

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

0929

5.20.1.44

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	18th June, 1945.		<p>R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe was taken over by No. 6 R.C.A.F. Group from No. 4 Group in accordance with No. 6 (R.C.A.F) Group Organisation Circular No. 14 dated 20th May, 1945. (Authority BC/528502/Org dated 10th May, 1945, and became a Dominion 'Home' Station.</p> <p>Included in the transfer are:- No. 434 (RCAP) Squadron - on establishment. War/BC/335 Aircraft 1644 Halifax Mark V, and a flight of 29 R.A.F. Regiment airmen. Officers on the Station are:- W/C. C.E. Harris, 37878 - Temporary Station Commander, E/Lt. R.J. Halburd, R.A.F. 74136 (Admin. Supernumery). A/P/Lt. J.F.G. Gibbons, M.C. R.A.F. 80876 (Supernumery Defence Officer) E/Lt. G.F. Sutherland, C3180, Adjutant, 434 Squadron. Ten aircraft crews for 434 Squadron had also arrived at this time, and they were sent on leave pending the arrival of aircraft and due also to limited messing facilities. The following buildings and sites have been taken over for use:- Watch Office, Technical Site: Armoury, Technical Site: Part Guard House, Technical Site: Lub. and Inflamm. Stores, Mechanical Site: W.A.A.F. Latrines, Technical Sites: Squadron Offices, Technical Site: Flight Offices, Technical Site: Maintenance, Technical Site: Site No. 6; Site No. 7; Site No. 4; Old Officers Mess; Old Sergeants Mess; F.E. Type Hangar; Old Institute; Grocery and Local Produce Store, (Old Comm. Site) Old Sergeants Showers; Old Officers Bath House; Fuel Compound - Old Communal Site.</p> <p>Administrative work is extremely difficult due to:- 1. Non arrival of stationery and typewriter or any Office necessities. 2. Shortage of M.T. for any purpose, one 1/2 ton van only, being available to move equipment, sick parade to Linton, Mail, personnel and barrack equipment to sites. 3. Insufficient telephones. 4. No N.C.O.'s to organise Sections, except for Administration and physical training.</p>		
	19th June, 1945.		<p>Squadron Leader R.W.A. Iversee C451 Station Administrative Officer, E/Lt. H.G. Greenwood, 62086, Intelligence, and E/Lt. H.G. Austin, C8027 Flying Control, and four aircraft crews arrived to-day. The aircrew personnel were granted 7 days leave.</p>		
	20th June, 1945.		<p>The Squadron's first aircraft arrived to-day, Halifax Mk. V No. ER.217. An R.C. Church Parade was held but no Padre was available for the Protestant Service. Due to the</p>		



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			Splendid effort of E/Lt. Raine, Base Messing Officer, an overworked Kitchen Staff and General duty airmen, food for all was very good, in spite of shortage of staff.		
	21st. June, 1943.		Air Commodore C.M. McEwen, MC/DFC. C.60 inspected the Station and Works. The Station presents a curious spectacle with half finished huts and buildings, hordes of workmen (and even women), temporary sheds, offices and living accommodation, heaps of bricks, sand and trenches for drains, cables etc., and in fact, all the mess and middle of a Station under construction. It is of interest to note that there are at present some 16 firms of Contractors and sub-Contractors engaged in the work on this Station. Fortunately, the weather is fine, otherwise the whole site would be a sea of mud. The assistance given by W.M.C.A. representative, Larry Moysa has helped to weld a fine Station Spirit here, and all ranks enjoy softball and horse shoe pitching.		
	22nd. June, 1943.		Group Captain W.V. McCarthy, C1807 Senior R.C. Chaplain R.C.A.F. Headquarters Overseas, visited the Station. Work is seriously hampered by lack of telephones. The new Station Headquarters Admin. Building is finished, but we cannot move in until at least one telephone is installed, as the building is quite remote from the Technical Site and other Offices. Every effort has been made to expedite this work, but so far, without much result. Officers Mess Opened.		
	23rd. June, 1943.		Air Commodore, N.F. Moscop, C.38 visited the Station. Our first forms and publications arrived today, though we are still short of a great deal including A.M.O's. There was a Cinema Show in the new Airmens Mess at 20.00 hours.		
	24th. June, 1943.		Approximately 60 personnel arrive daily at this Station for 434 Squadron and messing facilities are still taxed to the limit. The following <sup>additional</sup> buildings have been taken over:- Flight Offices (Old Building) - Tech. Site; Main Stores and Offices, Tech. Site; Fire Tender Shed, Tech. Site; Floodlight Trailer and Tractor Shed, Tech. Site; Gas Defence		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			Centre (Old Building) Tech. Site: New Squadron Office, Tech. Site:		
	25th June. 1943.		On this day the Station managed to produce a few copies of its first Station Routine Orders. No duplicator was available, so the orders were typed on borrowed paper and a privately used typewriter.		
	26th June. 1943.		62 More men arrived today, Mostly Squadron personnel for 434 Squadron. The Orderly Room and Registry is being organised, slowly, but in the absence of file covers and general stationery, not much progress can yet be made.		
	27th June. 1943.		Church Services were held today; the R.C. Service in the N.A.A.F.I. and the Protestant Service in the New airman's dining Hall. Another 63 men arrived for the Squadron. We are also preparing to accommodate some 80 W.A.A.F.S.. The accommodation problem both on living and technical Sites is not an easy one, since so many of the buildings are unfinished, and living sites occupied by Contractor's Men, who are unable to secure accommodation elsewhere.		
	28th June. 1943.		There was a Base Commander's Conference at Linton, which was attended by W/C.C.E. Harris, 37878, and S/Ldr. R.W.A. Ivermes, C461 from this Station. P/O. S.S. Bellard, 50377 the new Station Assistant Officer reported for duty. Canadian Y.M.C.A., put on another cinema show tonight, this being the only form of entertainment yet available, is a very popular gesture.		
	29th June. 1943.		A/O. McLeod, 6420 the new Catering Officer, reported for duty. The move of S.H.Q. Staff into the new Offices is still delayed, owing to the fact that telephones have not yet been installed.		
	30th June. 1943.		Already there is a noticeable improvement in the Messes. A/S/O. McLeod has been very busy, and is taking a keen interest in the feeding of the Troops. No. 3 Flight, 2799 Squadron, arrived today, including P/O. J. E. Stewart, 137972 and 58 other ranks. There are still		



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of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1/7/43.		This being Dominion Day, R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe sent a detachment of two Officers P/L. W.H. Thomas (13524) and P/L. G.B. Sutherland (3186) (Adjutant of 434 Squadron), three Senior N.C.O.s., 6 Corporals, 2 W.D.s. and 45 men to take part in the Parades at Ripon Cathedral. Other R.C.A.F. Units were represented at the Parades which was most impressive. P/O. L.T. Hanson (14504) arrived here from Headquarters, No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group to take up duty as Equipment Officer. In the afternoon a cricket match was played between "A" & "B" flights of 434 Squadron.		
	2/7/43.		P/O. A.H.R. Brown (10944) arrived to take up duty as Assistant Engineer Officer to the Station Engineer Officer - S/L. A. Pugh, R.A.F. (14993). Station Headquarters moved into their new Offices to-day. This was a big step forward in the organization of this Station, but owing to having only one telephone for the whole of Station Headquarters, considerable inconveniences and delay must necessarily result.		
	3/7/43.		Nothing of note happened to-day. A great effort is being made to organize the Orderly Room but this is hampered owing to lack of stationery, typewriters and shortage of personnel. We are still trying to get more personnel to fill our numerous vacancies, especially in the grade of Warrant Officers and Warrant Sergeants Adjutants etc. P/O. G.M. McInnes, R.C., D.F.O., Linton Base Commander visited 434 Squadron Headquarters and conferred with the Squadron Commander W/Cdr. G.E. HARRIS (37678).		
	4/7/43.		Personnel Occurrence Reports are being organized and should be up to date by tomorrow. A Church Service for Protestant personnel was held in the Airman's Mess at 11.00 hours and for Roman Catholic Personnel at 11.00 hours.		
	5/7/43.		R.C.A.F. Tholthorpe's first series of P.O.R.s were sent to Base Headquarters, Linton, and the filing which has up to now been out of control was taken in hand and a filing system introduced.		
	6/7/43.		Visited to-day from P/L. Harrison (10880) Gas/Fire Officer from Headquarters, No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group and P/O. R.E. Bunge (14316) Gas/Fire Officer, Linton in connection with anti-gas and fire precautions on this Station. The Station's first wind sock was hoisted at 20.30 hours to-day, and local flying was commenced by 434 Squadron two aircraft flying for 2 hours and four minutes.		
	7/7/43.		Another new Halifax Mk.V, S.N. 234, arrived to-day for No.434 Squadron. Local flying was carried out by two aircraft of 434 Squadron totalling 7 hours 8 minutes. P/L. Connor (10216) from Base Headquarters, Linton visited here to-day in order to organize the Operations Record Book. The Y.M.C.A. provided a Cross Cinema Show in the Tholthorpe Airman's Mess this evening.		
	8/7/43.		Section Officer E. Barham (5183) arrived to take over the duties of Officer 1/s W.A.A.F. at this Station. As the W.A.A.F. Site is not yet ready a number of airwomen live at Linton and travel to and from Tholthorpe by transport each day. P/O. A.S. Neville (13662), Electrical Engineering Officer arrived to take up duty. Local flying and bombing practice was carried out by three aircraft of 434 Squadron totalling one hour 11 minutes and 6 hours 19 minutes. Soccer ball enthusiasts are managing to get in a game on most evenings.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalparge.	9/7/43.		No flying was carried out to-day. The filling system which has been under review for some time is being improved. We await the arrival of stationary supplies and in the meantime have to manage as best we can.		
	10/7/43.		Flying due to be carried out at 13.00 hours by 434 Squadron had to be cancelled owing to unfavourable weather conditions. S/L. R.G. Hillard (7436) received notification that he was posted. This Officer was sent here to open up the Station and although working under extremely difficult conditions, due to the Contractors' still being at work here has done an excellent job.		
	11/7/43.		A service for Roman Catholics was held in the N.A.A.F.I. at 11.00 hours, and for Protestants in the Airman's Mess at 14.00 hours. Six new Halifax Mk.V aircraft, SR.255, SR.256, SR.257, DR. 248 DR.250 DR.254 arrived for 434 Squadron. Bombing practice was carried out by two aircraft of 434 Squadron totalling 2 hours 39 minutes.		
	12/7/43.		One new Halifax aircraft Mk.V. SR.256 arrived for 434 Squadron. Bombing practice was carried out by one aircraft of 434 Squadron for two hours 50 minutes. The advance party of 434 Squadron, consisting of 8 Officers - S/L. Kenneth W.V. (37003), S/O. Willing Dale (48191) S/O. Kenneth Hale (15911), S/O. Kenneth Smith (12822), and seven Senior NCOs arrived to-day and took over No.3 Site and their new Offices by the veranda back. Owing to lack of accommodation, most of the advance had to be housed over at Linton. The Y.M.C.A. provided a Free Cinema Show in the Airman's Mess for all ranks.		
	13/7/43.		The Central Registry, after undergoing some changes, has commenced to function properly. The roads and walks around Station Headquarters are being completed. The concrete mixer has been at work and the wheeling of concrete has been going on for some days. S/L. G.O. Baker (91171) Medical Officer for 434 Squadron arrived to take up duty.		
	14/7/43.		Some badly needed W.A.A.F. Cooks and Waitresses arrived to-day. Although there have been some difficulties to overcome the Officers' Mess has now been formed under the capable management of S/O. Ashville (13682). A Committee has been appointed and the Mess should be running smoothly very soon, even though in temporary quarters. W/O. R.H. Knight, O.S. of U.K. Base Accounts Unit, R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, visited here in order to explain the new system of handling R.C.A.F. personnel pay. Another new Halifax aircraft Mk.V. SR.276 arrived to-day for 434 Squadron. One aircraft carried out local flying for one hour 19 minutes. Two spitfires from Dalton visited the Station.		
	15/7/43.		Softball is being organized by our P.T.I. R.11522 - Sgt. Banks.		
	16/7/43.		Eight aircraft from 434 Squadron engaged on fighter affiliation. Everything is still chaotic in the arrival of No.434 Squadron and the fact that the site is still occupied by civilians has not helped matters. Four aircraft of 434 Squadron carried out local flying totalling three hours 11 minutes and bombing practice totalling 5 hours 24 minutes.		
	17/7/43.		Two aircraft from 434 Squadron carried out local flying totalling two hours 49 minutes. A Tiger Moth from Linton visited here. S/L. Hillard, the original Administrative Officer of this Station left for Loughmoe. This Officer was here on arrival of the advance party and was instrumental in setting up the organization and administration of this Station.		



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Thietherye.	26/7/53.	(Contd)	and took off for Hidingley. W/O J. Macnaman (22112) Engineer Officer was posted to Thietherye. Squadron Leader R.W.A. Innes (1597) S/L Administrator made a tour of all units to inspect progress. The S.L.A.A. provided a free cinema show tonight. One badly needed C.O.'s arrived to-day for 434 Squadron.		
	27/7/53.		Local flying by 5 aircraft was carried out for 1 hour 45 minutes. Also cross country flying for two hours 30 minutes and bombing practice for 1 hour 2 minutes. Total flying time 40 hours 30 minutes. W/O J. Macnaman, Base Administrative Officer came over from Linton, bringing with him Station Officer R. Spence-Smith (2497) who is to act as Adjutant for the Station. As the Station's status has not yet been decided, some of the staff have been posted to other units. It is not possible to assess the Station Officer Spence-Smith at present and she will have to report upon her duties each day. Meeting of the Officers' Mess in the Old Sergeants' Mess to ascertain the fee to be charged. The amount decided on was one third of a man's daily rate of pay per month. Group Captain, Supervisor of Canadian Units, arrived at the Station to help up duties connected with the welfare and entertainment of personnel. He has been given an office in C.I.C. from which to conduct his business.		
	28/7/53.		The new Blenheim aircraft (No. 27) arrived for No. 434 Squadron. Two aircraft carried out local flying including 2 hours 45 minutes. The aircraft on Bomber operations 1 hour 15 minutes. Practice bombing was carried out by one aircraft for one hour 30 minutes and one aircraft carried out a cross-country flight including 2 hours 45 minutes. Group Captain H.M. Curran, D.F.C., visited here in company with W/O J. R.C. Stone of R.C.A.F. Headquarters and W/O J. R. H. of Headquarters (H.M.C. 27) Group. The Station's first dance was held in the Mess, the music being provided by R.C.A.F. Linton Dance Band. The dance ended at midnight and was thoroughly enjoyed by everybody. W/O J. R.W.A. Innes visited the Resident Engineer to discuss progress of work on the Group Captain's quarters.		
	29/7/53.		Group Captain H.M. Curran, D.F.C., visited S.L.A.A. Base Administrative Officer, W/O J. R.W.A. Innes visited S.L.A.A. Three aircraft carried out cross country flying including 11 hours 25 minutes. One aircraft engaged on night operations for 1 hour 45 minutes and the aircraft on local flying for two hours 15 minutes. One aircraft carried out cross-country night flying including 11 hours 45 minutes. It is a relief to see and hear a weapon carried in this way. Air crew badly needed telephones, even though the instruments will not be installed for at least a week. We have been having a hot wave for the past few days and the ground is very sticky.		
	30/7/53.		The Station Commander, Group Captain McCallister arrived here by air with Air Vice Marshal G.D. Innes, D.F.C. to take over command of this Station from Group Captain H.M. Curran, D.F.C. The aircraft with Squadron carried out bombing practice including two hours 15 minutes. An aircraft was carried out at night by four aircraft for 42 hours 30 minutes and night bombing by one aircraft for two hours 10 minutes. W/O J. R.W.A. Innes visited S.L.A.A. Base and discussed with Station Officer Spence-Smith the mess problems and difficulties concerning S.L.A.A. accommodations. There is no toilet paper on the Station and the Medical Officer is complaining about this. Mess are unable to let us have any.		
	31/7/53.		Blender No. 22 of 434 Squadron (Captain R.10022 - Sgt. Pratt's Base) which was engaged on night flying exercise last night got lost owing to faulty navigation and landed at Gort at 07.30 hours. It took off from Gort at 12.30 hours and arrived back here at 13.15 hours.		OVER.

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of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events
Tholthorpe	1st Aug.		Group Captain R.C. Gordon is working in his office at Station Headquarters, but is living in temporary accommodation as his quarters are not yet quite ready. A Protestant Service was held in the Airman's Mess at 09.30 hours, and a Roman Catholic Service in the S.A.A.H.I. at 11.00 hours. 2 aircraft of 434 Squadron carried out local flying for 1 hr. 36 mins. Night flying was carried out by 4 aircraft totalling 45 hours 16 mins.
	2nd Aug.		Group Captain Gordon heard his first two charges here today. The Base Roman Catholic Chaplain, S/Lt. E.J. Rooney (C.759) said the Station Commander a visit. He is anxious that the Roman Catholic Padre here, S/Lt. P.H.D. Malahan (O.14501) should have an office where he can receive members of his community who wish to see him. Just at present this is impossible owing to shortage of accommodation. One of our three typewriters has had to be handed over to Intelligence; this leaves only 2 machines for the entire work of Station. One aircraft of 434 Squadron carried out local flying for 44 mins. 4 aircraft were engaged on Air Sea Rescue totalling 13 hours, 28 mins., and 2 aircraft on night flying totalling 2 hours 26 mins.
	3rd Aug.		One aircraft of 434 Squadron took to the air today for the first time and carried out local flying for 37 mins. 434 Squadron had 4 aircraft engaged on local flying totalling 2 hours 33 mins., 2 aircraft on cross country flying totalling 7 hours 43 mins., and 7 aircraft on Night Flying totalling 26 hours 37 mins. Two of the latter landed at Eastmoor because of weather conditions. G - George, and P - Peter. The Station Commander held a meeting with S/Lt. Iversee (S.L. 171), S/G. Newson (O.O. 434 sqdn), and W/C. Harris (O.C. 434 Sqdn), Mr. George Herring, the I.M.C.A. Supervisor, and the P.R.I. Corporals Stevens and Whittenak to form a Sports Committee. W/C. Newson was made Chairman, Mr. Herring Secretary and S/Lt. Iversee, Cpl. Stevens and Cpl. Whittenak, members.
	4th Aug.		Major H.A. Gilbert (C.O.D.) and Lt. E. Evans visited the Dental Section which is progressing well. The Station Commander and S/Lt. Admin. spent all afternoon inspecting progress of work on the different sites. An Entertainment Committee was formed today, the Chairman being P/O. A.S. Neville Elect. Eng. Officer, Secretary, G. Herring, Y.M.C.A. Supervisor, Members, S/O. E. Baraham, Officer in Charge, Lt. Wainman (434 Squadron representative) and S/Sgt. Lewington (431 Squadron representative). G - George and P - Peter returned from Eastmoor at 12.22 hours and 16.45 hours respectively. 2 aircraft were engaged on Air/Sea Rescue totalling 3 hours 56 mins. There was a Baseball Match between Tholthorpe and Linton in the evening. S/Lt. A.S. Littlewood (O.4084) arrived here to take up duties as Protestant Chaplain to 434 Squadron. There was a Baseball match against Linton in the evening and also a Cricket match against the Linton I.M.C.A. Regiment team. There was a Cinema show in the Airman's Mess tonight.
	5th Aug.		W/C. Emond, Base Admin. Officer, came over to discuss compilation of the Operations Record Book. Group Captain Gordon and S/Lt. Iversee spent a considerable portion of the day inspecting progress of work on the different sites. Telephone instruments are being installed in S.H.I.; today, and we sincerely hope that they will be serviceable very soon. Having only 2 lines to Base, Linton, causes a great deal of inconvenience but having only one instrument for the whole of S.H.I. has added greatly to our other difficulties. We had a visit from W/O. W.P. Read (17768) R.A.F. of Air Ministry, with regard to National Savings. We feel that just at present we are not sufficiently organised to allow us to devote much time to a Savings Scheme, but in due course National Savings will receive the attention it well merits. P/O. G.V. Nicholls (C.4982) from H.Q. 6 Group visited here on legal duty in company with a Mr. Chas. W. Robinson, and investigated three members of 434 Squadron who are alleged to have committed perjury in giving evidence in a case against a civilian motorist. The matter has broken and had has taken place of GUST. There is a leak in the roof of the Commanding Officer's office and a message has been sent to the Resident Engineer. 2 aircraft of 434 Squadron carried out local flying totalling

SECRET.

Refer to Appendix

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	5th Aug	(Cont)	56 mins. There was an additional film show tonight in the Airman's Mess. There was a home Baseball Match between Tholthorpe and Eastcoor in the evening.		
	6th Aug		Workmen came to attend to the leak in the Commanding Officer's roof. We are still working under great difficulties with only one telephone, practically no stationary or file covers and only 2 typewriters. 1 aircraft of 434 Squadron carried out local flying for 2 1/2 mins.		
	7th Aug		Group Captain Gordon went over to Base, Linton to a luncheon party given in honour of Sir Archibald Sinclair, the Under Secretary of State for Air, who was visiting there. S/L Iversee, S/L Admin, S/O, Barham, Officer 1/c H.A.A.F. Section, W/O Harris, O.C. 434 Sqn., W/O Newson, O.C. 434 Sqn., W/L Higgins, Adjutant of 434 Sqn., P/L Sutherland, Adjutant of 434 Sqn., were called over to Base for a special photograph which was not, however taken. Col. C.J.C. Padfield (P.49338) Base Defence Officer, was over here engaged on sitting 'Defence localities'. 1 aircraft of 434 Sqn. carried out air to sea firing totalling 1 hr. 8 mins. 1 aircraft did local flying for 1 hr. 12 mins. The Tholthorpe and Linton teams played an Exhibition Baseball game at Malton.		
	8th Aug		Two of the S.H.Q. telephones are connected up today and so pressure on the Orderly Room 'phone is somewhat relieved. The Base Commander, A/Cdre. E.C. McEwen, M.C., P.F.C., visited S/O Gordon today and discussed Station matters. Col. Padfield was here again in connection with sitting 'Defence localities'. 7 aircraft of 434 Squadron carried out air to sea firing totalling 1 hr. 6 mins, 2 aircraft did local flying totalling 1 hr. 9 mins. and 1 aircraft did local flying for 1 hr. 2 mins. Bombing practice.		
	9th Aug		G/O Caracallen, D.F.C., Station Commander of Eastcoor and G/O, J.C. Evans from H.Q. 6 Group, visited the Station and were shown round by G/O Gordon. They all went to Harrogate to attend the formal opening of the L.A.C.A. Leave Club there. The Base Equipment Officer S/L C.O. King (C.2543) visited the Equip. Officer here, P/O Emerson, and discussed equipment matters. P/O H. Roscoe (16316) came over from Base to see about Fire and Gas precautions here. 2 aircraft of 434 Squadron did local flying totalling 1 hr. 12 mins. 1 aircraft carried out cross country flying for 4 hrs. 7 mins. 4 aircraft were engaged on Bombing practice totalling 5 hrs. 24 mins. 4 aircraft carried out night bombing practice totalling 2 hrs. 24 mins. and 1 aircraft did night local flying for 1 1/2 hrs.		
	10th Aug		G/O Gordon visited various Sections on the Station. Special work was being carried out on aircraft preparing them for operations. At one stage it was thought they would operate tomorrow but this fell through. G/O Gordon interviewed some members of aircrew who have been recommended for Commissions. The Base Equipment Officer, S/L King, visited the Station in company with S/O A.S. Trotter (V.30247) W.D. and S/L C.B. Guest (C.2527) from H.Q. 6 Group. The Equip. Officer, P/O Emerson, is without a clerk and is much hampered in his work because of this. Shortage of ground is felt in every Section on the Station, but apparently everything which can be done is being done to remedy this state of affairs. S/L ... (A.8242) Elect. Engineering Officer from H.Q. 6 Group, visited the Stn., Elect. Eng. Officer, P/O, A.S. Neville. There was no flying today.		
	11th Aug		Halifax EB.210 of 428 Sqn., Middleton St. George rang short of petrol and landed here at 06.00 hours thinking this was Linton. It took off again at 15.26 hrs. after refuelling and checking over its engines. P/L F.A. Norris (C.3660) Protestant Chaplain from H.Q.A.F. H.Q. York paid the Station Padres a visit. 4 aircraft of 434 Sqn. carried out local flying totalling 3 hrs. 31 mins. and 1 aircraft was engaged on air to sea firing totalling 2 hrs. 19 mins. There was a cinema show in the Airman's Mess in the evening.		
	12th Aug		The Station Commander, G/O Gordon, S/L Admin, S/L Iversee, O.C. 434 Sqn., W/O Newson, O.C. 434 Sqn., W/O Harris, Officer 1/c H.A.A.F. S.O. Barham, Sqn. Adj. S/O Spencer-Sheill,		

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Tholthorpe	12th Aug. (cont'd)		<p>Adpts. 434 Squadron, P/O. Sutherland, adpt. 431 Sqdn, P/O. Higgins, all attended at Linton where a group photograph was taken of all Administrative personnel belonging to Base, Linton and 434 Squadron. At the same time, adpt. 431 Sqdn, adpt. 434 Sqdn, went to Linton where a conference was held regarding the bus facilities between Linton and neighbouring aerodromes. The Transport Commissioner, L.M.S., Mr. J. S. and York Pullman Bus Co. representatives and Presidents of the T.O.P.W.I. (Ley, Gelia Coster) attended. Mrs. Gelia Coster, who is a member of services personnel travelling from Tholthorpe to Linton is of the opinion that it is quite impossible to get the bus down to their household shops and. It was agreed that the present travelling facilities are inadequate but increased rail service was impossible owing to existing traffic. The possibility of using services between Linton and Skipton. The bus Co. is going to work out and submit suggestions to the Transport Commissioner. The 434 Squadron operated from this aerodrome on 12th Aug. All Linton returned safely.</p> <p>P. - Peter took off 21.40 hrs. landed Base 05.47 hrs.                      S. - Sugar " " 21.40 hrs. " " 05.47 hrs.                      W. - Wagon " " 21.40 hrs. " " 05.25 hours.                      V. - Viper " " 21.40 hrs. " " 06.10 hrs.                      M. - Mother " " 21.40 hrs. " " 05.50 hours.                      A. - Apple " " 21.40 hrs. " " 06.30 hrs.                      B. - Beetle " " 21.40 hrs. " " 06.30 hrs.                      P. - Peter " " 21.40 hrs. " " 06.40 hours</p> <p>Adapted from report which is available in the Station Mess.</p> <p>P/O. H. G. Stephens (C.2510) and P/O. H. G. Stephens (C.2510) were posted here from Linton and East Moor respectively, for 21.40 hrs. There was a softball match against Linton in the evening and a dinner in the Station Mess.</p>		
	13th Aug.		<p>5 of the aircraft which landed at other Stations have now returned here. The sixth is still at Middle Wollon having an engine changed. The aircraft which is being repaired it was noted that 3 repairs have been made to the following members of 434 Squadron: P/O. W.F.M. Hanson (C.2583) D.F.C., P/O. R.A. Gibson (42006) D.F.C., P/O. H. G. Stephens (C.2510) D.F.C., P/O. H. G. Stephens (C.2510) D.F.C., P/O. H. G. Stephens (C.2510) D.F.C.</p> <p>Part of our long awaited stationery arrived, but the Station is still without any toilet paper whatsoever.</p>		
	14th Aug.		<p>There was a Softball match against No. 6 Group. Capt. S.G. Levi, Jewish Chaplain from Overseas H.Q. visited the Station and met most of the Jewish personnel; his visit was greatly appreciated. P/O. H.G. Stephens (C.2510) Base Identification and Training Officer, visited the Electrical Section on duty. S.I.W. S/L. Ivance was out all morning inspecting progress of work and looking into the accommodation situation which is becoming more acute as new personnel are posted in. A number of W.A.A.F. (including 1 Officer) have so far at Linton, and come over by transport every day to work. A/Cdr. Robert, D.F.C. came from Base in the afternoon and interviewed some aircrew who have been requested for commissions. 3 aircraft of 434 Squadron landed. 1 aircraft of 434 Squadron was landed here owing to their Base being blocked by a crashed aircraft. 4 aircraft were engaged on Fighter Affiliation totalling 3 hrs. 23 mins., 1 aircraft carried out Air to Air refuelling for 1 hr. 8 mins., 2 aircraft were engaged on local flying totalling 1 hr. 30 mins., and 1 aircraft on cross country for 2 hrs. 44 mins. The clock to back 1 hr. as British Double Summer time ends tonight. The third game of play offs took place between Tholthorpe and 6 Group at Harrogate.</p>		
	15th Aug.		<p>3 aircraft from Topcliffe, M - Mother, V - Uncle &amp; A - Apple, landed here owing to weather conditions, but took off again after about 3 hrs. 2 aircraft of 434 Squadron were engaged on Fighter Affiliation totalling 1 hrs. 30 mins., 3 aircraft carried out Bombing practice at Harrogate.</p>		

OVER.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Woolthorpe	15th Aug (Cont'd)		totaling 3 hrs. 37 mins., and 1 aircraft did local flying. S/L. Ivenson was out examining progress of work on the various sites; it is progressing steadily. Religious Services were held as follows:- Roman Catholic in the N.A.A.F.A. at 11.00 hrs., and Protestant in the Airman's Mess at 11.00 hours.	
	16th Aug.		An Extraordinary Mess Meeting was held in order to elect the various officers necessary for the smooth running of the Mess. S/L. A. Pugh who has been acting as a stand-in in this appointment by the Station Commander. S/L. Higgins, A.S. of 431 Sqn., was made Mess Secretary, the duties of Messaling Officer are to be done jointly by the two Medical Officers, S/Ls. Baker and Wilson, and S/L. Wynyard Wright was appointed Entertainment Officer. It is hoped that the Officers' Mess will be ready for occupation next week. This should make a great difference to the comfort of all concerned as our members are fast outstripping the capacity of the temporary Mess. Men are settled into our new Mess it is proposed to hold a dance on a housewarming party. S/L. E.A.M. Duggan (C.3043) came over from 431 Sqn. to discuss with the Station Commander and S/L. Admin. matters concerning the various Sections were visited by them during the course of the day. Aircraft of 431 Squadron carried out local flying totalling 2 hrs. 49 mins. and 1 aircraft practised Air to Sea Firing for 41 mins.	
	17th Aug.		W/O. S.E.M. Scott (C.1894) S.O.A. from H.Q. 6 Group, visited the Station and toured all Sections with S/L. A. (S/L. Ivenson) in order to make the acquaintance of the various Officers in charge. 10 aircraft took part in operations tonight. There was a Softball game between Woolthorpe and Easton.	
	18th Aug.		2 aircraft of 431 Sqn. carried out local flying totalling 2 hrs. 38 mins. and 1 aircraft practised Air to Sea Firing for 2 hrs. 17 mins. It is noted that Routine Orders that W/O. M.G. Dwyer (137736) Pilot of 431 Sqn. has been awarded the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (Flying). Details of the times operating last night are as follows:- G - Charlie took off at 18 hours landed Newmarket 04.58 hours. D - Dog " " 21.20 " " Base " 04.12 " E - Freddie " " 21.10 " " Base " 04.25 " F - George " " 21.16 " failed to return. 04.52 " H - Johnny " " 21.27 " landed Base. I - Mike " " 21.17 " failed to return. J - Peter " " 21.12 " landed West Wickham 05.17 hours. K - Roger " " 21.15 " landed Newmarket 05.04 hours. L - Steve " " 21.11 " failed to return. M - Andy " " 21.24 " landed Base 23.39 hours. (U - undt) (Admitted early - electrical system W/A)	
	19th Aug.		The standing crews are:- Halifax EB.278. G - George. Sgt. P.M. Johnson (R.98865) Pilot - P/O. J.S. Armstrong (J.22178) Navigator - Sgt. C.G. Gibbs (R.1391880) Bomb Aimer - P/O. J.S. McPherson (146625) Wop. 262 - 2/Sgt. W.A. Christmas (R.84416) W.A. W. A/G. - 2/Sgt. D.M. Labelle (7752) Barr A/G. - Sgt. W.H. Rowe (576881) Flt/Eng. Halifax EB.258. J - Tommy. 2/Sgt. P.A. Piper (R.85176) Pilot - P/O. A.H. Wether (J.24826) Navigator - Sgt. R.G. Jordan (R.37382) Bomb Aimer - Sgt. G.R. Connor (R.14437) Wop. 262 - Sgt. W.A. Christmas (R.84416) W.A. W. A/G. - Sgt. J.I.R. Renaud (R.32352) Barr A/G. - Sgt. W.H. Rowe (576881) Flt/Eng. Halifax EB.260. M - Mike. W/O. T.J. Colquhoun (J.6032) Pilot - Sgt. J.R. Dohin (R.122633) Navigator - 2/Sgt. G.P. Parnsbrook (R.80845) Bomb Aimer - P/O. W.E. Beswick (R.10841) Barr A/G. Wop. 262 - Sgt. D.M. Young (1500025) W.A. W. A/G. - 2/Sgt. W.A. Christmas (R.84416) Flt/Eng. Sgt. P.S. Crees (1452486) Flt/Eng.	
			W/O. S.A. McFabb, D.F.C. (C.134) from Digby, S/L. R.D. White (C.2580) & S/L. W.M. Martin, (C.5610) from R.C.A.F. Overseas S.I. visited the Station. S/L. Ivenson showed G/O. McFabb over.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) RAF Station Tholthorpe

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	19th Aug.	(Cont'd)	over the Station. Work is progressing steadily but there is still a great deal to be done. The Station Commander was away at a Court Martial at Thornaby in the afternoon and in the evening he was over at Base assisting for A/Cdr. G.H. McEwen, A.C. D.F.C., the Base Commander, who is in turn assisting for A.V.M. G.E. Brookes, O.B.E. at H.Q. 5 Group. The Station Commander's house is now almost ready for him, furniture and fittings are being moved into it today. The Drain lighting is not yet complete. Tonight's operations were down, cancelled because of adverse weather conditions. The Airman's Mess is being tried because the scarcity of necessary equipment slows up preparations. Everything possible is being done to obtain the items required before the other Squadron (241) commences to operate. A/Cdr. McEwen, A.C. D.F.C., came over to S.H.A. at 12.00 hours and interviewed 3 aircrew candidates for commissions. 5 aircraft of 434 Sqn. carried out Bombing and 21st to Sea flying for 2 hrs. 40 mins. S/O. P.A. Ruckles (C.12308) from Base came over here on Commission of Adjustment duty and will be working here for the next few days. There was a Softball match between Tholthorpe and Beator at Beator. The Tholthorpe team is doing very well indeed and has only lost two games so far. There was a cinema show in the Airman's Mess in the evening.		
	20th Aug.		Tonight we held our first Stage Concert. All the items were provided by Station personnel and it appears we have quite an amount of talent amongst us. The arrangers and organisers were Mr. George Herring, I.M.C.A. Supervisor, and P/Sgt. Lewington to whom great credit is due. Considering everything here, the concert ran well. 1 aircraft of 431 Sqn. did local flying for 36 mins. 431 Sqn. had 1 aircraft on Air to Sea flying for 56 mins. 431 Sqn. had 1 aircraft on Air to Sea flying for 5 mins.		
	21st Aug.		Our second Station Dance was held in the Airman's Mess tonight, the music again being provided by the Linton Band. The cooler weather made the evening very pleasant and the Dance was a great success. The shortage of partners was helped out by a bus load of W.A.A.F.s. over from Linton. Mr. George Herring was M.C. and several "Spot" prizes were awarded during the evening. More prizes arrived today, and we are finding some difficulty over their accommodation. P/L. W.K. Conners (C.2186) arrived today to take over the duties of Station Adjutant from S/O. H. Spencer Sheld who has been acting in that capacity since 27th July. 1 aircraft of 431 Sqn. was engaged on local flying for 40 mins.		
	22nd Aug.		A Church Service was held by the Roman Catholic Padre in the N.A.A.F.I. at 10.00 hours and the Protestant padre held a Service in the Airman's Mess at 11.00 hours. P/L. P.H. Fearnside (A.2149) Elect. Engineer Officer from H.Q. 5 Group, visited the Station Elect. Engineer Officer, P/O. A.H. Hargrave. P/O. E. Budge (A.1316) Base/Line Officer from Base, visited P/L. A. Pugh, Station Engineer Officer, and discussed wire matters. W/O. A.J. Edmunds (20100) Base Engineer Officer, came over to discuss engineering matters with P/L. Pugh. 1 aircraft of 431 Sqn. did local flying for 1 hr. 16 mins. 431 Sqn. had 3 aircraft on Air to Sea flying for 2 hrs. 37 mins. and 2 on local flying totalling 37 mins. 12 aircraft of 431 Sqn. were part in tonight's operations.		
	23rd Aug.		There was a cinema show in the Airman's Mess tonight. Between the I.M.C.A. and W.A.A.F. we are now getting 3 cinema shows per week. P/L. D.F. Inge (10266) Base accountant officer, visited here to discuss non-charge accounts with P/L. Iversee (S/L. 2221). P/L. B.F. Russell (3999) Salvage Officer from H.Q. Bomber Command came over to discuss the Station Salvage arrangements with the Station Equip. Officer, S/O. Ederson who has been appointed Salvage Officer. P/O. Benge, Base Gas/Fire Officer, accompanied P/L. Buswell, and took part in the discussion. P/L. I.K. Ecclestone (C.7272) M.T. Officer from H.Q. 5 Group, came over to discuss H.A. with W/O. Stokes who is at present coming over from Base every day to see to the H.A. Section here. S/L. Iversee inspected work on the Officers' Mess and has improved very considerably in the past few weeks and should be ready for occupation very soon. The following are details of the 12 aircraft which took part in last night's operations:-		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	AUG. 23	(Cont'd)	<p>V - Victor took off at 21.16 hrs. landed Base 03.27 hours.</p> <p>R - Roger " " " 21.20 " " " 02.31 "</p> <p>W - William " " " 21.13 " " " 02.28 "</p> <p>S - Sugar " " " 21.11 " " " 02.15 "</p> <p>C - Charlie " " " 21.18 " " " 02.39 "</p> <p>P - Peter " " " 21.10 " " " failed to return.</p> <p>L - Love " " " 21.22 " " " landed Base 02.35 hours.</p> <p>X - Xray " " " 21.21 " " " 02.23 "</p> <p>K - King " " " 21.21 " " " 02.20 "</p> <p>D - Dog " " " 21.29 " " " 00.53 "</p> <p>U - Uncle " " " 21.14 " " " 02.10 hours.</p> <p>O - Orange " " " 21.19 " " " 01.01 "</p> <p>The missing crew are:</p> <p>Halifax Sq. 255 P - Peter, Sgt. R.S. Harrison (R.106618) Pilot - Sgt. N.G. Bevis (R.112577) 2nd Pilot - Sgt. W.H. Leadford (R.38965) Navigator - Sgt. E.O.A. Ford (R.124176) Bomb Aimer - Sgt. D.H. Walshaw (1213720) WOB/AG - Sgt. W.F. Collins (R.111235) Mid. U./A/G - Sgt. S.A. Morgan (R.106622) Rear A/G - Sgt. H. Ebers (R.121772) Flt/Sgt.</p> <p>12 aircraft of 434 Sqdn. are taking part in tonight's operations.</p>		
	AUG. 24.		<p>S/O M.R. Langley (1211) Int/Ops arrived here from Eastport to take up duty. Flt/Off. J.E. Elliott, A/c W.A.A.F. Section at Base, arrived here to act for S/O S. Sarasin whilst the latter is on leave. Details of the 12 aircraft which operated last night are as follows:</p> <p>A - Apple took off at 20.28 hours landed Base 04.14 hours.</p> <p>G - Gerald " " " 20.35 " " " 23.10 " (engine trouble)</p> <p>D - Donald " " " 20.32 " " " 23.31 " (engine trouble)</p> <p>F - Freddie " " " 20.29 " " " 23.09 " (severe icing - couldn't rise above 9,000 ft.)</p> <p>X - King " " " 20.24 " " " 23.09 " (inter com. W/S)</p> <p>K - Kiddy " " " 20.38 " " " 23.26 " (artificial horizon W/S)</p> <p>L - London " " " 20.31 " " " 23.17 "</p> <p>M - Mita " " " 20.20 " " " 23.04 "</p> <p>H - Robert " " " 20.24 " " " 23.35 "</p> <p>V - Victoria " " " 20.26 " " " failed to return.</p> <p>W - William " " " 20.17 " " " landed Base 04.19 "</p> <p>X - Xray " " " 20.14 " " " 04.54 " (engine trouble &amp; D.R. compass W/S)</p> <p>Details of the missing crew are as follows:</p> <p>Halifax Sq. 261 S/L. R. McLernon (C.1637) Pilot - Sgt. S. Walters (R.122109) Navigator - Sgt. A. Brindley (R.111001) Bomb Aimer - Sgt. N. Stevenson (R.1176016) WOB/AG - Sgt. E. Brooks (R.117132) Mid. U./A/G - Sgt. C. Snyder (R.115094) Rear A/G - Sgt. F. Messenger (R.22928) Flt/Eng.</p>		
	AUG. 25.		<p>Flt/O. J.E. Elliott (1618) assumed duties of Commanding Officer, W.A.A.F. on returning from leave. A Pay Parade for personnel going on leave was held in the old Sergeants' Mess. Lt. Col. D.S. Coons from Air Force Headquarters, Lt. Col. R.M. Mansbrough, R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, and Major H.W. Gilbert of No. 6 Group R.C.A.F. all of the Canadian Dental Corps, made an inspection of the facilities for dental treatment at this Station.</p> <p>Flt. J.O. Patton, (C.12021) No. 6 Group Equipment Officer, reported here in connection with the equipment section. One wing of the old Sergeants' Mess has been fitted out with 45 beds for aircrew due to limited accommodation on the site.</p>		
	AUG. 26.		<p>A cinema show was held in the Mess in the evening. Equipment and furniture was moved into the new Officers' Mess, and crockery and bar stock transferred so quickly that there was no interruption in the service. The Mess was taken over in wisard style. The S.H.S. Softball team defeated 431 Sqdn. team by the score of 15 - 9. P/O. M.A. Macgregor</p>		

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Handwritten initials/signature.



Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices																				
Waltham	31st Aug	(Con'd)	<p><i>Info.</i></p> <p>The strength of the Station is as follows:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F. Officers</td> <td>17</td> <td>R.C.A.F. Officers</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F. (W.D.) Ofcs.</td> <td>111</td> <td>W.A.A.F.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F. Airman</td> <td>149</td> <td>R.C.A.F. Airman</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F. (W.D.) Airwomen</td> <td>143</td> <td>W.A.A.F. Airwomen</td> <td>71</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total.</b></td> <td><b>420</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>120</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>C.D.C. - 1 Officer - 2 Other Banks</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i>            Group Captain, Commanding            R.C.A.F. Station,            WALTHAM.</p>	R.C.A.F. Officers	17	R.C.A.F. Officers	8	R.C.A.F. (W.D.) Ofcs.	111	W.A.A.F.	5	R.C.A.F. Airman	149	R.C.A.F. Airman	36	R.C.A.F. (W.D.) Airwomen	143	W.A.A.F. Airwomen	71	<b>Total.</b>	<b>420</b>		<b>120</b>		
R.C.A.F. Officers	17	R.C.A.F. Officers	8																						
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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

5-22-1-24  
DAS

26688 Page No. 1

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	
Tholthorpe.	1st Sept.	1	Group Captain R.C. Gordon assumes Command of R.C.A.F. Base, Linton-on-Ouse from 31st August to 6th September during the absence of Air Commodore C.M. McEwen, M.C., D.F.C., on leave.	
		2	Mr. Sifton, Canadian War Correspondent and proprietor of Sifton Publishing Company in Canada, arrived at the Station for a few days visit to acquaint himself with Operational Bomber Stations and personnel.	
		3	431 Squadron. 4 aircraft engaged on practice bombing totalling 5 hrs. 8 mins. 434 Squadron. 1 aircraft on cross country for 1 hr.	
		4	E/O. G.W. Armstrong (C.5893) Base Accounts, visited here and discussed Non Public Funds with S/L. Admin. S/L. R.W.A. Iversee.	
		5	During Bombing Up for tonight's operations a 1,000 lb bomb fell off a trolley and, in accordance with instructions, was treated as being fused and removed in a lorry to a sandpit in the vicinity of Tholthorpe and dumped there. Operations were cancelled on account of the weather.	
	2nd Sept.	1	The 1,000 lb. bomb exploded at 15.20 hours to-day when nobody was thinking about it, and shook the camp. Apart from some crockery being smashed there was no damage done.	
		2	431 Squadron. 5 aircraft engaged on local flying, totalling 3 hours 43 mins. 1 aircraft on air to sea firing for 1 hr. 28 mins. 434 Squadron. 5 aircraft engaged on local flying totalling 3 hrs. 12 mins. 1 aircraft on cross country for 3 hrs. 57 mins. 4 aircraft engaged on Gardening, totalling 14 hrs. 24 mins.	
		3	E/L. D.G. Miller (C.6628) Signals Officer from 6 Group visited the Station to-day on an inspection.	
	3rd Sept.	1	E/O. J.W. Stiles (C.9892) is attached here from Linton with effect from today for Engineering duties. S/L. F.H. Fernside (48242) Elect. Eng. Officer from 6 Group came over to see how things are getting on in the Electrical Engineering Section.	
		2	431 Squadron. 5 aircraft engaged on practice bombing, totalling 6 hours 6 mins. 1 aircraft did local flying for 26 mins. 434 Squadron. 3 aircraft did local flying totalling 1 hr. 37 minutes. 3 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation 2 hrs. 13 mins. 3 aircraft on practice bombing for 10 hrs. 58 mins.	
				/g.

SECRET.



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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	4th Sept.	1	F/L. H.J. Wilson (68863) came over from 6 Group on Temporary Duty in connection with Catering arrangements.		
		2	E/L. F.J. Smith (89260) from Base visited here in connection with the auditing of Non Public Funds.		
		3	431 Squadron. 2 aircraft engaged on Local Flying for 2 hrs. 1 min. 1 aircraft on air to sea firing for 1 hr. 6 mins. 434 Squadron. 1 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 12 mins. 2 aircraft on air to sea firing for 2 hrs. 8 mins. 1 aircraft on Cross Country for 4 hrs. 41 mins.		
5th Sept.		1.	A Protestant Service was held in the Tholthorpe Methodist Church at 9.30 hours. It was conducted by the Squadron Chaplains. A Roman Catholic Service was held in the N.A.P.I. at 11.00 hours.		
		2.	S/O. P. Stannard (1173) Code & Cipher Officer, came over from Base with some Secret and Confidential Publications.		
		3.	431 Squadron had 4 aircraft engaged on practice bombing totalling 3 hrs. 26 mins. 3 aircraft of the same Squadron did local night flying totalling 8 hrs. 21 mins. 434 Squadron had one aircraft doing local flying for 27 mins and 9 of its aircraft are taking part in Operations to night.		
6th Sept.		1.	All our aircraft taking part in last night's Operations returned safely. Details are as follows:- C-Charlie Up at 1923 hrs. Landed Base 0315 hrs. L-Love up at 1921 hrs. Landed Base 0331 hrs. R-Roger " " 1918 hrs. " " 0234 " P-Pox " " 1925 " " " 0326 " A-Able " " 1920 hrs. " " 0256 " E-Edward " 1931 " " " 2218 " H-Huts. " " 1919 hrs. " " 0301 " (Engine trouble). S-Sugar " " 1924 hrs. " " 0305 " W-William " 1926 " " " Market Harboro' 0300 hrs.		
		2.	F/L. I.R. Ecclestone (07272) M.T. Officer from 6 Group, visited the Station M.T. Section in company with F/L. L.W. Killen (78731) Base M.T. Officer.		
		3.	1 new Aircraft Halifax Mk.V. LK. 916 arrived today from Speke for 434 Squadron.		
		4.	The Sergeants' Mess was opened to-day, the first meal served there being breakfast. This move should relieve congestion in the Airmens' Mess and help towards the comfort and well-being of all concerned. We received 1,000 toilet rolls from Base to-day. We have been awaiting these since June.		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	6th Sept.	5	P/O. J.W. Milne (G.15882) Photographer from Overseas Headquarters Department of Public Relations, visited here to take some photographs of the Station and its everyday activities.		
			431 Squadron. 1 aircraft engaged on local flying 3 hrs. 1 min. 1 aircraft on fighter affiliation 52 mins. 1 aircraft air to sea firing 1 hr. 26 mins. 434 Squadron. 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation 2 hrs. 9 mins. Night Bombing was carried out by 2 aircraft of 431 Squadron for 4 hours. 8 aircraft of 434 Squadron are taking part in tonight's Operations.		
	7th Sept.	1	Details of last night's Operations are as follows:		
			A - Apple up at 1924 hours. Landed Ford. 0320 hrs.		
			O-Charlie " " 1927 " " West Hawling. 0357 "		
			E-Edward " " 1932 " " Ford. 2125 "		
			(Flt/Eng. Sgt. F. Hayes (R68389) fall). Failed to return.		
			F-Freddie " " 1930 " Landed Base. 2246 hrs.		
			G-George " " 1931 " Landed Base. Failed to return.		
			R-Roger " " 1935 " Landed Ford. 0351 hrs.		
			S-Sugar. " " 1926 " Landed Base. 2347 hrs. (Oxygen supply bad. Gyro & Hydraulics u/s).		
			T-Tommy " " 1928 " Landed Base.		
			Details of the 2 missing aircraft are as follows:-		
			F-Freddie. Halifax Mk.V. DK. 251. Pilot Sgt. J.H. Tovey (R92996); Navigator Sgt. A.D. Stoddman (R114527); Bomb Aimer Sgt. A.B. Jackson (R.116342); WOP/AG. Sgt. C.P. Phillips (R.132641); Mid. Up. A/G. Sgt. H.L. Douglas (R173933); Rear Gunner Sgt. J. McDonald (R.175198); Flt/Eng. Sgt. P.W.S. McCartney (1473489).		
			R-Roger. Halifax Mk.V. DK.262. Pilot Sgt. L.T. Olmstead (R134468); Navigator Sgt. R. Moore (R129779); Bomb Aimer Sgt. D.D. Watts (R.122139); Mid Up. A/G. Sgt. G.W. Sutherland (R190551); Rear Gunner Sgt. P.M. Shalman (R.136292); Flt/Eng. Sgt. L.S. Stone (180454); WOP/AG. Sgt. F. Tribby (1239637).		
		2	1 new aircraft for 434 Squadron, Halifax Mk.V. LX.917 arrived from Speke for 434 Squadron		
		3	431 Squadron. 2 aircraft engaged on Bombing practice for 1 hr. 53 mins. 2 aircraft did		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	7th Sept.	3	local flying for 2 hrs. 29 mins.		
	8th Sept.	1	Group Captain M. Costello from R.C.A.F. Headquarters visited the Station today and was shown around by the Station Commander, G/C. Gordon. G/C. Costello is visiting all the Stations within 6 Group.		
		2	431 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 1 hr. 22 mins. 2 aircraft on Cross Country 6 hrs. 26 mins. 434 Squadron. 2 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 26 mins. Night practice bombing by 431 Squadron.		
			P-Peter up 2143 hrs. Landed 0022 hrs.		
			able " 2225 " " 2240 " overshot runway - undercarriage damaged.		
			To-night's Operation was cancelled on account of weather conditions. S/L. M. M. Smith (G.3183) Engineer Officer from Base and P/L. H. D. Phillips (46178) Elect. Officer from Base, came over to discuss engineering topics with G/C. Gordon and the Squadron Commanders, W/C. Harris and W/C. Newson. P/L. Wilson, Group Catering Officer, is visiting here daily for a short while in order to acquaint himself with conditions.		
	9th Sept.	1	Y.M.C.A. Area Supervisor D.B. MacDonald and Area Quartermaster A.M. Tod from Leeds H.Q. visited the Station and inspected Mr. George Herring's new "Y" premises in the old Officers' Mess Building. No doubt they will be able to give him considerable help by providing him with furnishings and fittings. S/L. Ivimee made an inspection of the "Y" hut and the old Sergeants' Mess with a view to having them redecorated. All works are making steady progress and the Gymnasium is nearing completion.		
		2	To-night's operation is cancelled on account of weather conditions. 431 Squadron. 2 aircraft engaged on air to sea firing totalling 3 hrs. 12 mins. 434 Squadron. 2 aircraft did local flying for 1 hr. 23 mins. and 1 aircraft on Cross Country for 3 hrs. 57 mins.		
		3	4 new aircraft arrived for 434 Squadron. LK.647 and LK.648 from Ringway, LK.919 from Speke DG. 385 from Little Hissington and is being handed over to the Conversion Unit.		
	10th Sept.	1	SQ/Off. M. H. Barnett (114) Base W.A.A.F. Officer paid us a visit to-day and inspected W.A.A.F. Quarters and personnel with S/O. Barham, Officer i/c W.A.A.F. Section.		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Thelthorpe.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	10th Sept.	1	The Squadron Officer was well pleased with the way things are being done. P/O. W. Ramage (143316), Gas/Fire Officer from Linton, came over to inspect progress on the Gas Defence building. W/C. E.E. Bond, Base Admin. Officer, came over to see the Station Commander and discussed various questions concerning administration.		1
		(Cont'd)			
		2	There was no flying at all to-day owing to bad weather.		
		3	A Dance was held in the Airmen's Mess from 8 to 12 o'clock. Those who braved the elements to attend the Dance had a thoroughly good time.		
	11th Sept.	1	W/C. A.W. Youngsbend (21165) and P/L. J.W. Smith (89260) from Base Accounts Section came over to inspect the books of the Non-Public Accounts.		
		2	There was no flying to-day on account of the weather. We seem to be in the midst of electrical disturbances at present.		
	12th Sept.	1	P/L. F.D. Smith (53690) Navigation Officer from 6 Group came over to visit us accompanied by W/C. J.C. White (C.4079), of 6 Group who came to inspect progress on Station Sick Quarters.		
		2	1 aircraft of 434 Squadron carried out local flying for 47 mins. The weather is still bad for flying.		
	13th Sept.	1	The weather is still unsuitable for flying but it gives ground crews a good opportunity for getting ahead with maintenance and servicing.		
	14th Sept.	1	S/L. E.T.M. Duggan (C.3043) came over from 6 Group and discussed various points of organisation with the Station Commander and Squadron Commanders. He was accompanied by P/L. G.V.V. Nicholls (C.4982) who discussed with the Squadron Leader Admin. S/L. Iversee, the Adjutant P/L. W.M. Connors and Asst. Adjutant S/O. Spencer-Sheil, the best way of obtaining information for the Operational Record Book. It was decided to get out a pro-forma which Officers i/c Sections will be required to submit to S.H.Q. each day giving details of the previous day's events.		
		2	P/O. D.W. Haseldine (129451) came over from 432 Squadron to take a Summary of Evidence in connection with the putting on a charge of a Warrant Officer belonging to that Squadron by P/O. Wylie of 431 Squadron.		
		3	1 new Halifax MK.V. LX.918 arrived to-day for 434 Squadron.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	14th Sept.	3 (Cont'd)	431 Squadron. 2 aircraft engaged on air firing for 4 hrs. 52 mins. 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 1 hr. 25 mins. 2 aircraft on cross country flying 5 hrs. 15 mins. 1 aircraft on local flying for 43 mins. 434 Squadron. 3 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 3 hrs. 19 mins. 2 aircraft on cross country flying totalling 4 hrs. 55 mins. 2 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 25 mins.		
		4.	S/L. H. Shapiro (J.4724) Navigation Officer from Headquarters, Bomber Command and S/L. H. A. Forbes (J.4786) Navigation Officer from 6 Group visited the Station Commander to-day. P/L. S. Culver (46224) Signals Officer and P/L. G.C. Pinnington (130211) Navigation Officer from No.22 O.R.V. also visited here.		
		5.	The Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Bomber Command, Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur T. Harris, K.C.B., G.B.E., A.F.C., Air Vice Marshal G.E. Brookes (Air Officer Commanding 6 Group), Air Commodore C.M. McEwen, M.C., D.F.C., Base Commander, visited the Station and Sir Arthur Harris addressed all aircrew and ground crew S.N.C.O's. in the Airmen's Mess. His speech was short but very much to the point. Torrential rain prevented the party from making a complete tour of the Station.		
	15th Sept.	1.	A Parade was held on the Perimeter Track at 0900 hrs. in commemoration of the men who fell in the Battle of Britain. Prayers were read by S/L. L.C. Scott (C.3657) Protestant Padre. 4 Flights were paraded before the Station Commander and the Squadron Leader Admin. by Officer i/c Parade, S/L. A. Pugh. The W.A.A.P. Flight looked smart on Parade. Fortunately it was a fine morning after yesterday's thunder storms.		
		2.	The telephones throughout S.H.Q. are out of order to-day on account of rain seeping into the cable yesterday.		
		3.	S/L. A.C. Tufts (C.1378) Admin., was posted here to-day from R.A.F. School of Administration to take over the appointment of Squadron Leader Admin. from S/L. R.W. Iversee (C451) who is posted to Topcliffe. P/L. J.F.C. Gibbons (80875) Station Defence Officer, relinquishes his commission with effect from 27th September on account of his having reached the upper age limit for Defence Officers. He has been granted a commission in the R.N.V.R. instead. P/L. H.G. Harrison (108901) from		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	15th Sept.	3 (Cont'd)	6 Group visited here with P/O. W. Ramage from Linton to inspect our Fire Fighting Equipment, and arrangements which are not yet completed. S/O. P. Stannard, W.A.A.F. Code & Cypher Officer from Base came over with some Secret and Confidential documents. P/O. R.S. McCartney (G.12792) Base Adjutant, came over to discuss with the Adjutant P/L. Conners and Assistant Adjutant S/O. Spencer-Sheill, a proposed new system in connection with the promulgation of postings and attachments. The proposed new pro forma and system should provide a cross check on the movements of all personnel in the Base. S/L. M.M. Smith from Linton paid the Engineering Section a visit.		
		4	12 aircraft of 434 Squadron are taking part in Operations tonight.		
		5	1 new Halifax Mk.V. LK.649 arrived today for 431 Squadron.		
	16th Sept.	1	All the aircraft taking part in last night's Operations returned safely.		
			T-Tommy Up at 2043 hrs. Landed Base 0323 hrs.		
			C-Charlie " " 2041 " " " 0310 "		
			G-George " " 2045 " " " 0329 "		
			M-Mother " " 2049 " " " 0340 "		
			E-Edward " " 2026 " " " 0325 "		
			A-Able " " 2046 " " " 0319 "		
			S-Sugar " " 2029 " " " 0307 "		
			H-Huts " " 2027 " " " 0306 "		
			P-Peter " " 2032 " " " 0301 "		
			L-Love " " 2025 " " " 0314 "		
			V-Victor " " 2030 " " " 2339 " (One engine 1/2).		
			W-William " " 2031 " " Tangmere 0240 "		
			The Base Commander, A/Cdre. C.M. McEwen, M.C., D.F.C., went on the sortie in L-Love, captain S/L. W.M. Thomson, (J.3524).		
		2	P/O. D. Walkingshaw (123697) R.A.F. Regiment reported here on attachment from Leeming. P/L. H.C. Harrison from 6 Group and P/O. W. Ramage from Linton were over again today continuing their work in connection with Fire & Gas precautions. We are well equipped with main water		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	16th Sept.	2	supplies, static tanks, etc. but still have to get Fire Extinguishers for some places.		
		(Cont'd)			
		3	The Station Commander took S/L. A.C. Tufts (C.1378) the new Squadron Leader Admin. over to Linton to introduce him.		
		4	10 aircraft of 434 Squadron are taking part in Operations tonight.		
		5	Headquarters 26 Group fitting party arrived today to fit "Mendrel" to six aircraft of each Squadron.		
		6	S/L's telephones are still out of order but G.P.O. workmen are working on them. All communication was cut off with 431 Admin. and Tech. sites and all exchange lines to Basingfold. This was caused by some workmen driving pegs into the ground near the M.T. Section and cutting the main cable in two. Another G.P.O. Gang arrived to lay a new length of cable around the end of the NW-SE runway. This became necessary because the cable was cut on both sides of the runway when drain pipes were laid. When the job is completed it will enable Signals Section to establish communication with "A" and "B" Flight Offices.		
		7	The Airmen's Mess was inspected by S/L. Ivorace and S/L. Tufts. The Clerk of Works sent men to reinforce the tables in the Preparation Room there so that there should be no danger now of the "Berke" machine falling to the ground. Work was commenced on the pipe carrying away waste from the Potato Room. Linton instructed that our supply of emergency rations was to be returned to Base. The Camp now holds no reserve.		
17th Sept.	1	All aircraft taking part in last night's Operations returned safely. Details are as follows:-			
			C-Charlie Up at 1932 hrs. Landed Basingbourne 0400 hrs.		
			M-Mother " " 1933 " " " 0345 "		
			T-Tony " " 1936 " " " 0331 "		
			X-Xray " " 1937 " " " 0335 "		
			L-London " " 1942 " " " 0423 "		
			H-Huts " " 1946 " " Thirley 0406 "		
			A-Apple " " 1949 " " Basingbourne 0254 "		
			P-Peter " " 1951 " " " 0343 "		
			G-George did not fly - overload tank trouble.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	17th Sept.	1	431 Squadron. 3 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 11 hrs. 50 mins. 434 Squadron. 4 aircraft on local flying 3 hrs. 49 mins.		
		(Cont'd)			
		2	F/L. H.D. Phillips (46178) from Linton paid a liaison visit to the Electrical Eng. Section with Mr. A. J. Harris from R.A.E. Farnborough.		
		3	Communication has been restored with 431 Admin. and the Tech. sites and Easingwold. The C.P.O. informed the Signals Officer that immediate steps are being taken to instal the flare path. telephone, "A" and "B" Flight disposal 'phones and defence spurs. This work has been held up on account of the break in the 20 pair perimeter cable now undergoing repair by a special G.P.O. gang.		
		4	Mr. Ball, Messier Hydraulics representative paid a routine visit to the 434 Squadron Engineer Officer, S/L. D.M. Holman (C.1040).		
18th Sept.	1	1	431 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Cross Country flying totalling 6 hrs. 10 mins. 3 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 21 mins. 2 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 2 hrs. 59 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Air Firing for 1 hr. 41 mins. Night flying. 4 aircraft on Practice Bombing and Cross Country totalling 15 hrs. 7 mins. 434 Squadron. 2 aircraft on local flying for 2 hrs. 49 mins. 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 1 hr. 50 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 1 hr. 12 mins.		
		2	Routine servicing and maintenance of aircraft was carried out as usual by all Flights.		
		3	S/L. T. V. Mitchell (75679) Test Pilot from 6 Group visited here for the purpose of Air Testing aircraft EB.220 of 434 Squadron.		
19th Sept.	1	1	A voluntary Service for Protestant personnel was held at 0930 hrs. in the village church. Attendance: 3 Officers (W.A.A.F.) 28 other ranks. Mass was celebrated in the N.A.A.F.I. at 1000hrs. by the Roman Catholic Padre.		
		2	For the past few weeks the "Y" Supervisor, Mr. George Herring, has been working hard to get the old Officers' Mess into shape so that it can be used as a Recreation Centre which will include a Reading and Writing Room, Sports Room, Station Library and facilities for the sending of cables and flowers, and issuing of Red Cross Comforts. The existing blackout are useless but new ones have been promised.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	19th Sept.	3	P/O. Wilkinson and his crew have been posted to No.10 Squadron from 431 Squadron and two new crews reported in from Croft for 431 Squadron.		
		4	431 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation 2 hrs. 44 mins. 3 aircraft on local flying 5 hrs. 46 mins. 2 aircraft on Air to Air Firing 2 hrs. 26 mins. 1 aircraft on Practice Bombing for 1 hr. 20 mins. Night Flying. 2 aircraft on local flying for 3 hrs. 8 mins. 434 Squadron. 3 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 3 hrs. 55 mins. 4 aircraft on Cross Country for 11 hrs. 36 mins. 1 aircraft on local flying for 49 mins. 2 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 2 hrs. 2 mins. Night flying. 3 aircraft on Cross Country for 10 hrs. 15 mins. 1 new aircraft Halifax Mk.V. LK.925 arrived for 434 Squadron.		
		5	P/O. G. O. Shank (C.17960) Signals, reported here today on attachment from Linton. S/L. N.B. Eston (C.1870) and P/L. R.D. Carter (48488) from 6 Group visited the Signals Section in connection with installation of aircraft signals equipment. Apparently the connectors required for some of our aircraft are now out of production and ways and means are being tried to use a new type of connector set which is now being produced.		
	20th Sept.	1	P/L. J. B. Lacy (141937) and P/O. W. W. Harrison (74155) from 6 Group visited the Signals Section. P/L. Lacy who is Group Signals Security Officer, was making a routine visit with regard to Signals Security as a whole and informed the Section of the new call sign procedure. P/O. Harrison called with regard to personnel and checked up on Strength and Establishment.		
		2	S/O. S.Y. Delius (512), Base Cypher Officer and S/O. P. Stannard (1173) Cypher Officer visited Signals Section and inspected Secret and Confidential Publications held there. Everything was in order. P/O. G. O. Shank (C.17960) Signals, reported on attachment from Linton.		
		3	431 Squadron. 3 aircraft on local flying totalling 7 hrs. 19 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Sea firing for 1 hr. 12 mins. 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 1 hr. 30 mins. 434 Squadron. 3 aircraft on practice Bombing for 3 hrs. 44 mins. 3 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 4 hrs. 43 mins. 1 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 14 mins. 2 aircraft of 434 and 5 of 431 engaged on Night Flying totalling 29 hrs. 2 mins.		
		4	S/L. R. A. Iversee (C.4451) proceeded to Topcliffe on posting to-day. S/L. Iversee has		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	20th Sept.	4 (Cont'd)	worked untiringly to get this Station organised and running well during the 3 months he has been here and although he did have the satisfaction of seeing conditions improve from day to day, he must be denied the full pleasure of seeing the more far-reaching effects of his labours. The appointment of S/L Admin. is taken over by S/L A.C. Tufts (C.1378) who is taking a keen interest in the Station and has the background of a recent Course in R.A.F. Administration to help him in his work. A/S/O. J.E. MacLeod (6420) who has been Catering Officer to this Station since it was first set up in June, and has worked very hard indeed under the most difficult circumstances to keep personnel well fed and contented, left us today on posting to No.27 O.T.U. Great credit is due to A/S/O. MacLeod for the manner in which she coped with the numerous snags attendant on the opening up of any new Station. Her place is being taken by E/O. C. S. Dodgson (107308) who will from today undertake the onerous task of feeding the Station.		
		5	The Elvax Path field telephone was reported w/s as a result of an aircraft diverting from the runway and breaking the cable. Cable has been obtained from Linton and repairs are in hand.		
		6	431 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Practice Bombing for 3 hrs. 14 mins. 4 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 5 hrs. 40 mins. 1 aircraft on local flying for 45 mins. Night Flying. 4 aircraft on Cross Country for 18 hrs. 45 mins. 431 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Practice Bombing for 2 hrs. 18 mins. 6 aircraft did Night flying - Bullseye- 23 hrs. 38 mins.		
	21st Sept.	1	Last night's exercise was considered by all crews to be most instructive. The concentration of searchlights was not thought to be as effective as those encountered over enemy territory, but the dazzling effect on inexperienced crews was such that they were unable to identify targets or note the approach of fighters.		
		2	434 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Practice Bombing for 3 hrs. 14 mins. 4 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 5 hrs. 40 mins. 1 aircraft on Air Test for 45 mins. 431 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Bombing Practice for 2 hrs. 18 mins. Night Flying. 431 Squadron 6 aircraft on bullseye totalling 23 hrs. 38 mins. 434 Squadron. 4 aircraft on Cross Country for 18 hrs. 45 mins.		
		3	Telephonic communication has now been established between the Flights of 434 Squadron.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	21st Sept.	4	Routine servicing and maintenance of aircraft continues as usual. An inspection of Tool Kits was held and a list of missing and deficient tools compiled.		
	22nd Sept.	1	S/O. S. M. Foye (C.15951) from No.5 D.H.Q. visited here with regard to the Trade Testing of airman. He is making arrangements to hold a Trade Test Board here in the near future.		
			S/L. C.H. Nashlin (2400) 6 Group Intelligence Officer, visited the Station Commander. S/L. P.H. Pearnside Elect. Eng. Officer from 6 Group, W/O. M. M. Smith and S/L. H.D. Phillips from Base attended a conference here of all Engineer and Electrical Officers and S.N.C.O's. S/L. C.O. King, Base Equipment Officer, paid the Equipment Section a routine visit.		
		2	431 Squadron, 2 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 56 mins. 1 aircraft on Cross Country for 4 hrs. 47 mins. 2 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 2 mins. 434 Squadron, 4 aircraft on Practice Bombing for 6 hrs. 42 mins. 3 aircraft on local flying for 2 hrs. 21 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 1 hr. 5 mins. 12 aircraft of 434 Squadron are operating to-night.		
	23rd Sept.	1	1 aircraft is missing from last night's operations.		
			C-Charlie up at 1851 hrs. Landed Base 0025 hrs.		
			L-London " " 1852 " " " " 0059 "		
			G-George " " 1902 " " " " Failed to return.		
			M-Mother " " 1900 " " " " Landed Base 0044 "		
			K-King " " 1922 " " " " 0111 "		
			F-Freddie " " 1904 " " " " 0105 "		
			S-Sugar " " 1854 " " " " 0031 "		
			V-Victor " " 1856 " " " " 0038 "		
			N-Nuts " " 1855 " " " " 0042 " (P/T w/s on return)		
			X-Xray " " 1859 " " " " 0108 "		
			P-Peter " " 1858 " " " " 0020 "		
			W-William " " 1901 " " " " 0114 "		
			Details of the missing aircraft are as follows :- Halifax Mk.V. IK.909. Pilot Sgt.H. Green (1096580); 2nd Pilot Sgt. R. R. Reynolds (R.135119); Navigator Sgt. J. Cross (929899);		



