equipment. Linking the unnamed boy in Blair's account to Henk is a reasonable comparison but not an explicit identification in that page. [4,5,22,54]

The later 1970 Elburger Courant retrospective places the landing opposite Huize Morren, near Ezelshoek, and describes Henk helping the pilot to a work hut near Waaskolk. It names Aalberta van Hattem in connection with a bicycle and police officers Van Heerde and Oolbekkink in the subsequent assistance. Its detailed local recollections deserve attention, while OCR errors and retrospective dating mean the original newspaper image remains the authority for exact wording. [1970 newspaper; October 2026 update]

4. Henk's arrest and Gerrit's detention

Local accounts say Henk came under German suspicion because of objects associated with the aircraft, including a parachute and rubber dinghy. The accounts differ about whether he was detained during a return to the wreck or after a search uncovered material. The 1970 retrospective places his arrest on 13 February 1945; other records and interpretations need comparison before the precise sequence can be stated as definitive. [4,5,22; October 2026 update]

The local narrative says Gerrit went to the German authorities after being told he could collect his son, despite knowing he himself was wanted, and was arrested. This is an important family story, but it rests chiefly on later accounts. A 1954 war-grave questionnaire independently supports his arrest at Elburg and detention at De Kruisberg, without establishing the precise dialogue or motive. The LO history records arrest on 13 February on suspicion of pilot assistance. [6,7,22,46]

Later biographies place Gerrit first at the Koning Willem III barracks in Apeldoorn and then at De Kruisberg prison in Doetinchem. The surviving 1954 administrative record confirms De Kruisberg but does not give his cell, exact arrival date or complete transport sequence. These are outstanding questions, not facts to reconstruct from assumption. [7,19,22,46]

5. Woeste Hoeve, 8 March 1945

On the night of 6–7 March 1945, resistance fighters attempting to obtain a vehicle for transporting meat fired on the car carrying Hanns Albin Rauter near Woeste Hoeve. Rauter survived seriously wounded; his driver and adjutant were killed. The German occupation authorities carried out mass reprisals on 8 March. The researched memorial records describe 274 executions across several sites, including 117 at Woeste Hoeve. Gerrit was among those shot there, having already been in custody for weeks. [15,22,40,45,46]

The official postwar correspondence and war-grave forms establish 8 March 1945 as Gerrit's death date. The Apeldoorn civil death register, entry 795, records his death at 9 a.m. and was registered on 14 May 1945; it names his wife Jannetje Fikse and parents Hendrik Blaauw and Hendrikje Flier. A family death notice used an approximate date, "around 9 March"; that contemporaneous uncertainty should be retained without displacing the later confirmed date. [42–47; October 2026 update]

Gerrit was executed in retaliation for an attack in which no reviewed source places him as a participant. His documented earlier resistance work, the suspected pilot-assistance case and the subsequent German reprisal are connected historically, but they are not the same event. [22,43–46]

The arrest and the reprisals

Wartime and memorial imagery relating to the Rauter attack and the Woeste Hoeve executions.

Appendix C. Rauter and the reprisal



Figure 34. Rauter's car after the attack, as presented by Doetinchem Herdenkt. Site credit: **Beeldbank WO2-NIOD**. Photographer, precise exposure date and original catalogue number are not given. The supplied web image is reproduced without restoration. [22]

The attack and the prisoners

The site dates the shooting to the night of **6–7 March 1945**. Resistance members intended to seize a truck to transport meat; the encounter with Rauter was unintended. He survived serious wounds; his driver and adjutant died. The German reprisal on 8 March killed 274 men, including 117 at Woeste Hoeve. Of those 117, the site identifies 25 prisoners from De Kruisberg, including Gerrit Blaauw. [22]

Evidence and limits

Reference [22] previously covered only an excerpt. The full page is now examined. Its Blaauw biography says Henk was arrested at the wreck; the museum account emphasizes the search and discovery of the parachute. This is a sequence difference to retain, not silently reconcile. [4,22]

The photo illustrates the triggering incident, not Blaauw's presence there. His detention and execution are separately supported by the Dutch archival records. No evidence examined places him among the attackers. [43,45,46]

C.3 Woeste Hoeve: memorial and names



Figure 10. Woeste Hoeve memorial. General view published with Gerrit's local biography. Photographer and date unspecified. This is the later memorial, not the execution scene. [18]

G.A. van Assen	J. Beekes	G.G. Beer	in den Berg	N.H. Bergsteijn	G. Blaauw
J. de Boer	W. de Boer	A. du Bois		M.A. van den Born	J. Braams
H. van den Brink	J. van Bruggen	J.C.	J.D.F. Bryan	C. van Dam	J. Dekker
J.H. Dommerholt	H. Drost	P.I.		W.G. van Dijk	H.C. Edauw
R.J. Edelenbos	L.S. Eenkhoorn	W.I.		R.A. Formanoy	H. Franken
J. Frederiks	W. Frieling	J.B. de Goede	enboer	J.G. Guttling	H. Hadders
J.H. Harmsen	M.H. van der Harst	A.	k	B. Hartemink	T. Hartlief
J.F. Haytink	J.H. Heijen	A.E. Hicks	J. Hoek	A. Hoks	S. Holtjer
B.C.M. van der Hoop	N. Hulbers	C. Huis	H.G.J. Huyskamp	A.J. Janse	J.G. Joosten
J. Kapteijn	A.H. Kattouw	J.R. Kerkdijk	ops	H. Koopmans	J.E.W.G. Kortlang
J.M. Kortlang	L. Kremer	J.R. Kröttje	Gulper	J.H. Lamberts	D. Lammes
H. de Lange	H. Langen	H. Langevoort	H. Leus	C.J. van der Linden	G. Mannessen
W. Mantel	J.W. Matthijse	P. van der Meer	leijer	H. Meijeringh	H.J. Meijers
F.A. Molijn	W. van Mulligen	H.J. Nabe	A.J. Nales	A. Nauta	H.J. Nikkel
G. Oberdak	G. Oortgiesen	E. Plette	leger	H.J. Post	J.H. Prienger
H.A.J.H. Schamhart	H. Schipper	J. Schoen	K. Schra	H. Seyffards	A. Sturink
P. Smilt	A.P. Smitshuijsen	L. Steen		A. Streefland	J. Stroomberg
J. Stutvoet	J. Thijssen	P.R. Tjites	burg	M.J.E. van der Veen	P. van der Vegt
P.C.M. van de Velde	J.A. Veldwachter		er	A. de Vries	J. Vroom
J. Wierenga	J. Zandvoort	O. Zo		H.H. Zwearing	een naam onbekend

Figure 11. Names detail. G. Blaauw appears at the top of the right group. Photograph: Gouwenaar, 13 October 2017; existing cropped version, Wikimedia Commons CC0 1.0, reproduced via Elburg in Oorlogstijd. [18,38]

C.4 Civilian consequences and commemoration



Figure 17. Portrait published with Museum Sjoel Elburg's account of Rieny Jacobs at Winterdijk 28. The museum's image filename identifies Rieny Jacobs. It gives no photographer or date. The account connects fear after Gerrit's arrest with her removal to another hiding address. This illustrates the wider civilian consequences discussed in Section 3. [4]



Figure 18. Woeste Hoeve memorial inscription. The Dutch text commemorates those murdered here on the morning of 8 March 1945. Source: Elburg in Oorlogstijd's Gerrit Blaauw biography, file 2013k.jpg; the filename alone is insufficient to establish an exposure date. Photographer unspecified. This detail complements the full memorial and names photographs (Figures 10–11). [18]

6. Jannetje, the funeral and the grave

The Elburger Courant of 15 May 1945 reported that Jannetje had been informed that Gerrit's body had been found in a mass grave in the Beekbergen area. The Hague identification card records exhumation from Heidehof, but does not supply a precise recovery date or method of identification. Historian Willem van Norel later wrote that resistance worker Gerrit Kanis identified Gerrit's body in 1945; this valuable statement still requires comparison with original identification records. [42,53; Van Norel correspondence]

Gerrit was reburied at Oosterwolde on 15 May 1945, as recorded on later war-grave forms and in the contemporary funeral coverage printed on 18 May. The funeral report describes readings from Romans 8:28–39 and 2 Timothy 4:6–8, as well as remarks by clergy, civic representatives and resistance associates. These readings do not establish which passage Gerrit may have marked in his personal Bible. [44,46,52; 18 May 1945 clipping]

War-grave correspondence continued long afterward. Forms identify an Oosterwolde grave as first class, number 8; other cemetery numbering in compiled records may represent a different numbering scheme and requires verification. A 1972 draft form proposed transfer to Loenen but was unsigned. It cannot prove a transfer occurred. Letters from 1972 and 1973 concern grave maintenance and contact with Jannetje. [47–52]

7. The pilot's escape and postwar connections

The first-person narrative attributed to Blair describes leaving an underground headquarters on 21 February, moving through several hiding places, travelling to Apeldoorn in March, encountering an SAS forward column on 18 April and returning to Britain on 20 April 1945. A helper's account gives 16 February for one transfer where the attributed pilot page says 21 February. The narrative's 12:15 "a.m." landing time is inconsistent with the recorded late-morning takeoff. These differences are retained rather than silently repaired. [2,16,36,54]

Research correspondence dated 28 October 2026 confirms that the researcher had purchased MI9 evasion report WO 208/3327, report 3058, and identifies Blair's birth date from that statement as 25 June 1921. Correspondence with The National Archives also explains that many RAF personnel records are not yet fully catalogued. Three possible AIR 84 files with nonmatching birth dates were identified as uncertain, not confirmed records of this pilot. [National Archives correspondence, 28 October 2026]

A particularly important new lead concerns Blair's family after the war. In an email of 28 October 2026, historian Willem van Norel reported finding an Elburger Courant article dated 8 May 1971 stating that Blair's wife visited resistance helper Hendrik Boeve in 1971 and heard additional stories about her husband. The original 1971 newspaper article has not been independently transcribed for this edition. It is therefore not yet possible to identify her by name or quote the stories accurately. This finding deserves a dedicated source examination because it may link the airman's family with the surviving Dutch helpers decades after the escape. [Van Norel email, 28 October 2026]

The widow, funeral and burial

Contemporary newspaper coverage, family notice and official burial documentation.

A.6 Hague identification card: Heidehof

~~Duitsche bewaakers~~	~~Politieke gevangenen~~	Geïdentificeerde personen.	~~Criminele zaken~~
Naam en Voornamen: BLAAUW, GERRIT .			
Geboren: 6 Mei 1908 Oldebroek			
Woonplaats: Aan de Winterdijk Doornspijk			
Politiek misdrijf:			
Militair/Burger:			
Zie dossiernr.:			
Bijzonderheden: Is op '3-1945 in Woeste Hoeve inde gemeente Apeldoorn gefusileerd . Het lijk is in het Massagraf Heidehof opgegraven			

K 1071

Figure 31. Haags Gemeentearchief, 0432-01, inventory 4054, scan 0025. Undated identification card, reproduced in full. “Identified persons” is the surviving heading; the other printed category headings are crossed out. [53]

Translation of the completed fields

Name: BLAAUW, GERRIT. **Born:** 6 May 1908, Oldebroek [as typed]. **Residence:** on the Winterdijk, Doornspijk. **Particulars:** “Was executed by shooting on [day unclear]–3–1945 at Woeste Hoeve in the municipality of Apeldoorn. The body was exhumed from the Heidehof mass grave.” The fields for political offence, military/civilian status and dossier number are unfilled. [53]

What this adds

This directly documents a recorded exhumation from Heidehof, supporting a link between the earlier newspaper discovery report and the later reburial records. It supplies no exhumation date, identifying method or burial-register entry. The birth year 1908 conflicts with the mayor’s 1946 correction to 1907 and the later OGS forms. The shared erroneous year may reflect information circulating between records, but transmission from this particular card is not proved. [42–44,46,53]

The indistinct execution-day character is not silently read as 8; the established 8 March date rests on the other cited records. Blank fields do not establish absence of resistance activity. No pilot, aircraft, arrest narrative or family member is named here. The card itself bears no visible creation date or signature.

Contemporary newspaper: report to Blaauw's wife



Source. *Elburger Courant*, Tuesday 15 May 1945, no. 83, continued 52nd year, p. 1. The issue carries a brief Oosterwolde (Winterdijk) item amid regional news. The masthead above and the extract below are crops of the supplied digitised original. [42]



Figure 19. Local report on finding Gerrit Blaauw's body. In translation: the wife of G. Blaauw, formerly taken prisoner by the Germans, had received word that her husband's body was found in a mass grave at Beekbergen. The newspaper says "as we hear"; it does not name the person who informed her, give a date for discovery, or report an exhumation record. [42]

The newspaper records family notification without a recovery date. The Hague identification card expressly records exhumation from Heidehof. Their precise geographic and administrative relationship requires the original recovery and cemetery records. [42,53]

Contemporary newspaper: the family notice



Figure 20. Family death notice for Gerrit Blaauw. *Elburger Courant*, 15 May 1945, p. 2. It names Jannetje Fikse as his wife; the widow signs for herself and the children from Winterdijk, Doornspijk, with a notice date of 12 May. The item says he was nearly 38 and executed near Woeste Hoeve “around 9 March 1945.” The print date of the issue and the notice date are distinct. [42]

The family's approximate date does not override the 8 March 1945 execution date recorded by the memorial and war-grave accounts. Its value is direct evidence of the family's wording, relationship and contemporary knowledge. Neither this notice nor the p. 1 report mentions Blair or specifies the later reburial date. [7,15,19,42]

A.8.2 Archival facsimile 2 of 10

Figure 22. OGS identity and family questionnaire. January 1954. [44]

OORLOGSGRAVENSTICHTING
Afd. Binnenland

Gend. *Boomsma* *Boomsma*
Phon. *Feldman* *Feldman*
OORLOGSGRAVENHAGE, 2-1-54.
Bankplein 5
Tel. 553710

U wordt verzocht, ten dienste der Oorlogsgravenstichting onderstaande in Uwe administratie te willen nazien en zo nodig aan en in te vullen.

SPOED

1. Naam: *BLAAUW*
2. Voornamen: *Gerrit*
3. Geboren te: *Kelch*, op *6-5-07*
4. Overleden te: *Meldrum*, Gemeente: *op 8-3-45*
5. (Her)begraven in Uw Gemeente: a) Datum *15/5/45*
b) Kerkhof *2 kerkhoven aan boomsma*
c) Graflijning *m. 8.*
6. Nationaliteit: *Ned*
7. Kerkgenootschap: *V. V.*
8. Beroep: *Indien niet in dienst*
9-10-11, zie voor deze vragen ommezijde:
12. Vorige adressen: *Kelch 152*
13. Komende van: *Kelch*
14. Laatste bekende adres: *Boomsma 4/153*
15. Overleden/Gehuwd met:/Gescheiden van: *Fikse Jannetje*
Geboren te *Boomsma*, op *7-9-11*, beroep: *Lonty*
16. Tegenwoordig adres weduwe: *Boomsma, Clarenstraat 7*
17. Zoon (dochter) van: *Blauw, Hendrik*
18. Geboren te: *4-1-70*, te *Kelch*, beroep: *Indien 28/9/14.*
19. en: *Fikse, Hendrik*
20. Geboren te: *4-2-77*, te *Kelch*, beroep: *Indien 27/5/14.*
21. Tegenwoordig adres ouders:

Bovenstaande gegevens zijn aangevuld en verstrekt door:
Boomsma

The amended form records birth on 6 May 1907, death on 8 March 1945, reburial on 15 May 1945, grave no. 8, distribution service employment, Jannetje Fikse and his parents. Its header day is difficult to read; the year and month are clear.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0002. Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.3 Archival facsimile 3 of 10

Figure 23. Questionnaire reverse: death and political reliability. 1954; stamp 18 March 1954. [45]

9. Is U bekend onder welke omstandigheden betrokkene is overleden en is U zijn politieke betrouwbaarheid bekend?

INDIEN NODIG, GAARNE ADVIES VAN POLITIE-AUTORITEITEN TER PLAATSE.

In verband met de aanslag op Rauter te Apeldoorn i.v.m. de aanslag op Rauter.

Wen namen in de onderzochte bezetting, staat bekend als politiek van betrouwen.

Uit de bij het Ministerie van Justitie ondergebrachte archieven blijkt niet, dat betrokkene gedurende de bezettingstijd zich heeft schuldig gemaakt aan politieke handelingen of gedragingen, die geleid hebben tot het opleggen van enige straf of maatregel door organen der Bijzondere Rechtspleging.

De Minister van Justitie,
Namens de: Het Hoofd van 18 MRT 1954
het Bureau Bijzondere Rechtspleging.

10. Indien betrokkene buiten Nederland is overleden was hij/zij daar dan gedwongen of vrijwillig?

11. Dats van in- en afschrijving: komende van of gaande naar andere Gemeente.

The response states execution at Woeste Hoeve in connection with the attack on Rauter and work in the underground. The Justice Ministry stamp reports no archival indication of political conduct leading to punishment under the special postwar jurisdiction.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0003. Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.4 Archival facsimile 4 of 10

Figure 24. OGS grave and circumstances questionnaire. 19 February 1954. [46]

Mits welde.
Gent. Domsplein
Prov. Gelderland.
OORLOGSGRAVENSTICHTING

Gaarne ingevuld
niet in hysse
provincie en de linge!

Bl./d.c.

Barkplein 5 - 's-Gravenhage
Telefoon 553710

Den Haag, 19-2-54.

1. Naam: Blaams
2. Voornamen: Gerrit
3. Datum en plaats van geboorte: Heteren 6-5-1907
4. Datum en plaats van overlijden: Apeldoorn 8-5-1945
5. Datum van begraven: 18-5-1945
6. Plaats van (her-)begraven (gemeente): Dommyngh
7. Plaats van (her-)begraven (kerkhof): Dommyngh (Gla)
8. Ligging van het graf: Vak, ... Rij No.
9. Kerkgenootschap: Nieuw Evangelisch Genootschap
10. Beroep of ~~naam~~: Ambtenaar Distrikte
11. ~~Troepenonderdeel~~ '):
12. Is het graf ingericht (steen ~~aanwezig~~):
13. Is het een huur- of een ~~huur~~graf:
14. Door wie is het graf gekocht:
15. Door wie wordt het graf onderhouden: G. J. Blaams, Dommyngh.
16. Omstandigheden waaronder overleden: gefusilland.
17. Bijzonderheden: G. J. Blaams was door de Duitsers gevangen genomen
te Elburg, overgebracht naar Westerborg te Doetinchem en vandaar
op 8 Blaams by "Hoeve Hout" gefusilland als strafmaatregel voor de
18. Naam en adres van de Weduwe of van de laatste familiebetrekking: wed. J. Blaams- Fikse
Oudestraat 7
Dommyngh.
*) Punt 11 alleen invullen wanneer overledene bij overlijden in werkelijke dienst was.

A.8.5 Archival facsimile 5 of 10

Figure 25. Grave inspection report. 16 May 1955 (date reading tentative). [47]

Bi/d.o. CONTRÔLE-RAPPORT

Plaats: Oosterwolde Gemeente: Loosdrecht Prov. Gld

1. Naam Blaauw
 2. Voornamen: Gerrit
 3. Geboren: 10.1.07
 4. Overleden: 10.1.45
 5. Wanneer (her)begraven: 10.1.45
 6. Volledige naam van het kerkhof: Loosdrecht
 7. Graflegging: 10.1.45
 8. Lig. betr. alleen in het graf: ja
 9. Kunnen nog anderen bijgezet worden: ja
 10. Soort van het graf: Koopgraf.
 11. Wanneer komt graf voor ruiming in aanmerking: 10.1.45
 12. Volledig adres van de eigenaar (buurder) van het graf: Opmerking
 13. Inrichting van het graf: 10.1.45
 14. Indien Stichtinggraf, welk opschrift (volledig): 10.1.45
 15. Indien Stichtinggraf, op wiens naam staat het graf ingeschreven in de administratie van het kerkhof, c.q. gemeente: 10.1.45
 16. Toestand graf: goed

Datum controle: 16.5.55
 Handtekening: [Signature]

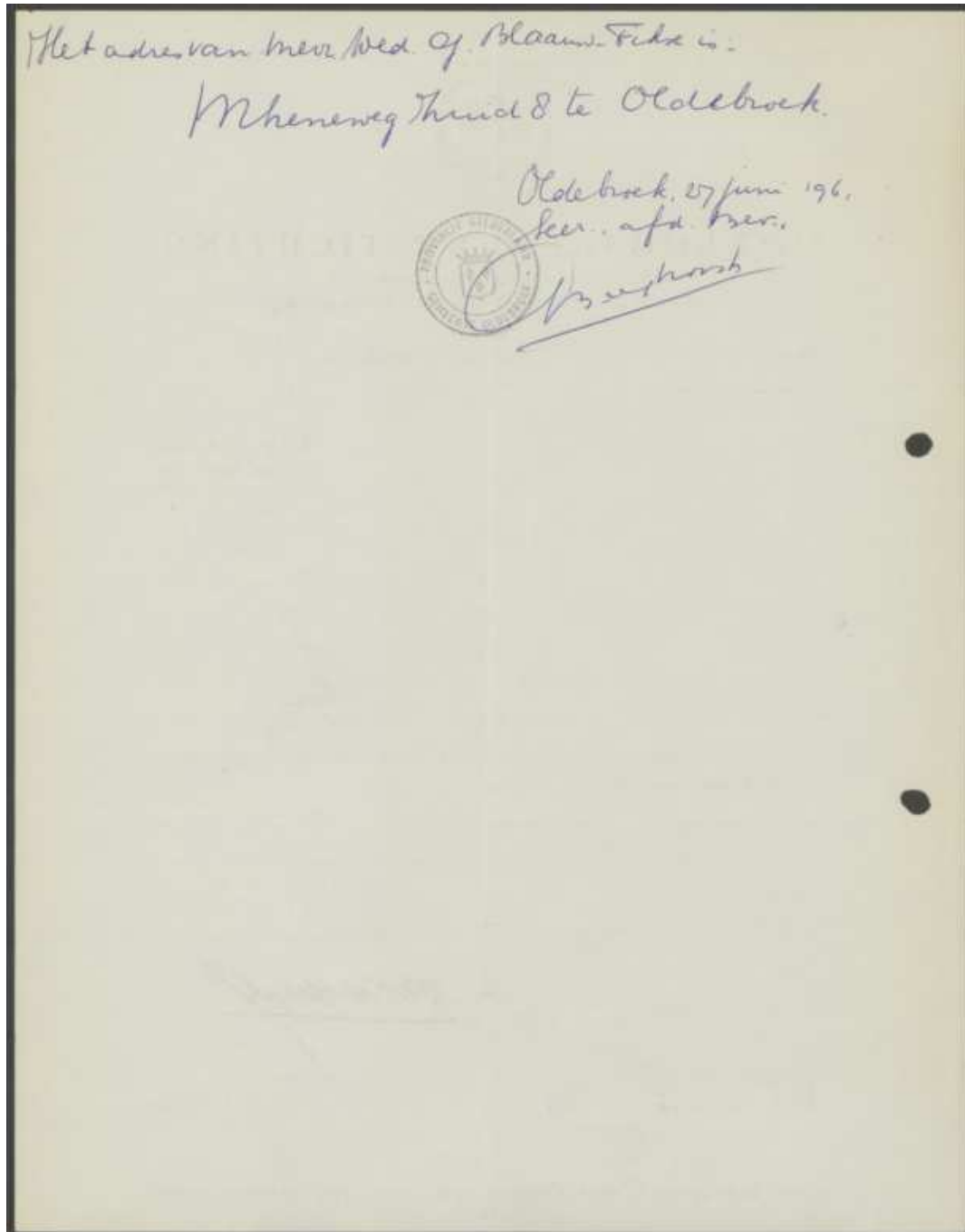
Doorhalen, hetgeen niet van toepassing is.
 Niet beantwoorden d.m.v. strepen.

