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| <b>RAF</b>                  | <b>Jan Krupa</b>   | <b>Source: RBL</b>  |   |
| Born                        | September 28, 1914, in Radom, Mazowieckie, Poland  |   |   |
| War Service                 | <p>Served with RAF 305 Polish Bomber squadron. The squadron was based in various locations including Syerston In 1940-41 and RAF Newton.</p> <p>Newton became a training base, and for the next five years between July 1941 and December 1946 No. 16 (Polish) Service Flying Training School provided basic and advanced training for Polish airmen serving with the RAF.</p> <p>[Notes by Eric Sharp]: Jan Krupa of Chestnut Avenue was born near Radom in central Poland, and escaped to England through Czechoslovakia, Hungary and France, eventually getting a lift in a "collier" sailing out of St Jean de Luz, near Biarritz, bound for Liverpool. To obtain the lift, Jan &amp; his companions were obliged to surrender their weapons, a small price to pay to escape to freedom! Following several months of training, Jan was posted to a Polish flying school at Hucknall, and thence to Newton as Chief Mechanic on "A" Flight (Airspeed Oxfords) as a Sergeant. Jan's story is told in a book written by Phil Barton in the series "Memories for the Millennium" by the Nottinghamshire Living History Archive Millennium Award Scheme. The book is called "White Eagles- A Collection of Memories from the Nottinghamshire Polish Air Force Community". Copies of this fascinating book are available through the Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City libraries.</p> |  |  |
| Marriage children           | Married Alice May Smithson in September qtr. 1947 in Bingham   |   |   |
| 1939 Register Wife's family | <p>Long Acre Bingham (Regency House)<br/> Ernest Smithson, b. 10 Nov 1889<br/> Harriet Smithson, b. 1 Feb 1890<br/> <i>One closed record</i></p>   | <p>Railway signalman<br/> Unpaid domestic duties</p>                                |   |

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|------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
|                                    | Alice M Smithson [Krupa], b. 5 May 1923<br>Roy Fewins, b. 2 Dec 1916<br>Arthur Brocklesby, b. 2 Feb 1887<br>Henry Thompson, b. 29 Aug 1873  | Shorthand typist<br>Steel Fixer<br>Clerk and cashier<br>Builders foreman, erection of military huts | Air raid Warden<br>Demolition squad |
| Wife's family<br>Census 1911       | Langar<br>Ernest Smithson, b. 1890 Granby<br>Harriet Smithson, b. 1890 Lenton, Nottingham<br>Thomas Henry Smithson, b. 1910 Barnstone. Age (1)<br>Mabel Smithson, b. 1910 Barnstone. (age 7/12)   | Railway Porter<br><br>1939 Railway Clerk, Carlton   |                                     |
| Post 1945 [Notes by<br>Eric Sharp] | <p>At the end of the war Jan retrained on jet engines, but by this time he was married to Alice, one of the daughters of the Smithson family, owners of the café on the Long Acre/Cherry Street corner (now Regency House). As there was no married accommodation available, he reluctantly left the R.A.F.. Jan tried for jobs in Nottingham to no avail, as by this time, 1948, any available jobs had been taken up by returning British servicemen. Jan, whose in-laws lived next door to the District Surveyor (Cyril Kendrick of 8 Cherry Street), got a job with the Bingham Rural District Council, initially repairing waste-water pumps at the Council pumping station at Radcliffe on Trent. It was whilst Jan was with the R.D.C. that he became involved with the squatters' camp at Langar, helping to make the old Nissen huts habitable and laying on water and electricity. (<i>Information supplied by Eric Sharp</i>).</p> <p>In 1972 his address was given in the telephone directory as 6 Chesterfield Avenue. One might suppose it was rare for a telephone to be installed in a council house; It may indicate he was "on call" for the RDC.</p> |   |                                     |
| Death/probate                      | Jan Krupa died on March 21, 2009, in Bingham, Nottinghamshire, age 94.  |   |                                     |