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Tholthorpe.	23rd Sept.	1	Bomb Aimer Sgt. A. P. Cudd (1388584); WO1/AG. Sgt. E. C. Coward (1332058); Mid Up A/G. Sgt. A. Heaney (R.82526); Rear A/G. Sgt. D. J. Burge (1320913); Flt/Msg. Sgt. S. C. H. Heern (1457812).		
		(Cont'd)			
		2	With effect from yesterday the S/L. "A" is to be known as the S.Ad.O. (Station Administrative Officer).		
		3	This morning the Station Commander, O/C. Gordon, and S.Ad.O. S/L. Tufts made an inspection of the Communal Site. Sick Quarters is rapidly nearing completion and the M.O. is moving in today to the W.A.A.F. Wing which is actually ready for occupation.		
		4	10 aircraft of 434 Squadron are taking part in to-night's operations. It is anticipated that 431 Squadron will commence operating in the very near future. 434 Squadron had 1 aircraft on Air Test for 30 mins. 431 Squadron had 5 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 19 hrs. 40 mins.		
		5	W/O. D. H. Dabba (09098) Air Sea Rescue Officer from Bomber Command, W/O. M. M. Smith, Base Engineer Officer, S/L. A. P. Knowles (34329) Base Armament Officer, S/L. A. W. Ray (45529) Signals and E/O. A. M. Crawford (C.5734) RADAR from Base attended a Conference of all technical Officers and N.C.O.'s to discuss organisation.		
		6	George Herring and his men are putting in the finishing touches to the Y hut and getting it ready for the opening of the Club on Friday, 24th September. O/C. Gordon asked him to limit the use of the Club to Corporals and below but the facilities for sending cables and flowers to Canada, Red Cross Comforts and Library are open to all ranks.		
	24th Sept.	1	All our aircraft returned safely from last night's operations.		
			X-Ray up at 1902 hrs. Landed Base 0221 hrs.		
			Y-Victor " " 1856 " " " 0218 "		
			W-William " " 1903 " " Hartford Bridge 0142 "		
			R-Robert " " 1858 " " Base 0204 "		
			P-Peter " " 1859 " " " 2216 " (rear turret w/s (hydraulic fluid frozen).		
			C-Charlie " " 1853 " " " 0208 "		
			F-Fredie " " 1852 " " " 0211 "		
			D-Deer " " 1854 " " " 0158 "		
			M-Mother " " 1857 " " " 0230 "		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	24th Sept.	1	K-King up at 1901 hrs. Landed Cranfield 0240 hrs.		
		(Cont'd) 2	434 Squadron. 1 aircraft on Air Test for 1 hr. 12 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Air Firing Base Approach practice for 1 hr. 38 mins. 431 Squadron. 4 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 16 hrs. 11 mins. 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 1 hr. 22 mins. a Lancaster from Eastmoor practised Circuits and Bumps here for 1 hr. 19 mins. as Eastmoor was operating.		
		3	The Hospital equipment for S.S.Q. has now arrived at the Equipment Section.		
		4	The Y.M.C.A. Hut opened today. The crowd was not large but no doubt that was only because the news had not yet got around to everyone.		
		5	A Station Dance was held in the Airmen's Mess at 2000 hrs. This time the music was provided by gramophone records amplified through the Motion Picture apparatus. The general opinion was that this arrangement was more successful even than when the Linton Dance Band comes to play for dancing as there were shorter intervals between dances. The Dance was a great success.		
	25th Sept.	1	W/C. Smith, Base Engineer Officer, visited the Station Commander in whose office a conference was held with W/C. Newson (O.C. 431 Sqn.), P/L. Humphreys (Sqn. Eng.) and P/L. Hudson (Stn. Eng. Officer). In the afternoon the Base Commander, Cdr. Nelson, held a conference here with the Squadron and Flight Commanders, the Station Commander, Air Vice Marshall G.E. Brookes (A.O.C. 6 Group) and W/C. D.A. R. Bradshaw, Air Staff Officer from 6 Group.		
		2	12 aircraft of 434 Squadron were to take part in to-night's operations but the operation was cancelled on account of weather conditions over the target. 434 Squadron. 7 aircraft on Air Test totalling 5 hrs. 52 mins. 431 Squadron. 1 aircraft on Air Test for 56 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing and Fighter Affiliation for 57 mins.		
		3	The news of the opening of the "Y" hut has got about and the place was crowded out. If the numbers continue to pour in like this George Herring thinks he will have to enlarge the accommodation by using the kitchen as another clubroom. Several S.N.C.O's came in but had to be asked to leave as the club is for the use of Corporals and below. All the men in the club declared it was the nicest place they had ever seen, so apparently it is much appreciated.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	26th Sept.	1	A successful Station Parade Service was held in the new and incomplete N.A.A.F.I. at 0915 hrs. the Protestant Service being conducted by S/Ldrs. Scott and Littlewood in the main room, and the Roman Catholic padre P/L. McMahon celebrating Mass in another room. The Service was to commemorate the anniversary of the Battle of Britain and was the first Station Parade Service held here. The address was given by S/L. Littlewood.		
		2	S/L. P. E. Sorenson, A.F.C. (C.1576) from R.C.A.F. Headquarters visited the Station and inspected the Armament Section with the Station Armament Officer, E/O. S.G. Bellard (50377) R.A.F. The Squadron Leader is making a tour of various stations all over the country before returning to Canada and he will be spending a few days here.		
		3	434 Squadron. 1 aircraft on local flying for 2 hrs. 32 mins. 1 aircraft on Air Test for 46 mins. 431 Squadron. 1 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 25 mins. 2 new aircraft arrived for 431 Squadron, LK. 659 from Leeming and DK.185 from Skipton. 12 aircraft of 434 Squadron were detailed for to-night's operations but weather conditions over the target area again caused the operation to be cancelled.		
	27th Sept.	1	Major P.B. Cowen, M.C., C. de G. (21519) of 2794 L.A.A. Flight visited the Station and inspected defence arrangements with E/O. D. Walkingshaw, R.A.F. Regt.		
		2	431 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Practice Bombing for 2 hrs. 53 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 46 mins. 2 aircraft on local flying for 2 hrs. 29 mins. 434 Squadron. 10 aircraft on local flying for 3 hrs. 18 mins. 14 aircraft of 434 Squadron are taking part in to-night's operations.		
	28th Sept.	1	S/L. Sorenson departed for Eastmoor this morning. He seems to have enjoyed his short stay here and his flight in a Halifax.		
		2	Details of last night's operations are as follows :- A-Apple up at 1922 hrs. Landed Ridgewell 0034 hrs. B-Baker " " 1930 " " Snetterton Heath 0125 " C-Charlie " " 1923 " " Ridgewell 0050 " D-Donald " " 1933 " " Thornaby 2355 " E-Freddie " " 1921 " Failed to return.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	28th Sept.	1	K-Kiddle up at 1936 hrs. Landed Linton (on 3 engines) 2255 hrs.		
	(Cont'd)		M-Mother " " 1928 " " Ridgewell 0040 "		
			N-Nuts " " 1934 " " Cranfield 0207 "		
			P-Peter " " 1929 " " Chelveston 0143 "		
			R-Robert " " 1932 " Failed to return.		
			T-Tony " " 1924 " Landed Ridgewell 0046 "		
			V-Victor " " 1926 " " " 0101 "		
			W-Willie " " 1927 " " Linton (on 3 engines) 2153 "		
			X-Xray " " 1925 " Failed to return.		
			Details of the missing aircraft are as follows :-		
			B-Freddie Halifax Mk.V. IK.64B. 1st Pilot P/L. E. C. Lord (J.6829). 2nd Pilot P/Sgt. J.W. Hellen (Aaa.14558); Navigator P/O. B. S. Jones (J.14774); Bomb Aimer P/O. D.J. Sinclair (J.21937); WOP/AG. Sgt. B.M.O'Hara (R.128744); Mid.Up. AG. Sgt. R.H. Wallace (R.76305); Rear A/G. Sgt. J.C. Desleyes (R.59777); Flt/Eng. Sgt. S.A. Walter (1802702); R-Robert Halifax Mk.V. IK.919 Pilot Sgt. R.L.H. Smith (R.131214); Navigator P/O. M.E. Halpin (J.24216); Bomb Aimer Sgt. M. Vitch (R.161045); WOP/AG. Sgt. G. Todkell (1525042); Mid.Up. A/G. Sgt. W.T.G. Moody (1801481) Rear A/G. Sgt. J.H. Rousseau (R.185468); Flt/Eng. Sgt. R.O. Evans (547680). X-Xray Halifax Mk.V. IK.917. 1st Pilot Sgt. O. Lytle (R.124019); 2nd Pilot Sgt. E.V.A. Elder (1430252); Navigator Sgt. R.G. Padlar (R.130658); Bomb Aimer Sgt. J.H. Monteith (R.133519); WOP/AG. Sgt. M.D. Chasmar (1380306); Mid.Up. A/G. Sgt. M.E. Hansell (R.160789); Rear A/G. Sgt. J.A. Leach (R.144066); Flt/Eng. Sgt. H. Lindsay (532586).		
		3	Station Defence Officer P/O. L.F. Stuart (137972) R.A.F. Regt. is promoted to the rank of Flying Officer with effect from 23rd July, 1943. Authority: London Gazette.		
		4	Col. Padfield, Base Defence Officer, came over to discuss Station Defence with the Station Commander.		
		5	431 Squadron is having a Bullseye tonight; 9 aircraft are detailed.		
		6	Lancaster aircraft B-Daer of 426 Squadron, Linton, landed here today at 1634 hrs. with Air Marshall H. Edwards, C.B. (C.30) A.O.C.-in-C. R.C.A.F. Headquarters, London. Air Vice		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	28th Sept.	6 (Cont'd)	<p>Marshall C.E. Brookes, O.B.E. (C.42) A.O.C., 6 Group, A/Odre. P.C. Wait, (C.54) Group Captain G.G. Truscott (C.150) and P/L. D.A. Brownlee, (C.5194) of R.C.A.F. Headquarters also visited the Station, and included in the party was Mr. Bell, who is responsible for Aircraft Production in Canada and Mr. Dickle who has to do with the manufacture of Lancaster aircraft in Canada. The party made a quick tour of the Station with the Station Commander, after the Air Marshall had addressed Aircrew in the Sergeants' Mess.</p>		
	29th Sept.	1	Only 7 aircraft took off last night on the Bullseye which totalled 30 hrs. 9 mins. M-Mother had hydraulic trouble and K-King a drop in revs.		
		2	S/L. G. B. Guest (G.2537) from 6 Group came over to make an inspection of Equipment. Capt. H. Hamer of the Canadian Army came over from Linton (where he is attached for a few days) in order to see how things are done on an Operational Station. He is interested in the Army Co-operation aspect of things.		
		3	7 aircraft of 434 Squadron are taking part in operations to-night.		
		4	431 Squadron. 2 aircraft on local flying for 2 hrs. 8 mins. 434 Squadron. 1 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 1 hr. 30 mins. 1 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 27 mins.		
	30th Sept.	1	<p>Details of last night's operational flying are as follows :-</p> <p>C-Charlie up at 1819 hrs. Landed Base (on 3 engines) 1931 hrs.                      L-London " " 1822 " Failed to return.                      B-Beer " " 1823 " Landed Base 2323 hrs.                      M-Mother " " 1821 " " " 2312 "                      T-Tommy " " 1818 " Failed to return.                      A-Apple " " 1825 " Landed Base 2338 "                      P-Peter " " 1820 " " " 2344 "</p> <p>L-London. Halifax Mk.V. DK.259. Pilot Lt. J.T. Clary (O.885969) U.S.A.A.F.; Navigator P/O. G.W. Hastings (J.17665); Bomb Aimer P/O. W.C. Bellinger (J.13120); WOP/MG. P/O. I.A.L. Lockhart (J.18450); Mid Up A/G. Sgt. R.W. Stuart (10601019); Rear/G. P/O. C.Y. Hovey (J.17106) Sgt. T.H. Scudder (1582262). T-Tommy. Halifax Mk.V. LX.634. Pilot P/O. C.H. Popplewell</p>		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	30th Sept.	1 (Cont'd)	(J.16305); Navigator P/O. C.P. Kirk (J.17740); Bomb Aimer Sgt. R.A. Earl (1322260); WOP/AG. P/Sgt. R. Zahl (903648); Mid Up. /G. Sgt. W.G. Bailey (R.86191); Rear A/G. Sgt. T. Davies (1339176); Flt/Eng. Sgt. N.T. Harris (1653119).		
		2	S/L. A. Rugh (45493) RAAF Station Engineer Officer, is posted to R.A.F. Mildenhall, with effect from 1st October. His place is being taken by P/L. H.P. Ihison (C.3308). P/O. S.C. Holland Station Armament Officer, is granted the Acting Rank of Flight Lieutenant with effect from 21st September.		
		3	The Sergeants' Mess is holding its first dance to-night at 2000 hrs.		
		4	S/L. F. Preston (88291) from Headquarters Bomber Command, S/L. M.B. Eaton (C.1890) and P/L. R.D. Carter (C.8408) from 6 Group paid the Signals Section a liaison visit with regard to Halifax TR.1196 Modification.		
		5	Mr. J. Gundy, Section Officer and Mr. R.F. Leeper, Civ. Eng. Asst. from A.M.W.D. Ripon, visited here in connection with the sitting of a Navigation classroom.		
		6	431 Squadron. 7 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 29 hrs. 7 mins. 434 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Air Test for 2 hrs. 9 mins. 2 new Halifax Mk.V aircraft arrived for 434 Squadron, LK.245 from Speke and LK. 663 from Eastwood.		
			The health of the Station has been fair throughout the month; there have been many colds due, no doubt, to the sudden changes in temperature and lack of fuel for fires. There have been no epidemics.		
			Baseball and Softball games have been played as regularly as weather permitted and entertainments have now become a feature of Station life. Cinema shows are given in the Airmen's Mess three times a week and in the Officers' Mess twice a week. A Station Dance is held in the Airmen's Mess every other Friday, and may possibly be held every Friday in the future. A Salvation Army Mobile Canteen is now visiting various points in the Station practically every morning and the tea, cigarettes, sweets, fruit and excellent sandwiches and cakes it sells are much appreciated by the airmen and airwomen.		
			Work is progressing satisfactorily and the N.A.A.F.I. on the Communal Site is nearing completion. The N.A.A.F.I. site N.A.A.F.I. is due to be opened up on the 12th October and		



OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	30th Sept.	Cont'd.	<p>this will provide the airwomen with a place for relaxation and recreation. Work on the remainder of the W.A.A.F. site is also making steady progress but the quarters for the W.A.A.F. Officers will not be ready for some time yet. The Hairdressers Shop will be ready soon and as we have all the necessary fittings for it, all we shall then require is a W.A.A.F. Hairdresser. The Gymnasium on the Casual Site is nearing completion. The Drom lighting system is not yet ready.</p>		
			<p><u>STRENGTH (as at 30/9)</u></p>	<p><u>Officers.</u></p>	<p><u>Other ranks.</u></p>
			R.A.F.	8	39
			R.C.A.F.	23	161
			C.D.C.	1	2
			W.A.A.F.	3	79
				35	281

*J. G. Radin*  
 Group Captain, Commanding,  
 R.C.A.F. Station,  
 THOLTHORPE.

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of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe. 28885 No. of pages used for day 16

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1/10/43	1.	431 Squadron is operating to-night for the first time; 6 aircraft are detailed from 431 and 8 from 434. Everyone wishes them a successful trip and a safe return. 434 Squadron had 3 aircraft on Air Test for 1 hr. 51 mins. 2 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 2 hrs. 7 mins. 1 aircraft on Cross Country for 58 mins. 431 Squadron had 7 aircraft on Air Tests for 4 hrs. 22 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 43 mins. and 1 aircraft on Height Test for 2 hrs. 30 mins.		
		2.	The Dance held in the Sorcerer's Mess last night was a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.		
		3.	S/L. Burrows (Deputy Director) Air Sea Rescue 2, from Air Ministry visited P/L Austin our Flying Control Officer who is taking over Air Sea Rescue duties for this Station. S/L H.B. Eaton (C.1850) Para 6 Group visited here in connection with Signals liaison. The G.P.O. Liaison Officer, Mr. Collins, states that the new telephone switchboard will arrive on the Station in a few days. Mr. Kent, the G.P.O. Surveyor, was here to-day and discussed with the Signals Officer, S/L A.D. Blesford (C.15133) the location of new sites, in the area of the camp, which are to be served in the near future.		
	2/10/43	1.	Last night's operations were cancelled. 12 aircraft are detailed for operations to-night; 4 for 431 Squadron and 8 from 434 Squadron. 434 Squadron had 1 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 1 hr. 5 mins. and 6 aircraft on local flying for 4 hrs. 12 mins. 431 Squadron had 3 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 51 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing for 1 hr. 2 mins. and 3 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 11 hrs. 8 mins.		
	3/10/43	1.	All our aircraft returned safely from last night's Gardening expedition. Details are as follows:- 434. U-Uncle up at 1909 hrs. Landed at Peterhead 0333 hrs. A-Angle " " 1908 " " " " " " 0259 " B-Beer " " 1906 " " " " " " 0321 " K-King " " 1904 " " " " " " 0305 " M-Mother " " 1910 " " " " " " 0248 " S-Sugar " " 1905 " " " " " " 0312 "		



*[Handwritten signature]*

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			V-Victor up at 1903 hrs. Landed at Base 0046 hrs.		
			M-Mita " " 1902 " " " " 0303 "		
			431. D-Donald " " 1911 " " " " 0244 "		
			R-Robert " " 1907 " " " " 1307 "		
			C-Charlie " " 1912 " " " " 0319 "		
			Q-Queenie " " 1901 " " " " 0323 "		
			1 new aircraft Halifax Mk.V. LK.666 arrived for 434 Squadron. 16 aircraft are detailed for operations to-night. 8 from 431 and 8 from 434. 431 Squadron has 2 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr.7 mins. 434 Squadron had 2 aircraft on local flying for 1 hrs. and 2 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 2 hrs.36 mins.		
	4/10/43	1.	Details of last night's operational flying are as follows:-		
			431. S-Sugar up at 1918 hrs. Landed Base 2108 hrs. (1 engine w/s).		
			D-Donald " " 1847 " " " " 0100 "		
			E-Edward " " 1848 " " " " 0222 "		
			V-Victor " " 1843 " " " " 2213 " (navigational error).		
			M-Mother " " 1846 " " " " 2221 " (could not climb owing to incorrect trimming).		
			O-Orange " " 1845 " " " " 2051 " (rear turret w/s).		
			P-Peter " " 1841 " " " " 0116 "		
			R-Robert " " 1844 " Failed to return.		
			434. D-Donald " " 1858 " Landed Base 0112 "		
			M-Mother " " 1855 " " " " 0109 "		
			B-Baker " " 1857 " " " " 0135 "		
			A-Apple " " 1901 " " " " 0121 "		
			S-Sugar " " 1906 " " " " 0119 "		
			P-Peter " " 1852 " " " " 0106 "		
			N-Nita " " 1854 " " " " 0130 "		
			V-Victor " " 1851 " Failed to return.		



# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 3

RAF Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I. para. 249 and War Manual Pt. II, Chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.C. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 16

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	4/10/43.	1	<p>Details of the missing aircraft are as follows:-</p> <p>V-Victor, Halifax Mk.V. LR.295. Pilot W/O J. Reynolds (R10770); Bomb Aimer Sgt. A. Dwyer (R1522875); Navigator Sgt. L.R. Cudmore (R117037); Bomb Aimer Sgt. J. Grebin (R128766); WOP/AG. Sgt. B.C. Storey (1198768); Mid-Up W/O. Sgt. C.H. Wardrope (R191206); Rear W/O Sgt. J. C. Main (R114861); Flt/Eng. Sgt. S. Peters (1506544)</p> <p>V-Victor, Halifax Mk.V. DR.261. Pilot P/O. H.W. German (J.10730); Navigator W/P/L. G.T. Berg (J.16782); Bomb Aimer Sgt. V. McDonald (R147836); W/O/AG. Sgt. C.W. Dorey (117584); Mid Up W/O. Sgt. R.J. Eaton (524372); Rear W/O. Sgt. E.V. Davidson (Gen 140355); Flt/Eng. Sgt. W.O. Todd (R62718).</p>		
		2	<p>The Linton Concert Party came over and entertained us in the Corporals Mess last night. All the songs were very good and the audience was most appreciative. After the concert the following distinguished visitors were entertained in the Officers Mess: C.V.L. C.R. Carr, C.B.E., D.F.C., D.C., R.O.C. 4 Group, W/O. H.S. Kirby, D.S.O., D.F.C., 41 Base, Maxton Moor, W/O. C.H. McEwen, D.C., D.F.C., 60 Base, Linton, C/O. D.H. Edwards, D.F.C., R.O.C. P. Station, Linton. W/L. G.V. Mitchell of Messrs Handley Page, Sir Frederick Handley Page and Miss Handley Page. Sir Fredrick Handley Page was most interested to be able to chat with some aircrew officers who were in the mess because their aircraft had to return early from operations.</p>		
		3	<p>P/O. Remage, Gun/Fire Officer from Base, visited the Station Administrative Officer, S/L. G.C. Tufts, to discuss fire precautions on this Station.</p>		
		4	<p>16 aircraft are detailed to take part in operations tonight, 8 from 431 and 8 from 434. 434 Squadron had 1 aircraft on local flying for 15 minutes.</p>		
	5/10/43.	1	<p>Only 12 aircraft took off last night and of these one is reported missing.</p> <p>434. W-William up at 1750 hours. Failed to return.</p> <p>A-Apple " " 1745 " Landed Linton 0100 hours.</p> <p>B-Bear " " 1752 " Landed Linton 0118 "</p> <p>D-Dog " " 1746 " " Harwell 0030 "</p> <p>M-Mother " " 1811 " " " 0050 "</p>		

OVER.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorge.	5/10/43	1	(continued).		
			S-Condor up at 1753 hours. Landed Linton Air Base 0105 hours.		
			M-Rite " " 1755 " " Linton 0124 hours.		
			431. - sample up at 1757 hrs. Landed Base 0131 hours.		
			D-Dog " " 1807 " " Middle Wallow 0056 hrs.		
			B-BBard " " 1809 " " Linton 0104 hrs.		
			F-Fred Mc " " 1812 " " Base 0151 hours.		
			G-Orange " " 1805 " " Linton 0121 hours.		
			V-Victor " " 1754 " " Base 0155 hours.		
			Composition of the 431st Squadron is as follows:- W/O. Smith, Base Engineer, 250. Pilot: P/O. J. Allan (J.20440); Navigator P/O. J.S. Ruxton (J.21709); Bomb Aimer Sgt. J.C. Cox (1588386); W/P/O. Sgt. H.W. Henshall (1518050); Mid-Up /S. Sgt. G.H. Hayward (1413029); Rear /S. Sgt. P.H. Sheldon (R171843); Plt/Eng. Sgt. R.F. Lee (204397).		
		2	W/O. H.W. Smith, Base Engineer Officer came over to-day to investigate the reason for all the aircraft not being serviceable for last night's take-off.		
		3	431 Squadron had 3 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 44 mins., and 434 Squadron had 8 aircraft on local flying for 5 hrs. 54 mins. 7 aircraft of 434 Squadron and 7 of 431 are detailed for operations tonight.		
	6/10/43	1	Last night's operations were cancelled on account of blinding fog.		
		2	W/O. Smith from Base again visited.		
		3	10 aircraft of 431 and 11 aircraft of 434 are detailed for tonight's operations.		
	7/10/43	1	Operations were again cancelled last night on account of adverse weather conditions.		
		2	431 Squadron had 11 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 75 hrs. 51 mins. 434 Squadron had 4 aircraft on local flying for 3 hrs. 14 mins. 1 aircraft on Air to Sea Picing for 1 hr. 6 mins. 2 aircraft on Cross Country 7 hours 12 mins. Night Flying. 431 Squadron. 3 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 12 hours, 23 mins.		
		3	W/L. Knowles, Base Armament Officer and W/O. Smith, Base Engineer, visited the Sections.		
			OVER.		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) RCAF Station, Thelthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 16

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe	8/10/43	1.	9 aircraft of 431 Squadron and 11 of 434 are detailed for operations to-night.		
		2.	A party of 2nd Lt. S/Lt. Franc, S/Lt. H.C. Scott (9220), S/Lt. I. de la Herra (3660) and P/Lt. Lee, descended on the Station in the evening and renewed acquaintance with quite a number of people here whom they had known in Canada. They stayed on to see the boys take off on operations.		
		3.	434 Squadron had 1 aircraft on air test for 52 mins.		
	9/10/43	1.	Engine for bus came down and shut out everything.		
		2.	3 aircraft failed to return from last night's operations. Details are as follows:-		
			431. K-Kittie up at 2243 hrs. Failed to return.		
			D-Donald " " 2247 " Landed Shipdham 0355 hrs.		
			C-Orange " " 2248 " " " 0420 "		
			C-Charlie " " 2249 " Failed to return.		
			P-Peter " " 2250 " Landed Shipdham 0433 "		
			M-Missile " " 2252 " " " 0445 "		
			G-George " " 2253 " " " 0441 "		
			N-Nita " " 2255 " " " 0405 "		
			H-Harry " " 2256 " " " 0440 "		
			434. P-Peddle " " 2257 " " Chadburgh 0450 "		
			P-Peter " " 2301 " " Shipdham 0428 "		
			D-Dog " " 2302 " " " 0400 "		
			S-Sugar " " 2304 " " " 0414 "		
			U-Uncle " " 2306 " " " 0459 "		
			B-Bear " " 2310 " " " 0452 "		
			T-Tommy " " 2311 " " " 0439 "		
			O-Orange " " 2312 " " " 0414 "		
			K-King " " 2313 " " " 0350 "		
			C-Charlie " " 2305 " Failed to return.		
			Details of the missing aircraft are as follows:-		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
			K-Charlie, Halifax Mk.V. LK.657. Pilot Sgt. J.E. Ryan (R.7919); 2nd Pilot Sgt. D.A. Adams (1339068); Navigator P/O R.V. Fisher (126316); Bomb Aimer P/O R.E. Baker (128588); WOP/AG, A. Rolland (R.102433); Mid. Up. A/G. Sgt. F. Ingh (R.187471); Rear Gunner W/O. F. J. Hey (817198); Flt/Sgt. Sgt. F. Ashcroft (992234).		
			O-Charlie, Halifax Mk.V. DK.245. Pilot P/Sgt. I.R. Chalmers (A.S.113712); Navigator Sgt. P.W. Stubbings (1337433); Bomb Aimer P/O. S.J. Walker (151250); WOP/AG. Sgt. R. Mather (1575596); Mid. Up. A/G. Sgt. W. Hamill (R.160468); Rear Gunner Sgt. H.E. Evans (R.225302); Flt/Eng. Sgt. G. Beeken (186120).		
			O-Charlie, Halifax Mk.V. LW.647. Pilot P/O. P. Small (J.20847); Navigator P/O. J.P. Turcotte (J.11221); Bomb Aimer P/O. D.H. MacDonald (J.23619); WOP/S. Sgt. R.L. Swindale (1210606); Mid. Up. A/G. Sgt. J. Steinacker (191510); Rear A/G. Sgt. J.B. Ballantyne (R.86693); Flt/Sgt. Sgt. P. May (1893740).		
		3.	Tiger Moth S.7394 on route for Leicester landed here at 1131 hrs. on account of bad weather and took off again at 1459 hrs.		
			Sea King MB.257. Pilot Sub-Lt. R.J. Blackburn, R.N.Z. N.V.R., landed here at 1709 hrs. because of fog when en route for Christchurch, and will stay overnight with us.		
		4.	Flt/Off. H.M. Dink (Woods' Division) (V.3011) Messing Officer from R.C.A.F. Headquarters, and P/L. H.H. Dicken (80961) Catering Officer from Bomber Command paid us a visit and were shown around by the Catering Officer, P/O. Dodgson.		
	10/10/43	1.	A Hurricane HD.715 en route for Fairlop landed here because of the weather - Pilot P/O. Kirsch, R.A.F.		
		2.	3 aircraft of 431 Squadron were engaged on local flying for 2 hrs. and 8 aircraft of 434 Squadron were engaged on local flying for 3 hrs. 20 mins.		
		3.	W/O. G. Spence and W/O. G. A. West (G.2537) Equipment Officers from Bomber Command and G. (3101) Group respectively came to inspect the Equipment Section.		
		4.	Major G.E. Howe (122626) arrived today to assume duties of L.D.A. at Thelthorpe.		
	11/10/43	1.	The fog had lifted sufficiently by afternoon to enable our "Seafire" visitor, Sub-Lt. Blackburn, to take off for Christchurch at 1557 hrs. He enjoyed his short stay on an		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) C.1357 Station, Tholthorpe.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	11/10/43	1	Cont.		
			R.O.C. Station and has promised to call in and see us again some time he's passing.		
		2.	S/L. E. (Stanley) (O.7793) Flying Control from 6 Group visited here to-day. Mr. C. E. Collins, the R.P.O. Liaison Officer visited the Station and had an interview with the Commanding Officer regarding conference facilities in the Operations Room. It was decided that 2 extra compartments would be fitted to the scrambler 'phone on the understanding that the volume would not be up to required standard. This, however, would only be temporary as the new system would be installed about the end of November. The R.P.O. have now completed the perimeter cable and "A" and "B" flights dispersed 'phones in 434 Squadron are in operation.		
		3.	431 Squadron had 4 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 40 hrs. 36 mins. 434 Squadron had 2 aircraft on local flying for 2 hrs. 29 mins. 1 aircraft on air to Sea King for 2 hrs. and 7 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 39 hrs. 43 mins.		
	12/10/43	1.	3 members of the Wagon's Land Army arrived here to-day to start waging war against the rats which infest the various sites. These girls have been specially trained for the work.		
		2.	R/L. Wilson, Catering Officer attached to base is coming over here each day to superintend the catering arrangements whilst R/O. Dodgeman is on leave.		
		3.	R/L. J. Davies (C.4647) Admin. is attached here (pending posting) for Station Adjutant duties etc. etc. 12/10/43.		
		4.	"Back". R/L. L. L. McLeod (Aus. 411931) the popular Australian Gunnery Leader of 431 Squadron heard to-day that he has been awarded the D.F.C. The news will be celebrated in fitting manner to-night.		
		5.	R/O. E. Harahan, Officer in Charge W.A.A.P. Section is being kept busy getting the new W.A.A.P. W.A.A.P. ready for the opening night. She and some of her airwomen are sewing curtains to relieve the monotony of the drab blue black-out curtains.		
		6.	Our "Hurricane" visitor took his departure for Church Penton at 1647 hours. There was no flying to-day but servicing and maintenance was carried out as usual.		
		7.	S/L. King, Base Equipment Officer, visited the Equipment Section.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
	13/10/43	1.	W/O. Smith, Base Engineer and Major Padfield, Base Defence Officer, visited the Station. P/L. D.G. Miller (C.6628) Radar Officer from 6 Group and P/O. A.G. Cochran (C.18305) Radar Officer from R.C.A.F. Headquarters came here to visit the Station Radar Officer P/O H.A. MacGregor (C.18100).		
		2.	Professor Norman and Dr. J. Smith from Air Ministry came here in the afternoon and gave a most interesting and instructive lecture to all aircrew on German Night Fighter Organisation and tactics.		
		3.	There was no flying to-day; the weather is still foggy.		
	14/10/43	1.	G/O. Graham (C.1251) from R.C.A.F. Headquarters visited the Station and was shown around by the S.A.O. S/L. Puffa. G/C. J.E. Pughier, D.S.O., D.F.C., S/L. P. Fowell, D.F.C., and S/L. Clarke, D.F.C., from 405 Squadron lectured aircrew on PFF. organisation and operation.		
		2.	433 Squadron had 4 aircraft on local flying for 3 hrs. 23 mins. and 4 aircraft on Cross Country for 21 hrs. 8 mins. 431 Squadron had 2 aircraft on local flying for 1 hr. 51 mins. and 6 aircraft on Cross Country for 20 hrs. 44 mins.		
		3.	3 new aircraft arrived from Middleton St. George to-day - LK.680 and LK.952 for 431 Squadron and LK.953 for 433 Squadron.		
		4.	P/O. M.M. Timbury (C.13561) and P/L. H. Easton (106927) from No.5 Area D.A.F.M., Darlington, visited the Station and told the S.A.O. their various criticisms. P/O. P.C. Well (C.15946) from No.5. District H.Q. visited here in connection with Postal arrangements.		
		5.	The W.A.A.F. Mess Hall was opened to-night. The Mess Room and Games Room are not quite ready yet but will be available for use in a few days.		
	15/10/43	1.	G/C. R.C. Gordon, Station Commander, S/O. E. Barshay, Officer i/c W.A.A.F., S/O. M. Langley, Intelligence; and S/O. M. Spencer-Sheill, Asst. Adjt., were invited over to Base to luncheon and were presented to Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Gloucester, who during the morning inspected the W.A.A.F. site and took the salute at the March Past. Her Royal Highness was dressed in the uniform of the rank of Air Chief Commandant of the W.A.A.F.		
		2.	P/L. H.E. Davica (C.14647) reported for duty as Station Adjutant.		
		3.	There was no flying to-day.		





Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			44 mins. 2 new aircraft arrived to-day, Halifax Mk.V LK.963 for 431 Squadron from Speke and Halifax Mk.V. DG. 631 for 434 Squadron from Andover.		
	19/10/43	1.	S/L. Littlewood and S/L. Scott, our Protestant Padres, left to-day for Edinburgh where they are attending a 4 day Conference.		
		2.	P/L. P.C. Wall (C.15946) from No. 5 District H.Q. called again and had a discussion with the Station Administration Officer., S/L. Tufts regarding postal arrangements.		
		3.	S/L. N.M. Gilchrist (C.2545) Director of Music from R.C.A.F. Headquarters came to see the Station Administration Officer in order to ascertain our entertainment facilities. An R.C.A.F. travelling company is coming over to England soon and will tour those Stations which have the accommodation suitable to take their stage show.		
		4.	434 Squadron had 3 aircraft on Air Test for 1 hr. 47 mins. An A.T.A. Anson, M.4929, landed here at 1244 hrs. and took off for Hawarden at 1308 hrs. 23 of our aircraft are detailed for operations to-night.		
	20/10/43	1.	Last night's operations were scrubbed on account of the weather: it turned out to be a wild, wet night.		
		2.	Lt. Col. Padfield, Base Defence Officer, visited Major Rowe, our L.D.A.		
		3.	W/C. J.C. Whyte (C.4079) Group Medical Officer, W/C. G.E.M. Scott (C.1391) Group Administration Officer and S/L. A.M. Cull (59010), Group Gunnery Officer, visited the Station Administration Officer and the respective Sections on the Station.		
		4.	P/O Remare, CAs/Fire Officer from Linton, visited the L.D.A. Officer, Major Rowe.		
		5.	P/L. N. D. Courvorst (109416) from No. 87 Maintenance Unit, York, paid a liaison visit to our Equipment Officer.		
		6.	434 Squadron. 4 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing 4 hrs. 39 mins. 3 aircraft on Air Test 3 hrs. 1 min. 3 aircraft on Cross Country 10 hrs. 30 mins. 3 aircraft on Bombing Practice 2 hrs 26 mins. 431 Squadron. 1 aircraft on Bombing Practice 49 mins. 1 aircraft on Air Test for 47 mins. 3 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation and Bombing for 8 hrs. 5 mins. 3 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing 4 hrs. 37 mins. 1 aircraft on local flying 3 hrs. 25 mins. A new Halifax Mk. V. LK. 968 arrived from Speke for 431 Squadron.		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 10

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	21/10/43.	1	The Station Commander interviewed aircrew candidates for commissions in the morning.		
		2	Lt. J.H. Ward (M.419472) and Lt. R.M. Clements (M.446713) arrived here to-day on a few days liaison attachment from the Canadian artillery.		
		3.	W/O. ... is spending a few days with the Station Commander and is meeting once again many of the boys he knew and trained out in Canada. Some of those on whom he pinned their wings are now Wing Commanders wearing the D.F.C.		
		4.	434 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Fighter affiliation 2 hrs. 23 mins. 2 aircraft on Air Test 2 hours. 5 aircraft on Bombing practice 5 hrs. 53 mins. 3 aircraft on Cross Country 11 hours 10 minutes. 431 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Fighter affiliation and Bombing 2 hrs. 45 minutes. 8 aircraft on Cross Country totalling 39 hours 5 minutes. Two new aircraft Halifax Mk.V. arrived today, LX.686 for 434 Squadron and LX.967 for 431 Squadron.		
		5.	"Bermuda" HW.730 of the Royal Navy arrived at 1742 hrs. piloted by Sub. Lt. Blackburn. Pilot in command paid his first visit here a couple of weeks ago when forced down by fog. This time it was falling light which caused him to land here.		
22/10/43.	1	Sub Lt. Blackburn took off again this morning in his odd looking aircraft at 1100 hours.			
	2	S/Lt. H.H. Phillips (46178) Base Electrical Engineering Officer visited the Station. S/O. S.H. Poye (015951) from No. 2 D.H.L., who has been conducting Reassembling Trade Tests here for the past few days, completed his work to-day and will not be returning to us for another 3 months.			
	3	Tonight we are waiting on our biggest operational show yet, both as a Station and as a Base. 26 aircraft from this Station are taking part.			
23/10/43.	1	5 of our aircraft are missing from last night's operations.			
		434 Squadron.			
		D-Donald up at 1716 hours. Landed Eastmoor 0033 hours.			
		V-Victor " " 1717 " Landed Base 2039 hours (unable to maintain height owing to icing).			
		S-Super " " 1718 " Landed Base 0010 hours.			
		T-Tony " " 1719 " Missing.			
U-Ugly " " 1720 " Missing.					

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Thaltheope.	23/10/43.	1	(cont'd). 434 Squadron.		
			O-Orange Up at 1721 hours.	Landed Eastmoor 0050 hours.	
			H-Donald " " 1722 "	Landed Eastmoor 0015 "	
			F-Bishop " " 1723 "	Landed Base. 2055 "	(Mid-Up. / G unconscious).
			K-Robby " " 1724 "	Landed Base 0023 "	
			M-White " " 1725 "	Missing.	
			N-Mother " " 1726 "	Landed Base 2355 "	
			P-Fredie " " 1727 "	Missing.	
			B-Baker " " 1728 "	Landed Base 0027 "	
			B-Edward " " 1729 "	Landed Base 0001 "	
			431 Squadron.		
			Q-Russell Up at 1730 hours.	Landed Base 0006 hours.	
			R-Robert " " 1731 "	Landed Eastmoor 0042 hours.	
			A-Apple " " 1732 "	Landed Eastmoor 2346 "	
			D-Baker " " 1733 "	Landed Eastmoor 0022 "	
			M-White " " 1734 "	Landed Base. 0015 "	
			N-Mother " " 1735 "	Landed Base 2031 "	(Bad oxygen tank).
			B-Edward " " 1736 "	Missing.	
			S-Sugar " " 1737 "	Landed Base 2144 "	(port engine w/s).
			O-Orange " " 1738 "	Landed Base 2049 "	
			K-Robby " " 1739 "	Landed Base 2358 "	
			D-Donald " " 1740 "	Landed Base 0028 "	
			C-Charlie " " 1741 "	Landed Base 2045 "	(1 engine w/s).
			Details of the missing aircraft are as follows:-		
			434 Squadron. P-Fredie. Pilot S/Lt. G.G. Pilot S/Lt. W.H. Thomson (J3524); Navigator S/Lt. R.F. Purdy (R107127); Bomb. S/Lt. R.W. Miller (R153026); W/OB/Sgt. P/O. R.F. Bellingham (156705); Mid-Up. S/O. P/Sgt. C.H. Plouffe (R18077); Rear W/O. P/Sgt. C.O. Reynolds (104432); P/O. S/Lt. J.S. Malcolm (97287).		

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 (\*9334-930) W/L 1187-343 1004 11/3 T.S. 700

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 1/2

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	03/10/45	1	(Continued). 431 Sqn. Halifax Mk.V. BR.217. Pilot P/L J.M. Bryan (C.1452); Navigator P/O. W.S. Sewall (J20411); Bomb Aimer Sgt. J.H. Burton (R.162245); W/OE/AG. Sgt. W.L. Korpeth (1238594); Mid. Up. /G. Sgt. J. Worrad (R193651); Rear /G. Sgt. D.W. Hall (1046228); Flt/Eng. Sgt. P. Skerret (160309). Halifax Mk.V. BR.218 Pilot Sgt. A.P. Fry (1338320); Navigator P/O. H.P. Farr (J14207); Bomb Aimer P/A. J.J. Denoe (J.22617); W/OE/AG. Sgt. J.P. Guay (R125963); Mid. Up. /G. Sgt. C.E. Brown (R83255); Rear /G. W/O. P.D. Watson. (R97267); Flt/Eng. Sgt. D.L. Thornley (1690020) T-Toway. Halifax Mk.V. LK.666 Pilot P/Sgt. H.A. Nadeau (R55208); Navigator P/O. H.H. Lee (J14510); Bomb Aimer P/O. H.S. Cudney (J22066); W/OE/AG. Sgt. W.L. Cassel (1313210); Mid. Up. /G. Sgt. D.W. Wilson (R186094); Rear /G. Sgt. A.C. J. Dupont (R177109); Flt/Eng. Sgt. H. Newlove (R69385). 431 Squadron. 431 Sqn. Halifax Mk.V. LK.639; Pilot Sgt. F.E. Skinner (1431924); Navigator P/O. R.P. Winaler (141334); Bomb Aimer P/Sgt. W.E. Russell (R147158); W/OE/AG. Sgt. M. Priestley (1214073); Mid. Up. /G. P/Sgt. W. Burns (R140724); Rear /G. Sgt. D.J. McCarthy (553871); Flt/Eng. Sgt. J.P. Challis (1614926). 431 Squadron had 1 aircraft on Cross Country for 2 hrs. 38 mins and 1 aircraft on Air Test for 12 mins. 434 Squadron had 2 aircraft on Air Tests for 1 hr. 9 mins and 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 17 minutes. Two new Halifax Mk.V aircraft LK.974 and LK.693 arrived for 434 Squadron. Lt. H.M. Escrett (R.426917) and Capt. D.J. McCordic (R.447780) arrived to-day and are spending a few days on the Station on a liaison visit from Nos. 1 and 4 C.I.R.U. respectively.		
		2	431 Squadron had 1 aircraft on Cross Country for 2 hrs. 38 mins and 1 aircraft on Air Test for 12 mins. 434 Squadron had 2 aircraft on Air Tests for 1 hr. 9 mins and 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 17 minutes. Two new Halifax Mk.V aircraft LK.974 and LK.693 arrived for 434 Squadron.		
		3	Lt. H.M. Escrett (R.426917) and Capt. D.J. McCordic (R.447780) arrived to-day and are spending a few days on the Station on a liaison visit from Nos. 1 and 4 C.I.R.U. respectively.		
	24/10/45	1	434 Squadron had 2 aircraft on Bombing Practice for 1 hr. 58 mins. 3 aircraft on local flying 1 hr. 55 mins. 431 Squadron had 3 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 3 hrs. 52 mins. 2 aircraft on Bombing Practice 2 hrs. 3 mins and 2 aircraft on local flying 1 hr. 31 mins.		
		2	The Station Commander is going over to Topcliffe each day during the coming week to take a Conversion Course to Halifax aircraft.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalforth.	25/10/43.	1	The Station Roman Catholic Chaplain S/L. Frank McSheehy (C14601) is going away on a Retreat to-day for 5 days at Appleforth Abbey. In his absence his duties will be taken over by P/L. H.J. Gallagher (C.9371) from R.C. Base Headquarters.		
		2	Major S.E. Lewis (M.327599) from No.1. C.O.R.N. and Lt. A.K. Donnelly (M.23727) from No.1. C.O.R.N. arrived here to-day on liaison attachment for a week.		
		3	434 Squadron. 2 aircraft on Air Test 2 hrs. 1 minute. 6 aircraft on Cross Country 22 hours 16 minutes. 4 aircraft on Air to Air Picing 5 hrs. 27 mins. 1 New Halifax Mk.V. LK.970 arrived for 434 Squadron from Spoke.		
			431 Squadron. 10 aircraft on Cross Country 40 hours 15 minutes. 1 New Halifax Mk.V. LK.973 arrived for 431 Squadron from Spoke.		
	26/10/43.	1	Thick fog to-day and therefore no flying at all.		
		2	W/O. Smith, Base Engineering Officer, visited the Station.		
		3	P/O. E.J. Maher (C15509) Flying Control, arrived to-day from Eastmoor on temporary duty. S/O. M.R. Langley (3241) was posted to Eastmoor for Intelligence Duties.		
	27/10/43.	1	W/O. Smith, Base Engineering Officer, visited us again. Also W/O. E.R. Poond, Base Admin. Officer who came over to discuss our Establishment in general, and our position as regards Clerks in particular. Recent postings have rendered the Clerk situation here most difficult. S/L. Foster, Base Medical Officer, paid a visit to the Station Medical Officer, P/L. C.O. Baker (C.11711). Our second M.O. P/L. G.H. Wilson (C.6376) is at present away on leave. S/L. Poenside, Elect. Eng. Officer from 6 Group paid the Elect. Section a liaison visit.		
		2	There was no flying at all to-day, the weather still being very foggy. A new Halifax aircraft MK.696 arrived to-day from Ringway for 434 Squadron. 12 aircraft of 431 Squadron and 14 of 434 Squadron are detailed for operations tonight.		
	28/10/43.	1	Last night's Operations were cancelled on account of weather conditions. This foggy weather is being a great nuisance to us.		
		2	P/O. Ranage, Gas/Pire Officer from Linton brought over P/L. H.C. Harrison (108301) from 6 Group and Mr. W.M. Cole from Bomber Command to discuss Station Fire precautions with the Station Administrative Officer, Squadron Leader A.C. Tufts.		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.M.P. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	28/10/43	3	<p>F/L. H. Phillips (46176) Base Elect. Eng. Officer visited our Elect. Eng. Section. S/L. King, Base Equipment Officer, visited the Equipment Section and S/O. Stannard (Code &amp; Cypher) from Base visited the Signals Section.</p> <p>4. There was no flying to-day.</p>		
	29/10/43	1.	<p>S/L. R.J. Roney (C.7569) Base Roman Catholic Chaplain, visited S/L. M.J. Gallagher (C.2371) who is deputising for P/L. McInion who is away on a Course for a few days.</p> <p>2. The continuing foggy weather is causing a stand-down, but the ground crew are kept busy with maintenance.</p> <p>3. Work on the various buildings is progressing steadily. The Gymnasium is not far off completion now, but the stage won't be built until we can get the timber for it. There is every hope that the R.O.M.P. Officers will be able to move into their new Quarters next week, and that the W.A.A.F. will all move across into their new site soon after that.</p> <p>4. S/L. L.J. Orchard (106143) Base Navigation Officer visited here in connection with the Navigation Unit.</p> <p>5. The Station Commander and the Station Administrative Officer spent part of the day in inspecting the living sites and seeing how conditions were. There is room for improvement.</p>		
	30/10/43	1.	<p>13 aircraft of 431 Squadron and 15 aircraft of 434 Squadron are going on Operations tonight.</p> <p>1 aircraft of 431 Squadron on Air Test for 16 minutes.</p> <p>2. Major G. Walker (H.46618) and Lt. Col. W.W. Bingham, M.C. (H.412051) from No. 1 C.I.S. R.U. and No. 2 C.I.R.U. respectively arrived here on one day's visit. S/L. Knowles, Base Amusement Officer, visited the Station Commander and the Amusement Officer, P/L. Holland. P/L. L.W. Killeen, Base M.T. Officer, accompanied S/L. Knowles.</p>		
	31/10/43	1.	<p>Last night's operations were "scrubbed" on account of the weather and to-day has turned out wet. No flying of any kind to-day.</p> <p>2. The Station Commander held a Conference in his Office this afternoon and discussed with the Squadron Commanders, Flight Commanders and Officers i/c the different Sections the general running of the Station.</p>		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

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No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1st Nov. 1943.	1.	Captain E.M. Leonard (Princess Louise Fusiliers), and Lt. G.C. Milne (Essex Scottish Regiment) arrived here on a liaison visit for a few days and are being taken under the wing of 434 Squadron. F/L. Phillips, Base Electrical Engineer, visited the Station Electrical Section.		
		2.	It is a wet day to-day - a steady and very wetting Scotch Mist is falling. No flying at all to-day. Routine maintenance continues.		
	2nd Nov.	1.	Section Officer Barsham, Officer i/c W.A.A.F. was removed to York General Hospital to-day suffering from influenza.		
		2.	431 Squadron - 14 aircraft on Air Test for 14 hours 8 minutes. 434 Squadron - 7 aircraft on Air Test for 2 hours 5 minutes.		
	3rd Nov.	1.	Lt. Col. Padfield, Base Defence Officer came over to visit our L.D.A. Major Rowe. F/L. Killeen, Base M.T. Officer visited our M.T. Section. Flt/Off. Dellus and Section Officer Stannard (Code & Cypher) from Base visited here in connection with Secret and Confidential publications.		
		2.	15 aircraft of 431 and 15 aircraft of 434 Squadrons are detailed for Operations tonight.		
		3.	Air Vice Marshal G.E. Brookes, O.B.E., from Headquarters, No. 6. (R.C.A.F.) Group and Mr. H.A.M. Pattison, Director of Civil Aviation for Newfoundland visited here and stayed to see the take off and returns.		
		4.	R.A.F. Regiment Crash Guard dismounted at 1600 hours.		
	4th Nov.	1.	All but one of our aircraft returned from last night's Operations. M-Mother returned with 1 engine unserviceable - C-Charlie returned early with its inter-com., and Gee unserviceable. N-Nuts landed at Linton and B-Edward Halifax Mk.V. EB.257, Pilot F/S. E.A. Dunlop (Aus. 420164) is missing.		
		2.	434 Squadron - 1 aircraft on air to sea firing for 5 1/2 minutes.		
	5th Nov.	1.	W/O. E.R. Emond visited Station Headquarters.		
		2.	We flying to-day.		
		3.	S/O. G.L. Collins (3730) W.A.A.F. Admin. Officer from Middleton St. George arrived here to-day with Sq/Off. Barnett, Base W.A.A.F. Officer. S/O. Collins is taking charge of the W.A.A.F. Section here for some of the time while S/O. Barsham is ill.		



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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	5th Nov.	4.	Last night 3 motor cars, one of them the Station Commander's, were taken by persons unknown from the Car Park at the Officers' Mess. One car was found this morning in the ditch with its headlights full on; the Group Captain's car was turned over several times and ended up in the ditch near Alne Cross and the third car was found on the road near Thirak.		
	5th Nov.	1.	On the head of the vandalism committed the night before last, Flight Lieutenants Bruce (07262) and Ecclestone (C.7272) from 6 Group, F/L. Simard (C.7297) Base Adjutant and F/L. Killen, Base M.T. Officer came over to-day with regard to a Court of Inquiry into the whole affair. F/O. M. Timbury (C13561) and F/O. G. Ross (155746) from D.A.P.M. Darlington came here about the same business.		
		2.	F/L. P.C. Wall (C.15946) from 5 District Headquarters visited S/L. Tufts with regard to Postal arrangements. S/O. J. Watkins (V.30337) and S/L. A.W. Ray (45529), Signals Officers from Linton visited our Signals Section. W/C. A.W. Youngshaband (21165) and F/L. J.R.T. Cresswell (C7354) Base Accountant Officers, visited here in connection with Non-Public Accounts. G/Capt. Bradshaw (C.166) from Headquarters No.6 Group visited our Squadron Commanders. Capt. W.A. Walker and Capt. R.M. Taylor from No.2. C.A.R.U. and No.1. C.C.R.U. respectively arrived to-day on a liaison attachment to No.431 Squadron for a few days.		
		3.	The W.A.A.F. are all moving to-day to their new site and luckily it is a bright, dry day for them as they have to carry over their belongings themselves.		
		4.	434 Squadron. - 5 aircraft on Cross Country and Bombing Practice 27 hours 49 minutes. 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation 1 hour 10 minutes. 2 aircraft on Air Test 1 hour 46 minutes. 2 aircraft on Air to Sea Firing 1 hour 51 minutes. 1 aircraft on local flying 20 minutes. 431 Squadron. - 7 aircraft on Cross Country 36 hours 54 minutes, 2 aircraft on Bombing Practice 4 hours 50 minutes. 1 aircraft Air to Sea Firing and Bombing 3 hours. 1 aircraft Air Test for 41 minutes. 3 aircraft Air to Sea Firing 6 hours 9 minutes.		
		5.	434 Squadron received three new aircraft LK.702, LK.990 and LK.992. 431 Squadron received LK.701, & LK.991 all from Ringway. V-Victor- DK.264 of 431 Squadron crashed on the grass (when landing) at the intersection of 34 and 28 runways and is completely written off as a result. Fortunately nobody was hurt.		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	7th Nov.	1.	S/L. A.L. Pidgeon (O.3234) from R.O.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited the Station in connection with the 5th Victory Loan.	
		2.	The W.A.A.F. have now all moved over to the new site and are settled in quite happily in their new quarters where they have many more facilities than they had on the old site.	
		3.	After being advised that the programme for to-day was training only we heard at 1200 hours that we were on Operations tonight. 15 aircraft are detailed from each Squadron.	
		4.	<del>434 Squadron</del> 2 aircraft on Bombing Practice 2 hours. 5 new aircraft for 434 Squadron arrived to-day from Ringway LK.698, LK.699, LK.703, LL.115, LK.995. Operations were "scrubbed" at 1700 hours.	
		5.	During bombing up a 4,000 lb. bomb fell off one of the aircraft and had to be disposed of. The Station Assessment Officer, P/Lt. Mellard and his assistants had a busy time warning the local inhabitants, police and Observer Corps that they intended to explode the bomb at 20.00 hours and at the appointed hour there was a terrific explosion which shook everybody although they were expecting it. No damage was done.	
		6.	The W.A.A.F. held their opening dance in the W.A.A.F. N.A.A.F.I. tonight. It was specially decorated for the occasion and everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves. Unfortunately owing to Operations, the newly-formed band was unable to play but an excellent programme of dance records was compered by P/O. Shaw with the gramophones and "mike". Dancing went on from 8 to 12 o'clock.	
8th Nov.	1.	Lt. H.D. Sully, Princess Louise's Hussars arrived here to-day on a liaison visit from No. 3 G.A.C.R.V. Major E.M. Miller R.C.O.C. (1 C.O.R.U.) Mr. J.S. Barry of No.3 Works Area, York called here in connection with the cultivation of land on the aerodrome. He was accompanied by Mr. D.S. Hendrie of the War Agricultural Committee.		
		2.	434 Squadron - 5 aircraft on Cross Country 20 hours 14 minutes.	
		3.	434 Squadron - 4 aircraft on cross country 15 hours 53 minutes.	
		3.	No.3 Flight, R.A.F. Regiment mounted a crash guard on the Halifax which "pranged" on the grass on 6th November and was written off.	

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	11th Nov.	3	(continued).		
			A special transport is fetching a number of ladies out from York so there should be no shortage of partners.		
			4. S/O. D. Archer Thomson (2876) from Eastmoor arrived to-day to take over from S/O. Collins.		
	12th Nov.	1.	Last night's party was voted an unqualified success by everybody. The Linton Dance Band was at the top of its form and P/S. Glancy's bar was kept busy all evening. This morning the Mess has a definitely "morning after" appearance and there is a lot of hard work still to be done before things return to normal again. We were lucky in having a fine and fairly mild night for the party and no Operations.		
		2.	431 Squadron - 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 45 minutes; 5 aircraft on Cross Country for 24 hours 11 minutes.		
		3.	434 Squadron - 1 aircraft on Air Test and air sea firing for 1 hour 1 minute. 1 aircraft on Height Test for 1 hour 37 minutes; 4 aircraft on air test for 2 hours 35 minutes; 2 aircraft on Beam Approach for 2 hours 19 minutes; 2 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 1 hour 48 minutes; 1 aircraft on Air & Height Test for 1 hour 19 minutes.		
		4.	The Met. Section gave its first warning of frost to-day and advised that there was a possibility of snow falling during the night.		
		5.	S/O. Stannard, Base Cypher Officer, visited Station Headquarters and the Intelligence Section checking Secret and Confidential Documents.		
	13th Nov.	1.	F/L. H.J. Wilson, Base Catering Officer visited the Station to inquire into messing conditions and to discuss the possibility of opening up a Station Sick Quarters Kitchen as a self-contained Unit.		
		2.	431 Squadron . 3 aircraft Air to Sea Firing 4 hours 14 minutes. 2 aircraft on Air to Air Firing 3 hours 16 minutes; 2 aircraft Cross Country 9 hours 51 minutes		
			434 Squadron . 2 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 3 hours; 4 aircraft Air to Air Firing 3 hours 30 minutes; 1 aircraft Air to Sea for 1 hour 33 minutes; 1 aircraft Height Test for 1 hour 57 minutes; 4 aircraft Practice Bombing for 3 hours 33 minutes; 2 aircraft on Beam Approach for 3 hours 14 minutes. /6		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholtherpe.	13th Nov.	3.	S/L. D. Holman appointed by Station Commander to take a Summary of Evidence on a charge preferred against F/O. H.A. Michels (J.20170). F/O. Michels placed under open arrest.		
		4.	Met. Section have warned that snow can be expected during the night.		
	14th Nov.	1.	No flying during the day due to snow and rain storm which lasted most of the day. Church Services held at 1130 hours was sparsely attended. Station advised that W/O. W.F. Newson, D.F.C. had been involved in an automobile accident near 6 Group Headquarters around 20.00 hours on November 13th, 1943, resulting in W/O. Newson being a patient in Harrogate General Hospital.		
		2.	F/Lt. A.D. Blatchford appointed as an Investigating Officer to inquire into accident and proceeded to scene of accident where photographs were taken prior to removing the vehicle R.M.X. 333. W/O. Newson discharged from Hospital in late afternoon which nothing other than many bruises to show for his accident.		
		3.	W/O. M.M. Smith, Base Engineering Officer, visited the Station on a routine inspection.		
		4.	A motion picture was shown in the Sergeants' Mess and the Officers' Mess during the evening with capacity audiences at both showings.		
	15th Nov.	1.	431 Squadron - 1 aircraft Air to Sea Firing for 48 minutes. 3 aircraft on Air Test for 2 hours 24 minutes.		
		2.	F-Freddy returned from Topcliffe to this Station during the day.		
		3.	F/Lt. W.J. Taylor (44614) Bomber Command M.T. Officer and F/Lt. J.R. Ecclestone (07272) Group M.T. Officer made a routine inspection of the M.T. Section, following which they reported to the Station Administrative Officer and among other things stated that an effort would be made to bring this Station up to strength of motor cycles which would enable us to issue them to Flight Commanders.		
		4.	W/O. M.M. Smith, Base Engineering Officer, visited the Station and discussed the move of 431 and 434 Squadrons from the Engineering viewpoint.		
		5.	The Sergeants' Mess held a Dance at 20.00 hours which was largely attended and was deemed an outstanding success.		
		6.	G/Capt. R.C. Gordon and W/O. W.F. Newson, D.F.C. departed by train from York at 14.30 hours for Combingby where they were participating in a General Court Martial. /7		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	15th Nov.	7.	W/C. G.E.Harris assumes command of this Station vice G/Capt. R.G.Gordon.		
		8.	W/C. E.R. Emond and S/Lt. M.E. Foster (04034) visited the Station Administrative Officer and in company with the Station Medical Officer and Station Administrative Officer, inspected some of the aircrew quarters in Sites 2 and 3. The conditions in these quarters were not good as they were very untidy and beds were not stacked as required by Station Routine Orders. Disciplinary action to correct these conditions is being taken.		
		9.	Lt.Graydon and Lt.Russell, Canadian Army, reported from Linton on attachment for duty with the Squadrons for a week.		
	16th Nov.	1.	E/O. E.S.Brown (015134) reported on posting from 6 Group as a Signals Officer. W/Lt. J.T.Sinclair (06340) reported on posting from Leeming as Armament Officer.		
		2.	Arrangements were made to-day whereby the Sergeants' Mess on the old Communal Site, which has been used as aircrew sleeping quarters, should be vacated on November 16th. Officers from No.2. and No.6 Site are also moving to-morrow into the vacated W.A.A.F. Site No.2. to make room for the aircrew moving from the old Sergeants' Mess.		
		3.	431 Squadron - 6 aircraft on Air Test for 5 hrs. 18 minutes. 7 aircraft on Practice Bombing for 9 hours 12 minutes; 3 aircraft on Air to Air Firing for 3 hours 2 minutes; 1 aircraft on Height Test for 1 hour 32 minutes; 2 aircraft on Air Test for 2 hours 42 minutes.		
		4.	Due to dampness in the main cables our two exchange lines were unserviceable until repaired by the General Post Office at 1430 hours.		
	17th Nov.	1.	W/O. Kenneth Bond, Base Accounts Officer visited the Station to check over certain items in the Officers' Mess and P.S.I. Accounts.		
		2.	W/O. M.M.Smith, Base Engineering Officer, visited the Station during the morning.		
		3.	W/O. R.D.Ricker (0.626) Officer Commanding, 425 Squadron called at Station Headquarters in the afternoon and discussed matters relative to the move of his Squadron to this Station around December 10th. The Station Administrative Officer showed him around the Station visiting the Living Sites, Communal Site and the aerodrome.		
		4.	S/O. M.F.Satterly (V30086) R.C.A.F. (W.D.) Intelligence Officer reported at 1900 hours from H.Q.London.		