Lists Oosterwolde, class 1, number 8; no section or row is specified. It records one occupant, space for one more, the municipality as owner/lessee, and condition "good." The handwritten year appears to be 55.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0015. Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.6 Archival facsimile 6 of 10

Figure 26. Municipal address confirmation for the widow. 27 June 1961. [48]

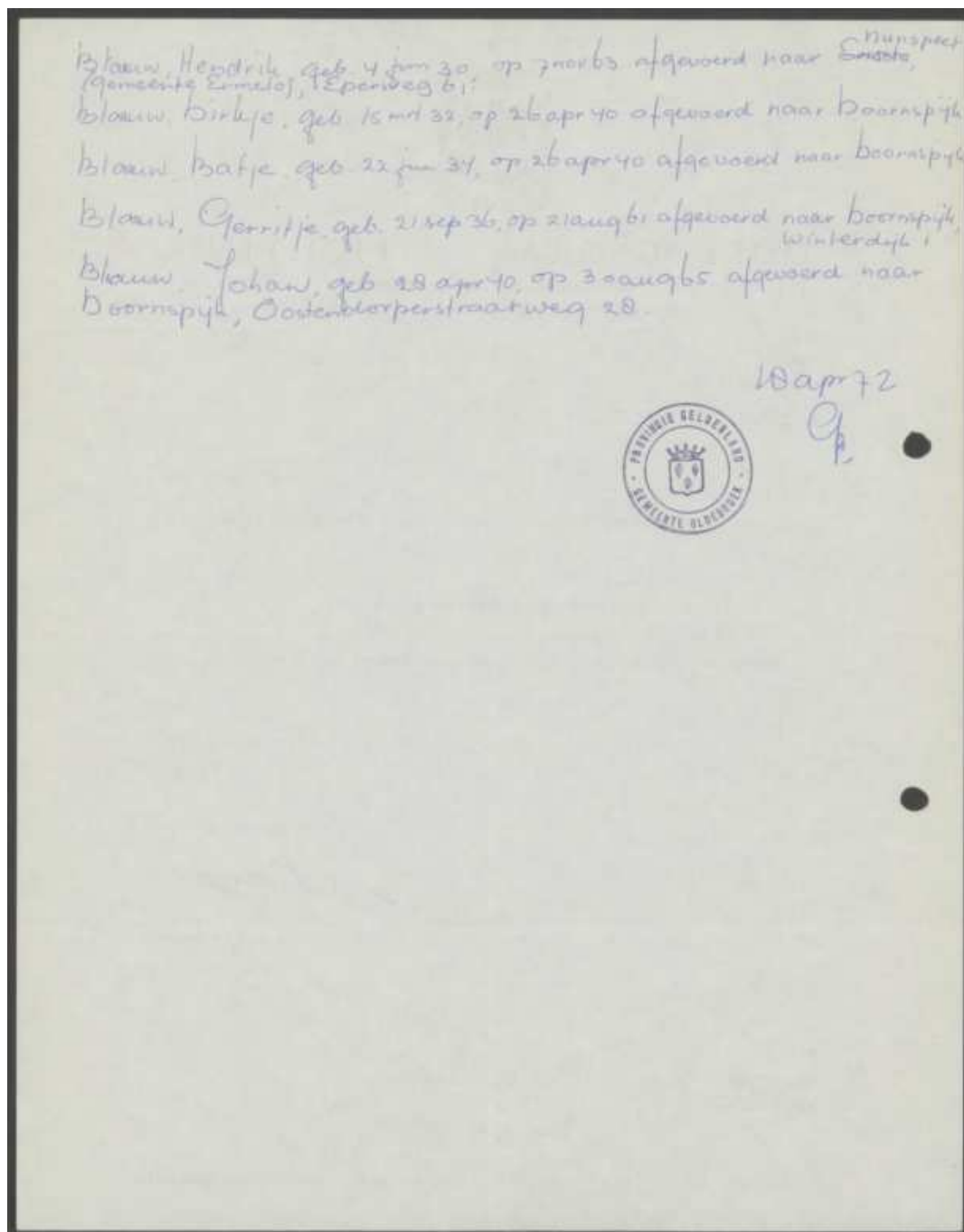


Oldebroek's population office confirms the address of Mrs J. Blaauw-Fikse at Mheenweg Zuid 8. This is a postwar contact record, not the wartime family address. The 1972 typed letter spells the street "Mehneweg."

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0008.
Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.7 Archival facsimile 7 of 10

Figure 27. Municipal note on the five children. 10 April 1972. [49]

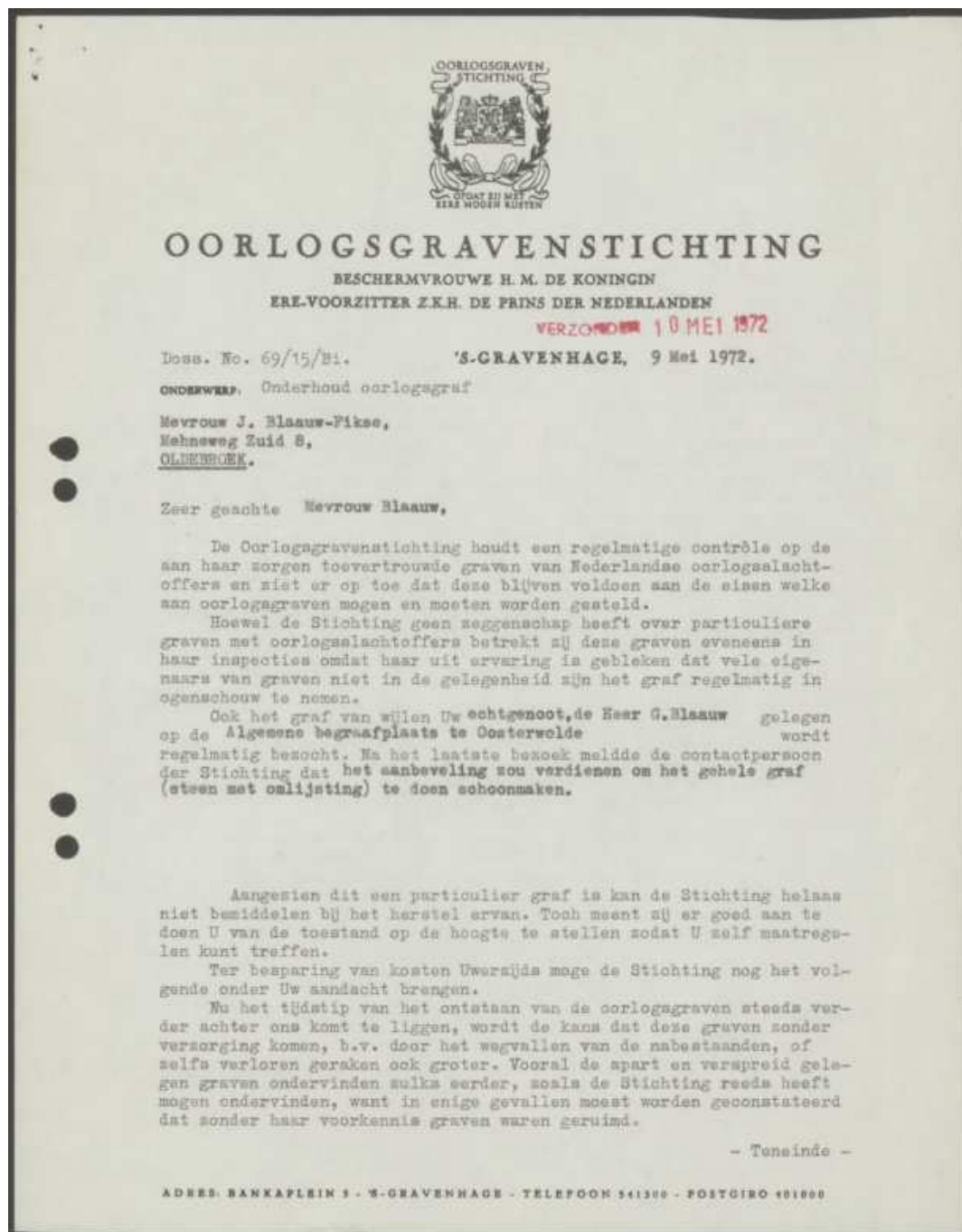


Repeats all five children's birth dates and notes transfers out of the municipality in 1940, 1961, 1963 and 1965. These are population-register movements; they do not describe resistance activity.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0006.
 Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.8 Archival facsimile 8 of 10

Figure 28. OGS letter concerning grave maintenance. 9 May 1972; dispatched 10 May. [50]



The OGS writes to the widow that the entire grave, including stone and surround, should be cleaned. It describes the grave as private and explains its limited authority. The page ends mid-letter; its continuation is not among the supplied scans.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0010.
 Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.9 Archival facsimile 9 of 10

Figure 29. Prepared consent form for transfer to Loenen. Prepared for 1972; unsigned. [51]

TOESTEMMINGEN - VERKLARING

Hierbij verzoekt ondergetekende Mevrouw J. Blaauw-Fikse
Oldebroek - Molensweg Zuid 8,
 wonende te aan
 de Oorlogsgravenstichting om het stoffelijk overschot van het oorlogsslacht-
Gerrit Blaauw
 offer wijlen de Heer
 gelegen in ondergenoemde grafruimte te doen opgraven en verplaatsen naar

a) het Ereveld van de Stichting te Loenen op
 de Veluwe (gemeente Apeldoorn);
 b) het Militair Ereveld "Grebbeberg" te Rhenen;
 c) de bestaande of aan te leggen erfhof op de
 begraafplaats
 te

Ondergetekende verleent voorts als rechthebbende op de grafruimte,
 klasse 1, vak ---, rij ---, nr. 8 op de Algemene begraafplaats
Oosterwolde
 te toestemming voor
 opening van deze grafruimte.

Ook verklaart ondergetekende dit verzoek te doen na overleg en met
 instemming van de overige familie.

De op het graf aanwezige steen dient te worden
~~op het graf~~ / * vernietigd / * achtergelaten te mijner beschikking.
 te Oosterwolde.

Oldebroek 2
 1970

(handtekening)

* doorhalen wat niet wordt verlangd.

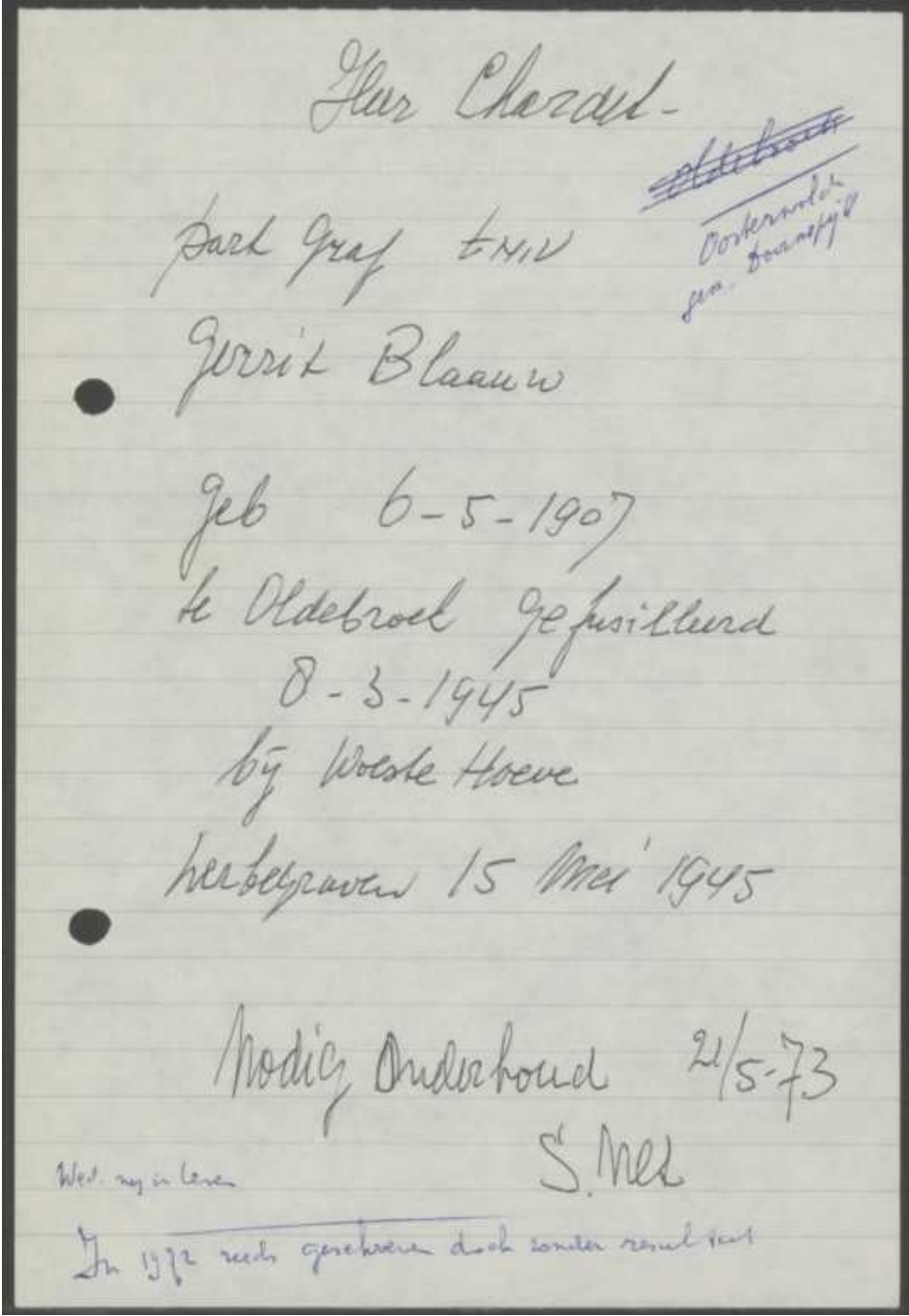
Aan:
 de Directeur der Oorlogsgravenstichting.
 Bankplein 5,
 's-Gravenhage.

A prefilled form proposes exhumation from Oosterwolde, class 1, no. 8, and transfer to Loenen. The signature and exact date are blank. This copy proves neither consent nor a completed transfer.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0012.
 Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.10 Archival facsimile 10 of 10

Figure 30. Handwritten maintenance follow-up. 21 May 1973. [52]



Hier Chardel-
 Part Graf t.m.v.
 Gerrit Blaauw
 geb 6-5-1907
 te Oldebroek gefusillerd
 8-3-1945
 bij Woeste Hoeve
 herbegraven 15 Mei' 1945
 Modic Onderhoud 21/5-73
 S. Mel
 Wed. nog in leven
 In 1972 reeds gesproken doch zonder resultaat

~~Oldebroek~~
 Oorkonde
 van begrafenis

The note again records birth 6 May 1907, execution 8 March 1945 and reburial 15 May 1945. It calls for maintenance, says the widow is still alive, and notes that an approach in 1972 had produced no result; the precise scope of that remark is unspecified.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0009.
 Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

8. New documentary and archival research

The latest family correspondence also clarifies that Willem van Norel visited Henk Blaauw and his wife in early 2025, most recently recalled as February 2025, although an earlier message mentioned January. Henk's wife died in December 2025 according to the family correspondence; an earlier suggestion that she was alive in February 2026 was mistaken. Willem recalled the possibility that a small Bible with an underlined passage survived Gerrit's imprisonment. Neither its location nor the exact passage is known. [Van Norel correspondence, August–October 2026]

On 28 October 2026 the family enquired of Stichting Doetinchem Herdenkt about the original prison records behind Gerrit's detention at De Kruisberg. Secretary Martine Goedhart replied that the enquiry would be discussed at a meeting the following week. No prisoner card, cell list or transport record was supplied in the reviewed reply. A separate enquiry sought a name search in Netherlands archival collection 2.09.08, inventory 461, concerning the so-called Apeldoorn Case and Sicherheitsdienst crimes. No result of that search is yet confirmed. [Research emails, 28 October 2026]

A distinct family connection concerns Wijnand Rekers (1919–2010) and the Verscholen Dorp near Vierhouten, as described in the researcher's family correspondence. It provides context for a wider family interest in Dutch resistance history, but is not evidence that Wijnand Rekers and Gerrit Blaauw operated together. [Family correspondence, August 2026]

9. Chronology, evidence and unresolved questions

- 6 May 1907 — Gerrit born in Oldebroek (administrative records).
- 7 March 1929 — Marriage to Jannetje Fikse (family and civil compilations).
- Before February 1945 — Distribution office employment and resistance involvement (1946 mayoral statement; LO and local histories).
- 6 February 1945 — Spitfire TA837 forced landing near Oosterwolde (loss register and local accounts).
- 13 February 1945 — Henk's arrest and Gerrit's detention in local narratives; LO note dates Gerrit's arrest to this day.
- 8 March 1945 — Gerrit executed at Woeste Hoeve (civil registration and official postwar records).
- 15 May 1945 — Reburial at Oosterwolde (war-grave forms and funeral coverage).
- 8 May 1971 — Newspaper item later identified as reporting Blair's wife visiting Hendrik Boeve.
- 28 October 2026 — New correspondence on the 1971 newspaper, RAF records and prison research.

Priority open questions: obtain the original 1971 article; verify the full MI9 identifying pages and named helpers; obtain the German or Dutch arrest/prison records; clarify Gerrit Kanis's role in identification; reconcile grave numbers and any proposed transfer; find Gerrit's Bible; and resolve remaining timing discrepancies among the 1945, 1970 and later accounts.

10. Sources and guide to preserved records

References [1]–[56] and their image-provenance notes are preserved in Part II, especially its original pages 49–53. The additional newspaper, death-register and archive leads are preserved in Part III. This narrative uses the bracketed numbering of the earlier booklet where applicable; newer correspondence is named in the text. A source cited as a lead remains a lead until the original is inspected.

- 31 October 1946: signed mayoral reply on NBS affiliation and family (Part II, archival plates).
- 1954–1973: OGS identity, death, burial and grave-maintenance correspondence (Part II, plates and source register).
- 15 and 18 May 1945: Elburger Courant notices and funeral coverage (Parts II–III).
- 27 February 1970: retrospective Elburger Courant account (Parts II–III).
- 8 May 1971: Elburger Courant item identified by Willem van Norel, original text still to be reviewed.
- October 2026: correspondence with Willem van Norel, The National Archives and Stichting Doetinchem Herdenkt.

Preservation note: the two complete earlier PDFs follow as documentary sections. They retain their original pagination, historical images, source notes and any unresolved interpretations. The revised Part I should be used for the latest integrated account.

Complete archival research record

The original 63-page illustrated booklet and subsequent 11-page report are retained without removing any pages or source material. The principal illustrations are also reproduced earlier next to their narrative subjects.

GERRIT BLAAUW



Resistance, Family and Reprisal

North Veluwe, 1945

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Page numbers include the cover. The digital PDF also contains bookmarks and clickable contents entries.

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Gerrit Blaauw

Resistance, family and reprisal on the North Veluwe, 1945



Portrait identified as Gerrit Blaauw by the Municipality of Elburg; original exposure and photographer not established.
Figure 3. [7,19]

Abstract

Gerrit Blaauw (1907–1945), a Doornspijk distribution official and father of five, belonged to the Netherlands Interior Forces' Doornspijk group, “Old Putten” section. Local accounts connect a Spitfire crash near his home with the arrest of his fourteen-year-old son Henk. They say Gerrit went to secure his release and was detained. Gerrit was held at De Kruisberg and executed at Woeste Hoeve on 8 March 1945 as part of the German reprisal for the unintended attack on Hanns Albin Rauter. His body was later exhumed from the Heidehof mass grave and reburied at Oosterwolde. [4,5,7,22,43,46,53]

This study places Gerrit, his work and his family at its centre. David Blair's evasion explains the aircraft incident and the subsequent investigation; it does not itself prove that Gerrit personally sheltered him. The documentary appendices present the archival, newspaper and illustrative evidence behind this account. [54]

Reading the evidence

Gerrit Blaauw is the subject of the seven narrative sections. Appendix A brings together the Dutch records that establish his affiliation, family, detention, death and grave history. Appendix B examines Blair's account and the aircraft evidence. Appendix C supplies the reprisal and regional context. References retain the stable numbers [1]–[56]; the historical map is added as [57].

Documents are assessed by the question they answer. The May 1945 newspaper records contemporary public mourning and notification. The signed 1946 mayoral reply identifies Gerrit's resistance unit and dependants. The 1954–1973 war-grave papers document recognition and grave administration. These retrospective records can repeat information and should not automatically be counted as independent witnesses. [42–52]

The supplied evasion page is first-person testimony about the pilot's movements, provisionally attributed to David Blair. It contains no name or identifying cover sheet and names neither Henk nor Gerrit. Local histories supply their connection with the crash. A plausible match remains an inference until the complete identified report and Dutch records are compared. [4–7,22,54]

A date appearing in a source is distinguished from its precision and purpose: the family's "around 9 March" is preserved, the documented execution date is 8 March, and "7 Jul 45" on the evasion page is not assumed to be an interview date. The 30 June notification on the Doetinchem webpage belongs to Marinus Alijdus van den Born, not Gerrit. [22,42–46,54]

Figure numbers retain the existing source identifiers while the plates are arranged by subject. Figure 2 is now the evidence chronology; the duplicated portrait plate is represented by Figure 3 on the abstract page. Figures 35–36 reproduce the historical map and an enlarged detail. Full supplied archival scans remain available in Appendix A.8. The evocative cover is AI-generated illustration, not historical evidence.

