

On September 3, 1939, three days after Germany's invasion of Poland, Britain and France declared war on Germany. Six hours after the official declaration of war on Germany, three Wellington bombers from No. 149 Squadron took off to bomb German battleships in the Kiel Canal. The Kiel Canal was the stretch of waterway that links the North Sea to the Baltic Sea.

Shortly after becoming king, King George VI made his first visit to RAF Station Mildenhall, in order to conduct a surprise inspection of the aircrews of No. 149 Squadron on November 2,1939.



King George VI and the Queen Mother during their inspection of No. 149 Squadron