*Edwards*

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	17th Nov.	5.	<p>431 Squadron - 4 aircraft Air Sea Rescue 11 hours 42 minutes; 1 aircraft Air Sea Firing 1 hour 25 minutes; 5 aircraft Cross Country 13 hours 11 minutes; 4 aircraft Practice Bombing 8 hours.</p> <p>434 Squadron - 7 aircraft Air Sea Rescue 30 hours 42 minutes; 1 aircraft Local Flying 42 mins; 4 aircraft Fighter Affiliation 5 hours 43 minutes; 3 aircraft Practice Bombing 3 hours 48 minutes.</p> <p>57 Junior Officers moved from No.2 and No.6 Site into seven Nissen Huts on W.A.A.F. Site No.2, which was recently vacated by the W.A.A.F. Barbed wire is being placed between Nos. 1 &amp; 2 W.A.A.F. Sites.</p>	
		18th Nov.	<p>1. P/O. H.E. Burkart (09731) Medical Nursing Sister reported on posting from Linton and commenced her duties in the Hospital.</p> <p>2. Sergeant N.F. Williams and Cpl. T.J. Boardman from the S.I.B. London reported on temporary duty.</p> <p>3. No flying during the day as both Squadrons were busy preparing for the night's operations. 16 aircraft from 434 Squadron and 15 aircraft from 431 Squadron took off starting at 1630 hours. There were two early returns from 431 Squadron both caused by port outer engines going unserviceable. A third aircraft from 431 Squadron returned early as the Flight Engineer had been taken ill with cramps.</p>	
	19th Nov.	1.	<p>Four of our aircraft are missing from last night's operations. 7 aircraft landed away from Base.</p> <p>The following are the particulars of the 4 aircraft missing from last night's operations:</p> <p>434 Squadron Halifax V -IX.693 - Pilot P/S. Smith, Kenneth Cumliffe (R27918). Halifax V -IX.893 - Pilot P/S. Ellis, Edward Harry (R124282).</p> <p>431 Squadron Halifax V -IX.640 - Pilot J.10796 - P/O. Garnet, Oliver Carefoot. Halifax V -IX.632 - Pilot P/S. Burge, Walter Francis (Ans.413820).</p>	
		2.	<p>P/L. W.H. MacDonnell (106624) from Bomber Command visited the Intelligence Section on a routine check-up.</p>	
		3.	<p>Mr. Bush of the Radio Corporation of America, who will be installing the projector in the Cinema visited the Station and took measurements of the Cinema Building which is expected to be finished in 10 days time.</p>	

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(Form 8-50) Wt. 117-341 Form 1145 T.S. 700

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 2

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	19th Nov.	4.	<u>431 Squadron</u> - 2 aircraft on Local Flying for 4 hours 54 minutes.		
			<u>434 Squadron</u> - 1 aircraft on Local Flying for 54 minutes.		
		5.	20 aircraft took off, starting at 1630 hours, on Operations. One aircraft made an early return when it was found they would be late over the target. The aircraft are missing as a result of these operations and one aircraft from <u>434 Squadron</u> - "J" - landed at West Mallory having been damaged with flak and "Y" landed at Thorney Island. Particulars of the two missing aircraft are as follows:- <u>434 Squadron</u> - Halifax V - EB.254 - Pilot Sgt. Hukes, Raymond Edwin (R62329). <u>434 Squadron</u> - Halifax V - LK.990 - Pilot (J22453) & P/O. Walter Fry Wimming.		
	20th Nov.	1.	During the day 1 aircraft from <u>431 Squadron</u> did local flying for 1 hour and 2 minutes; there was no other flying during the day.		
		2.	G/Capt. R.C. Gordon returned from the Court Martial which he had attended and re-assumed command of the Station.		
		3.	E/L. G.V. Nicholls (04982) Officer i/c War Diaries at Group Headquarters visited the Station and stated that the preparation of this record had been excellently done. This was welcome news for rarely indeed are pages on the back handed out and the person who prepares this daily record will be greatly heartened.		
	21st Nov.	1.	E/L. F. Emphrys (0.3509) who was formerly <u>431 Squadron</u> Engineer Officer paid a visit to the Station in his capacity as Base Electrical Engineer.		
		2.	Church Services were held during the day and were well attended.		
		3.	No flying during the day except that <u>434 Squadron's</u> aircraft "Y" 971 returned from Thorney Island during the morning.		
	22nd Nov.	1.	E/L. H.C. Harrison (108801) Headquarters, No.6 Group and P/O. W. Bamage (143516) No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Headquarters, Gas/Pire Officers visited the Station and made an inspection of the fire services. These two Officers reported, prior to their departure, that a tremendous improvement was noted in our Fire organisation and equipment, and that except for a few small items, which were being attended to, our fire services were in excellent shape.		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	24th Nov.	3.	Squadron Officer Barnett and Flight Officer Delius from Base visited here, the Squadron Officer in connection with the forthcoming inspection of Group Officer Crowther and Flight Officer Delius to check Secret and Confidential Publications in the Armament Section, prior to their being handed over to F/L. J.T. Sinclair (G.6340) who is double-banking the Station Armament Officer, F/L. S.C. Hellard (50377).		
		4.	W/G. G.C. Sparling (G.1957) from Topcliffe came to interview W/O. Foster (i/c M.T. Section) with regard to the accident to W/G. Newson's (O.C. A31 Squadron) car.		
		5.	A31 Squadron - 1 aircraft on local flying for 1 hour 7 minutes.		
			A34 Squadron - 1 aircraft on local flying for 39 minutes.		
			Two new Halifax Mk.V aircraft - LL.137 and LL.135 arrived for A34 Squadron.		
		6.	This morning's Station Parade had to be cancelled owing to bad weather. It was raining and blowing half a gale.		
	25th Nov.	1.	For Operations tonight 15 aircraft are detailed from A34 Squadron and 16 from A31 Squadron. Take Off was postponed by six hours, the boys eventually leaving around 2300 hours. It was a very cold night.		
		2.	Captain R.G. Burrows from R.C.O.C. was attached here for half a day's liaison visit.		
		3.	S/L. Fearnside, 6 Group Electrical Engineering Officer, and S/L. Humphrys, Base Electrical Engineering Officer, paid a visit to the Station to-day. We had an opportunity of congratulating S/L. Humphrys on his half ring which has been added since he was stationed here as a Flight Lieutenant.		
		4.	A34 Squadron - 4 aircraft on Air Test for 2 hours 1 minute.		
		5.	Z - returned from Docking. U-went to Shipton with crew to collect G which landed there some time ago after being shot up on Operations.		
	26th Nov.	1.	A31 Squadron has two aircraft, E. & J. missing from last night's raid on Frankfurt. K with port outer engine unserviceable, L with port outer engine and C.S.I. unserviceable landed at Fensmere, also Y. S returned early as it was unable to gain height and had to jettison the load.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	25th Nov.	1	(continued).		
			Details of Missing aircraft are as follows: E - Halifax LK.975 - Pilot P/O. J. Morton (159046);		
			J - Halifax LK.967 - Pilot P/O. B.M. Passant (J11294).		
			434 Squadron's aircraft all returned. L landed at Tangmere. O returned early with its rear turret and inter-com. unserviceable.		
		2.	10 aircraft from 434 Squadron and 8 from 431 Squadron are detailed for Operations tonight.		
			K of 431 Squadron returned from Tangmere and one new aircraft LL.136 was received for 434 Squadron.		
		3.	W/O. Gwest, 6 Group Equipment Officer and S/L. King, Base Equipment Officer, visited the Equipment Section. W/O. Smith and S/L. Humphrys, Base Engineer and Electrical Engineer Officers, visited the Station.		
		4.	P/O. P. Bosak (G.18579) reported here from Linton for Intelligence Duties.		
		5.	It is very cold indeed to-day and owing to manpower difficulties we are having the greatest difficulty in getting supplies of coal delivered to the various sites to keep the fires going.		
		6.	One new crew arrived for 434 Squadron.		
	27th Nov.	1.	Group Captain Gordon was to-day transferred from Haslem Hospital to Northallerton Military Hospital where he is to undergo treatment. He called at the Station on his way through to Northallerton and lunched with us.		
		2.	All our aircraft have returned safely from Operations last night when they visited Stuttgart. The following aircraft of 431 Squadron landed away - D at Thorney Island; H, P & R at Eastmoor. Y & N of 434 Squadron also landed at Thorney Island, G landed at Bourne and K returned early with port outer engine unserviceable.		
		3.	Three Lancasters from 106 Squadron, 3 from 467 Squadron and 1 from 103 Squadron landed here early this morning, having been diverted to this Station. Considerable difficulty was experienced in finding accommodation for their crews and, in fact, some of the boys had to sleep on the floor or in chairs.		
		4.	It is very foggy today after last night's frost. No flying at all to-day.		
		5.	Section Officer Archer Thomson was removed to Sick Quarters at Linton. She has hurt her back and is to rest for several days.		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	27th Nov.		(continued).		
		5.	Section Officer Archer Thomson was removed to Sick Quarters at Linton. She has hurt her back and is to rest for several days.		
		6.	Wing Commander W.F.M. Newson, D.F.C., who hurt his back when he had a motor accident about ten days ago, is to go into York for an X Ray this afternoon. He has been on Operations twice since the accident and it does not seem to have improved his back.		
		7.	S/L. Humphrys, Base Electrical Engineering Officer visited us again.		
	28th Nov.	8.	S/O. Barham returned early from leave to-day in order to be here when Group Officer J.H. Crowther (139) from Bomber Command visits the Station this afternoon. S/O. Barham actually arrived last night but was fogbound in York. Group Officer Crowther was responsible for the setting up of the Canadian Women's Division and takes the greatest interest in Canadian Stations. Section Officer M.F. Brown, Intelligence (V30050) W.D. had the distinction of meeting her when in Canada.		
		2.	The weather has turned quite mild again to-day and all trace of fog has gone.		
		3.	All but one of the visiting Lancasters took off for their Base.		
		4.	Church Services were held as usual.		
		5.	431 Squadron - 3 aircraft on local flying 3 hours 26 minutes. 5 aircraft on Cross Country for 22 hours 52 minutes.		
			434 Squadron - 4 aircraft on Cross Country for 15 hours 22 minutes. 4 aircraft on Bombing Practice for 4 hours. 6 aircraft on Local Flying for 6 hours 1 minute.		
	29th Nov.	1.	Captain H.R. Downie, S.O.R. of C. and Lieutenant J.P. Nader, No.1. C.A.R.U. reported here on liaison attachment to 434 Squadron.		
		2.	P/O. Remage, (Sqn) Officer reported here on attachment.		
		3.	Two new crews reported in for 434 Squadron.		
		4.	434 Squadron - 3 aircraft on Local Flying for 3 hours 2 minutes. 3 aircraft on practice bombing 3 hours 53 minutes. Night. 2 aircraft Practice Bombing 47 minutes. 1 aircraft on Cross Country for 3 hours 50 minutes.		
			431 Squadron - 1 aircraft on Local Flying for 1 hour 6 minutes.		
			Night 4 aircraft on Cross Country for 16 hours 24 minutes. /14		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Tholthorpe.	29th Nov.		(continued).		
		5.	Halifax LL.141 and LL.142 arrived for 434 Squadron.		
		6.	Anson EG / 20 on route from Pecklington to Preston piloted by 1st Officer F.C. Jones of the A.T.A. landed to refuel.		
		7.	At 8 o'clock in the Officers' Mess tonight a Farewell Party was given to the Officers of 431 and 434 Squadrons. The Squadron Commander of 431, W/C. W.F.M. Newson, D.F.C. was unable to be present, to our disappointment, as he was detained in Sick Quarters at Linton. A party of Amateur Entertainers from Harrgate came along and did some really excellent turns and in the intervals there was much chatting and conviviality. P/O. Johnson, our Catering Officer provided a splendid buffet supper which was much appreciated by everybody. The party didn't break up until after midnight and was voted a great success.		
	30th Nov.	1.	The distributing of coal and coke to the various sites is presenting great difficulties during the past few days. The very few men available for the work simply cannot get through it nowadays and it is apparently impossible to get any more help. Apart from the distribution of fuel they also have to attend to Salvage and Sanitation clearance. At Station Headquarters to-day we have been stretched to our utmost to get fires going and then to keep them replenished.		
		2.	We had quite a number of visitors to-day:- E/L. E.L. Sching (128441) Group M.F. Officer came to see the Squadron Engineer Officers in connection with the forthcoming move to Croft. P/L. L.D. Issard (128408) D.F.M., Group Signals Leader, visited the Signals Officer E/L. Blochford, and the Squadron Signals Leaders in connection with the new Signals Leaders Course at Fenhros.		
		3.	Group Captain Gordon return from hospital in the afternoon.		
		4.	431 Squadron. 1 aircraft on Bombing Practice for 37 minutes. 2 aircraft on Cross Country 3 hours. 1 aircraft on Local Flying for 1 hour 6 minutes.		
		434 Squadron. 4 aircraft on Cross Country for 15 hours 44 minutes. 3 aircraft on Bombing 3 hours 53 minutes. 3 aircraft on Local Flying for 2 hours 22 minutes.			
		5.	Lancaster H-Harry of 106 Squadron returned to its Base Netheringham.		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK 1327

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 10

**SECRET.**

References to Appendices

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1st Dec. 1917.		<p>1. Wing Commander King, Base Equipment Officer and Mr. J.S. Ellis from Air Ministry (Auditor) visited the Station Commander and Equipment Section. Mr. Ellis will be here for a few days doing the Audit.</p> <p>2. Wing Commander Emond, Base Administrative Officer, visited the Station Commander and the Station Administrative Officer.</p> <p>3. 13 aircraft of 431 Squadron and 13 aircraft of 434 Squadron are detailed for operations tonight.</p> <p>4. Pilot Officer Johnson, our Catering Officer left to-day for Helton where he is to report for a Cookery Course.</p> <p>5. 434 Squadron - 2 aircraft on local flying for 1 hour 2 minutes. 2 aircraft Fighter Affiliation 1 hour 17 minutes. 431 Squadron - 1 aircraft on Height Test for 1 hour 56 minutes. 1 aircraft on Local Flying for 26 minutes.</p>	
	2nd Dec.		<p>1. Last night's operations were "scrubbed" in the end, take-off first having been postponed to a later hour. Weather conditions were adverse.</p> <p>2. To-day is mild and sunny after a very wet night.</p> <p>3. 13 aircraft of 431 Squadron and 14 aircraft of 434 Squadron are detailed for Operations tonight.</p> <p>4. 431 Squadron - 2 aircraft on Local Flying 37 minutes; 1 aircraft Cross Country 2 hours. 434 Squadron - 1 aircraft on Local Flying for 44 minutes.</p> <p>5. Tiger Moth T.6316 from Lindholme (Pilot - E/O. Burton) landed here en route for Feltwell requiring petrol. We sent him on to Linton as we had none.</p>	
	3rd Dec.		<p>1. Last night's operations were "scrubbed" on account of weather conditions being unfavourable.</p> <p>2. Wing Commander Smith, Base Engineer Officer brought over E/O. R.G.F. Money (G.9817) who is attached here from Dalton pending posting to 420 Squadron.</p> <p>3. Squadron Leader D.M. Holman (G.1010) left 434 Squadron to-day on posting to Base for Engineer Duties.</p> <p>4. Group Captain Gordon interviewed over a dozen aircrew candidates for commissions during the afternoon.</p>	



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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	4th Dec.	1.	14 aircraft from 431 Squadron and 14 aircraft from 434 Squadron are detailed for operations tonight.		
		2.	F/L. Wilson, Base Catering Officer, brought over F/L. H.H. Dioken (80961) from Headquarters, Bomber Command to see how things were at Tholthorpe.		
		3.	434 Squadron - 1 aircraft on Local Flying for 35 minutes.		
		4.	OPERATIONS - 434 SQUADRON - 63 aircraft took off. C-Orange failed to take off as the Navigator was ill. M; R and U returned early, M - icing - could not climb - Report outer engine unserviceable; U-Captain ill; R landed at Newmarket - N - landed at Dunsfold with one engine unserviceable; V- ditched in English Channel - crew were all picked up.		
			OPERATIONS - 431 SQUADRON - 14 aircraft took off. R-returned early with port outer engine unserviceable and H with overload tank unserviceable. T- landed at Newmarket; Y at Lakenheath. 4 aircraft are missing. C-Pilot R.119578 - F/S. R.W. Ritchie. N-Pilot. 1335924 - F/S. Long. O-Pilot J.6276 - S/L. R.G. Cook, D.F.C. P-Pilot J.24430 - F/O. A.W. Edgar.		
	5.	Group Captain Gordon spent most of the morning interviewing aircrew candidates for commissions. In the afternoon, the Base Commander came over and interviewed some of the men who had already been seen by the Station Commander.			
5th Dec.		1.	Last night's raid on Leipzig was most successful apparently and a message of congratulation from the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Bomber Command was read out to all aircrew by the Station Commander.		
		2.	In the morning the Station Commander interviewed more candidates for commissions in one room and the Base Commander then interviewed them in another room.		
		3.	434 Squadron - 1 aircraft on Local Flying for 50 minutes. 3 aircraft Air to Air Firing 4 hours 33 minutes. 431 Squadron - 1 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation for 46 minutes; 3 aircraft on Cross Country for 11 hours 42 minutes.		
6th Dec.		1.	W/C. B.D. Richer (G.626) Officer Commanding 425 Squadron and Wing Commander D. McIntosh (42511) Officer Commanding 420 Squadron came over accompanied by S/L. E.W. Blenkinsop (J.3457) of 425 and S/L. A.J. Lendington (J3484) of 420 to make arrangements with regard to/		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.No. of pages used for day 10

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	6th Dec. 1943.	1	(continued). their moving here.		
		2	Lt. W.A. Campbell, Canadian Armoured Corps and Captain J. Allaire, C.I.C. reported here on liaison visit to 431 Squadron.		
		3.	431 Squadron - 1 aircraft Air to Air firing 57 minutes. 1 aircraft on Local Flying for 1 hour 26 minutes. 434 Squadron - 1 aircraft on Local Flying 1 hour 26 minutes.		
	7th Dec. 1943.	1.	Wing Commander E.R. Emond, <sup>C.I.C.</sup> Base Administrative Officer, paid Station Headquarters a visit this morning. It is very misty to-day and visibility is such that there will probably be no flying.		
		2.	Group Captain <sup>C.C.</sup> Gordon <sup>C.I.C.</sup> went back to hospital at Northallerton for treatment and was detained there until such time as he is fit to proceed on Sick Leave.		
		3.	The forthcoming move of Squadrons is causing a considerable amount of activity throughout the Station. There is a lot of clearing up to be done in all Sections before the great move out.		
		4.	No flying at all to-day.		
		5.	S/O <sup>C.I.C.</sup> Collins <sup>S.I.C.</sup> came over in the evening and demonstrated to the W.A.A.F. how to make toy animals. They are going to make up some for the children in an Orphanage.		
	8th Dec.	1.	The Station Parade this morning had to be cancelled on account of rain.		
		2.	It was grand to see 2nd Lieut. <sup>C.I.C.</sup> Clary <sup>S.I.C.</sup> walk into the Ante Room at lunch time to-day. He was posted as missing after the raid on Bochum on the night of 29th/30th September, 1943 and only the other day reached England, no doubt by very devious routes. The happiness of his W.A.A.F. wife on his safe return can be imagined. She kept a stiff upper lip during all the weeks he was missing.		
		3.	The advance party of 431 Squadron left for Croft to-day.		
		4.	F/L. W.A. Shorten (19121) <sup>C.I.C.</sup> from No.2 M.T. Company arrived to-day to see to the move of the two Squadrons. F/L. Schingh, <sup>C.I.C.</sup> Group M.T. Officer was here also to see how things are going.		
		5.	W/C. <sup>C.I.C.</sup> Smith, <sup>S.I.C.</sup> Base Engineer Officer, brought over Major B.T. Stogner of U.S.A.A.F. on a liaison visit.		





OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe

No. of pages used for day 60

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	10th Dec.	6.	F/L. D.J. Neville (C.9010) reported for Intelligence Duties from Dalton.		
		7.	The Main Party of 431 Squadron departed to-day. The Air Party left after lunch headed by their Squadron Commander. They shot up Station Headquarters in a mild way by way of farewell before setting course for Croft.		
		8.	F/L. H.B. Harris (103484) Movement Control Officer from Leeds paid us a liaison visit as he has recently taken over command at Leeds.		
		9.	S/L. A.M. Haig (C.2663) Reported in to-day to double bank Squadron Leader A.C. Tufts, our Station Administrative Officer.		
		10.	No flying at all apart from the departure of 431's aircraft.		
		11.	W/O. B. Mcintosh (D.P.C.) Officer Commanding 420 Squadron arrived to-day and will assume command of the Station until such time as Group Captain Gordon returns.		
11th Dec.		1.	431 Squadron Air Party and Main Party moved out to-day so the place is very empty for the moment until the new Squadrons move in. The Advance Parties are here now settling in and doubtless they find it pretty cold after North Africa.		
		2.	Section Officer Archer Thomson returned from York Military Hospital and is now proceeding on Sick Leave on ceasing attachment here.		
		3.	Pilot Officer Johnson, our Catering Officer returned last night from his course of Field Cookery and S/L. Wilson, paid him a visit to-day. Our Xmas fare is all buttoned up and we are promised turkey for Xmas dinner.		
		4.	W/C. Smith and S/L. Humphys, Base Engineer and Base Electrical Engineer paid a liaison visit.		
12th Dec.		1.	425 Squadron - Halifax Mk. III - LW. 405, LW. 391, LW. 395, LW. 381, LW. 375. 420 Squadron - LW. 396. These aircraft arrived for the new Squadrons. The personnel of the new Squadrons are arriving and the following Officers have to-day reported at Station Headquarters. S/L. J.C. Hobart (C.1469), F/L. M. de Solla (J.14707), F/L. H. Payette (C.3953), F/L. E. Denis (C.8446), F/L. H. Roberge (C.4615), F/O. W.D.M. Hamblin (J.13388) Adjutant 425 Squadron. F/L. D.D. Dall (C.1438) Adjutant 420 Squadron. F/O. J.B. Sherriff (138420); F/L. D. Ramsay (J.12973). Official date of Squadrons Nos 420 and 425 movement to the station.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	13th Dec.	1.	F/L Shorten of No. 2. M.T. Company visited here in connection with the movement of the Squadrons.		
		2.	The Protestant Padre, S/L. L.C. Scott (C.3657) and S/L. A.J.T. Littlewood have left us, the former is posted to R.C.A.F. Warrington and the latter to R.C.A.F. Croft.		
		3.	Group Captain D.A.R. Bradshaw, D.F.C. (166) landed here in Proctor HM.422 en route from Linton to Middleton St. George.		
		4.	Hellier McNeill LW. 389 arrived for 420 Squadron.		
		5.	W/C. Smith, Base Engineer Officer, paid a liaison visit.		
14th Dec.	1.	F/O. W.R. Pluthero (127267), Acting Station Navigation Officer from Base paid us a visit			
	2.	F/L. L.A. Wainwright (J.15157) and F/L. D.C. Wilson (J15542) of 425 Squadron reported to-day.			
	3.	We have had frost during the past few nights and last night was the hardest frost yet. It is still freezing to-day and the ducks and geese are frozen out of the Tholthorpe village duck pond.			
	4.	S/O. M.F. Brown (V.30050) Intelligence, took her departure to-day on posting to Headquarters, No. 6. (R.C.A.F.) Group. Her stay here has been very short and we are sorry to lose her. Her place here is being taken by S/O. M.F. Satterley (V.30086). No flying at all. Fog came up towards evening.			
15th Dec.	1.	We wake up this morning to thick fog, but the cold is not quite so bitter as it was yesterday.			
	2.	S/L. T.C. McCall (C.7107), Public Relations Officer from 6 Group Headquarters visited the Station.			
	3.	F/L. L.C. Ockenden (86504) Education Officer from Topcliffe came to see how we were fixed now that the Squadrons have moved and taken with them Sgt. Irwin who was dealing with the Educational side of things.			
16th Dec.	1.	S/L. Morris of No. 5. District Headquarters called to advise us that S/L. Hatton will be taking over Padre's duties here within the next few days. At the moment we are without a Protestant Padre. No flying at all to-day and no new aircraft received.			
	1.	Wing Commander Emond, Base Admin. Officer paid us a visit.			

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of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	16th Dec.	2.	S/L. N. Hutton (C.6771) from No.5. District Headquarters reported here on temporary Chaplain duties.		
		3.	Three Lancasters from No.408 Squadron, Linton, were diverted here last night. D-Dog- Pilot - E/L. Russell, G-George - E/S. Sutherland & B - Beer - W/C. Jacobs. The fog cleared off somewhat but it is a dull grey day and cold.		
		4.	Report from Northallerton Hospital says that Group Captain Gordon is progressing well and should be fit to proceed on Sick Leave next week. We shall miss having him with us for Christmas.		
		5.	No flying at this Station.		
	17th Dec.	1.	Fog again to-day.		
		2.	S/L. J.M. Laplante (C.5869), R.C. Chaplain, arrived here to take over from S/L. Frank McMahon, who is posted to Croft.		
		3.	W/C. Smith, Base Engineer, visited the Station.		
		4.	E/L. Schlingh, Group M.T. Officer visited the M.T. Section in company with E/L. Killeen (1874) Base M.T. Officer. Since the Squadrons moved we are practically without any M.T. Vehicles.		
		5.	No flying to-day.		
	18th Dec.	1.	The fog has lifted but it is very cold. Ice has formed on all the pools.		
		2.	E/L. J.C. Behnam (C.6054) Admin. reported here from Leeming to double-bank E/L. H.E. Davies (C.4647) our Station Adjutant who is being posted from us in the near future.		
		3.	S/L. O.P. Moore (C.914) Admin. reported in from Dishforth to assist in the duties of Station Administration.		
		4.	E/L. A.V. Farie (42825) from No.1. O.A.B.U. visited the Station Adjutant.		
		5.	No flying to-day.		
		6.	Group Captain Gordon returned from Hospital and will be here until Monday when he is going on Sick Leave.		
		7.	No flying to-day.		
	19th Dec.	8.1	3 New Halifax Mk.III aircraft LW.380, LW.382 and FT.427 arrived for 420 Squadron and LW.428 for 425 Squadron.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Tholthorpe.	19th Dec.	2.	It is bitterly cold and windy to-day.		
	20th Dec.	1.	It blew half a gale during the night and rained a lot.		
		2.	A signal arrived attaching S/O. H.E. Spencer-Sheill (5451) to Leeming w.e.f. 20/12/43, pending posting. It was hoped that she might be left here until the new Adjutant had time to settle into the work a bit.		
		3.	S/L. A.C. Tufts (C.1278) took his departure to No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base, Linton-on-Ouse, where he will be filling the appointment of Base Admin. Officer in place of W/O. Emond who is being repatriated.		
		4.	F/L. L. H. Snider (C.7672) from No.3. P.R.C. (R.C.A.F.) arrived to-day to consult with F/O. H.A. Michels (J.20170) whom he is acting as Defending Officer at the General Court Martial which is taking place here tomorrow at 1000 hours. The three Lancasters from 408 Squadron which were diverted here on the night of 16th December, 1943 left to-day for their Base.		
	21st Dec.	1.	Halifax Mk.III LW.388 arrived to-day for 420 Squadron.		
	22nd Dec.	1.	5 Halifax Mk.III aircraft arrived for the new Squadrons: 425 Squadron - LW.379 ; LW.383 ; 420 Squadron: LW.423, LW.392, LW.413.		
		2.	A Proctor aircraft landed here to-day from Eastmoor en route for Hendon.		
		3.	434 Squadron's aircraft S-Sugar left for R.C.A.F. Station, Croft to-day, having been unserviceable since the Squadron departed.		
		4.	An Oxford aircraft arrived to pick up the A.T.A. Crews.		
		5.	F/O. C.S. Dodgshun (107308), our Catering Officer, was released from the Service for 2 months' compassionate leave.		
	23rd Dec.	1.	3 new aircraft arrived today LW.419 & LW. 396 for 420 Squadron and LW. 414 for 425 Squadron.		
		2.	An Anson aircraft arrived to pick up A.T.A. pilots.		
		3.	A Halifax aircraft from Croft landed here today to pick up an Intelligence Officer and left at 16.00 hours.		
	24th Dec.	1.	Halifax aircraft No. LW.420 arrived for 420 Squadron. S/L. K.C. Dalrymple (C.1954) arrived here to take over duties as Station Administrative Officer in place of S/L.A.M. Haig (C.2661)		

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of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 10

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	24th Dec.	1.	who is being repatriated.		
		2.	The dawn of the day before Xmas, unlike the proverbial "White Christmas" was heralded by sunshine and blue skies. The celebrations commenced with a Y.M.C.A. Cinema Show in the evening, which provided a few hours of pleasant entertainment. Midnight Mass was conducted by S/L. LaPlante for Station Catholic personnel and S/L. N. Hatton, Protestant Padre conducted a Carol service in the Station Gymnasium, both of which were well attended.		
	25th Dec.	1.	Christmas dinner appeared to be an item of vital importance considering the queues which formed outside the Mess at 11.30 hours. The Mess Hall was gaily decorated with a Christmas Tree, Holly Berries and numerous brightly coloured streamers. The dinner was excellently prepared and served and was very much appreciated by everyone present.		
		2.	Air Commodore McQueen, Base Commander, and S/L. A.C. Tufts (C.1378) came over from Base to join in the fun.		
		3.	The afternoon was spent in billets by the majority of personnel, in an effort, it was assumed, to recover from the Christmas dinner.		
		4.	The Sergeants' Mess was well represented at the Officers' Mess arriving at 11.00 hours, and proceeding with the Officers to the Sergeants' Mess, staying between 12.00 and 13.00 hours.		
		5.	The Sergeants' Mess was gaily decorated, the work being carried out by volunteers. There was a large Christmas tree attractively trimmed at the back of the Lounge and a small tree in the centre of the Mess Hall, which created a congenial atmosphere.		
		6.	A Station Dance was held in the Station Gymnasium at 20.30 hours and was voted a great success by all.		
	26th Dec.	1.	One new aircraft, LW.377 arrived for 420 Squadron.		
		2.	An Anson aircraft arrived to collect A.T.A. Crew, from Hawarden.		
		3.	Two new aircraft, LW.418 for 420 Squadron and LW.387 for 425 Squadron arrived also.		
		4.	S/O M.F. Sawley (430084) ceased attachment.		
	27th Dec.	1.	Anson aircraft arrived from Hawarden and returned after picking up A.T.A. Crew.		
	28th Dec.	1.	E/L. J. LeFlour (C.5188) Administrative Officer, arrived here from H.Q. No. 6 Group for Central Registry Inspection.		
	29th Dec.	1.	There has been no flying for 2 1/2 weeks now, due to the fact that 420 and 425 Squadrons are		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	29th Dec.	1.	taking conversion training on Halifax Mk. III aircraft.		
		2.	S/O. J.M. Trotter (V.10247) and W/Cdr. C.O. King (G.2543) arrived here on temporary duty for 7 days.		
		3.	A Station Dance was held in the W.A.A.F. N.A.A.F.I. 21 Airwomen from Linton were invited, and it was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.		
		4.	No flying today.		
30th Dec.	1.	Group Captain G.R.M. Scott, Senior Officer i/c Administration (C.1391), visited this Station and made the acquaintance of our new Station Administrative Officer, S/Lt. R.G. Dalrymple (C.1416).			
		2.	Four new Halifax Mk. III aircraft arrived at this Station from Linton. LW.429 (425 Squadron), LW.393 (420 Squadron), LW.397 (425 Squadron) and LW.417 (425 Squadron)		
		3.	No flying today.		
31st Dec.	1.	Group Officer B. Besoroff (133) and Squadron Officer Emsden (286) from Air Ministry, London, and Squadron Officer A.H. Barnett (144) from Linton Base, arrived here on a visit. They visited all Sections, inspected the W.A.A.F. Site and chatted with all airwomen both on and off duty.			
		2.	No flying today.		
			There has been an average of 15 to 20 airmen on morning Sick Parades, mostly sore throats and colds. The general health of the personnel of this Station is satisfactory. No epidemics.		
			STRENGTH (As at 31.12.43)		
			Officers		
			Other Ranks.		
			R.A.A.F.	5	52
			R.C.A.F.	26	201
			D.D.G.	2	4
			W.A.A.F.	3	91
			C.N.S.	1	-
			W.D.	-	-
			Group Captain, Commanding. R.C.A.F. Station, THELTHORPE.		



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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	Jan. 1st.	1.	Flying activities have not yet started but all sections are busily engaged in the multitude of tasks involved in preparing two heavy bomber squadrons for operations. Equipment and manpower, as always, are the two principle factors in determining progress and every effort is being made to secure sufficient of both to ensure the squadrons being operational on schedule.		
		2.	The telephone situation is, as yet, unchanged. The new block and watch offices are nearing completion, but until such time as adequate heating is provided, the G.P.O. cannot install the new switchboards. The reason being that condensation of moisture in the cables would render them unreliable for use. However, once the new installations are complete, the telephone system on this Station is expected to improve greatly. Repeated efforts have been made by the Signals Officer to have the G.P.O. move the Intelligence telephones from the old to the new Intelligence Rooms. This has not been done as yet due to the extreme shortage of manpower in the G.P.O., but it is expected that it will be completed in the immediate future. Plans for setting up a training room for Wireless Operators (Air) are under way. Equipment has been demanded, and a suitable room allocated.		
		3.	W/Lt. J.L.R. Crosswell C.7354 from 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited this Station to audit non-public funds. He found everything in order and left the same day.		
	Jan. 2nd.	1.	Compass swinging for aircraft is in progress. Technical lectures were given today by A.S.T.P. N.C.O.s.		
		2.	Section leaders of both squadrons are kept busy organizing their different sections before the arrival of new crews.		
	Jan. 3rd.	1.	Another new crew arrived from 425 Squadron for 425 Squadron.		
		2.	S/Lt. P.W.B. Humphrys C.3309 from 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited this Station in connection with Electrical Engineering matters.		
	Jan. 4th.	1.	S/O. F.G. Stannard 1173 from 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited in connection with Signal affairs. W/Lt. H. Wilson C.863 from 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited in connection with Catering affairs. W/Cdr. E.R. Emond C.872 from 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited this Station on an inspection of the Messica and M.T. Section.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
			<i>WBAF</i>		
Chalchoma	Jan. 4th	1.	S/O. B.H. Terry 4219 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited on Administrative matters.		
		2.	19 new crews have arrived for 420 Squadron from No. 61 (R.C.A.F.) Base, since the turn of the year. This brings the squadron aircrew strength up to 24 crews. Towards the end of this week the squadron will have its full complement of aircraft - 10 aircraft have been delivered to date. All sections within the Unit are now fully operational. 42511 W/Odr. D. McIntosh D.P.C. has started to convert his new crews and many are soloing.		
	Jan. 5th.	1.	Prior to Pay Parade today a Parade was held for the Base Commander, Air Commodore C.M. McDay, M.C. D.P.C. (C.66) who inspected the Station personnel. Accompanying the Air Commodore was S/L. G.C. Tufts (C.1278).		
		2.	Three crews of 425 Squadron returned from No. 1666 Conversion Unit on the completion of their conversion training to Halifax aircraft.		
		3.	S/Ldr. N.S. Foster (C.4034) from 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited in connection with Medical matters. W/Odr. C.O. King C.2543 from 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base arrived to take charge of the Equipment Section during the absence of S/L. L.F. Emerson (C.1204) on leave.		
	Jan. 6th.	1.	A fire occurred in LW.429 'B' resulting in slight damage to fuel lines and controls. Prompt action by ground personnel prevented it spreading.		
		2.	CAN. 7789 W/Odr. Wess G.S. Pilot and crew (420 Squadron) returned to Unit today from 1659 Conversion Unit. W/Odr. Wess was considered unsuitable to fly Halifax Mk. III aircraft due to the shortness of his legs. He was unable to reach and handle the controls safely.		
		3.	A/P/Lt. H.P. Legece J.46271 arrived on posting from No. 1664 Conversion Unit for duties of 425 Squadron Gunnery Leader. A/S/L. E.W. Blerkinsep J.3467 Flight Commander 425 Squadron proceeded on detachment to No. 1 R.C.A.F. Westcot to attend a Course on Engine Control. Another crew arrived on posting to this Unit from No. 61 (R.C.A.F.) Base (1659 Conversion Unit).		
		4.	Mr. F.E. Lamb the Senior Meteorological Officer of No. 2 Group visited the Section. He was accompanied by P/O. Reid also of No. 2 Group. The purpose of the visit was routine inspection.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	7/1/44.	1.	P/L. C.A.E. Denis C.8446, Adjutant No.425 Squadron, proceeded to No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group, as member of a District Court Martial and returned the same day.		
		2.	Two more crews arrived on completion of conversion training for No.425 Squadron.		
		3.	420 Squadron have now 19 Halifax Mk. III aircraft on hand. Practise flying and circuits and landings were carried out by aircraft of No.420 Squadron.		
	8/1/44.	1.	Seven aircraft of No.420 Squadron carried out general circuit flying, only minor snags assembling.		
		2.	W/C. D. McIntosh, D.F.C. 42511 (R.A.F.), Officer Commanding, No.420 Squadron, piloted the last aircraft from Linton Base to-day to No.425 Squadron, bringing this Squadron up to full strength.		
	9/1/44.	1.	W/C. D. McIntosh, D.F.C. 42511 (R.A.F.) relinquishes command of R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe on return from Sick Leave of Group Captain R.C. Gordon, C. 133 (R.C.A.F.).		
		2.	Five aircraft of No.420 Squadron flown on circuits and bumps, various unserviceabilities occurring. These are to be expected as part of the teething troubles with new aircraft and crews. Technical Lecture was given to Riggers by A.S.T.P. Unit.		
		3.	One aircraft of No.425 Squadron on local flying - W/C. B.D. Richer (C.626) instructing. An experiment was carried out to determine pressure built up by fuel priming pump. This was found to be dangerously high after the warning light goes out. This was the cause of recent pump failures and a Flight Order has been issued to prevent repetition.		
	10	4.	S/L. J.W. Norris, C.3660, Protestant Padre from No.5. District Headquarters visited to take Church Service in the absence of S/L. Noble Hutton, C. 5771, on leave.		
		5.	G/C. F.L. Twethway, C.706 from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, London visited this Station in connection with Engineering matters.		
	10/1/44.	1.	This morning T/S/L. D.C. Wilson, D.F.C., J.45542, No.425 Squadron Bombing Leader, left this Unit for R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, London, after which he is proceeding to R.C.A.F. "R" Depot, Warrington, being repatriated for duty in Canada.		
		2.	S/L. H. Graham 10613 (R.A.F.) from Linton H.Q. visited this Station in connection with Operational matters.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	Jan. 10th	No. 3	1. P/Lt. W.R. Pluthero, 127267 (R.A.F.) from Linton H.Q. visited to acquaint himself with Navigation set up here as he is to take over Station Navigation Officer's duties.		
			4. Lt. M. Stanley (Army Nurse) from No. 6 Canadian General Hospital, York, visited her brother here. Nursing Sister Stanley has recently returned from Sicily.		
			5. W/C. C.W. Palmer, J15818, from Headquarters, No. 6. (R.C.A.F.) Group visited here in connection with Staff Duties Training.		
			6. S/L. U.F. Garderton, J.10122, No. 6 Group Headquarters visited in connection with Staff Duties Training.		
			7. Air Commodore C.M. McEwen, M.C., D.F.C., C.60. from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base called in while passing this Station.		
			8. W/C. D.D. Miller, C.3576 from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited in connection with Engineering matters.		
			1. A flight planning device is being installed on this Station. This should be placed in the new Watch Office, but as it is not ready, and as the whole system in 6 Group must be completed within a week, it is being temporarily installed according to the original plan, in the old Operations Room in the old Watch Office building. The S.P.O. have promised to remove it to the new Watch Office as soon as that building is ready to receive it.		
			2. Daily inspections were carried out as usual but the flying programme was cancelled due to weather. Snow began falling around noon. Lectures given to new personnel on starting and running procedure.		
Jan. 12th.	1.	1. Six new crews arrived for No. 425 Squadron on posting from No. 1664 Conversion Unit.			
		2. W/C. C.O. King (C.2543) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited in connection with Equipment affairs. S/L. R.M. Prites (C1784) from No. 6. Group visited in connection with Ammunition matters.			
		3. No flying owing to unfavourable weather. 50 odd simon were given drill as a result of having untidy beds.			
		4. R.165951 - Sgt. Simpson, J. was posted from R.C. P. Overseas Headquarters to this Unit for Educational duties.			

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit & Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Thelthorpe.No. of pages used for day 11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	13th Jan.	1.	Word has just been received that the ground crew personnel of No. 420 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron are not considered eligible to wear the 1939-43 Star. This news is very disappointing to them since they had all put forth a maximum effort in Africa.		
		2.	Major Stevenson and S/L. Rawson of Headquarters, No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group, visited this Station and lectured all flying personnel. Major Stevenson's lecture dealt with enemy flak and searchlights. S/L. Rawson's lecture dealt with enemy night fighters organisation and tactics. Each Officer gave a very interesting and informative lecture of particular benefit to the aircrew.		
		3.	Bad weather prevented flying to-day. Squadron and Flight Commanders inspected the Flights and dispersals.		
		4.	<sup>RAF</sup> P/Lt. N.H. Broward, 37622, C.L.T.S. attached to No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Link Trainer Examining Flight and P/O. K.T. Manifold, 235936, <sup>RAF</sup> C.L.T.S. visited this Station to check progress on Link Trainer installations.		
		5.	W/C. B.D. Richer (0626), Officer Commanding, No. 425 Squadron, returned from R.C.A.F. Station, Digby, where he had been detailed to act as President of a District Court Martial.		
	14th Jan.	1.	17 aircraft were on local "circuits and bumps".		
			420 Squadron: 4 aircraft on Cross Countries for 16 hours 46 minutes.		
			7 aircraft Local Flying 10 hours, 35 minutes.		
			425 Squadron: 2 aircraft on Cross Countries for 4 hours 13 minutes.		
			5 aircraft on Local flying for 11 hours 38 minutes.		
		2.	Mr. J.S. Barry from W.A. York, visited this Station to inspect Landing Ground.		
			Mr. F.P.E. Watts, from Air Ministry accompanied him.		
	15th Jan.	1.	"A" Flight No. 420 Squadron (Servicing) changed a main wheel in three quarters of an hour. Thick fog prevented flying. Lectures given on installation of overload tanks.		
		2.	W/C. M.M. Smith (03183) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited this Station regarding Engineering matters.		
		3.	425 Squadron Pay Account's Corporal M26025 - Cpl. Valotaire, J.M. whose duties are at Linton, spent the day on the Squadron for the purpose of pay queries.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	16th Jan		Nothing of importance to report today.		
	17th Jan	1.	W/Odr. G.O. King (C.2543) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited in connection with Equipment affairs. S/Ldr. H.E. Foster (C.4034) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited today in connection with Medical affairs.		
	18th Jan	1.	S/Ldr. J.R. Ray (45329) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base, in connection with Signals matters, visited here today.		
		2.	Flt.Off. H. Dallas (512) Code and Cypher Officer from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited here today.		
		3.	S/Ldr. R.B. Hespeth (C.1595) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the Station Signals Officer today.		
		4.	S/Lt. H.F. Humphreys (C.3309) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited in connection with Electrical Engineering matters.		
		5.	F/O. Lt.A. Schok (C.16745) took over our Equipment Section today from F/L. L.P. Emerson (C.4480).		
		6.	9420 Servicing Bobolun - Preparation carried out for extensive flying programme, but fog did lift for long enough periods. Electric light installed in "B" Flight Dispersal Hut, by civilian contractors.		
		7.	420 Squadron - During Conversion at 1659 Conversion Unit, aircraft piloted by F/O. F.H. Baker (J.21905) of this Unit, crashed on landing. Serious injuries were caused to R.101913 P/Sgt. Sharpe H.J. Air Bomber and R.42756 P/Sgt. Petry L.L. Air Gunner. They were taken to Northallerton Hospital. P/Sgt. Sharpe died at 18.30 hours on 18/1/44 and P/Sgt. Petry died at 0135 hours on 19/1/44. F/O. Baker was also taken to Northallerton Hospital with a fractured leg. His condition is satisfactory. The remaining members of the crew were badly shaken and received medical attention from Sick Quarters, R.C.A.F. Station, Topcliffe. All action was taken by 1659 Conversion Unit.		
		8.	To-day was gormal respecting ground duties; many lectures for aircrew personnel but no flying.		
19th Jan.	1.	W/O. M.H. Smith, C3163, from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited here on Engineering matters.			
	2.	F/O. E.S. Brown, C.12134, who has been here on attachment from Headquarters, No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group for some time is posted to Topcliffe.			



OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day //

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices		
Tholthorpe.	19/1/44	3.	Mr. C.E. Collins, G.P.O. Liaison Officer, visited the Station Signals Officer in order to discuss the installation of the new Operations and Admin. P.B.X. in the Watch Office and Signals Apparatus Room respectively. Due to the large amount of work with which the G.P.O. have to contend, and as there are several Stations changing over simultaneously, it is not expected that the work will be completed until sometime in March. Mr. Collins assured the Signals Officer that the Station would receive priority, and everything would be done to speed up the work as much as possible.	SECRET.		
		4.	Three more sets of Air Intakes received for incorporation on the aircraft of Squadrons here, despatched by Handley Page at Preston. This makes a total of 22 sets received out of a total requirement of 40.			
		5.	W/Cdr. G.O. King (G.2543) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Equipment Officer visited here today re-Equipment matters.			
		6.	A meeting was held today, attended by Station Administrative Officer, the two padres and the two Squadron Adjutants, to review Committee of Adjustment instructions, object being to ensure that everyone concerned would know the exact procedure laid down when Operations start.			
		20/1/44	1.			F/O. B.R. Jeffery (G.15555) from R.A.F. Station, Kirless paid us a liaison visit.
			2.			The Dental Officers report only one case of Trench Mouth during the past ten days. The greater part of No. 425 Squadron has been re-examined. The work to be done consists chiefly of fillings and cleanings. The average is approximately three fillings and a cleaning to every man.
	2.		G.P.O. fitters completed the transfer of the Intelligence telephones to the new Intelligence Offices.			
	3.		The G.P.O. surveyors called concerning the coin box telephone to be installed on the Communal Site. They suggested putting the telephone in the coal store at the back of the picket post, a suggestion which the Station Signals Officer considers very good. This has been concurred in by the Station Administrative Officer and the work is to proceed.			

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thaltheorge.	21/1/44.	1.	New Operating lights were installed in both Dental Clinics today. Only the green shades are needed to complete the lighting which is a considerable improvement over previous arrangements.	
		2.	W/Lt. J. Deacy, (78153) The Group Signals Security Officer, visited the Station Signals Officer to discuss the new operational films which will be issued in the near future. Small points regarding W/T and R/T procedure were brought up and discussed.	
		3.	M.T. Section supplied two Petrol Tankers to Eastmoor for re-fuelling aircraft, which returned following day.	
		4.	W/C. C.O. King (O.2543) Base Equipment Officer, visited this Station in connection with equipment matters.	
		5.	W/C. M.M. Smith, (O.3183) Base Engineering Officer, visited in connection with engineering matters.	
		6.	W/C. C.B. Guest, (O.2537) from H.Q. B.O. visited here today in relation to equipment matters.	
	22/1/44.	1.	Flying recommended yesterday after 1ull and 35 hours, 30 minutes day flying and 14 hours 39 minutes night flying was accomplished by the Squadrons.	
		2.	Supplied two petrol tankers to Eastmoor for re-fuelling aircraft returning from operations.	
		3.	Funeral arrangements re R.101913 P/Sgt. Sharpe, H.J. 4/B and R.142756 P/Sgt. Petry, L.L. 4/G who died from injuries received in crash at 1659 Conversion Unit were completed, and the funeral took place to-day at Harrogate. The Squadron was represented by J.9308 P/O.R.E. Knight (Piles) and other officer and N.S.O's. P/Sgt. Sharpe and P/Sgt. Petry had completed 19 sorties in North West Africa. They were well liked by all.	
		4.	G.5640 P/Lt. R.F. Klemke, Operational Records Officer from 6 Group, visited the Station yesterday and discussed Form 540.	
		5.	Information was received this morning from No. 408 Squadron that J.3713 P/Lt. J.E. Dinning, Pilot, had been reported missing as result of last night's operation over Magdeburg, Germany.	
		6.	A dance, organised by the Station R.A.F. Regiment, was held in the Station Cinema in the evening; an invitation was extended to all ranks. This dance proved to be a very enjoyable	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	22/1/44.	6.	affair, and was possibly the best organised dance held on this Station to date. Much credit is due to the R.A.F. Regiment for such good arrangements.		
	23/1/44.	1.	Nothing of importance to report to-day.		
	24/1/44.	1.	Squadron Officer A.H. Barrett (144) Base W.A.A.F. Officer, visited Tholthorpe. Inspected W.A.A.F. Site, Sick Quarters and Signals Section. Found all Sections very satisfactory.		
	25/1/44.	1.	The Dental Clinic report one new case of Trench Mouth. There are only three cases under treatment at the present time. Operative work on all personnel is proceeding slowly but surely.		
		2.	W/C. J.C. Whyte (G.4079) Group Medical Officer visited the Station Medical Officer to-day.		
		3.	P/L. H.S. Harrison (108801) <sup>R.O.C.</sup> Fire Officer from Headquarters, No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group and P/O. W. Bamage (43316), Gas/Fire Officer from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base came to-day to visit the Gas and Fire Sections on the Camp.		
		4.	S/L. R. Carter (45405) <sup>R.O.C.</sup> from Headquarters, No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group, visited the Station Signals Officer.		
	26/1/44.	1.	S/L. E.H. Fearnside, (G.7690) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group, came to visit the Station to-day with S/L. H. Humphrys (G.3309) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base.		
	27/1/44.	1.	W/O. E.R. Emond (G.872), S/L. A.A. Knowles, (43429), and P/L. A. Simard (G.7297) visited the Station this morning to confer with the Commanding Officer, Station Administrative Officer, and Armament Officer on the situation relating to Armament Assistants in particular, and ACH/GD's in common. The conference was fruitful although concern was expressed by the Station over the GD. situation in general.		
		2.	P/O. Ross Mackenzie (G.10926), R.C.A.F. D.A.M., visited to-day in connection with an enquiry.		
		3.	Thirteen pilots of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to act as "Dinkies" on operations over Berlin tonight. They operated from Nos. 408 and 426 Squadrons. Linton, and one pilot took off from Eastover. Three of our pilots are reported missing due to these operations. C.7114 P/O. J. Baker, J. 27843 P/O. E.R. Proust, and R.128345 Sgt. Patterson, L.H.		
		4.	Low level flying for 420 Squadron and Cross Country trips were on schedule for to-day.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	28/1/44.	1.	S/Lt. G.F. Godfrey (G.447200) and S/Lt. I.A.A. Wilton (77441) from Headquarters, Bomber Command, and F/Lt. R.L. Schingh (G.28441) from Headquarters, No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group visited on Staff Visit M.T.		
		2.	A No.26 Group fitting party, composed of two airmen and a corporal, arrived from R.A.F. Station Fozakerley. They are here to instal TR196 Flying Control R/T sets in the new Watch Office.		
		3.	F/Lt. D.W. Cross (116777) from Headquarters, Bomber Command paid a staff visit.		
		4.	S/Lt. H.P. Humphys (G.3309) Base Electrical Engineer Officer, visited the Station Electrical Engineer Officer.		
		5.	S/Lt. H.E. Foster (G.4054), Base Medical Officer visited to-day.		
		6.	S/Lt. G. Fraser (G3962) from R.A.E. Farnborough visited the Station Medical Officer to-day.		
	29/1/44.	1.	Nothing of importance to report to-day.		
	30/1/44.	1.	The aerial installations for the new watch office are now completed, and the fitting party from No.26 Group are leaving.		
		2.	Squadron Officer B. Bradley (404) from Air Ministry, visited the Station for the purpose of seeing at first hand how a sub-station signals section operates. She was accompanied by Section Officer E.M.I. Gibson (6038) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base. The two Officers were contacted through the telephone exchange, teletypewriter and traffic rooms, the new watch office, and the Radar workshops.		
		3.	Base Cypher Officers brought the next month's supply of Bomber Code, and other secret documents for the Signals and Radar Sections.		
	31/1/44.	4.	Lieut. R.P. Dunbar and Lt. P. Stojak from the Canadian Ordnance Reinforcements Unit were attached to the Station for one week's duration. They are on a liaison visit.		
		2.	F/Lt. R.S.A.C. Stubbs (G7257) from Headquarters No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group visited in connection with Committee of Adjustment matters.		
			There has been an average of 15 to 20 airmen on morning Sick Parade, mostly sore throats and colds. The general health of the personnel of this station is satisfactory. No epidemics.		



RAF Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in KR and ACJ, para. 249, and War Manual Pt. II, Chapter XX and note in R.A.F. Pocket Book



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(Unit or Formation) D.C.S.P. Station, Tholthorpe.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	1/2/44	1.	An out of the ordinary accident occurred tonight when C.66 W/C. B.D. Risher's car. Hillmar Saloon RAF 40632 was completely wrecked in being "run over" by an aircraft out on a dispersal point. Fortunately no-one was hurt.		
		2.	S/Lt W/C. G.A.H. Saunders D.F.C. (R.A.F.) from Headquarters, Bomber Command visited the Station Commander re an accident to an aircraft of 420 Squadron.		
		3.	C.3309 S/Lt F.L.B. Humphrys from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited in connection with electrical engineering business.		
		4.	C.672 W/C. B.R. Beard, Base administrative Officer, paid a duty visit to the Station.		
		5.	Arrangements have been made with the Medical Officer for all patients under treatment for Trench Mouth to eat their meals at Station Sick Quarters.		
		6.	S/Lt McLerron (Pilot) C.1037 of No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron proceeded to No. 1 E.C.D.U. Westcott to attend a course on engine handling.		
	2/2/44	1.	The Station inspection was carried out by Air Commodore C.H. McIver M.C., D.F.C., (C.60) the Base Commander, accompanied by S/Lt A.C. Tufts C.1578. After the inspection the bi-monthly Pay Parade was held in the R. and L. Mess.		
		2.	Eleven aircrew M.C.O.'s of No. 425 Squadron were interviewed today by the Base Commander for the purpose of commissioning.		
		3.	S/Lt H.T. Miles D.F.C., J6946 from No. 408 Squadron visited here in connection with a Summary of Evidence.		
	3/2/44	1.	S/Lt F.L.B. Humphrys C.3309 from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited here in connection with Court of Inquiry.		
		2.	W/O. Zecour H.P. 791 from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited here in connection with Court of Inquiry.		
		3.	S/Lt H.T. Miles D.F.C., J6946 from No. 408 Squadron visited here again in connection with the Summary of Evidence.		
		4.	420 and 425 Squadron successfully completed their first Bull's Eye exercise. Their average landing time was three minutes.		
			420 detailed 9 aircraft and 425 11 aircraft for the above.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Thaltheorpe.	12/2/44.	1 (contd).	The crew and passenger were:- R.118590 - P/Sgt. Aubin, G.D. Pilot. 1319639 - P/Sgt. Mitter, S.H. Navigator (R.A.F.). R.54360 - SGT. Dubrov, W.W. Wop/AG. R.141896 - SGT. Merville, E.L. Air Gunner. R.125906 - P/Sgt. Albert, J.H. Bomb Aimer. R.174119 - SGT. Fleury, R. Mid Upper Air Gunner. 801922. - SGT. Sharahan, J.J. Flight Engineer (R.A.F.). Passenger:- Private Dubrov, J.B. C.100506 Signaller of No.1. Canadian Line of Communication Signals, R.C.C.S. Canadian Army, England. Private Dubrov was the brother of Sgt. Dubrov the WOp/AG. in the above crew.		
		2.	S/Lt. E.W. Blackington J.1467 "A", Flight Commander of No.425 Squadron assumed temporary command of the Squadron vice W/O. B.D. Richer C.626 who was admitted to hospital.		
		3.	P/O J. Brodrick C.8468 from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited re Court of Inquiry.		
		4.	C/O J.L. Hurley C.131 from Headquarters No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group visited in connection with an investigation into flying accident.		
		5.	W/O. Nosworthy, W.H.G. R.10449 from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters interviewed Security Guard to-day.		
		6.	P/L. C. Pentony 10584 (R.A.F.) arrived from R.C.A.F. Station Leeming re investigation into flying accident.		
		7.	P/O. M.W. Timbury from Darlington visited the Station Adjutant to-day. (C.13561)		
	13/2/44.	1.	The following personnel of No.425 Squadron proceeded to R.A.F. Station Forthorpe to attend the funeral of Sgt. Aubin and crew who were killed on Bullseye on the night of February 11th, 1944. S/Lt. J.M. Laplante R.C. Chaplain (05869). P/O. J.G. Begmbald - Navigator (J.4794). P/O. J.H. Demers. - Navigator (J.21364). Sgt. Decust, H.J. - (R19840) - Air Gunner.		