Abbreviations and place names

NBS: Netherlands Interior Forces (Nederlandse Binnenlandse Strijdkrachten). LO: Landelijke Organisatie voor Hulp aan Onderduikers, assistance to people in hiding. RvV: Raad van Verzet, Resistance Council. OGS: Oorlogsgravenstichting, Dutch War Graves Foundation. MI9: British escape-and-evasion intelligence. "Old Putten" section, Huize Old Putten near Elburg, and the town of Putten refer to distinct entities. [6,14,16,43,56]

Geographical setting: a wartime map

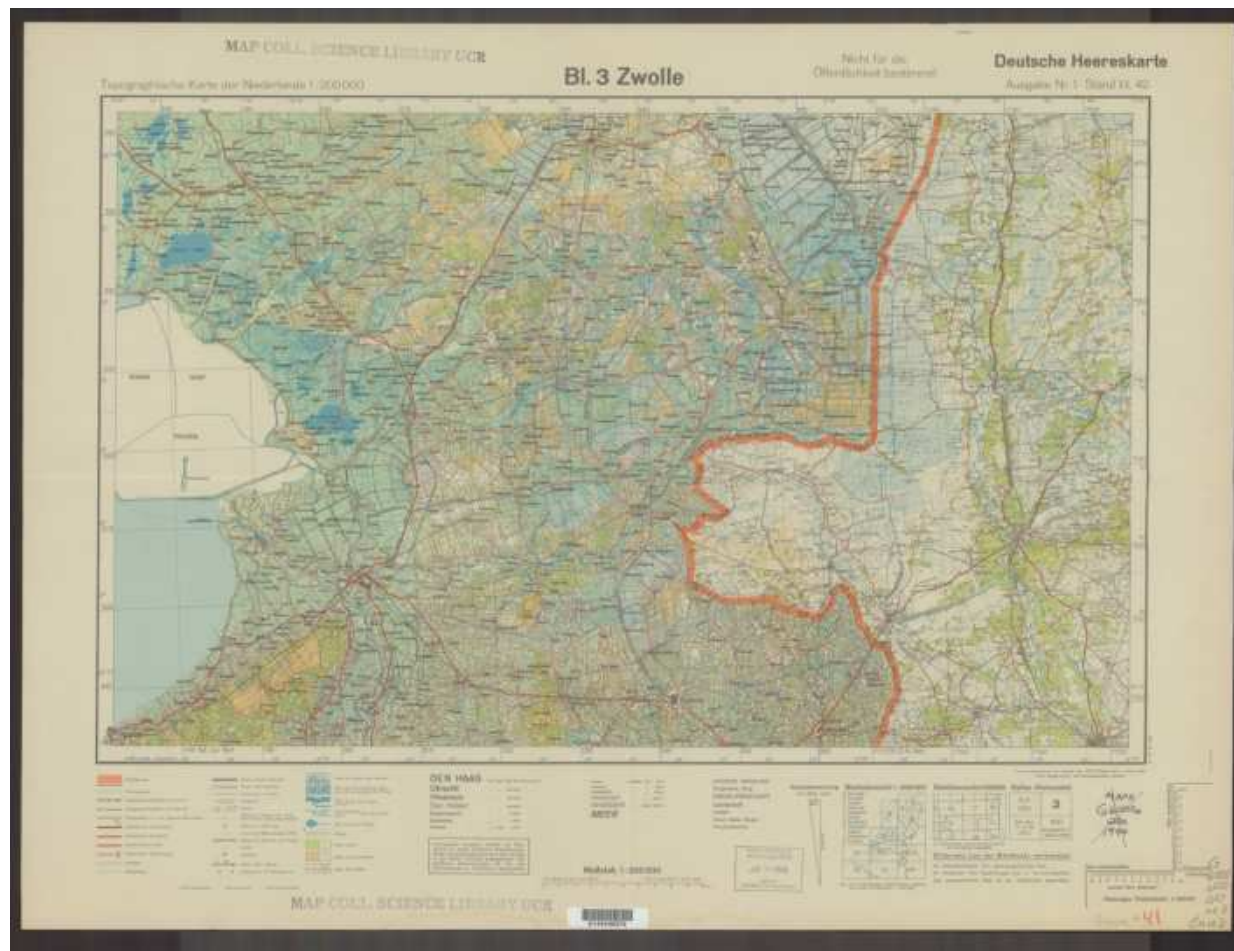


Figure 35. German military map, *Topographische Karte der Niederlande 1:200000*, Ausgabe Nr. 1, sheet 3, Zwolle. Published Utrecht, 1943; marginal dates “Stand XII 42” and “III 43.” Full sheet reproduced, including scale and marginal information. UC Berkeley Library, WWII Captured German Military Maps, G6000 s200.G47, record 105637; image b24387408x_C119140374.jpg. [57]

This map predates the February–March 1945 events and preserves wartime roads, railways, settlements and the IJsselmeer shoreline. It is a geographic source, not evidence of Gerrit's route or particular safe houses. The next page enlarges the North Veluwe locality.

Reading the North Veluwe map



Figure 36. Enlarged, unaltered local detail of Figure 35. The IJsselmeer lies to the northwest; Elburg, Doornspijk, Oldebroek, Oosterwolde, Nunspeet and the approaches to Zwolle belong to the locality of the family and aircraft episode. Consult the full sheet for its original scale; enlargement changes the printed scale. [57]

Places and their roles in the account

Place	Role and source boundary
Elburg / Doornspijk / Winterdijk	Family home, distribution work, crash and arrest accounts. Exact addresses and routes are not plotted. [4,7,43,46,53]
Oosterwolde	Reburial recorded on 15 May 1945. The municipal designation and cemetery register require comparison. [44,46,47]
Apeldoorn / Woeste Hoeve / Heidehof	Detention account, execution and recorded exhumation; south of this map's core coverage. [22,46,53]
Doetinchem / De Kruisberg	Prison detention before the reprisal; outside the enlarged view. [22,46]
Putten	Separate October 1944 roundup; not Huize Old Putten near Elburg. [16,56]

The wartime map is used for the principal North Veluwe setting. The later crash diagram and memorial panel in Appendix B remain modern illustrations with their own provenance. No line on either historical map is presented as a reconstructed evasion or prisoner transport route.

1. Gerrit, Jannetje and their five children

Born 6 May 1907 at Oldebroek, Gerrit Blaauw worked in the distribution service at Elburg. In wartime that office handled papers and ration coupons vital to people living in hiding. The municipal biography and later compiled accounts credit him with obtaining coupons, courier work and other resistance activity. Those descriptions are valuable but differ in their specificity and underlying documentation. [7,17,19,22,44]

Gerrit and Jannetje Fikse, born 6 September 1911 at Doornspijk, lived at H-153 in the municipality of Doornspijk, post Elburg. The mayor’s signed 1946 response says Jannetje had five minor children in her care. A later municipal note confirms the names and birth dates below. These records turn the family from a passing detail in an airman’s story into the people who had to live with Gerrit’s death. [43,49]

Child	Born	Age when Gerrit died
Hendrik (“Henk”)	4 June 1930	14
Dirkje	15 March 1932	12
Batje	22 June 1934	10
Gerritje	21 September 1936	8
Johan	28 April 1940	4

The children’s ages follow from the municipal dates; the administrative sheets do not identify Hendrik as the boy at the aircraft. That identification comes from local accounts, with his age and family position providing a strong fit. His later register transfer to Nunspeet in 1963, and the others’ recorded moves, are postwar population entries, not deportations. [4,5,43,49]

The family record

The 1954 forms name Gerrit’s parents Hendrik Blaauw and Hendrikje Flier. Her birthday appears as 4 February 1877 in one reading against 5 February in an earlier compilation; the civil register is needed to resolve it. Jannetje was still living when the grave was discussed in 1973. A later reported death date for her has not been verified in these supplied sheets. [17,39,44,52]

2. A documented resistance affiliation

The strongest direct statement of organization is the mayor's reply of 31 October 1946 to a Ministry of War enquiry: Gerrit was a "very active" member of the Netherlands Interior Forces (NBS), in the Doornspijk group, "Old Putten" section. The signed answer gives a group and section but no rank, particular mission or connection to Blair. It corrects a 1908 birth year in the enquiry to 1907. [43]

A printed resistance history places his portrait among LO-Elburg-Doornspijk members and marks an RvV connection; its abbreviated note records arrest on 13 February 1945 on suspicion of helping pilots. Municipal and contributed accounts describe work for people in hiding, courier work and sabotage. The lists of forged papers, telephone-line cuts, weapons transport and damage to threshing machines come from a compiled biography whose underlying record for each act has not been traced here. [6,7,17,19]

Old Putten: three different meanings

"Old Putten" in the mayor's answer is Gerrit's resistance section. Huize Old Putten near Elburg was a house raided on 13 February 1945; the available sources do not show that this operation caused the Blaauw arrests. Putten, the town subjected to a separate roundup in October 1944, is a third place and event. The later contextual plate records the 1944 atrocity without asserting a personal role for Gerrit. [16,31,32,43,56]

What this evidence can bear

The mayor's 1946 response is an official retrospective record and supports his affiliation more directly than the later memorial biographies. The description "very active" is a contemporary administrative characterization of his wartime activity, not a list of independently verified operations. Likewise, the printed suspicion of "pilot assistance" establishes that an allegation existed; it is not proof that he personally met or hid David Blair. [6,43,54]

3. The aircraft, Henk and the arrest

On 6 February 1945, Spitfire TA837 of No. 349 (Belgian) Squadron crash-landed near the Winterdijk after flak. A first-person evasion page attributed to its pilot David Blair describes a crash landing southwest of Zwolle, help from an unnamed English-speaking boy, civilian clothes and assistance from two Dutch policemen. The supplied page lacks a visible identifying cover sheet and does not name Henk or Gerrit. It supports the event's broad course while leaving those identifications to other sources. [2,3,36,54]

Local accounts identify Henk Blaauw as the fourteen-year-old boy associated with the wreck and recovered equipment, including a parachute and rubber dinghy. They vary on whether the Germans apprehended him at the aircraft during a return visit or came upon the material in a search. Museum Sjoel Elburg identifies Bart Klompmaker as a clothing supplier; the local panel names Aart Klompmaker in another role. The names should remain distinct. [4,17,22,36]

13 February 1945

The memorial and municipal narratives say the Germans arrested Henk and told the family that Gerrit could collect him that evening. Gerrit, aware that he was sought, went nonetheless and was himself arrested. The account of his decision rests on retrospective local testimony; the 1954 grave form independently records an arrest at Elburg and transfer to De Kruisberg, without detailing the son's episode. No German interrogation file has been inspected. [5,7,19,22,46]

The printed note "verdacht v. pilotenhulp" records suspicion of assistance to pilots. German responsibility for the investigation and arrest is separate from any action by Blair or Henk. The boy in the attributed evasion page is unnamed; matching him to Henk is a reasoned comparison, not a direct identification in that document. [6,54]

Parallel actions on the same day

The Sicherheitspolizei also raided Huize Old Putten on 13 February, killing two bystanders and arresting several people. The temporal and organizational proximity matters to the wider resistance setting, but no inspected source establishes that the raid led to the Blaauw arrests or that Gerrit was present. Museum Sjoel Elburg connects fear following Gerrit's arrest with moving Rieny Jacobs to another hiding address; this shows a wider civilian consequence in its local account. [4,16,31,32,43]

4. Detention and execution

Gerrit was held at the Koning Willem III barracks in Apeldoorn according to later biographies and was transferred to De Kruisberg prison in Doetinchem. A 1954 official questionnaire confirms arrest at Elburg, De Kruisberg detention, and his shooting at Woeste Hoeve on 8 March 1945. The form does not itself specify every intermediate stop or his son's circumstances. [7,19,22,46]

On the night of 6–7 March, resistance fighters seeking a vehicle for meat transport unexpectedly fired on the car of Hanns Albin Rauter near Woeste Hoeve. Rauter was seriously wounded; his driver and adjutant died. A photograph of the damaged car and an account of the incident appear in the later illustrated dossier, credited by Doetinchem Herdenkt to Beeldbank WO2–NIOD. [22]

German authorities responded on 8 March by executing 274 men at several sites; 117 were shot at Woeste Hoeve. Doetinchem Herdenkt identifies 25 of the 117 as prisoners from De Kruisberg, including Gerrit. The circumstances of the attack explain the immediate reprisal, but Gerrit was a prisoner already. Neither the photograph nor the sources place him among the attackers. Responsibility for the executions belongs to the German perpetrators. [15,22,40,45,46]

Date and place

The mayor's 1946 response and the later war-grave forms give 8 March 1945 at Woeste Hoeve, Apeldoorn. The family death notice printed on 15 May says "around 9 March," an approximate early account that should be preserved as written, not treated as equal precision. The 30 June notification on the Doetinchem webpage concerns Marinus Alijdus van den Born, a different victim; it supplies no date for the Blaauw family. [22,42–47]

The same 1954 identity check describes him as active in the underground and politically trustworthy. A Justice Ministry search stamp concerns its specified postwar jurisdictional records; it does not certify every aspect of his conduct. Multiple later administrative forms may repeat common information rather than supply independent eyewitness testimony. [44–46]

5. Jannetje, the grave and the afterlife

The *Elburger Courant* of 15 May 1945 reported that Jannetje had been informed of Gerrit's body in a mass grave at Beekbergen. A separate family notice, dated 12 May, names her and the children. The Hague identification card expressly records exhumation from the Heidehof mass grave but gives no recovery date or identification method. It types the erroneous 1908 birth year; the mayor's later answer and other forms give 1907. The card's execution-day character is unclear and should not be forced to read "8." [42,43,53]

War-grave forms record reburial on 15 May 1945 at Oosterwolde, first class, grave no. 8. None assigns "row 8"; a reported grave 320 from a separate compilation needs a cemetery register or renumbering record before reconciliation. The newspaper proves contemporary family notification and mourning, while the later administrative records provide the specific reburial date. [17,42,44,46,47,51,52]

A grave still requiring attention

The file's later history extends the story beyond 1945. In 1961 the municipality confirmed Jannetje's address. A May 1972 letter recommended cleaning the grave stone and surrounds. A prepared form proposed transfer to the Loenen war cemetery, but the signature and exact date are blank; the supplied record does not prove consent or a transfer. A May 1973 note again discusses maintenance and contact with Jannetje. These papers document continuing obligations and choices around Gerrit's grave. [48,50–52]

This administrative correspondence does not establish the grave's present location or condition. The 1955 inspection date reading is tentative, and the separate descriptions of municipal ownership and a "private grave" need the underlying cemetery documents. [47,50,51]

6. What Blair's account explains

Blair's attributed first-person page places the crash on 6 February, then a bicycle ride, a hut until dark, a house that supplied civilian clothes, an overnight move by two policemen, and an underground headquarters the next morning. He says he left that headquarters on 21 February, spent about a month at another house, went to Apeldoorn on 20 March and to a farm after another bicycle journey. He reports liberation by an SAS forward column on 18 April and return to Britain on 20 April. The image bears "7 Jul 45," whose exact administrative meaning is not visible. [54]

Its 11:45 take-off conflicts with the loss register's 11:35 and a panel's 11:33. The typed 12:15 "a.m." for landing contradicts a take-off shortly before noon on the same date. A helper's account describes De Haere, Akster and Hagen households but gives a 16 February move where Blair's attributed page says 21 February. The full indexed MI9 report, including its identifying sheet, would clarify the page's provenance and perhaps some unnamed helpers. [2,16,36,54]

The limits of the connection

The aircraft episode explains how Henk and then Gerrit came under German scrutiny in local narratives. It does not explain all of Gerrit's prior resistance involvement, and Blair's page never names the Blaauw family. The narrative of Gerrit's decision to present himself, his detention and his execution rests on distinct Dutch sources. No evidence examined establishes that Gerrit personally sheltered Blair, that Blair's evasion caused the raid on Huize Old Putten, or that the family was responsible for the reprisal. [4–7,16,22,43–46,54]

Source priority

The 1946 mayoral reply is strongest for affiliation and family particulars. The 1954 and later forms support administrative recognition of detention, death and burial. The May newspaper establishes what the family publicly reported soon after liberation. The attributed evasion page is a first-person account of the airman's movements, with an identifying-sheet gap. Local commemorative biographies supply detailed memories and leads, not a single independent record of every step. [22,39,42–54]

7. Gerrit Blaauw: chronology and findings

Date	Gerrit and family	Evidential status
6 May 1907	Born at Oldebroek.	1946 mayor; 1954 forms [43,44].
Before 1945	Distribution official; resistance activity.	NBS unit directly stated in 1946; operations in later biographies [6,7,17,43].
6 Feb 1945	Aircraft crash near family home; Henk linked to its equipment.	Loss register and local accounts; Blair's boy unnamed [2,4,54].
13 Feb 1945	Henk arrested; Gerrit presents himself and is detained.	Local narratives; 1954 form confirms Gerrit arrested at Elburg [5,22,46].
8 Mar 1945	Executed at Woeste Hoeve.	Mayor and war-grave forms [43–47].
12–15 May 1945	Family notice; discovery report; reburial at Oosterwolde.	Newspaper and later forms [42,44,46].
1946–1973	Family documentation, grave registration and maintenance.	Ten selected file scans [43–52]; Hague card [53].

Figure 2. Evidence chronology, revised to distinguish administrative documentation from retrospective narrative.

Conclusion

Gerrit’s documented membership of the Doornspijk “Old Putten” section places him within organized resistance before the crash episode is considered. Local accounts place his detention in the aftermath of the aircraft incident and Henk’s arrest; the inspected official forms do not independently establish every step of that connection. He was then killed in a German reprisal triggered by an unrelated attack on Rauter. Jannetje and the five children appear in both the immediate newspaper record and the postwar administration of his grave. His own work and his family’s long aftermath are the principal story; Blair’s journey supplies a crucial but bounded explanation of one sequence within it. [22,42–54]

Research that could change the account

Obtain Gerrit’s arrest and prison files, the earlier records behind the mayor’s NBS affiliation, cemetery interment registers, remaining pages of archive 12579A, original death registers, and the full identified Blair report 3058. Specific claims about pilot assistance, arrest circumstances, grave numbering and later transfer should remain qualified until those records are compared. [6,13,17,43–54]

Appendix A. Dutch documentary evidence

Ten supplied images from **NL-HaNA 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A** have been visually examined. They span 1946–1973 and contain correspondence, questionnaires and grave records. Their value is strongest for the official handling of Gerrit’s case; their descriptions of wartime events are retrospective. No claim is made that these ten images constitute the complete file. [43–52]

Finding	New evidence	Consequence for the report
Resistance affiliation	Mayor’s signed reply, 31 October 1946: very active BS member; Doornspijk group, “Old Putten” section. [43]	The Old Putten organizational link is now directly documented. No individual mission or rank is supplied.
Family	The same reply names the widow and five minor children; a 1972 municipal note repeats their birth dates. [43,49]	The children are identifiable; the later file provides postwar movement data.
Death date	The 1946 reply and later forms give 8 March 1945. [43,44,46,47,52]	Stronger support for 8 March against the newspaper’s approximate “around 9 March.”
Reburial and grave	15 May 1945 at Oosterwolde; class 1, no. 8. [44,46,47,51,52]	No longer dependent solely on a modern webpage transcription. “8” is a grave number, not a row in the inspected forms.
Later grave history	1972 cleaning recommendation; unsigned proposed transfer; 1973 maintenance follow-up. [50–52]	A new history of family contact and grave care. Transfer to Loenen is not established.

Limits of the discovery

None of the ten images mentions David Blair, an aircraft, a parachute, or TA837. The 1946 Old Putten affiliation narrows the organizational context, but does not demonstrate that Gerrit sheltered Blair or that the Old Putten raid caused his arrest. The separate arrest and raid narratives remain separate events pending direct evidence.

A.2 The mayor’s reply: affiliation and family

The Ministry of War enquiry is dated **26 October 1946**, with a Doornspijk receipt stamp of 30 October. The reply is dated **31 October 1946** and signed for the mayor. It is the earliest dated administrative record in this supplied set. [43; Figure 21]

Selected translation of the municipal reply

Gerrit Blaauw’s wife, Jannetje Fikse, born 6 September 1911 at Doornspijk, lives in this municipality at H-153 (post Elburg). She has five minor children to care for. Gerrit Blaauw was born on 6 May 1907 at Oldebroek and died on 8 March 1945 at Apeldoorn, Woeste Hoeve. “Blaauw was a very active member of the Netherlands Interior Forces. He belonged to the Doornspijk Group, ‘Old Putten’ section.” Translation from the Dutch reply; the children’s entries follow below. [43]

Child as recorded	Birth date	Later municipal entry, 10 April 1972 [49]
Hendrik Blaauw	4 June 1930	Transferred out on 7 November 1963 to Nunspeet (municipality of Ermelo).
Dirkje Blaauw	15 March 1932	Transferred to Doornspijk on 26 April 1940.
Batje Blaauw	22 June 1934	Transferred to Doornspijk on 26 April 1940.
Gerritje Blaauw	21 September 1936	Transferred to Doornspijk on 21 August 1961.
Johan Blaauw	28 April 1940	Transferred to Doornspijk on 30 August 1965.

Hendrik would have been fourteen in February 1945, consistent with the boy called Henk in the narrative. The age and family position support that identification, but these administrative sheets do not themselves identify him as the boy at the wreck. The 1972 note’s “afgevoerd” refers to removal from a population register on moving, not deportation. [4,5,43,49]

The Ministry’s question contains a crossed-out 1908 birth year; the municipal answer gives 1907. The correction is evidence of checking within the file, not a second person. The reply answers the unit question but states no military rank. [43]

A.3 Identity, detention and the 1954 checks

The January 1954 questionnaire and its reverse are complementary sides of an administrative enquiry. The front records identity, relatives and reburial; the reverse asks about the death and political reliability. The form is completed well after the events, and should not be described as a 1945 eyewitness deposition. [44–45; Figures 22–23]

Selected translated passages

Questionnaire reverse [45]: “Was shot at Woeste Hoeve at Apeldoorn in connection with the attack on Rauter. Was active in the underground movement; was known as politically trustworthy.” The Dutch phrase concerning work in the underground is clear in substance; this is an English reading, not a diplomatic transcription of every handwritten character.

Grave questionnaire, 19 February 1954 [46]: Gerrit Blaauw was taken prisoner by the Germans at Elburg, brought to the Kruisberg at Doetinchem, and from there was shot on 8 March at Woeste Hoeve in reprisal for the attack on Rauter. This record does not mention the intervening Apeldoorn barracks or the son’s arrest; those details remain sourced to other accounts.

Justice Ministry stamp, 18 March 1954 [45]: the archives deposited with that ministry disclose no political acts or conduct during the occupation that led to a punishment or measure by the bodies of the special postwar jurisdiction. This is a record-search result within an administrative screening process. It is not a comprehensive certificate of every wartime action.

Field	Archival reading	Editorial treatment
Occupation / religion	Distribution-service official; Vrije Evangelische Gemeente. [44,46]	Direct support for these biographical descriptions.
Parents	Hendrik Blaauw; Hendrikje Flier. [44]	The mother’s birth appears as 4 February 1877, versus 5 February in the prior compilation. Retain the discrepancy pending civil record.
Birth and death	6 May 1907, Oldebroek; 8 March 1945, Apeldoorn. [44,46]	Corrected year 1907 is repeated across records. Place labels vary in specificity.

The file documents official acceptance of the reported death and resistance activity. Repetition between later forms may reflect shared administrative information; it should not be counted as a series of independent eyewitness testimonies.

A.4 Reburial, grave care and proposed transfer

Reburial: 15 May 1945 is explicitly entered on both 1954 forms and repeated in the later inspection and 1973 note. Oosterwolde is the cemetery locality; Doornspijk is the municipality used in these historical records. This resolves the earlier reliance on a modern transcription for the reburial date. [44,46,47,52]

Location: the 1954 grave questionnaire has number 8 and “middle, new part.” The inspection report gives class 1, number 8, with “geen” (none) under section and row. The prepared transfer form repeats class 1, no. 8 and leaves section/row unassigned. These records do not support reading “8” as a row number. The separately reported grave 320 requires its own reconciliation, possibly against cemetery records; a renumbering is not established. [17,46,47,51]

Administrative sequence

Date / record	What it records	What can be concluded
Inspection, apparently 16 May 1955 [47]	One occupant; room for one more; condition “good”; municipality in owner/lessee field.	The record describes the grave at its inspection date. The handwritten year is tentative.
27 June 1961 [48]	Widow’s postwar address confirmed by Oldebroek.	A family-contact update, not proof of the wartime residence.
9–10 May 1972 [50]	OGS recommends cleaning the whole grave, stone and surround; calls it private.	A maintenance concern. The supplied letter lacks its continuation.
Prepared 1972 form [51]	Loenen is the proposed destination; signature and exact date blank.	No evidence of signed consent, exhumation or actual transfer.
21 May 1973 note [52]	Maintenance needed; widow alive; 1972 approach without result.	Follow-up activity, with the precise meaning of “without result” unspecified.

The earlier municipality entry and the 1972 description “private grave” should be preserved as different administrative descriptions. Their legal relationship is not resolved by these pages. No present-day grave condition or location is inferred from the 1970s correspondence.

A.5 Scan inventory and limits

The supplied scan numbers are 0002, 0003, 0004, 0006, 0008, 0009, 0010, 0012, 0014 and 0015. Numbers missing from that sequence were not supplied and have not been examined. Appendix A.8 reproduces every supplied image, ordered by the apparent document date rather than scan number. [43–52]

Reference / scan	Date	Document
[43] / 0014	26–31 October 1946	Ministry of War enquiry and mayor's reply
[44] / 0002	January 1954	OGS identity and family questionnaire
[45] / 0003	1954; stamp 18 March 1954	Questionnaire reverse: death and political reliability
[46] / 0004	19 February 1954	OGS grave and circumstances questionnaire
[47] / 0015	16 May 1955 (date reading tentative)	Grave inspection report
[48] / 0008	27 June 1961	Municipal address confirmation for the widow
[49] / 0006	10 April 1972	Municipal note on the five children
[50] / 0010	9 May 1972; dispatched 10 May	OGS letter concerning grave maintenance
[51] / 0012	Prepared for 1972; unsigned	Prepared consent form for transfer to Loenen
[52] / 0009	21 May 1973	Handwritten maintenance follow-up

Questions now narrowed

The next archival work should seek the missing sides and continuations in 12579A, the cemetery register explaining any alternative numbering, and the wartime or early postwar records behind the mayor's Old Putten affiliation. Blair's MI9 report 3058 remains necessary for a direct comparison of helpers. A signed transfer order or cemetery interment entry would be needed before asserting a move to Loenen. The mother's exact birth date remains a civil-registration question.

A.6 Hague identification card: Heidehof

~~Duitsche bewaakers~~	~~Politieke gevangenen~~	Geïdentificeerde personen.	~~Criminele zaken~~
Naam en Voornamen: BLAAUW, GERRIT .			
Geboren: 6 Mei 1908 Oldebroek			
Woonplaats: Aan de Winterdijk Doornspijk			
Politiek misdrijf:			
Militair/Burger:			
Zie dossiernr.:			
Bijzonderheden: Is op '3-1945 in Woeste Hoeve inde gemeente Apeldoorn gefusileerd . Het lijk is in het Massagraf Heidehof opgegraven			

K 1071

Figure 31. Haags Gemeentearchief, 0432-01, inventory 4054, scan 0025. Undated identification card, reproduced in full. “Identified persons” is the surviving heading; the other printed category headings are crossed out. [53]

Translation of the completed fields

Name: BLAAUW, GERRIT. **Born:** 6 May 1908, Oldebroek [as typed]. **Residence:** on the Winterdijk, Doornspijk. **Particulars:** “Was executed by shooting on [day unclear]–3–1945 at Woeste Hoeve in the municipality of Apeldoorn. The body was exhumed from the Heidehof mass grave.” The fields for political offence, military/civilian status and dossier number are unfilled. [53]

What this adds

This directly documents a recorded exhumation from Heidehof, supporting a link between the earlier newspaper discovery report and the later reburial records. It supplies no exhumation date, identifying method or burial-register entry. The birth year 1908 conflicts with the mayor’s 1946 correction to 1907 and the later OGS forms. The shared erroneous year may reflect information circulating between records, but transmission from this particular card is not proved. [42–44,46,53]

The indistinct execution-day character is not silently read as 8; the established 8 March date rests on the other cited records. Blank fields do not establish absence of resistance activity. No pilot, aircraft, arrest narrative or family member is named here. The card itself bears no visible creation date or signature.



Figure 4. Printed page 203 of the digitised LO resistance history. Gerrit's portrait, RvV association and pilot-assistance suspicion appear together. Reproduced as a documentary source; scan hosted by Stichting LO-LKP. [6]

A.7 Printed history and contemporary mourning

The printed LO history records an RvV association and an arrest on suspicion of pilot assistance. It does not identify David Blair or establish a particular encounter. The following newspaper plates record the family's public notice and the report of Gerrit's body at Beekbergen. The Hague card records exhumation from Heidehof; the exact recovery and identification sequence remains to be checked. [6,42,53]

Contemporary newspaper: report to Blaauw's wife



Source. *Elburger Courant*, Tuesday 15 May 1945, no. 83, continued 52nd year, p. 1. The issue carries a brief Oosterwolde (Winterdijk) item amid regional news. The masthead above and the extract below are crops of the supplied digitised original. [42]



Figure 19. Local report on finding Gerrit Blaauw's body. In translation: the wife of G. Blaauw, formerly taken prisoner by the Germans, had received word that her husband's body was found in a mass grave at Beekbergen. The newspaper says "as we hear"; it does not name the person who informed her, give a date for discovery, or report an exhumation record. [42]

The newspaper records family notification without a recovery date. The Hague identification card expressly records exhumation from Heidehof. Their precise geographic and administrative relationship requires the original recovery and cemetery records. [42,53]

Contemporary newspaper: the family notice



Figure 20. Family death notice for Gerrit Blaauw. *Elburger Courant*, 15 May 1945, p. 2. It names Jannetje Fikse as his wife; the widow signs for herself and the children from Winterdijk, Doornspijk, with a notice date of 12 May. The item says he was nearly 38 and executed near Woeste Hoeve “around 9 March 1945.” The print date of the issue and the notice date are distinct. [42]

The family's approximate date does not override the 8 March 1945 execution date recorded by the memorial and war-grave accounts. Its value is direct evidence of the family's wording, relationship and contemporary knowledge. Neither this notice nor the p. 1 report mentions Blair or specifies the later reburial date. [7,15,19,42]

A.8.1 Archival facsimile 1 of 10

Figure 21. Ministry of War enquiry and mayor's reply. 26–31 October 1946. [43]

MINISTERIE VAN OORLOG.
Afd. B.IX Bur. 4 Nr. 2693.

Deze nota wordt beantwoord terugverwacht

Antwoord:

In deze gemeente is woonachtig aan het adres N- 153 (post Elburg) de echtgenoot van Gerrit Blaauw: t.w. Jannetje Fikse, geb. 6 Sep 11 te Doornspijk. Jannetje Fikse heeft te verzorgen 5 minderjarige kinderen: t.w. Hendrik, geb. 4 Jun 30, Dirkje, geb. 15 Mrt 32, Batje, geb. 22 Jun 34, Gerritje, geb. 21 Sep 36 en Johan, geb. 26 Apr 40.

Gerrit Blaauw werd geboren 6 Mei 07 te Oudebroek. Datum overlijden 8 Mrt 45 te Apeldoorn, Woonste Hoove.

Blaauw was een zeer actief lid der Nederlandsche Binnenlandse Strijdkrachten. Hij behoorde tot de Groep Doornspijk, afd. "Old Ritten".

Doornspijk, 31 October 1946
De Burgemeester,

's-Gravenhage, 26 October 1946

NOTA VOOR den Burgemeester van DOORNSPIJK.

Ik verzoeek U dringend mij omgaand hierna te willen berichten, of er in Uw gemeente woonachtig zijn de naaste verwanten, van den overleden

Gerrit Blaauw.
Geb. 6 Mei 07 te Oudebroek.
Overl. 8 Mrt 1945 te "Woonste Hoove".

Er is mij een adres bekend.

Wimardijk H. Doornspijk.

Zoo ja, welke zijn juiste naam, adres en graad van verwantschap.
Zoo niet, naar welke gemeente werden zij afgeschreven en wanneer.
Zijn U elders nog nadere verwanten bekend.
Zijn naam, voornaam, datum en plaats van geboorte en overlijden juist.

Kunt U mij inlichten of wijlen G. Blaauw behoort heeft tot de Binnenlandse Strijdkrachten, zoo ja, zijn dan RANG en ONDERDEEL bekend.

Voor den Minister,
Het Hoofd van Afdeeling B.IX,
De Referendaris,

GEM. DOORNSPIJK
Ingk 3 D. OCT. 1946
No. 606a

Nr. 89 A.L. 13221-46-N 1013

The Ministry asks for next of kin, corrected personal data and service in the Binnenlandse Strijdkrachten. The mayor replies on 31 October: five minor children, birth 6 May 1907, death 8 March 1945, and very active membership of the Doornspijk group, Old Putten section.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0014.
Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.2 Archival facsimile 2 of 10

Figure 22. OGS identity and family questionnaire. January 1954. [44]

OORLOGSGRAVENSTICHTING
Afd. Binnenland

Gend. *Boomsma* *Boomsma*
Phon. *Feldman* *Feldman*
OORLOGSGRAVENHAGE, 2-1-54.
Bankplein 5
Tel. 553710

U wordt verzocht, ten dienste der Oorlogsgravenstichting onderstaande in Uwe administratie te willen nazien en zo nodig aan en in te vullen.

SPOED

1. Naam: *BLAAUW*

2. Voornamen: *Gerrit*

3. Geboren te: *Kelch*, op *6-5-07*

4. Overleden te: *Meldrum*, Gemeente: *op 8-3-45*

5. (Her)begraven in Uw Gemeente: a) Datum *15/5/45*
b) Kerkhof *2 beelden aan kruis*
c) Graflijning *m. 8.*

6. Nationaliteit: *Ned*

7. Kerkgenootschap: *V. V.*

8. Beroep: *Indien dienst bij de Staat*

9-10-11, zie voor deze vragen ommezijde:

12. Vorige adressen: *Kelch 152*

13. Komende van: *Kelch*

14. Laatste bekende adres: *Boomsma 4/153*

15. Overleden/Gehuwd met:/Gescheiden van: *Fikse Jannetje*
Geboren te *Boomsma*, op *7-9-11*, beroep: *Lonty*

16. Tegenwoordig adres weduwe: *Boomsma, Clarenstraat 7*

17. Zoon (dochter) van: *Blauw, Hendrik*

18. Geboren te: *4-1-70*, te *Kelch*, beroep: *beden 28/9/14.*

19. en: *Fikse, Hendrik*

20. Geboren te: *4-2-77*, te *Kelch*, beroep: *beden 27/5/14*

21. Tegenwoordig adres ouders:

Bovenstaande gegevens zijn aangevuld en verstrekt door:
Beveling Boomsma

The amended form records birth on 6 May 1907, death on 8 March 1945, reburial on 15 May 1945, grave no. 8, distribution service employment, Jannetje Fikse and his parents. Its header day is difficult to read; the year and month are clear.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0002. Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.3 Archival facsimile 3 of 10

Figure 23. Questionnaire reverse: death and political reliability. 1954; stamp 18 March 1954. [45]

9. Is U bekend onder welke omstandigheden betrokkene is overleden en is U zijn politieke betrouwbaarheid bekend?

INDIEN NODIG, GAARNE ADVIES VAN POLITIE-AUTORITEITEN TER PLAATSE.

In verband met de aanslag op Rauter te Apeldoorn i.v.m. de aanslag op Rauter.
Wen namen in de onderzochte bezetting, staat bekend als politiek betrouwbaar.

Uit de bij het Ministerie van Justitie ondergebrachte archieven blijkt niet, dat betrokkene gedurende de bezettingstijd zich heeft schuldig gemaakt aan politieke handelingen of gedragingen, die geleid hebben tot het opleggen van enige straf of maatregel door organen der Bijzondere Rechtspleging.

De Minister van Justitie,
 Namens de: Het Hoofd van
 het Bureau Bijzondere Rechtspleging. 18 MRT 1954

10. Indien betrokkene buiten Nederland is overleden was hij/zij daar dan gedwongen of vrijwillig?

11. Dats van in- en afschrijving: komende van of gaande naar andere Gemeente.

The response states execution at Woeste Hoeve in connection with the attack on Rauter and work in the underground. The Justice Ministry stamp reports no archival indication of political conduct leading to punishment under the special postwar jurisdiction.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0003. Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.4 Archival facsimile 4 of 10

Figure 24. OGS grave and circumstances questionnaire. 19 February 1954. [46]

Mits welde.
Gent. Domsplein
Prov. Gelderland.
OORLOGSGRAVENSTICHTING

Gaarne ingevuld
niet in hysse en de
provincie en de linge!

Bl./d.c.

Barkplein 5 - 's-Gravenhage
Telefoon 553710

Den Haag, 19-2-54.

1. Naam: Blaams
2. Voornamen: Gerrit
3. Datum en plaats van geboorte: H. de Vries 6-5-1907
4. Datum en plaats van overlijden: Apeldoorn 8-5-1945
5. Datum van begraven: 18-5-1945
6. Plaats van (her-)begraven (gemeente): Dommyngh
7. Plaats van (her-)begraven (kerkhof): Dommyngh (Gla)
8. Ligging van het graf: Vak, ... Rij No.
9. Kerkgenootschap: Nieuw Evangelisch Genootschap
10. Beroep of rang: Ambtenaar Distrikte
11. ~~Troepenonderdeel~~ '):
12. Is het graf ingericht (steen ~~aanwezig~~):
13. Is het een huur- of een ~~huur~~ graf:
14. Door wie is het graf gekocht:
15. Door wie wordt het graf onderhouden: G. J. Blaams, Dommyngh.
16. Omstandigheden waaronder overleden: gefusillerd.
17. Bijzonderheden: G. J. Blaams was door de Duitsers gevangen genomen
te Elburg, overgebracht naar Westerborg te Doetinchem en vandaar
op 8 Blaams by "Hoeve Hout" gefusillerd als strafmaatregel voor de
18. Naam en adres van de Weduwe of van de laatste familiebetreffer: wed. J. Blaams- Fikse
Albionstraat 7
Dommyngh.
*) Punt 11 alleen invullen wanneer overledene bij overlijden in werkelijke dienst was.

A.8.5 Archival facsimile 5 of 10

Figure 25. Grave inspection report. 16 May 1955 (date reading tentative). [47]

Bi/d.o. CONTRÔLE-RAPPORT

Plaats: Oosterwolde Gemeente: Loosdrecht Prov. Gld

1. Naam Blaauw
 2. Voornamen: Gerrit
 3. Geboren: 10.1.07
 4. Overleden: 10.1.45
 5. Wanneer (her)begraven: 10.1.45
 6. Volledige naam van het kerkhof: Loosdrecht
 7. Graflegging: 10.1.45
 8. Lig. betr. alleen in het graf: ja
 9. Kunnen nog anderen bijgezet worden: ja
 10. Soort van het graf: Koopgraf.
 11. Wanneer komt graf voor ruiming in aanmerking: 10.1.45
 12. Volledig adres van de eigenaar (buurder) van het graf: Opmerking
 13. Inrichting van het graf: 10.1.45
 14. Indien Stichtinggraf, welk opschrift (volledig): 10.1.45
 15. Indien Stichtinggraf, op wiens naam staat het graf ingeschreven in de administratie van het kerkhof, c.q. gemeente: 10.1.45
 16. Toestand graf: goed

Datum controle: 16.5.55
 Handtekening: [Signature]

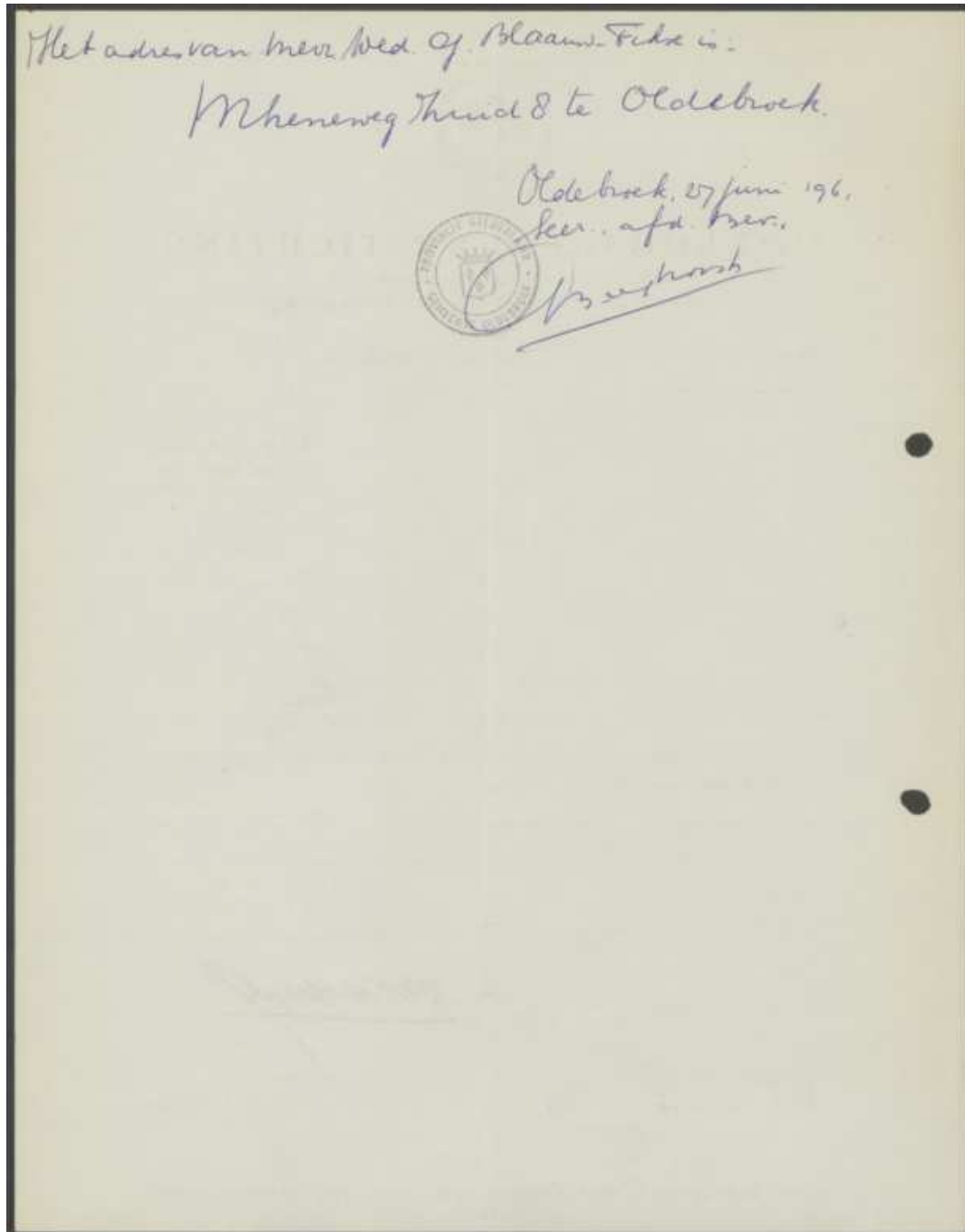
Doorhalen, hetgeen niet van toepassing is.
 Niet beantwoorden d.m.v. strepen.