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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	13/2/44.	2.	Capt. E.E. Taylor and Lieut. D.A. James from No.1. Canadian Ordnance Reinforcement Unit are attached to No.420 Squadron for a liaison visit of one week.		
	14/2/44.	1.	P/O. R.R. Mackness C.3309 from the Public Relations Branch of R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters arrived at the unit to-day to record statements made by W/C. D. McIntosh D.F.C. 42511 - R.A.F. and other aircrew who had been in Africa.		
	15/2/44.	1.	Twelve aircraft of No.420 Squadron bombed up and took off on Operations on Berlin. Due to adverse weather conditions all aircraft were diverted, with the exception of one aircraft which reached Base and crashed on landing resulting in the death of two of its crew. R.02150 W/O2 Whale L.L. W/P and R.103176 Sgt. Downey, B. A/G. The remaining members of the crew were slightly injured.		
		2.	S/L. F.W.B. Hurphys C.3309 from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited to-day re Electrical Engineering matters.		
		3.	P/L. K.H. Andros C.6811 from Headquarters, No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group visited in connection with organization.		
		4.	S/L. F.W. Stanley C.7773 from Headquarters No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group visited Flying Control to-day.		
		5.	S/L. J.C. Tufts C.1378 Base Administrative Officer paid a visit to Station Headquarters to-day.		
	16/2/44.	1.	Adverse weather conditions kept crews at diversion points grounded. Operations scheduled for tonight were scrubbed.		
		2.	The G.P.O. have completed the installation of flight planning conference facilities on this Station. The new equipment will, however, not be in use until all Stations in the Group have been fitted, and tests carried out.		
		3.	Air Commodore W.E. Cookran C.1701 Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa, visited this Station to-day.		
		4.	W/C. G.A.W. Saunders J7482 R.A.F. from Headquarters Bomber Command visited re Court of Inquiry.		
	17/2/44.	1.	The following aircrew personnel of No.425 Squadron proceeded to Cromer in order to represent the Squadron at the funeral of 801922 Sgt. J.J. Shazhan, P/2. R.A.F., who lost his life in a flying accident on the night of 11th February, 1944.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Tholthorpe.	17/2/44.	1 (contd).	1450691 - Sgt. Adams. C. - P/2. R.A.F. 656427 - Sgt. Owen. L.S. - A/G. R.A.F. R.96579. - W/O2. Dube. H.E. - W.A.G. R.55806. - Sgt. Bouchard. J.E. - A/G.		
	18/2/44.	1.	Major L.V. Hunter and P/L. V.I.C. Baker J.22539 from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, visited in connection with Press visit P.R.O.		
		2.	W/O. M.H. Smith C.3183 from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited in connection with Engineering matters.		
		3.	Operations scheduled for tonight were scrubbed.		
	19/2/44.	1.	Eighteen aircraft were detailed for a bombing operation over Leipzig, Germany, but only four took off; in view of the fact that one aircraft of 420 Squadron bogged and blocked the runway, the remainder of the aircraft were too late to take off.		
		2.	Attack appeared to be successful but owing to 10/10ths cloud tops 8-10,000 ft. over target no details could be seen. Glow of fires could be seen through clouds, about 100 miles away. Flak over target was slight to moderate with searchlights not effective. All aircraft attempted photographs.		
		3.	Capt. Townsend of No.1 Canadian Line of Communication Signals visited the Station in connection with inquiry into the accidental death of Pte. J.R. Dubroy, on the night of 11th February, 1944, passenger in the aircraft that crashed at Droitwich.		
		4.	P/O. J. Colley (015933), Sigs 2 H.Q. No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group, visited the Station to inspect the R. & I. Signals Workshop accommodation. Several other matters relating to aircraft signals, equipment and modifications, were discussed with the Station Signals Officer.		
	20/2/44.	1.	Fourteen crews were detailed for operations over Stuttgart. Attack appears to have been successful as crews report many fires, rather scattered, but round P.P.F. Markers. Glow could be seen about 100 miles away. Defences: Heavy flak, slight, in loose barrage up to 24,000 ft. Searchlights few and ineffective. Weather over target: 5 to 7/10ths cloud tops about 5,000 ft. P.P.F. sky markers good and T.I. visible at times through breaks in cloud. Fighter opposition: sightings only. One aircraft returned early due to starboard outer engine unserviceable. One aircraft is missing; the crew was as follows:		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	20/2/44.	1	R.157746 - W/Sgt. A.H. Waite. - Pilot. R.81728 F/Sgt. McDougall. W. Navigator. R.90632 - W/O2. Redman. N.G. - W/AG. R.142155 F/Sgt. Powell. E.A. B/Aimer. R.191887 - Sgt. Gannon. H.E. - A/G. R.197851 Sgt. Gibson. G.T. M.U.A.G. 1697226 Sgt. Johnstone. W. F/E. R.A.F.		
		2.	The following pilots proceeded to No.1 E.C.D.U. Westcott, to attend course of engine handling:- F/L. W.L. Varner. D.F.C. J.15603. F/O. B. Wilmot. J.23777 (425 Squadron).		
		3.	W/C. G.A.W. Saunders 37482 R.A.F. from Headquarters, Bomber Command, again visited this Station in connection with Court of Inquiry.		
	21/2/44.	1.	Halifax Aircraft Mk. III No. "V" IM 425, which landed at Herwell, Berks, from operations on the night of 20/21/2/44, returned to Unit at about 16.30 hours. F/Sgt. Hall. G.B. R154606 and crew were met, and F/O. G.A. Pelter J.22430 Navigator was conveyed by ambulance to Station Sick Quarters and admitted with mild frost bite to toes of left foot.		
		2.	Nursing Sister - F/O. S.B. Matheson C.7871 who replaced Nursing Sister - F/O. P. Kelly C9731 on Saturday 19/2/44, proceeded on nine days privilege leave this evening.		
		3.	Capt. G.A.W. Howard of the H.L.I. and Lieut. R.O. Smith R.C.A.F., reported for a week's observation and familiarization with training with No.425 Squadron.		
		4.	W/C. G.A.W. Saunders 37482 R.A.F. from Headquarters, Bomber Command, visited re Court of Inquiry.		
		5.	S/L. R.R.B. Hoodspeth, Base Signals Officer, C.1595, visited the Station Signals Officer and Squadron Signals Leaders.		
		6.	F/L. G.S. Apperley C.6092 from No.5. District Headquarters, York, visited in connection with educational matters.		
		7.	Stand Down to-day.		
		8.	The funeral of R.93150 W/O2. White L.L. WOP/AG and R.103176 Sgt. Downey B. A/G. took place to-day in the Regional Cemetery, Harrogate. F/L. R.C. Deegan J.18889 - Pilot - acted as Officer in charge.		
	22/2/44.	1.	Operations scheduled for to-day were scrubbed.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Tholthorpe.	22/2/44.	2.	Air Vice Marshal G.E. Brookes, C.B., O.B.E. C.42 Air Officer Commanding No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited Flying Control to witness operational take off, which was subsequently cancelled.		
		3.	S/O. E.M.I. Gibson 6098 (R.A.F.) (W.A.A.F.) returned to Linton and S/L. A.D. Blachford C.1533 resumed duties of Station Signals Officer.		
		4.	S/L. W.L. Marshall C.3378 from Linton Base Station visited the Station Administrative Officer in connection with an investigation.		
	23/2/44.	1.	Stand Down to-day.		
			Thirteen aircraft of 420 Squadron took off on a cross country flight of 7 hours duration.		
		2.	A number of experienced crews of No.425 Squadron were given the day off. Flying consisted of cross countries, bombing practices and dual instruction to new arrivals.		
	24/2/44.	1.	Twenty-three aircraft took off on operations to bomb Schweinfurt, Germany. One aircraft of 425 Squadron did not take off due to tyre trouble; on returned early due to oxygen going unserviceable. Another aircraft (420 Squadron) returned early due to overload being unserviceable. All aircraft were diverted for landing. One aircraft of No.420 Squadron failed to return - P/O. H.M. Long (J.21366) Pilot and crew. Five pilots of No.425 Squadron participated in the night's operations as Second Pilots with 426 and 408 Squadrons, Linton, and all returned safely.		
			S/L. N.E. Foster, Base Medical Officer, C.4034, visited the Station Medical Officer to-day.		
		2.	S/L. A.C. Tufts C.1376, Base Administrative Officer, and S/L. D.A. Brownlee C.5194 from Headquarters, No.6. (R.C.A.F.) Group visited in connection with administrative matters.		
	25/2/44.	1.	Fourteen aircraft were bombed up and took off to raid Augsburg tonight. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron did not take off due to both port engines oiling up and another aircraft was scrubbed due to the crew not having had sufficient sleep. One aircraft of 425 Squadron and one aircraft of 420 Squadron failed to return. The crews were composed as follows:- 420 Squadron. P/O. L.P. Blakeray. Pilot. J.14827 and crew - R. 151914 E/S.t. Bessette C.M. - second pilot also reported missing. 425 Squadron. Cn. 343 P/Sgt. Stowell C.H. - pilot - and crew reported missing.		
	26/2/44.	1.	Command Stand Down.		
			S/L. A.M. Crawford C5734 Radar Officer from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited to-day.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices																					
Thelthorpe.	27/2/44.	1.	No.425 Squadron and 420 Squadron were stood down. The regular Sunday Services were held with a good number of personnel in attendance. One aircraft of 425 Squadron was engaged on practice of circuits and feathering during the day.																							
	28/2/44.	1.	S/L. J. Elson C.10525 Jewish Chaplain visited the Station Jewish personnel to-day.																							
		2.	S/L. E.W. Blenkinsop J.3467 of No.425 Squadron proceeded on posting to No.405 Squadron and relinquished temporary command of 425 Squadron. S/L. R.A. McLernon C.1637 assumes temporary command of Squadron.																							
		3.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.																							
		4.	Two aircraft carried out cross country and practice bombing.																							
	29/2/44.	1.	Squad/Officer <u>W.M.O. Holland 536471 (R.A.F.) (W.A.A.F.)</u> visited the W.A.A.F. Site and Sections where W.A.A.F. personnel were employed.																							
		2.	W/C. G.A.W. Saunders 37482 (R.A.F.) from Headquarters Bomber Command again visited this Station.																							
		3.	Lieut. J.G. Demuth from No. 64 I.R.U. reported in on attachment to this Station for one week.																							
<p>During the month of February the size of the Sick Parade was larger than usual, with an average of twenty to twenty five airmen reporting each day. Complaints were various with an excessive number of colds and throat troubles and an increasing number of scabies and other skin diseases. There were 61 airmen and 7 airwomen admitted to Station Sick Quarters and 29 to other hospitals during the month.</p>																										
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>STRENGTH.</th> <th>Officers.</th> <th>Other Ranks.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.A.F.</td> <td>4</td> <td>44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F.</td> <td>23</td> <td>275</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.D.O.</td> <td>2</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.A.A.F.</td> <td>2</td> <td>89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.N.S.</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.D.</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						STRENGTH.	Officers.	Other Ranks.	R.A.F.	4	44	R.C.A.F.	23	275	C.D.O.	2	4	W.A.A.F.	2	89	C.N.S.	1	-	W.D.	1	-
STRENGTH.	Officers.	Other Ranks.																								
R.A.F.	4	44																								
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W.A.A.F.	2	89																								
C.N.S.	1	-																								
W.D.	1	-																								

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*[Handwritten Signature]*





OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1/3/44		<p>1. S/L F.J.B. Humphys from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base in company with S/L Perrais from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited this Station re Electrical Engineering matters.</p> <p>2. One crew of No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron proceeded to Little Harwood to ferry aircraft. Eleven aircraft of No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron were detailed for operations in the evening. Two aircraft returned early due to navigational error and D.R. compass unserviceable. Eight aircraft of No. 420 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron took off to attack Stuttgart. One aircraft returned early due to restricted flow of oxygen and there were two non starters, one due to icing and one due to engine trouble. All aircraft of 425 and 420 Squadrons returned safely from this raid.</p>		
	2/3/44		<p>1. The Squadrons were ordered to stand by for the day.</p> <p>2. At 20.00 hrs. aircraft "A" of No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron piloted by Sgt. Bertrand R. (R15053) crashed half a mile north west of Grayke Village (position O26912, sheet 22). Of the crew of eight seven were killed. The eighth member, Sgt. Houle J.C.M., Navigator, was badly injured and taken to St. Monica's Hospital, Reading. The aircraft which had been on a cross country exercise had returned early with the starboard out engine feathered. There was no apparent cause for the crash.</p> <p>3. Ten aircraft of 420 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron and eleven of 425 Squadron were detailed for operation "K". 420 and "S" 420 were scrubbed. "P" of 420 and "W" and "V" of 425 returned early. All aircraft from both Squadrons returned from operations. Six aircraft of 425 Squadron and seven aircraft of 420 Squadron were diverted. "G" "P" and "V" of 425 Squadron returned to Base. The target for this operation was Stuttgart.</p>		
	3/3/44		<p>1. S/L A.C. Tufts (C.1378) Base Administrative Officer and G/O C.E. Scott (C.1391) from Headquarters, No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited in connection with administrative matters.</p> <p>2. S/L. T.G. McCall (C.7107) from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited re P.R.O. Duties.</p> <p>3. Stand Down to-day. Two aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in a Bullseye to-night. One aircraft returned early due to one engine becoming unserviceable, while the other completed the Bullseye and returned safely to base.</p> <p>4. Four aircraft of 425 Squadron participated in a Bullseye exercise in the evening.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	4/3/44	1.	Preparations were made for operations to-night but were later cancelled. Seven aircrews of 420 Squadron proceeded or leave to-day.		
		2.	Flying Training consisted of the following:- One aircraft on cross country (day) Three aircraft on air to air practice.		
		3.	P/O Z. Piszczak (P.2182) from No. 60 Maintenance Unit visited this Station re Crash Inspection.		
	5/3/44	1.	Flying training only to-day. One crew of No. 420 Squadron completed a six hour cross country flight.		
		2.	Capta J.A.A. Gxvy Canadian Intelligence Corp of No. 1 C.G.R.H. and Ltr. A.J. Blakeray, Carleton and York Regiment of No. 7 C.I.T.H. reported to No. 425 Squadron for familiarisation visit.		
		3.	P/O F.M. Chadwick (2360) R.A.F. from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited this Station to-day.		
6/3/44	4.	W/C C.O. King (G.2543) Base Equipment Officer visited the Equipment Officer to-day.			
	5.	P/L G.H. Duhamel & P/O D.C.M. <sup>(13374)</sup> <del>Beachman</del> , from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, London visited the Station to-day and stayed until March 8th, 1944. The purpose of their stay here was to visit the French Canadians.			
	6.	P/L. Vic. Baker - Base P.R.O. visited this Station in connection with the Press. <sup>(J.22539)</sup>			
	6/3/44	1.	S/L A.C. Tufts (C.1378) Base Administrative Officer visited No. 420 and No. 425 Squadrons to-day.		
		2.	P/L. A.M. Crawford (C.5734) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the Radar Section to-day.		
		3.	Nine aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 4 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed for bombing operations over Treppe, France. Crews report P.F.F.I. markers very good. Number of explosions seen but due to type of target, no exceptional fires were seen. Weather was clear over target with slight ground haze. One enemy aircraft was sighted and followed one of our aircraft without opening fire. Both gunners opened fire when enemy aircraft was at 600 yards range and it immediately turned sharply to <del>port</del> and was lost to sight. No visible damage was done to the enemy aircraft which was identified as an F.W. 190. Aircraft resumed course after having completed one dive, roll and climb.		

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See instructions for use of this form in R.R. and A.C.I. para. 2347 and War Manual Pt. II, Chapter XX and note in R.A.F. Pocket Book

of (Unit or Formation)

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	6/3/44	4.	One aircraft piloted by R.54029 P/S McKay R.M. of No. 420 Squadron was forced to land his aircraft at a dispersal point on return from target. The compasses in this aircraft became unserviceable as it was crossing the coast of France but the pilot continued with the stream and bombed the target. On leaving target area he lost contact with the stream and had to rely strictly on his own initiative, getting a position from the north star. He followed due north for a space of time then headed due west and was much relieved to see searchlights on the English Coast. He then decided to make a forced landing at a dispersal point. From this all aircraft of No. 420 and No. 425 returned safely.		
		5.	The following crew of No. 425 Squadron proceeded to Stockport in order to assist at the funeral of 1853824 Sgt. Dix J.E. who was killed in an aircraft accident on the night of 2nd. March. 1944.		
			J.23788 P/O Kirk, F.S. Pilot.		
			J.23944 P/O Facey, H.C. Navigator.		
			J.23861 P/O Hagen, F.D. W/AG.		
			J.27119 P/O Bush, S.F. B/A		
			R.194013 Sgt. Robertson, C.E. B/G.		
			R.165361 Sgt. McEvoy, D.R. MU/AG.		
	7/3/44	1.	RAF 63277 P/L Grandhaie R.M. No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Catering Officer visited this Station to-day		
		2.	C.7257 P/L R.S.A.G. Stubbs from Headquarters, No. 6 (R.C.A.F) Group visited the Committee of Adjustment.		
		3.	Six aircraft of 420 Squadron and 12 aircraft of 425 Squadron were bombed up and took off to attack marshalling yards at Le Mans, France. All aircraft returned safely.		
		4.	One aircraft of 420 Squadron completed a six hours cross country flight.		
		5.	C.9019 P/L W. Werron A & S.D. was attached to No. 420 Squadron for experience.		
		6.	The Station Signals Officer attended a Base Signals Conference at Linton. Matters pertaining to Signals Equipment, maintenance, training, and personnel were discussed.		
		7.	Mr Britter, Signals Liaison Technical from No. 3 Works Area York, visited this Station to inspect the Watch Office, TR.1196 installations.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe	8/3/44	1.	F/L J.B. Lacey (74155) (R.A.F.), No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Security Officer visited this Station. He was accompanied by W/O Smith, Sigs A. This was a routine visit, to check up on R/T discipline on the Station etc.		
		2.	Operations scheduled for to-night were scrubbed. A Command Bullseye was also called for to-night but scrubbed.		
	9/3/44	1.	W/C M.M. Smith (C.3183) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited this Station re Engineering matters.		
		2.	F/L W.C. Yacez "D.P.C." (J.15603) of 425 Squadron is detailed as Investigating Officer in the case of an accident to an aircraft of No. 425 Squadron.		
		3.	Operations scheduled for to-night were cancelled.		
	10/3/44	1.	W/C G.W. Harrison (13107) (R.A.F.) from Air Ministry visited this Station re National Savings Campaign.		
		2.	Squadron Officer M.M.O. Holland (7032) R.A.F. - W.A.A.F. from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the W.A.A.F. Section to-day.		
		3.	Operations scheduled for to-night were cancelled.		
		4.	Three aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in command Bullseye to-day and returned to Base safely.		
		5.	The Mobile Blood Transfusion Service arrived on the Station to-day and volunteers from both Squadrons and Station personnel attended Station Sick Quarters. 142 personnel attended.		
	11/3/44	1.	Stand Down to-day.		
		2.	Four aircraft of No. 425 Squadron detailed for local flying through the day and one on night cross country.		
3.		Four crews of No. 420 Squadron took part in fighter affiliation and two crews completed a four hour cross country flight.			
4.		The Officers Mess of this Station held a Dance to-night.			
12/3/44	1.	Four aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out local flying in the morning.			
	2.	All aircraft of No. 420 Squadron grounded to-day owing to adverse weather conditions.			
	3.	F/L D.D. Dall (C.4138) Adjutant of No. 420 Squadron proceeded on leave to-day.			

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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No. of pages used for day 3

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	13/3/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. P/L. J.B. Dickey (C.8257) was posted from R.C.A.F. Station, Croft, to this Station as Chief Technical Officer.</li> <li>2. S/L.N.E. Foster (C.4034) Base Medical Officer visited Station Sick Quarters to-day.</li> <li>3. S/L. B. Crowles (A.3429) (R.A.F.) Base Armament Officer visited the Station Armoury to-day.</li> <li>4. W/C M.M. Smith (C.3183) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine Engineering visit.</li> <li>5. W/C. C.O. King (C.2543) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the Station Equipment Officer to-day.</li> <li>6. Eight aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and seven aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took off to attack the marshalling yards at LeMans, France. Two aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early due to undercarriage and instruments unserviceable, respectively. All aircraft returned safely.</li> <li>7. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron on cross country flight to-night, and returned safely to base.</li> <li>8. Two aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out night cross country.</li> <li>9. Major J.S. Merritt of the Royal Wiltshire Rifles No. 1 C.I.R.U. reported to No. 425 Squadron for one week's familiarization with the R.C.A.F.</li> <li>10. S/L L.H. Lecomte (C.1181) Pilot of No. 425 Squadron proceeded to No. 1 E.C.D.U. Westcott to attend course in engine handling.</li> </ol>		
	14/3/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S/L. P.J.B. Humphrys (C.3309) of No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the Station Electrical Section to-day, in company with S/L. K. Beardsley (C.8466) (R.A.F.) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group.</li> <li>2. P/L G.R. Hiam (C.4007) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited the Armament Section to-day.</li> <li>3. STAND DOWN to-day.</li> <li>4. Eight aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and three aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in Group Bullseye to-night.</li> </ol>		
	15/3/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Twelve aircraft No. 420 Squadron and thirteen aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took off to attack Stuttgart. Two aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early and had to land at base due to starboard inner oil pressure nil and aileron controls unserviceable respectively.</li> </ol>		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) \_\_\_\_\_

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	13/3/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. W/L. J.B. Dickey (C.8257) was posted from R.C.A.F. Station, Croft, to this Station as Chief Technical Officer.</li> <li>2. S/L.N.E. Foster (C.4034) Base Medical Officer visited Station Sick Quarters to-day.</li> <li>3. S/L. B. Crowles (43429) (R.A.F.) Base Armament Officer visited the Station Armoury to-day.</li> <li>4. W/O M.M. Smith (C.3183) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base paid a routine Engineering visit.</li> <li>5. W/O. C.O. King (C.2543) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited the Station Equipment Officer to-day.</li> <li>6. Eight aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and seven aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took off to attack the marshalling yards at LeMars, France. Two aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early due to undercarriage and instruments unserviceable, respectively. All aircraft returned safely.</li> <li>7. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron on cross country flight to-night, and returned safely to base.</li> <li>8. Two aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out night cross country.</li> <li>9. Major J.S. Merritt of the Royal Wiltshire Rifles No. 1 C.I.R.U. reported to No. 425 Squadron for one week's familiarisation with the R.C.A.F.</li> <li>10. S/L L.H. Lecomte (C.1181) Pilot of No. 425 Squadron proceeded to No. 1 E.C.D.U. Westcott to attend course in engine handling.</li> </ol>		
	14/3/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S/L.F.J.B. Humphys (C.3309) of No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited the Station Electrical Section to-day, in company with S/L K. Bearside (48466) (R.A.F.) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group.</li> <li>2. E/L G.R. Hiam (C.4007) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F) Group visited the Armament Section to-day.</li> <li>3. Stand Down to-day.</li> <li>4. Eight aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and three aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in Group Bullseye to-night.</li> </ol>		
	15/3/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Twelve aircraft No. 420 Squadron and Thirteen aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took off to attack Stuttgart. Two aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early and had to land at base due to starboard inner oil pressure nil and aileron controls unserviceable respectively.</li> </ol>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendix
Tholthorpe	15/3/44	1 (Contd)	<p>One aircraft ran out of petrol and the crew had to bail out and all landed safely in the Midlands. Four aircraft of No. 420 Squadron returned safely to this aerodrome, while six others landed safely on diversion at Station, Tammer. All had bombed target. One aircraft is missing with the following crew and second pilot:- J.21955 P/O G. Galder Pilot, J.19653 P/O C.J. Kiley 2nd, Pilot, J.21170 P/O R.H. Jackson A/B, R.170938 P/S Ritchie, C.A. Nav., RAF 1336195 Sgt. Bethell, P.E. W/OE, R.251675 Sgt. Heidman, W.H. MU/AG. R.A.F. 1835870 Sgt. Lee H.R. A/G, R.171746 Sgt. Durbar, W. P/E. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire when approximately 10 miles from target killing the Navigator R.175894 Sgt. Briggs W.S. and wounding the Pilot R.160184 Sgt. Madam W.D. in both legs and both wrists. The starboard inner engine and tyre were rendered unserviceable. The aircraft <sup>proceeded</sup> to target and dropped bomb load. Bomb Aimer R.160129 Sgt. Hanco N.H. took over Navigator's position and followed flight plan on return journey. The aircraft was again hit by anti-aircraft fire shortly after leaving target and lost altitude steadily and flying at 4,500 feet when it reached Station. Firsted to land. The aircraft ground looped on landing due to the burst tyre but crew were uninjured. Sgt. Madam did not advise the crew he had been wounded until after landing. He had been placed in hospital and although wounds reported to be slight he has lost considerable blood.</p>		
			<p>2. The housing situation for Officers and N.C.O.'s of No. 420 Squadron is becoming acute.</p>		
	16/3/44	1.	<p>E/L W.R. Sirdle (64802) (R.A.F) from Air Ministry visited the Station to-day.</p>		
		2.	<p>E/L G.R. Hiam (C.4697) from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited the Station Armament Officer to-day.</p>		
		3.	<p>S/L F.J.B. Humphys (C.3309) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited re electrical engineering duties.</p>		
		4.	<p>W/O M.M. Smith (C.3183) Base Engineering Officer paid a routine visit to-day.</p>		
		5.	<p>E/L N. Killen (78791) (R.A.F.) No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base M.T. Officer visited the M.F. Section to-day.</p>		
		6.	<p>Col. C.S.C. Padfield (49338) (R.A.F) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited the Local Defence adviser to-day.</p>		

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 (12488-424) Wt 1112-341 crew 12124 T.S. 700

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	16/3/44	7.	Squadron Officer N.M.O. Holland (707) (R.A.F.) (RAF) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited the W.A.A.F. "Q" Officer to-day.		
		8.	Stand Down to-day. Routine local flying carried out.		
	17/3/44	1.	W/C A.C. Tufts (C.1378) Base Administrative Officer visited in connection with administrative matters.		
		2.	S/L F. Walker (C.9090) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited the Station to-day re administrative matters.		
		3.	Stand Down to-day. No. 420 Squadron carried out local flying.		
		4.	After considerable re-arrangements it has now been possible to provide accommodation for new crews on Nos. 5, 6 and 7 Sites. However, certain officers still are in N.C.O.'S quarters.		
		5.	Car 7789 W/O2 Waaa. G.M. Pilot was appointed to a commission as Pilot Officer G.L. (Pilot) in R.C.A.F. w.e.f. 8/1/44 and assigned personal number J.85019 (420 Squadron).		
		6.	R.251859 SGT. Stalton W.C. A/G (420 Squadron) has been scheduled to attend three weeks course on aircraft recognition at Southport commencing 5th April.		
		7.	R.156774 P/S Keegan. K.E. Pilot spd crew (420 Squadron) returned from Station Tanager by train as their aircraft diverted there after operations on 15/16th March, 1944, was found unserviceable.		
		8.	Five uninjured members of R.160184 Sgt. Moiden's crew (420 Squadron) returned from Station Pirator by rail and M.T. reported that Sgt. Moiden (R.160184) should be released from hospital within a few days.		
		9.	W/C A.C. Tufts (C.1378) Base Administration Officer visited No. 420 Squadron to-day.		
		10.	S/L Epps visited 420 Squadron to interview P/O James and Sgt. Willoughby survivors of the crash of P/S Hardy's aircraft on 29th February, 1944.		
		11.	S/O R.M.J. Gibson (6018) (R.A.F.) (W.A.A.F) arrived from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base to assume duties of Station Signals Officer in the absence of P/L A.D. Blechford (C.15133).		
		12.	The Officer Commanding 420 Squadron W/C. D. McIntosh (42511) "DEC" was discharged from Station Sick Quarters and proceeded on seven days sick leave commencing after duty to-day. S/L G.A. McKerra (161) will act as Officer Commanding during his absence.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	17/3/44	14h	No. 425 Squadron was not required for operations to-day. Part of the aircrew personnel were granted the day off, remainder attended lectures by their different Section Leaders, or were engaged on flying. 4 Aircraft of 425 Squadron took part in a cross country flight.		
	18/3/44	1.	11 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and ten aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Frankfurt to-night. All aircraft took off. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron had to return early due to the Bomb Aimer taking sick. All aircraft returned safely. One aircraft which had been diverted (No. 420 Squadron) whilst taxiing at the diversion Station (Thorp Abbott) ran into aircraft "F" of No. 425 Squadron damaging the aircraft's tailplane and propeller. The pilot was R.159335 - W/S Goffey J.R.		
		2.	P/O F. Jackson (0.35418) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited the Station re Public Relations matters.		
	19/3/44	1.	P/O M. Crawford (0.5734) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited the Station.		
		2.	Stand Down to-day. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in cross country flight to-night and returned safely to base. Normal flying routine carried out. 2 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out local flying 1 day cross-country and 1 Fighter Affiliation, 1 night cross-country.		
	20/3/44	1.	P/O J. Y. Delius (512) (W.A.A.F) visited the Signals Section to-day.		
		2.	Major Horeley from Salvation Army Headquarters visited the Adjutant to-day.		
		3.	Lt. H. Porter and Lt. S.A. Rodway from No. 10 C.A.R.U. attached on liaison visit for one week w.e.f. 30/3/44.		
		4.	Stand Down to-day. No flying was carried out due to rain. Lectures were given to new arrivals by Section Leaders.		
	21/3/44	1.	P/L. H.G. Harrison (108801) (R.A.F) from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group and P/O W. Ramage (143316) R.A.F. from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited the Station re Anti-Gas/Firm matters.		
		2.	P/O. (R.A.F.) E/L/Grandhale (43357) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited the Station re Catering matters.		
		3.	S/L. F.W.B. Humphys from No. 62 (R.C.A.F) Base visited this Station re electrical engineering matters.		
		4.	S/L W.R.Knowles (43429) (R.A.F) Base Armament Officer visited the Station Armoury to-day.		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 13.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	21/3/44.	5.	W/C. M.M. Smith (03183) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine engineering visit. Stand down to-day. Routine training was carried out while two aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in cross country flights tonight. Both returned safely to Base.	
		6.	E/L J.W. Weiss (0.1651) reported to No. 425 Squadron to investigate into accident to Halifax aircraft L.N. 413 which crashed near Brierley Hill, Staffs on 16th March, 1944, returning from Operations.	
		7.	The G.P.O. commenced work on the new switchboards. It is not known when the installation will be completed, but it is hoped that it won't be longer than two or three weeks.	
	22/3/44.	1.	E/L E.M.C. Grandhaile (63937) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Catering Officer visited this Station to-day.	
		2.	S/L C.W. Gordon (0394) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters attached re liaison training.	
		3.	Ten aircraft from No. 420 Squadron and thirteen aircraft from No. 425 Squadron took part in Operations tonight against target "Frankfurt". One aircraft from No. 425 Squadron is reported missing, the crew being composed as follows:- J.20618 - F/O Tirdall. C.E. Pilot. J.24048 - F/O Duffield K.V. Navigator. R.108261 - W/O Hay C.W. W/Op. R.156968 - Sgt. Quinlan R.C. B/A. R.190329 - Sgt. Brins J.E. R/AG. R.191915 - Sgt. Pulham D.W. RW/AG. 1876219 - Sgt. Patter J.C. F/B. (R.A.F.) Two aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in cross country flights tonight and returned safely to Base.	
	23/3/44.	1.	Stand down today. Routine training carried out.	
		2.	The Station Commander, Station Administration Officer and the Officers Commanding No. 420 and No. 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadrons attended the Adm. Conference held at No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base to-day.	
	24/3/44.	3.	S/L K.C. Dalrymple (01954) Station Adm. Officer left to-day and was replaced by S/L K.E. Adams (06511)	
		1.	W/C. M.M. Smith (03183) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine engineering visit.	
		2.	E/L F.M. Grandhaile (63937) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base, Catering Officer, visited this Station.	
		3.	Twelve aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and fourteen aircraft from No. 425 Squadron took off on operations - Target Berlin. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron returned early due to Hydraulic/	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	24/3/44.	4 (cont)	<p>System becoming unserviceable while all other aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were diverted to R.A.F. Station, Cottishall. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron is missing with the following captain and crew. J.21369 - P/O H.W. Rice Pilot; R156791 - P/S. Fraser C.G. A/B J22101</p> <p>P/O N.I. Altie Nav; R107845 W/O1 Herwick G. WOP/AG; USAAF 0886279 2nd/Lt. J.H. Thomson MU/AG; R18869 Sgt. Boire J.D. A/G; R.A.F. 162950 - Sgt. Bushell S.G. P/E.</p> <p>Two aircraft of No. 410 Squadron took part in Bullseye tonight and returned safely to Base. 3 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early for the following reasons; port outer engine overheating; port outer engine unserviceable and intercom rear turret unserviceable.</p> <p>One aircraft did not take off, Navigator having lost his equipment. Two aircraft of No. 425 Squadron are missing. Particulars of the crews are as follows:- J85045 - P/O N.H. Jones Pilot; J.19946 - P/O Latomall. M.G. Nav; J19970 - P/O J.A. Laviolette W/Op; J19586</p> <p>P/O M.H. MacLeod. B/A; J19980 - P/O J.C. Tracey R/AG; R55806 Sgt. J.E.Y. Bouchard MU/AG; 167697a Sgt. G.W.C. Mabbott - P/E (R.A.F.); J.25372 - P/O L.A. Benzud, Pilot; J24729 P/O P.R. Brazeau - Nav; 171364 - P/O R.A. Haska - W/Op; (R.A.F.) R15880a Sgt. M.W. Boyer B/A; R185365 - Sgt. Rhot J.J. R/AG; J.27152 - P/O C.S. Farnside W/AG; 954362c - Sgt. Nutman J.R. P/E. (R.A.F.)</p>	
	25/3/44.	1.	C.4079 W/O. D. Whyte from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited the Station Sick Quarters to-day.	
		2.	C.1595 - S/L R.W.B. Hoodgith from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the Signals Section to-day.	
		3.	C.3309 - S/L. F.W.B. Humphrys from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base in company with 48242 - S/L Fearnside (R.A.F.) from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters visited the Electrical Section to-day.	
		4.	One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and two aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in operations at night against the "Marshalling Yards at Aulnoye", France, and all returned safely. Two aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in cross country flights and returned safely to Base.	
		5.	No. 425 Squadron carried out local flying as follows: 2 aircraft on air test and 3 aircraft on night cross country.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	25/3/44	6.	(C.17989) P/O S.F. Herfield arrived from No. 61 (R.C.A.F.) Base to assume duties of Station Signals Officer while P/L A.D. Blachford (C.15933) is on sick leave.		
	26/3/44	1.	Ten aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and thirteen of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Essen. All aircraft returned safely to base.		
		2.	One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron engaged on night flying crashed near Christchurch, Wilts., killing 6 members of the crew, who are listed hereunder:- R.154606 P/S Hall, G.B. - Pilot R.161744 Sgt. Porter R.S. - B/A J.85140 P/O D.H.D. Grover - Nav. 1025594 Sgt. Evans, G.H. - R/AG, R.A.F. 1480974 Sgt. Newton N. - W/Op. R.A.F. 2208949 Sgt. Simpson F.N. - P/S, R.A.F. Two other members who were also in the aircraft escaped with slight injuries: CAN 2401A Sgt. Cameron W.A. - M/AG and R.129385 Cpl. Reid, D.C.S. - Radar/Mech.		
	27/3/44	1.	P/L R.P. Klombieš (C.5604) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited this Station.		
		2.	P/L H.G. Harrison (108801 - R.C.A.F.) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited this Station re GAA/Fire matters.		
		3.	S/L F.J.B. Humphys (C.3309) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the Electrical Section to-day.		
		4.	P/L W.W.G. Grandhale (43337) (R.C.A.F.) Base Catering Officer visited this Station.		
		5.	S/L R.P. Knowles (43429) (R.C.A.F.) Base Armament Officer visited the Station Armory to-day.		
		6.	P/L L. Killen (78791) R.A.F. from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the Station to-day.		
		7.	At approximately 0300 hrs. this morning, R.108209 IAG Parant, J.J.E. G. (Pilot IIR) of 425 Squadron was found unconscious having fallen off an aircraft which he was refuelling hours.		
		8.	He died at 05.25 hrs from internal and external injuries.		
		9.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.		
	28/3/44	1.	P/O J.M. Coldwell (C.29436) in company with P/O F. Jackson (C.35418) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited No. 420 and No. 425 Squadrons to-day.		
		2.	P/L W.W.G. Grandhale (43337) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Catering Officer visited the Station to-day.		
		3.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day. In the evening, the fortnightly		

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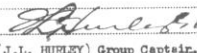
Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	28/3/44	3.	pay parade, was held in the R. & I. Mess, at 18.30 hours.		
		4.	4 aircraft were detailed for cross country, fighter affiliation and practice bombing, but this was cancelled due to unfavourable weather.		
	29/3/44	3.	Operations scheduled for to-night were cancelled.		
	30/3/44	2.	S/Lt. J.H. Cooper (R. 242) reported to this Station to take over Station Admin. duties in place of S/Lt. K.B. Adams (R. 681) who has returned to Group.		
1.		12 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Nuremberg, Germany, and all took off. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early and one is missing. Particulars of the missing crew are as follows:- J.10787 P/O J.R. Taylor - Pilot R.157376 Sgt. Macarvic, P.R. R/A J.24218 P/O G.R. Murro - Nav. R.127881 Sgt. Mitchell P.L. - R/AG R.135661 Sgt. Sheehan, J.H. - W/Op. R.174756 Sgt. DeWitt, A.M. - MU/AG. 2214118 Sgt. Aurlong, P. - P/W - R.A.F.			
			One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron crash landed near Cranwell. The crew are all safe.		
		2.	Sgt. C. Hadley (1053559 - R.A.F.) from S.I.B. London visited the Station in company with Sgt. Curweir D.C. (1251018 - R.A.F.)		
	31/3/44	1.	The Squadrons were not required for operations this evening. Flying was carried out as follows: 1 aircraft on Practice bombing and 2 on Bullseye exercises.		
			In general, the health of S.H.Q. personnel is good in comparison with that of the Squadrons. Upper respiratory infections predominate, more amongst the Squadrons, and the much poorer conditions under which the Squadron personnel work in the bomb dumps and dispersals would account for this. Accidents, as would be anticipated, are much more prone to occur amongst squadron personnel.		
			Admitted to Station Sick Quarters During the Month of March		
			Officers - Other Ranks - W.A.A.P.'s		
			S.H.Q. 3 27 8		
			420 Sqd. 3 31 2		
			425 " 8 33 1		
			9425 Ech. 0 9 0		
			9420 " 0 4 0		

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See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I. para 245 and War Manual Pt. II, Chapter XX and note in R.A.F. Order Book

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Tholthorpe

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
<u>Tholthorpe</u>					
<u>Admitted to Other Hospitals During the Month of March</u>					
<u>Officers - Other Ranks</u> <u>W.A.A.F.'s.</u>					
	S.H.Q.	2	5	0	
	420 Sqd.	0	9	0	
	425 Sqd.	1	11	0	
	9425 Bch.	0	2	0	
	9420 "	0	4	0	
<u>STRENGTH</u> <u>Officers</u> <u>Other Ranks.</u>					
	R.A.F.		5	41	
	R.C.A.F.		24	273	
	C.D.C.		2	1	
	W.A.A.F.		2	86	
	C.N.S.		1	-	
	W.D.		1	-	
<u>Eleven operational sorties as outlined below were carried out by the Squadrons on this Station during the month of March, 1944.</u>					
	1-2nd March, 1944		- Stuttgart	- 19 aircraft	
	6th "		- Treves	- 13 "	
	7-8th "		- LeMans	- 18 "	
	13-14th "		- LeMans	- 15 "	
	15-16th "		- Stuttgart	- 25 "	
	18-19th "		- Frankfurt	- 21 "	
	22-23rd "		- Frankfurt	- 24 "	
	24-25th "		- Berlin	- 25 "	
	25-26th "		- Aulroye	- 3 "	
	26-27th "		- Esser	- 23 "	
	30-31st "		- Nuremberg	- 26 "	
				 (J.L. HURLEY) Group Captain, Commanding Officer, R.C.A.F. Station, THOLTHORPE.	

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C of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Tholthorpe

1688 No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	Referenced to Appendices
Tholthorpe	1/4/44	1.	W/C G.A.W. Saunders "DMC" R.A.F. 37482 from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited this Station re Accident Investigation.		
		2.	G/C J.E.H. Faugier (C.1399) from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited this Station to-day.		
		3.	This morning at 10.15 hours the funeral of R.108209 L/C Parant J.J.F.G. took place in Harrogate, Yorkshire. No. 425 Squadron Adjutant S/L C.A.E. Davis (C.8446) was the Officer in charge of the party.		
		4.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.		
		5.	Flying training was carried out as follows:- 7 Aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were engaged in Group flying exercise during the day and 3 on dual flying. 2 Aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in cross country flights to-night.		
		6.	An "April Fool" Dance was held in the Sergeants Mess and was greatly enjoyed.		
	2/4/44	1.	S/L R.H.B. Hoodsmith (C.1595) Base Signals Officer visited the Station Signals Section to-day.		
		2.	F/L A.M. Crawford (C.5734) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Radar Officer visited this Station to-day.		
		3.	Pt/Officer D.Y. Deltus (512) (W.A.A.F.) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Code & Cypher Officer visited the Signals Section to-day.		
		4.	W/C N.B. Eator (C1850) from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters visited re Signals matters.		
		5.	S/L D.G. Miller (C662B) from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited the Radar Section to-day.		
		6.	F/L E.V. Grandjean (63937) (R.A.F.) Base Catering Officer visited to-day.		
		7.	Heavy rain which lasted all day prevented any flying being carried out.		
	3/4/44	8.	No. 425 Squadron Adjutant S/L C.A.E. Davis (C.8446) proceeded on leave to-day, being replaced by P/L J.E.P. St. Amour (C18682).		
		1.	Auxiliary Services Supervisor H.M.W. Beverley in company with F/L A.E. Ley (C.8463) visited the Capedian Y.M.C.A.		
		2.	Authority was received from Air Ministry to post W/C B.D. Hicher (C.626) Officer Commanding No. 425 Squadron to R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters effective 8/4/44.		
		3.	No flying was carried out to-day owing to unfavourable weather.		
		4.	S/L K.B. Andres (C.6511) proceeded on posting to Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group, and was replaced as Station Administrative Officer by F/L J.H. Garner (C.7836).		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Thaltheorpe	3/14/44		5. P/O I.F. Ronalds (C.12389) reported from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group on posting.		
	4/14/44		1. P/L L.W. Killen (78791) (R.A.F.) and P/O W. Ramage (143116) (R.A.F.) arrived from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base as witnesses for Court Martial. The following Officers also attended the Court Martial:- (Accused R.85898 Cpl. MacPetric, W.S.) P/L A. Simerd (C.7227) - No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base (Member) P/L J.M. MacMiller (C.3303) - 408 Squadron (Member) W/C R.M. Triton (C.2784) - H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group (President)		
			2. P/L W. Warren (C9019) A & S.D. of No. 420 Squadron appointed to take Summary of Evidence in the case of R.55052 Corporal Udell J. of R.C.A.F. Station, Thaltheorpe.		
			3. Rain and fog are keeping the aircraft on the ground to-day. Aircrew personnel given the afternoon off.		
			4. Mr. W.H. Taylor (E.N.S.A.) reported as Cinema Manager to-day.		
			5. Squadron Officer N.M.G. Holland (703) (W.A.A.F.) visited the W.A.A.F. Section to-day.		
	5/14/44		1. W/C C.O. King (C.2543) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Equipment Officer visited the Equipment Section to-day.		
			2. W/C M.M. Smith (C.3183) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Engineer Officer visited re Engineering matters.		
			3. W/C A.C. Tufts (C.1378) Base Administrative Officer paid a routine visit.		
			4. P/L J.R.L. Schirsh (C.28441) from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group and P/L L.W. Killen (78791) (R.A.F.) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited this Station on M.T. Duties.		
			5. No flying was carried out due to bad weather conditions. All aircrew personnel were 'stood down' to-day.		
			6. R.202155 Sgt. Order S. A/Q of No. 425 Squadron proceeded to Aircraft Recognition Course No. 26 at the Central School of Aircraft Recognition.		
			7. P/L H.J. Goodwin (160061) (R.A.F.) of No. 425 Squadron (Flight Engineer Leader) left for Blackpool to attend Air Sea Rescue Course No. 27.		
			8. P/L J.R.R. St. Amour (C.13682) of No. 425 Squadron proceeded on Temporary Duty to R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters for an interview.		

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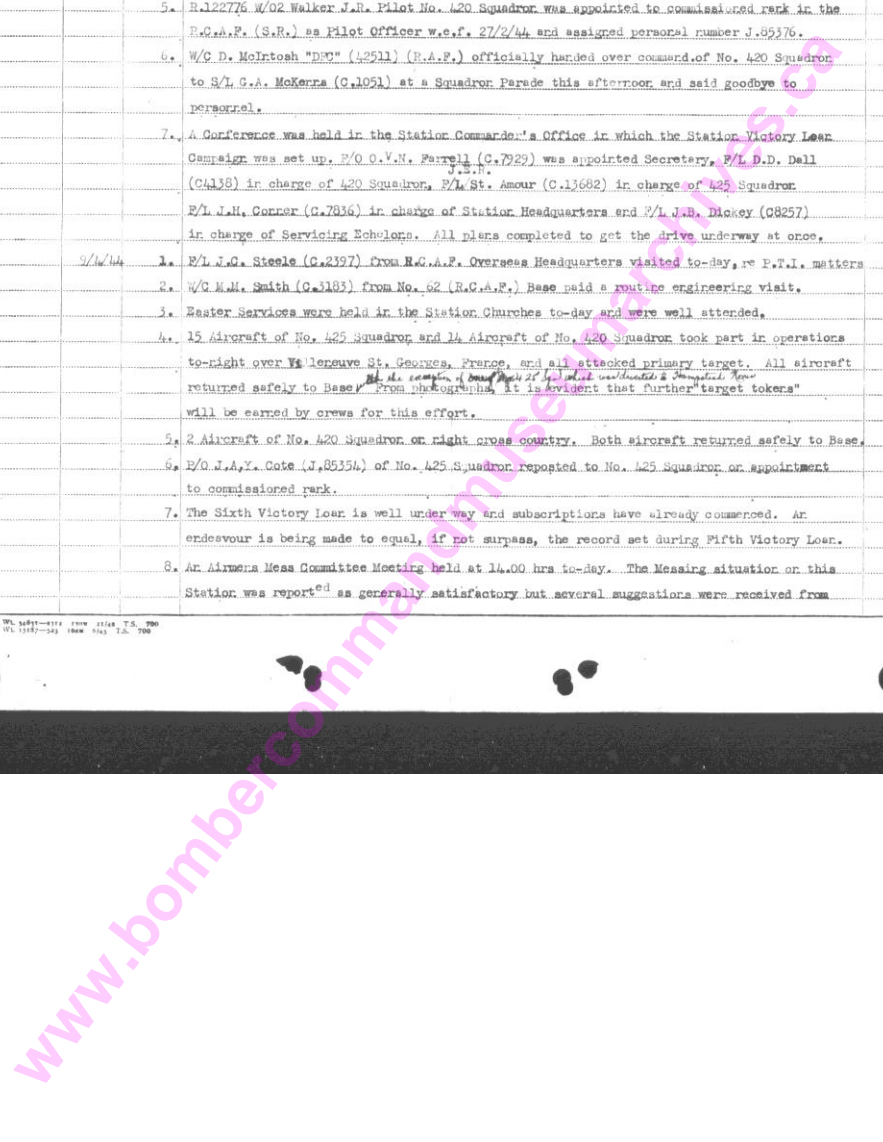
No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	6/14/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. P/O R.V. Hyde (C.15940) and S/L J. Whitehead (20443) visited re postal liaison.</li> <li>2. P/L A.G. Holmes (C.10443) from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited to-day. (Honours &amp; Awards)</li> <li>3. Slight rain fell in the morning but by noon weather cleared up. 3 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron detailed for night cross country but this was cancelled. 1 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out Height Test. Operations scheduled for to-night were also cancelled.</li> <li>4. W.A.F. personal issued with new kit bags and War Service Chevrons.</li> <li>5. Advice was received that R.A.F. 42511 W/C D. McIntosh "D.P." Officer Commanding No. 420 Squadron has been attached to H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group effective 6/14/44 pending posting, and will be succeeded by S/L G.A. McKerra (C.1051) presently "1" Flight Commander. All ranks regret to lose W/C McIntosh who has done much during the year to enhance the Squadron.</li> </ol>		
	7/14/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S/L A. Knowles (43429) (R.A.F.) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Armament Officer visited re armament matters.</li> <li>2. A Station Parade and Inspection by the Base Commander A/Cmdr A.D. Ross (C.111) was held at 09.00 hrs to-day.</li> <li>3. The Station Commander G/C J.L. Harley (C.131) and the Station Administrative Officer P/L J.H. Connor (C.7836) attended a meeting at No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base in connection with the organization of the Sixth Canadian Victory Loan.</li> <li>4. Operations scheduled for to-night were scrubbed.</li> <li>5. 1 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out an air test and 1 aircraft carried out dual flying.</li> <li>6. Two additional ACH/OIKs have been supplied to the Equipment Section due to the centralization of the Laundry Services.</li> </ol>		
	8/14/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. P/L J.E.R. St. Amour (C.13682) returned from Temporary Duty at R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters where he assisted in a Conference of the Sixth Victory Loan Campaign.</li> <li>2. 'Stand Down' to-day. 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were engaged on flying during the day, comprising cross country fighter affiliation, practice bombing, air/air and air/sea firing. In the evening 3 aircraft carried out Bullseye Exercises.</li> <li>3. Two aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in fighter affiliation and 10 aircraft on night</li> </ol>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Thaltheorpe	3/14/44	3.	bombing exercises.		
		(Cont'd)	<p>4. J. 24475 P/O H.E. Damgaard Pilot was posted to No. 420 Squadron from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base nor effective sick w.e.f. 23/3/44. W/O Damgaard was previously with No. 420 Squadron having been injured in a flying accident on 15th February, 1944.</p>		
		5.	R122776 W/O2 Walker J.B. Pilot No. 420 Squadron was appointed to commissioned rank in the R.C.A.F. (S.R.) as Pilot Officer w.e.f. 27/3/44 and assigned personal number J.95376.		
		6.	W/C D. McIntosh "DPC" (42511) (R.A.F.) officially handed over command of No. 420 Squadron to S/L G.A. McKenna (C.1051) at a Squadron Parade this afternoon and said goodbye to personnel.		
		7.	A Conference was held in the Station Commander's Office in which the Station Victory Loan Campaign was set up. P/O O.V.N. Farrell (C.7929) was appointed Secretary, P/L D.D. Dell (C.4138) in charge of 420 Squadron, P/L St. Amour (C.13682) in charge of 425 Squadron, P/L J.H. Connor (C.7816) in charge of Station Headquarters and P/L J.B. Dickey (C.8257) in charge of Servicing Echelons. All plans completed to get the drive underway at once.		
	9/14/44	1.	P/L J.G. Steele (C.2327) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited to-day, re P.T.I. matters		
		2.	W/O M.H. Smith (C.3183) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine engineering visit.		
		3.	Wearer Services were held in the Station Churches to-day and were well attended.		
		4.	15 Aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 14 Aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in operations to-night over Va Lengue St. Georges, France, and all attacked primary target. All aircraft returned safely to Base. From photographs, it is evident that further "target tokens" will be earned by crews for this effort.		
		5.	2 Aircraft of No. 420 Squadron on night cross country. Both aircraft returned safely to Base.		
		6.	P/O J.A.Y. Cote (J.85354) of No. 425 Squadron reposted to No. 425 Squadron on appointment to commissioned rank.		
		7.	The Sixth Victory Loan is well under way and subscriptions have already commenced. An endeavour is being made to equal, if not surpass, the record set during Fifth Victory Loan.		
		8.	An Aircrew Mess Committee Meeting held at 14.00 hrs to-day. The Messing situation on this Station was reported as generally satisfactory but several suggestions were received from		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	3/12/44		8. Members of the Committee as to improvement. The ovens were not baking satisfactorily and steps were taken to have this condition rectified.		
		(Contd)	9. There was a Meeting of the Administrative Officers of Station Headquarters, Echelons and Squadrons under the Chairmanship of the Station Administrative Officer. Problems in connection with returns generally, commissioning procedure, Confidential Reports of Officers etc. were discussed.		
	12/12/44		1. Mrs. Dorrington of the Army Territorial Welfare Association visited this Station to-day in company with Mrs. Massey at the request of the W.A.A.F. 'G' Officer. They are supplying us with flower and vegetable seeds and seed potatoes. They are also sending us rugs, pictures, cushions and some furniture for furnishing W.A.A.F. Rest Rooms.		
			2. Lt. J.G. Parry (M47688) and Lt. J.H. Child (M47654) from 10th Bn. Regiment and 2 C.I.E.U. respectively arrived on attachment to No. 420 Squadron to-day.		
			3. P/L A.H. Crawford (C.5734) Base Radar Officer visited to-day.		
			4. P/L C. Cramp (48226) (R.A.F.) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Signals visited the Signals Officer.		
			5. P/O J.M. Colwell (C.29436) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base P.R.O. visited the Station to witness interrogation of crews on return from operations.		
			6. S/O V.A. Day (V.30275) arrived to-day from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base to act as assistant Adjutant.		
			7. 13 Aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 14 Aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack The Marshalling Yards at Chert, France. 1 Aircraft of No. 420 Squadron failed to start due to engine being unserviceable and 1 Aircraft of No. 425 Squadron did not start owing to Pilot being sick. All aircraft returned safely to base.		
			8. 2 Aircraft of No. 420 Squadron on cross country and both returned safely to base.		
			9. Two crews of No. 420 Squadron have now completed training and are now ready for operations.		
			10. A Station Dance was held in the Station Gymnasium to-night and was well attended.		
	11/12/44		1. S/L D.G. Miller (C.6621) from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited to-day, re Radar matters.		
			2. P/L D.S. Ferris (50049) from H.Q. Bomber Command paid a visit to the Station to-day.		
			3. P/L A.M. Crawford (C.5734) Base Radar Officer visited the Station Radar Section to-day.		
			4. P/L E.V. Grandhaic (63937) (R.A.F.) and S/O O.B. Perk (V.30297) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Catering Officers visited to-day.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices	
Thaltheurpe	11/1/44	5.	A/Cmdr R.E. McBurney (C96) from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the Station to-day.			
		6.	S/L T.C. McCall (C.7107) from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters visited this Station to-day.			
		7.	S/L A. Knowles (43429) (R.A.F.) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine en passant visit.			
		8.	Flying training carried out by No. 425 Squadron as follows:- 2 aircraft on circuits and landings and one on air/air firing. 4 Aircraft carried out night cross country and 1 Aircraft on local flights.			
		9.	Aircraft of No. 420 Squadron carried out Bombing Exercise in afternoon and cross country flights at night. All aircraft returned safely.			
		10.	C.1634 S/L R.A. McLerron (429 Squadron) Acting Squadron Commander proceeded to R.A.F. Station, Ingham, in order to attend Bomber Command Tactical Course.			
		12/1/44	1.	P/O J.M. Goldwell (C.29436) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base P.R.O. visited to-day.		
		2.	W/C. R.C. Morris (C.12554) from R.C.A.F. Overseas H.Q. visited this Station to-day, re P.R.O. matters			
		3.	S/L T.C. McCall (C.7107) from H.Q. Gp. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited this Station to-day, re " "			
		4.	A/S/O A.M. Groundster (V.30667) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited re Cypher matters.			
5.	S/L L.C. Dilmuth (J.10896) Station Navigation Officer proceeded on an Air Sea Rescue Course at Blackpool.					
6.	P/O S.F. Herfield (C.17259) who was Acting Station Signals Officer returned to No. 61 (R.C.A.F.) Base, Topcliffe to-day.					
7.	"Garden Day" on the W.A.A.F. Site. Seeds provided by Army Territorial Welfare Association. Officers gave great assistance. The idea is to sell the produce to the Officers Mess and give the proceeds to the P.O.W. Fund.					
8.	Authority was received this date to appoint S/L R.A. McLerron (C.1637) to the rank of A/C w.e.f. 4/4/1944, on taking over Command of No. 425 Squadron vice W/C B.D. Richer (C.626) posted to R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, London.					
9.	Squadrons carried out general flying training to-day, including three day and four night cross country flights. All aircraft returned safely.					
10.	The M.T. Section was working normally to its full capacity.					

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	12/11/44	11.	W/C R.C. MacInnes (C.1554) R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, visited to-day re P.R.O. matters.		
	13/11/44	1.	W/C A.C. Tufts (C.1378) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Administrative Officer paid a routine visit.		
		2.	Squadron Officer N.M.C. Holland (703) (W.A.A.F.) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base W.A.A.F. Officer visited the W.A.A.F. Section to-day.		
		3.	Wing Officer E.M. Corby Hall (16) W.A.A.F. from Headquarters, No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a <del>short</del> visit to the W.A.A.F. Section to-day.		
		4.	S/L H.W. Brown (C.3357) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited re engineering matters.		
		5.	Supervisor R.P. Cragg arrived on this Station to-day on posting from the Auxiliary Services London.		
		6.	The Laundry Unit at Meir Stores started to function to-day.		
		7.	"Stand Down" to-day. Flying training carried out as follows:- 7 aircraft on fighter affiliation and bombing and local flying.		
		8.	Advice was given from Station Headquarters, Tholthorpe, to both Squadrons that they will each have to provide three Orderly Officers per week from <del>the</del> crew personnel commencing April 16th, 1944.		
	11/1/44	1.	Mr. M. Desjardins of the Canadian Press visited No. 425 Squadron to-day.		
		2.	S/L A.D. Blachford (C.1513) Station Signals Officer returned to duty from Sick Leave to-day.		
		3.	The installation of the new Telephone Exchange is not quite complete, and we are awaiting the arrival of the Joiners, in order that the new Exchange can be lead over from the old Exchange. They are expected to arrive in the week commencing 16th April, 1944.		
		4.	During the past week, 57 sorties have been carried out to aircraft, and no Signals or Radar failures have occurred.		
		5.	There has been nothing of unusual interest occurring in S.S.Q. for the past week. Sick Parades have been normal size, and complaints vary the main complaints still being V.D. and infections of the upper respiratory tract. Admissions have been regular and average 4-5 days duration. There have been no crashes or serious accidents to report.		
		6.	Operations scheduled for to-right are cancelled. 1 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out an air test.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	15/4/44	1.	W/C E.G. Ambridge (31101) (R.A.F.) from Headquarters, Bomber Command and W/C C.O. King (C2543) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid the Equipment Section a visit to-day.		
		2.	W/C M.M. Smith (C.2283) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited re Engineering duties.		
		3.	S/L D.D. Carr Harris (C.2356) from R.C.A.F. Station, Middleton St. George visited re engineering matters.		
		4.	An informal Dance was held in the Y.M.C.A. A good time was had by all present.		
		5.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-night. 6 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron engaged on day flying, which consisted of practice bombing, fighter affiliation and air tests.		
		6.	W/C R.A. McLernon (C.1637) returned to No. 425 Squadron from R.A.F. Station Ingham, where he had attended Bomber Command Tactical Course.		
		7.	P/O L.R. Brochie (J.95412) was reported to No. 425 Squadron on appointment to a commission. Was s.f. 5/3/44.		
		8.	P/L E. Northerr (J.14566) Pilot No. 420 Squadron detailed to investigate, and report on crash of Halifax III L.W. 614 of No. 432 Squadron on 12th March, 1944.		
		9.	The M.T. Section was extremely busy to-day, all serviceable transport being used for operations. The operations were later "scrubbed".		
	16/4/44	1.	P/O A.D. Peillie (C.13665) arrived to take up Armament Duties on posting from H.Q. No. 5 (R.C.A.F.) GROUP.		
		2.	P/L J. Loomis (C.8264) proceeded on Course to Bristol to-day, on a Bristol Engine Course.		
		3.	We have been definitely informed by E.N.S.A. that the new 35 min. shows will start to-night. There will be 1 programme for Sunday, Monday and Tuesday with a change on Thursday & Friday on which nights there will be 2 shows.		
		4.	Stand Down to-day. Air to sea firing carried out in afternoon.		
	17/4/44	1.	P/L J.W.T. Van Gorder (C.9981) Chaplain is attached to this Station from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters.		
		2.	Operations scheduled for to-night were scrubbed.		
		3.	5 Aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in cross country flights to-night and returned safely.		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Thelthorpe.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	17/4/44	4.	1 crew completed training to-day giving No. 420 Squadron a total of 23 crews available for operations.		
		5.	10 Aircraft of No. 425 Squadron participated in flying training consisting of dual and solo local flying practice bombing, day cross country and night cross country.		
		6.	P/O W. Hamage (143316) (R.A.F.) Gas/Pipe Officer from Linton Base visited the Station. All fire fighting apparatus was checked in company with P/L J.H. Corner (07836) Station Administrative Officer. The emergency water supplies on the various sites are not holding properly and steps were taken to have these rectified by Clerk of Works at the earliest opportunity.		
		7.	130 more bicycles arrived on the Station, this will make about 1500 on the Station now.		
		8.	At approximately 16.30 hours to-day R.114014 Cpl. Maors T.I., R.164987 LAC Bedard J. and 1080646 /C1 Coyle T. were involved in a practice bomb explosion, resulting in lacerations to legs to all involved. They have been transferred to R.A.F. Hospital, Northallerton, and are not in a serious condition.		
	18/4/44	1.	S/L. P.J. Hamphrey (C.3309) from No.62 (RCAP) Base paid a routine Engineering (Electrical) visit.		
		2.	S/L R.F. Godfrey (148214) R.A.F. & P/L J.R.L. Selding (C.2844) from Headquarters Bomber Command and H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group respectively paid an M.T. Staff visit to-day.		
		3.	15 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 13 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took part in operations to-night against target Marshalling Yards at Noisy Le Sec, Paris, France. All aircraft returned safely, thirteen to this airfield while one aircraft of No. 420 Squadron was diverted to Station Bosworth and one LW 392 of No. 420 Squadron reported to be damaged by a bomb, to Station Ford.		
		4.	R.130057 W/O2 Foy H.O. Pilot of No. 420 Squadron appointed to a commission as P/O in R.C.A.F. (SH) w.e.f. 14/4/44 and assigned personal No. J.95446.		
		5.	P/L D.D. Dell (A & S.D.) (C.1138) Adjutant of No. 420 Squadron proceeded on Temporary Duty to R.C.A.F. Station, Croft, at 0900 hrs to-day to assist in Victory Loan Campaign at that Station, P/L W. Warren (A & S.D.) (C.9015) will be acting as Adjutant in his absence.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Tholthorne.	10/11/44	6.	Mr. H.W. Ackroyd D.M. of the N.A.A.F.I. visited this Station. Complaints which had been received from the airport regarding cooking in the N.A.A.F.I. Bar were passed on to Mr. Ackroyd.	
		7.	P/L H.M. Tiberley (C.13561) from D.A.P.M. Darlington visited today.	
		8.	P/L C.A.E. Davis (C.6444) No. 425 Adjutant admitted to 16 Canadian General Hospital for operation. His duties have been taken over by P/L J.W.R. St. Amour (C.13682).	
	11/11/44	1.	Stand Down to-day.	
		2.	Three aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and three aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took part in sea search this morning and all returned safely.	
		3.	Advice received that His Majesty had approved the award of the D.F.C. to J.17032 P/O A.G. Plummer Pilot, of No. 40 Squadron for devotion to duty on the night of 1/2nd March, 1944, when attacking Stuttgart. One of the engines of his aircraft failed when 200 miles from target and aircraft lost height to 15000 feet. However, he continued on and successfully bombed target from 14000 feet and returned safely to diversion base.	
		4.	R.75479 W/O Leonard H.L. T.C. No. R.123453 W/O Leonard, S.I. Pilot and R.A.F. 191354 P/Sgt. James B. W.O.A.G. all of No. 420 Squadron were interviewed by A/C A.D. Ross, Base Commander, in connection with their applications for commissions.	
		5.	Ans. 409513 P/O I.P. Clement A.G. of No. 420 Squadron posted to No. 62 (RCAP) Base N/E Sack w.e.f. 3/11/44 also R.A.F. 143495 Sgt. Pina J. S/2, w.e.f. 11/11/44.	
		6.	At 1000 hours this morning, No. 425 Squadron topped the Sixth Victory Loan Objective of £ 20,000.	
		7.	M.T. Section carried out its normal daily duties. Now that spring and the better weather is here the Section is starting a general clean up and a scheme has been prepared in which we hope to make a vast improvement in the paint work of all vehicles and general condition of the M.T. Yard and Buildings.	
		8.	P/O C.O. Sherk (C.17960) reported for duty at the Signals Section.	
		9.	P/L H.M. Crawford (C.5754) S/O D.G. Miller (C.6628) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base and Headquarters No. 6 Group respectively, visited the Signals Officer to-day. The purpose	



OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	19/1/44	9. (Contd)	of the visit was in conjunction with the fitting of MK IV A.I. in one aircraft of each Squadron, and they enquired on the results which were being obtained. The results have been most successful and with a few minor modifications, the reports will be submitted to No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group and Bomber Command, and when approved, more aircraft will be fitted with this excellent 'Wall Warring Device'.		
		10.	S/ O.E. Park (V.30297) and P/L E.V. Grendhele (63937, (R.A.F.) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Catering Officers to-day visited this Station.		
		11.	W/C J.C. Wigte (C.4079) from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group and G/C P.A.L. Matheron (C.4056) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited Station Sick quarters to-day.		
		12.	W/C J.J. Terroux (C.1943) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited re Defence matters.		
	20/1/44	1.	Thirteen aircraft from No. 420 Squadron and 15 aircraft from No. 425 Squadron took part in operations to-night against target "Lena" France. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron did not take off due to engine being unserviceable. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron is reported missing the crew being as follows:- R.122453 W/O2 Leonard R.G. Pilot R.152555 W/O2 Wilson H.C. A.B. R.A.F. 658370 P/Sgt. Warren A. Nav. R.A.F. 1433914 Sgt. Wheelhouse C.G. W.C.A.G. R.179496 Sgt. Bourcier, J.P. A.G. R.11468 Sgt. Anderson R.A. A.G. and R.A.F. 1652948 Sgt. Gough P.F. P.M.		
		2.	G/C G.E.H. Scott (C.1371) Staff Officer i/o Administration No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group and W/C A.C. Tufts (C.1378) Base Administrative Officer visited No. 425 Squadron 20-1-44.		
	21/1/44	1.	Mr. A. Edward Ministry of Transport at Leeds and Mr. J.A. Watson Area Surveyor North Riding County Council Beasingwold, visited the Station. Plans were made to improve the lane leading to No. 4 Site and to build a proper bus stand on the highway across from the Airman Mess Communal Site.		
		2.	A Command Demonstration of the R.A.F. Regiment visited the Station and demonstrated for the benefit of Station personnel various Flight Movements. At 1400 hrs the Station Commander and a large attendance of personnel paraded to the Flying Field adjoining the R. & I. Hanger to view the demonstration. Action Stations demonstrated the right and wrong way of showing		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe	21/4/44	2. (Contd)	how essential it was for every man to know his duties and to be thoroughly familiar with the work of his fellow in the flight. They further demonstrated the necessity for Section Leaders to have absolute control of their men and the necessity of good discipline. The second part of the programme (Section Battle Drill) demonstrated the place of drill in teaching the essential movements to be carried out in the face of the enemy. The third demonstration (Flight in Attack) was given on a piece of open ground beyond No. 4 Site. This attack demonstrated a right flanking movement and included cover fire by rifles and Lewis guns using live ammunition. The assault party by using smoke bombs demonstrated the taking up of positions and the consolidation of a captured enemy position. The entire demonstration was well carried out and proved extremely interesting and valuable to all personnel.		
		3.	S/L A. Knowles (43422) (R.A.F.) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Armament Officer visited the Armament Section to-day.		
		4.	P/L G.R. Mian (C4607) Armament Officer from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters visited to-day.		
		5.	S/L A.L.J. Dovey (1204) (W.A.A.F.) Medical Officer H.Q. Bomber Command and Squadron Officer N.W.G. Holland (703) (W.A.A.F.) visited to-day. S/L Dovey gave an excellent lecture to W.A.A.F. personnel on Social and Personal Hygiene. All Section heads co-operated in allowing as many W.A.A.F. personnel to attend this lecture. Many comments have been heard from the W.A.A.F. about this lecture which has never before been presented to them in such an excellent manner.		
		6.	P/O J.H. Coldwell (C.29436) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base P.R.O. visited the Station to-day.		
			P/O G.W. Knox (C.6479) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited the Station to-day, re P.R.O. matters.		
		7.	Stand Down to-day owing to weather conditions.		
		8.	P/O G.B. Todd (J.24267) arrived on posting to this Station.		
	22/4/44	1.	The W.A.A.F. Section sent a team to No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base to play Netball to-day.		
		2.	S/L R.R.B. Hoodspith (C.1595) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base and A/S/O A.M. Groundwater (YJ0667) visited re Signals & Cypher duties respectively.		
		3.	An informal Dance was held in the Y.M.C.A. Hut to-night and was very much enjoyed by all present.		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	22/4/44	4.	The C.O. made an inspection of No. 6 & 7 Sites occupied by No. 420 Squadron.		
		5.	Thirteen aircraft from No. 420 Squadron and 12 aircraft from No. 425 Squadron took part in operations against target "Dusseldorf". One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron diverted to Station Coningsby remainder returning safely to base. A/O LW386 (420 Squadron) was badly damaged by flak and categorized B reducing number of aircraft available to 13. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron is reported missing, the crew being as follows:- R.144989 W/O2 Brissac, J.P.C. - Pilot R.161701 W/O 2 Davidson, E.L. - B/A J.24180 P/O Portin, B.C.E. - Nav. R.194194 Sgt. Harteaux, J.F.R. - A/G. J.26858 P/O DesRoisiers, J.Y. - /Op. R.94129 Sgt. Legault, E.H.C. - MU/AG 2201513 Sgt. Welch, D. - P/E (R.A.F.)		
		6.	12 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took part in flying training during the day, which consisted of air tests and bombing and local flying.		
		7.	R.158724 Sgt. Sied, J.E. was detailed to attend course at No. 1 E.C.D.U. Westcott from 27th & 28th April, 1944 inclusive.		
		8.	As at 1000 hrs to-day the sum of \$ 25,250.00 has been collected for the 6th Victory Loan Campaign; in addition, arrangements have been made for ground crew personnel, for the acceptance of \$ 3,500.00 in cash.		
	23/4/44	1.	Dr. H.H. Bingham Secretary, Baptist Conference of Ontario & Quebec visited the Station and took the service in the Village Chapel.		
		2.	The Commanding Officer and Officers from 420 and 425 Squadron & Station Administrative Officer visited Base Headquarters for a conference on administrative and operational policies.		
		3.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day. Flying training was carried out.		
		4.	P/L R.M. Mickle (Admin.) C.11382, reported from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group on attachment for admin. duties.		
	24/4/44	1.	Senior Officer Canadian Y.M.C.A. John W. Beaton from London and Senior Supervisor H. Devenney visited the "TY" to-day.		
		2.	The Catering Officer and representatives of the Airmen and Sergeants Mess visited Linton		



Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Twelfthorpe	24/4/44	2. (Contd) 3.	Base for a Catering Officers Conference. The Station Entertainment Committee met in the Station Administrative Officer's Office at 11.30 hrs and completed the plans for the Victory Loan Dance.		
		4.	V/O E. Hatch (V.30111) from H.Q. No. 5 (R.C.A.F.) Group Entertainment Officer and Superintendent Ray Dehola also from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited the Station Entertainment Committee regarding entertainment on the Station generally.		
		5.	P/O W. Dewar (143316) (R.A.F.) Gas/Pipe Officer from Linton Base arrived on attachment to this Station.		
		6.	Lt. H.D. MacEachern from No. 3 C.O.C.A.F. arrived on this Station on attachment.		
		7.	V/O W. McZerty (C.1807) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters and S/L G.J. Fitzgerald (C.7725) from R.C.A.F. Station Eastnor paid the Chaplains visits.		
		8.	15 aircraft from No. 425 Squadron and 14 aircraft from No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Karlsruhe this evening. 2 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron returned early, one due to "Gee" being unserviceable and the other having the Starboard outer engine unserviceable. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 2 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron are missing the crews being as follows:-		
			No. 420 Squadron		
			J.20177 P/O D.D. Walterton - Pilot	J.28213 P/O A.S. Redmond - A/B	
			R.11496 W/O2 Webb E.V. - Nav.	J.22084 P/O Murphy A. - A/C	
			R.20940 Sgt. Tarror R.C. - MI/A/C	R.207884 Sgt. D.M. Cassidy - A/C	
			R.A.F. 1583983 Sgt. Harford A. P/O.		
			No. 425 Squadron		
			M.2937 "G" J19624 P/O Wells, J.R. - Pilot	J28785 P/O Capt S.C. - P/M	
			LW 377 R50561 P/S Moorey, H.R. - Nav.	R150220 Sgt. Dwyer P.C. MI/AG	
			1572997 Sgt. Welker, W. - W/AG. R.A.F. 1864895 Sgt. Railton J.J. P/E R.A.F.		
			J16776 P/L Maddin G. - B/A	R.174835 P/S. Boucher, G. M/Under Gunner	
			L.W.591 "T" J21415 P/O L'Abbe, J.W. - Pilot	R.96579 W/O1. Dube, H.E. W/AG.	
			J24923 P/O Cravel, T.O. - Nav.	R.171362 Sgt. Whelan, P.F. B/A	

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Tholthorpe

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	24/4/44	8.	R.187514 Sgt. Girard, H.N. - R/AG. R.189956 Sgt. Michaud, A.J. - MU/AG 2207330 Sgt. Best, A. - P/E. R.A.F.		
		(cont'd)			
		9.	Major Yertburgh R.E.M. RCASAC, reported to-day for four days observation duties with the Squadron.		
		10.	At 11.34 hours this morning, 2 1/2 miles North East of Topcliffe aerodrome, one aircraft which was engaged in a radar test & fighter affiliation, crashed and all members of the crew which was composed as follows, were killed:- T223125 Flt. O. Kreuse, P.E. - 1st Pilot USAF. J24961 P/O J.A. Gillies, - 2nd Pilot 1330216 Sgt. West, C.F. - W/AG R.A.F. R.18670 Sgt. Pickering, D. - A/G. R.163091 Sgt. Leech, J.R. - A/G. R.196626 Sgt. Smith, M.R. - A/G. R.192536 Sgt. Campbell C.E. - A/G. 1808537 Sgt. Higgins, A.J. - P/E R.A.F. R.174356 Cpl. Wilcox, L.R. - Radar/Mech.		
		11.	The following crew arrived on posting from 1666 Conversion Unit:- J.85016 P/O J.C. Henry - Pilot R.167461 Sgt. Davies, C.R. - Nav. R.167704 Sgt. Charke, A.B. - W/AG R.167563 Sgt. Northcott, T.B. - B/A. R.204491 Sgt. Cook, C.H. - R/AG R.197296 Sgt. Osborne, W.A. - MU/AG. 642363 Sgt. Meddow, J.H. P/E (R.A.F.)		
	25/4/44	1.	W/C G.A.W. Saunders (DPC) (RAF) 37482 from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited re Accident Investigation.		
		2.	This Station is one over the top in the Victory Loan Campaign having exceeded their quota and it is believed that it will be the first Station in this Base to so have done.		
		3.	Mr. P. Dyer Horticultural Specialist from Air Ministry visited this Station and offered advice with gardening problems.		
		4.	Mr. H.T. Johnson and Mr. S.C. Storeham from Air Ministry Works Division, York, visited		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe	25/1/44		<p>the Station and discussed with the Station Administrative Officer works problems.</p> <p>Considerable improvement in the general cleanliness of the Station may be expected.</p> <p>5. W/O M.H. Smith (C.3283) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine engineering visit</p> <p>6. S/C D.W. Storchan (C.1684) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited the station to-day, re Administration matters.</p> <p>7. S/L N.J. Walsh (C.1134) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited to-day, re Admin. matters.</p> <p>S/L N.A.C. Holland (703) (W.A.A.F.) &amp; W/O A.C. Tufts (C.1378) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited this Station to-day.</p> <p>8. The G.P.O. were in the process of diverting the perimeter cable into the new watch office and an unfortunate accident occurred when a trest, which was covering a hole, caught fire, and ignited the paper insulated cables, thereby causing a considerable amount of damage. This has held back the operation of the new exchange for about a week. The matter is fully in hand, and the G.P.O. are endeavouring to get the job done as fast as possible.</p> <p>Tests on the Mark IV A.I. installation are proceeding satisfactorily.</p> <p>9. Operations scheduled for to-night were cancelled. Due to aircraft returning late from diversion points after yesterday's operations, it was necessary to cancel cross country training.</p> <p>10. R...P. 171500 W/O J.A. Smith w/Op. was taken to Northallerton Hospital to-day.</p> <p>11. A new crew arrived on posting from 1659 C.W. which was composed as follows:-</p> <p>J.2718 W/O W.G. Phelan - Pilot J.2718 W/O Jacobs, S.H. - Nav.</p> <p>J.23370 W/O S.A. Benson, - B/A R.20109 Sgt. Burgess E.R. - w/AG.</p> <p>R.221617 Sgt. Porters, D.W. - W/AG R.200749 Sgt. Brierley W. M/AG.</p> <p>183250 Sgt. Bayre, G.W. - R/R - R...P.</p>	
	20/1/44		<p>1. S/O O.E. Perk (V.30297) and S/O W.B. Hewson (V.30463) from Linton Base visited the Station to-day.</p> <p>2. S/L E.V. Grandjean (63957) (R.A.F.) and W/O M.H. Smith (C.3283) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine visit to-day.</p>	



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	26/1/44	3.	P/O W.C. Dumart (C.19216) from Linton Base visited the P.T.I. staff to-day.		
		4.	13 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 12 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Eger this evening. All aircraft took-off. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early due to under-carriage not retracting. The remainder reached the target area and returned safely to base.		
	27/1/44	4.	S/Ldr. A.H.C. Bruce (C7262) S.I.S.O. of No. 6 REAF Group visited No. 425 Squadron to-day.		
		1.	15 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 12 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took off to attack target Ahoyas. There were no early returns and all aircraft returned to their base safely after bombing target area.		
	28/1/44	2.	J.85019 W/O G.E. Moss Pilot was sent to the Aircrew Refresher Course at Sheffield for a period of 3 weeks or more.		
		3.	J.16000 P/Lt. M.W. Pettit (Pilot) of No. 432 REAF Sqn. reported to this unit to investigate incident to Halifax M.Z.525 which crashed on 24.1.44.		
		1.	A wet Fire Drill was held at 10.00 hrs to-day. The Fire Tender was unserviceable when the alarm was put through but the Fire Section secured a vehicle from the M.T. Yard and had hoses playing on the building in fair time. Several errors occurred which will prove useful experience and plans are afoot to have regular drills until the Section comes up to a high standard of efficiency.		
		2.	S/L R.H. Winter (C.11249) from Overseas Headquarters visited to-day.		
		3.	P/L G.S. Apperley (C.6092) from No. 5 District Headquarters York, visited, re Education matters.		
		4.	W/O C.B. Guest (C.2337) from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited the Station to-day re Equipment matters.		
		5.	P/L J.M. Sinclair (C.6340) Armament Officer leave the Station to-day on posting to R.C.A.F. Station, Womblesdon.		
	6.	P/O W. Range (193316) R.A.F.M. Gas/Fire Officer from Linton Base ceased attachment to this Station to-day.			
	7.	S/L L.C. Dilworth (J.10896) Station Navigation Officer returned from temporary duty having attended an Air Sea Rescue Course at Blackpool.			

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	28/4/44	8.	Services were held this morning at 1000 hrs at the R.A.F. Regional Cemetery, Harrogate, for the Canadian personnel who were killed in accident to Aircraft M.7,525 on 24/4/44.		
			a firing party was provided by the Squadron.		
		9.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.		
		10.	Flying training consisted of local flying and right cross country and bombing in which 10 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took part.		
	29/4/44	1.	W/O Rolles (35032) (R.A.F.) from Headquarters Bomber Command and W/O H.N. Smith (CJ183) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid routine engineering visits.		
		2.	W/L J.R.C. Martin (C5101) Medical Officer from No. 22 C.F.U. was posted to this Station to-day.		
		3.	The M.T. Section received two vehicles to add to their strength.		
		4.	The Squadrons were not required for operations.		
		5.	Flying training consisting of right cross country, local flying and dual was carried out.		
		6.	Two more vehicles belonging to the M.T. Section were painted to-day - one coach and one three ton truck.		
		7.	C.1057 W/O R.A. Helmer, Officer Commanding No. 425 Squadron proceeded to London on temporary duty.		
		8.	R.123840 W/O2 Norman J. Navigator, was appointed to commission rank w.e.f. 1/2/44.		
		9.	J.10274 W/L H.N. Earl "DOC" W/O2 Signals Leader, was posted to No. 820 T.U. w.e.f. 3/5/44. W/L Earl was the last remaining aircrew member of the Squadron who departed from the U.K. to North West Africa when the Squadron flew there June 1943.		
	30/4/44	1.	14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Smeir Harbelling Yards. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron is reported missing the crew being as follows:- W/O Northern E. - Pilot (J.14366) - W/O Member N. (R.122445) - A/O W/O F. Morrison - Nav. (J.14302) - W/O Linca G.H. (1512743) - W/O P Sgt. Young H.H. - MUG (R.253861) - W/O A.H. Hall (J.16011) - W/O Sgt. Franklin (R.154578) - W/O.		





## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. THORTHORPE

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thorthorpe	1/5/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The following N.C.O.'s arrived from No. 5 District Headquarters York in connection with the Central Trade Test Board:- R.57590 P/Sgt. Welsh T.F., Can.2399 P/Sgt. Helmer L., R.50255 P/Sgt. Abrams J.S. and R.88176 Sgt. McDonald J.</li> <li>Lt. J.H. Bertrem (M.268602) from No. 2 C.I.R.U. and Lt. W.B. Roberts (M.449096) from C.S.R.U. were attached to No. 420 Squadron for one week.</li> <li>14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed for operations to-night. The target was The Marshalling Yards at St. Ghislain, France. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early due to port inner engine catching fire and bomb load was jettisoned. The remainder of the aircraft attacked the primary and returned safely to base.</li> <li>One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out fighter affiliation.</li> </ol>		
	2/5/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P/O J.M. Caldwell (G.29436) P.R.O. from No. 62 (RCAP) Base visited Station personnel to-day.</li> <li>P/O F.H.I. Minchir (G.39744) Administrative Officer attached to this Station from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group.</li> <li>The Squadrons were not required for operations.</li> <li>2 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron on dual check and two on local flying and practice bombing.</li> <li>R.122455 W/O2 Verber N. of No. 420 Squadron appointed to a commissioned rank w.e.f. 16/12/43. This W/O was reported missing from operations on the night of 30/4/44-1/5/44.</li> <li>J.177224 P/O E.J. Alberta and J.14032 P/O A.G. Plummer "DFC" of No. 420 Squadron appointed to the rank of A/P/L as Captains of aircraft w.e.f. 13/4/44.</li> <li>Training exercises carried out by aircraft of No. 420 Squadron.</li> </ol>		
	3/5/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>S/L T.C. McColl (G.7107) from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group visited to-day re P.R.O. matters.</li> <li>W/C C.O. King (G.2543) No. 62 (RCAP) Base Equipment Officer visited re Equipment matters.</li> <li>P/L E.V. Grandhale (63937 - R.A.F.) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base visited re catering matters.</li> <li>The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.</li> <li>No. 425 Squadron carried out training as follows:- 6 aircraft on day cross country and 3 on night cross country, 6 aircraft on fighter affiliation and practice bombing, 3 aircraft on local day flying and 3 on bullseye.</li> </ol>		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Thaltheary	3/5/44		<p>6. No. 420 Squadron took part in a Bullseye. 5 aircraft were detailed and only 4 took off. One aircraft had to be scrubbed as the pilot became sick. All aircraft returned to base.</p> <p>7. 8 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part in a 5 1/2 hr cross country flight to-right. One aircraft returned to base shortly after take off due to A.S.I. and D.R. Comp being unserviceable</p> <p>1 aircraft failed to return and was reported missing the crew being as follows:-</p> <p>J.85411 - P/O P.J. Lepointe - Pilot R.156773 - W/O2 Moraghan R.J. - A/B</p> <p>R.79769 - W/O2 Michie E.W. - Nav. R.P. 1338354 - Sgt. Beer C.W. - W/Op</p> <p>R.117210 - Sgt. McDougall J. - MU/AG " 1104089 - P/Sgt. Stobbert W. - A/G</p> <p>R.A.F. 939956 Sgt. Edwood G. - P/E R.193618 - Sgt. Simons H.E. - MU/AG.</p>		
	4/5/44		<p>1. W/C C.O. King (C.2543) No. 62 (RCAP) Base Equipment Officer paid the Equipment Section a visit to-day.</p> <p>2. W/C M.M. Smith (C.3183) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base paid a routine Engineering visit.</p> <p>3. C.23683 P/O W.H. White Armament Officer ceased attachment to-day on proceeding to Kerkham.</p> <p>4. P/L J.E.R. St. Amour (C.13682) Administrative Officer ceased to be attached from No. 6 (RCAP) Group on posting to No. 425 Squadron w.e.f. 18/4/44 replacing P/L G.A.E. Davis (C.8446) Admin. posted to No. 62 (RCAP) Base non-effective sick.</p> <p>5. The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.</p> <p>No. 425 Squadron carried out flying training as follows:- 2 aircraft on Fighter Affiliation and banking, 4 aircraft on local flying and bombing and 6 aircraft on right cross country.</p> <p>6. No. 420 Squadron have been informed by signal that J.21369 - P/O H.W. Rice (Pilot)</p> <p>J.22101 - P/O N.I. Altee (Nav.), R.107843 - W/O2 Renwick G. (W/Op) - U.S.A.A.F. 0886279</p> <p>2nd/Lt J.H. Thomas (MU/AG) R.188869 Sgt. Boire J.D. (A/G), R.156791 P/S Fraser C.G. (A/B) and R.A.F. 1672950 Sgt. Busbell F.G. (P/E), who were reported missing on operations March 24/25th 1944, are now prisoners of war, according to the I.R.C.C. quoting German information.</p> <p>7. The further new buildings on the new site on the aerodrome, flying control, signals and radar, were inspected by the Clerk of Works and Station Administrative Officer prior to taking over. The work on the buildings is all in hand and it is anticipated they will be</p>		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. THOLTHORPE

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	4/5/44	7.	occurred by the Sections early next week.		
	5/5/44	Contd. 1.	Lt. Colonel P.M. Gell (5205) "C. & Bar" paid a liaison visit from Middleton St. George to-day.		
		2.	S/L R.G. Miller (G.5628) from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group paid a visit to the Radar Section to-day.		
		3.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day. No flying was carried out due to unfavourable weather. Lectures were given in the different Sections to new crews.		
		4.	(G.9019) E.L.W. Werran (Admin) ceased attachment to No. 420 Squadron on attachment to 432 Squadron Eastmoor for Temporary Administrative duties w.e.f. 6/5/44.		
	6/5/44	1.	Captain R.T. Holroyd from No. 6 C.I.R.U. and Capt. J.L.G. Hay (Army) from Headquarters "F" C.I.R.U. were attached to this Station to-day.		
		2.	J.18686 - B/O W. West (B/A) arrived from No. 432 (RCAP) Squadron for Bombing Leader Duties with No. 425 Squadron.		
		3.	Operations scheduled for to-night were cancelled.		
		4.	1 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out practice bombing and three were on night cross country. Flying training carried out by No. 420 Squadron.		
		5.	The Station Armament Officer (G.03666) P/L R.P.L. Herra inspected areas adjacent to the aerodrome suitable for requisitioning for a bomb demolition site.		
	7/5/44	1.	8 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 8 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed for operations - Target - St. Valery-en-Caux Coast Defences. There were no early returns and all aircraft attacked primary.		
		2.	4 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out cross country flights and 7 aircraft took part in fighter affiliation.		
		3.	Lectures were given to aircrew not engaged on flying to-day.		
		4.	Training exercises were carried out by aircraft of No. 420 Squadron to-day.		
		5.	Successful W.A.A.F. Dance held in the N.A.A.F.I. and Savings Stamps were given as prizes as well as chocolate and cigarettes with the kindness of Mr. George Herring Canadian Y.M.C.A.		
		6.	The new Station Chapel (Protestant) was opened to-day.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendix
Tholthorpe	7/5/44	7.	Practice wet Fire Alarms was held. The National Fire Service located at Eastmoor were called and reported to the Drome just within 12 minutes after the call got through. This was a very good practice and the fire set up on the Station has improved greatly.		
	8/5/44	1.	P/O C.O. Shark (C.12960) Signals Officer was posted to Eastmoor to-day.		
		2.	W/O M.M. Smith (C.3183) from No. 62 (REAP) Base paid a routine Engineering visit.		
		3.	P/O J.M. Coldwell (C.29436) from No. 62 (REAP) Base (P.R.O.) visited the Squadrons re P.R.O. matters.		
		4.	P/O J.S.H. Dodge (J.13117) Navigator and R.636564 P/S Tyler - Flight Engineer of No. 420 Squadron were posted to No. 1659 Conversion Unit for Instructional Duties w.e.f. 8/5/44.		
		5.	P/O I.A. McDonald (J.19875) - A/G of No. 420 Squadron was posted to No. 1664 Conversion Unit for Instructional duties w.e.f. 8/5/44.		
		6.	2 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron took part on cross country flights to-night. Both aircraft returned safely.		
		7.	13 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 13 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed for operations to-night - Heire St. Pierre Marshalling Yards and Engine Shed being the target. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron is reported missing; the crew are as follows:- 10601619 - Flight /Officer L. White (Pilot) (U.S.A.A.F.) R.164577 - P/S Lefebvre J.R. - (Navigator) R.121514 - W/O2 Cormier A.A. - (W/AG) R.154231 - Sgt. Aubry J.A. - (B/A) R.167547 - P/S. McConnell J.R. - (A/G) R.194118 - Sgt. Beluse J.E.M. - (MU/AG) 1274596 - Sgt. Chant J.H. - (P/E) (R.A.F.) R.185580 Sgt. Brown R.G. - (Under Gunner)		
		8.	one aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out night cross country and returned safely.		
		9.	P/O J.W.L. Normandeu (O.16800) from No. 429 (REAP) Squadron arrived on posting to No. 425 Squadron as Radar Officer.		
		10.	The changeover to the new Watch Office and Signals Block was effected. This involved		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	8/5/44	10.00 Contd.	changing all telephone lines and extensions from the old PRX switchboard to the new two position board; changing from the old to the new operations switchboard; moving the Met., D.T.N., and operational teleprinters, the flight planning apparatus, and the scrambler to the new site. The entire changeover went very smoothly, and was completed in a few hours. Two C.P.O. fitters are now on the Station, installing a number of additional telephons extensions, made possible by the larger switchboard now in use. It is expected that this work will be completed in approximately two weeks time. A twin channel TR196 R/T installation has been fitted in the new Watch Office, incorporating an ingenious device designed and constructed by R.99118 Cpl. Bears, C.A. Wireless/Mechanic of No. 420 Squadron. This device, by means of a system of relays, automatically changes operation of the R/T apparatus from mains to batteries in the event of a power failure, and back to mains, when they become available once more, thus ensuring uninterrupted R/T communication with aircraft.		
	9/5/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. E/O V.P. Davidson (C.17628) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters Film Unit visited re public relations.</li> <li>2. S/O O.E. Park (V.30927) and S/L E.V. Grandhaie (63937) (RAF) No. 62 (RCAP) Base Catering Officers visited re catering matters.</li> <li>3. Wing Officer E.M. Carby Hill (16) (WAAF) from No. 6 (RCAP) Group and Squadron Officer N.M.C. Holland (703) (WAAF) - Base W.A.F. Officer visited the W.A.F. Site and Sections to-day.</li> <li>4. S/L E.A. Stockwell (76507) (RAF) from No. 6 (RCAP) Group Headquarters visited re Educational matters.</li> <li>5. S/L A.B. Knowles (43429) (RAF) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base visited re armament duties in company with E/L A.N. Roth (C.3592) from 626.</li> <li>6. 12 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 12 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Calais Coastal Defences and all aircraft returned safely.</li> <li>7. Local flying was carried out by aircraft of No. 420 Squadron.</li> <li>8. R.131314 P/Sgt. James B. W/O/Air/Gunner of No. 420 Squadron appointed to a commissioned</li> </ol>		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
	9/5/44	8.	rank in the G.D. Branch R.A.F. V.R. w.e.f. 11/2/44.		
		9.	P/O M.A. McGregor (C18100) Signals Radar Officer of No. 420 Squadron posted to No. 426 Squadron.		
		10.	Mr. G.A. Ross and Mr. J. Herder Assistant Landing Grounds Advisers from Air Ministry visited the Station to check drainage, cutting of grass etc. on the aerodrome.		
		11.	Officers Ball Team journey to Linton and were beaten 13 to 8.		
	10/5/44	1.	C.9981 - P/L J.W.T. Van Gorder Chaplain from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters who has been under training at this Station ceased attachment to-day.		
		2.	J.10225 W/C J.A. Millward "DFC" from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAF) Group, W/C C.W. Palmer "DFC" (J.18818) and S/L Y.G. Garderton (J.10133) visited this Station to-day in the capacity of Group Training Instructors.		
		3.	Successful "Bingo" played in the "Y" Hut. Chocolate, cigarettes etc. given as prizes.		
		4.	P/L S.H. Boys (C.15951) from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAF) Group attached to this Station for aeronautical Engineering Duties.		
		5.	P/O R.E. Priestman (C.19539) Signals Radar Officer posted from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAF) Group to No. 420 Squadron.		
		6.	7 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron detailed for operations to-night - target Chert Marshalling Yards. All aircraft returned safely to base.		
		7.	Local flying and cross country flying carried out to-day.		
		8.	Mr. A.J. Smiles Area Engineer, E.N.S.A. called at the Station regarding the new Cinema which has been operating about a month.		
	11/5/44	1.	S/L T.C. McColl (C.7107) from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAF) Group visited to-day re P. R.O. matters.		
		2.	W/C M.M. Smith (C.3183) Base Engineering Officer paid this Station a routine Engineering visit.		
		3.	Mr. Britter, Signals Liaison Technical Officer from 26 Group visited the Station Signals Officer and inspected the Watch Office TR1196 installation.		
		4.	Recent Trade Tests for Clerks/G.D. (W.A.A.F.) results were announced. There was a very		



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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	11/5/44	4.	high standard reached as 5 out of 6 of the Clerks trade tested obtained 80 per cent. Classes are beginning for the remainder of the W.A.A.F. Clerks on the Station on May 21st 1944.		
		5.	Several Aircrew N.C.O.'s of No. 420 Squadron were interviewed by the Base Commander to-day re commissioning.		
		6.	'Stand Down' to-day. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron engaged on dual flying and night cross country.		
		7.	The first game in the Base Softball League was played at Linton. Tholthorpe team were badly beaten by last years Overseas Champions, the score being 22 - 2.		
	12/5/44	1.	W/O R.M. Triton (C1784) from Headquarters No. 6 (HCAF) Group and S/L D.B. Knowles "MBE" (A3429)(RAF) from No. 62 (HCAF) Base and P/L A.N. Roth (C3592) from No. 62 (HCAF) Base visited re Armament duties.		
		2.	P/L J.G. Duhamels (C13374) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited No. 425 Squadron French-Canadian personnel to-day, re P.R.Q. matters.		
		3.	A few plants were put in at S.H.Q. to-day. This is the beginning of a plan to beautify the surroundings. The garden on the W.A.A.F. Site is growing peas and beans which are both about 3" and the lettuce will soon be ready for transplanting; the onions too are looking quite healthy.		
		4.	14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron detailed for operations to-night. All aircraft returned safely to Base. The target was Louvain Marshalling Yards, France.		
		5.	The Station Commander interviewed aircrew N.C.O.'s for commissioning to-day.		
		6.	Tholthorpe defeated Eastmoor in a Base League Ball Game the score being 20 - 10.		
		7.	Mr. G. Lerglois of "La Presse", Mr. Lorenzo Pare of L'Action Catholique and Mr. P. Lecroix "La Canada" visited No. 425 Squadron to-day.		
	13/5/44	1.	S/O O.E. Park (V.30111) and P/L E.V. Grandhaie (63937) (R.A.F.) from No. 62 (HCAF) Base paid a routine catering visit in company with Flight Officer H.A. Bunk (V.30297) from Headquarters No. 6 (HCAF) Group.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	13/5/44	2.	A very successful dance was held in the Station Cinema to-night. The Band was the R.C.A.F. Overseas Band and prior to the dance they gave a concert.		
		3.	Operations scheduled for to-night were cancelled.		
		4.	Flying training carried out by Squadron to-day.		
		14/5/44	1.	F/L A.G. Gove "DEU" (J.16574) visited this Station from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group re Radar Navigation.	
		2.	'Stand Down' to-day. Local flying consisting of cross country and Bombing Exercises for aircraft of No. 420 Squadron was carried out.		
		3.	15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron engaged in Fighter Affiliation, local flying, Air/Air practice and air test, 3 aircraft, carried out right cross country.		
		4.	Air Airmen's Mess Meeting was held to-day.		
		15/5/44	1.	F/O J.M. Caldwell (C.29436) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base visited the Squadron re P.R.O. matters	
		2.	S/L D.D. Carr-Harris (C.2356) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base visited re engineering matters.		
		3.	S/L K.H. Burring (C.4070) Medical Officer posted to this Station.		
		4.	'Stand Down' to-day. Weather very poor.		
		5.	Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group Softball Team visited this Station and we had a very close game of 13 to 12. Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group winning.		
16/5/44		1.	S/L F.J.B. Humphys (G3309) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base visited re electrical engineering matters.		
		2.	W/O J.C. Whyte (C.4073) from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group and S/L D.W. Hutton (C.4088) from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group paid the Medical Section a visit.		
		3.	F/O E.G. Walsh (169601)(RAF) from S.I.B. visited re an investigation.		
		4.	Bullseye scheduled for to-night scrubbed.		
		5.	The Prime Minister of Canada the Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King, P.C., M.A., L.L.D., M.P., and a party consisting of:- Air Marshal L.S. Broadner C.B., D.S.C., (G39) A.O.C.-in-C. R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, Air Vice Marshal C.M. McEwen M.C., D.F.C., (C60) A.O.C. No. 6 (RCAP) Group, A/C A.D. Ross (G111) No. 62 (RCAP) Base Commander, G/C C.L. Annis (G8E) (C.196) Station Commander Director, G/C H.H.C. Rutledge (C.149), W/C V. Palmer "DEU" (J358) Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group, F/B H.C. Holmes (C.10443) Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. THULYTHORPE No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
Thulthorpe	17/5/44	5. (Contd)	G/C G.G. Morrow (C.1913) R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, Mr. Walter Turnbull, Prime Minister's Private Secretary, Mr. David Duxter, War Time Information Board from Ottawa, and Mr. Pickersgill from Ottawa visited this Station to-day.		
		6.	Two Tractors were allotted to the M.T. Section from Linton to-day.		
	17/5/44	1.	W/C N.E. Gator (C.1850) from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group visited the Station Signals Officer to-day and visited all Sections.		
		2.	E/O W. Ramage (143316) (RAF) Gas/Fire Officer from 62 (RCAP) Base visited to-day.		
		3.	E/O R.A. Murphy (C.85204) from No. 5 District Headquarters, York, visited re Trade Test matters.		
		4.	E/L E.V. Grandhaie (63937) (RAF) and S/O O.E. Park (V.30297) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base paid a routine visiting visit.		
		5.	W/C A.G. Tufts (C.1378) Base Administrative Officer visited this Station to-day to consult with the Station Administrative Officer S/L J.H. Connor (C7836).		
		6.	'Stand Down' to-day.		
		7.	Bombing, fighter Affiliation and air tests were carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons. Weather very poor.		
		8.	E/O W.J.G. Langlais (C22635) French Canadian P.M.O. from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited No. 425 Squadron to-day.		
	18/5/44	1.	Squadron Officer N.M.C. Holland (703) (WAAF) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base visited the W.A.A.F. Section of this Station to-day.		
		2.	W/C J.E. McCarthy (J.15104) Base Operations Officer visited the Squadrons to-day.		
		3.	E/L R.W. O'Brien (C11707) Chaplain (P) attached to this Station to-day from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters.		
		4.	No flying to-day. Stand Down. Lectures given to aircrew personnel.		
		5.	Mr. G.E. Collins G.P.O. Liaison Officer visited the Station and inspected the new Telephone Installation which has recently been erected.		
		6.	The experimental installation of MK IV A.I. or, as it is now called, Morloc MKV, has been completed and the tests have been satisfactorily carried out. Work is now on hand		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices	
Tholthorpe	18/5/44	6.	to fit all aircraft of both Squadrons with this excellent tail warning device.			
		19/5/44	1.	P/O W.C. Dumart (C.19210) Base Sports Officer visited re P.T.I. matters to-day.		
			2.	Two W/T vans were allotted to the M.T. Section to-day from Linton.		
			3.	14 Aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were bombed up to attack Target Merville Frecoeville, France. All aircraft reached the primary and the raid was considered successful.		
			4.	The Command Bullseye scheduled for to-night was cancelled.		
			5.	One new aircraft arrived from Linton for No. 425 Squadron to-day.		
			6.	Linton Ball Team visited the Station and won by a score of 8 to 6. Tholthorpe team played perhaps the best game of the season and are hoping that before long they will be able to take measure of last years Overseas Champions.		
	20/5/44	1.	W/C M.C. Davies (C.2786) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited re D.D.C.S. (P) Matters.			
		2.	S/L D.D. Carr-Herds (C.2356) Base Engineering Officer visited re engineering matters in company with W/C M.W. Smith (C.3183) from Headquarters No. 6 (B.A.F.) Group.			
		3.	An informal Dance was held in the Y.M.C.A. Hut this evening. This dance was very successful.			
		4.	Mr. Park War Agricultural Committee Esingwold, visited the Station and discussed the requisitioning of land for a Bomb demolition area.			
		5.	'Stand Down' to-day. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron which had landed at Westcott last evening returned to base. Local flying carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.			
		6.	R/44511 Sgt. Audet, J.A. - Flt/Eng of No. 425 Squadron was appointed to a commission W.C.F. 1st April 1944.			
		7.	The Base Commander interviewed aircrew candidates for commissioning.			
21/5/44	1.	S/L F.J.B. Humphrys (C.3309) Base Electrical Engineering Officer visited to-day.				
	2.	P/L A.M. Roth (C.3592) from No. 62 (B.A.F.) Base visited re Armament duties.				
	3.	A "Bingo" was held in the W.A.A.F. N.A.A.F.I. this evening followed by an informal dance to Gramophone Records. This was very much enjoyed.				
	4.	Station Sick Quarters Sick Parades are on a light decrease.				

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. THOLTHORPE

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	21/5/44	5.	"Stand Down" to-day. Local flying carried out. 5 aircraft were engaged on air to air firing and 10 aircraft took part on circuit trial and one right cross country.		
	22/5/44	1.	F/O J.M. Colwell (C.29436) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base visited re P.R.O. matters.		
		2.	The Tholthorpe Bell Team journeyed to Eastmoor where they won by a score of 11 to 3.		
		3.	14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took off to attack target "Le Mars France". All aircraft attacked primary and returned to base with the exception of one aircraft of No. 425 Squadron which is missing. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron collided in target area causing damage to starboard wing but returned to base and landed without causing any casualty. The crew of the missing aircraft was composed as follows:-  J25390 F/O Laporte, E.E. - Pilot      J.23910 F/O Tetrault A.R. - Nav. R.129137 W/O Leig J.A. - W/AG      R.154165 Sgt. Malette, H.G. - B/A R.193475 Sgt. McGowan, R. - R/AG      R.136960 Sgt. Levesneur J.J.H. - MU/AG. 1819937 Sgt. Ward, N.V. - R/E - R.A.F.		
		4.	Flying training consisted of 2 aircraft on Fighter affiliation and one on right cross country. Two aircraft which had landed at Preston returned to base and a new aircraft arrived from Linton for No. 425 Squadron.		
		5.	Capt. R.G. White and Lt. N.M. Glide reported on attachment from Army H.Q. "B" G.P. C.R.J. and No. 2 C.I.B.U. respectively for familiarization study with No. 425 Squadron.		
		6.	F/L R.C. Deegan (J.18889) Pilot Flight Commander No. 420 Squadron was promoted to the rank of S/L W.e.f. 9/5/44.		
		7.	F/O F.C. Kruger (J.16392) Pilot - Deputy Flt Commander of No. 420 Squadron was promoted to the rank of F/L W.e.f. 9/5/44.		
	23/5/44	1.	'Stand Down' to-day.		
		2.	Flying exercises and right bombing exercises carried out by the Squadrons. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron on cross country and 2 crews took part in Dirghy Drill at Ripon. 11 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out practice bombing.		
	24/5/44	1.	F/O T.G. Brown (G.13935) Admin arrived on the Station from No. 3 (PRG) Bournemouth.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices	
Tholthorpe	24/5/44	2.	P/L C.F. Duncanson (C.8008) Equipment Officer from Linton arrived on Temporary Duty.			
		3.	S/L C.W. Nevins (C.18984) Flight Engineer of 420 Squadron proceeded to No. 4 S of T.T. R.F.S. Station St. Athar for a P/Eng. Leader Course to-day.			
		4.	'Stand Down' to-day.			
		5.	Flying training was carried out by the Squadrons to-day. Several cross countries and 8 aircraft took part in night bombing.			
		6.	P/O A. Hawkins (J.18020) - W/Op. Signals Leader 420 Squadron departed to No. 82 O.T.U. on a Liaison visit for 2 days.			
		25/5/44	1.	P/O A.A. Stark (C11751) P.T & D. posted to this Station from R.C.A.F. Station Dishforth in the capacity of Physical Training Officer.		
		2.	P/L A.F.R. Milior (C2796) Education Officer posted to this Station from Overseas Headquarters London.			
		3.	P/O J.M. Caldwell (C.29436) from No. 62 (HQAF) Base visited re P.R.O. matters.			
		4.	W/C J. Bootle (C.2225) Base Accounts Officer paid this Station a Liaison visit.			
		5.	S/L E.J.B. Humphrys (C.3309) Base Electrical Engineering Officer paid a routine visit to-day.			
		6.	Operations scheduled for to-night were cancelled.			
		7.	C.1637 A/W/Cdr. R.A. McLerran proceeded on attachment to 408 Squadron, Linton, pending posting to command that Squadron.			
		26/5/44	1.	'Stand Down' to-day.		
		2.	Flying Exercises consisting of practice bombing and local flying were carried out by the Squadrons.			
	27/5/44	1.	S/L R.R.B. Hoodspith (C.1595) Signals Officer No. 62 (HQAF) Base paid a routine visit in company with P/L A.M. Crawford (C.5734) Radar Officer and A/SGO H. Lemon (V.30670) Gode & Cypher Officer also from Base.			
		2.	W/C C.B. Guest (C2537) Group Equipment Officer paid a routine visit.			
		3.	P/L R.P. Klombia (C.5604) from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group paid a visit re the Operations Record Book - Para 510.			



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) — R.C.A.F. THOLTHORPE

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	27/5/44	4.	E/O C.M., Deschens (C.22293) from Overseas Headquarters London visited re Public Relations Matters.		
		5.	17 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 17 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack target Bourg Leopold Military Camp. The raid was considered successful. A heavy ground fog prevented all aircraft from returning to base and were dispersed over many stations. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron was considerably damaged due to enemy fighter opposition. All the crew returned with the exception of the MU/AG R.96593 Sgt. Elzinger J.H. who bailed out over target area. The aircraft was on fire and he was forced out of his turret by the heat. An order had been given to prepare to abandon aircraft and it is thought when the aircraft went into a steep dive to smother the flames that he considered the aircraft out of control and bailed out. It is presumed he was wounded for blood was found on his helmet and mask. The aircraft was able to reach dispersal landing field but was so badly damaged was considered CAT A.C. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron was reported missing with the following crew:- <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">C.1344 S/L G.S. Beall - Pilot</div> <div style="width: 45%;">J.20403 E/O Anderson S.J. - Nav.</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">J.21989 E/O J.F. Robison - B/A</div> <div style="width: 45%;">172310 E/O D.E. Willies - Wop/AG.</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">R.251858 Sgt. Stinton W.C. - MUA/G</div> <div style="width: 45%;">91090 E/O Goodall A.P. - Rear AG.</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">R.166138 P/S Mohler O.W. - M.U.A/G</div> <div style="width: 45%;">R.121244 Sgt. Hickox W. - P/S.</div> </div>		
		6.	A practice Fire Alarm was held on the Station to-day and considerable improvement was noticed in the local Fire Section. It is considered that we are now able to cope with any eventuality.		
		7.	Flying training consisting of 10 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron on practice bombing was carried out.		
	28/5/44	1.	E/O C.O. Shank (C.17960) Signals Officer attached to this Station from R.C.A.F. Eastmoor		
		2.	S/L George Elliot (O11526) from HQAF Overseas Headquarters London visited re Medical Y.D. Control.		
		3.	Several additional telephone extensions have been installed by the G.P.O. fitters. Their work on the Station is now nearing completion. The Telephone Supervisor visited 6 Group		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	28/5/44	3.	Headquarters, and picked up a few points that should help to improve telephone service on the Station.		
		4.	'Stand Down' to-day. Normal training - flying was carried out by the Squadrons.		
		5.	Rev. Father Dugre, of the Jesuits, celebrated Mass for all R.C. Personnel in the Station Chapel and a Buffet was held in the Officers' Mess at 18.30 hrs in his honour. In attendance were Air Commodore A.D. Ross (C111) No. 62 (RCAP) Base Commander, W/C A.C. Tufts (C1378) Admin. Officer, 62 (RCAP) Base, W/C R.A. McLernon (C1637) Officer Commanding 408 Squadron and many others. A five piece orchestra furnished by R.C.A.F. Station Linton was most appreciated.		
		29/5/44	1. A.P.S.I. Meeting was held to-day.		
		2. Linton Softball Team beat Tholthorpe by a score of 6 to 1 to-day.			
		3. 'Stand Down'. Normal flying training carried out by the Squadrons.			
		4. No. 2 Site, occupied by Officers and aircrew of the Squadron, is getting to look like a zoo more and more every day. The following is the strength of pets:- 1 fox, 2 dogs, 3 cats, 2 rabbits, 8 ducks, 2 geese and one hen. Chicken robbers have been seen in the vicinity, so the killing order was given. Now the old hen lies well roasted on its back in the Officers' Mess kitchen to be devoured at noon. No more eggs for the batsmen!			
	30/5/44	1.	C.12372 S/L Vlastos Gregory from Overseas Headquarters visited this Station re "Canadian Affaires"		
		2.	C.12371 S/L J.D. Parks from RCAP Overseas Headquarters visited the Station and lectured to aircrew personnel on "Post War Canada". This Officer is in the Education Branch.		
		3.	W/C G.A. Ault (C1109) Admin Officer from RCAP Overseas Headquarters visited the Station to-day.		
		4.	W/C A.C. Tufts (C1378) Admin Officer from No. 62 (RCAP) Base paid a routine visit.		
		5.	Operations scheduled for to-night were cancelled.		
		6.	2 crews of No. 420 Squadron took part in Dinghy Drill at the Spa Baths Ripon.		
	31/5/44	1.	S/L F.J.B. Humphrys (C3309) from No. 62 (RCAP) Base and S/L F.H. Ferraiide (48442 - RCAF) from Headquarters No. 6 (RCAP) Group paid an electrical engineering visit to-day.		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. THOLTHORPE

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices																																																																								
Tholthorpe.	31/5/44		<p>2. W/C C.H.N. Ashlin (C2400) and S/L T.S. Mackay (C2540) both from No. 6 (BCAF) Group and S/L H. Renault (C3050) from No. 62 (BCAF) Base visited the Intelligence Section to-day.</p> <p>3. S/L K.E. Bell (C2274) Admin. Officer from R.C.A.F. Station, Eastmoor arrived on temporary duty.</p> <p>4. (C.2200) E/L G.B. McGillivray Armament Officer from Linton Station arrived on temporary attachment.</p> <p>5. C.8008 E/L C.P. Duramore Equipment Officer from Linton ceased attachment to this Station to-day.</p> <p>6. 14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack "Au Pevre" and all aircraft took off. Two aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early and the remainder claim to have attacked primary. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron crashed on the Drome on landing but all members of the crew are safe.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Station Sick Quarters report that Sick Parades are on the decrease and that the general health of the Station is satisfactory.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The following is a Summary of Operations carried out on this Station for the month of May, 1944.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Night of.</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Target.</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Number of Aircraft</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Early Returns</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Missing</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <th style="text-align: center;">420 Sqn.</th> <th style="text-align: center;">425 Sqn.</th> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">May 1/2nd</td> <td style="text-align: center;">St. Ghislain</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">" 7/8th</td> <td style="text-align: center;">St. Valere Br-Caux</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">" 8/9th</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Heipens St. Pierre</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">425 "A"</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">" 9/10th</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Coastal Target Nr. Calais</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">" 10/11th</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Chert</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">" 12/13th</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Lowvains</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">" 19/20th</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nerville Franceville</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">" 22/23rd</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Le Mars</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">425 "Y"</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">" 27/28th</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Bourg Leopold</td> <td style="text-align: center;">17</td> <td style="text-align: center;">17</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">420 "U"</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">" 31/June 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Au Pevre Radio Inst.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Night of.	Target.	Number of Aircraft		Early Returns	Missing			420 Sqn.	425 Sqn.			May 1/2nd	St. Ghislain	14	14	-	-	" 7/8th	St. Valere Br-Caux	8	8	-	-	" 8/9th	Heipens St. Pierre	13	13	-	425 "A"	" 9/10th	Coastal Target Nr. Calais	12	12	-	-	" 10/11th	Chert	7	14	-	-	" 12/13th	Lowvains	14	14	-	-	" 19/20th	Nerville Franceville	14	14	1	-	" 22/23rd	Le Mars	14	14	-	425 "Y"	" 27/28th	Bourg Leopold	17	17	-	420 "U"	" 31/June 1	Au Pevre Radio Inst.	14	16	2	-		
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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalshop.	2/6/44.	1.	J.20846 - P/O. H.J. Duff, J.21012 - P/O. J.W. Goud <sup>st</sup> and J.21419 - P/O. R.J.M. McCleak <sup>y</sup> from No.3 (R.C.A.F.) P.R.C. Innsworth were attached to Flying Control to-day.		
		2.	Squadron Officer N.V.C. Holland (703) (W.A.A.F.) No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base, Squadron Officer P.M. Loring (667) (W.A.A.F.) 61 (R.C.A.F.) Base and S/O. J.A. Timmar (2287) from R.C.A.F. Station, Skipton-on-Swale visited the W.A.A.F. Station to-day.		
		3.	14 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack Neufchatel Heavy Anti-Aircraft post. All aircraft took off and returned safely to Base.		
		4.	R.A.F. 209440 - Sgt. Turner R.A. MU/AG and RAF.207884 Sgt. Cassidy B.M. A/C of No.420 Squadron who were reported missing from operations on the night of 24/25/44, now report prisoners of war according to telegram from No.1 R.C.C. quoting General Information dated 25/4/44.		
	3/6/44.	1.	C.15133 - P/L. A.D. Blachford left this Station to return to Canada for reasons of health. P/L. Blachford has been Station Signals Officer here since the Station opened a year ago. C.17960 - P/O. C.O. Shark assumed duties of Station Signals Officer.		
		2.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.		
		3.	R.60856 - WO2. Halsey. L. (Pilot) and R.156774 - P/S. Keegan. K.W. (Pilot) of No.420 Squadron appointed to commissioned rank w.e.f. 4/4/44.		
	4/6/44.	1.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day due to a heavy rain fall. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron carried out an air test.		
	5/6/44.	1.	W/C. M.M. Smith (C.3183) from Headquarters No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid an engineering visit to-day.		
		2.	S/L. D.D. Garriarris (C.2356) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine engineering visit.		
		3.	P/O. S.K. Dixon (C.85280) M.T. Officer was posted from R.A.F. Station, Cosford to assume duties of M.T. Officer on this Station.		
		4.	All personnel on the Station were confined to camp until further notice or order from the Station Commander.		
		5.	18 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 18 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack Houlgate Gun Positions, France. All aircraft attacked primary and returned safely to Base. /3		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. Station, Thelthorp.

No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Thelthorp.	5/6/44	5 (cont)	<p>The 36 aircraft from the two Squadrons upon return were landed at an average landing time of 1 minute 31 seconds. This is thought to be a new record for Bomber Command and S/Lt. H.G. Austin (O.8027) Flying Control and his staff have been complimented for their excellent display. A photograph of the Flying Control Board showing the take-off and landing times for the 2 Squadrons is attached as Appendix "A".</p> <p>6. A Fire Committee meeting was held in the Office of the Station Administrative Officer. Reports were read showing the development of the fire fighting services and a strong fire committee was set up. Flying Officer P.H.I. Minchin (O.39714) was appointed Fire Officer of the Station.</p> <p>7. The highlight of the week was the rear turret repair carried out on aircraft "G" MA.528 of No.420 Squadron. This aircraft was received from Base on acceptance in the afternoon. It was decided to prepare it for operations the same evening. Trouble developed in the rear turret which required extensive replacement of parts and much testing was necessary. Although take-off had commenced before this aircraft was out of the hanger, it arrived at the marshalling post in ample time for take-off.</p>		Appendix "A"
	6/6/44	1.	<p>19 aircraft of 425 Squadron and 18 aircraft of No.420 Squadron took off on operations and all returned safely. The target was a Railway Bridge at Coutances, France. Spurred on by the knowledge that the splendid effort of the previous day had assisted in paving the way for the invasion of France, the two Squadrons again set up an enviable record by detailing and getting off 37 aircraft. All personnel on the Station were complimented by the Station Commander for their excellent effort in putting up 73 aircraft in two days.</p>		
	7/6/44	1.	<p>11 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 11 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack the marshalling yards at Acheres, France. All the aircraft attack the primary and returned safely to base with the exception of one crew:</p> <p>J.25943 - W/O. H.R. Jones (Pilot); J.22697 - W/O. F.G. Tilt (A/B); J.26934 - W/O. D.B. Norton (Nav). R.198133 - Sgt. Yates. J.F.M. (W/OP); R.204065 - Sgt. Samson. D.W. (MU/AG); R.25062 - Sgt. Tamok G.S. (A/G); R.A.F. 2203660 - Sgt. McGlad. J.H. (W/M); RAF.1853986 - Sgt. Hampson. J.W. (W/und' A/G).</p>		
		2.	<p>One of the aircraft of No.425 Squadron, in which "Wickie" the Squadron Mascot, was flying</p>		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalworthy.	7/6/44.	2 (contd)	1. piloted by P/O. E.A. Kirk (J.23788) was attacked by two enemy fighters. One P.W.190 is claimed as destroyed, as it was seen to catch fire and explode on the ground. No damage is ascertained to the other enemy aircraft, which was also fired at. The raid was considered very successful.		
		3.	Flying training was carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
	8/6/44.	1.	C.1595 S/L. R.R.B.Hoodspith, Base Signals Officer visited the Station to-day. A conference was held on the fitting of Visual Monitors, and on the training of Wireless Operators (Air) on this equipment. Participating were the Station Signals Officer, the two Squadron Signals Leaders and the two Squadron Radar Officers. Fitting of this apparatus has been held up for various pieces of equipment which are now beginning to arrive. It was decided to proceed with fitting of aircraft as quickly as possible.		
		2.	10 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 10 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack Mayenne Marshalling Yards, France and all returned safely. The raid was considered very successful. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron crash-landed at Dishforth, one member of the crew was slightly injured.		
		3.	Flying Training consisted of three aircraft on fighter affiliation and practice bombing.		
		4.	Aircraft "B" of No.420 Squadron, this afternoon, crashed just off the west of the West Runway. By the use of inflation bags, considerable spad work, and extensive saw power, it was removed in time to clear the runway for take off this evening.		
		5.	A Station Dance was held in the Gymnasium this evening. A very good time was had by all present.		
	9/6/44.	1.	Group Captain J.G. Kerr (G.130) from No.61 (RCAF) Base, Topoliffe paid a familiarization visit.		
		2.	10 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 10 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Leersa Airfield, and all returned safely.		
		3.	1 aircraft of No.425 Squadron carried out a night cross country and returned safely to Base, also one aircraft of No.420 Squadron.		
		4.	R.75170 - W/O1. L. Purgoy, R.H. (W/OP/AG) 420 Squadron appointed to commissioned rank W.C.F. 14/3/44.		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 5

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	9/6/44	4.	R.75170 - WOLLE Pursey M.H. (W/O/AC) 420 Squadron, appointed to commission rank W.O.F. 11/3/44.		
		5.	The following inspections were carried out for 9420 Servicing Echelon during the week:- 200 hour.....1 100 hour.....4 50 hour.....1 The following inspections carried out by 9425 Servicing Echelon. 250 Hour.....1 150 " .....2 100 " .....1 50 " .....2		
		6.	A Softball game between Tholthorpe and Eastmoor was held the score being Linton 10, Tholthorpe 4.		
	10/6/44	1.	C.1617 W/C. D. French and J.10255 W/C J.B. Millward from Headquarters No.5(R.C.A.F.) Group visited in the capacity of Group Training Instructors.		
		2.	10 aircraft of 425 Squadron and 10 aircraft of 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Versailles, Metalota Marshalling Yards in the evening. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron was hit by flak and returned to Base. Aircraft classified "Out AC". Nobody was injured. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron failed to return the crew being as follows:- J.26147 - E/O L. Holoway - Pilot. R.167049 - E/S Irwin R.M. - A/B J.21526 - E/O J.D. Lancaster - Nav. R.P. 961438 - E/S Brakes B.E. - W/OV. R.A.E. 181944h Sgt. Weller H. - MU/AC. R.86023 - Sgt. Harrop P.G. - A/G. R.66854 - Sgt. Birnie H. - S/B. R.218706 - Sgt. Chudak - W/Onder A/S.		
		3.	2 aircraft of No.425 Squadron on dual flying, one on fighter affiliation and bombing and 2 on night cross-country and bombing.		
		4.	A "Bingo" was held in the "Y" with an attendance of 150 personnel. After "Bingo" a Y.M.C.A. Film was shown.		
	11/6/44	1.	Flight Officer K.L. Hall (V.30113) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited re Operations Record Book in company with P/L. R.P. Klobbies (C.5604) from Headquarters		



Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe	11/6/44	1	(contd.) No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group.		
		2	V.30016 - Squadron Officer E.J.G. Henderson, V.30031 Squadron Officer N.M. Taylor and V.30019 P/Lt/Officer E.H. England all from No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters and 703 Squadron Officer N.V.C. Holland (W.A.A.F.) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a visit to the W.A.A.F. Section today.		
	12/6/44	1	The Station Softball team played Eastmoor and won by a score of 17-11.		
		2	S/Lt.H. Corner, Station Administrative Officer (C.7836) attended a Conference at No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base relative to securing a certificate for recreational runs for Station personnel. The question of improving the 'bus service was also broached, and it is hoped that an improvement will be effected.		
		3	15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Cambrai Junction and all took off. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron went to the target but all bombs hung up, jettisoned 2 x 500 lb.L.D. and brought back remainder of the load.		
		4	5 aircraft of No.425 Squadron on fighter affiliation today and 1 aircraft on night cross country and bombing.		
	13/6/44	1	404502 - S/Lt.L.C.H. MacIntyre (R.A.F.) from No.92 Maintenance Unit, Brufferton, paid a visit to the Station Adjutant today.		
		2	C.3309 - S/Lt. E.J.B. Humphrys, Base Electrical Engineering Officer paid a routine visit.		
		3	E/Lt. R.E. Betcher (1.24072) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group arrived on the Station re crash investigation.		
		4	The Squadrons were not required for operations today.		
		5	Flying Training consisted of 8 aircraft of 425 Squadron on day cross country and 1 aircraft on air test. 6 aircraft of No.420 Squadron took part in a night cross country flight and 2 crews took part in a command bulls eye.		
		6	Wing Commander J.W. Bootle (C.2225), Base Accountant Officer paid accountant liaison visit.		
		7	W/O. A.G. Mufta (C.1378) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine administrative visit to this Station today.		
	14/6/44	1	18 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack St.Pol		77

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) — R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day — 3

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	14/6/44	1 (contd)	Railway Centre and all took off. All aircraft <del>attacked</del> claim to have attacked primary and all returned to Base.		
		2.	7 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out fighter affiliation, practise bombing and air to air firing during the day.		
		3.	The Station Signals Officer, Squadron Signals Leaders and Squadron Radar Officers attended a Base Signals Conference at Linton. Points under discussion included Signals and Radar Maintenance and equipment and standardisation throughout the Base of training and operational work.		
	15/6/44	1.	13 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 13 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Boulogne in the evening and all took off. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron landed away away due to aircraft having been hit by flak. None of the crew members were injured. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron is missing, the crew was as follows:- J.23788 - P/O E.E. Kirk (Pilot) J.23944 - P/O H.C. Facey (Nav.) J.23801 - P/O E.D. Hagen (W/AG) J.27390 - P/O D. Stubbs. (P/A) J.36710 - P/O O.R. Collins (P/AG) R.165561 - Sgt. McEvoy D.R. (MU/AG) RAF.1450691 - Sgt. Adams G. (P/E) R.193367 - Sgt. Femesux R.U. (W/O)		
		2.	2 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out local flying and practise bombing during the day.		
		3.	The Equipment Officer arranged with the Clerk of Works to have Yale locks put on all Stores doors.		
	16/6/44	1.	16 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of 420 Squadron were detailed for attack Sautincourt France and all took off. One aircraft was hit by flak and landed away from Base. The Pilot J.27683 - P/O H.M. Rosuld was severely injured and died from wounds received. The aircraft was landed by the Bomb Aimer, P/O E.L. Vantor, J.28256		
		2.	J.55060 - P/O J.L. Britt - Pilot and crew of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to fly an aircraft from Linton Station. The aircraft crashed on take-off, slightly injuring the Navigator and Air Gunner.		
		3.	P/O G. Pattison (O.17421) from H.Q. No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited re postal matters.		
		4.	O.1243 - W/O J.A. Terroux from H.Q. No. 6 (RCAF) Group today visited the Station re Defence matters.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	16/6/44	5.	C.28441 - S/L E.L. Solingh(RAF) from H.Q. No.6 (BCAF) Group and 67420 - S/L G.F. Godfrey (RAF) from Headquarters, Bomber Command paid a visit to the M.T. Section today.		
		6.	W/C D. Hutton (C.4068) Medical Officer from Headquarters, No.6(BCAF)Group paid a visit to Station Sick Quarters today.		
		7.	C.4673 W/C R.C. Stone, Medical Officer from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters paid a visit to the Medical Section today in company with C.3656 P/L.D. Montgomery, Nursing Sister, also from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters.		
		8.	Equipment Officer telephoned Headquarters, Bomber Command requesting hastening action be taken on A.B.I.5003 - equipment now very urgently required.		
	17/6/44	1.	48925 P/L J.W. Allwood(R.A.F.) from Headquarters, Bomber Command paid an earnest visit.		
		2.	P/L G.E. Todd (C.9896) from No.3 P.R.C., Medical Branch, attached to this Station today.		
		3.	In spite of the lack of time off, the sirmen's capacity for work and their enthusiasm is worthy of special comment. Flight personnel now commence work at 0700 hours.		
		4.	Nine aircraft of No.425 Squadron and eleven aircraft of 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Oisemont/Neuville-au-Bois in France. All attacked primary and returned safely.		
		5.	Two aircraft of 425 Squadron carried out practice bombing. Four aircraft of 420 Squadron took part in Cross Country tonight.		
		6.	Mr. Paul Dupin, Canadian War Correspondent, is visiting 425 Squadron for a few days.		
		7.	R.158730 W/O2 Axford, C. Navigator, was appointed to a commissioned rank w.e.f. 1/4/44.		
		8.	A review of urgently required items for the installation of A.B.I.5003 submitted by the Station Equipment Officer, to Base.		
	18/6/44	1.	Captain H.T. Langston from B. Group and Captain A.T. Palmer from C. Group arrived on one week's attachment.		
		2.	Operations scheduled for tonight were "scrubbed" at 18.00 hours. Most of the Officers celebrated the Stard Row in the Officer's Mess, and all joined in the Sing-Song Party.		
		3.	Nine aircraft from 425 Squadron engaged on Fighter affiliation, Air to Air Firing and S.B.A.		
		4.	The Base Equipment Officer visited Main Stores today and expressed satisfaction particularly in the Clothing Section, C.2153 W/O G.O. King.		



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F., THE HORRIS

No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
	19/6/44	2.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.		
		3.	At approximately 1030 hours this morning, a fire was reported to have started in 425 Squadron Crew Room. However, prompt action was taken and the fire extinguished, causing practically no damage. The N.P.S. from Basingfold were called in and arrived within ten minutes of receiving the call.		
		4.	The Squadron Commander, 425 Squadron, gathered all N.C.O.'s aircrew and Section Leaders in the Sergeants' Mess after operations were cancelled and a good time was had by all.		
		5.	F/L. C.A.E. Davis (C.8446) Adjutant 425 Squadron, proceeded on posting to R.A.F. Station, Stathern.		
		6.	J.18020 P/O.A. Hawkins (WQ/AG) Signals Leader 420 Squadron, promoted to the rank of F/L. W.a.F. 12/5/44.		
	20/6/44	1.	F/L. G.R.F. Elliot (C.11526) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited re Medical Y.D. Control.		
		2.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled at the last minute. Thirteen aircraft of 425 Squadron carried out Fighter Affiliation, Air to Air, Practice Bombing and Dual Check.		
		3.	All Station personnel were confined to Camp tonight.		
		4.	No flying training was carried out by the Squadrons today.		
	21/6/44	1.	C.11707 F/L. R.W. D'Arcy (Chaplain (P)) who has been here on attachment for about a month ceased attachment today on posting to Air Force Headquarters.		
		2.	Eighteen aircraft of No.425 Squadron and eighteen aircraft of 420 Squadron carried out a daylight attack on St. Marten, L'Hortier France. All attacked primary and returned safely.		
		3.	One aircraft of 425 carried out a night Cross-Country.		
		4.	RAF 1388048 F/Sgt. Knight, A.S. 420 Squadron (WQ/AG) was appointed to the rank of P/O in the R.A.F. V.R. W.a.F. 4/4/44.		
		5.	R.122283 W/O2. Anderson, H.D. (NAV.) and R.150480 W/O2. Dunster B.F. (NAV.) of 420 Squadron appointed to commissioned rank w.a.f. 30/4/44.		
	22/6/44	1.	The Squadrons were not required for operations today. Flying training was carried out as follows:- 13 Aircraft on Daylight Formation practice, 11 Aircraft on Cross Country,		

*(See other letter  
R.122283 W/O2  
2/12/44)*

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
	22/6/44	1.	Fighter Affiliation, S.B.A., and Local Flying. One aircraft carried out night cross country.		
		2.	S/L. F.R.G. McCall (C.2665) from No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group, Senior P.R.O. Officer visited 425 Squadron today.		
		3.	P.15563 McThomson and P.22071 Mr. Garbutt A.I.D. from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group made an inspection of Explosives and Danger Buildings.		
		4.	S/L. F.H. Fearside (L8242) (R.A.F.) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited in company with S/L. F.J.B. Humphys, No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base in connection with electrical engineering duties.		
		5.	The four flight armoury dispersals have been fitted with telephones. The Armament Section maintain these and this will cut down bombing time considerably. The fitting of Visual Merica Mk.V. as a tail warning device is still held up for lack of small items of equipment. Four aircraft have so far been fitted. Two additional radio observers are attached to this Station to assist in the training of Wireless Operators in the use of this equipment.		
		6.	RAF.2205642 Sgt. Kenwright, A.S. P/Eng. 420 Squadron, departed today to attend Aircrew Refresher Course at Sheffield.		
		7.	R.161601 P/Sgt. Pritchard, G.P. Pilot, 420 Squadron, appointed to commissioned rank w.e.f. 12/5/44.		
	23/6/44	1.	Flying training consisted of three aircraft on Fighter Affiliation, and one on practice bombing. Three aircraft carried out night cross country.		
		2.	Seventeen aircraft of No. 425 and seventeen aircraft of 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Blantyre, <sup>and</sup> <del>France</del> and all returned safely to Base.		
		3.	108801 P/L. H.G. Harrison (RAF) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group in company with 143316 P/L. W. Remage (RAF) from Idntor visited re Gas and Fire matters.		
		4.	J.24475 P/O. H.E. Damgaard (Pilot) 420 Squadron promoted to the rank of A/P/L as Captain of aircraft w.e.f. 16/6/44.		
		5.	R.170395 P/S. Springstonic A.W. (A/B) 420 Squadron, appointed to commissioned rank w.e.f. 14/6/44.		
		6.	The Equipment Officer arranged with Yeason Laundry to have 500 blankets washed by Saturday.		
	24/6/44	1.	16 aircraft of 420 Squadron and 17 aircraft of 425 Squadron were detailed to attack		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation): R.C.A.F. STATION, THORPETHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
	24/6/44		1 (contd) BARRIERS Constructional Works in the evening; all attacked primary and returned safely.		
			2. Two aircraft of 420 Squadron took part in Cross Country Flights and both Pilots were checked out as operational.		
			3. Flying Training of 425 Squadron consisted of 4 aircraft engaged on Air to Air, Fighter Affiliation, and practice Bombing and Local Flying. 2 aircraft carried out Night Cross Country.		
			4. J.19512 P/O K.E. Jacobs (A/Q) of 420 Squadron was screened from operations today, having completed first tour.		
			5. The Equipment Officer and the Station Administrative Officer discussed bedding stocks to be held by Main Stores. It was decided that a small stock will be held by Main Stores, and all clean blankets for exchanging will be held by Blanket Stores.		
			6. C.1807 Hon. Group Captain W.V. McCarthy, Chief R.C. Chaplain, R.C.A.F. Overseas, visited the personnel of 425 Squadron and celebrated Holy Mass at 1700 hours in the Station Chapel.		
	25/6/44		1. Thorpethorpe Equipment Section has just completed three months yesterday with no aircraft being unserviceable for spares as shown in the daily signal "Q" Form from the Chief Technical Officer. It is felt that this constitutes a record possibly for Bomber Command.		
			2. Operations scheduled for tonight were scrubbed.		
			3. Flying training was carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
			4. Dinner Music by the 3 P.R.O. Band was greatly enjoyed this evening in the Officer's Mess.		
	26/6/44		1. S/O G.W. Torrie (W.30291) Catering Officer posted to this Station from East Moor.		
			2. Stern down today on account of unfavourable weather conditions.		
			3. Lt.D.W. Eley of the R.C.S. from No.1 C.S.R.U., reported to No.425 Squadron today for one weeks attachment to order to gain Air Force experience.		
			4. Hon. Mr. Henri Geoffroy, French Canadian, Quebec Attache to British Government, visited No.425 Squadron. He was amazed at the organization and co-operation of all Sections throughout the Station.		
			5. J.21982 P/O E. Atkins (B/A) reported to No.425 Squadron today on posting from 427 Squadron for Bombing Leader's duty.		
			6. No flying training today.		



Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
	27/6/44	1.	17 Aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Port D'Envy Constructional works, and all attacked primary, returning to base.		
			1 Aircraft of 425 Squadron ME683 "A" came back with one engine feathered and crashed on landing into aircraft LW380 "U" which was bombed up. Both aircraft caught fire which resulted in bombs exploding and causing injuries to the following personnel, who were helping to extricate the crew from the burning aircraft.		
			C.111 Air Commodore A.D. Ross Base Commander:- a piece of shrapnel cut his right arm, near the wrist which necessitated amputation.		
			R.274581 LAC McKersie M. and R.168808 LAC Wolfe R. members of the crash crew of R.C.A.F. Station. Tholthorpe were also injured. All members of the crashed aircraft were extricated the pilot was dangerously injured, receiving severe laceration of the left lower back, and possible fracture of the spine, and was admitted to York Military Hospital. The Flight Engineer was also admitted to York Military Hospital suffering from laceration of the right wrist and possible other injuries. Remainder of the crew suffered only light injuries, and were admitted to Station Sick Quarters. The crew was as follows:-		
			R.136762 Sgt. Lavoie M.J.P. Pilot. R.168757 Sgt. Hault J.P. Navigator.		
			R.79316 Sgt. Noizeux J.R. W/AC. R.161551 Sgt. LeLande J.A.J. E/A.		
			R.95725 Sgt. Bocher C.G. R/AC. R.184321 Sgt. Maczma H.E. MUAC.		
			R.89709 Sgt. Piche A.L. W/C. 1592787 Sgt. Super P.S.K. (R.A.F.)		
		2.	No Flying training was carried out today.		
	28/6/44	1.	W/C. R.M. Triton C.1784, Group Armament Officer visited this Station today.		
		2.	W/O F. J. Skoor C.35418 P.R.O. Officer from No. 62 R.C.A.F. Base visited this Station today.		
		3.	S/Lt. F.W. Stanley C.7793 Flying Control Officer from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited Flying Control today.		
		4.	E/Lt. B.E. Betcher J.20078 No. 6 Group Headquarters visited re crash investigation.		
		5.	W/O A.C. Tafta C.1379 Base Admin. Officer paid a routine administrative visit today.		
		6.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled due to unfavourable weather conditions.		
		7.	E/Lt. A.T. Biech B.F.C. J.17040 425 Squadron Navigation Leader is posted to R.C.A.F. Station Daltor and E/Lt. C.D. Stovers J9502 succeeds him.		