Lists Oosterwolde, class 1, number 8; no section or row is specified. It records one occupant, space for one more, the municipality as owner/lessee, and condition "good." The handwritten year appears to be 55.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0015. Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.6 Archival facsimile 6 of 10

Figure 26. Municipal address confirmation for the widow. 27 June 1961. [48]

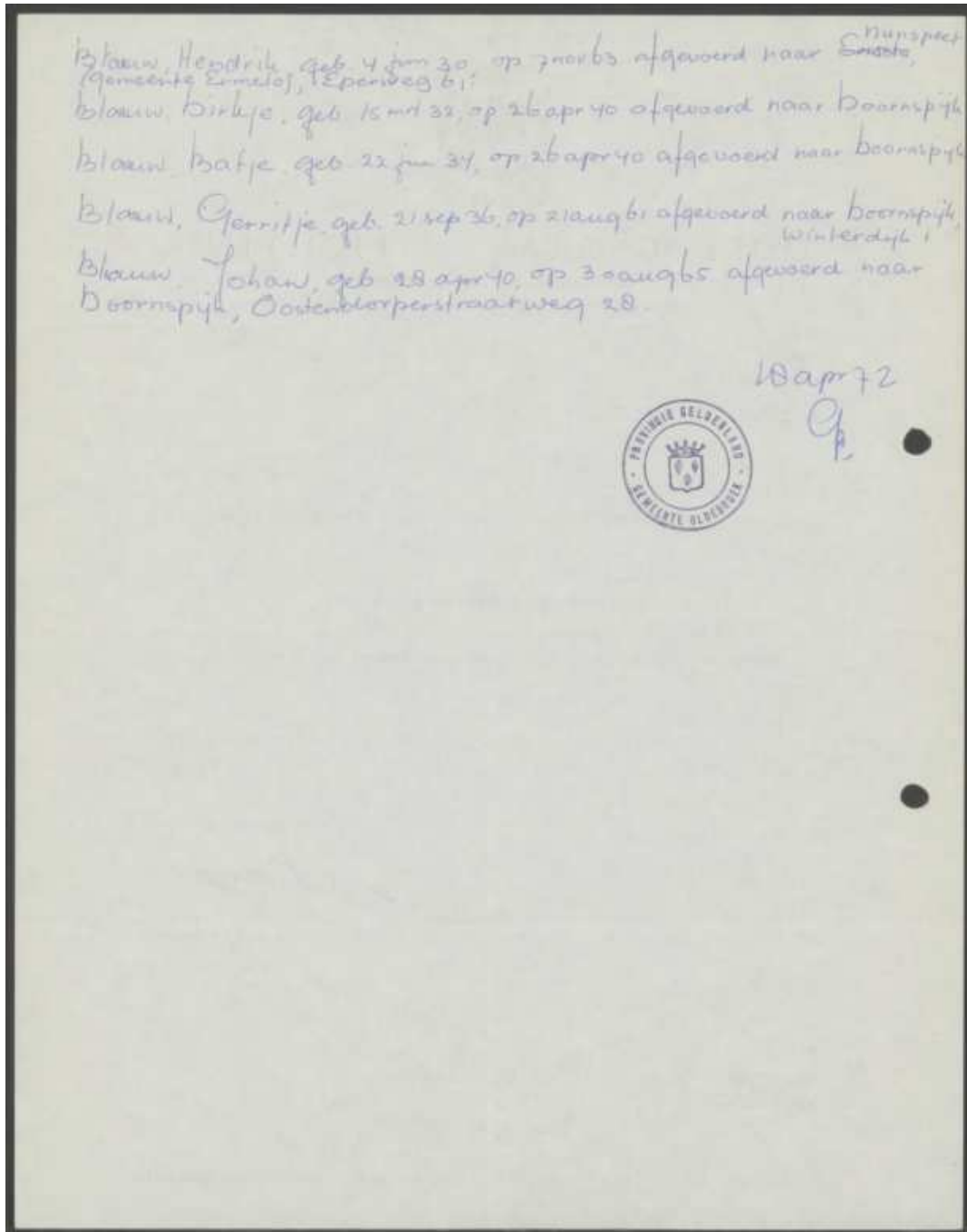


Oldebroek's population office confirms the address of Mrs J. Blaauw-Fikse at Mheenweg Zuid 8. This is a postwar contact record, not the wartime family address. The 1972 typed letter spells the street "Mehneweg."

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0008. Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.7 Archival facsimile 7 of 10

Figure 27. Municipal note on the five children. 10 April 1972. [49]

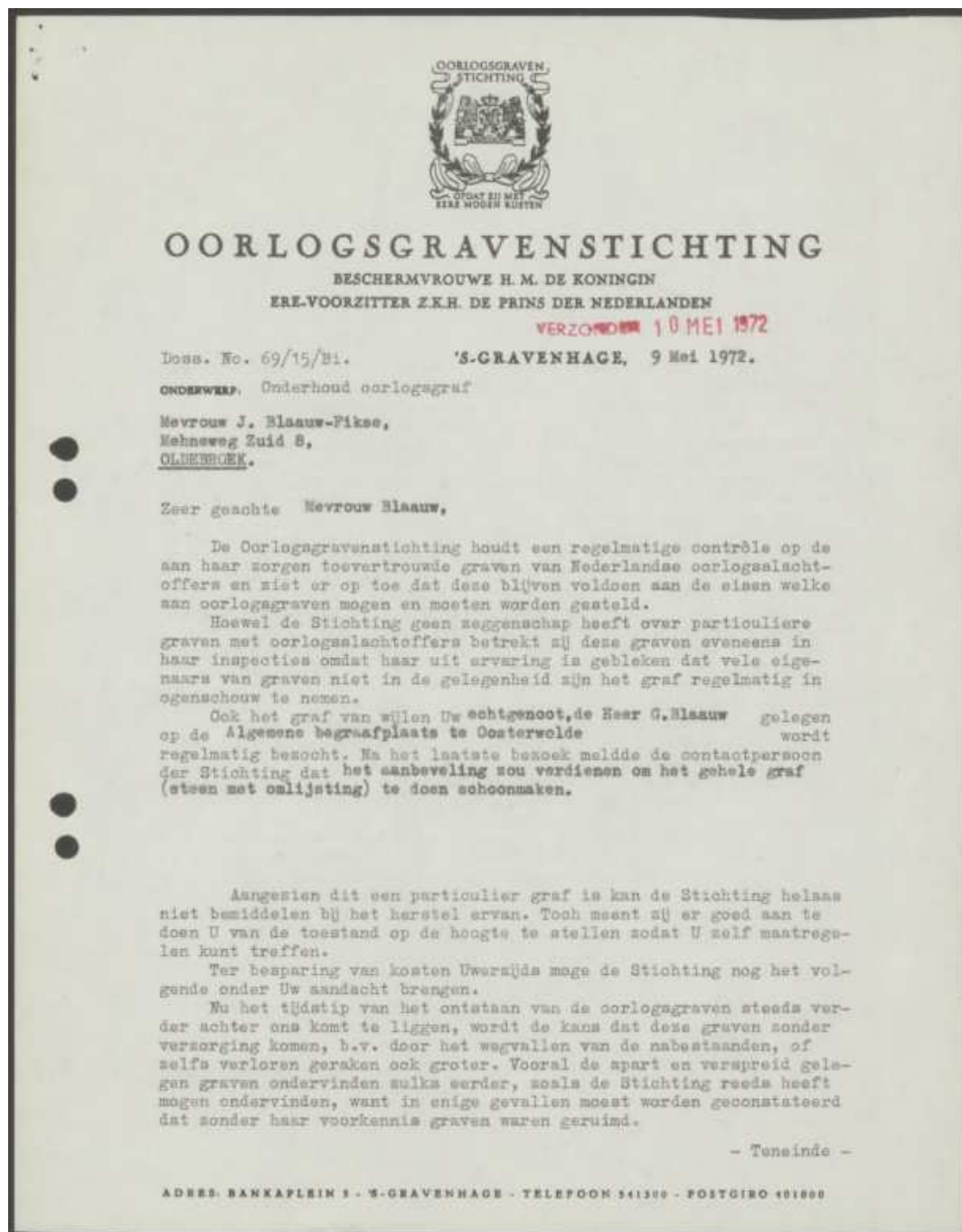


Repeats all five children's birth dates and notes transfers out of the municipality in 1940, 1961, 1963 and 1965. These are population-register movements; they do not describe resistance activity.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0006.
 Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.8 Archival facsimile 8 of 10

Figure 28. OGS letter concerning grave maintenance. 9 May 1972; dispatched 10 May. [50]



The OGS writes to the widow that the entire grave, including stone and surround, should be cleaned. It describes the grave as private and explains its limited authority. The page ends mid-letter; its continuation is not among the supplied scans.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0010.
 Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.9 Archival facsimile 9 of 10

Figure 29. Prepared consent form for transfer to Loenen. Prepared for 1972; unsigned. [51]

TOESTEMMINGEN - VERKLARING

Hierbij verzoekt ondergetekende Mevrouw J. Blaauw-Fikse
Oldebroek - Molensweg Zuid 8,
 wonende te aan
 de Oorlogsgravenstichting om het stoffelijk overschot van het oorlogsslacht-
Gerrit Blaauw
 offer wijlen de Heer
 gelegen in ondergenoemde grafruimte te doen opgraven en verplaatsen naar

a) het Ereveld van de Stichting te Loenen op
 de Veluwe (gemeente Apeldoorn);
 b) het Militair Ereveld "Grebbeberg" te Rhenen;
 c) de bestaande of aan te leggen erfhof op de
 begraafplaats
 te

Ondergetekende verleent voorts als rechthebbende op de grafruimte,
 klasse 1, vak ---, rij ---, nr. 8 op de Algemene begraafplaats
Oosterwolde
 te toestemming voor
 opening van deze grafruimte.

Ook verklaart ondergetekende dit verzoek te doen na overleg en met
 instemming van de overige familie.

De op het graf aanwezige steen dient te worden
~~op het graf~~ / * vernietigd / * achtergelaten te mijner beschikking.
 te Oosterwolde.

Oldebroek 2
 1970

(handtekening)

* doorhalen wat niet wordt verlangd.

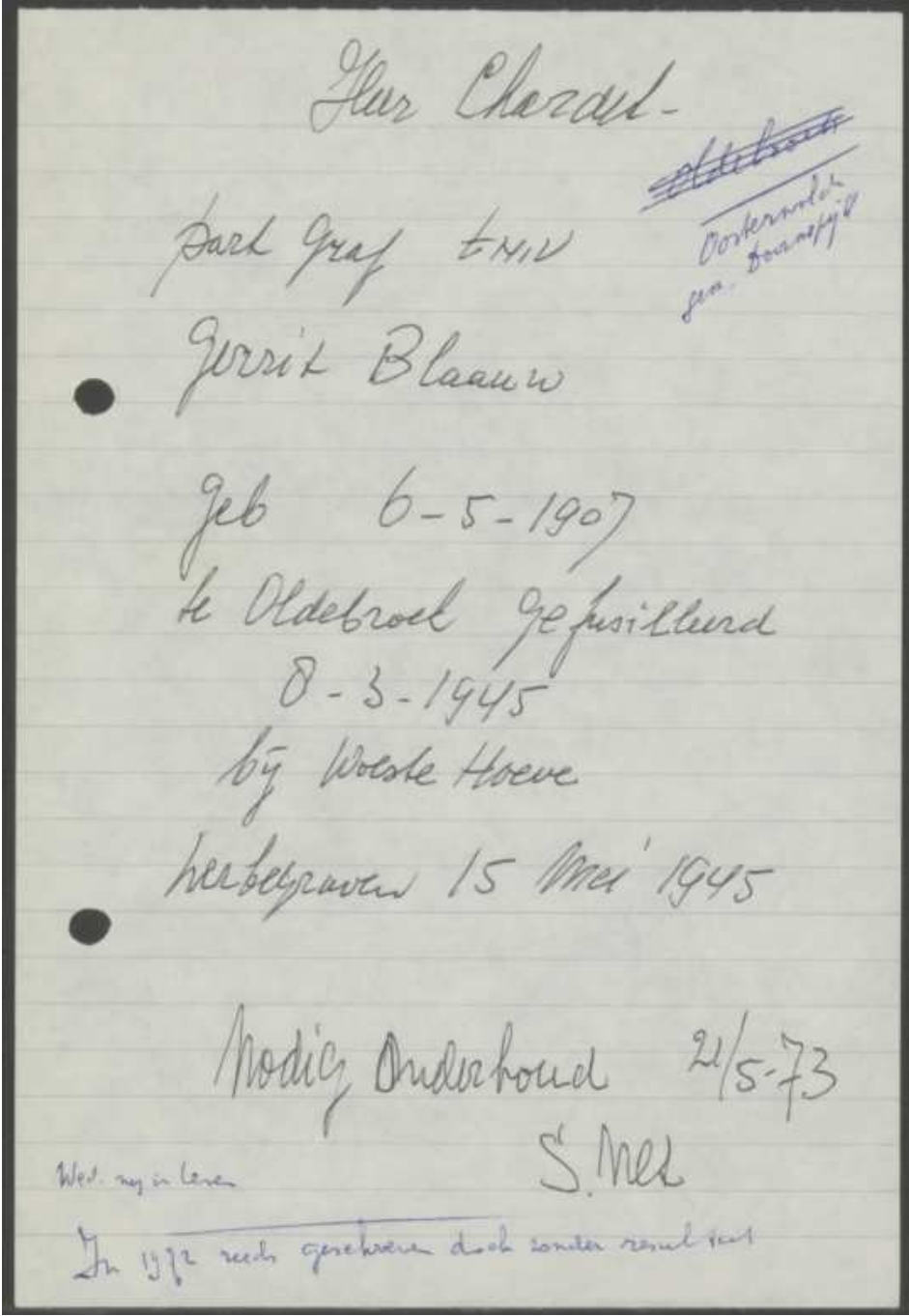
Aan:
 de Directeur der Oorlogsgravenstichting.
 Bankplein 5,
 's-Gravenhage.

A prefilled form proposes exhumation from Oosterwolde, class 1, no. 8, and transfer to Loenen. The signature and exact date are blank. This copy proves neither consent nor a completed transfer.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0012.
 Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

A.8.10 Archival facsimile 10 of 10

Figure 30. Handwritten maintenance follow-up. 21 May 1973. [52]



Hier Chardel-
 Part Graf t.N.V.
 Gerrit Blaauw
 Geb 6-5-1907
 te Oldebroek gefusillerd
 8-3-1945
 bij Woeste Hoeve
 herbegraven 15 Mei' 1945
 Modic Onderhoud 21/5-73
 S. Mel
 Wed. nog in leven
 In 1972 reeds gesproken doch zonder resultaat

~~Oldebroek~~
 Oorkonde
 van begrafenis

The note again records birth 6 May 1907, execution 8 March 1945 and reburial 15 May 1945. It calls for maintenance, says the widow is still alive, and notes that an approach in 1972 had produced no result; the precise scope of that remark is unspecified.

Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A; scan 0009.
 Supplied original image reproduced in full, proportionally scaled. Interpretation and selected translations: Appendix A.

Appendix B. Blair and the aircraft evidence



Figure 32. Portrait identified by the user as Blair. This is the same composition as the locally captioned portrait in Figure 5; it adds a supplied copy, not an independent identification. Photographer and date remain unknown. Surface marks and image edges are preserved. [36,55]

The accompanying report image (Figure 33) is the most consequential new evidence for the pilot's route. It is a first-person typescript headed "1. EVASION." The visible date marking reads "7 Jul 45." [54]

Attribution and evidentiary weight

The user identifies the page as Blair's evasion report. Its date, departure base, crash area and return chronology fit the Blair case. However, the supplied image contains no name, service number, squadron, aircraft serial or report number. It is therefore treated as a primary narrative provisionally attributed to Blair, not as a fully authenticated copy of the indexed MI9 report 3058. That archival association should be checked against the complete file and its identifying sheet. [3,13,54]

What the page changes

Crash and first assistance. It describes flak and a crash landing, followed by help from an unnamed English-speaking boy, a bicycle journey, a hut, civilian clothing, and two Dutch policemen. It does not describe parachuting or returning to recover a parachute. [54]

Dates. It gives 6 February and 11:45 for take-off; departure from the underground headquarters on 21 February; Apeldoorn on 20 March; movement west on 21 March; liberation on 18 April; and arrival in Britain on 20 April. [54]

Limits. It names no helper or Blaauw family member, no arrest, and no execution. "7 Jul 45." is a document marking; its administrative meaning cannot be settled from this crop alone. [54]

B.2 Evasion narrative: supplied source image

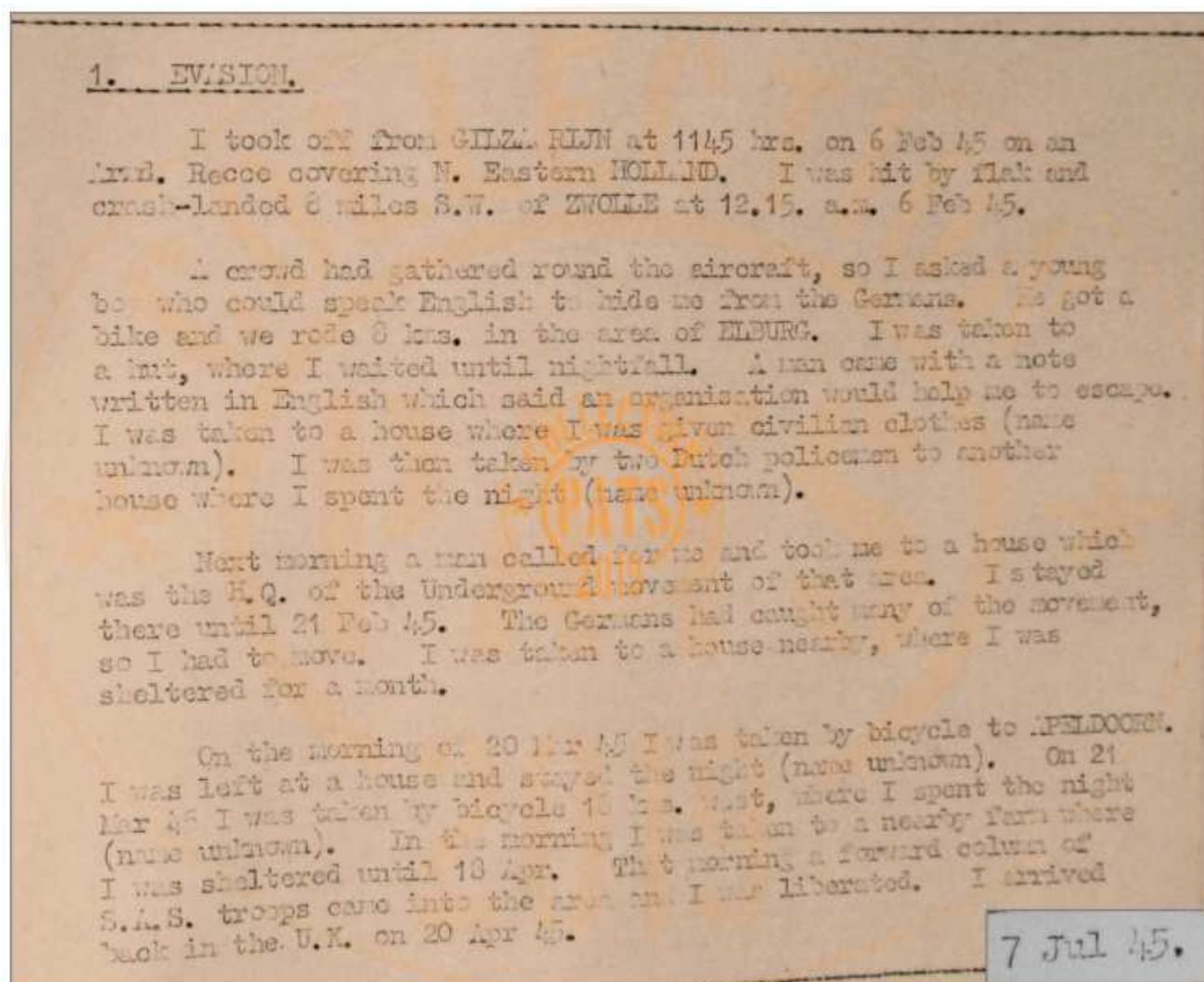


Figure 33. Supplied image IMG_9761.jpeg, reproduced in full, including border, orange overprint and date marking. The visible narrative is transcribed on the following page. No source watermark has been removed and no faded lettering has been reconstructed. [54]

The page is strong evidence for what this first-person account says. Authentication of the complete archival document is a separate question. The close agreement with the local panel may reflect the panel's use of this report; it must not automatically be counted as independent corroboration. The original file would also help resolve faint wording and the anomalous "a.m." time.

B.3 Transcription and editorial notes

Reading transcription of Figure 33. Line breaks and capitalization are regularized; wording and the apparent time error are retained. Square brackets identify uncertain reading or editorial comment. The final distance appears to read "16 kms." but is faint. [54]

1. EVASION.

I took off from GILZE RIJN at 1145 hrs. on 6 Feb 45 on an Armd. Recce covering N. Eastern HOLLAND. I was hit by flak and crash-landed 8 miles S.W. of ZWOLLE at 12.15. a.m. 6 Feb 45.

A crowd had gathered round the aircraft, so I asked a young boy who could speak English to hide me from the Germans. He got a bike and we rode 8 kms. in the area of ELBURG. I was taken to a hut, where I waited until nightfall. A man came with a note written in English which said an organisation would help me to escape. I was taken to a house where I was given civilian clothes (name unknown). I was then taken by two Dutch policemen to another house where I spent the night (name unknown).

Next morning a man called for me and took me to a house which was the H.Q. of the Underground Movement of that area. I stayed there until 21 Feb 45. The Germans had caught many of the movement, so I had to move. I was taken to a house nearby, where I was sheltered for a month.

On the morning of 20 Mar 45 I was taken by bicycle to APELDOORN. I was left at a house and stayed the night (name unknown). On 21 Mar 45 I was taken by bicycle [16 kms.?] West, where I spent the night (name unknown). In the morning I was taken to a nearby farm where I was sheltered until 18 Apr. That morning a forward column of S.A.S. troops came into the town and I was liberated. I arrived back in the U.K. on 20 Apr 45.

Visible date marking: 7 Jul 45.

Editorial notes

"Armd. Recce" means armed reconnaissance; H.Q. means headquarters. The typed "a.m." at 12:15 would precede the stated 11:45 take-off on the same date, so a midday landing is the contextual interpretation. "A month" is approximate: 21 February to 20 March is 27 days. The narrative describes a farm near a town, but does not name either. "Next morning" makes the first headquarters arrival 7 February and the farm arrival 22 March by inference; neither date is separately typed.