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of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	28/6/44.	8.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons to-day.		
		9.	A play entitled "George & Margaret" produced by a local Company of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps was presented in the Station Cinema. This gesture of the R.A.O.C. was very much appreciated and a splendid evening's entertainment was provided.		
	29/6/44.	1.	S/L. F.H. Fearnside (R.A.F.) (48242) from No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters and S/L. P.J.B. Humphys (O.3393) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid routine Electrical Engineering visits to-day.		
	30/6/44.	2.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled due to unfavourable weather conditions.		
		1.	C.7/11 - S/L. B.J. Knight from R.C.A.F. Station, Eastmoor arrived on the Station re Court of Inquiry.		
		2.	The following Officers arrived on the Station re accident investigation. 37482 - W/O G.A.W. Saunders (R.A.F.) from Headquarters No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group J20078 - S/Lt. B.E. Betcher from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group. C1399 S/O J. Faugier D.F.C. and C10443 S/Lt. A.C. Holmes, from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters. These Officers attended re investigation into accident on the night of 27/6/44.		
		3.	O2537 W/O C.B. Guest from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited the Equipment Section today.		
		4.	S/O W.S. Roberts (C36054) War Artist who has been attached to this Station for a short time ceased attachment today on return to R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters.		
		5.	Operations scheduled for tonight were "scrubbed" due to weather conditions.		
		6.	The following Officers arrived on the Station to try by General Court-Martial J.18686 S/O W. West of No.25 Squadron: President - S/O P.A. Sampson (C101) from R.C.A.F. Base Station, Middleton St. George. Members :- W/O A.C. Tufts (C.1378) No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Headquarters. W/O H.M. Sinclair (C1707) R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters attached R.C.A.F. Station, Crat. S/Lt. H.E. McKibbin (C1948) R.C.A.F. Base Station Middleton St. George. S/Lt. J.E. Gerns C8992 R.C.A.F. Station, Skipton-on-Swale. O2796 S/Lt. A.P.R. Pillion R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe. Judge Advocate:- S/Lt. W. Martin, Judge Advocate General's		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

S/L. J.H. CORNER.

Page No. 1.

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1/7/44.	1.	17 Aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 18 Aircraft of 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Bismarck Constructional Works, France in the afternoon. All attacked primary target and returned to Base safely.		
		2.	One aircraft of 420 Squadron was forced to land at R.C.A.F. Stn. Linton with 2 engines U/S J.15981 - P/O E.A. Kelle (Pilot) of No. 420 Squadron was awarded the D.F.C. (Immediate) and R.A.F. 2206985 Sgt. Burton D.S. P/Eng. 420 Squadron was awarded the D.F.M. (Immediate) in recognition of their splendid sense of duty on the night of May 27/28th 1944.		
		3.	No flying training was carried out today.		
		4.	Anti Gas Exercises were instituted on the Station; All personnel were to carry their respirators with them at all times for 3 days at the beginning of each month.		
		5.	The Station Lacrosse team visited Topcliffe and played the Station team, as a finale to the sports at the latter Station. The undefeated Tholthorpe team won by a score of 5 - 2.		
	2/7/44.	1.	All personnel, aircrew and ground crew of No. 425 Squadron were given a stand down in the afternoon and evening. A party was organized for the ground crew in the crew room. A real good time was had by all. The Station Commander, G.O. J.H. CORNER (0.131) and the Stn. Admin Officer S/L. J.H. CORNER (07456) paid the boys a visit and all joined in singing old French - Canadian songs.		
		2.	R.115302 - P/Sgt. Crawford A.G. Air Gunner of No. 420 Squadron screened from operations, having completed his first tour.		
		3.	The Technical Site of the Station was covered with tear gas as part of the gas exercise in progress.		
		4.	In celebration of the 5th Anniversary of the formation of the W.A.A.F. a special dance was held in the W.A.A.F. Mess. Before the dance a group photograph was taken. Squadron Officer N.V.C. Holland (703) W.A.A.F. Base W.A.A.F. Officer attended the dance and Group Captain J.L. Hurley (0.131) Station Commander kindly consented to cut the birthday cake, which had been made in the Sergeants' Mess. The five candles on the cake were lighted and Group Captain Hurley made a short address.		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. Station, Thelthorpe.No. of pages used for day 4

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	2/7/44	4.	The newly formed Thelthorpe Station Band played for the dance. It was their first appearance on their own Station, and everyone appreciated the excellent music.		
	3/7/44	1.	F/L. A.M. Both (C.3592) from No.62 (RCAF) Base paid a visit to the Amusement Section to-day.		
		2.	S/O G.L. Park (V.30257) Base Catering Officer paid a routine visit to this Station to-day.		
		3.	F/L. C.F. Dunmore (C.8906) Equipment Officer from No.62 (RCAF) Base arrived on temporary attachment.		
		4.	17 aircraft of 425 Squadron and 17 aircraft of 420 Squadron were detailed for operations and stood by all day, but this was cancelled due to unfavourable weather conditions.		
		5.	No flying training was carried out today.		
	4/7/44	1.	Squadron Officer W.C. Holland (703) Base R.A.F. Officer visited the R.A.F. Section to-day.		
		2.	S/L R.H. Bray (C.3502) Engineering Officer from Headquarters No.6 (RCAF) Group attached to this Station effective to-day.		
		3.	17 aircraft of 425 Squadron and 17 aircraft of 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Biernia, France. All aircraft attacked primary and returned safely.		
		4.	2 aircraft of 425 Squadron carried out cross-country flights.		
	5/7/44	1.	17 aircraft of 425 Squadron and 17 aircraft of 420 Squadron were again detailed to attack Biernia Constructional Works. They all returned safely after attacking the target. The undercarriage of one aircraft of No.425 Squadron collapsed on landing as aircraft swung off runway to the left. Nobody was injured. Most of the crews were diverted to other aerodromes and returned during the day.		
		2.	According to German information dated 28/5/44 - J21989 - F/O J.P. Robinson (A/S) and R.25188 - Sgt. Sturinton W.T. (M/3) of 420 Squadron previously reported missing are now presumed dead.		
	6/7/44	1.	(C.2013) W/C J. Laurie from Air Ministry, London visited this Station re Provost and Security matters.		
		2.	Mr. H.C. Whyte, Air Ministry Auditor visited this Station to-day.		
		3.	F/L. A.K. Timbury (C13661) from the D.A.F.M. Darlington visited to-day re provost and security matters.		



Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalthepe.	6/7/44	4.	12 aircraft of 425 Squadron and 12 aircraft of 420 Squadron detailed for operations this evening, to attack Cochinport constructional works. All attacked the target with good results and returned safely.		
		5.	50,000 cigarettes and 3,000 chocolate bars have been received by 425 Squadron from the 420th. No. 3 Training Command, Madras. Air Vice Marshal A. Raymond "A.O.C." (0621), for (as he calls them) "his squadron".		
		6.	Official notice has been received by 425 Squadron that they have won the Base Efficiency Award for the month of June.		
		7.	RAF. 130980 - 17/6/44. Moore (RAF/AG) 420 Squadron appointed to command rank work. 12/5/44.		
		8.	The Station Fire Committee held a meeting in the Office of the Station Administrative Officer at 12.00 hours. Progress was reported and it is felt that the Fire Section is quite efficient.		
		9.	Mr. Williamson of the District Petroleum Board visited the Station in company with W/O G.O. King (C2543) Base Equipment Officer, and plans were discussed whereby petrol vans arriving on the Station could be assured of delivery of petrol without interfering with aircraft on the perimeter track.		
	7/7/44	1.	C2043 - W/O A.C. House from Headquarters No. 6 (R.O.A.F.) Group visited both Squadrons to-day to discuss and arrange.		
		2.	W/O V. Range (24336) (RAF) Ops/Plac Officer from No. 64 (R.O.A.F.) Base paid a visit to the Station to-day.		
		3.	16 aircraft of 425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Cochin Port in daylight and all <del>returned</del> <sup>returned</sup> safely. One aircraft of 425 Squadron returned early due to undercarriage being U/O. All aircraft returned safely to Base. These aircraft were detailed to attack large concentrations of troops and the raid was considered very successful.		W/O King of 425 Squadron reported that the raid was successful.
	8/7/44	1.	14 aircraft of 420 Squadron and 14 aircraft of 425 Squadron were detailed for operations to-day but this was finally cancelled.		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, WHOLEHOUSE.No. of pages used for day 16

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
The theatre.	8/7/44	2.	No wiring was carried out to-day, by aircraft of No.420 Squadron.		
		3.	17 aircraft of No.425 Squadron carried out Fighter Affiliation to-day.		
	7/7/44	1.	The Squadrons were stood down to-day.		
	10/7/44	1.	Operations scheduled for to-night were cancelled but information was received that the Squadrons had to be in readiness for a daylight tomorrow.		
		2.	The Station P.S.I. Committee held a meeting in the Office of the Station Administrative Officer. All members of the Committee were present and Mr. F.W. Hobbs, Group Supervisor, and Mr. P.L. Gill (District Manager) were also present. Many complaints were made regarding the local R.A.A.F., and the Committee was assured by Mr. Hobbs that their constructive criticism was appreciated and that every effort would be made to rectify conditions.		
	11/7/44	1.	F/O. W.G.B. Gallop (C.40318) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group, Engineering Officer, attached to this Station to-day.		
		2.	16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed for operations but these were later cancelled.		
		3.	The "Tarmac" a touring R.C.A.F. Show presented some very fast moving entertainment for the benefit of Station personnel in the Station Cinema this evening.		
	12/7/44	1.	F/L. D.H. Holton (C.6534) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group, Flying Control, attached to this Station to-day.		
		2.	F/L. F. McRae (C.6544) Intelligence Officer attached to this Station from R.C.A.F. Station, Wombaton.		
		3.	16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack an Ammunition Dump at Thiverville, France. All aircraft were bombed up and took off. All aircraft claimed to have bombed target from 15,500 feet to 12,000 ft. Due to 9/10 to 10/10 cloud over target, result of bombing was not visible, and it is presumed attack to be scattered. One aircraft did report light brown smoke rising to 8,000 ft. Defences were slight.		
		4.	Flying Training carried by aircraft of both Squadrons.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices	
Walthorpe	12/7/44	5a	The "Bomber" again played to a full house in the Station Cinema this evening.			
		13/7/44	1a	S/Lt. P.J. Huggins (G.308) from No.66 (R.C.A.F.) Base Electrical Engineering Officer paid a routine visit to this Station today.		
			2a	V.3087 = S/O. G.L. Cook, No.66 (R.C.A.F.) Base Catering Officer paid a routine catering visit to-day.		
			3a	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.		
	14/7/44	4a	The Aircrew Mess Committee held a Meeting this afternoon in the Office of the Station Administrative Officer. The Committee expressed general satisfaction as to conditions of present catering in the Aircrew Mess.			
		5a	Fitting of Visual Horizon Mark V as a tail warning device on aircraft in proceeding were rapidly completed, fourteen aircraft having already been fitted. Wireless Operators using the apparatus are reporting very good results.			
		6a	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.			
		7a	Training exercises were carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.			
		8a	G/488 W/O. L.H. Loomis, No.445 Squadron Commander proceeded on this date, and J.1999 A/O.L. G.R. Walker, 2nd Flight Commander assumed temporary command of No.445 Squadron.			
		9a	The Station was honoured by a visit from the Polish Staff, Deputy High Commissioner for Canada and Mr. H.S. Jones, Director of Public Relations Air Ministry. They were accompanied by Air Commodore G.R. Glass, C.B.E., P.M.A. (G.7) from Headquarters No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group. The visitors were met by Group Captain J.A. Hunter (G.17) the Station Commander and taken on a tour of the Station. The lunch party proved the most interesting.			
15/7/44	6a	The Walthorpe Locrosse A Mitchell team visited Redburn and won both their games. Bo'ball = 0-3, Lacrosse = 13-0				
			A de-assembly of Liberators... this note was attached to a... the aircraft before proceeding to the... to this Station to-day, no official returns.			
	15/7/44	1a	G.408 W/O D. Hutton Medical Officer from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit to this Station to-day, no official returns.			
		2a	G.3305 S/Lt. George Elliot from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited this Station to-day to inspect V.D. Control.			



OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THALBOROUGH.

No. of pages used for day 4

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalborough.	15/7/44	3.	(105) (37/38) W/O G.A.W. Saunders from Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited this Station today to assist investigation.		
		4.	16 aircraft of 420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of 425 Squadron were detailed to attack a supply dump at Huourt, France. Bomb bursts were seen to be concentrated well around the road and over 2 T.I.s. All aircraft returned safely to Base.		
		5.	The following Officers of 420 Squadron were promoted to the rank of W/O as a result of aircraft's work: 27/6/44. C.24055 - W/O R. G. Ainslie (Pilot) J.29426 - P/O H.S. Holmel (Pilot) J.19831 - W/O R. G. Ainslie " J.26095 - W/O R. G. Ainslie "		
		6.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons to-day.		
		7.	"Victory" 425 Squadron mascot completed 35 sorties and has been honored on her first tour. This evening on her last trip, she was carrying a message to the French people of Huourt which read as follows "Le Juillet (Bastille) 1944. Courage Combattre vous apporte par les Gardiens Français de la Libération. Ce symbole de libération". This note was attached to a French flag and dropped from the W/O before reaching the target.		
	16/7/44	1.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.		
		2.	Flying training was carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons. <u>Salute the Soldier Work:</u> On Sunday July 16th 1944 sent an assault course team, and a flag of war team to compete against soldier teams from R.C.A.F. Station Linton and "A" and "B" Companies, 6th Bn., N.R.V. Home Guard. The assault team, although being placed 4th were in the opinion of most of the Spectators, including the C.O. of the 6th Bn., N.R.V. Home Guard, the 2nd best team in the competition and showed excellent tactical positioning. Their failure was due to their relatively slow time over the course. The Flag of War team had the misfortune to meet the winners, A. Company 6th Bn., N.R.V. Home Guard, in the preliminary rounds, and were beaten, but not disgraced, in two straight pulls. Despite the handicap imposed on them by unsuitable footwear and their lack of training they put up a good show.		
	17/7/44	1.	Squadrons stood-by all day but were not required.		
		2.	Thalborough Softball team went to Headquarters No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group and won by a score of 14 - 0.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalherpe.	16/7/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At approximately 05.00 hours this morning 17 aircraft of 425 Squadron and 17 aircraft of 420 Squadron took-off to attack Gen "A" Mandeville Steel Works, France. All attacked primary and returned safely. The bombing was done in daylight and all crews reported good results.</li> <li>8 aircraft of 425 Squadron carried out Fighter Affiliation during the day.</li> <li>W/O. D.E. French (C.1617) from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters visited 425 Squadron today in the capacity of Group Training Instructor.</li> <li>This evening 14 aircraft of 425 Squadron and 14 aircraft of 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Waverling Synthetic Oil Plant and all took-off. One aircraft of 425 Squadron is missing the crew being as follows: J.26106 - W/O J.E. Delle (Pilot)            H.13607 Sgt. DeFaur J.G. (Nav) J.26206 P.O. W.W. Watson (W/O)            H.13622 Sgt. Armand J.L. (R/A) H.21104 - Sgt Boucher H.A. (W/O)            H.20104 - Sgt. Girou J.L. (W/O) H.V.156289 - Sgt. Kinnear (R.A.) (W/O)            G.M. 2401 - W/O Casson H.A. (Under Gunner)</li> <li>Representatives of the Agricultural Committee Post Department visited the Station in connection with the destruction of Rats Contract. All sites were thoroughly visited and it is hoped that this treatment will cut down the number of the pest considerably.</li> <li>W/O DeFaur and all girl crew, accompanied by several members of the R.A.F. visited this Station and presented a very entertaining show in the Station Cinema.</li> </ol>		
	19/7/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>W/L J.L. Redger (C.1107) Engineering Officer from Linton On Ouse paid a visit to this Station today.</li> <li>W/O J.L. Underwood (C.36407) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters paid a liaison visit today.</li> <li>W/O. D.G. Kerr (C.15945) from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters paid a familiarization visit to this Station today.</li> <li>Stand-by all day but no operations carried out.</li> <li>15 aircraft of 425 Squadron carried out flying training during the day.</li> <li>The "W.B.E." again played in the Station Cinema.</li> <li>"E. NERU" of No.420 Squadron took-off on Fighter Affiliation today and after being approximately 15 minutes in the air the aircraft fell into a flat spin and crashed on the airfield. The aircraft was completely burnt out and the crew of 5 were killed.</li> </ol>		

### OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe No. of pages used for day 1/2

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	19/7/44.	7.	J.204979 - P/O. S.J. Joplin (Pilot); R.204833 - Sgt. Bernard G.H.L. (MU/AG). A/S. J.21661 - WO1. Mitchell, G.H. (WOP) RAF.1825585 - Sgt. Shand, N.J. (P/230). R.154859 - Sgt. Kent, G.L. (A/S).		
	20/7/44.	1.	S/L. R.H. Morris (C.3660) from No.5 District Headquarters, York, visited the Protestant Chaplain to-day.		
		2.	Flight Officer G.L. Park (V.30897) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base, and (V.20111) Flight Officer H.L. Bick from No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters paid a visit to the Catering Officer to-day.		
		3.	17 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 17 aircraft of No.420 Squadron took off to attack Penne-du-Perostel in the evening. All aircraft attacked primary and returned safely to Base.		
		4.	M/C. W.E. Bryant (A9879) (R.C.A.F. Headquarters, Ruxley Towers, Surrey, who is the assistant to the R.C.F. Member, Board of Management N.A.A.F.I., accompanied by Mr. F.W. Hogben Group Supervisor, Northfleeton visited this Station. Affairs of the N.A.A.F.I. were thoroughly discussed and the opinion was expressed that considerable improvement had already been noticed in the N.A.A.F.I. on this Station. This improvement has been due to a change in management and a general tightening up of organization.		
	21/7/44.	1.	The Station Signals Officer and 425 Squadron Radar Officer went to Linton to attend a Conference on Radar Mechanic organization. It was decided to reorganise the Squadron Radar Section on an R & I and Daily Servicing basis, similar to the system used by other Sections. It is planned to have a Station Radar Officer only, in place of two Squadron Radar Officers as at present. The scheme will be put into effect in a few days but no posting action will be taken at present, i.e. radar mechanics will remain on Squadron strength.		
		2.	Both Squadrons were stood down to-day.		
		3.	Aircraft of both Squadrons carried out flying training exercises.		
		4.	J.85013 - A/S/L. L.D. Dwyer promoted to the rank of A/S/L. this date as "A" Flight Commander No.425 Squadron.		
		5.	Mr. Robert Westwater from Ottawa, Canada visited this Station and addressed Station personnel.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Walthorpe	21/7/44	5 (cont)	ed, on the subject "Canada-Opportunities-present and future". The general opinion of personnel present was that Mr. Westwater put over his subject in a clear cut manner. Personnel present were interested as the talk dealt with their return to civilian life.		
	22/7/44	1.	The following personnel were members of the Station Field & Truck Team which attended No. 5 District Meet at R.C.A.F. Station, Topcliffe to-day:- S/L. H.H. Rurring (C.4470) ; Sgt. Parkow, S. (R.157449) ; S/O. .... Steerk (C.11751); L.C. Damsine (R17577) ; L.C. Cartiers(R3040) ; L.C. Phillips (R176842); L.C. Jordine P.W. (R270026); L.C.Harris, P.. (R.126444). S/L. Rurring reached the semi-finals of the 100 yds dash but was beaten out in the finals. L.C.Phillips took second place in the 440 yds dash. He ran a good race but was cut off on the turns. We took third place in the relay. The team consisted of S/L.Rurring, Sgt. Parkow, L.C.Cartier and L.C.Phillips. L.C.Harris competed in the shot-put getting fourth place. In the Officers' Handicap Race of 100 yards, Flying Officer Steerk took third place. Considering our facilities for training we feel that our Truck and Field Team made a very good showing.		
		2.	C.2517 - W/O. G.B. Guest, Group Equipment Officer paid a visit to the Equipment Section to-day.		
		3.	Squadron Officer M.V.C. Holland (724) (R.C.A.F.) Base W.A.A.F. Officer paid a routine visit to the W.A.A.F. Section to-day.		
		4.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.		
		5.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons		
		6.	"Salute the Soldier" parade consisting of one R.C.A.F. Squadron was held in the town of Westingfield, Yorks at 11.30 hours. R.C.A.F. Station, Walthorpe was represented by one flight of 50 aircraft, who were well turned out in all respects. The other flights were made up of R.C.A.F. aircraft from Eastmoor and Dalton, and an R.C.A.F. flight from Linton Base.		
			Local Officials were in attendance, and the A.O.S. No.5 (R.C.A.F.) Group A.V.M. Hudson R.C. /C. 0.60.		D.R.C.

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.No. of pages used for day 16

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	22/7/44	6 (contd).	took the salute on the ceremonial march-past. A local Hastingwold band was also in attendance. Festivities and sports programme followed the ceremony.		
	23/7/44	1.	J.18740 - P/L. J. Hollingworth from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base arrived on this Station re investigation.		
		2.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
		3.	Operations scheduled for to-day were cancelled.		
		4.	The funeral of the following aircrew of No.420 Squadron who were killed in a flying accident on July 19th, 1944, took place at the Regional Cemetery, Harrogate. J.49512 - P/O. S.J. Joplin (Pilot); Aus. 421661 - WO1. Hrehin. R.N. (WOP/AG); R.204833 - Sgt. Bernard W.S. (A/G); R.154859 - Sgt. Kent. S.S. (A/G). Pall bearers consisting of six officers and 18 R.C.A.F.s were detailed by No.420 Squadron. J.46392 - A/S/L. P.C. Kruger (Pilot) Flight Commander was in charge of the party. The fifth member of the crew R.A.F. 1825385 - Sgt. Chend H.W. P/Engineer was buried at Inverurie, Scotland.		
	24/7/44	1.	J.2783 - S/L. G.L. Sweeney from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited the Bombing Leaders of No.420 and No.425 Squadrons to-day.		
		2.	P/O. R. Hardy (C.85204) from No.5 District Headquarters, York visited in connection with R.C.A.F. Central Trade Test Board.		
		3.	13 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 13 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack Parfay Constructional Works and all took off. Only three aircraft attacked the target, the remainder abandoned mission on instructions from the Master Bomber and brought back Bombs. 1 aircraft of No.420 Squadron is missing, the crew being as follows:- J.10801 - P/L. D. Trickett. (Pilot); J.25704 - P/O. K. Herron (A/B); J.29208 - P/L. R.E. Knight (Nav); J.26848 - P/O. E.Hork (WOP); R.109515 - Sgt. Sutherland. J.(MU/AG) R.A.F.1695885 - Sgt. E.W. Walter; (P/L); R.190230 - Sgt. Hebert. H.R. (MUAG)		
		4.	W/O. L.H. Lecoate (C.1181) Squadron Commander No.425 Squadron returned from leave to-day and visited all ground crew personnel to-day at the dispersals.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	24/7/44.	5.	Softball Game this evening - Thaltheorpe team defeated Eastnor at home - score 5 - 4. This was the first game between these two teams this year and marks the 8th straight victory achieved by Thaltheorpe over his rival Station.		
	25/7/44.	1.	The plan to reorganize the Squadron Radar Sections on an E. S. I. and Daily Servicing Basis have been put into effect. This system is working out very satisfactorily and up to the present only minor difficulties have been encountered.		
		2.	15 aircraft of No. 25 and 15 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Spittgart, and all aircraft took off. One combat was reported by J. 25825 - P/O. E.M. Aldred (Pilot) of No. 420 Squadron whose aircraft was attacked by a J.U. 88. The J.U. 88 was destroyed. One aircraft is now long overdue. It is hoped they may have landed at Divorion Base.		
		3.	1 aircraft of No. 25 Squadron carried out a night cross country flight.		
	26/7/44.	1.	P/O. K. Smith (W. 30150) Signals Officer from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base and P/L. A.M. Crawford (C. 5734) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine visit to the Signal Section to-day.		
		2.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both squadrons.		
		3.	J. 86610 - P/O. H.L. McKay (Pilot) and crew were reported yesterday as long overdue and were presumed missing from operations. At 10.0 hours to-day we received word that they had landed at Plunacet in Normandy short of petrol, refuelled and returned to Base.		
		4.	Stand down to-day.		
		5.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both squadrons.		
	27/7/44.	1.	Squadron Officer H.W.C. Holland (702) (W.A.A.F.) from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine visit to the W.A.A.F. Section to-day.		
		2.	Operations scheduled for to-morrow were cancelled.		
	28/7/44.	1.	16 aircraft of No. 25 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron detailed to attack Meuburg. 2 aircraft of No. 25 Squadron and one aircraft of No. 420 Squadron are reported missing, the crews being as follows: J. 15532 - P/L. J. Savitz. (Pilot); J. 29681 - P/O. Y.J. Hubbard (A/B); J. 29574 P/O. R.H. Smith (W/C); R. 31145 - Sgt. Unger. J. (W/P); R. 210669 - P/S. Winterstei (MU/AG); R. 215081 - P/S. Howick. H. (A/B); R. 1514879 - Sgt. W.W. Crumwell. (P/W); R. 1836548 - Sgt. Best. G.S. (MU/O).		



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.C.F. Station, Thelthorpe.No. of pages used for day 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	28/7/44.	1 (cont'd).	J.86473 - P/O. V.M. Vincent - (Pilot); R.177128 - Sgt. Noonan, J.J.W. (2nd Pilot); R.162555 - P/S. Watson, F.S., (Nav); R.122296 - W/O. Image, L.; (W/AG); R.156932 - Sgt. Batts, R.C. (W/AG); R190555 - P/S. Vance, H.D. (W/AG); R.200021 - P/S. Patterson, R.C. (W/AG); R143124 - Sgt. V. Edwards, H.L. (W/AG); R.173027 - P/S. Delecardre, W.J. (W/AG); R15162 - P/S. Burton, H.R. (Pilot); R172201 - Sgt. Gibson, J. (Nav); R.161440 - P/S. Welsh, B.L. (W/AG); R.156811 - P/S. Murray, H.S., (W/AG); R.194630 - P/S. Howell, J.S. (W/AG); R.212659 - P/S. Foulon, P. (W/AG); R.665788 - Sgt. Harrison, R.C. (W/AG); R.245536 - Sgt. Cairns, J. (Under Gunner).		
		2.	The final softball game of the Club-Squad League was to have been played between Headquarters No.6 Group and the local team. Headquarters team were unable to field a team and the game was defaulted. Thelthorpe team had already won a place in the Group play-offs and were assured of second place in the Base standings.		
		3.	POI. Bourdat, W.L. (R.119837) (W/AG) of No.420 Squadron who was reported missing on the night of 25/26th February, 1944 is now in Prisoners of War according to German <sup>recovered</sup> information on 27/7/44.		
	29/7/44.	1.	C.1913 - W/O. S. J. Terroux from No.6 (R.O.C.F.) Group Headquarters Defence Officer paid a routine visit to the Defence Section to-day.		
		2.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.		
	30/7/44.	1.	15 aircraft of No.420 and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed to attack <u>Avoye-sur-Seuille, France</u> . One aircraft of No.420 Squadron crash landed at <u>R.O.C.F. Station, White Thelthorpe</u> . The aircraft was wrecked, and all aircrew received injuries with the exception of the <u>W/AG</u> who <sup>was</sup> uninjured. The W/AG <u>R.155100 - W/O. Quack, G. H.S.</u> since died from his injuries.		
		2.	Roman Catholic personnel fit very proud of their newly built altar to-day as they walked into the Station Chapel. 122 attended the third mass of the day at 1700 hours and 38 received Holy Communion.		
	31/7/44.	1.	13 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 13 aircraft of 425 Squadron detailed to attack		







Papier de Soie

File: 847-20-11 (DAS)

9 April, 1946.

SECRET  
BOMBER MAIL

The Secretary,  
Dept. of National Defense for Air,  
Lisgar Building,  
Canada.

Operations Record Book - RCAF Station, Thelthorpe - July, 1944.

1. May the following corrections be made to your copy of the subject ORB, please:

- (a) On the 7th, amend F.840 to indicate one a/c of the 16 detailed from 420 Squadron failed to take off (a/c "A").
- (b) Amend F.840 to indicate two a/c of the 17 detailed from 420 Squadron failed to take off. (a/c "C" and "X").
- (c) On the 23rd, the Station claims its version of 15 a/c being detailed and all taking off is correct for 425 Squadron. The sortie missing from the Squadron F.841 has been requested.

*W. R. Thompson*  
(W.R. Thompson) H/O  
for A.O.C.-in-C., R.C.A.F. Overseas.

S/L Jenkins:MA  
DAS (His.2)  
c.c. S/L H.H. Coulson, Aberystwyth, Wales.  
Mr. C. Colgrave, Air Ministry, AHBE.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation), R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE,

S/L J. H. Connor  
(C.7136)

5.47.21-11  
JAS

Page No. 1

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1/8/44.	1.	P/L. J.F. Easton (J.9549) from No.408 Squadron visited this Station re crash investigation.	
		2.	C.11521 - R/E/L. W. Hodger (Chaplain F) from No.3 (R.C.A.F.) P.R.O. Innesworth attached to this Station to-day for temporary chaplain duties.	
		3.	Operations scheduled for to-day were cancelled.	
	2/8/44.	4.	S/L. J.H. Connor (C.7836), Station Administrative Officer, and Mr. George Herring, Canadian Y.M.C.A. visited No.92 Maintenance Unit, Brafferton to offer assistance and arrange for providing sports equipment etc., for the Brafferton Sports Day which was scheduled for 7/8/44.	
		1.	C.2701 - S/L. A.F. Whaler, Armament Officer from No.62 (RCAF) Base attached to this Station to-day.	
		2.	C.21655 - E/O. S. Beattie, Intelligence Officer from R.C.A.F. Station, Mashfeth attached to this Station to-day.	
		3.	Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.	
	4.	All ground crew personnel attended a V.D. Lecture and film directed by the Station Medical Officer.		
	5.	P/L. A.M. Roth (C.3592) Base Armament Officer paid a routine visit to the Station Armament Section to-day.		
	6.	The following crew of No.425 Squadron were killed in an aircraft accident this evening while training on Cross Country. The cause of the accident is as yet unknown. The crew were as follows:- J.8654 - P/L. C.R. Stark (Pilot and Captain); J.86151 - E/O. E.F. Pitkin (WOP/AG); J.87366 - E/O. P.P. Davies (Bomb Aimer); R.155052 - E/S. Pigeon J.C. (A/G); R.155143 - E/S. Ode. J.E. (A/G); R.192720 - SGT. Scider, L. R.70189 - SGT. Waters. M.H. (P/ENG).		
	7.	Paul Dupuis, War Correspondent and P/L. M.J.G. Langleis (C.22625) P.R.O. from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters are spending a few days with No.425 Squadron for broadcast registering purposes.		

SECRET



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7/11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalthepe.	2/8/44.	8.	Company "D" of the Canadian Army Show played to a very enthusiastic audience in the Station Cinema this evening. The show was very well received and the Company were entertained by the Station Entertainment Committee following the conclusion of the performance.		
	3/8/44.	1.	F/L. J.K. Staunton (AUS.404415) from No.24 Operational Training Unit paid a liaison visit to-day.		
		2.	C.7871 - F/O. E. Matheson (W.D. Nursing Sister) posted to East Grimstead to-day.		
		3.	C.5286 - F/O. V.P. McNameara (W.D. Nursing Sister) posted <del>from</del> to this Station to-day.		
		4.	21 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 19 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed for operations - target - Foret De Nieppe. All aircraft attacked primary and returned safely to Base.		
	4/8/44.	1.	J.20078 - F/L. J.E. Botocher from No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters arrived on this Station re crash investigation.		
		2.	115730 - Sgt.Iver G.L. (R.A.F.) and 957628 - Sgt.Watkinson.D.B.(R.A.F.) from the S.I.B. London visited the Station to-day re investigation.		
		3.	C.3309 - S/L. F.J.B. Humphys from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine visit to the electrical section to-day.		
		4.	The teleprinter section is working under serious handicap caused by the posting of two operators. Steps have been taken to obtain replacements, but up to the present none have been available.		
		5.	Considerable improvements are being made in the R & I W/T Workshop. Personnel are constructing shelves for the storage of equipment, and now test panels for servicing the various pieces of equipment are in the making.		
		6.	15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Bois de Cassan. All aircraft took off and returned safely to Base. The raid was considered successful.		
	5/8/44.	1.	19 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 21 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack St. Lou D'Esseret. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron is missing. This aircraft was piloted by S/L. G.B. Philbin (J.13999) "B" Flight Commander, and friend of all. His loss is deeply regretted by the whole Squadron, aircrew and as well as ground crew.		



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. STATION, THORNTONNo. of pages used for day 12

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thorntone.	5/8/44	1 (ctd)	The crew of this aircraft were as follows:- J.13999 - S/L. G.B. Philkin (Pilot and Captain); J.25809 - F/O. E.A. Reed (Navigator); 1004551 - F/O. L.G. Stamp (RAF) (WDE/AIR); R16821 - WO2. Lee. T.E. (B/A); 1004554 - WO. Clark. B. (R/AG) (R.A.F.); 171591 - F/O. G. Bensusan (M/AG) (RAF) R14324 - SGT. Grade. W.B. (P/R); R189561 - SGT. Milliard. G. (Under Gunner)		
		2.	The funeral of RAF 552450 - F/S. Quack. C. (WDE/AG) of No.420 Squadron who was killed in an aircraft crash at White Waltham airfield on the 30th July, 1944, took place to-day at Botley Cemetery, Oxford at 11.30 hours to-day. His parents attended the funeral.		
	6/8/44.	1.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.		
		2.	Flying training was carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
		3.	Preparations for the forthcoming visit of "M. M" are developing. Approximately 100 personnel of all ranks proceeded to R.C.A.F. Station, Linton-on-Ouse, to take part in a practice for the Hollow Square which will form part of the ceremony during the visit.		
	7/8/44.	1.	Considerable assistance was given to No.92 Maintenance Unit at Brafferton in their Sports Day. Two Ball Teams made up of Station personnel played an exhibition game and were entertained afterwards at a dance at Brafferton Station.		
		2.	20 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 19 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed for operations this evening - target - La Hague, France. Most of the aircraft abandoned mission on the instructions of the Master Bomber. All aircraft returned safely to Base.		
		3.	62686 - F/L. H. Greenwood (R.A.F.) Intelligence Officer posted to No.41 (R.A.F.) Base to-day.		
	8/8/44.	1.	F/O. G.W. Lear (13327) (R.A.F.) No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Gas/Fire Officer visited the Station and made a thorough inspection of both Fire and Gas Sections to-day.		
		2.	V.30297 - F/LE/OPF. O.E. Park. Base Catering Officer paid a routine visit to-day.		
		3.	C.6628 - S/L. D.G. Miller, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Radar Officer paid a duty visit to-day.		
		4.	V.30174 - S/O. H.M. Smith. Catering Officer attached on this Station to-day.		
		5.	16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Buret de Chamilly. All aircraft attacked primary and returned safely to Base.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	9/8/44.	1.	R.A.F. 127267 - P/O. W.R. Pluthero from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base arrived on attachment to this Station and is acting as Station Navigation Officer.		
		2.	The Station Softball Team continued their play off winning streak by defeating R.C.A.F. Station, Womblesley No.2 in the first of a two out of three series. The game was played at R.C.A.F. Station, Linton-on-Ouse.		
		3.	20 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 20 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed to attack Fort de Nieppe. All aircraft took off and attacked primary from 15/10,000 ft. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron returned early and landed at Marston due to engine being unserviceable. Shortly after setting course one engine out, then upon reaching France another went out. The bomb load was jettisoned safe and aircraft returned most of the way on two engines. The aircraft was damaged on landing but nobody was injured. All the other aircraft returned safely to Base.		
	10/8/44.	1.	14 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack La Pallice, France. All aircraft attacked primary and returned safely.		
		2.	The following pilots of No.420 Squadron were promoted to the rank of Flying Officer w.e.f. 26/6/44. J.85019 - P/O. G.W. Wass.      J.86721 - P/O. J.G. Ward;      J.86976 - P/O. J.E. Sled. J.86684 - P/O. G.F. Pritchard; J.85986 - P/O. E.G. Johnston; J.85466 - P/O. H.O. Foy. J.19673 - P/O. W.R. Penton;      J.19674 - P/O. W.D. Campbell; J.86111 - P/O. A.M. Cairns. J.86692 - P/O. F.W. Beairto.		
	11/8/44.	1.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.		
		2.	Their Majesties the King and Queen, accompanied by Her Royal Highness, Princess Elizabeth and party, passed through this Station this morning at 1150 hours. All available personnel turned out in their No.1 Blues, lined the roadways between the Officers' Mess and the Tholthorpe village pond, and gave hearty cheers as the escorted convey slowly passed. A party of 80 airmen commanded by S/Lt. R.C. Deegan (J.18889) and 15 airwomen commanded by S/O. H.P.M. Hungerford (W.A.A.F.) (4524) represented this Station at the ceremony which took place at R.C.A.F. Station, Linton-on-Ouse. Investitures were held by His Majesty the King on the following personnel of this Station at the Linton-on-Ouse Parade.		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 1/3

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	11/8/44	2 (ctd)	R.187075 - F/S. Greteau J., (Distinguished Flying Medal) - No.425 (RCAP) Squadron.		
			J.14032 - F/L. A.C. Plummer (Distinguished Flying Cross) - No.420 (RCAP) Squadron.		
			J.8345 - F/L. W.J. Hiltor (Distinguished Flying Cross) - No.420 (RCAP) Squadron.		
	12/8/44	2	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day. 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack Forêt de Montitchard, France in daylight and all took off. All aircraft returned to Base. 2 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron had bomb hung ups over target and bombs were brought back. J.86457 - F/O. C. Axford (Nav) of No.420 Squadron was killed by flak as the aircraft crossed the enemy coast. C.1051 - W/O. G.A. McKenna (Squadron Commander No.420 Squadron) who was piloting the aircraft continued on to the target, bombed and returned to Base. The attack was well concentrated although no large explosions were noted.		
			3	10 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 2 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed to attack Falaise, France. All aircraft took off, attacked primary and returned safely to Base.	
			It was reported by our Flying Control Officer that a Stirling aircraft No.E.F.210 belonging to No.1665 Heavy Conversion Unit, Tilstock, in an attempt to make an emergency landing at this Station at approximately 11.25 hours had crashed near Alne Yorks (about 4 miles from Tholthorpe). The aircraft caught fire and three of the crew of six survived the crash. It was later reported that one of the three survivors died on the way to our Station Hospital. The cause of the accident was not immediately known, but a Court of Inquiry was ordered by higher authority. Immediate action was taken by this Station to make arrangements for the burial of the deceased personnel.		
		4	Senior Supervisor H.M. Deverney from the Canadian Y.M.C.A. visited the Station Commander and the Y.M.C.A. to-day.		
		5	C.1807 - G/C. W. McCarthy from R.C.A.F. O/S. Headquarters, the Chief Roman Catholic Chaplain overseas paid a visit to this Station to-day.		
	13/8/44	1	J.25066 - F/O. J.L. Everett (A/B) of No.420 Squadron received facial injuries when his motor cycle crashed into a hedge to-day.		
			2	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	13/8/44.	2.	3 aircraft of No.425 Squadron carried out cross country flights to-day.		
	14/8/44.	1.	The Station Signals Officer attended a Group Signals Conference held at Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group. The agenda consisted of relationship between Signals and Radar, employment of Wireless Mechanics on Radar work, and the standardisation of Operational Briefing and Interrogation forms. It was decided that four wireless mechanics on each Station would be loaned to the Radar Section to compensate for the general deficiency of Radar Mechanics and also the W/T Section would take over some of the radar equipment for maintenance.		
		2.	17 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 17 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed to attack Bona-Tasally, France. 2 aircraft of No.420 Squadron returned early. All aircraft were able to identify target easily and the raid was considered successful. Defences negligible, with slight H/P. All aircraft returned safely to Base.		
	15/8/44.	1.	The Station Radar Officer attended a Group Radar Conference at Headquarters, No.6 (RCAP) Group. The agenda consisted of an outline of new Bomber Command Radar Servicing Policy which entails the adoption of the R. & I and Daily Servicing system. A general discussion took place on Radar matters which included the employment of Wireless Mechanics on Radar Duties.		
		2.	RA.F.47335 - F/L. A.W. Murray from No.42 Operational Training Unit arrived on temporary duty re crash investigation. He was accompanied by S/L. D.E. Street (79557)(RAF) from No.81 Operational Training Unit.		
		3.	15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Brussels/Melsbroek Airfield. 1 aircraft of No.420 Squadron bombed Louvain, having overshot briefed target. Bombs were dropped from 13,500 to 17,500 ft. Head wind prevented the bomber stream from arriving on time. The Master Bomber had the raid under control and bombs were seen to explode on runways and in dispersal areas. All aircraft returned safely to Base.		
		4.	Flying training was carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
		5.	The fortnightly pay parade was held at 18.30 hours this evening.		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 7

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE;

No. of pages used for day 12

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	16/8/44.	1.	V.30297 - Flight Officer O.E.Park from No.62 (RCAP) Base Catering Officer, paid a visit to this Station to-day.		
		2.	W/C. P. Gaffney (C.1996) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid his first official visit to this Station to-day in the capacity of Base Administrative Officer.		
		3.	Mr.P. Dyer, Horticultural Adviser visited the Station to discuss the possibility of organising gardens and food growing on the Station. It was pointed out that since his last visit contacts had been made with the War Agricultural Committee and there is every intention, if necessary, for this Station to have several acres of gardens next year.		
		4.	The funeral of J.86457 - F/O. C. Axford (Nav) of No.420 Squadron was held at the Regional Cemetery, Harrogate to-day. Representatives from the Squadron were in attendance.		
		5.	15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed for operations. The target was Kiel. The raid was considered a good prang with the P.F.F. opening the way with flares T.I.R. & T.I.C. which covered the whole target area. Numerous fires were reported and the glow could be seen for 70-80 miles on return route. 1 aircraft of No.420 Squadron collided with another aircraft on return trip and although the pilot - J.22430 - F/O. J.R.Kidd received two fractures of the right arm and injury to head during the collision, he successfully landed the aircraft away from home base without injury to any of his crew. 1 aircraft of No.420 Squadron is reported missing from this operation, the crew being as follows:- J.86684 - F/O. G.W.Pritchard (Pilot); J.27283 - F/O. D.I.Elock (A/B); J.24555 - F/O. E.W.Moffitt. (Nav); R.155256 - W/O.I.Lerens. D.B. (WOP); R.145092 - W/O. Surles. G.R. (MU/AG); R.147167 - Sgt. Beaki. C. (A/C); RAF.545163 - SGT. Proud. A.E. (P/R); R.295242 - Sgt. Boucock.K.G.(MU/AG); J.87194 - F/O.R.H.Devies - (2nd pilot).		
17/8/44.	1.	703 - Squadron Officer N.W.C.Holland (W.A.A.F.) from No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters paid a visit to the W.A.A.F. Section to-day for the purpose of hearing a charge.			
	2.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.			
18/8/44.	1.	18 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 18 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed to attack			1

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	18/8/44.	1(ota)	Comairre Marshalling Yards, France. The raid was considered successful. Many fires were seen with numerous explosions. All aircraft were diverted due to adverse weather conditions.	
	19/8/44.	1.	The Squadrons were stood down to-day.	
		2.	No flying training was carried out by aircraft of either Squadron.	
		3.	Mr. S. Brown from Air Force Headquarters visited the Station Commander to-day re public relations matters.	
		4.	S/L. T.O. McCall from Headquarters, No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit re P.R.O. matters.	
		5.	A dance and social evening was held in the Officers' Mess this evening. Due to a Group Stand-down a large number of visitors were present from other Stations in the Group. It was a very enjoyable evening with many expressions of appreciation from visitors.	
	20/8/44.	1.	Unfavourable weather conditions prevented all flying. Lectures were held in the afternoon for aircrew personnel.	
		2.	R.A.F. 961438 - F/S. Brakes, R.E. (W/OP) of No. 420 Squadron who was reported missing on 10/11th June, 1944, has evaded capture. He was taken on strength of the 2nd Army in France on 15/8/44 and returned to the United Kingdom on the 19th August, 1944.	
	21/8/44.	1.	A practice fire alarm was turned in from No. 6 Living Site. The Fire Section turned out and despite a distance of over one mile were prepared to deal with a fire inside of 5 minutes. It was considered a very satisfactory practice.	
		2.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.	
		3.	Training was carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons during the day.	
		4.	W/O. L.H. Lecomte (C.1181) No. 425 Squadron Commander received news that he was being transferred to No. 415 Squadron, Eastmoor and proceeded to his new post this evening. Everybody in the Squadron regrets to see him go and wishes him the best of luck. He is succeeded as Squadron Commander by the "B" Flight Commander - W/O. H.C. Ledoux (C.911) who has been with the Squadron for a few weeks.	



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.No. of pages used for day 12.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltherpe.	22/8/44	1.	The "Bomber Wolves", a Variety show from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group played at this Station. Their performance was very much appreciated by a large turn out of Station personnel. The Station was very highly honoured by the presence of the Air Officer Commanding, Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group who attended to see the performance of his Group show.		
		2.	F/L. R.P. Klobbies (0.5604) from Headquarters No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited re operations record book matters.		
		3.	Stand down: to-day.		
		4.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
		5.	The Base Commander, No.62 (RCAF) Base, was on the Station to-day for the purpose of interviewing aircrew personnel for commissioning.		
		6.	R.66954 - Sgt. Birnie H. (P/222) No.420 Squadron reported missing on the night of 10/11th June, 1944 has evaded capture, was later taken on strength of the 2nd Army in France on 17/8/44 and returned to the United Kingdom on 20/8/44.		
23/8/44	23/8/44	1.	The "Bomber Wolves" again played to a full house in the Station Cinema tonight.		
		2.	Thaltherpe Station Softball Team met Linton in the first game of the Groups finals and after a thrilling 10 inning game were defeated 7 to 4.		
		3.	F/L. C.S. Apperley (06092) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group and F/S. J.S. Wilkie (RAF)(135027) also from No.6 Group visited this Station re Education matters.		
		4.	Stand down: to-day.		
		5.	Adjutants of No.420 and 425 Squadrons attended a Conference at Headquarters, No.6 (RCAF) Group to-day.		
24/8/44	24/8/44	1.	Thaltherpe Station Variety Show, going under the name of the "U-Nam-It" review accepted their first engagement and produced their show at R.C.A.F. Station, Eastmeor. The members of the cast have worked very hard to bring this show to production and reports received were highly commendable. It is anticipated that the show will run for approximately one month.		
		2.	W/O. C.O. King (0.2543) Base Equipment Officer and W/O. C.E. Guest (02527) Group Equipment Officer visited this Station: to-day re equipment matters.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltherpe.	24/8/44.	3.	Stand down to-day.		
		4.	A Mobile Blood Transfusion Unit visited this Station to-day and 320 personnel detached during the day. In view of the fact that the Station was called for operations, a large number of ground personnel were unable to leave their essential tasks, this was considered a good turn out.		
	25/8/44.	1.	Flight Officer H.A. Bulk (V.30111) 6 Group Catering Officer paid a routine visit to this Station to-day. She was accompanied by 2440 Flight Officer M.H. Durr (WAAF) from Headquarters, Bomber Command and Flight Officer O.E. Park (V.30297) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base.		
		2.	74012 - S/L. W.E.N. Clark (RAF) from Headquarters Bomber Command visited re Engineer Staff Inspection.		
		3.	C.17959 - P/L. S.P. Harfield from R.C.A.F. Station, Dishforth paid a Signals liaison visit.		
		4.	18 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Brest-Port-des-Cormouailles. All aircraft took off and attacked primary and returned safely to Base.		
	26/8/44.	1.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.		
		2.	P/O. F.J.C. Langlois (C.22635) French-Canadian P.R.O. from R.C.A.F. O/S Headquarters reported on attachment to No.425 Squadron to-day.		
	27/8/44.	1.	16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Marquise/Minaques, France and all aircraft took off, and returned safely to Base.		
	28/8/44.	1.	The Station Variety Show "U-Nam-It" played at Headquarters No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group this evening.		
		2.	Targets for to-day's operations were as follows: 5 aircraft of No.425 Squadron attacked Ferry; 3 aircraft of No.420 Squadron attacked Amberhalk and 7 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 6 aircraft of No.420 Squadron attacked Ile de Cezembre, France. From all these operations all our aircraft returned safely to Base.		
		3.	J.18020 - P/L. A. Hawkins, Signals Leader, No.420 Squadron proceeded to No.14 Signals School to attend a Course.		
4.		C.4138 - P/L. D.D. Dall, Adjutant No.420 Squadron detached to R.C.A.F. Station, Thaltherpe for Adjutant's duties pending posting.			

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	29/8/44.	1.	A visit was made to Tholthorpe Village, adjacent to this Station, which has a population of approximately 200. Tholthorpe is a typical small Yorkshire village, bounded by farm lands on one side, and the Station area on the other. On entering the village from the Station you first come upon the New Inn, overlooking a small pond and trimmed with tall hedges. The Inn provides grand entertainment for the Station personnel, who gather there almost every evening and may play darts or checkers, and may even have a sing song. The majority of personnel who wish to leave Camp on their off duty hours, proceed to the city of York which is about 20 minutes by bus. They may also cycle to nearby towns and villages to view the countryside, and step off at one of the old fashioned Inns, or go to a dance, where most of the English girls have learned to dance the Canadian style. The Canadian airman here has fitted himself extremely well into the ways of this country and is made most welcome wherever he may go.		
		2.	C.4088 - W/C, D.V. Batten from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit to the Station Sick Quarters to-day.		
		3.	The Station softball team played their final game of the season, losing the second game of a best of three series. After a slow start the team developed very rapidly and were playing splendid ball at the end of the regular season. It is felt that getting to the finals of the Group Championship series, was really a fine achievement.		
		4.	Information was received from A.M.W.D. that the Contractor was permitted to begin Surface Dressing of all runways in the near future. The surface dressing is considered necessary to prevent moisture from seeping into the concrete and causing serious breakages in the runway foundation. Two of the runways will be top-dressed with wood chippings and the main runway given a sand grit dressing.		
		5.	Stand down to-day.		
		6.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
	30/8/44.	1.	E/O. P. Nicholson (143513) (RAF) Anti/Gas Fire Officer from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a visit to this Station to-day.		
		2.	SGT. Price, H.E. (R156245) from the Department of Public Relations called with the public relations photographs for this Station to-day.		

*SAH*

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices	
Tholthorpe	30/8/44	3.	C.6690 - P/L. T.W. Reid from No.408 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron, attached to No.420 Squadron to-day for Adjutant's duties pending posting.			
		4.	The Sergeants' Mess held a Mess Meeting to-day. Plans were laid to re-decorate the Mess and improve conditions generally.			
		5.	The Squadrons were stood-down to-day.			
		6.	P/L. H.J. Goodwin (160064) (RAF) Flight Engineer Leader No.425 Squadron was baptised this morning in St. John's Church, Easingwold, Yorks by Rev. Father Leplante, Station Chaplain (R.C.). He received first Holy Communion to-day in the Station Chapel.			
		31/8/44	1.	J.4883 - S/L. F.C. Lord from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit to this Station to-day in the capacity of Group Training Instructor.		
			2.	Flight Officer O.E. Park (V.30297) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine catering visit to-day.		
3.	C.1595 - S/L. R.R.B. Hoedsmith, No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Signals Officer paid a routine visit to this Station to-day. He was accompanied by S/O. K. Smith (V.30150) also from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base.					
4.	(296) Squadron Officer B.J. Holmes (WAAP) from Headquarters Bomber Command and Squadron Officer N.M.C. Hollander (705) (WAAP) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit to the W.A.A.F. Section to-day. The former Officer delivered a lecture to W.A.A.F. personnel in the evening.					
5.	15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed to attack Ile de Cezembre, France, in daylight to-day. All aircraft took off, attacked target and returned safely to Base.					
			Station Sick Quarters report that the general health of the Station for the past month has been satisfactory.			
					/OVER	

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R.A.F. Form 540  
See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I.,  
para. 2349 and War Manual Pt. II., chapter XX., and  
notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 13

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLFORDS.

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events		<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
<b>SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS.</b>						
			<b>NO. OF AIRCRAFT.</b>			
	<b>DATE.</b>		<b>420</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>TARGET.</b>	
	3/8		19	21	Forêt De Nieppe.	
	4/8		15	15	Bois De Cassan.	
	5/8		21	19	St. Leu D'Esserent.	
	7/8		20	19	Le Hogie.	
	8/8		16	16	Forêt De Chantilly.	
	9/10		20	20	Forêt De Nieppe.	
	10/11		14	14	La Pellice.	
	12/8		15	15	Forêt De Mont Richard.	
	12/13		10	5	Falleise.	
	14/8		17	17	Bors Teasille.	
	15/8		15	15	Brussels Morbec.	
	16/17		14	15	Kiel.	
	18/19		18	18	Brest. Comranre.	
	25/26		16	18	Brest.	
	27		16	16	Marquis/Amoques.	
	28		5		Perfey.	
	28		3		Anderbelk.	
	28		6	7	Ile de Cesambre.	
	31		15	15	Ile de Cesambre.	
<b>STATION STRENGTH AS AT 31/8/44.</b>			<b>OFFICERS.</b>		<b>OTHER RANGES.</b>	
			R.A.F.	5	33	
			R.C.A.F.	38	1076	
			C.A.D.G.	2	4	
			W.A.A.F.	1	133	
			C.N.S.	1	-	
			W.D.	1	-	
			<i>J.H. Hurley</i>			
			(J.H. HURLEY) Group Captain,			
			Commanding Officer,			
			R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLFORDS.			

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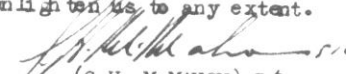
MLP/S21-2

November 15/1944.


Headquarters,  
No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group.

Operations Record Book - R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe.  
September, 1944.

1. Reference your letter 6G/S.3055/Hist., dated 25th October, 1944.
2. The operational information submitted in our Operations Record Book for the month of September was obtained from the Squadrons. In certain instances the information had been supplied by Intelligence Section who at a later date amended such information without advice having been passed to S.H.Q. So far as can be ascertained the information contained in the Squadron Operations Record Books was correct and that of S.H.Q. in error. For the month of October the record of operations was obtained directly from the Intelligence Section, and this Policy will be followed in future eliminating it is believed any discrepancy which might occur under the previous system.
3. While it is appreciated that we are not conversant with the ultimate disposition of operational records, it is difficult for Station Headquarters to see the necessity of submitting a record of actual operations, since the same information in more detailed form is submitted independently by the Squadrons, and our submission is merely duplication. Verbal enquiries have been made but we have never been given an answer which would enlighten us to any extent.

  
(G.H. McMAHON) S/L.  
for Commanding Officer,  
R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE

NOTE While this letter does not answer the queries in detail, it would appear that amendments to the Station O.R.B. can be made on the basis of the third sentence of Para. 2.

  
R.P. Klombies F/Lt. O.R.O. 6 Group.



Escriture bleu

From:- Headquarters, No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group.

To:- R.C.A.F. Station ~~THORNTON~~

SECRET.

Date:- 29th October, 1944.

Ref:- 66/S.30,2/Hist.

Operations Record Book -  
R.C.A.F. Station ~~Thornton~~  
~~September 1944~~

Your September O.R.B. has been checked and the following points are brought to your attention for correction and clarification.

3rd Sept -

F.540 - states all aircraft bombed the target whereas No.420 Squadron F.541 indicates one a/c failed to bomb, and No.425 Squadron states one returned early and one was abortive.

13th -

F.540 - states all a/c attacked the target, whereas No.420 Squadron states there were four non-starters.

17th -

F.540 - states all a/c attacked the target but No.425 Squadron shows one abortive.

27th -

(1) F.540 - states all a/c attacked the target but No.420 Squadron reports two abortive sorties.

(11) The target was ~~Stora, Finland~~.

30th -

(1) F.540 states all a/c attacked the primary whereas No.420 Squadron shows only one primary, and No.425 Squadron only two primaries.

(11) The full name of the target is Sterkrade/Holten.

GENERAL -

1. The points mentioned above serve to emphasise the need for the utmost care in reporting operations.

2. Your O.R.B., generally, is very sketchy, indicating a lack of appreciation of what is required. Your attention is directed to A.P.3040 and to instructions and suggestions issued from Headquarters from time to time.

3. No month and summary was given as required by A.P.3040 page 12, Sec. IV.

4. It is requested, please, that replies be sent in the following form.

*M. J. ...*  
(M. J. ... ) Flight Lieutenant  
For Senior Air Staff Officer  
No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group  
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) **R.C.A.F. STATION, THALBOROPE.**

5:47-20-11  
JAS

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thalborpe.	1/9/44.	1.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.	SECRET.
		2.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.	
	2/9/44.	1.	C.11391 - P/L. C.P. Sullivan from Headquarters No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit to this Station to-day.	
		2.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.	
	3/9/44.	1.	15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed for operations. All aircraft took off and bombed target - Volkel Airfield, Holland. All these aircraft returned safely to Base. One of the 425 Squadron failed to bomb one of the intended targets and one was destroyed.	
		2.	Several aircrew N.C.O.s. interviewed by the Station Commander for commissioning.	
	4/9/44.	1.	C.15956 - P/O. V.S. Webster from R.C.A.F. Station, Leeming paid a visit to the Station re Summary of Evidence.	
		2.	The Squadrons did not operate to-day.	
	5/9/44.	1.	C.3309 - S/L. F.J.B. Humphys from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine visit to the electrical section to-day.	
		2.	Operations were not carried out to-day due to adverse weather conditions.	
	6/9/44.	1.	108801 - P/L. H.G. Harrison (RAF) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group and 143313 - P/O. F. Nicholson (RAF) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base paid a routine Gas/Pire visit to this Station.	
		2.	15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Emden, Germany. All aircraft returned safely. The attack was considered successful.	
7/9/44.	1.	W/O. G.A. Terroux (C.1943) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit to this Station to-day re Defence matters.		
	2.	W/O. R.M. Frites (C.1784) Armament Officer from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit to the Armament Section to-day.		
	3.	P/L. J.H. Martin (C.14361) from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base attached to this Station to-day in the capacity of Signals Officer in the absence of the Station Signals Officer on leave.		
	4.	Operations scheduled for tonight were cancelled.		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.No. of pages used for day 8

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices	
Tholthorpe.	12/9/44	1.	C.23163 - P/O. P.H.C. Reinks from R.C.A.F. O/S Headquarters visited re T.D. Operational records.			
		2.	15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Warsze Pikel. The attack was carried out in daylight and the raid was considered successful. All aircraft returned safely to base.			
		3.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.			
	13/9/44	1.	44689 - P/O. B. Gagar (RAF) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited re Gunnery duties.			
		2.	3141 - Air Commodore C.N.H. Bilbey (RAF) from Headquarters, Bomber Command visited re Assessment matters.			
		3.	18 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 18 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Omsbruck in daylight. These aircraft had to be bombed up at the last minute and all the squadron groundcrews worked harder than ever before in order to get the Halifaxes airborne. All aircraft attacked target and returned safely to base. <i>down with 4 new starters of 10 Squadron</i>			
		4.	425 Squadron Headquarters ground staff enjoyed an organised ham and egg feast in helpervy this evening. The Squadron Adjutant and other Officers were present. Music was played by members of the Squadron - all rolled the barrel &			
		5.	Aircraft of both squadrons carried out flying training exercises.			
	14/9/44	1.	Squadron Officer N.M.C. Holland (703) (WAAP) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit to the W.A.A.F. Section to-day.			
		2.	Operations scheduled for to-day were cancelled.			
	15/9/44	1.	37482 - W/O. C.A.W. Saunders (RAF) from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group visited No. 420 Squadron to-day.			
		2.	14 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 17 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Kiel on a night raid. The attack was slightly mattered and many fires were reported. J.7920 P/L. V.G. Motherwell of No.420 Squadron ditched at 0400 hours, 16th September.			
		3.	All personnel of No.420 Squadron who have been screened were permitted to proceed on indefinite leave pending posting.			

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	16/9/44.	1.	Operations scheduled for to-day were cancelled due to unfavourable weather conditions.		
		2.	2 aircraft of No.420 Squadron proceeded on search for aircraft missing early this morning at approximately 1730 hours. J.19426 - F/L. E.S. Heimpel, Captain of one of the search aircraft located dinghy with missing crew about 70 miles off the East Coast of England. Crew was then rescued by Rescue Launch at 20.00 hours and taken to Naval Barracks, Great Yarmouth. None of the crew were injured. Cause of the ditching due to a complete failure of hydraulic system on return trip from the target area. Undercarriage dropped, flaps and bomb doors opened. Pilot maintained height of 4,500 feet for 1½ hours and finally was forced to ditch. Following were the members of the crew:- J.7920 - F/L. V.G. Motherwell - Pilot & Captain. J.35132 - F/O. A.J. Macdonald. A/B. J.35915 - F/O. I.E. McGown. - Navigator. R.196565 - SGT. Engemann. L.E. W/OP. R.151303 - SGT. Wigley. J.A. - MU/AG. R.197444 - SGT. Hickson. J.L. A/G. RAF.3005832 SGT. Porter J. - F/E. R.158840 - SGT. Pigg. T.J. MU/AG.		
	17/9/44.	1.	515292 - S/L. J.E.H. McMillan (RAF) from No.92 M.U. Brafferton paid the Station Commander a visit to-day.		
		2.	15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Boulogne and all aircraft took off. All these aircraft attacked the primary and returned safely to Base. <i>+ one of 425 ditched</i>		
		3.	J.7920 - F/L. V.G. Motherwell and crew of No.420 Squadron returned to Base by air from Great Yarmouth to-day. This was the crew who ditched on 16/9/44.		
		4.	Local flying carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
	18/9/44.	1.	Operations were not called for today.		
		2.	Flying training carried out.		
		3.	This afternoon a Muster Parade was held on the perimeter track near No.425 Squadron Headquarters. The Squadron Commander inspected the Officers and Senior N.C.O.s. after which all personnel, aircrew and groundcrew, gathered on and around a Haligax and a Squadron photograph was taken.		
	19/9/44.	1.	Operations scheduled for to-day were cancelled.		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THORTHORPE.No. of pages used for day 8

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thorthorpe.	19/9/44.	2.	News was received to-day that the following personnel who had been reported missing on dates shown against their names have now returned to the United Kingdom. These personnel are all members of No.420 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron:- R.150220 - SGT. Draper. P.O. A/G - 24/8/44. 2207320 - SGT. Best. A. F/W(RAF) do. R.193367 - SGT. Purdesux. R. A/G. 15/6/44. J.23788 - F/O. E.E.Kirk. Pilot. do. J.36710 - F/O. O.R.Collins. A/G. do. J.23861 - F/O. P.D.Hagen. W/AC. do.		
		3.	The R.C.A.F. Show "All Clear" performed in the Station Cinema this evening to a full house of Station personnel.		
	20/9/44.	1.	Operations scheduled for to-day were cancelled. In the afternoon all aircrew personnel were employed on a general clean up of their quarters and living sites.		
		2.	The "All Clear" show again played in the Station Cinema to a full house of Station personnel. It was a "bang on" performance, very much enjoyed by everyone present.		
	21/9/44.	1.	C.6092 - F/Lt. G.B. Apperley from Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group paid a visit to the Educational Section to-day.		
		2.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
	22/9/44.	1.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day.		
		2.	Flying training carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
		3.	S/Lt. G.B. Philbin (J.13999) "DFC", pilot, who was "B" Flight Commander No.425 Squadron when reported missing on the 5th August, 1944, has now returned to the United Kingdom and is spending a day or two with the Squadron prior to returning to Canada.		
		4.	Mr. P. Beaubien of Montreal, Canada, and Mr. Norman Rawson, from Ontario, paid 425 Squadron a visit to-day. They were sent by the Canadian Government for the purpose of gathering material which will help greatly in conveying to the Canadian Public the importance of investing as much money, as in the past, in the 7th Victory Loan. They spent the morning visiting the Squadron and after lunch, addressed a few words to the men. Mr. Beaubien is taking back with him messages from the men to their relatives and /		



Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	22/9/44	3 (cont)	friends. They were accompanied by Captain Guthrie from Army Headquarters, London. They were very much impressed by what they saw and very grateful to the men for the valuable information they gathered.		
	23/9/44	1.	C.2118 - S/L. J.A. Head, Base Equipment Officer visited this Station to-day.		
		2.	Operations scheduled for to-day were cancelled due to unfavourable weather conditions.		
	24/9/44	1.	Operations were not called for to-day.		
		2.	Flying training exercises carried out by aircraft of both Squadrons.		
	25/9/44	1.	C.35418 - P/O. F. Jackson - No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base P.R.O. Officer visited this Station to-day.		
		2.	20 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed to attack Calsis. The target was difficult to identify, with the result that some of the crews did an orbit to be certain of the target. All aircraft returned safely to Base after this operation.		
		3.	A conference was held for all Section Heads for the purpose of being informed as to the position when personnel were released from the forces, educational courses available for the men while awaiting demobilization etc. The speaker was Air Vice Marshal Sully, A.F.C., (C.686) A.M.P. from Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa.		
		4.	Flying training carried out to-day.		
	26/9/44	1.	W/O. W. Carr-Harris (C.2356) No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Engineering Officer visited this Station to-day.		
		2.	16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Calsis. All aircraft attacked primary and returned safely to Base.		
	27/9/44	1.	18 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 22 aircraft of No.420 Squadron detailed to attack Bettrep. All aircraft attacked primary and returned safely to Base, although some aircraft suffered slight flak damage. Both C.28055 - P/L. T.F.C. Ainalie, Captain of Halifax Aircraft LW.575 "B" and his Flight Engineer - 1895356 - SGT. Gibbs. C.F. (R.A.F.) received minor flak wounds which necessitated a forced landing at Woodbridge.		
		2.	A conference was held at No.62 (R.C.A.F.) of all S.Ad.O's and Squadron Adjutants in connection with administrative matters.		