B.4 Comparison with other accounts

Issue	Supplied narrative [54]	Consequence for this paper
Loss date and time	6 Feb; take-off 11:45; crash 12:15 "a.m."	6 Feb strengthened. Retain SGLO 11:35 and panel 11:33 as conflicts; do not silently correct the time suffix. [2,36]
First day / night	Boy, bike, hut until dark; clothes at one house; two policemen to another house.	Supports police assistance; no names or staged-arrest story. Hut precedes first overnight house. [16,17,22]
Headquarters	Next morning to an unnamed house described as local underground H.Q.; leaves 21 Feb.	Do not simply equate with De Haere hut or Old Putten. Helper leaves 16 Feb; panel places Hagen stay from 19 Feb. [16,36]
Intermediate shelter	One nearby house for roughly a month.	Does not distinguish Akster and Hagen households. Compressed reporting is possible but not proved. [16]
March movement	20 Mar: Apeldoorn; 21 Mar: west by bicycle; following morning: nearby farm.	Adds direct itinerary evidence beyond panel/helper. Westward distance faint; no precise farm or town established. [16,36]
Liberation / return	18 Apr: SAS forward column; 20 Apr: back in UK.	Previously panel-only dates now occur in the supplied report. Unit and exact liberation place remain unidentified. [36]
Blaauw link	Unnamed young English-speaking boy; no surname, arrest or parachute episode.	Henk identification still depends on local accounts. No proof of Gerrit personally assisting Blair. [4,5,17]
Date marking	"7 Jul 45."	Consistent with the panel's interview claim, but the marking itself does not identify an interview or its author. [36]

Priority follow-up: obtain the identifying sheet and all pages of report 3058, then compare its helper names (if any) and original wording with the local participant account. The supplied page materially advances the reconstruction without resolving every identity or date.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE, 13 MARCH, 1945		1375
25th Jan. 1945.		
1377680 William Henry ATKINSON (190781).		
1306685 Maurice William GEE (190833).		
1138896 Joseph GIBSON (190752).		
1247335 Alfred Norman RICKETTS (190849).		
1332579 Alan Kenneth WILCH (190863).		
1260284 Leonard Maurice POTTER (190830).		
28th Jan. 1945.		
1379090 Frank Avelly KIRBY (190830).		
29th Jan. 1945.		
Flt. Sgts.		
1311362 Fred Winston COPE (190837).		
13th July 1944.		
1394202 John Walter GOULSTONE (190366).		
8th Aug. 1944.		
1292313 Harry Raine BARNER (190927).		
7th Sept. 1944.		
1320116 Robert James Heath ANDERSON (190872).		
9th Oct. 1944.		
798582 Andrew George Beric BEARCE (190698).		
28th Oct. 1944.		
1100658 William KERR (190832).		
8th Nov. 1944.		
1038020 Norman MATHER (190700).		
12th Nov. 1944.		
1282216 John ROME (190749).		
22nd Nov. 1944.		
1582034 Charles William GARNETT-BOTFIELD (190688).		
23rd Nov. 1944.		
933738 Leonard James DUNN (190632).		
3rd Dec. 1944.		
1311305 Albert Norman BRUMWELL (190873).		
5th Dec. 1944.		
1399562 Alan Charles HILLS (190714).		
9th Dec. 1944.		
2214681 David Edward Saxby CHIFFS (190771).		
11th Dec. 1944.		
12th Dec. 1944.		
1490580 Edwin Albert LAWRENCE (190881).		
1434985 Paul Donald TINKES (190862).		
1439765 Reginald Hoole BOKKINGS (190812).		
13th Dec. 1944.		
14th Dec. 1944.		
1491618 Joseph GRAY (190951).		
1350799 David Fotheringham McKINLAY (190799).		
1808228 James Herbert BADCOCK (190739).		
15th Dec. 1944.		
18th Dec. 1944.		
1378732 Edward Charlton NORVELL (190815).		
1546933 Frederick Brydone REED (190860).		
1514313 David BLAIR (190913).		
19th Dec. 1944.		
1892790 George William GODFREY (190787).		
21st Dec. 1944.		
23rd Dec. 1944.		
1237068 Gordon Henry JONNELL (190743).		
1564285 Thomas MacDonald KERR (191000).		
14th Dec. 1944.		
658334 Roy Preston Arthur CASE (190883).		
1452343 Idris Owen POWELL (190763).		
1461738 Ronald Albert GILLAM (190945).		
26th Dec. 1945.		
1st Jan. 1945.		
1450662 Kenneth HAYWARD (190689).		
1512476 Robert Oliver HARRISON (190738).		
2nd Jan. 1945.		
1395678 Jeffrey ALANASTER (190835).		
1453163 Roger TROWELL (190864).		
3rd Jan. 1945.		
1283579 Thomas McGRAW (190754).		
1451311 John Michael Hubert GORDEN (190859).		
865123 Walter Lionel REEVES (190737).		
1493303 Arthur Edwin WINDASS (190861).		
4th Jan. 1945.		
1801318 Ian Alfred Haller CROAD (190866).		
2111432 Stanley HIBBERT (190789).		
1399111 Billie WATFORD (190857).		
5th Jan. 1945.		
6th Jan. 1945.		
1457573 Stanley Lewis (190916).		
710273 Beville Charles Dacre MILLER MUNDY (190249).		
1474583 Leon WILDER (190657).		
7th Jan. 1945.		
1562736 Francis Love BODAN (191005).		
8th Jan. 1945.		
9th Jan. 1945.		
1580785 Derek Arthur BRADBURY (190658).		
1394135 Norman DALE (190914).		
1600894 Harold Edwin WELLS (190847).		
10th Jan. 1945.		
1808923 Peter Edward LONG (190715).		
1554800 George Ferguson McDONALD (190871).		
11th Jan. 1945.		
655728 Stephen William GIBBONS (190701).		
1805165 Edward Maxwell JONESON (190720).		
1439044 Donald STUART (190784).		
12th Jan. 1945.		
14th Jan. 1945.		
1317323 Basil CORNWALL-NASH (190786).		
1199591 Ronald MILLS (190811).		
15th Jan. 1945.		
2874864 William Sidney BOULTER (190770).		
1605591 George Frederick FELSTEAD (190773).		
968267 Norman Edwin HENRY (190732).		
1043373 Edwin SMITH (190736).		
16th Jan. 1945.		
1459358 Patrick Beverford TOMES (191003).		
1670246 George WESTWELL (190639).		
1636845 Ronald Walter WEST (190660).		
17th Jan. 1945.		
18th Jan. 1945.		
1684980 Arthur Knowles BOLTON (190823).		
1551190 John GRAHAM (190753).		
1800476 Angus Cuthbert Fleetwood Benjamin FINNON (190831).		
19th Jan. 1945.		
1454339 Thomas McGUIDNESS (183441).		
20th Jan. 1945.		
21st Jan. 1945.		
1622953 Leslie Sharpe BARRACLOUGH (190879).		
1600055 Peter Richard WAINWRIGHT (190648).		
22nd Jan. 1945.		
1339804 Gordon Reginald CARRER (190836).		
1006474 John Alfred HEAL (190915).		
24th Jan. 1945.		
1390612 Kenneth Charles CUTTING (190647).		
990383 Leslie Matthew HOLLAND (190824).		
1804739 Patrick Ernest RAYMOND (190813).		
25th Jan. 1945.		
1622471 George Thomas CHARLTON (190774).		
1313863 John Montgomery PEACE (190649).		
1493288 John Arthur DAVIES (190828).		
26th Jan. 1945.		
27th Jan. 1945.		
1625943 Kenneth Clark FISHER (190904).		
1576752 John Walker HORRIDGE (190747).		
28th Jan. 1945.		
1324919 Keith GAMBLE (191004).		
983154 Peter LEES (190875).		
1850335 Jack Raymond PARKER (190837).		
1487069 William Joseph PATTERSON (190870).		
30th Jan. 1945.		
1054411 George Lyndell AUFERN (190840).		
1529843 Alan BLUE (191002).		
995455 Jack JOWETT (190880).		
913829 Joseph Henry WRIGHT (190848).		
31st Jan. 1945.		
1577069 John Leslie DUFFY (190814).		
2nd Feb. 1945.		
4th Feb. 1945.		
1670062 Joseph Douglas DAVISON (190906).		
1323305 George William Gordon WARREN (190874).		
1394383 Derek Singleton BARR (190947).		
5th Feb. 1945.		
1607151 Harold Maurice BOYE (191006).		
8th Feb. 1945.		
Actg. Flt. Sgt.		
2211546 Sydney James MOORES (190427).		
30th Jan. 1945.		
Sgts.		
1875980 Samuel John HORDAY (183201).		
21st Apr. 1944.		
1852251 Kenneth Roy LANG (183206).		
28th Apr. 1944.		
1586412 William James Jenkins HUDSON (186543).		
4th June 1944.		
1895984 John Balloch LERLIE (187224).		
25th July 1944.		
1603587 William James CAMPBELL (190637).		
28th Sept. 1944.		
1128174 Venizelos Efstathiou (190839).		
11th Oct. 1944.		
18th Oct. 1944.		
1896285 Philip Rees JACKSON (190772).		
1833328 Herbert LEES (190740).		
1591136 Hugh Frederic TURNER (190741).		
1591196 James ROTHWELL (190746).		
9th Nov. 1944.		
1392439 Charles Alfrid Arthur CATHORNE (190750).		
11th Nov. 1944.		
1062712 Trevor EVANS (167473).		
1st Dec. 1944.		

Figure 1. Supplement to the London Gazette, 13 March 1945, p. 1375. In the left column, the entry for 1514313 David BLAIR (190913) is dated 19 December 1944. The notice provides a contemporary link between the two service identifiers and the name David. [1]

B.5 Pilot identity and aircraft illustrations

The Gazette establishes a service and commission identity; it does not authenticate the supplied evasion page. The following plates distinguish portraits, modern memorial interpretation and representative squadron imagery. The local panel and helper account are compared in B.4, rather than merged into a single route. [1,36,41,54]

Photographic evidence: Blair and his helpers



F/Sgt. David Blair 
RAF

Figure 5. David Blair, as identified by the local TA837 history site. The identifying caption is part of the source image. Original photographer, date and family/archive provenance remain unknown. It has not been matched with a service-file photograph. [36]



Figure 6. Henk Baud and Kitta outside Nova Zembla on De Haere, shortly after liberation. Credit: Archief Wolter Noordman, Heerde, via Elburg in Oorlogstijd. The photograph shows the helpers and hideout; Blair's stay is supported by the accompanying testimony, not his presence in the picture. [16]

Old Putten and the hideout network



Figure 7. Huis Old Putten, 2010. Modern view of the property associated with the resistance group and February 1945 raid. It is not Nova Zembla. Photograph: Kasteelbeer, via Wikimedia Commons / Mijn Gelderland; host credit CC BY-SA, version unspecified. Image scaled without cropping. [37]

Source comparison: household sequence

Stage	Helper account [16]	Memorial panel [36]
De Haere	Departure on 16 February.	Early route includes several additional helpers.
Zwaluwenburg	About one week with J. Akster.	Names Jan Akster. Identity match is plausible, not proved.
Oldebroek	Then the Hagen family.	Names Corrie Hagen; 19 February–19 March.
Apeldoorn	Second half of March.	20 March; farther south the next day.

The TA837 memorial and interpretation panel



Figure 8. TA837 memorial at Winterdijk. Downloaded from Oldebroek in Oorlogstijd; photographer and exposure date not supplied. Credit to Arjan Vrieze applies to the separate TracesOfWar photographs, not automatically to this file. [11,36]

Figure 9, below. Published panel artwork. A modern interpretation, including a portrait, map, helper names and dates. The inset Spitfire photograph is illustrative; no provenance establishes it as TA837. [36]

CRASH SPITFIRE MK TA837

Di. 6 februari 1945, 12.15 uur

Het toestel

Supermarine Spitfire LF Mk.IXe TA837

De Supermarine Spitfire was een Brits jachtvliegtuig. Het toestel werd in 1938 in productie genomen door Supermarine Division, Vickers Armstrong Ltd. Het toestel werd gedurende de gehele Tweede Wereldoorlog ingezet door de geallieerden, voornamelijk door de RAF.

Er werden in totaal 20.340 stuks Spitfires gebouwd. Daarnaast bestond ook nog de variant Seafire, waarvan er 2.594 werden gebouwd. De Spitfire valt op door zijn stroomlijn en ellipsovormige vleugels. Het vliegtuig is vooral bekend door de beslissende rol die het speelde tijdens de Slag om Engeland.

Het Air Ministry bestelde op 3 juni 1936 310 vliegtuigen van het nieuwe model dat de naam Spitfire kreeg. De naam was een verwijzing naar een meisje of vrouw met een sterk temperament. Tot 1942 werd uitsluitend de Merlin motor variant gebruikt, zowel bij de Seafire als bij de Spitfire. Vanaf dat jaar schakelde men echter over op de Griffon motor variant. In totaal waren er 34 types (Marks) bij de Spitfire. Er zijn er in totaal 20351 stuks van gebouwd.

De Spitfire TA837 is door de fabriek op 2 oktober 1944 afgeleverd aan het Royal Air Force 8 Maintenance unit (RAF Little Rissington) en op 9 november 1944 is het afgeleverd bij het 349 Squadron.

Op 26 november 1944 heeft het van uit Maldegem 8.65 België, zijn eerste operationele vlucht gemaakt. Het toestel heeft in totaal 29 operationele vluchten gemaakt met een totale tijdsduur van 36 uur!

De bemanning

Tijdens de Tweede Wereldoorlog heeft in de middag van dinsdag 6 februari 1945 de Supermarine Spitfire LF Mk.IXe TA837, van het Belgische 349 Squadron, een noodlanding gemaakt in een weiland tegenover de Grote Alee aan de Winterdijk te Oosterwolde (het was toen Gemeente Doornspijk en is nu Gemeente Oldebroek).

De bemanning van de Spitfire bestond uit één piloot, f/Sgt. David Blair. De Spitfire TA837 vertrok om 11.33 uur van de basis E.77 Gilze-Rijen voor een "Gewapende verkenning" in de omgeving van Bremen met zeven andere toestellen. Het toestel is in het oosten van Nederland door lichte luchtafweer geraakt en de piloot David Blair heeft een succesvolle noodlanding gemaakt, Blair is daar zonder verwondingen vanaf gekomen.

Aalbertha van Hattem en onderduiker Marchelien Rene Peters uit Blaricum en Henk Blaauw waren als eersten bij Blair. Hij wilde een fiets om aan de Duitsers te ontkomen.

Peters is met Blair in noordelijke richting vertrokken en ze hebben de nacht in een hutje (de Taramieten) doorgebracht. Gerard van Heerde, politieagent te Doornspijk, heeft hem daarna in samenwerking met Aart Klompmaker op de fiets langs de 16 SD'ers gesmokkeld.

Achtereenvolgens is Blair naar H. van der Brink op 't Eekt, Hendrik Boeve (LO Oldebroek) en Jan Akster op Zwaluwenburg gebracht. Daarna is hij van 19 februari tot 19 maart bij Corrie Hagen (verzetvrouw) geweest.

Op 20 maart is Blair naar Apeldoorn gebracht en de volgende dag verder naar het zuiden. Op 18 april 1945 is Blair bevrijd toen een voorwaartse colonne van S.A.S. troepen kwamen in het gebied.

Op 20 april 1945 arriveerde Blair weer in het Verenigd Koninkrijk, waar hij op 7 juli 1945 door het MB is verhoord.

De crashlocatie

De crashlocatie, u staat bij het begin van de pijk.

Als u linksaf gaat met de bocht mee tot aan de dam in de sloot dan is het 600 m tot aan de locatie van de noodlanding. De Spitfire is door de door de Duitsers opgeblazen en door omwonenden is van alles meegenomen.

Zoekactie Duitsers

Al spoedig beginnen de Duitsers een zoekactie naar de piloot. Henk Blaauw heeft o.a. een rubberboot en parachute meegenomen en verstoppt.

Op 13 februari is Henk weer bezig onderdelen van het vliegtuig af te slopen en schieten twee Duitsers op het vliegtuig. Ze wenken Henk en vragen wat hij aan het doen is, omdat ze het niet vertrouwen gaan ze mee naar zijn huis. Daar vinden ze de parachute en vragen hoe hij eraan komt, het verhaal geloven ze niet en hij moet mee naar Elburg naar de commandant van de Grüne Polizei, Lehmann.

Ook zijn vader, die ondergedoken was, moest komen en is gegaan omdat hij bang was dat zijn zoon in de problemen zou komen. Henk's vader werd vastgehouden en naar Apeldoorn gebracht.

Na de aanslag op Rauter, in de nacht van 6 op 7 maart 1945 bij Apeldoorn, werden als represaille 117 mensen bij de Woeste Hoeve gefusilleerd. Onder hen was ook de vader van Henk Blaauw, Gerrit Blaauw. Hij is begraven in Oosterwolde.

Voor aanvullende informatie, scan de QR code

Gemeente Oldebroek

www.oldebroekoorlogstijd.nl

The panel is retained at its downloaded resolution. Its claims are compared with the helper account in the narrative and Appendix B.4; it is not used to authenticate its own underlying testimony.

Additional location evidence



Figure 12. Local source's crash-location diagram. The source identifies the circled field as the emergency-landing location and the arrow's starting point as the memorial. This reproduces the source's placement; the aerial base, date and positional accuracy are unspecified. It is not an independently surveyed coordinate fix. [36]

What this image adds

The memorial's position should not be used as the aircraft's precise stopping point. The panel describes a walk of about 600 metres along the dyke to the landing location. That distance is a route instruction from a later display, not a measured crash-site radius. The photograph and diagram together clarify why a map pin at the memorial and the field location can differ. [36]

Reproduction record

Source: Oldebroek in Oorlogstijd, TA837 page; image file `img_smsta837_locatie-1.jpg`. Retrieved and inspected 6 October 2026. Displayed without alteration except proportional scaling. The available file is 565 × 288 pixels; no invented detail has been added.

349 Squadron: wartime aircraft and insignia



Figure 13. Spitfire IXCs of No. 349 (Belgian) Squadron RAF at Friston, Sussex. Official wartime photograph by F/O A. Goodchild; Imperial War Museums, Air Ministry collection, CH 12434. The catalogue describes the aircraft in snow before the squadron joined 2 TAF. This supplies squadron context; neither TA837 nor Blair is identified in the image. Wikimedia Commons records the photograph as public domain under expired Crown copyright. [41]



Figure 14. Badge reproduced as that of 349 Squadron. Source: the local TA837 page. The displayed words identify the Belgian squadron; the artwork's maker and date are not stated. This emblem provides unit context, not evidence about an individual sortie or pilot. [36]

Aircraft illustration from the TA837 history page



Figure 15. Spitfire in flight, used by Oldebroek in Oorlogstijd to illustrate its TA837 article. The visible aircraft markings differ from TA837. The host supplies no photographer, exposure date or full airframe identification. It is reproduced as a general aircraft illustration, not as a wartime photograph of Blair's machine. Source file: img_spitfire.jpg. [36]

How to read the aircraft images

Figure 13 has a museum catalogue identity and a direct connection to 349 Squadron. Figure 15 is an illustrative photograph hosted beside the local crash narrative. The Spitfire inset on the memorial panel is another illustration whose aircraft identity is not established here. None authenticates the individual airframe TA837. The loss register and operational records remain the relevant evidence for that identification. [2,36,41]

Image treatment: proportional scaling only. Original markings, borders and source image content are preserved; no colourisation, reconstruction or sharpening has been applied.

The helpers' account and its family context



Figure 16. Postwar family photograph accompanying “Uniek document.” The source’s media title is *gezin 1957* (“family 1957”). The article concerns Henk Baud, Kitta and the family transmission of her account, but provides no individual image caption. The identities of the four sitters and exact occasion are therefore not asserted here. Photographer and original ownership are unspecified. Source: Elburg in Oorlogstijd. [16]

The image documents the article’s family context; it does not independently verify Blair’s movements. The separately reproduced Nova Zembla photograph (Figure 6) has the more specific source description and archive credit.