*Target was Bettrep Woodbridge*

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 8

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices	
Tholthorpe.	28/9/44	1*	16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 19 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to attack Cap Gris Nez. The master bomber was uncertain as to the accuracy of the markers and issued instructions to abandon mission. All aircraft returned safely to Base.			
		2.	425 Squadron has 112 aircrew awaiting posting and most of the day was spent making out passes for these personnel.			
	29/9/44	1.	C.10721 - S/L. W. Orchin from No.61 (R.C.A.F.) Base visited this Station re Officers' Allowances.			
		2.	Operations were not scheduled for to-day.			
		3.	Services were held on the Station for both Protestant and Roman Catholic personnel to-day. A service was held in Tholthorpe Village Chapel for Protestant personnel this evening at 18.30 hours. This is a regular Sunday service and is conducted by the Station Protestant Chaplain.			
	30/9/44	1.	18 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 18 aircraft of No.425 Squadron detailed to attack Starkrede. All aircraft attacked primary and returned safely to Base. <i>only one of us attacked primary and the 7 of us</i>			
			<i>Target was Starkrede - Berlin</i>			
			<b>SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS.</b>			
			<b>DATE.</b>	<b>TARGET.</b>	<b>425 Squadron.</b>	<b>420 Squadron.</b>
			3/9/44	Valkel A/F.	15	15
			6/9/44	Emden.	-	15
			9/9/44	Le Havre.	15	15
			10/9/44	Le Havre.	20	20
			11/9/44	Castropauxel.	15	15
			12/9/44	Varre Eickel.	15	16
			13/9/44	Osnabruck.	18	18
			15/9/44	Kiel.	14	17
			17/9/44	Beaugne.	15	16
			25/9/44	Calais.	16	20
						/OVER

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events				References to Appendices
			<u>Date.</u>	<u>Target.</u>	<u>425 Squadron.</u>	<u>420 Squadron.</u>	
Thalhorpe.			26/9/44	Calsis.	15	16	
			27/9/44	Bettrop.	18	22	
			28/9/44	Cap Gris Nez.	16	19	
			30/9/44	Sterksmae.	18	18	
			<u>STRENGTH.</u>	<u>OFFICERS.</u>	<u>OTHER RANKS.</u>		
				R.A.F. 2	25		
				R.C.A.F. 33	1061		
				C.A.D.C. 2	4		
				W.A.A.F. 1	134		
				C.N.S. -	-		
				W.D. 2	-		

  
 (W.P. FLEMING) Group Captain,  
 Commanding Officer,  
R.C.A.F. STATION, THALHORPE.

*MF*

www.bombercommandmuseum.ca



RAF Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I. para. 246, and War Manual Pt. II, Chapter XX, and note in R.A.F. Pocket Book.



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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.A.F. STATION, THALTHEORPE.

Compiling Officer -  
S/L. G. #. STANON.

1.7.2.20  
W.S.

Page No. 1

No. of pages used for day 8

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	1/10/44.	1.	There were no operations to-day. Fighter affiliation, flying training and cross country flights were carried out.	SECRET.
		2.	Y.M.C.A. Movie films were shown this evening in the Sergeants' and Officers' Messes.	
	2/10/44.	1.	There were no operations to-day. Training consisted of fighter affiliation, air/air formation bombing and sea bombing.	
		2.	A Y.M.C.A. Movie was shown in the Airmen's Mess this evening.	
	3/10/44.	1.	There were no operations to-day. Cross countries, formation flying and bombing were carried out.	
		2.	Flight Officer M. Raymond (1414) (WAAB) from No. 62 (R.O.A.F.) Base arrived on this Station for temporary W.A.A.F. Admin. duties.	
		3.	S/L. G.M. Grant (G.3457) from No. 5 District Headquarters, York, visited the station Chaplain (P) to-day.	
		4.	S/L. A. Roth (G.3592) No. 62 (R.O.A.F.) Base Armament Officer visited this Station to-day.	
		5.	A musical appreciation hour was held in the Education block this evening at 20.00 hours. This was well attended.	
	4/10/44.	1.	15 aircraft from each squadron were detailed to attack Bergen "U" boat base in Norway. 14 aircraft attacked the primary and 15 the alternative target. There was one early return due to high fuel consumption. 4 aircraft landed away from base due to fuel shortage. Bombing was considered to have been quite scattered, although bombs were seen to straddle ships in water adjoining "U" boat pens. A terrific explosion was seen and heard at 0932 hours followed by a huge fire and smoke which could be seen for 75 miles. Ships in the harbour were firing. All aircraft returned safely.	
		2.	A station dance was held this evening in the gymnasium from 21.00 to 23.59 hours. Music was supplied by the Inter Base Band, the members of which were entertained in the Airmen's Mess during inter-mission.	
	5/10/44.	1.	No operations to-day but a few aircraft carried out flying training including practice bombing, and formation flying.	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Phalthorpe.	5/10/44.	2.	A 1st inspection was held this morning for all personnel on the station under the rank of warrant officer.		
	6/10/44.	1.	A maximum effort was called for to-day to attack peckham. There were two non-starters and three early returns. 38 aircraft attacked the primary. One aircraft failed to reach the target because of fire in the port outer engine and bombed German territory. The attack appeared fairly well concentrated and numerous fires were seen. Many explosions were reported, and fires were seen with flames rising to a height of 2,000 feet, the glow of which could be seen from 70 miles. All aircraft returned safely to diversion aerodromes.		
		2.	Regular N.M.S.A. movie shown in the station gymnasium this evening.		
	7/10/44.	1.	All operations for to-day were cancelled. A limited amount of flying training was carried out.		
		2.	Informal dance held in the Y.M.C.A. this evening from 21.00 to 23.59 hours. The music was played by records. Refreshments were served and a good time was had by all present.		
	8/10/44.	1.	No operations to-day.		
		2.	The highlight of the week's entertainment was the beginning of the roller skating in the old airman's mess. The first night there were only ten personnel present, but the numbers have been increasing by leaps and bounds.		
	9/10/44.	1.	29 aircraft were detailed to attack peckham. 27 aircraft attacked the primary and two the alternative target. The results of the bombing were mostly unobserved, although fairly large fires were seen. Fighters were encountered on the run in to the target and on the return. All aircraft returned safely.		
		2.	A party of 50 station personnel proceeded to pipon paths this evening.		
	10/10/44.	1.	There were no operations to-day, a limited amount of training being carried out.		
		2.	The Y.M.C.A. report that they are still getting plenty of requests for their noon-day "requests" programme which has been functioning for a good time now. The lounge is packed every day from 12.15 hours to 13.00 hours with airmen listening to their own requests.		
	11/10/44.	1.	There were no operations to-day.		
		2.	A station dance was held in the station cinema this evening to records, as it was not possible to obtain a band. Although numbers were not as large as usual, a good time was had by all present.		



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION THALTHORPENo. of pages used for day 8

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Thaltherpe.	12/10/44.	1.	26 aircraft were detailed for an attack on yamso-pickel in the Ruhr. 24 aircraft attacked the primary and two the alternative. The two aircraft on alternative target were hit by flak on the run in. No. R. 25940 - Sgt. Cooper, A.K., suffered a fractured left leg and the aircraft landed at Galkel Aerodrome in Holland where he was removed to No. 34 Casualty Clearance Section, British Army, Holland. The aircraft then took off and landed safely at base. No aircraft were lost from this operation.		
		2.	C.2537 - W/O. G.E. Guest, equipment officer from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters visited this station and made an inspection of the equipment section.		
		3.	143713 - F/O. P. Nielsen (RAF), No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base gun/pire officer paid a routine visit to this station to-day.		
		4.	The 7th Canadian Victory Loan Campaign opened at Thaltherpe to-day and from first reports it would appear Thaltherpe are well over their quota by a sizeable amount. A25 Squadron having already exceeded their quota by £ 25,000.		
	13/10/44.	1.	Due to unfavourable weather no operations and but little training were carried out to-day.		
		2.	C.2118 - S/L. J.A. Head, No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base equipment officer paid a visit to the station equipment section to-day.		
	14/10/44.	1.	38 aircraft were detailed to attack Duisburg, 33 of which attacked the primary. Bombing was believed to have been quite accurate. Numerous explosions and fires could be seen for 100 miles. Aircraft No. 674 "H" piloted by P/L. J. Galipson (J.35436) is reported missing from this operation. In the afternoon 35 aircraft were again detailed to attack the same target. 32 aircraft attacked the primary and fires were seen with smoke rising to a considerable mixing height. Numerous explosions were heard and the glow of fires was seen for one hundred miles on the return journey. One aircraft No. 391 "J" piloted by (J.29197) - F/O. C.T.L. Midcock is reported missing. The raid was considered fairly successful.		
		2.	537 - Squadron officer H.E. Collett (WAAP) and Squadron Officer N. Holland (703) (WAAP) from No. 62 (RAF) Base paid a visit to the W.A.A.F. Section to-day.		
		3.	An E.N.S.A. stage show "poaches on parade" played in the Station cinema this evening.		





OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THE CREEPS

No. of pages used for day 5

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalthepe.	19/10/44	5	1. C.4720 - G/L. G.P. Godfrey, from headquarters, number command visited the M.A. section 2. <del>to-day</del> 3. Squadron officer H.A. Suick (N.36111) Headquarters, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Catering officer visited the messes to-day.		
	20/10/44	1	1. there were no operations to-day. No. 545162 - R/O. E. Powell (RAF) missing since 17th August, 1944 was reported a Prisoner of war. 2. The pennant size miniature trophy was presented to No.20 (RCAF) Squadron. This trophy was awarded to No.20 Squadron for having the lowest accident rate in 6 Group during the month of September. All air and ground crew personnel attended the presentation. 3. Squadron officer R.E. Collett (557) No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base W.A.A.F. Officer paid a visit to the W.A.A.F. section to-day.		
	21/10/44	1	1. 40 aircraft were detailed to attack however but were recalled due to weather conditions. 2. A station messe was held this evening in aid of the 7th Canadian Victory Loan campaign. The station commander delivered a short speech and at the end of the evening \$3,000.00 had been subscribed.		
	22/10/44	1	1. there were no operations to-day 2. Approximately 450 officers and men attended high mass at 11.00 hours this morning, which was celebrated by his eminence cardinal yllensauve, Archbishop of Quebec. He was accompanied by (C.1825) Air Commodore S.E. H. Charest, chief chaplain (R) and group Captain W.V. McCarthy (C.1807), chief chaplain (R) R.C.A.F. Overseas. The cardinal was presented with an official honorary membership of No.425 (RCAF) Squadron by W/O. H.G. Yedoux (C.911) squadron commander. His eminence also purchased a \$1,000.00 victory bond. 3. During the course of the day his eminence and party visited many parts of the station.		
	23/10/44	1	1. 40 aircraft were detailed to attack <sup>347</sup> Messin, 16 of which attacked the primary, and the alternative, and there were three early returns. <sup>for action</sup> The ground was not visible during the bombing and proper assessment was difficult, although the reflection of fires was seen for 100 miles. One aircraft landed at Wallebourne and was slightly damaged, but all the crew were reported uninjured.		428 2000 1800 1000 500 200

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Retheltherpe.	24/10/44	1.	There were no operations to-day.	
		2.	FW Parade was held this evening in the R & I. Mess at 18.15 hours.	
	25/10/44	1.	37 aircraft were detailed to attack Hamburg, 35 of which attacked the primary, two had weather conditions bombs were scattered. All aircraft returned safely.	
		2.	A station dance was held in the gymnasium this evening to the music of Terry Retheltherpe and his entertainers.	
	26/10/44	1.	There were no operations or training to-day due to unfavourable weather conditions.	
		2.	O.1944 - W/O J.A. Morrow, Group Defence Officer visited the station commander to-day.	
		3.	"Ping" game was held in the Y.M.C.A. this evening. A good number of station personnel attended and chocolates and cigarettes were given as prizes.	
		4.	The seventh Canadian victory loan campaign in this group closed to-day with R.C.A.F. station Retheltherpe. Leading all operational stations within a group. 425 squadrons were outstanding in their efforts, having subscribed £ 78,700.00, being 315 per cent of their £ 25,000.00 quota. Station Headquarters subscribed £ 52,100.00 and 420 squadrons £ 36,600.00.	
	27/10/44	1.	There were no operations to-day but a limited amount of training was carried out.	
		2.	O.7856 - S/Lt J.H. Gomez, Station Administrative Officer posted to "H" Depot, Warrington for repatriation to Canada.	
	28/10/44	1.	36 aircraft were detailed to attack Cologne "H", 30 of which attacked the primary and 6 the alternative target. The bombs were scattered over the whole target area; considerable smoke and massive fires were seen. Training continued.	
		2.	O.2556 - W/O D.D. Carr-Harris, No.62 (R.C.A.F.) Base engineering officer paid a routine visit to this station to-day.	
	29/10/44	1.	There were no operations to-day but a considerable amount of training was carried out.	
		2.	A dance was held in the Sergeants' Mess this evening. This is the first dance that this Mess has held in many months due to the stress of operations. R.C.A.F. station's pipes supplied the band, and everybody present had a most enjoyable evening.	
	30/10/44	1.	36 aircraft were detailed to attack Cologne. There was one early return but the balance attacked the primary, bombing was reported to be concentrated but results were unobserved due to heavy clouds.	

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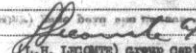
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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events							References to Appendices
<b>SECRET.</b>										
<b>SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS - OCTOBER 1944.</b>										
DATE.	SQDN.	DETAILED.	TOOK OFF.	EARLY RETURN:	ABORTIVE:	PRIMARY:	ALTERNATIVE:	MISSING.	FAILED TO T.O.	
Oct 3 - 11 <sup>th</sup>	420	15	15	0	0	15	0	0	0	
6		23	23	2	0	21	0	0	0	
9		14	14	0	0	13	1	0	0	
12		15	15	0	0	13	2	0	0	
14		18	18	1	1	16	0	0	0	
14		18	18	1	0	16	1	0	0	
15		11	11	2	0	9	0	0	0	
23		20	20	3	0	16	1	0	0	
25		18	18	1	0	17	0	0	0	
28		18	18	0	0	18	0	0	0	
30		18	18	1	0	17	0	0	0	
-----										
Oct 3 - 10 <sup>th</sup>	425	15	15	1	0	14	0	0	0	
6		19	19	2	0	17	0	0	0	
9		15	15	0	0	14	1	0	0	
12		11	11	0	0	11	0	0	0	
14		20	19	1	0	17	0	1	1	
14		17	17	0	0	16	0	1	0	
15		11	11	0	0	11	0	0	0	
23		20	20	0	0	20	0	0	0	
25		19	19	0	1	18	0	0	0	
28		18	18	0	0	2	16	0	0	
30		18	18	0	0	18	0	0	0	

  
 R.C.A.F. STANTON, THE/THORPE.  
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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE

Accounting officer: S/L. G.H. Moushon.

No. of pages used for day 11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1/11/44.	1.	<p>After a very short stay at this unit, group captain W.P. Pleasance "DPO" and "Bex" (O.1395) was posted this date to R.C.A.F. station, Wembleton, to be replaced by group captain L.H. Leconte "DPO" (O.1181). The short time during which he has been here, group captain Pleasance made many friends and gained the respect of all personnel on the station. We are extremely sorry to see him leave, but are pleased to welcome group captain Leconte, who commended the Louette squadron on this station for several months. He has the reputation of getting things done, and it is assumed that Tholthorpe will continue to retain her place in this group.</p>	
		2.	<p>20 aircraft of No.425 squadron and 18 aircraft of No.420 squadron were detailed to attack Oberhausen this evening. All aircraft took off. 18 aircraft of 425 squadron attacked the primary and 18 of No.420 squadron. One aircraft of 425 squadron returned early due to starboard engine unserviceable and one aircraft piloted by S/L. H.W. Puges (J12555) is missing. All crews reported a good concentration of T.I. markers at the opening of the attack and for some time after. Defences were moderate and searchlights were rendered ineffective by cloud conditions. The general opinion of all crews taking part was that the attack seemed well concentrated. No.420 squadron claims two fighters, one Mk 109 destroyed by a gunner and also one Mk.88. Some training was carried out to-day but aircraft were recalled for bombing up.</p>	
		3.	<p>Gerry Tholthorpe and his Martins played in the station cinema this evening for the weekly station paroo.</p>	
	2/11/44.	1.	<p>16 aircraft of No.425 squadron and 17 aircraft of No.420 squadron were detailed to attack Hasselort in the Ruhr valley. One aircraft of No.425 squadron returned early due to starboard throttle linkage being broken. The remainder of the aircraft attacked the primary and returned safely to base. Mark was reported as moderate in barrage form and searchlights were active. Many fighters were active again and several aircraft were engaged in short combats. One crew of No.420 squadron claim to have damaged one J.U.88. One aircraft of No.420 squadron collided with another aircraft in the target area and landed away at Harston on three engines. No one was injured. Day and night cross-country carried out by U/I crews.</p>	

SECRET

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.A.F. STATION, THORPES.

No. of pages used for day 11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thorples.	5/11/44	5.	(continued). Two aircraft of No.420 Squadron were abortive. LW 380 "B" returned early being unable to maintain height and speed. NZ 589 "Q" landed at Chesham with petrol shortage. NZ "V" landed at Wembleton after not being able to locate base and petrol was very low.	
	5/11/44	1.	Stand down from operations to-day. weather very poor for flying. ground lectures given on Air Sea rescue by the squadron A.S.R. officer. early in the evening word came through that the squadrons would be required for operations early on the morning of the 6th November.	
		2.	Preparations are under way for a new station variety show. The necessary talent is available on the station but considerable difficulty is being encountered in arranging hours for rehearsals. All sections are most co-operative, but some are unable to release personnel without obtaining replacements. It is hoped however to start rehearsals shortly and it is anticipated that the show will be on the road before Christmas.	
	6/11/44	1.	Mrs. Harrower, chairman of the York branch of the Canadian Hospitality and Information Bureau accompanied by Mrs. Lav. receptionist visited the station and conferred with the station Administrative Officer, station and squadron adjutants and the Y.M.C.A. supervisor. little use appears to have been made of the facilities offered by this organisation and wider publicity will be given to it in the future. It is considered that these services will be of considerable value following "V" pay.	
		2.	G.85204 - S/O, R.A. Murphy from No.5 District Headquarters, York arrived on the station in connection with Trade Test Board matters.	
		3.	16 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack Gelsenkirchen. one aircraft of No.420 Squadron was a non starter. due to cloud conditions target markers were not visible. crews were ordered by the Master Bomber to bomb built-up areas. bombing appeared scattered but some fires were noted. All aircraft returned safely to base.	
		4.	S/Lt. L.P. Purvis ("DPO") (A.86013) and his crew of No.425 Squadron gave a party to the ground crew of their aircraft and the Squadron orderly room staff and other "A" flight ground crew N.C.O.s. this party was held in the "plough inn" in Thorples Village. the occasion for this gathering was to celebrate the completion of the crew's first operational tour.	

**SECRET.**

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	Reference to Appendices
Pholthorpe.	7/11/44.	1.	The squadrons were not required for operations to-day. Flying training was carried out by 12 aircraft of No. 25 Squadron. Day and night flying training carried out by aircraft of No. 420 Squadron.	SECRET	
		2.	Additional accommodation for the hobby group has been arranged in the N.A.A.F.I., and an enthusiastic group of workers are building work benches and furnishing the room. A large group are busy doing leather work, perspex and woodwork. The financial support for the purchase of tools etc., was obtained from both P.S.I. and the Y.M.C.A.		
	8/11/44.	1.	Extensive training carried out by aircraft of both squadrons. All aircraft have joined in a landscaping push around the Technical site. Improvements both in the interior as well as the exterior are being made.	SECRET	
2.		A station dance was held in the station cinema this evening, and a large crowd enjoyed dancing to the music of the R.C.A.F. Overseas Band.			
3.		No. 420 Squadron are building a crew room at the end of their locker room. This room will be for the use of Officers, M.C.O.s., and groundcrew attached to the Squadron.			
	9/11/44.	1.	No operations carried out to-day. Training flights carried out. A complete inspection of the living sites was made to-day in order to prepare for the cold weather. Cleanliness was also pointed out to all personnel, and arrangements have been made to clear all garbage at least once a week.	SECRET	
2.		A very popular programme is conducted in the Y.M.C.A. each noon hour. The programme of recordings "on the Record", consists of numbers which have been requested on the previous day by personnel. Approximately 175 airmen and airwomen attend this programme.			
	10/11/44.	1.	C.15796 - P/O. R.P.D. Lepp, No. 62 (RCAF) Base M.T. Officer visited the M.T. section to-day.	SECRET	
2.		Operations scheduled for to-day were cancelled.			
3.		P/O. T.R.G. O'Gerner (RAF 53680) Flight Engineer, reported to No. 25 Squadron to-day from No. 432 Squadron for Flight Engineer Leader duties, relieving P/L. H.J. Goodwin (RAF 160061) "DPO-104", S/S. Leader, who was reported missing on operations on 1/11/44.			
4.		We have been asked by No. 62 (RCAF) Base to assist in providing entertainment and gifts for one of the orphanages at Peckley Bridge. In addition to this, we propose to provide a party for approximately 25 orphans, presently living in York.			



# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 5

R.A.F. Form 546  
See Instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I.,  
para. 1340 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
notes to R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) RAF STATION THORNTON.

No. of pages used for day 11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
Thornton.	10/11/44.	4.	(contd). Workshops, hobby shop and W.A.A.P. section are all busy making a variety of toys, and money is being secured by voluntary subscriptions and donations to purchase materials for further toys and books.		
	11/11/44.	1.	16 aircraft of No. 25 Squadron carried out flying training to-day. No. 420 Squadron aircraft also took part. The training hours for No. 420 Squadron are really piling up this month. To date, 52 details of practice bombing have been carried out for a total of 250 bombs.		
		2.	"French without tears" was to have played in the station cinema this evening, but advice was received at the last minute that their car even had broken down. We were disappointed at not seeing what we believe to have been an outstanding production.		
		3.	P/L. L.A.G. Wise (RAF 109010) and P/L. W. Banks (RAF 126012) from Headquarters, Bomber Command and Trainer School visited the station to-day and made an inspection of the Link Trainer Section.		
	12/11/44.	1.	The Squadrons were stood down again to-day. 14 aircraft of No. 25 Squadron carried out flying training exercises. No. 420 Squadron carried out fighter affiliation, air to air, standard boom approach and bombing exercises. The afternoon programme was somewhat curtailed on account of foul weather. No night flying was attempted.		
		2.	The basketball team played in Haregate this evening against a team of Americans, and were beaten by a stupendous score of 90-10. This, no doubt, is due to the lack of facilities on this station for organising such sports.		
	13/11/44.	1.	No operations to-day but 17 training flights were carried out by aircraft of No. 420 Squadron, such as fighter affiliation; air to air and astro bombing. A total number of 20 crews of No. 25 Squadron took part in training exercises. All aircrew feel a bit let down since operations have temporarily ceased but their time is employed when not on training, on decorating their sections and attending lectures.		
		2.	The day as a whole was uneventful.		
	14/11/44.	1.	A lecture and examination of "pippen" for wireless air gunners of No. 420 Squadron was held to-day. A general meeting of No. 420 Squadron Commander and all section leaders was held to discuss a variety of subjects regarding squadron organisation etc.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	11/11/44.	2.	No operations to-day; flying training programmes were cancelled due to unfavourable weather conditions.	
		3.	C.911 - W/O. H.G. Ledoux, Squadron Commander, No.425 Squadron, interviewed 13 aircrew N.C.O.s for commissioning purposes to-day.	
		4.	A Musical Appreciation Hour was held this evening in the Station Library under the direction of C.A.N.P.84091 - LAC, Wright, W. Instrument Mechanic. This programme is rapidly gaining popularity. At the present time approximately 40 officers, aircrew and airwomen enjoy this hour of good music.	
		15/11/44.	1. No operational flying to-day. 15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron carried out flying training exercises.	
		2.	S/L. O.N. Wenda (C-10460), Equipment Officer from No.6 Group Headquarters, visited the equipment section to-day.	
		3.	The highlight of the week's entertainment was the production of the Leeds gylvers stage show held this evening. This was a better than average S.H.S. show and was enjoyed by a packed house. The artists were entertained afterwards in the Officers' Mess.	
16/11/44.		1.	The lull was broken to-day and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack 'Julich'. 9 aircraft of No.420 Squadron had bomb hang-ups over the target. 8 of the aircraft jettisoned, and one aircraft brought back bomb hang-ups. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron brought back full bomb-load due to predicted flak in T/A. remainder of the aircraft attacked the primary and returned safely to base.	
		2.	In a return engagement at Herrogate, our basketball team defeated an American team by a score of 27-22.	
		3.	An Art class under the direction of Mr. Parks of Leeds University was held in the Educational Block this evening.	
		4.	The weather continues to be miserable with the rain seldom falling us. Connoisseurs are inclined to wonder why Mr. Churchill made no mention of rain on the Yorkshire hearse when he made his famous speech "Blood, sweat and tears"!	

**SECRET.**

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THORNTON.

No. of pages used for day 11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Thorntone	17/11/44.	1.	<p>operations were scheduled for early this morning. The crews were called at 0500 hours, but at 0615 hours operations were cancelled. Consequently there was a stand-down until 2359 hours. There were no aircraft detailed for training exercises due to inclement weather. There was a lecture in the main briefing room by the station medical officer on security, frost bite, V.D. etc. Those personnel not attending this lecture hauled coal on the site and also gravel for road amelioration around the technical site. All enjoyed the complete stand-down.</p> <p>Christmas is still a long way off. Many of the boys have already called flowers and money home, for some of them it will be a third Christmas overseas. It seems strange that so few complaints are registered at having to be away from their home and families, for so long. Everyone is hoping, however, that this will be the last.</p>	SECRET.	
	18/11/44.	1.	<p>14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron detailed to attack gunster. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early due to starboard inner engine becoming unserviceable. Remainder attacked the primary. All aircraft were diverted to stations Thornaby, Middleton-St-George and Croft. In the afternoon some training was carried out by three crews of No. 420 Squadron, consisting of air to air wiring and fighter affiliation.</p> <p>2. An E.N.S.A. musical concert for music lovers played in the station cinema. The number in attendance would indicate that the majority of personnel on this station are not musically inclined. No doubt many of the absentees were on "low levels".</p>	SECRET.	
	19/11/44.	1.	<p>Inclement weather again, so no training carried out. At 1130 hours operations came through for a rush job. Briefing started at 1330 hours, but before briefing was finished operations had been cancelled. Everyone gave a big hand in helping to fill sand holes on the technical site to-day, but very few enjoyed it.</p> <p>2. The Y.M.C.A. Novena presented in both the officers' and sergeants' messes were particularly well attended.</p> <p>3. Church services were held in both the R.C. and Protestant chapels to-day.</p> <p>4. Judging by the number of Christmas cards sold in the Y.M.C.A., the airmen have not forgotten their families and friends at home.</p>	SECRET.	Roe

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	20/11/44.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operations were again cancelled to-day. Aircraft returned from diversion bases to-day.</li> <li>Arrangements are under way to provide a party for the messing staffs on Friday night. For the most part very little recognition is given to their work, although it is appreciated by a few.</li> </ol>		
	21/11/44.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Gestrop Canal and all took off. One aircraft of No.420 Squadron returned early due to hydraulic being unserviceable. The remainder of the aircraft attacked the primary base of which are missing. All the aircraft were diverted to Leeming, Great or Middleton-St-George. All landed safely but one aircraft of No.420 Squadron, piloted by P/L J.S. Gafton (J.12049) in Halifax III HK.346 "U" which crashed at Norton on Gwale near Leeming. P/O Yerush (J.24789) Air Bomber was killed. Of the remaining six of the crew, four were slightly injured, and two uninjured. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron was attacked by an enemy fighter and riddled with cannon fire and bullets. The rear gunner Sgt. Wilson, O.B., was dangerously injured, suffering from head wounds. The aircraft was safely flown to England and landed at Wunstley, where the undercarriage collapsed on landing and the port tyre had been shot away. Before landing, the port inner engine packed up due to lack of petrol. No.5 tanks having been hit and was leaking.</li> <li>A committee has been organised to publish a station newspaper and they have again met in the Y.M.C.A.</li> <li>This is one of the two most important days in the month, being the second pay day. Pay parades due to the fact that it has been necessary to hold them in a hanger, have not been too satisfactory. Aircraft revving up in the open doorways seem to disturb the Accountant Officers. It is hoped that we can make other arrangements shortly.</li> </ol>		
	22/11/44.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training cancelled this morning on account of inclement weather conditions. At noon the weather cleared up sufficiently for our diverted aircraft to return to base. Operations were called for in the afternoon but were cancelled at 1700 hours. There was a stand down until 23.59 hours.</li> <li>A well attended weekly dance was held in the station cinema this evening to the music of the R.O.A.F. O/S band.</li> </ol>		



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, TROUBROUPE

No. of pages used for day 11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe	23/11/44	1.	A Meeting of the officers' mess entertainment committee was held to make plans for Christmas.		
		2.	Training exercises again cancelled. stand-down again granted until 23.59 hours.		
	24/11/44	1.	Operations required for this evening were cancelled; also training due to inclement weather.		
		2.	P/O P. Farish (J.24789) who was killed on 21.11.44 was buried at R.A.F. regional cemetery, Harrogate to-day. At noon the weather cleared and training exercises continued.		
		3.	S/L. W.G. Phelan (J.27718) posted from No.425 Squadron to No.420 Squadron as squadron commander.		
		4.	Difficulty is being encountered in obtaining an orchestra to play on the station at Christmas, but we have now been able to book a civilian band from York, who will play for the Jimens dinner and for their dance in the evening.		
	25/11/44	1.	The Squadrons were not required for operations to-day. 11 aircraft of No.425 Squadron took part in day training and 4 carried out night cross countries. Training scheduled for No.420 Squadron for this afternoon was cancelled due to low ceiling. Information has been received from Air Ministry that the body of J.16011 - P/O. A.H.B. Hall who was reported missing on 15/16th March, 1944, has been washed ashore near Le Bourdell 6th May. He was buried in the French cemetery of St. Valery.		
		2.	A most successful dance was held this evening in the Y.M.C.A., attended by a record crowd. These parties, under the direction of Mr. G.P. Herring, Y.M.C.A. Supervisor are one of the most popular entertainment programmes held on the Station.		
	26/11/44	1.	Church services were held in both the R.C. and Protestant chapels to-day.		
		2.	Y.M.C.A. Movies were presented in the sergeants' and officers' Messes this evening.		
		3.	There was no operational flying to-day. Lectures were given to aircrew in the afternoon. Flying training was carried out by aircraft of both squadrons. Due to the weather clearing in on the aerodrome, certain of the aircraft had to be diverted to Middleton-St. George and Craft.		
	27/11/44	1.	Flying training was cancelled at the last minute due to operations being called for. 16 aircraft were detailed from No.420 Squadron and 17 from No.425 Squadron. The target was Rouen. All aircraft attacked the primary. Due to bad weather at base all aircraft were diverted.		fpc

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Phalthergo.	27/11/44.	2.	due to the system of rationing, the airmen on this station do not have the opportunity of purchasing bottle beer. Many complaints from time to time are received. All efforts to obtain same have proved to be no avail. One cannot help but wonder at a division which permits many "pubs" to sell bottle beer to civilians and not allow any for uniformed personnel, for whom very little opportunity for entertainment or recreation is available.		
	28/11/44.	1.	No operations to-day. Most of the diverted crews returned to base. Weather conditions were too poor to allow training in the morning but two crews of No. 420 Squadron carried out flying training in the morning, while one crew went to Ripon where they practised wet dingy drill.		
		2.	420 Squadron held a snoker in their new crew room, which was opened this evening. The Squadron have done nearly all the work on this room themselves, and have made it into a very attractive lounge. It was well packed this evening with all ranks from AG2 to Group Captain, and a good time was had by all.		
	29/11/44.	1.	No operations called for to-day. Flying training carried out during the morning and afternoon. 21 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out flying training. 14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron were detailed to do A.A. D/S and bombing. There was nothing else of importance during the day.		
		2.	P/L. J.C. Pubsall (G.13374) Chief French generation P.R.D. from R.C.A.F. O/S H.Q. London visited the 425 Squadron to-day.		
		3.	V.30897 - flight officer O.E. Park, MW62 (R.C.A.F.) Base Catering Officer paid a routine visit to the Station to-day.		
	30/11/44.	1.	operations were called for early in the morning but were later cancelled. operations were again scheduled for tonight and 21 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 20 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took off to attack "DUISBURG". All aircraft detailed took off. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron returned early, reason being that the throttle linkage on one throttle had broken. The remaining aircraft attacked the primary and returned safely. some crews were diverted to Middleton St. George and Gruff and Garsby. The attack was made in cloud and the bombing was done on sky markers. There were no further events of importance during the day.		

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# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 11

R.A.F. Form 540  
See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I.  
para. 126 and The Manual Pt. II, Chapter XX, and  
notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices																					
Tholthorpe.			<p>The V.D. rate for the month of November is very good, having only three new cases.</p> <p>During the month there has been a very large increase in sick parades, and the physical conditions of men posted to this station in the last two weeks has been poor.</p>																							
			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;"><u>STRENGTH.</u></th> <th style="width: 30%;"><u>OFFICERS.</u></th> <th style="width: 40%;"><u>OTHER RANKS.</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.O.A.F.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">38</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1181</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.D.C.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.A.A.F.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">129</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.N.S.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.D.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>STRENGTH.</u>	<u>OFFICERS.</u>	<u>OTHER RANKS.</u>	R.O.A.F.	2	15	R.C.A.F.	38	1181	C.D.C.	2	4	W.A.A.F.	1	129	C.N.S.	1	-	W.D.	2	-		
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R.O.A.F.	2	15																								
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C.N.S.	1	-																								
W.D.	2	-																								
			<p><i>Account of</i>  <b>W. H. LINDSAY</b> Group Captain,                      Commanding Officer,                      R.O.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.</p>																							

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R.A.F. Form 540  
See instructions for use of this form in E.R. and A.C.I.,  
para 1340 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

### OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Compiled by:  
S/L J.B. Campbell,  
S. Ad. O.

S.47-20-11  
JAS

Page No. 1

of (Unit or Formation) HEAD STATION, THOLTHORPE.

2606

No. of pages used for day 6

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Flying training was not carried out by aircraft of either squadron due to adverse weather conditions.</li> <li>2. Operations were not called for today.</li> <li>3. No. 425 squadron personnel, both ground and aircrew held a party in the airmen's mess tonight. Approximately 500 personnel were present. The airman from the R.C.A.F. Black-outa show gave an hour's performance at the "stage" party. The station commander, and the Officer commanding, No. 425 Squadron were among the guests present.</li> <li>4. The usual "eye" party was held in the Y.M.C.A. this evening and a large crowd were in attendance.</li> </ol>		
	2/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There was no flying training carried out due to operations.</li> <li>2. 16 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Wex in Germany. All aircraft took off, one aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early due to hydraulic failure, two aircraft attacked alternative targets, while 29 attacked the primary.</li> <li>3. C-5773 Squadron leader J.B. Campbell (Admin.) was posted to the position of S. Ad. O. effective as of 27th November, 1944.</li> </ol>		
	3/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operations were called for today but were later cancelled.</li> <li>2. The weather prevented flying training programme being carried out.</li> <li>3. The musical Appreciation Hour was held this evening in the education block with an attendance of approximately 40 personnel.</li> </ol>		
	4/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There was no flying training carried out today due to operations.</li> <li>2. 15 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Karlsruhe in Germany. All aircraft took off and attacked the primary, returning safely to base.</li> </ol>		
	5/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 4 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron carried out night flying training consisting of radar cross countries and test bombing.</li> <li>2. 16 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Goest. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron returned early due to hydraulic trouble. 29 aircraft attacked primary and returned safely to base.</li> </ol>		
	6/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No flying training carried out today due to operations being called for.</li> </ol>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Woolthorpe.	6/12/44	(cont'd)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. 16 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Osnabruck and 30 aircraft attacked the primary. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and one aircraft of No. 425 Squadron returned early due to hydraulic trouble.</li> <li>3. R.C.A.F. Wembleton stage show played in the station cinema this evening. The players were afterwards entertained in the sergeants' mess.</li> </ol>		
	7/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. operations were not called for today and adverse weather conditions prevented flying training.</li> <li>2. nothing of importance to report.</li> </ol>		
	8/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. flying training carried out by aircraft of both squadrons.</li> <li>2. Y.M.C.A. film was shown in the sergeants' mess this evening.</li> <li>3. the hobby shop is very busy this evening with personnel making toys for the children which this station is going to entertain on Christmas eve.</li> </ol>		
	9/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the regular Y.M.C.A. dance was held this evening and everybody present had a most enjoyable time. refreshments are served at this dance and paid for out of service institute funds.</li> <li>2. flying training was carried out today by aircraft at both squadrons.</li> <li>3. operations were not scheduled.</li> </ol>		
	10/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. operations scheduled for today were cancelled.</li> <li>2. Woolthorpe received its first snow fall today.</li> <li>3. C-3157 - Air Commodore J.W. vice Director of Medical Services from Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa visited this station today, visiting medical personnel and inspecting S.S.G.</li> <li>4. A dance was held in the W.A.A.P. N.A.A.F.I. this evening. The music was played by the band from R.A.F. Station, Praefortoc.</li> </ol>		
	11/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. no flying training carried out today, and operations were cancelled.</li> <li>2. one aircraft of No. 420 Squadron N.A.18 was damaged on the starboard outer mainplane and aileron when a civilian lorry was driven in to it.</li> <li>3. A party of sergeants proceeded to pipon paths this evening.</li> </ol>		
	12/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. flying training carried out by aircraft of both squadrons.</li> </ol>		



OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.C. 4. F. STATION, WING, WOODHURST No. of pages used for day 6

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Phaltheurpe	12/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No operations called for today.</li> <li>2. The weekly medical appreciation hour was held in the recreation block this evening.</li> </ol>	
	13/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operations scheduled for today were cancelled and R.O.C.s carried out a general clean up of their billets.</li> <li>2. Movies were shown in both the officers' and sergeants' messes tonight.</li> </ol>	
	14/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Stand down today. Aircrew spent most of the day attending lectures.</li> <li>2. 20 personnel from this station went to Durban today for first ipokey practice.</li> <li>3. A mixer was held in the Y.M.C.A. this evening. A large crowd was in attendance and chocolate bars, cigarettes and other items were given as prizes.</li> </ol>	
	15/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operations were called for today but were cancelled later.</li> <li>2. No flying training carried out, there being a stand down until 23.59 hours.</li> </ol>	
	16/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operations not called for today.</li> <li>2. The air officer commanding, No. 6 (R.O.C.-F) Group, Air Vice Marshal G.R. MURPHY, M.C., visited a party presented No. 425 (WRAF) Squadron with a trophy towards the efficiency period for the month of November. He also inspected the squadron in a hollow square formation, and in addressing the groundcrew, he spoke highly of the good results obtained in the past.</li> <li>3. The Y.M.C.A. showed a film this afternoon to aircrew personnel on first aid.</li> </ol>	
	17/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Training flights were carried out.</li> <li>2. 17 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 21 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack midday. 16 aircraft took off. 125 aircraft was crashed on take-off killing the entire crew. 120 aircraft was and 125 aircraft was returned early due to mechanical trouble. 2 aircraft failed to take off. 32 aircraft attacked the primary and returned safely, one crashed on landing.</li> <li>3. Church services were held in both the protestant and roman catholic chapels today.</li> <li>4. Quite a number of station personnel turned out at the roller skating disco this evening.</li> </ol>	
	18/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operations scheduled for today were cancelled.</li> <li>2. R.O.C.s. movie in the station cinema this evening.</li> <li>3. Nothing further of importance to report.</li> </ol>	
	19/12/44		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operations were cancelled after crews had been briefed. No flying training carried out due to bad visibility.</li> </ol>	

SECRET

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Waltham	19/12/44	2	pay parade was held this evening. Instead of holding pay parade in the R & I Hangar it has been decided to use the station cinema, roller prom and the airman's mess for the purpose of paying personnel.	SECRET.
			1	
	20/12/44	2	classes are now well underway on the station whereby personnel may learn french, german and mathematics. It is hoped, that if sufficient personnel are interested to obtain a teacher of spanish and thereby start a spanish class.	
			1	
	21/12/44	2	The funeral of J.87112 - P/O J. R. de la Pennerie and crew of No. 425 Squadron who were killed in a flying accident on the morning of the 16th December was held this morning in the paragon regional cemetery. It was attended by a great number of his friends, who also acted as pall-bearers.	
			1	
	22/12/44	2	Operations were again cancelled, but flying training was carried out.	
			1	
	23/12/44	2	Mr. Paul Pupia of the G.O.C. arrived on the station for 9 days for the purpose of making records for the G.O.C.	
			1	
24/12/44	1	16 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Passeldorf. All aircraft were diverted after the attack. All aircraft attacked the primary and landed safely at diversion base.		
		2	this afternoon, Christmas eve a party was given in the Y.M.C.A. for 18 evacuee children from London who are now resident in York. A very nice dinner was served. The children were entertained by two members of the plackouts show and the physical training instructor took the part of Santa Claus and presented toys. The toys were made by station personnel.	
		3	this evening a dance was held in the sergeants' mess to the music of the R.N.S.A. plackouts band. 100 civilian girls were invited to attend and a good time was had by all.	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices														
Thaltherpe.	29/12/44	2.	W/Lt. W. Paulston (C-5857) No. 6 (R.O.A.F.) group committee of Adjutant Officer paid a visit today.	(See Appendix I)														
	30/12/44	1.	The X-mas dance proved to be as successful as ever this evening.	(See Appendix I)														
		2.	16 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 17 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Cologne marshalling yards and all took off. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron was attacked an alternative target, as all navigation aids were unserviceable. All other aircraft were primaries. Target was covered with 10/10 low cloud, but was well marked by P.F.F.s and a large glow of fires could be seen in the target area. One aircraft landed away from base.															
31/12/44	1.	To commemorate the 2nd Anniversary of the formation of No. 6 (R.O.A.F.) group, a parade was held in York today. A Protestant service was held in York Minster and an R.C. service in St. Wilfred's Church, York. Two flights of Roman Catholic personnel represented Thaltherpe.																
	2.	A dance was held in the Mess at Thaltherpe this evening for Junior N.C.O.s, airmen and airwomen. No senior N.C.O.s or Officers were admitted. This dance was paid for out of P.O.s funds and free beer was served. This evening was a real success.	(See Appendix I)															
	3.	All is very quiet on this last day of 1944, but at 12 noon sharp, the whole station awoke to have awakened, when cheers, song and shouting was heard, especially from the general mess.	(See Appendix I)															
			The general health of the station for the past month has been satisfactory. Due to the inclement weather, colds and sore throats have been prevalent and a few minor injuries due to falls from bicycles etc., have been treated.															
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Division</th> <th>Other Rates</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.O.A.F.</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F.</td> <td>1225</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.O.C.</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.A.S.F.</td> <td>137</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.M.S.</td> <td>Nil.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.D.</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Division	Other Rates	R.O.A.F.	20	R.C.A.F.	1225	C.O.C.	4	W.A.S.F.	137	C.M.S.	Nil.	W.D.	-	
Division	Other Rates																	
R.O.A.F.	20																	
R.C.A.F.	1225																	
C.O.C.	4																	
W.A.S.F.	137																	
C.M.S.	Nil.																	
W.D.	-																	

*W.H. LEBONTS*  
 W.H. LEBONTS) Group Captain,  
 Commanding Officer,  
 R.O.A.F. STATION, THALTHERPE.

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para. 1340 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) R.G.A.P. STATION, WOLVERTON

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Whalthorpe.	1/1/45.	1.	4 aircraft from each squadron were required to participate in a diversionary spoof but this operation was cancelled. The squadrons enjoyed a start-down, and New Years' was celebrated to the fullest in their respective messes. In the afternoon a station movie, made possible through service institute funds was held, open to all ranks. In the evening a T.M.C.A. movie was shown in the Airman's Mess. The Station was fortunate in securing the R.G.A.P. "bleakouts" orchestra, together with members of the concert troop, to play at the station dances which commenced at 20.30 hours, also providing a floor show. This event was very successful and one which will be long remembered in the history of the station.	SECRET.
	2/1/45.	1.	15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 17 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were called to attack a target in Germany. This target was cancelled and the chemical factory at Indagabevch was substituted. All aircraft attacked the primary, bombing being done through 3-10/10 low stratus cloud, on ground markers. No enemy aircraft were encountered and ground defences were ineffective.	
	3/1/45.	1.	15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack a target in Germany. Operations were subsequently cancelled.	
		2.	The R.G.A.P. "washouts" show played to this station and was thoroughly enjoyed by all ranks. This was part of the old "bleakouts" show.	
	4/1/45.	1.	Operations were not called for to-day.	
		2.	Flying training was carried out during the day, No.425 Squadron employing 18 aircraft. No.420 Squadron carried out 9 radar cross countries during the day, including bombing and fighter affiliation.	
		3.	No.4.12521 - S/L. J.W. Royan, reported for duty as Adjutant of No.420 Squadron, replacing O.6690 - S/L. T.W. Reid who was posted to Overseas Headquarters for ultimate posting overseas.	
	5/1/45.	1.	14 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Wemmer and all took off. 13 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 14 of No.425 Squadron attacked the primary. There was 10/10 st. cu. at 5/8000 in the target area. The aiming point was well marked with target indicators and sky markers. No assessment could be	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Gholthorpe.	5/1/45.		made through the cloud, although some explosions were noted. heavy flak was moderate, bursting between 15/25000 ft. searchlights were ineffective. Numerous fighter flares were seen and No.420 squadron aircraft "M" had a combat with an enemy aircraft, shortly after leaving the target area but no claim is made. 3 aircraft of No.425 squadron and one aircraft of No.420 squadron are reported missing from this operation.		
			2. 420 squadron carried out 8 night radar cross countries including night flying and fighter affiliation.		
			3. The cast of the Station show was lined up and commenced rehearsing at the request of No. 6 group headquarters as last year this station had the reputation of having produced an excellent variety show. They will proceed on tour under directions from No.6 group, visiting R.C.A.F. stations, providing entertainment for Canadians by Canadians.		
	6/1/45.		1. 15 aircraft of each squadron were detailed to attack Harrou. All took off, but 425 aircraft "L" returned early with undercarriage unserviceable. 420 aircraft "M" was unable to open bomb doors over the target, but jettisoned 1 x 2000 lb., and 1 cluster of incendiaries over the sea. 425 aircraft "N" landed at Harrou. There was 10/10 cloud, 6,000 ft. over the target area. Cloud prevented an accurate assessment of the result, but a bright glow could be seen in the target area. heavy flak was in barrage form, bursting from 12 to 19000 ft. some fighters were seen in the target area but there were no combats and no claims.		
			2. flying training was carried out by both squadrons, 425 squadron with one aircraft and 420 squadron with three aircraft. this training programme consisted of cross countries.		
	7/1/45.		1. there were no operations but both squadrons carried out flying training consisting of cross countries, 425 squadron had 13 aircraft on training by day whilst 420 squadron used 12 aircraft by day on cross countries, including fighter affiliation, air/sea firing and bombing and one night radar cross country.		
	8/1/45.		1. there were no operations and both squadrons were stood down due to a heavy snow fall.		
	9/1/45.		1. snow continued to fall, and as a result there were no operations or flying training. owing to the mechanical failure of the snow blower it was necessary to employ large numbers of aircrew and groundcrew on the clearance of runways.		



# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 3

R.A.F. Form 548  
See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I.,  
para. 1349 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.A.F. STATION, WILKINGHURST.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Wolthorpe.	10/1/45.		<p>1. Operations were not laid on as snow, which has been falling for two days, still continues. Large numbers of personnel are still employed on the clearance of snow pending the arrival of a relief snow blower from R.O.A.F. Station, Griffield, No.4 group. Shortly after this was put into operation it too became unserviceable because of mechanical defects. Endeavours were made to obtain blowers from neighbouring stations but no success was obtained as blowers which were not in operation were being overhauled for minor repairs. Some assistance was obtained from R.O.A.F. Station, Linton-on-Ouse.</p>		
	11/1/45.		<p>1. Still no operations owing to bad weather. All runways were declared serviceable which was a splendid accomplishment under the trying circumstances this station went through because of mechanical failure of snow blowers.</p>		
	12/1/45.		<p>1. 15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack a target in Germany. Plans for this attack were subsequently cancelled.</p> <p>2. Flying training was carried out by No.420 Squadron employing 4 aircraft on cross country flights and 41/400 firing with one aircraft on local flying.</p>		
	13/1/45.		<p>1. 17 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 17 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Gersbrücken. All aircraft attacked the primary. The weather was clear. The markers were very well concentrated and appeared to be accurately placed. Heavy flak was slight and bursting about 14,15000 ft., which was several thousand feet below our aircraft. No explosions were seen but some small fires were noted in the target area. 425 aircraft were detoured 2 x 250 GP.M.A. fall treatment, which hung up over the target. 420 aircraft reported combat on the homeward route but no claim is made.</p> <p>2. C.A.B3 - P/L. G. Perreault has been attached supernumerary to establishment for employment as personnel counsellor. Every facility was applied to announce his arrival so that personnel might acquaint themselves with the benefits to be obtained with demobilisation.</p>		
	14/1/45.		<p>1. 17 aircraft from each Squadron were detailed to attack the railway marshalling yards at Grewerbroich. All aircraft attacked the primary target, where was slight haze in the target area but good visibility. Markers were concentrated and most reports show that bombing was accurate. Heavy flak was slight, and bursting about 3/4,000 feet below our aircraft</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Waltham	14/1/45	2.	1. Lt Vice Colonel C.H. Rogers, O.B., M.C., D.F.C. (0.60) Air Officer Commanding Headquarters, No. 6 (R.O.A.F.) Group and Mr. John Proctor (Leader of R.O.A.F. Consecutive Party) attending the briefing of No. 425 (N.O.A.F.) Squadron for this operation. 3. 1 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron was detailed for flying training and crashed at pilotage near Hambleton, Wiltshire at 21.15 hours. Six members of the crew were killed and one dangerously injured.	
	15/1/45	1.	1. Flying training was carried out by both squadrons, 425 Squadron flying 11 aircraft during the day and 3 on night flying, whilst 420 Squadron employed 15 aircraft during the day on cross country. 2. The Station Commander, C.1181 - Group Captain L.H. Leconte, RCAF, delivered a general lecture on flying and operations. 3. Nine Lancaster aircraft from East Witley were diverted to this station very early in the morning.	
	16/1/45	1.	1. 18 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed for an attack on Magdeburg. All aircraft took off. One aircraft of 425 Squadron returned early with W/T receiver unserviceable. One aircraft of No. 420 Squadron returned early and landed away, and another aircraft of No. 420 Squadron landed away. 12 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 13 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron attacked the primary target in clear weather. The target was well marked and bombing was good. The resulting fires could be seen from 2000 miles away on the return route. Heavy flak was moderate in a barrage bursting from 15 to 2000 ft. Four aircraft of No. 420 Squadron are reported missing from this operation. <i>Remained landed away</i>	
	17/1/45	1.	1. Flying training was carried out during the day by both squadrons, 425 Squadron completed 4 cross country flights and 420 Squadron completed five. 2. G.9997 - P/O. D.E. MacGhiehan reported on posting to fill the position of physical training officer to replace C.11751 - P/O. A.A. Stark, who was posted to Warrington for repatriation to Canada effective 21/11/44.	
	18/1/45	1.	1. Operations were not called for owing to bad weather, and no flying training was carried out.	

SECRET.

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# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 5

R.A.F. Form 540  
See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I.,  
para. 2340 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
also in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) No. 420 SQUADRON, WOLFSBURG.

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Waltham.	19/1/45.	1.	We were called for a target in Germany but instructions were later cancelled. Flying training was not carried out because of bad weather and the icy condition of the runways, which was soon overcome by employing approximately 100 aircraft on landing operations.		
	20/1/45.	1.	Again the Station was blessed with a touch of Germanic winter by a heavy fall of snow which curtailed all flying operations.		
		2.	C.1.1894 - P/L. C.H. Walker, of the Air Personnel Branch of Overseas Headquarters visited the station to discuss personnel matters surrounding rehabilitation and primarily to get a picture as to how an operational station functions from the personnel welfare standpoint.		
	21/1/45.	1.	We were called for a target in Germany but instructions were subsequently cancelled. This was undoubtedly due to bad weather, as snow continued to fall.		
		2.	During the day No. 420 Squadron carried out cross country and familiarisation flights for two new crews, while one aircraft was on circuits and landings.		
	22/1/45.	1.	We were called for operations against a German target but these instructions were later cancelled.		
		2.	420 Squadron only carried out flying training consisting of 9 cross country flights. Three inches of snow fell up to 0900 hours and the temperature dropped during the day to 12° with the last recording up to 23.59 hours being 6°.		
	23/1/45.	1.	There were no operations and due to 30° of frost combined with fog, no flying training was carried out.		
	24/1/45.	1.	The weather continues to be unfavourable with fog and haze. During the day the temperature dropped to 2° and to 10° during the night, which resulted in most of the station's water facilities being frozen, despite precautions taken.		
	25/1/45.	1.	As the weather still remains unfavourable, no operations or flying training were called for.		
	26/1/45.	1.	No. 420 Squadron carried out cross country flights using 6 aircraft. The temperature dropped from 20° during the day to 10° at night and an additional 2" of snow fell during the night.		
	27/1/45.	1.	We were called for a target in Germany but later instructions cancelled this operation. The temperature dropped from 25° during the day to 15° during the night.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Phelthorpe.	28/1/45.	1.	14 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Stuttgart. 28 aircraft took off. 420 Squadron aircraft "R" failed to take off after swinging on take-off. 420 aircraft "B" returned early with port outer engine unserviceable. All remaining aircraft landed away from base.		
		2.	C.12578 - S/L. F.S. McCarthy was appointed commanding officer, No.420 Squadron vice J.27718 - W/C. W.C. Phelan, who has been screened.		
	29/30/1/45.	1.	The weather was very poor and as most of the crews were diverted no training was carried out.		
		2.	Reports of the raid on Stuttgart are indefinite. There was 10/10 cumulus cloud obscuring the target. Marking was late and scarce until after the attack had opened. An accurate assessment of the success of the raid is virtually impossible. Defences were not particularly effective with heavy flak in only moderate barrage with no searchlights. No interceptions took place so far as is known.		
	31/1/45.	1.	The weather closed in at 1400 hours with a heavy fog enshrouding the camp. No operations were laid on for either day or night. The Squadrons were stood down until 23.59 hours.		
		2.	The Station was honoured by the visit of Air Marshal R. Leckie, C.B., D.S.O., D.S.C., D.F.C. (011922) accompanied by his personal assistant G.2391 - W/C. R. Hamilton, together with C.1253 - A/V.M. R.E. Cellard, C.B.E., Air Member for Works and Buildings, all of Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa, Canada. They arrived at 1130 hours accompanied by the Base Commander, Air Commodore J.L. Hurley (0131). In company of the Station Commander (0181) Group Captain L.H. Leccate "Ray" and the Squadron Commanders (0911) W/C. H.C. Ledoux and (012578) S/L. F.S. McCarthy, they visited the Intelligence Section, 425 Squadron briefing room and Operations. They also visited the Intelligence Section library where they viewed photographs of recent raids. A tour was made of the aerodrome and visits were paid to the Bomb Disp and the P & I Janger where the party was shown aircraft which had been damaged by flak. Before departing from the station the party visited station sick quarters, where the chief of the Air Staff talked with aircrews on the subject of navigation. He said that he had always dreamed of the day, such as present aircrews enjoy, whereby navigation is made easy by means of precision instruments. The chief of Air Staff		

### OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THORNTON

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices																					
Thornthorpe.	31/1/45		<p>also chatted with #285013 - S/L. L.P. Duffin who worked at Air Force Headquarters as an aircraftman clerk before reuniting to aircrew. The Air Marshal pointed out that he was very pleased with the good showing A.F.H.Q. had made with regard to Headquarters personnel reuniting to aircrew. S/L. Duffin worked directly under W/O. Hamilton, in the training division of which Air Marshal Lockie was in charge, being at that time Air Member for training.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">STRENGTH.</th> <th style="text-align: center;">OFFICERS.</th> <th style="text-align: center;">OTHER RANKS.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.A.F.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14</td> <td style="text-align: center;">128</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.D.C.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.A.S.A.F.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">138</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.N.S.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.D.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The first week of the month added a touch of gaiety as the ground was covered with snow, something new in the history of the station as there was no snow at all last year. However, commencing 19th January frost was experienced with the temperature gradually dropping from 32° to 1° below zero on the 24th January. Gradually it rose from 4° to above freezing point on the 30th January. This station was reported to have experienced the lowest temperature of any other in all of Yorkshire. Despite this, station services, toilets, ablutions etc., were maintained at a degree of serviceability beyond that of neighbouring stations. Domestic accommodation was never constructed to contend with the severe weather experienced. Heating units are far too small to provide adequate warmth to meet such conditions, although normally they have proved satisfactory to a fair degree. Many an individual has learned to step from pyjamas, provided he didn't retire in full dress, plus glee to B.V.D.'s in a space of time that would provoke the imagination of the average mind. In so much as we were blessed with a touch of real Canadian winter, at the same time we were cursed in that, practically all our water facilities, i.e. outdoor</p>	STRENGTH.	OFFICERS.	OTHER RANKS.	R.A.F.	4	15	R.C.A.F.	14	128	C.D.C.	2	4	W.A.S.A.F.	1	138	C.N.S.	1	-	W.D.	1	-		
STRENGTH.	OFFICERS.	OTHER RANKS.																								
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C.N.S.	1	-																								
W.D.	1	-																								

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Thalhorpe.			<p>toilets were frozen solidly. Braziers were employed and many breaks were prevented.</p> <p>water pumps were kept going constantly with the result that our main supply was not cut off or damaged. Two airman who had plumbing experience in civilian life, together with two who had had a bit of experience were employed with the works and buildings department, and have accomplished much in the way of putting things back in order. This month brought to Thalhorpe the coldest winter in 50 years.</p> <p>Organisation has been lined up to meet the Station services side whereby the station will be made a better place to live. It is proposed to zone personnel, i.e., by sections, M.T., Equipment etc., at an early date whereby officers and N.C.O.s., will be held responsible for living sites and be given the opportunity of taking a keener interest in the welfare of their personnel, a paramount factor in maintaining operational efficiency at the highest level.</p> <p>Early in the month, advice was received from No. 6 Group Headquarters that all P.A.F. and R.C.A.F. personnel were to be inspected for both head and body lice. In all 921 persons were examined. 13 cases of pediculi pubis and 27 cases of scabies were found. No other diseases nor infections were uncovered. This was considered most satisfactory and speaks well for the general standard of personal hygiene when it is considered that inspections were carried out during a cold spell lasting some three weeks during which time bathing facilities were not available.</p> <p>An all out V.D. campaign was instituted. All aircrew going on leave (prior to departure) must visit the medical officer. Lectures and a film "three cadets" were given to groundcrew and aircrew. One afternoon on a stand down 450 groundcrew were paraded en masse to view this film. It was also shown preceding V.M.C.A. movies. It is estimated that over 1200 personnel saw the film and listened to lectures on the subject.</p> <p>Throughout the cold spell a heavy drive was placed upon the conservation of fuel and electric power in the national interests. Station circulars were promulgated soliciting the co-operation of personnel with regard to the saving of both fuel and power. On two occasions main fuses were blown and on one occasion power was cut off from the source of supply.</p>		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

847-20-11  
DAS

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. STATION, THULITHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
R.A.F. Thulthorpe	1/2/45	1.	Seven aircraft of No.420 Squadron and nine aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed for an attack on Mainz. All attacked the primary, except 425 "F" who returned early with hydraulics unserviceable. There was 7 to 10/10ths cloud over target, tops 7,14000 ft. P.F.F. were two minutes late. Some T.I.'s were seen, but most crews bombed on the sky markers. Bombing was generally scattered. Few fires and explosions were reported. H/F was slight to moderate, in loose barrage from 14/19000 ft. No searchlights. 425 Squadron aircraft "I", "K" and "F" landed away.	SECRET
	2/2/45	1.	Flying training consisted of 2 aircraft of No.420 Squadron on cross-country. 14 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed for an attack on Wanne Michel. All attacked the primary except 425 Squadron aircraft "A" which was abortive over enemy territory, due to starboard inner engine being unserviceable. 425 Squadron aircraft "I" returned due to intercom being unserviceable. There was 10/10 cloud with tops up to 10,000 ft. and some haze up to 20000 ft. Few T.I.'s were seen, but only one crew bombed on them. All others bombed on Gee. The bombing seemed accurate, and several large explosions were seen. H/F was moderate to intense bursting 15/21000, with some evidence of predication. 425 Squadron aircraft "V" landed away.	
	3/2/45	1.	No operations called for to-day. Training consisted of one local flight in favour of No. 420 Squadron while No.425 Squadron provided 13 aircraft on local training during the day. An operation was laid for early tomorrow (14 aircraft from each Squadron) but this was cancelled during the evening.	
	4/2/45	1.	7 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 5 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed for an attack on Bonn. 13 aircraft of No.420 and 15 aircraft of No.425 were detailed for an attack on posterfield. 10 aircraft (6-420 and 4-425) attacked the primary through 10/10 cloud, using navigation aids to check the accuracy of the release of bombs. No assessment of the raid could be made but the glow on the cloud could be seen for 40/50 miles away on return route. H/F was slight to moderate, bursting from 15/21000. There were no searchlights. 420 Squadron aircraft "J" landed away.	