Appendix C. Rauter and the reprisal



Figure 34. Rauter's car after the attack, as presented by Doetinchem Herdenkt. Site credit: **Beeldbank WO2-NIOD**. Photographer, precise exposure date and original catalogue number are not given. The supplied web image is reproduced without restoration. [22]

The attack and the prisoners

The site dates the shooting to the night of **6–7 March 1945**. Resistance members intended to seize a truck to transport meat; the encounter with Rauter was unintended. He survived serious wounds; his driver and adjutant died. The German reprisal on 8 March killed 274 men, including 117 at Woeste Hoeve. Of those 117, the site identifies 25 prisoners from De Kruisberg, including Gerrit Blaauw. [22]

Evidence and limits

Reference [22] previously covered only an excerpt. The full page is now examined. Its Blaauw biography says Henk was arrested at the wreck; the museum account emphasizes the search and discovery of the parachute. This is a sequence difference to retain, not silently reconcile. [4,22]

The photo illustrates the triggering incident, not Blaauw's presence there. His detention and execution are separately supported by the Dutch archival records. No evidence examined places him among the attackers. [43,45,46]

C.2 Putten, October 1944: separate context

A separate episode of collective punishment

Stichting Oktober 44 describes the German roundup at Putten following a resistance attack on a Wehrmacht car on the night of **30 September 1944**. German troops surrounded Putten on 1 October under General Friedrich Christiansen’s orders. Men were taken to Amersfoort; women and children were ordered to leave. Approximately 110 buildings were burned. Deportation to Neuengamme followed on 11 October. [56]

The foundation’s accounting

Category in the foundation’s account	Men
Taken away from Putten	659
Released at Amersfoort	58
Sent toward Neuengamme	601
Escaped from the train	13
Arrived at Neuengamme	588
Returned after liberation	48
Died in German concentration camps	540
Killed during the raid	7
Died shortly after returning	5
Total victims counted by the foundation	552

These categories are nested: 659 – 58 = 601; 601 – 13 = 588; 588 – 48 = 540. The total of 552 adds seven raid deaths and five deaths after return. The headline “48 returned” concerns camp survivors, not all men initially taken away. [56]

Relevance and boundaries

Putten supplies regional context for German collective punishment. It is distinct from the February 1945 raid on **Huize Old Putten near Elburg** and from the March executions at Woeste Hoeve. The place-name similarity does not connect these events. This source establishes no personal involvement by Blair or Gerrit Blaauw in the Putten roundup. [16,31,56]

C.3 Woeste Hoeve: memorial and names



Figure 10. Woeste Hoeve memorial. General view published with Gerrit's local biography. Photographer and date unspecified. This is the later memorial, not the execution scene. [18]

G.A. van Assen	J. Beekes	G.G. Beer	in den Berg	N.H. Bergsteijn	G. Blaauw
J. de Boer	W. de Boer	A. du Bois		M.A. van den Born	J. Braams
H. van den Brink	J. van Bruggen	J.C.	J.D.F. Bryan	C. van Dam	J. Dekker
J.H. Dommerholt	H. Drost	P.I.		W.G. van Dijk	H.C. Edauw
R.J. Edelenbos	L.S. Eenkhoorn	W.I.		R.A. Formanoy	H. Franken
J. Frederiks	W. Frieling	J.B. de Goede	enboer	J.G. Guttling	H. Hadders
J.H. Harmsen	M.H. van der Harst	A.	k	B. Hartemink	T. Hartlief
J.F. Haytink	J.H. Heijen	A.E. Hicks	J. Hoek	A. Hoks	S. Holtjer
B.C.M. van der Hoop	N. Hulbers	C. Huis	H.G.J. Huyskamp	A.J. Janse	J.G. Joosten
J. Kapteijn	A.H. Kattouw	J.R. Kerkdijk	ops	H. Koopmans	J.E.W.G. Kortlang
J.M. Kortlang	L. Kremer	J.R. Kröttje	Gulper	J.H. Lamberts	D. Lammes
H. de Lange	H. Langen	H. Langevoort	H. Leus	C.J. van der Linden	G. Mannessen
W. Mantel	J.W. Matthijse	P. van der Meer	leijer	H. Meijeringh	H.J. Meijers
F.A. Molijn	W. van Mulligen	H.J. Nabe	A.J. Nales	A. Nauta	H.J. Nikkel
G. Oberdak	G. Oortgiesen	E. Plette	leger	H.J. Post	J.H. Prienger
H.A.J.H. Schamhart	H. Schipper	J. Schoen	K. Schra	H. Seyffards	A. Sturink
P. Snit	A.P. Smitshuijsen	L. Steen		A. Streefland	J. Stroomberg
J. Stutvoet	J. Thijssen	P.R. Tjites	burg	M.J.E. van der Veen	P. van der Vegt
P.C.M. van de Velde	J.A. Veldwachter		er	A. de Vries	J. Vroom
J. Wierenga	J. Zandvoort	O. Zo		H.H. Zwearing	een naam onbekend

Figure 11. Names detail. G. Blaauw appears at the top of the right group. Photograph: Gouwenaar, 13 October 2017; existing cropped version, Wikimedia Commons CC0 1.0, reproduced via Elburg in Oorlogstijd. [18,38]

C.4 Civilian consequences and commemoration



Figure 17. Portrait published with Museum Sjoel Elburg's account of Rieny Jacobs at Winterdijk 28. The museum's image filename identifies Rieny Jacobs. It gives no photographer or date. The account connects fear after Gerrit's arrest with her removal to another hiding address. This illustrates the wider civilian consequences discussed in Section 3. [4]



Figure 18. Woeste Hoeve memorial inscription. The Dutch text commemorates those murdered here on the morning of 8 March 1945. Source: Elburg in Oorlogstijd's Gerrit Blaauw biography, file 2013k.jpg; the filename alone is insufficient to establish an exposure date. Photographer unspecified. This detail complements the full memorial and names photographs (Figures 10–11). [18]

References and image sources

Bracketed numbers identify the same sources throughout the text and captions. Unverified leads are labelled in their entries. User-supplied records are cited by repository, collection, inventory and scan where available.

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[46] Nationaal Archief, The Hague, Oorlogsgravenstichting archive, access 2.19.255.01, inventory 12579A, scan 0004. OGS grave and circumstances questionnaire, 19 February 1954. User-supplied digitised image [NL-HaNA_2.19.255.01_12579A_0004.jpg](#); visually examined 6 October 2026. This is one of ten supplied images, not a claim to have examined the complete inventory file.

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[53] Haags Gemeentearchief, access 0432-01, inventory 4054, scan 0025. Identification card for Gerrit Blaauw, undated. User-supplied image [NL-HaHGA_0432-01_4054_0025\(1\).jpg](#); visually examined 6 October 2026. The card types birth year 1908; the execution-day character is unclear. Citation follows the supplied archival filename; the broader collection description has not been independently verified.

[54] Evasion narrative supplied as IMG_9761.jpeg, headed "1. EVASION." and bearing a visible "7 Jul 45." date marking. User identifies it as Blair's evasion report; visually examined 6 October 2026. The supplied page has no visible pilot name, service number, report number, archive reference or signature. Provisional association with MI9 report 3058, WO 208/3327, derives from the existing index [3,13] and the user attribution, not a visible archival identifier. Orange overprint retained; its source is not established.

[55] Portrait supplied as IMG_9762.jpeg, identified by the user as Blair. Visually examined 6 October 2026. Same portrait composition as the locally captioned image [36]; original photographer, exposure date, negative and custodial provenance unknown. Supplied copy reproduced without restoration.

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Image provenance and editorial treatment

The cover is an AI-generated evocative illustration. It is not a photograph of Gerrit or an evidentiary reconstruction. Figure 2 is an editorial chronology. Figure 3 is the municipal portrait [7]. Figure 4 is the printed LO history [6]. The wartime map and enlarged detail, Figures 35–36, derive from Berkeley’s digitized 1943 sheet [57]; the detail is cropped without added routes or markers.

Figures 5, 8, 9 and 12 are hosted on [36]; Figure 6 on [16], credited to Archief Wolter Noordman; Figure 7 on [37]; Figure 10 on [18]; Figure 11 is the reduced, already-cropped version from [38] hosted on [18]. Figures 13–18 comprise the IWM squadron photograph [41], badge and representative Spitfire [36], family photograph [16], Rieny Jacobs portrait [4] and inscription [18]. The aircraft imagery is not presented as a photograph of TA837.

Figures 19–20 are crops from the supplied newspaper [42]. Figures 21–30 reproduce the ten supplied National Archives scans in full [43–52]. Figure 31 is the supplied Hague identification card [53]. Figures 32–33 are the supplied portrait and evasion narrative [54,55]. Figure 34 is the car photograph credited to Beeldbank WO2–NIOD by Doetinchem Herdenkt [22]. Original photographers and dates are stated only where identified by the sources.

The editorial review removes inherited duplicate narrative and obsolete cross-reference pages, renumbers the documentary appendices, and corrects the attribution of the 30 June notification. Historical document images retain their wording and appearance, including errors and uncertain readings. Captions distinguish the date of a document, a modern photograph and the underlying wartime event.

October 2026 integrated research update

Additional evidence from the original family research report incorporated into the revised booklet edition.

This update consolidates the material that was distinctive to the original 11-page family research report with the more extensive revised booklet. The revised 56-page edition is the presentation and narrative base; the points below are retained because they add specific source details or important source-boundary cautions.

1. Gerrit's civil death registration

The Apeldoorn civil death register, entry no. 795, records Gerrit Blaauw's death on 8 March 1945 at 9:00 a.m. The death was declared/registered on 14 May 1945. The OpenArchieven and Gelders Archief pages supplied during the research are access points to this same civil-register evidence; they should not be counted as separate independent death sources.

2. Blair / MI9 archival lead

The original report identified a National Archives catalogue lead: C14084597, WO 208/3327/3058, described as "Pilot Officer D Blair," service number 190913, with a note that related information may also occur in WO 208/5582–5583. The short catalogue description does not identify an aircraft, crash site or Dutch helpers, so the file itself still needs to be inspected before it is tied conclusively to Spitfire TA837.

3. Service-number clarification

The revised booklet supplies an important clarification: its London Gazette reference identifies David Blair with RAF service number 1514313 and also gives 190913 in parentheses. Thus the 190913/1514313 difference should not be treated as a simple contradiction. It is nevertheless still necessary to inspect WO 208/3327/3058 to establish that the indexed MI9 report is the same David Blair who flew TA837.

4. Source boundary retained

A separately supplied Oldebroek register image concerning Gerrit's daughter is not evidence about Gerrit himself and is therefore not used to support his biography, arrest, resistance work or death. This keeps the evidentiary boundary between family records and records directly concerning Gerrit.

What remains unresolved

The integrated edition keeps disputed details visible rather than forcing a single narrative.

Arrest sequence: 13 or 14 February 1945

The original report and the revised booklet both preserve a date discrepancy. The 1970 newspaper account supports a 13 February sequence involving Henk's return to the wreck and subsequent German action, while other published material gives 14 February. The separate SD raid at Huize Old Putten on 13 February may be a different event. The evidence does not yet justify collapsing these into one date.

Pilot's given name

The sources variously use Dick, David and Donald Blair. David is presently the best-supported form because of the London Gazette and the revised booklet's documentary comparison, but the discrepancy should remain explicit until the complete identified evasion report or service documentation is checked.

What the aircraft story does — and does not — prove

The pilot's evasion narrative supports the aircraft incident and a general pattern of local assistance, but the supplied page does not name Henk or Gerrit. Local sources connect the crash with the Blaauw family. That connection is important, but the available material does not by itself prove that Gerrit personally met, sheltered or transported Blair.

1970 newspaper and family memory

The 27 February 1970 Elburger Courant article remains valuable retrospective testimony about Gerrit's resistance work, the Spitfire episode and the family's experience. The original report specifically warned that its automatic transcription contains OCR errors. The revised booklet improves the treatment by comparing the account with other records, but the original scan remains the authority for names, dates and exact wording.

Research priority

- Obtain and inspect the complete MI9 report 3058 and its identifying sheet; compare its helper names, dates and route with the Dutch accounts.
- Obtain the complete OGS inventory 12579A and the relevant Hague identification sequence.
- Use municipal, police and prison records to test the Henk/Gerrit arrest sequence and the intermediate detention history.
- Keep the 1945 funeral clipping, civil death registration, 1970 article and later war-grave records distinct by date and evidentiary purpose.

Editorial basis of the merged booklet

How the two friend versions and the original family report were consolidated.

The 56-page revised friend version is used as the structural and visual base because it contains the fuller documentary appendices, contents, map section, source references and explicit evidence assessment. The 52-page version was also reviewed; where the two friend versions differed, the later revised edition was preferred when it represented a clearer or more complete treatment of the same material.

Integration principles

- The original October 2026 family research report remains the baseline for the family-specific findings and source cautions.
- The revised booklet's stronger documentary analysis is retained rather than replaced by the shorter original narrative.
- Specific new details are included only where they can be traced to material already present in one of the supplied reports.
- Conflicting names, dates and identities remain labelled as unresolved where the supplied evidence does not settle them.
- AI-generated cover artwork is treated as presentation only, not as historical evidence.
- The booklet does not claim to have inspected an archive file merely because a catalogue entry or secondary index identifies it.

Bottom line

The integrated record supports Gerrit Blaauw's identity, family, resistance affiliation, detention, execution at Woeste Hoeve on 8 March 1945 and reburial at Oosterwolde on 15 May 1945. It also supports the TA837/Oosterwolde aircraft episode and David Blair as the best-supported pilot identity. The remaining gaps concern the precise arrest sequence, Gerrit's individual resistance activities, the pilot's complete evasion record and later life, and the documentary chain linking the MI9 catalogue lead to TA837.

Prepared as an integrated family research edition from the three supplied PDFs. Historical source wording and uncertainty are preserved where material to interpretation.

8. Summary and open research questions

The evidence establishes Gerrit Blaauw as a father of five, a distribution official and an acknowledged member of the Doornspijk “Old Putten” resistance section. The signed mayoral reply is the clearest inspected source for that organizational affiliation. Official grave papers record his arrest at Elburg, detention at De Kruisberg, execution at Woeste Hoeve on 8 March 1945 and reburial at Oosterwolde on 15 May. The newspaper and later grave correspondence reveal the family’s mourning and continuing involvement. [42–52]

Local accounts connect his arrest with Henk and the nearby Spitfire crash. The pilot’s attributed report supports the crash and the general pattern of assistance but names neither Blaauw. The attack on Rauter supplies the immediate context for Gerrit’s execution; it does not place him among the attackers. The distinction between documentary fact, retrospective testimony and inference is central to the account. [4–7,22,43,46,54]

Questions that could change the narrative

Open question	Evidence needed and possible consequence
What did Gerrit personally do in the resistance?	Locate NBS/BS group records, LO/RvV correspondence, distribution-office records and the source behind the mayor’s reply. These could replace general descriptions with documented work. [6,7,17,43]
How and why were Henk and Gerrit arrested?	Seek German police records, surviving local police registers, witness statements and prison admissions. Test the date, apprehension at the wreck versus search, and the invitation to collect Henk. [4,5,19,22,46]
Was the unnamed boy Henk, and did Gerrit meet Blair?	Obtain the complete identified MI9 report and compare helper accounts and Dutch records. Similar timing alone cannot establish either identification. [3,16,54]
What happened between arrest and execution?	Compare De Kruisberg admissions and prisoner transport lists with Apeldoorn detention records. The intermediate barracks stop currently rests on later narrative. [19,22,46]

8.1 Recovery, family and geographic questions

Open question	Possible line of inquiry
Recovery and identification	Locate Heidehof exhumation lists, identification dossiers, municipal death registrations and the original Hague card sequence. Establish the recovery date, identifier and relation to the newspaper's Beekbergen report. [42,53]
Grave numbers and any later transfer	Compare Oosterwolde cemetery interment and renumbering registers with the complete OGS file and Loenen admission register. Reconcile class 1/no. 8 with grave 320; an unsigned consent form proves no completed transfer. [17,44,46,47,51]
Missing archival pages	Request the complete inventory 12579A, especially pages omitted from the ten supplied scans and any continuation of the 1972 letter. Missing scan numbers are not evidence that no document exists. [43–52]
Family names, addresses and aftermath	Check civil and population registers for Hendrikje Flier's birthday, Jannetje's later life and the children's movements; map H-153 through contemporary address conversion or cadastral records. [43,44,49,52]
Blair's exact route and dates	Compare the full MI9 report with the helper narrative, squadron ORB and liberation records. Resolve 11:35/11:45, the typed "a.m." and the 16/21 February move; do not use the panel to authenticate itself. [2,16,33,36,54]

The historical map fixes the principal locality in its wartime landscape but cannot identify individual houses or reconstruct a journey. Detailed period sheets for the southern execution and detention area, address records and cadastral plans would extend the geographical analysis beyond the North Veluwe map included here. [57]

Wider regional inquiry could examine the relationship between the "Old Putten" section, Huize Old Putten and assistance networks around Elburg. Putten's October 1944 roundup offers comparative context for collective punishment, but it should remain a separate event unless a direct personal connection is documented. [16,31,32,43,56]

8.2 A practical sequence for further research

Priority	Next action	Question it can resolve
1	Obtain complete OGS inventory 12579A and the Hague identification sequence.	Missing correspondence, identification, burial and proposed transfer. [43–53]
2	Obtain Blair report 3058 with its identifying sheet from WO 208/3327.	Attribution of the supplied page and any named helpers. Index is a lead, not the report. [3,13,14,54]
3	Search municipal and surviving prison/police records, then local witness collections.	Henk's arrest, Gerrit's decision, detention sequence and resistance work. [4–7,19,22,43,46]
4	Compare cemetery, civil and population registers; reconstruct addresses from period cadastral records.	Grave numbering, family chronology and precise geographic setting. [43–53,57]
5	Use the squadron ORB and independent helper/liberation records to test remaining chronology.	Flight times and route discrepancies without merging incompatible accounts. [2,16,33,34,36,54]

How new evidence should be incorporated

Record the repository, collection, inventory, document date and scan or folio for each new item. Keep a literal transcription alongside a translation, mark uncertain letters and retain the original image. Ask whether the document is an eyewitness account, an administrative copy or a later retelling before treating agreement as corroboration.

A record naming Gerrit as a helper, a dated arrest statement or a signed completed transfer would materially alter specific parts of this study. Another commemorative account repeating the same story would be useful for tracing memory but would not have the same evidential effect. If the records remain silent, retain the qualifications instead of filling the gaps with a seamless narrative.

Gerrit's resistance affiliation, execution and family aftermath are supported by the inspected record. The next stage is to recover the decisions and relationships behind those administrative facts while preserving the limits of what can presently be known. [42–54]

Restored source image: Elburger Courant. 27 February 1970

SOURCE IMAGE: ELBURGER COURANT, 27 FEBRUARI 1970

ELBURGER COURANT VAN VRIJDAG 27 FEBRUARI 1970

VELUWSE NOTITIES

Door de Wierd van Jhan.

25 jaar geleden Uit de oorlog 1940-1945

„Amsterdam, het verzet van 1940-1945“ is het eerste, dat in deze tijd van de oorlog 1940-1945 wordt gepubliceerd. Het is een boek van 250 pagina's, met veel foto's en tekeningen. Het is een boek van 250 pagina's, met veel foto's en tekeningen. Het is een boek van 250 pagina's, met veel foto's en tekeningen.

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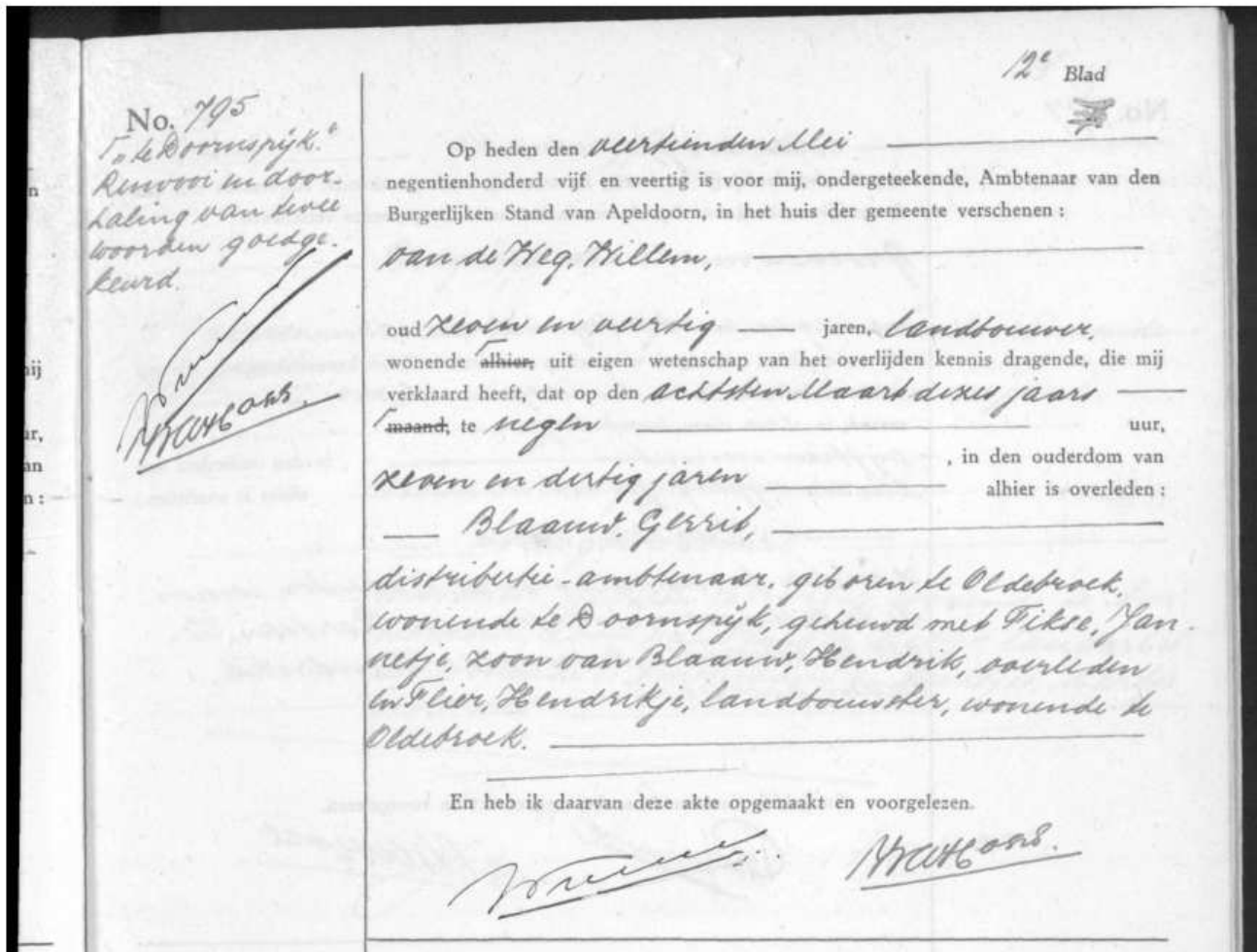
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Restored source image: Apeldoorn civil death register. entrv 795

T

SOURCE IMAGE: APELDOORN CIVIL DEATH REGISTER, ENTRY NO. 795



Additional family-research findings restored

LO memorial-book lead

Family research correspondence reported that a postwar LO memorial book may list “Gerrit Blaauw,” note “Tevens: RvV,” and give an arrest date and suspicion of helping Allied airmen. The book title, edition, page and exact wording were not established in the original report, so this remains a research lead rather than a confirmed quotation.

Distribution-office robbery — an important distinction

A separate local history records the successful Elburg distribution-office robbery of 13 July 1944 and names Aart Hoekert as the employee who provided information to the resistance group. Gerrit is listed among office employees, but the source does not establish that Gerrit participated in that robbery. This distinction is important and is retained here.

1970 newspaper: “Tiem”

The 27 February 1970 Elburger Courant account also describes Gerrit sheltering a Jewish man called “Tiem” after he escaped a raid, placing Gerrit within a wider local network of hiding places, couriers and aid. The original family report cautioned that the supplied transcription was OCR-corrupted; the original scan remains authoritative for exact wording.

Prison letter / Organisation Todt

The 1970 account says Gerrit's wife received a reassuring letter from fellow prisoner Gerrit Breukelaar after Gerrit had been taken away. According to the OCR, the letter said Gerrit was being sent to work for Organisation Todt and was in good health. The report cautioned that the later notification date may be misread in the OCR and should be checked against the scan.

Bible and funeral readings

The contemporary 18 May 1945 funeral clipping records Romans 8:28–39 at the home service, 2 Timothy 4:6–8 at the graveside, and a short address based on Joshua 1. Willem van Norel separately recalled that Gerrit's small Bible may have survived with an underlined passage. The research does not establish which passage was underlined or where the Bible is now.

References and research leads retained from the original report

Civil registration

OpenArchieven — Gerrit Blaauw record linked to Apeldoorn entry 795. Gelders Archief — archival register 0207A_32313, item 11432881. The register image is NL-AhGldA_0207A_32313-0026.jpg; entry 795 is the relevant entry.

National Archives / Blair lead

The National Archives catalogue lead is C14084597, WO 208/3327/3058, “Pilot Officer D Blair,” service number 190913. The catalogue notes that related information may also occur in WO 208/5582–5583. The catalogue entry is a lead, not the underlying evasion report.

Comparison still required

Before tying the National Archives file conclusively to Spitfire TA837, compare the full name, rank, every service number, aircraft and unit, crash date and location, evasion route, helpers and liberation details. The TA837 sources associate the pilot with service number 1514313; the revised booklet discusses the documentary relationship between 190913 and 1514313.

Source boundary

The separately supplied Oldebroek register image believed by the family to concern Gerrit's daughter is not evidence about Gerrit and is not used to support his biography, resistance work, arrest or death.

Audit result

The merged booklet already retained the friend booklet's larger documentary apparatus, photographs, map section, appendices and references. This restoration specifically adds the two source-image pages and the distinctive family-research findings that had been lost when the original 11-page report was condensed into the integrated update.

October 2026 research addenda

The full later research update, including the 1970 newspaper findings and Apeldoorn death-register evidence.

GERRIT BLAAUW

Family research report: resistance work, the Spitfire TA837, arrest, execution, and family records

Prepared October 2026

Purpose

This report gathers the information shared in the family correspondence, the supplied 1945 funeral clipping, the automatically transcribed 1970 *Elburger Courant* article, and the historical websites and records reviewed so far. It distinguishes details supported by more than one source from claims that still need checking against original documents.

Important source note: the 1970 newspaper text was transcribed automatically and contains substantial OCR errors. Names, dates, quotations, and exact locations from that transcription should be verified against the original page image.

At a glance

Person / event	Best-supported information so far
Gerrit Blaauw	Born 6 May 1907 in Oldebroek; resistance worker; employed at Elburg distribution office; executed at Woeste Hoeve on 8 March 1945.
Spitfire	Supermarine Spitfire LF.IX TA837, No. 349 Squadron; forced landing near Oosterwolde on 6 February 1945 after flak damage.
Pilot	RAF service number 1514313. Sources variously call him Dick, David, or Donald Blair. David is supported by the London Gazette and Museum Sjoel Elburg.
Family record	The supplied newspaper clipping reports Gerrit's reburial at Oosterwolde on 15 May 1945 and cites Bible readings at the services.

1. Gerrit Blaauw: life and resistance work

Local historical accounts identify Gerrit Blaauw as born on 6 May 1907 in Oldebroek. He worked as a driver when younger and later at the Elburg distribution office. He married Jannetje Fikse in 1929; family notes describe five children. The local account says his work at the distribution office gave him an opportunity to get ration coupons illegally to people in hiding. It also describes courier work and activity in the Raad van Verzet (RvV) on the North Veluwe. [Elburg wartime history: Gerrit Blaauw](#)

The shared researcher correspondence adds that a postwar LO memorial book reportedly lists “Gerrit Blaauw,” notes “Tevens: RvV,” and gives an arrest date and suspicion of helping Allied airmen. This is a promising independent lead, but the book title, edition, page, and exact original wording should be verified before treating the quotation as confirmed.

The 1970 newspaper transcription also recounts Gerrit sheltering a Jewish man called “Tiem” after he escaped a raid. It portrays Gerrit as part of a wider local network of hiding places, couriers, and aid. The text is badly OCR-corrupted, so this report summarizes rather than reproduces its uncertain details.

Distribution-office robbery: an important distinction

A separate local history documents the successful robbery of the Elburg distribution office on 13 July 1944. It names Aart Hoekert as the employee who provided information to the resistance group carrying out that robbery. Gerrit is listed among office employees, but the article does not establish that he participated in that operation. [Elburg wartime history: distribution-office robbery](#)

2. Spitfire TA837 and the Oosterwolde crash

The Dutch loss register identifies a Supermarine Spitfire LF.IX, serial TA837, code GE-, with No. 349 Squadron RAF. On 6 February 1945 it was hit by flak and crash-landed along the Winterdijk near Oosterwolde, northeast of Elburg. The entry records 12:15 and lists an armed reconnaissance mission with Bremen as the target. The accompanying evader page describes the sortie as reconnaissance over the northeastern Netherlands. The operation's target label and the described flight area are not fully reconciled in the sources reviewed.

[SGLO loss register, T5203](#) | [AirHistory Spitfire production record for TA837](#)

The 1970 article gives a local sequence: the pilot landed near Huize Morren/Ezelhoek; Henk Blaauw encountered him and helped him hide in a work hut near the Waaskolk. The article says a local woman lent a bicycle, and later two police agents helped move the pilot in civilian clothes through German checkpoints. Other local residents gave him shelter before he was guided toward Arnhem and across the lines. Museum Sjoel Elburg independently confirms the Winterdijk landing, civilian clothes, Henk's retrieval of the parachute and dinghy, and the later search of the Blaauw home. [Museum Sjoel Elburg account](#)

The 1970 text says the German forces later blew up the wreck. It then describes Henk returning to retrieve a gun, being detained, and the parachute being discovered in the Blaauw home. These details are plausible and add substantially to the local account, but should be checked against the newspaper scan because the supplied transcript is noisy.

3. Arrest, imprisonment, and execution

The consistent outline is that Henk's detention led Gerrit to surrender to German authorities. Gerrit was arrested, taken to the Koning Willem III barracks in Apeldoorn, and transferred to De Kruisberg prison in Doetinchem. After the attack on SS and police chief Hanns Albin Rauter near Woeste Hoeve on the night of 6-7 March 1945, German authorities carried out mass reprisals. Gerrit was among the prisoners executed at Woeste Hoeve on 8 March 1945. [Elburg wartime history](#) | [Doetinchem Remembers: Woeste Hoeve](#)

The 1970 article adds that Gerrit's wife received a reassuring letter from fellow prisoner Gerrit Breukelaar after Blaauw had been taken away. According to the OCR, the letter suggested Gerrit was being sent to work for Organisation Todt and was in good health. His family therefore still hoped he would return. The article's OCR appears to misread the year in the later notification; use the scan before citing that date.

Arrest-date discrepancy

Published summaries give 13 or 14 February for the arrest sequence; the 1970 transcription also appears to distinguish an SD raid at Huize Old Putten on 13 February from Henk's later return to the wreck. These may be separate events. Do not collapse the dates into a single arrest chronology until the original newspaper and archival records are compared.

4. Reburial and the funeral clipping

The user-supplied newspaper clipping dated 18 May 1945 reports that Gerrit's remains were buried in Oosterwolde on Tuesday afternoon, 15 May. It describes a large gathering of family, friends, authorities, and N.B.S. members. Twelve N.B.S. members carried the coffin, which was covered with the Dutch tricolour and wreaths. Speakers included Reverend V. Wijk, the mayor of Doornspijk, a representative of the distribution service, and district commander R. van Putten.

The article records Romans 8:28-39 at the home service and 2 Timothy 4:6-8 at the graveside. Its final lines mention a short address based on Joshua 1, but the supplied clipping ends before the verse is completed. Willem van Norel separately recalled that a small Bible may have survived, with a passage Gerrit underlined while imprisoned. The funeral readings are a research clue only; they do not establish which passage Gerrit marked in his own Bible.

5. The pilot: name, escape, and later life

The sources disagree on the pilot's given name. The 1970 transcription calls him "Dick Blair"; Museum Sjoel Elburg calls him David Blair; SGLO lists Donald Blair. All identify the event with aircraft TA837 or service number 1514313. The London Gazette entry lists service number 1514313 as David Blair. For now, David Blair is the best-supported name, while the discrepancy should remain visible pending the original escape report or service file.

[London Gazette, 13 March 1945](#) | [SGLO evader record E0942](#)

SGLO's account says the pilot was liberated on 18 April 1945 when an advancing SAS column reached the area, and that he arrived back in the United Kingdom two days later. A reliable postwar biography, death record, or evidence that he was still alive in 2026 has not been established in the research completed so far. His later fate remains unknown.

6. Family correspondence and records already pursued

- Local researcher Willem van Norel says he has little more to add to the established story but points to the 27 February 1970 issue of the *Elburger Courant*, which contains a substantial article on Gerrit. The family supplied an automatically transcribed text display; the original scan remains the authority for exact readings.
- Willem believes Gerrit's small Bible may have survived and recalls an underlined passage, but he did not confirm its location or wording.
- Willem suggested speaking with Henk Blaauw's widow or children. The user has already spoken with these in-laws; this family-source lead is covered.
- The family also shared a contemporary 18 May 1945 funeral clipping, transcribed in section 4 above.

Privacy note: the researcher's correspondence includes a private address for a potentially living person. This report omits it.

7. Chronology

Date	Event
6 May 1907	Gerrit Blaauw born in Oldebroek.
7 March 1929	Marriage to Jannetje Fikse, according to the family-research summary.
13 July 1944	Successful robbery of the Elburg distribution office; local history names Aart Hoekert as the insider.
6 February 1945, 12:15	Spitfire TA837 hit by flak and crash-lands near Winterdijk, Oosterwolde; pilot evades capture.
February 1945, exact day unsettled	Henk returns to the wreck, is detained after Germans find aviation material at the Blaauw home; Gerrit surrenders and is arrested.
After arrest	Gerrit held at Koning Willem III barracks, Apeldoorn, then De Kruisberg, Doetinchem.
Night of 6-7 March 1945	Attack on Hanns Albin Rauter near Woeste Hoeve.
8 March 1945	Gerrit executed at Woeste Hoeve in reprisal killings.
13 March 1945	According to the 1970 article, Gerrit's wife received a reassuring letter from fellow prisoner Gerrit Breukelaar; confirm date and wording from scan.
15 May 1945	Reburial at Oosterwolde, according to the supplied contemporary clipping.
18 May 1945	Date printed on the funeral report clipping.
27 February 1970	Date of the longer retrospective article in the <i>Elburger Courant</i> .

8. Sources and confidence notes

[SGLO Loss Register, T5203](#) - Aircraft, unit, date, time, loss location, target and mission classification.

[SGLO Evader record, E0942](#) - Pilot's escape narrative, service number, route through hiding places and liberation date; given name conflicts with other sources.

[Elburg wartime history: Gerrit Blaauw](#) - Biographical summary, ration-coupon assistance, courier work, RvV, arrest and reburial.

[Museum Sjoel Elburg: Winterdijk 28](#) - Local account of the crash, Henk, material taken from the plane, German search and Gerrit's surrender.

[Elburg wartime history: distribution-office robbery](#) - History of the Elburg office and July 1944 robbery; distinguishes Gerrit as an employee from named insider Aart Hoekert.

[Doetinchem Remembers: Woeste Hoeve](#) - Local memorial information and details about Gerrit and his son in the Spitfire episode.

[AirHistory Spitfire production record, TA837](#) - Aircraft serial and brief record of flak damage, Oosterwolde landing and evasion.

[The London Gazette, 13 March 1945](#) - Lists RAF service number 1514313 as David Blair.

User-supplied 18 May 1945 clipping - Contemporary report of Gerrit's funeral and reburial; source image supplied in this chat.

User-supplied 27 February 1970 newspaper transcription - Retrospective narrative of the Spitfire crash and local resistance; OCR must be checked against original scan.

Correspondence from Willem van Norel - Research leads concerning the 1970 article, the Bible and family sources; the user has already consulted the in-law family sources.

Open research questions

- Verify the 1970 article against its original scan, especially the pilot's name, exact crash/recovery sequence, Henk's detention date, Gerrit's surrender date, and the wording and date of the fellow-prisoner letter.
- Resolve whether pilot 1514313 should be identified as David, Dick, or Donald Blair; consult his escape report and No. 349 Squadron records.
- Ask Willem if he knows who last held Gerrit's Bible or can identify the underlined verse.
- Locate the LO memorial book entry and record its exact title, publication details, page, and transcription.
- Determine whether any reliable postwar record establishes the pilot's later life or death.
- Reconcile the mission listing "Bremen" with the evader account describing armed reconnaissance over northeastern Netherlands.

Scope and limitations

This is a working family-history report, not an archival certification. Some online sources are local-history summaries and may repeat earlier accounts. The full 1970 article text was supplied as automatic transcription rather than an independently checked scan. The report preserves discrepancies rather than silently choosing among conflicting dates or names. No files under the project's *sources/* directory were edited.

ADDENDUM: 1970 NEWSPAPER SCAN

The original page image supplied by the family was checked against the earlier automatic transcription. This addendum records details that can now be read directly from the scan and appends the full page image.

Details verified from the scan

Crash and pilot: The article says the single-seat Spitfire came over the North Veluwe on the morning of 6 February 1945. It names the pilot “Dick Blair” and says he was from Spalding, Australia. It places the landing opposite Huize Morren, slightly left of the Ezelshoek, in the Oosterwolde polder. The article speculates the engine was running irregularly; the SGLO loss register separately records flak damage. These are distinct accounts of cause, not a resolved technical finding.

Henk’s first help: The article calls Henk Blaauw 14 years old. He met the pilot, helped him hide in a work hut near the Waaskolk, and was lent a bicycle by Aalberta van Hattem. Later, two Oosterwolde police agents, Van Heerde and Oolbekkink, helped move the pilot in civilian clothes. The article says Henne van de Brink then took him onward; he stayed with Hendrik Boeve, Jan Akster, and the Hagen family. Corrie Hagen reportedly sheltered him for about six weeks before he was smuggled through Arnhem across the German lines.

Henk’s detention and Gerrit’s surrender: The article explicitly dates Henk’s return to the wreck and detention to **13 February 1945**, his day off from school. He was trying to remove a machine gun when German troops approached. The Germans questioned and beat him, searched the Blaauw home, and found the parachute in the attic. Gerrit left the distribution office and surrendered at the Elburg German police headquarters. Henk was released that evening; Gerrit was held. This scan supports 13 February for this sequence, while SGLO gives 14 February. The date difference remains unresolved.

Gerrit’s work: The article specifically attributes to Gerrit sabotage of threshing machines, cutting telephone cables, falsifying distribution papers, transporting weapons, and distributing resistance newspapers including *Strijdend Nederland* and *Trouw*. It also describes him sheltering a Jewish man in hiding (called Tiem in the article) and helping move Tiem’s family to several safe houses.

After arrest: The article says Gerrit was moved to the Koning Willem III barracks in Apeldoorn and then De Kruisberg in Doetinchem. It recounts a reassuring letter from fellow prisoner Gerrit Breukelaar, received by Gerrit’s wife on 13 March, saying Blaauw had been taken away to work for Organisation Todt and was in good spirits. The family learned on 11 May 1945 that he had died at Woeste Hoeve. These details are legible in the scan and correct the OCR transcript’s erroneous year.

Name discrepancy remains

The scan clearly prints “Dick Blair.” Other sources use David or Donald Blair. The London Gazette identifies service number 1514313 as David Blair, while the SGLO evader page says Donald. The article does not give a service number, so the discrepancy should stay flagged until the RAF/escape file is checked.

This is a retrospective newspaper account published 25 years after the events. It is valuable local testimony, but claims such as the pilot’s precise name/origin and Gerrit’s individual actions should still be compared with wartime records and other witnesses.

Doce Gê Warrant J-Hon.

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Wes-Archivieren

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INHOUDSOPGAVE

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leijk. Tegen zeven uur 's
ocht was de zolder reuk
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red. had weer 'n lijf met een
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toef nu de gangen en het
er tel ontkleed raken 'n
was, het doornemen van de
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als, het overnemen van de
en dat is de reden dat

schon niet wil hebben, dat
er voor Kierkegaard maar twee
harde uitdagingen zijn. Het eerste
is de eel in de dienst van
op hem te staan. Hij maakt
en zijn stroom in de eel
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schon niet heeft een eel
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[illegible][illegible]

OVERVAL
eerstmalig februari woensd. door
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De van zeventien. Wij al-
len in stilte gesproken.

OF ONDERZETTINGEN
NING VAN HET ARTIJKEL —
E WORM DAG OOK — 15
K.

ADDENDUM: CIVIL DEATH REGISTRATION

The newly supplied image is entry no. 795 in Apeldoorn's civil death register. It records a declaration made on 14 May 1945 about Gerrit Blaauw's death on 8 March 1945.

Plain-English transcription

"On this day, the fourteenth of May, nineteen hundred and forty-five, there appeared before me, the undersigned Registrar of the Civil Registry of Apeldoorn, at the municipal office: Willem van de Weg, aged forty-seven years, farmer, residing here, having personal knowledge of the death, who declared to me that on the eighth of March of this year, at nine o'clock, at the age of thirty-seven years, there died here: Gerrit Blaauw, distribution clerk, born in Oldebroek, residing in Doornspijk, married to Jannetje Fikse, son of Hendrik Blaauw, deceased, and Hendrikje Flier, farmer's wife, residing in Oldebroek."

What this confirms

The register independently confirms Gerrit's occupation as a distribution clerk, his birth place and residence, his marriage to Jannetje Fikse, his parents' names, and his age as 37. Most importantly, it distinguishes the **date of death** (8 March 1945, 9 a.m.) from the **date the death was registered** (14 May 1945).

The register's "here" is the place recorded by the Apeldoorn civil authority; this entry does not itself name Woeste Hoeve. The execution site is established by other records. The declarant is Willem van de Weg, a 47-year-old farmer who stated that he knew of the death firsthand. The handwritten marginal note is not transcribed here because it is not sufficiently clear in this image.

Source: user-supplied image NL-AhGIdA_0207A_32313-0026.jpg, entry no. 795. The appendix image is cropped to show entry 795 and its marginal note; the adjacent entry is omitted.

No. 795

No. 140
In de Doornspijk.
Rinwooi in door-
haling van twee
woorden goedge-
keurd.

Wm. H. Brown

2^e Blad

Op heden den *verfinden Mei*

negentienhonderd vijf en veertig is voor mij, ondergeteekende, Ambtenaar van den Burgerlijken Stand van Apeldoorn, in het huis der gemeente verschenen:

van de Weg, Willen,

oud veertig — jaren, landbouwer,
wonende hier, uit eigen wetenschap van het overlijden kennis dragende, die mij
verklaard heeft, dat op den achtsten laatste van dit jaar —
maand, te negen — uur,

Leven en dertig jaren _____, in den ouderdom van _____, alhier is overleden:

— Blaauw. Gerrit,

distributie-ambtenaar, geboren te Oldebroek,
wonende te Doornspijk, gehuwd met Tipse, Jan-
aeltje, zoon van Blaauw, Hendrik, overleden
te Flier, Hendrikje, landbouwer, wonende te
Oldebroek.

En heb ik daarvan deze akte opgemaakt en voorgelezen.

Worcester.

Матрос.

RESEARCH ADDENDA

New archival references and findings for the October 2026 family research report

ONLINE ARCHIVE LINKS FOR THE APELDOORN DEATH ENTRY

The report already includes the supplied image of Apeldoorn civil death-register entry no. 795, its plain-English transcription, and a cropped image appendix. The two links below provide online access points for that same archival record/page; they are not separate accounts of the death.

The entry records that Gerrit Blaauw, a distribution clerk aged 37, died on 8 March 1945 at 9 a.m. The declaration was registered in Apeldoorn on 14 May 1945 by Willem van de Weg, who stated that he had personal knowledge of the death. It gives Gerrit's birthplace as Oldebroek, residence as Doornspijk, wife as Jannetje Fikse, and parents as Hendrik Blaauw (deceased) and Hendrikje Flier. The entry itself does not name Woeste Hoeve; other sources identify the execution site.

Archive links

- [OpenArchieven: Gerrit Blaauw record](#) - digital access link supplied by the family.
- [Gelders Archief: register entry and image](#) - catalogue link for archival unit 0207A_32313, item 11432881.

Reading note

The register image NL-AhGIdA_0207A_32313-0026.jpg shows entry 795 and adjoining entry 796. Only entry 795 concerns Gerrit. These archive links strengthen the provenance of the already-transcribed Apeldoorn record; they do not constitute independent death evidence.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES EVASION FILE FOR D. BLAIR

The National Archives catalogue describes WO 208/3327/3058 as a file for "Pilot Officer D Blair (service number 190913), Service: RAF." The catalogue summary says he evaded capture in Holland and contacted Allied Forces. It dates the record broadly to 1940-1945 and marks it open. The catalogue says possible information about this individual, including appendices, may be present in WO 208/5582-5583.

[National Archives catalogue: WO 208/3327/3058](#) (record C14084597). Held at The National Archives, Kew, in southwest London.

How it relates to the Spitfire pilot

This is a promising lead because its summary matches two broad elements of the Oosterwolde case: an RAF pilot named Blair and evasion in Holland. The TA837 pilot is associated in the loss and evader sources with service number 1514313; the National Archives catalogue gives 190913. Its short description does not state an aircraft, crash location, or date specific enough to prove the records refer to the same person. The number difference remains unresolved; inspect the file before identifying the entries as one pilot or different pilots.

The full file may give an evasion report, route, dates, aliases, and contacts that can be compared with the TA837/Oosterwolde account. The catalogue description alone does not answer those questions. WO 208/5582-5583 may contain related material and should be checked as separate catalogue items if the Blair file is ordered.

Comparison checklist

Compare the pilot's full name, rank, every service number shown, aircraft and unit, crash date and location, evasion route, and liberation details. A match on "Blair" and Holland is suggestive; aircraft, location, and dates are the discriminating evidence.

UPDATED SOURCE LIST

Additional links supplied or identified after the original report

Civil registration

[OpenArchieven - Gerrit Blaauw, record linked to Apeldoorn entry 795](#)

[Gelders Archief - archival register page, 0207A 32313, item 11432881](#)

RAF evasion file

[The National Archives - WO 208/3327/3058, Pilot Officer D Blair, service number 190913](#)

Catalogue-related references

WO 208/5582-5583 - cited by the catalogue as potentially containing further information, including appendices, about Pilot Officer D Blair. Confirm the catalogue descriptions and whether these are distinct orderable items before requesting copies.

Source limits and next step

The OpenArchieven and Gelders Archief links provide access points for the civil register evidence already transcribed in the report. The National Archives Blair entry is a separate catalogue lead. Its short catalogue description is not the underlying evasion report; reading the file is the next step needed to test whether it concerns the pilot of TA837.

This revised edition retains the original report and its scan appendices, then adds these two pages. The later-shared Oldebroek register image believed by the family to concern Gerrit's daughter is not included or used as evidence in this report.