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# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 3

R.A.F. Form 546  
See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I.,  
para. 520 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
note in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION THUNDERBOLT

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	8/2/45	1.	Due to rapid movement of the cloud some crews experienced some difficulty. Bombing resulted in some fires and explosions with smoke rising to about 6000 ft. Ground defences were slight to moderate. Heavy flak in barrage form with some evidence of precision in the later stages of the attack. Searchlights were active throughout the hour but were ineffective. There was apparently some fighter activity in the target area but none of our remaining crews ran into difficulties. One aircraft of No. 425 Squadron is reported missing from this operation.		
		2.	O.3500 - W/O. A. Gallers (Med) Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa, Canada, visited station sick quarters in the company of O.11526 - S/Lt. S. Elliot (Med) of Overseas Headquarters on a routine inspection.		
	9/2/45	1.	We were called for an operation with 1 aircraft from each Squadron. These instructions were subsequently cancelled.		
	10/2/45	1.	The Squadrons were not required to-day for operations. 425 Squadron employed 15 aircraft on training by day and 2 by night. 420 Squadron held a party in its recreation room in favour of ground servicing personnel. This affair was quite successful and there was no question that it served as a definite morale booster.		
	11/2/45	1.	Operations were not called for to-day.		
	12/2/45	3.	No. 15459A - S/Lt. A.G. Brandon (RAF) "DNU" A "RAF" of No. 100 Group who has completed three tours as a Navigator spoke to airmen of both Squadrons in the Station Cinema. His subject principally concerned Special Duties with a quick run-up of their experiences. Owing to bad weather conditions there was no flying training. Pilots and Engineers were given a lecture on oiling from one of the Technical Warrant Officers.		
		5.	O.4497 - W/O. I. Macleod of Overseas Headquarters visited station sick quarters on a routine inspection.		
	12/2/45	1.	Poor weather prevented all flying. Major Talbot of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Winnipeg Manitoba, lectured to airmen personnel targets that definitely required army co-operation.		
	13/2/45	1.	14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			<b>SECRET.</b>	
Walthorpe	13/2/45	(cont)	Balden and all took off. None of our aircraft returned to base.	
	14/2/45		1. Returning crews from diversion after the attack on Balden reported a scattered attack through 10/10 cloud. No further details are available as information on the target cannot be secured. Defences on the target were meagre, heavy flak with no enemy aircraft being sighted.	
			2. 9 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 4 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Oberlin. 420 Squadron aircraft returned early and on approaching the runway crashed killing all but the mid-upper gunner. No cause of this is known as the Captain had been in contact with the ground only a moment before. 420 Squadron aircraft was originally listed as missing but was later reported safe in France. 420 Squadron aircraft landed at Baldenworth short of petrol. The remaining aircraft returned to base. They report that cloud obscured the target but feel that this attack may have been successful.	
	15/2/45		1. Operations were not called for to-day.	
	16/2/45		1. The Squadrons were not required for either operations or training due to bad weather conditions. Lectures were given to aircrew over the stand down period. Operations were later called for to be held on for the following day. 15 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Wesel.	
	17/2/45		1. The aircraft detailed yesterday all took off on this attack but due to cloud were diverted on return. Aircraft 'X' of No. 420 Squadron captained by J. 2240 - P/O M.B. Shank crashed into a hill in the north of England whilst returning from operations. All members of the crew were killed with the exception of the Rear Air Gunner.	
	18/2/45		1. The Squadrons were not called for operations. 4 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron was employed on flying training during the day. All aircraft on operations directed yesterday returned to base with the exception of the one that crashed.	
			2. G.1730 - P/L. W.L. Marsh (SIGNALS) reported posting to replace G.1760 P/O C.O. Shank who has been repatriated to Canada.	
	19/2/45		1. No flying training was carried out owing to bad weather. Pilots of No. 420 Squadron	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) **R. C. A. F. STATION, TRINGHAM**

No. of pages used for day 3

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe	19/2/45	(std)	<p>1. were given a lecture by one of the Technical Warrent Officers on Halifax III Hydraulics.</p> <p>2. G. 55204 - S/Lt. Rob. Murphy (Engineering) of No. 5. (R.C.A.F.) District H.Q. York, covered the Quarterly Trade Test Board at this Unit to-day.</p>		
	20/2/45		<p>1. 14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack WORMS. All aircraft took off and all attacked the target. The raid was carried out in 10/10ths cloud but this was thin enough that T.F.'s and fires could be seen through it. One large explosion noted at 0155 hours. Defences very slight and searchlights ineffective. There was some evidence of fighters and 425 aircraft "J" had a combat with an ME 210 but no claim is made.</p>		
	21/2/45		<p>1. G. 511 - W/O. H.G. Ledoux assumed temporary command of the Station during the absence of G. 1151 Group Captain L.H. Leconte "Tig" who proceeded on leave. W/O. Ledoux, Commanding Officer, 420 Squadron was replaced temporarily by S/Lt. J.G. St. John, Flight Sergeant, 420 Squadron.</p> <p>14 aircraft of No. 420 and 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were ordered to attack WORMS, and all took off and attacked the target successfully. 420 aircraft "O" landed at Mendelssohn with hydraulics u/s. There was no cloud in the target area, but some ground haze, visibility was extremely good. Crews report P.F.F. on time and well concentrated. There was some indication of undershooting but in general the bombing appeared concentrated and, fires, although not large, had taken a good hold. Many explosions were reported but 2 very large ones could be seen 100 miles away. R/F was slight to moderate but no aircraft damaged. Searchlights numerous but ineffective. 420 Squadron a/e "X" claims an unidentified S/E A/C destroyed.</p>		
	22/2/45		<p>1. We were not required for operations to-day but standing by for a daylight tomorrow.</p> <p>420 Squadron carried out flying training with three aircraft on cross countries. 425 Squadron also carried out flying training with 3 aircraft on cross countries.</p>		
	23/2/45		<p>17 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack EASEN and all aircraft took off. 420 Squadron aircraft "M" was abortive (over enemy territory); 420 Squadron aircraft "N" was abortive (not over enemy territory). All other aircraft attacked the target in 10/10ths layer cloud. Very few crews saw the P.F.F. markings which burst above the stream. No assessment could be made. The</p>		

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# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 5

R.A.F. Form 540  
See instructions for use of this form in R.E. and A.C.I.  
para. 520 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
also in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

No. of pages used for day 3

of (Unit or Formation), No. 62 (R.A.F.) STATION, TRENTHAM

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheupe	19/2/45	(cont)	<p>2. G. 55204 - W/Lt. R.A. Murphy (Engineering) of No. 5. (R.A.F.) District H.Q. York, convened the monthly Trade Test Board at this Unit to-day.</p>		
	20/2/45		<p>1. 13 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Hoesbalm. All aircraft took off and all attacked the target. The raid was carried out in 10/10ths cloud but this was thin enough that T.F.'s and fires could be seen through it. One large explosion noted at 0155 hours. Defences very slight and negligible. Ineffective. There was some evidence of fighters and 425 aircraft 'J' had a combat with an ME 210 but no claim is made.</p>		
	21/2/45		<p>1. G. 5011 - W/O. R.G. Ledson assumed temporary command of the Station during the absence of G. 1181 Group Captain L. de Lencastre 'D' who proceeded on leave. W/O. Ledson, Commanding Officer No. 425 Squadron was replaced temporarily by J. 25348 - W/O. R.G. St. John, Flight Commander of 'A' Flight, No. 425 Squadron.</p> <p>2. G. 5520 - P/Lt. J.J. Eynon (Engineering) reported in on posting arrangements to establishment (WAAF).</p> <p>3. (No.) 163 Group Officer E.A. Bether of Bomber Command Headquarters and Squadron Officer H.E. Collett (WAAF) (No. 537) of No. 62 (R.A.F.) Base visited the station and carried out an inspection of the Station site and all establishments in which aircraft are employed. She was very pleased with the conditions as she found them to be excellent.</p>		
	22/2/45		<p>1. We were not required for operations to-day but standing by for a daylight tomorrow. 420 Squadron carried out flying training with three aircraft on cross countries. 425 Squadron also carried out flying training with 3 aircraft on cross countries.</p>		
	23/2/45		<p>17 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Hoesbalm and all aircraft took off. 420 Squadron aircraft 'M' was abortive (over enemy territory). 420 Squadron aircraft 'N' was abortive (not over enemy territory). All other aircraft attacked the target in 10/10ths layer cloud. Very few crews saw the P.P. meetings which burst above the stream. No assessment could be made. The</p>		

The above information is for the use of the Station only and should not be passed on to other units or formations. It is the property of the Station and should be returned to the Station when it is no longer required. It is not to be used for any other purpose.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thalthege	23/2/45		majority of crews bombed on "G". W/P was still to alight. One aircraft received some damage from defences en route. 425 Squadron carried out flying training with 2 aircraft on 1 country. To-day for the first time the American incendiary cluster M-417 was used and proved very successful. It was found that the cluster should not be carried on twin carriers. There is sufficient clearance between the crutches of the carrier and the cluster which would likely cause an irregular release. In order to allow clearance for the release unit to operate it was necessary to crutch the cluster nose high. This has been eliminated for future operations by moving the cluster and binding strap one inch to the rear.	
	24/2/45		1. 14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Ennet. All aircraft took off and successfully attacked the primary. There was 10/10 the cloud (heavy) in the target area. Most crews heard the master bomber who instructed them to bomb on navigational aids and the majority bombed on Gcs. Owing to such compact cloud, assessment is impossible, but bombs could be seen dropping over a wide area. All to alight W/P at the target and 425 aircraft "B" was damaged by defences en route. One aircraft was seen to be shot down in the target area. No enemy aircraft were seen.	
			2. C.5604 - P/O R.F. Klondike and Y.30272 - Flight Officer V.A. Marier, both of the Administrative Branch and employed at No. 6 (RAF) Group Headquarters visited the Squadron Adjutant and S.H.O. with regard to the completion of the Operations Record Book.	
			3. A B-24 bomber crash landed on the grass with only the right wheel down. By skilful piloting on the part of the pilot, who was an American, no-one was injured neither was extensive damage done to the aircraft. The pilot circled the airfield prior to landing and running out of petrol had to come down so low over the Control Tower that the staff on duty were ready to shake out over the balcony.	
			4. G.22296 - P/O R.S. McIlwain (N.E.) reported on posting to double bank P/O R.S. Pison (085280) who is awaiting repatriation.	
	25/2/45		1. No flying operations carried out to-day.	

SECRET.

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THIRHURST.

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	26/2/45.	1.	Operations were not laid on. However, flying training was carried out with 13 aircraft detailed for cross countries. A parade was held at 1500 hours in the afternoon for the presentation of Trophies by G.O. - Air Commodore G.R. Glenn "G.R.G." Acting Air Officer Commanding, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group. No.6 Group Bombing Trophy for the month of January was presented to No.425 Squadron and the 6 Group Gunnery Trophy to No.420 Squadron. The Air Officer Commanding was accompanied by the Base Commander and tea was served in the Officers' Mess after the Parade.		
	27/2/45.	1.	16 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 19 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Hainn. The purpose being to complete the destruction of such parts of the town and railway facilities as remain undamaged. All aircraft took off. 420 Squadron aircraft "G" was abortive (not over enemy territory) because of unserviceable hydraulics. All other aircraft successfully attacked the primary. The attack was carried out in 10/10ths cloud with tops variously estimated between 6,000 and 10,000 ft. P.F.F. was reported by most crews as two to four minutes late, with sky markings sparse at the commencement but increasing in number as the attack progressed. The Master Bomber was clearly heard by most crews and he instructed them to bomb on sky markers. Heavy flick was slight and in barrage from 16,000 to 20,000 feet, becoming moderate in the latter stages of the attack. Results impossible to assess due to cloud cover. One aircraft of No.425 Squadron was employed on flying training during the day.		
	28/2/45.	1.	Operations were not laid on and 17 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were employed on Flying Training by day and 19 aircraft of No.420 Squadron by day, which consisted of cross countries, bombing air/air and fighter affiliation.		
			<b>STRENGTH AS AT 20th FEBRUARY, 1945.</b>	<b>OFFICERS.</b>	<b>OTHER RANKS.</b>
			R.A.F.	4	15
			R.C.A.F.	42	1227
			G.D.C.	2	4
			W.A.A.F.	1	137
			C.M.S.	1	-
			W.D.	2	-

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### OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.C.A.F. STATION, TULLAGHMORE,

No. of pages used for day 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			<p>covering had concrete bays. Good weather has made the progression of the laying of asphalt very favourable. No new building construction was commenced during the month. The roofs removed from two toilets and one side of an M.T. building used as a motorcycle and tyre repair shop in early January have not yet been replaced. The contractors, Messrs F. Shepherd &amp; Sons has having difficulty in securing materials. This is not understood is compressed roofing of an asbestos nature appears to be in common use throughout the country. If action is not forthcoming soon the matter will be referred to the Senior Works Officer. The restoration of damaged toilet facilities caused by the severe January weather has progressed well. 85 per cent of the repairs involving 245 bursts were effected by three L.S.D. aero engine mechanics. The only spares received to date were valves purchased locally. Toilet cisterns not too badly cracked were mended in Station Workshops. 30 of these have been on delivery for almost a month but very few will be required by the time they arrive owing to the success obtained by welding or brazing. Sodium lighting was installed on the main runways and after experiment with the setting of angles has proven most successful and of great assistance to aircraft in bad visibility. Floodlights have been installed at each end of subsidiary runways and experiments shown these to be of considerable help to the pilot in 'lining-up' with the runway on his approach in poor visibility. Six electric, remote controlled rocket-firing system has been selected and we are presently awaiting the occasion when assistance to crews in identifying 'position' may be given. Application was made to have the Airman's Mess painted throughout. This was approved and the change to date with completion of the kitchen has added a more cheerful atmosphere. It has undoubtedly affected the standard of messing which has gone up. Tables in the dining halls have been painted with light green tops and black legs. Bread and jam have been placed on the tables and much has been saved with less wastage. Salt and pepper shakers purchased through Service Institute Funds have been placed on the tables so that meals may be more suitably seasoned and have proven a very fine addition. Sugar is available off the servery instead of placed in tea and porridge in their preparation. Powdered egg is now</p>	SECRET.	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thalhope.			<p>prepared at the suggestion of AN.A.O. on the Airman's Housing Committee with changed Union and Board. On first trial - 20th February it was served in this way with taste deterring and proved very successful with far from the usual wastage as formerly powdered egg straight was not palatable. From the welfare standpoint the following is recorded.</p> <p>PERSONAL. Messengers' duties have been started and are placed on the notice board to inform the staff of any changes in duties or procedure, and is proving of interest to staff personnel.</p> <p>HYGIENE. There were fewer on sick parade since the weather has moderated and the general standard of health throughout the month is considered very good. There were no unusual cases of illness during the month with the exception of one case of malaria.</p> <p>Regular ANA-V.D. campaign continues on education (films and talks) and the following up of results. Results of trade tests in the previous quarter were very poor and in the interest of providing personnel more qualified in their trades and efficiency generally, trade improvement classes were given a new impetus. These were held for all trades but for those given to wireless and aero engine mechanics. Classes in these trades were conducted by (R.5512)M/S, Raymond C.F., who worked very hard in arranging the schedule of classes and in giving all lectures. Unofficially the results have been reported as a fine improvement over the last Trade Test Board.</p> <p>UNIT EDUCATION. Classes were conducted through the month in French, German, Spanish and Mathematics. Attendance of course, fluctuates. Primary business of operations. However, very keen interest is shown and the individual results bear out the opinion that the classes are well worth while.</p> <p>HOBBY SHOP. The Hobby Shop has been moved from the Airman's Mess to larger quarters to make room for the ever increasing attendance and also in the interests of pleasing for the days to follow. Wood and leather craft are proving very popular.</p> <p>CAMERA CLUB. With a view to post-German war employment, a camera club has been formed.</p>	<p>SECRET</p> <p>References to Appendices</p>

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### OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. STATION, THORTHORPE No. of pages used for day 2

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thorthorpe			<p>and from the present attendance there is no question that this organization will not be a success. Club rooms have been set up in an old building, which has been fitted with equipment contributed by the Y.M.C.A., consisting of an enlarger, eight developing dishes, 5 printing frames, pair of scales, film clips, 26.5 inch, together with three measuring glasses and mixing equipment. Chemicals for developing are being purchased through Service Institute funds. This organization is already a working unit with a membership of approximately 10.</p> <p>With the addition of the new Sports Officer to the Station, as reported in the month of January, plans are progressing for the outdoor programme. Boxing classes have been started for a forthcoming match at R.A.F. Station, Linton on approximately the 26th month and there are 20 boxers participating. In addition football schedules are being prepared and activities for the post-German war employment plan are being worked out.</p> <p>The Y.M.C.A. continues to be popular, where bridge and cribbage tournaments are held weekly. Debates are held once a week with an average attendance of 200. Movies are held twice a week for the airman under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A. and are very popular. These are in addition to the R.A.F. programme in the Station Cinema. Our Station Variety show during the month made 18 performances touring all Stations within 6 Group and played to an estimated audience of 7,150. In addition to visiting R.A.F. Stations they visited 115th W.S. Army General Hospital, Harrogate, Yorkshire for a two night stand. During this visit, in the afternoon they entertained 450 bed patients throughout the various wards. During the evenings the show played to 350 people. Hospitality given to the members of the troop by our American friends was of the highest order and will long be remembered by all members of the show. On the 26th February the show visited 116th Army General Hospital, Harrogate, bringing a bit of cheer to many patients, all of whom had been wounded in action on the Western Front. In the evening they played to an audience of 900 and were well received. An army camp was also visited during the month. There the show played to an audience of 300 soldiers at Camp Castle, Nr. Melton, Yorkshire. This camp contributed £5 voluntarily out of appreciation of the splendid</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SECRET.</b></p>

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thaltheys			<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SECRET</b></p> <p><b>REFERENCE:</b> The first edition of the Station Newspaper under the title of <b>WINGS NEWS</b> attached as Appendix I was printed. This enterprise has been received with such enthusiasm which is indicative that it will serve as a good morale builder.</p> <p><b>MONTH SERVICES:</b> This inauguration of the month order service provided for the purchase of cigarettes through Central Tobacco stores has proven very successful and it is a splendid system whereby the particular tastes of individuals may be met through securing their own favourite brands. Several large shipments have been received over periods varying from 7 to 10 days. This compares very favourably to the lengthy periods one must wait for smokes from the home front. Nothing but the highest prices can be offered even at this late date in the present hostilities, for the adoption of such a system. The work of the postal staff has been increased by this system. However, the satisfaction of pleasing the customers has made the work easy.</p> <p><b>EXCELLENT CONTROL:</b> The old adage that practice makes perfect has been proven by the cooperation between pilots and flying control personnel which is borne out by the excellent improvement in landing times since the adoption of the new Bomber Command landing procedure. Last month this station led the Base by holding to an average landing wall under two minutes. A record was established at 1 minute 10 seconds per aircraft for 30 aircraft.</p> <p><b>REINFORCEMENT:</b> After weeks of digesting rumours concerning the rearming of our two Squadrons with the conversion of Lancasters from Halifax, the go ahead signal has been received from Bomber Command. The task of raising demands for Lancasters Mark I &amp; III has commenced. A V.R.F. Fitting Party arrived on the 17th February from West Drayton, 26 Group and the installation of this equipment is proceeding favourably. A total of 18 aircraft were fitted during the month with H2S radar equipment, and this brings our "T" fitted aircraft up to nearly full strength with only four aircraft remaining to be fitted. Four new pieces of Dodge M.T. equipment have been received, and it is understood that more is on the way. These are a splendid addition to the M.T. Section. Replacements are being received</p>	Appendix I

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 1.

R.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I., para. 1210 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) R.G. 425 STATION, THOLTHORPE.No. of pages used for day. 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1/8/45.	1.	True to tradition, March came in like a lamb on this the first day of the month. 26 aircraft, 13 of No.425 and 13 of No.420 Squadron were detailed to attack Munich and all took off successfully. However, one returned early. All other aircraft attacked the primary target in 10/10th cloud with tops estimated from 5,000/10,000 and some also cumulous at 14,000 to 15,000 feet. The Master Bomber was heard by most crews who checked their positions by "Gee". Reports indicate that markings were plentiful and aircraft concentrations good in the target area. slight to moderate heavy flak with few predicted concentration to the port of track. One aircraft was seen to be shot down. The only flying training carried out was by No.425 Squadron, operating 4 aircraft during daylight hours. Information was received that No.425 Squadron was successful in taking the Gurney Trophy from No.420 Squadron for the month of February.		
	2/3/45.	1.	14 aircraft of No.420 and 16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron took off successfully to attack Cologne. 425 "G" was abortive over enemy territory. 426 "1" and "2" were abortive but not over enemy territory. All other aircraft successfully attacked the primary. There was Hll-5/10ths strata-cumulous cloud in the target area with tops between 4000 and 6000 feet. Most crews did not see the ground markers but observed some small blue smoke puffs. Visibility was good and all crews were able to identify buildings and landmarks, and all crews carried out the instructions of the Master Bomber. Reports, at least, show that bombing was well concentrated in the target area with medium size explosions between 1412 and 1415 hours. Heavy flak was moderate and there was evidence of visual prediction, the barrage bursting throughout the height band of the bomber stream. Defences at Bonn were active and 2 aircraft were damaged. C.B.13 S/L. A.E. Loy of No.5 District Headquarters, York - Auxiliary Services - visited the station and the Squadron. The prime reason for his visit was to liaise with the Squadron Adjutant and the P.W. & D.I. Officer with regard to the forthcoming outdoor sports programme.		
	3/3/45.	1.	Captain P. Remsey of the Canadian Dental Corps arrived on posting to replace Captain C.A. Besudet (C.D.C.) who was posted to the continent.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	3/3/45 (contd).		14 aircraft of No.420 and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed for operations for March 4th. This operation was cancelled at 2220 hours.		
			13 aircraft of No.425 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron carried out flying training during daylight hours.		
	4/3/45.	1.	<p>Operations were scrubbed in the late afternoon, so No.425 Squadron Party, previously arranged, was held in the evening in the airmen's Mess. Among the honoured guests, the following were present:</p> <p>Air Commodore J.L. Hurley (G.131) No.62 (RCAF) Base Commander, H/Q/C. W.V. McCarthy (G1807) Chief R.C. Chaplain Overseas from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters and W/O. V.C. Phelan "BFC" (J.27718) from No.62 (RCAF) Base. The Station Commander G.1181 - Group Captain D.H. Leconte "DQU" introduced the guests while the Squadron showed their usual sign of welcome by giving the "Indian Yell" ! All had their fill and the party ended at 2359 hours after the raffle draw for a Radio had been made. The lucky winner was R.20/624 Sgt. Hawk. E.D. (Night Engineer).</p> <p>At 0100 hours this morning there was slight enemy intruder activity over the aerodrome, which consisted of a strafing attack by one enemy aircraft. There were no casualties or damage of any consequence. "Gerry", by this visit, left the ground staffs with the feeling that he is still very much at war.</p>		
	5/3/45.	1.	<p>15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Chesham and all aircraft took off. 420 Squadron s/c "R" returned early being short on fuel (not over enemy territory) due to petrol shortage caused by the prevailing weather conditions. 420 Squadron aircraft "U" and "W" crashed in England as did also No.425 Squadron aircraft "J" and "S". 420 Squadron aircraft "M" and 425 "Q" are reported missing from this operation. 11 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 12 aircraft of No.425 Squadron attacked the primary target. All these aircraft were diverted, of which 12 landed at Juvincourt. There was 10/10ths strata cumulus cloud in the target area with tops from 8 to 12,000 feet. R.F.P. was sky marking red with green stars and was concentrated. Most of the crews heard the Master Bomber and followed his instructions. There was a good glow showing through the cloud, but accurate assessment is impossible.</p>		



OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. station, Walthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Walthorpe.	5/3/45 (cont).		flak was sporadic in barrage, principally very slight, but on some occasions seemed intense. Enemy's defences were active and three aircraft were damaged by flak. There was some evidence of enemy aircraft en route and also in the target area. There were no combats and no claims are made.		
	6/3/45.	1.	213 - Wing Officer S.S. Rowson (WAAF) from No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters, in company with the base W.A.A.F. "C" Officer, inspected the W.A.A.F. site, together with all sections in which W.A.A.F. personnel are employed. He reported all conditions to be highly satisfactory. The regional blood transfusion team from Leeds visited this station and 142 personnel were blood donors. There were no operational requirements. Three aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out flying training. One crew of No. 420 Squadron went to Ripon to do wet dinghy drill.		
	7/3/45.	1.	12 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Hamburg and all took off. No. 425 4/c "G" is reported missing from this operation. All other aircraft successfully attacked the primary target. There was no cloud and excellent visibility in the target area. The attack was opened on time; marking was considered good but some markers were scattered. Some of the crews reported small fires with smoke rising to 25000 feet. Others again report very good results. The Master bomber seemed to be jammed and the crews had difficulty in hearing him. The defences were very slight with light flak about 8,000 feet and heavy flak 14,000 to 16,000 feet. The defences at Plesburg, Kiel Canal and Heligoland were very active. Two of our aircraft were damaged. 3 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out flying training by day.		
	8/3/45.	1.	14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Hamburg. All our aircraft took off and successfully attacked the primary target. There was 5 to 10/10ths thin patch strata cumulous in the target area with tops assessed from 38000 feet. Ground markers were numerous but not very well concentrated. As the raid progressed a fair number of sky markers were seen and these too, were scattered. The Master bomber was heard but instructions were changed so rapidly that it was difficult to follow orders.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Pholthorpe.	8/3/45 (otd).		general good fires and explosions were seen between 2131 and 2138 hours. HEAVY flak was alight in barrage form from 14/19000 feet with some light flak bursting below the stream. searchlights were ineffective. There was some evidence of fighter activity but no combats took place. One aircraft of No. 425 squadron carried out training during the day.	
	9/3/45.		1. No operations scheduled for either day or night. One aircraft of No. 420 squadron carried out a cross country flight, while 3 aircraft of No. 425 squadron participated in flying training.	
	10/3/45.		1. signals R & T moved from its present location to that of radar HQ R & T, as the first step in combining signals/radar servicing. 2. Flying Officer R.A. Kemp (O.29939) arrived on posting from No. 62 (RAF) Base for technical Adjutant's duties. 420 squadron and 425 squadron were detailed for operations on March 11th. 3. 14 aircraft of 425 squadron carried out day training and 4 aircraft were on night training. 420 squadron also carried out a training programme by day.	
	11/3/45.		1. 14 aircraft of No. 420 squadron and 14 aircraft of No. 425 squadron were detailed to attack gascon. All aircraft took off and successfully attacked the primary. The target area was covered with 10/10ths cloud, tops from 5/8000 feet with visibility above unlimited. The aircraft concentration in the target area was excellent, but no assessment is possible due to cloud cover, although several crews reported grey-black smoke billowing through the cloud tops (about 1 mile square) indicating concentrated bombing. P.F.F. was adequate and the Master Bomber directed bombing satisfactorily. Most crews heard the Master Bomber clearly. Heavy flak was negligible but one aircraft was damaged. One aircraft of No. 425 squadron carried out training by day.	
	12/3/45.		1. No. 537 squadron officer H.E. Collett, from No. 62 (R.C.A.F.) Base inspected the W.A.A.F.F. quarters on a routine visit. 14 aircraft of each squadron were detailed to attack permand and all aircraft took off. 425 s/o "U" returned early with constant speed unit unserviceable. 27 aircraft attacked the target in 10/10ths strata cumulus, tops being about 5,800 feet.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. station, Thelthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe,	12/3/45 (cont'd)		Reports indicate that F.P.F. was on time, accurate and plentiful. The Master Bomber was heard clearly by most of the crews and was apparently spreading the attack. One large spot of black smoke (3 to 4 miles radius) was reported by all crews. Heavy fleck was practically negligible and no aircraft was damaged.		
	13/3/45.	1	A Section party was held in Flying Control which was a splendid success evidenced by the entire station when the tannoy switch was accidentally drawn revealing that all ranks participating were "riding high on the beam".  Radar daily servicing section moved from its present location in the Radar R & I Building to jointly share the accommodation occupied by signals Daily Servicing section. This move came about under the new organisation designed to provide a maximum effort of signals and radar personnel.  14 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Wuppertal and all aircraft took off. 420 Squadron a/c "W" returned early due to port inner engine being unserviceable. All the other aircraft successfully attacked the primary target in 6/10/10ths cloud with tops from 5/8000 feet with a filmy layer at 12600 feet. The target marking was insufficient. The Master Bomber was heard by most crews but there were too long breaks between comments. Some of the crews reported ground detail which was seen through breaks in the cloud, with some smoke and explosions. Accurate results cannot be assessed due to cloud cover.		
	14/3/45.	1.	14 aircraft of each squadron were detailed to attack Zweibrücken and all aircraft took off. 425 a/c "Z" returned early due to starboard inner engine being unserviceable. There was no cloud in the target area. Although there was slight ground haze the visibility was good. Crews were able to identify the target by the ground markers which were plentiful and well concentrated. As the raid progressed, fires appeared to be taking a good hold with smoke rising 4/5000 feet. Several crews reported large explosions from 2019 to 2026 hours. Some enemy aircraft were sighted but no combats took place. 3 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out flying training by day.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	Reference to Appendices
Thalhorpe.	15/3/45.	1.	No.26 Group fitting party made splendid progress with the installation of V.H.F. wireless equipment to be used for master bombing, and installations were completed on the last aircraft to-day. 10 aircraft of each Squadron were detailed to attack Gestrop Reguel and all took off. All the aircraft attacked the primary in clear weather with slight haze but horizontal visibility was good. P.P.F. opened the attack on time, marking was well concentrated during the early stages of the attack and was soon bombed out. Most of the crews checked their release points by "Oce" and found it accurate. One large explosion with black oily smoke up to 15000 feet could be seen 125 miles from the target. The master bomber was clearly heard and was most pleased with the bombing results. Flak was slight to moderate between 17/19000 feet with some concentrations of predicted heavy flak. Beckum and Dusseldorf defences were active and three of our aircraft were damaged.		
	Night 15/16/3/45.	1.	7 aircraft from each Squadron were detailed to attack Hagen and all aircraft took off. 425 "G" crash landed and 426 "Y" is reported missing, the pilot being J.90015 P/O. L.A. Penty of No.425 Squadron. All the aircraft attacked the primary target. There was no cloud but some ground haze and the visibility was good in the target area. The Master Bomber was heard but his signals were faint and somewhat distorted. Those crews who heard him distinctly followed his instructions and bombed the centre of the smoke. Markers appeared to be concentrated and plentiful. Bombing was good although there was evidence that some fires to starboard had taken a good hold. The reflection could be seen 50-60 miles away. Heavy flak was slight to moderate, bursting from 14/18000 feet. Enemy aircraft were active and fighter fires were reported as far back as Reading. 425 "Y" reports one combat and 420 "Y" reports two combats, but no claims are made. <i>6.12.11. 04.26.21. 2119. 2200. 4.10. 1945</i>		
	16/3/45.	1.	new crews of No.425 Squadron were engaged on flying training during the day. The squadrons were not required for operations.		
	17/3/45.	1.	our St. Patrick's Day Dance was interrupted owing to an air raid warning. The master switch was thrown and the station completely black out. This time/were not strafed as on the 14th of March.		



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

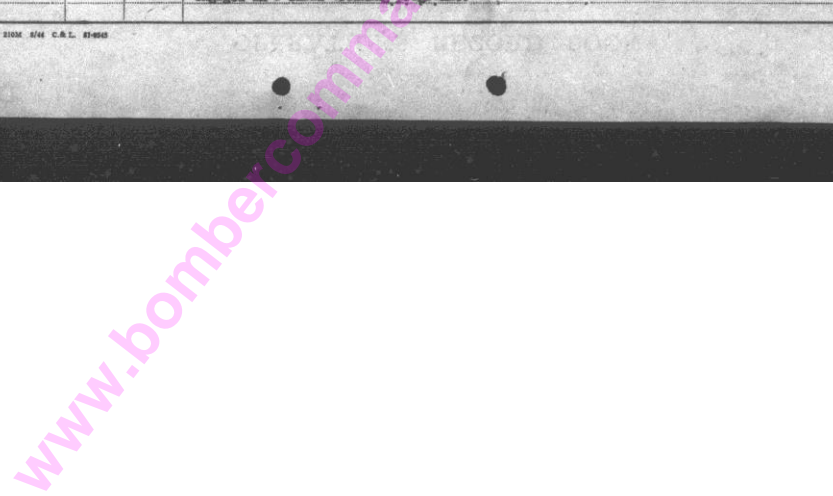
of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. STATION, THE WITTON.

No. of pages used for day. 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	17/3/45		14 aircraft of each Squadron were detailed for operations, which were cancelled at 1315 hours. Nine aircraft of No. 425 Squadron carried out flying training. 420 Squadron also carried out flying training.		
	Night 18/19/3/45.		1. 14 aircraft of each Squadron were detailed to attack Witten and all took off. 420/N landed at Herston Moor due to shortage of petrol. 425/G landed at Osnaby due to low fuel pressure and 425/Y crew landed 18 miles east of Reading. 420/Q and 425/B & R were reported as missing from this operation. All other aircraft (13 aircraft of No. 420 and 12 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron) attacked the primary in clear weather conditions, with slight ground haze and good visibility. P.P.P. considered to be on time and concentrated with a few stray target indicators which were not bombed. Most bombing was well placed in the marked area and the target reported as covered with smoke up to 3/4000 feet. The main concentration of fires was surrounded by incendiaries. Heavy flak was moderate with concentrations of predicted fire, the barrage mostly between 13,500 feet and 15,000 feet. Bochum, Gladbeck and Jaleskirchen defences were active. Searchlights were numerous but ineffective. Enemy fighters were active from the run in to target and as far back as 0330G. 420/T reports two combats and two aircraft claimed as damaged. 425/O reports two combats (probably the same aircraft) but no claim is made.		
	19/3/45.		1. 2 aircraft from our neighbouring station, Eastmoor, returning from operations landed here, being low on petrol.  There were no operational requirements.		
	20/3/45.		1. 15 aircraft of each Squadron were detailed and briefed for operations which were cancelled just before take off. Flying training was carried out by two aircraft of No. 425 Squadron during the day. One crew of No. 420 Squadron went to Elton for wet dingy drill. No. 420 Squadron, during the day, carried out a small training programme.		
	21/3/45.		1. 15 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Rhine and all took off. 425/N was abortive over enemy territory. 420/K landed at Seehring with three engines unserviceable. 29 aircraft attacked the primary target in clear weather conditions with slight ground haze but very good visibility. The Master		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	Reference to Appendices
Thalhorpe.	21/3/45	(contd)	<p>Bomber was heard clearly. Most of the crews bombed southerly yellow target indicators. There were one or two fair sized explosions, one with black smoke which rose from 2,000 feet and soon obscured the target. Gaggle formation was good on the way to the target but less concentrated on the return. Slight to moderate heavy flak was encountered with concentrated predictions mostly in barrage form from 10/15000 feet. Defences at Pochelt were active and 5 of our aircraft were damaged by flak.</p>		
	22/3/45.	1.	<p>The official No.425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron Crest, approved by His Majesty the King has been received. The crest is composed of the standard frame with the flying lark in the centre and "JE TE PLUMERAI" as the motto, meaning "I shall pluck you". This crest is being framed and will be officially presented in the near future by the Air Officer Commanding, No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group.</p> <p>17 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Dorset and all aircraft took off. 420/2 and 425/2N were abortive over enemy territory due to bombs hanging up over the target. 420/2 was abortive (not over enemy territory) due to an oil leak in the port outer engine. 30 aircraft attacked the primary target in clear weather with some ground haze and smoke but horizontal visibility was very good. Two crews saw yellow target indicators which were soon obscured by smoke. Most crews bombed the centre of the rising smoke on instructions from the Master Bomber. Due to the heavy smoke, crews were unable to assess the results of the attack accurately; but bombing appeared concentrated in the target area with a few small explosions and smoke up to 8,000 feet. Heavy flak was nil to slight, decreasing as the raid progressed. <del>Some</del> of our aircraft were slightly damaged.</p>		
	23/3/45.	1.	<p>P/O. E.B. Foraythe (J9218) - Air Gunner of No.425 Squadron was accidentally killed at approximately 1030 hours this morning. He was cycling out of a dispersal across the perimeter track when a truck from R.C.A.F. Station, Linton, loaded with ammunition hit him; he was instantaneously killed. No operations were required. 6 aircraft from No.425 Squadron carried out flying training during the day. No.420 Squadron also engaged in a small training programme.</p>		





## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. Station, Thelthorpe.No. of pages used for day 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	24/3/45.	1.	<p>C.1871 - Group Captain G. Lightbourn, Protestant Chaplain from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters paid a routine visit to this station.</p> <p>5 aircraft of No.425 squadron carried out flying training during the day.</p> <p>17 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Gladbeck and all aircraft took off. 420/A was abortive (not over enemy territory) port outer engine being unserviceable; 420/P attacked an alternative target. All other aircraft attacked the primary target in clear weather with some smoke and ground haze but good visibility. The target was identified visually and by red and green target indicators. The Master Bomber was heard most clearly on V.H.F. and crews followed his instructions. Many fires and explosions and smoke rising from 1 to 3000 feet was reported in the target area. Accurate assessment is impossible due to smoke cover. Heavy flak was alight with some evidence of prediction in the early stages of the attack. Later, heavy flak was in a loose barrage from 16/18000 feet, and two aircraft were damaged.</p>		
	25/3/45.	1.	<p>19 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 13 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Munster and all took off. All but 6 aircraft landed away from base due to bad visibility. All aircraft attacked the primary target in clear weather conditions with some ground haze, but good visibility. The target was identified visually, by red and green target indicators by the master bomber and Gee. Those who saw the target indicators reported them late, but very concentrated on the aiming point. There was evidence of undershooting in the early stages of the attack but this was corrected later. The target was well carpeted with fires and smoke rising as high as 2,000 feet. 16 aircraft were damaged by flak.</p>		
	26/3/45.	1.	<p>19 aircraft of No.425 Squadron carried out flying training. New crews of No.420 Squadron also carried out flying training. No operations were scheduled.</p>		
	27/3/45.	1.	<p>11 aircraft of No.425 Squadron carried out flying training during the day, as also did some aircraft of No.420 Squadron. No operations came through, as plans are going ahead for the 420 Squadron party which will be held tonight. The party was a great success and gathered in the cinema N.A.A.F.I. during the course of the evening called - G/O. L.H. Leconte 'MPO', on behalf of the crew presented w/Ol. McCullough R. (R21758)</p>		



Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	27/3/45		with an orchid on behalf of the ground crew.		
	(over)				
	28/3/45		1. Adverse weather conditions prevented any air training. Lectures were given to simon personnel. No operations were arranged.		
	29/3/45		1. C.37287 - P/O. A.M. noworthy posted to this Unit from No.62 (R.C.A.F.) base in the capacity of gas and fire officer.		
			15 aircraft of No.25 squadron carried out flying training during the day. No.20 squadron aircraft also carried out flying training by day. Operations were not scheduled.		
Wight	30/3/45		1. 18 aircraft of No.20 squadron and 16 aircraft of No.25 squadron were detailed to attack the peak area at Hamburg and all took off. 4250 is reported missing from this operation. All other aircraft attacked the primary in 10/10ths strata-cumulous with tops estimated from 4,000 to 8,000 feet. P.F.F. was well controlled by the master bomber but markers were well scattered over a large area. The master bomber was heard clearly on V.H.F. and 1196 by all crews, giving clear and concise instructions which were continually varied. No assessment of the raid is possible due to cloud cover. Heavy flak was moderate in a barrage to all heights covering the stream. defences at Kiel canal and Fenzel were active. Three of our aircraft were damaged by flak. Many crews sighted M.B. 262's in the target area, attacking aircraft in the gaggle but no combats were reported.		
	31/3/45		1. V. 3011 - squadron officer H.A. back from 6 group headquarters in company with major E.H. Penaley, C.M.H.Q. C.5882 S/L. H.D. Brunton and C.25665 S/L. H.P. Lyon, both of R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited the station to inspect the Airmen's Mess from the hygiene standpoint and were favourably impressed with the overhauling this establishment was receiving.		
			<u>STRENGTH AS AT MARCH 31st, 1945.</u>	<u>OFFICERS.</u>	<u>OTHER RATES.</u>
			R.A.F.	4	9
			R.C.A.F.	49	1236
			C.D.C.	2	4
			W.A.A.F.	1	138
			C.H.S.	1	nil.
			W.D.	2	nil.

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. station, Tholthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.			<p><b>SUMMARY.</b></p> <p>during the month of March, the weather was exceptional for this time of year with the result that extensive flying was carried out both over this country and the Continent. The fine weather lent itself to a general cleanup of the station and to the levelling off of runs, ploughed in grass verges, with the result that grass surfaces have taken on a new appearance, no longer presenting a hazy and unsightly appearance, on the tarmac and along roadways. It also made possible the completion of much of the road paving and the laying of drains - a vast improvement to the station.</p> <p>The incidence of sickness also dropped with the splendid weather. There were no cases of serious illness or outbreaks of infectious diseases. The V.D. rate has remained unchanged although the usual campaign with reference to lectures has been continued. The station hospital was brightened by the addition of curtains which were made possible from officers' and N.C.O.'s mess funds. The general health of the station is considered very good.</p> <p>Material improvements have been made on the W.A.A.F. site with the redecorating of the picket post and with the provision of additional furnishings. The hairdresser's shop was also dalled up. An order was placed for a hair dryer to be purchased out of service institute funds, which will be a contribution in the interests of discipline, i.e., better turned out airwomen. Since the arrival of no. 5236 S/O, M.G. Payne (WAAF), the new W.A.A.F. "SG" officer, a general all round improvement with reference to the W.A.A.F. section has been noticed from the welfare standpoint as well as discipline. Every Thursday night Mrs. Watson from Leeds University attends in the W.A.A.F. N.A.A.F.I. to conduct classes in handcraft.</p> <p>Over the month considerable improvement has been brought about in the M.T. section, both on the surface and from the operational standpoint. Operational efficiency was increased by the completion of the M.T. establishment, with the exception of 1 pader van and one 30 cwt tender. This equipment should be expedited. One 30 cwt and one 5/10 cwt, and one passenger car were received as replacements together with two small vans. However,</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			<p>it will soon be necessary to convert a number of Dodge trucks presently used for runs on and off the station to nitrogen tenders, the purpose of which they were supplied. A new Dodge three ton water tender was received during the month. It is appreciated that this equipment must be in first class condition to meet any situation. However, the addition of such a piece of equipment less the water tank would be a splendid addition for on and off the station duty runs. This splendid type of equipment will be maintained in a parked position, the majority of the time. Therefore it would appear more practicable if an older vehicle, like some of the equipment that is supplied against establishment was fitted for this purpose, thus making now transport available for more strenuous work.</p> <p>Approximately 83,000 miles were run during the month, there being 2,700 individual trips. There were only two accidents, which might only be termed one as two transports on the strength of the station were involved. Neither were damaged and both drivers exonerated. The M.T. yard has been repaired on a self-help basis by the filling of pot holes with gravel and cinders scooped from the Clerk of works, which was scattered about the station. A fence was also placed around the yard and gates are being awaited so that once equipment is parked for the night, it will not be possible for it to be removed without permission. Several of the rooms in the main office were given a thorough house cleaning, and all will be painted. The roof blown off during the month of January was replaced with the result that stores and the paintshop are again in use.</p> <p>Considerable thought and effort has been directed toward making the Airmen's Mess less regimental and more attractive. Painting of the dining halls and tables is nearing the point of completion. It is also proposed to purchase, very shortly, potted plants to be placed on the tables and window ledges. Murals and cartoons are also proposed for the panels on the walls. These changes will add to the cheerfulness of the Mess, and without question contribute to a better standard of messing. An entry in the Bomber Command piping ball competition to be held on the 23rd April was placed. Additional supervision is being given to both officers' and sergeants' messes, thereby improving the general discipline of the messing staffs.</p>		



OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.A.F. STATION, TELFERHOLE.

No. of pages used for day 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			<p>The battle "inside stacking of incendiaries vs "outside stacking" ended this week. The final test took place on the 29th March and was attended by the commanding officer, the local fire brigade and the R.F.S. The decision therefore is cast in favour of no. 3 hanger as a permanent fixture for the armament section which presently houses this equipment. Of the 132 bombs functioned only four failed to go off and these were taken from outside stacks. The exercises using 500 lb incendiary bomb (AJ-476) have been cancelled and existing stocks returned to the maintenance unit. During the month 1,737.4 tons of high explosive bombs were delivered to the Germans in Germany. The week of March 11th saw the first of the Lancaster armament equipment to arrive. Information was, and is also being received on the new and secret gyro gun site and graser wash targets. Personnel are on course on this equipment and when the "JANOS" arrive we will be in a position to cope with our maintenance requirements. The anti-tamper device has been removed from the no. 37 series of long delay bomb pistols. It was found that the striker was bending in the groove of the anti-tamper device and caused a very high percentage of failures. The modification is the fitting of a striker guide sleeve which eliminated the anti-removal device. The pistols are not cleared for use because it has not been decided what colour the arming vanes should be painted for identification purposes. The armament section claims credit for suggesting the fuel requirements by supplying wood and waxed impregnated paper bomb rings which burn more easily than the fuel presently being supplied to the station, i.e. coke. This coke is far too large for the size of stove provided throughout the station. There is very little small stuff in it, and is more the type required in a foundry for the purpose of blast furnaces. In the interests of the economy of fuel something should be done to have this coke crushed prior to delivery to the station. Furthermore, the station has not the personnel to break the coke, and in so doing considerable wastage of fuel is realized.</p> <p>There were 7 aircraft crashed for the month of March. 21 members of the crew crews involved were killed. Of accidents among non flying personnel, 2 airmen suffered fractured clavicles due to falls from bicycles. One officer was instantly killed as a result of an accident which happened on the aerodrome when he was knocked from his bicycle to the perimeter track, having collided with a truck from a neighbouring station.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	Reference to Appendix
			<p>mail service to and from Canada is exceptionally good. Since the adoption of the Armed Forces Air Letter, the airmail has now almost completely disappeared by the opposition of its blue rival. In addition the cut in postage from 6d to 3d means a big saving to personnel. This form makes possible speedy mail delivery as mail posted in Ottawa is received within four days in many instances. Both these services are a credit to our R.C.A.F. mail squadron and the Canadian postal authorities.</p> <p>The publication of our station newspaper "Glacier News", the second issue of which came forth during the month, has created great interest. A copy is appended. The paper is sold at 3d a copy to help pay for some of the outlay to cover the circulation of 1500 copies.</p> <p>Amusement continues at a high level with a full time programme. Our camera club has become very popular and has rescheduled the stage where developing, printing and enlarging is done. Between twenty and 30 airmen are making full use of the club rooms facilities. The hobby shop is proving a very popular spot in the evenings and recently a competition was held and a very fine assortment of articles manufactured therein were on display. \$15 was given away in the form of prizes. The majority of the work done is with wood in the construction of model aircraft and travelling valises. Leather work is done in the making of pocket books, handbags etc. The shop is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. There are always personnel to be found during their spare time and day off busily engaged in the manufacture of some article to suit their favour. The Corporals Club will have its official opening during the early part of the month of April. Through the Canadian Y.M.C.A. furniture was obtained, and a very cheery atmosphere has been created in what is known as the Corporals' lounge which has been practically vacant for the past 18 months. Furniture is also being secured from the Y.M.C.A. to take care of the Games room off the Airmen's Quarters which will be converted into a lounge sitting room for airmen. Auxiliary services have agreed to supply an airmen to take care of these rooms.</p>		

*Heard*  
(Vd. 150000) Group Captain,  
Commanding Officer.

R.C.A.F. STATION, TRELHARPE.

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R.A.F. Form 540  
See instructions for use of this form in R.R. and A.C.I.  
para. 2388 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

### OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THORLORPE.

No. of pages used for day 11.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET:	References to Appendices
Thalorpe, N	1/4/45.		The Squadrons were not required for operations today. This being Easter Sunday it brought large attendances at Church, which could not be fully accommodated. Paffodils were purchased to add a touch of cheerfulness and the spiritual uplift was much appreciated by all. There were fresh eggs too, which added a touch of home, although there was no Easter Parade.		
	2/4/45.		Operations were called for to-day but were later scrubbed. The 8th Canadian Victory Loan Campaign was unofficially opened, and after two hours of canvassing, 425 Squadron's quota of \$140,000 was completed reaching a figure of \$144,900 by the end of the day. Flying training was carried out by both Squadrons.		
	3/4/45.		O.57284 - P/O. B.E. Dealata, Adm., was posted to this Unit from R.C.A.F. Station, Skipton as a replacement for P/O. R.P. Tertra (O.9975), in the capacity of Committee of Adjustment Officer.  The Squadrons were detailed and briefed twice for last night's operation. The operation was scrubbed three times in 24 hours. There were no flying operations of any description, and lectures were held in the different sections.  The Victory Loan Committee was very busy displaying posters about the Station and the Compressors were busy soliciting subscriptions.		
	4/4/45.		17 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 13 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Hartung phenomena. All aircraft took off and successfully attacked the primary target in ml to 4,10ths low stratus cloud with tops 2,000 feet with good visibility. The Master Bomber was heard clearly and crews bombed Red and Green Target Indicators, which were well concentrated. The target area was also identified visually by the river and dock area.  Several explosions were noted, one of which took place at 2235 hours followed by a column of smoke rising from 3,000 feet. Heavy flak was slight to moderate in barrage, bursting below the stream with some light flak bursting about 10,000 feet. Searchlights were numerous but ineffective. Defences at Heligoland and Beal were active. Three aircraft were damaged by flak. Two combats took place but no claims are made.		
	5/4/45.		Operations were not scheduled for tonight or to-day.  The official opening of the Corporals' Lounge was held this evening. It was a very		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Walthorpe.	5/4/45	(contd).	<p>A victory Loan raffle was held in the Station cinema. This was made a very jovial affair by resorting to various methods to induce people to buy bonds, e.g. No.425 Squadron Adjutant - G.13682 - P/L. J.E.R. St. Amour was willing to stand on his head for £200.00! P. Gillis - WOL. H.J. LeBalle, the Station Warrant Officer, offered his moustache and his hair for £500.00. He still possesses his hair.</p>		
	6/4/45		<p>There were no operations, and training programmes were carried out.</p>		
	7/4/45		<p>No.420 Squadron Ground School was started for the Conversion programme, in order to receive the first influx of Lancaster.</p>		
	8/4/45		<p>G.11408 - P/L. C.A. Motyer was posted to this Unit from R.C.A.F. Station, Skipton to replace Father Lepicque, R.C. Chaplain who was posted to No.5 District Headquarters, Yorks. All ranks were sorry to see Father Lepicque leave the station because of his long association with No.425 Squadron. He was also reluctant to go. However, our loss will be somebody else's gain. He was instrumental in transforming our dismal chapel into all the appearances of a church, which did much in so far as the spiritual welfare of all ranks under his charge was concerned. The R.C. Chapel at station Walthorpe is a credit to the station and a monument to P/L. Lepicque.</p>		
			<p>15 aircraft of No.420 Squadron and 15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed to attack Hamburg, and all took off. 425/E was abortive over enemy territory due to being too far off track owing to combats and evasive action. All the aircraft were diverted on return to this country. There was 10/10ths thin low stratus estimated between 2000 and 5000 feet in the target area. The weather was clear above with good visibility. The Master bomber was heard by some crews but most had difficulty in hearing him at all. Most of the crews bombed sky markers or on H2S as Target indicators soon disappeared in the cloud. Large explosions were noted between 2236 and 2240 hours, lighting up the cloud and smoke penetrating the cloud. Heavy flak was slight to moderate between 14, and 19000 feet with some evidence of prediction. Searchlights were few and ineffective. The defences at Kiel Canal were active.</p>		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 425 Station Thelthorpe.

No. of pages used for day 11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thelthorpe.	8/4/45.	(contd).	single and twin engine aircraft and jet aircraft were sighted. Several inconclusive combats took place, but no claims were made.		
			Within one week of the opening of our Victory Loan Campaign, No. 425 Squadron reached the mark of £ 90,000 more than double its objective of £ 40,000, and actually more than the whole station quota of £ 90,000.		
	9/4/45.		A Victory Loan Banquet was held for all Section Heads and their conversers in the Officers' Mess. Detailed results by sections on the Camp were read, and several of the Section Heads took part in the speeches. The music was provided by R.130308 - LAC. Howe, R. at the piano, and R.189772 - LAC. Johnson, L., played the drums, providing a light musical programme. A very enjoyable evening was had, and the food was excellent, thanks to the P.M.C. of the Officers' Mess - W/O. H.C. Ledoux (G.911).		
	10/4/45.		No. 420 Squadron attained £ 10,050 worth of sales over its quota of £ 40,000. 12 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 12 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack the Marshalling Yards at Leipzig and all took off. 420/T was abortive - not over enemy territory - as the starboard outer engine became unserviceable, 425/K attacked an alternative target - 425/K bombed at Woodbridge. 22 aircraft attacked the primary target in clear weather conditions with good visibility. All crews report having heard the Master Bomber before T.O.T., and followed his instructions as far as possible. Early crews report a good concentration of markers. Bombing appeared accurate, with smoke rising to about 3000 feet. The Route and Tactics were good and the weather was better than expected. All crews arrived over the target early due to winds being on a reciprocal to those expected and sufficient time was not wasted. The fighter escort was strong adequate. Heavy flak was slight but visually predicted. None of our aircraft were damaged. 425/T sighted a jet aircraft (single), had a combat, and claims one ME.163 damaged.		
	11/4/45.		No operational or flying training was carried out to-day. However, crews attended ground school lectures.		
	12/4/45.		Weather Squadron was required for operations to-day. Flying training was laid on but was suspended owing to bad weather conditions.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Gholtherpe.	13/4/45.		20 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 17 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack Kiel and all took off. All aircraft were diverted on return to the United Kingdom. 17 aircraft attacked the target in 10/10ths thin low cloud tops from 3000 to 4000 feet with horizontal visibility good. The Master Bomber was heard clearly by all crews and ordered the secondary target to be attacked. The marking was plentiful but scattered for the most part. Several explosions were seen through the cloud but assessment is difficult due to cloud conditions. Heavy flak was slight in the target area, bursting from 14/27000 feet. Light flak was moderate to heavy, bursting between 10/20000 feet. There was some evidence of enemy fighters and one combat was reported. One of our aircraft was damaged. No. 425 Squadron reached the £100,000 mark in Victory Bond Sales.		
	14/4/45.		There was no flying of any description apart from the return of aircraft from diversion bases.		
			The second Victory Loan Dance was held and a table was set up to welcome subscribers. Business was conducted with pleasure and the dance was an all round successful event. CAN.R.124130 - LAC. Hillows. E.T., acted as Master of Ceremonies and did a splendid job of introducing the artists in a small entertainment programme held during intermission.		
	15/4/45.		The Squadrons were not required for operations.		
	16/4/45.		We were not required for operations to-day.		
	17/4/45.		19 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 20 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed and briefed for operations, which were cancelled at 1300 hours, just before take off.		
	18/4/45.		19 aircraft of No. 420 Squadron and 20 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were detailed to attack the airfield on the island of Heligoland and all took off. 425 was abortive but not over enemy territory. The port outer engine of this aircraft cut while setting course. The pilot attempted to proceed to the target but was unable to maintain height. 420/4 is reported missing from this operation. All the other aircraft attacked the primary in clear weather with extremely good visibility, although there was some thin stratus about 12000 feet on the run-up. Some crews saw Red Target Indicators which were short of the aiming point but all were able to identify the target visually. The Master Bomber was heard clearly commencing at H-15. As the raid progressed, markers were obliterated by the		



OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) RAF 125 SQUADRON, THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

No. of pages used for day 10

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thaltheorpe.	18/4/45	(old)	was seen to rise from 3/5000 feet. Numerous small fires and explosions were noted. One crew, which arrived after the attack was over, reported complete obliteration of the target. The smoke had cleared leaving an excellent view of the demolition. Heavy flak was negligible, but more than 6 bursts at any one time. Most of the crews reported no enemy aircraft seen, but the crew that was late reported 3 H.E. 262's directly above at 700 yards range, flying the same course. Although our aircraft was an only three engines, the H.E. 262's did not attack.	
	18/4/45		Flying training was carried out by both Squadrons.	
	20/4/45		No operations or flying training were carried out to-day by either Squadron.	
	21/4/45		There were no operations but flying training was carried out by both Squadrons.	
	22/4/45		17 aircraft of No. 120 Squadron and 16 aircraft of No. 125 Squadron were detailed to attack the town of Bremen and all took off. All aircraft were shortive over enemy territory. The target area was obscured with strata cumulus cloud from 6 to 10/10ths from 6/3000 feet. Hazing was seen by some crews and this appeared to be concrete but most of the crews could not see the markers. The Master Bomber was heard at 1850 hours instructing crews to stand by for further instructions and at 1905 hours the operation was cancelled. Defences at Wilhelmshafen were active. Heavy flak was in predicted form.	
	23/4/45		Operations were not called for but flying training was carried out by both Squadrons.	
	24/4/45		G. 305 - W/O. G. E. J. Gray, M.B.E., arrived on attachment to replace B. 12578 - W/O. F. B. McCarthy, as Commanding Officer, No. 120 Squadron.	
	25/4/45		18 aircraft of No. 125 Squadron were detailed to attack Wengrange and all took off. All aircraft attacked the primary in clear weather with some haze. Visibility was from 7-10 miles. Few crews saw the red target indicators because of the smoke and mist. All crews followed the Master Bomber's instructions which were clear and easily carried out. Bombing seemed to be quite well concentrated around the aiming point, although there was some evidence of undershooting. Crews report the gaggle quite well controlled but complained of bunching over the target. The stream tended to spread after bombing, but was recalled by the leader. Heavy flak in barrage form from 8/11,000 feet was slight to moderate, decreasing as the raid progressed. Defences at Spiekeroog were active.	

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SECRET

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thaltheys	25/4/45	(std)	One crew reported sighting an ME 262 on the run in to the target but they were unclassified. Plans were laid for the station parade to be held on the 28th April when a shield and pennant will be presented in honour of the station's success in the Victory Loan Campaign. The Rt. Hon. Vincent and Mrs. Healey, will be our guests for the occasion.	
	26/4/45		15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were detailed for operations which were cancelled. As the weather was bad, No.420 Squadron was not engaged on flying training but lectures and discussions were held on Lancaster aircraft.	
	27/4/45		15 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were again detailed for operations but these were later cancelled. No.420 Squadron continued flying training, consisting of cross country flights. 213 Wing Officer S.R. Downson (WAAF) from No.6 (WAAF) Group Headquarters, in company with V.1011 Squadron Officer E.L. Bell of No.6 Group Headquarters carried out an inspection of all W.A.A.F. quarters and places of employment in connection with the competition given in competition for the best W.A.A.F. Setup in Bomber Command.	
	28/4/45		Work ceased at 1100 hours for all ranks except where it was necessary employ personnel on essential station duties in preparation for the parade to be held in the afternoon. The Squadrons and station Headquarters fell in on their own parade grounds and marched to the Parade Square where they lined up in a hollow square in front of a line in close column of flights. At 2.15 P.M., the station Commander commenced an inspection, prior to the arrival of the guests, which had to be curtailed by reason of a rain and gale storm driven by a strong wind. The Squadrons were marched on the double to the T & I Hangar and were lined up just in time to receive the guests. The shield was presented to the Commanding Officer for the Operational Station attaining the highest standing in the Victory Loan, together with a pennant, whilst No.425 Squadron was presented with a shield for the highest standing of any Operational Squadron in the Group. After the presentations, all ranks gathered round and many were introduced to our distinguished visitors. Mr. Healey made a very appropriate speech, thanking all members of the station for the marvellous contribution they had made toward the 5th Victory Loan.	
	29/4/45		The crews were kept busy doing recobats and Ditchy Drills.	
	30/4/45		There were no operations and No.420 Squadron continued its conversion programme with 12 on cross country flights.	

W/2781/0212 2134 214 C.A.L. H.G.H.

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### OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. SQUADRON No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices																		
Thaltheorpe.	30/4/45.	(cont.)	<p>0-12536 - P/L. H.L.S. Burns, Admin. attached from No.6 (HAF) Group Headquarters for duties as Assistant Adjutant.</p> <p><b>STRENGTH.</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>ORDER BANS.</b></span></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">R.A.F.</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">69</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1055</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.D.O.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.A.A.F.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">130</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C.N.S.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nil.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.D.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nil.</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>S U M M A R Y</b></p> <p>The month heralded in by a period of rather unsettled weather, but the nights were mainly fine and clear. The 8th, 9th and the 10th were fine but hazy, with night frosts. It became unsettled again to the 15th from whence a spell of summer like weather with unusually high temperatures (73 degrees F) which lasted until the 20th of the month. Subsequently there were changeable conditions until the advent of wintry conditions on the 26th. From the 26th until the end of the month there were frequent showers of snow, sleet, hail, rain, together with a gale and thunderstorms in the vicinity of the 29th. Frosts were experienced at night. The weather made flying difficult this month, as when the skies were clear, visibility was often marred by smoke and fog. The severe weather of the last few days interfered considerably with the 420 Squadron conversion programme. The temperature was sufficiently low at an evening to cause a cancellation of station soft ball games.</p> <p>No. 420 Squadron was stood down on the 25th April to commence the conversion programme to Lancasters. The training programme will be completed early in the month of May. The Squadron has received its full establishment of Lancaster aircraft. The Technical Warrant Officers have been busy giving instructions to aircrew on the operation of this aircraft and a party of R.A.F. Senior N.C.O.s., has been instructing ground crews on maintenance of 6 aircraft.</p>	R.A.F.	4	6	R.C.A.F.	69	1055	C.D.O.	2	4	W.A.A.F.	1	130	C.N.S.	1	Nil.	W.D.	2	Nil.		
R.A.F.	4	6																					
R.C.A.F.	69	1055																					
C.D.O.	2	4																					
W.A.A.F.	1	130																					
C.N.S.	1	Nil.																					
W.D.	2	Nil.																					

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalherpe.			<p>which will be allotted to No. 425 Squadron are presently at Base Major Servicing and delivery is expected within the first few days of the month of May, when their conversion programme will commence.</p> <p>There has been an urgent need for extra M.T. in the flights, particularly for emergency purposes. 2 hester vans were modified in Station Workshops known as "spare wagons" which have proven of inestimable value, and which are a credit to the No. 425 I/O Workshops - CAN.E. 70237 - SGT. Russell, W.D.</p> <p>The M.T. Section can proudly hold itself up on the strength of not having had one accident during the month. It is felt that the Police Motor Patrol, which aims to prevent reckless driving and speeding has played a big part. Discipline has been noted out in this direction against all offenders, and with the continuance of such a patrol there is no reason to believe that the efficiency of the M.T. Section will attain a higher level. M.T. serviceability has been better this month than previously. The M.T. Yard has been fenced and gates have now been installed so that when M.T. is parked there for the night it cannot be removed without proper authority.</p> <p>During the month decorating in the Airmen's Mess was completed; extensions to the window sills have been added to accommodate potted plants, which have added considerably to the cheerfulness of the Mess. Readings are presently being transcribed to the wall panels to add a bit more brightness. The standard of messing has improved but it is questionable if it can reach a higher peak because of the out-dated equipment with which the Mess is equipped. With the progression of the war to date, there is little point in recommending that cooking equipment be removed from closed down stations in Canada. If this was possible there is no doubt that our personnel could enjoy a much higher standard of messing on the rations that we are now receiving. 16 lb. pressure boilers servicing Mess kitchens are entirely inadequate for the proper cooking of food considering that drains must be made on the supply for the washing of dishes and sufficient hot water for other purposes. Then again provision should be made within establishments to provide civilian personnel with experience as to how to fire these boilers. Experience has proven that it is very difficult to obtain Service personnel with any knowledge, and that again</p>		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.C. 7. Station, Wainwright No. of pages used for day 11

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
<u>Waltham</u>			<p>they have not proved satisfactory, despite the efforts made to train them. In 99 cases service personnel available for such work (General Duties) are too immature for an inexperienced to have any appreciation of what is required.</p> <p>Trade Improvement Classes were continued throughout the month in preparation for the next Trade Test Board. These were pepped up in the case of fitters as the Lancaster aircraft carries Merlin engines. Classes were also started for Armourer (Guns) and Armourer (Bombs) in preparation for their trade test as Armourer (General). A meeting of all armourers was convened and the Station Administrative Officer addressed this meeting on behalf of the Commanding Officer, stating the importance of trade improvement and the importance of qualifying for reentering to the trade of armourer. The observations raised on the last Trade Test Board with regard to trade improvement have formed a model for better trade improvement classes. Bomb classes, i.e. credits in subjects toward attaining junior certification are in operation and cover two hours per week per subject. As soon as additional Canadian Legion educational services booklets are received, classes in all certification subjects will be held. Classes in languages are proving very popular. Classes for coaching in history and mathematics are receiving a good attendance. These classes are the foundation for the post-war educational programme. The hobby shop and Gunners Club are still popular. Photocompetition in arts and crafts was held early in the month and much of the work produced was of a very high order and considering the tools and equipment available, might be classed as incredible. Mr J.R. Park of the Leeds Committee for Adult Education, together with G.M.O.S. - E/O, V.G.S. Galloway, Officer i/c R &amp; I, Section acted as Judges. Another competition of this nature will be held in June.</p> <p>A full weekly entertainment programme continues and is of the highest order, consisting of Y.M.C.A. and E.N.S.A. Movies. Having been visited by the "formers", it is hoped that London Headquarters and Group will see fit to send more stage shows our way as E.N.S.A. does not seem fit to visit this station. This form of entertainment is most welcome and much appreciated by all ranks. Two dances a week are held and are very popular, although considerable money must be spent on transportation in order to bring girls of the various services to the station.</p>	<p><b>SECRET.</b></p>

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			<p>SECRET.</p> <p>As this unit is so isolated it is felt that some consideration with regard to the cost of transport should be met as Service Institute funds are very small, the only source being N.A.A.F.I. rebates, which should beget providing extra messing for corporals and below. The outdoor sports programme officially gets under way on the first of the month and the station has 13 ball teams. Volley ball Nets have been erected on the eight living sites together with the Technical site. Horseshoe pitches have also been provided. Two ball diamonds were skinned and benches are being manufactured out of scrap material. The addition of P.T. &amp; D. personnel over the month has proven considerable value on the discipline side as well as proving an asset to the outdoor sports programme.</p> <p>The wing off the N.A.A.F.I. Airman's' Canteen has been completely decorated, two rooms forming a lounge and games room for the Corporals' and one room, games and sitting room for aircraftman. Furniture has been secured through Auxiliary Services and N.A.A.F.I. are providing curtains for the windows and repairs for the billiard table. An airman has also been secured through Auxiliary Services to take care of this building.</p> <p>There were no serious outbreaks of infectious diseases during the month; no dangerously ill cases and no serious aircraft or other accidents. The Group Ombudsman spent three days on the station and treatments were administered. The health of all ranks is considered very good.</p> <p>During the month 900.8 tons of high explosives were delivered from this station to enemy targets. This tonnage would have been far greater had it not been that No. 420 Squadron was stood down to commence its conversion training programme.</p> <p>There were no outstanding additions or improvements made through Works Services during the month. Quagmires have been filled in, and grain seed planted. Clean-up parties were organized through the medium of Duty Watches and the station given a thorough going over with the result that it has taken on a new appearance, coupled with the foliage which spring brings.</p> <p>The month brought history to the station by reason of the stupendous results obtained by subscribers to the 8th Victory Loan Campaign. Our Campaign Manager, G.13602 P.T. R.P. St. John, 212 a magnificent job and his name, no doubt, has gone from coast to coast.</p>	

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THULCHOPE.

No. of pages used for day 11.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
			<p>in Canada, adding a link to the propaganda machine in the sale of bonds to those on the Home Front. His name should go down in the history of this Station together with that of the Hon. Vincent Massey who presented the Air Officer Commanding's Trophies in recognition of our splendid success. This Station topped all operational units, whilst No. 425 Squadron topped all Operational Squadrons, with No. 420 Squadron coming second. The achievements of the Squadrons and all departments on this Station speaks highly for all ranks. The success attained in the 8th Loan far exceeded that accomplished in the 7th Victory Loan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This month brought forth the third issue of our Station Newspaper "Gleanings News", copy of which is appended as Appendix 3.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The comparisons between the 7th and 8th Victory Loan Campaigns are appended as Appendix 4.</p>		<p style="text-align: right;">Appendix 3.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Appendix 4.</p>
			<p><i>W. H. LINDON</i>                  (W. H. LINDON) Group Captain,                  Commanding Officer,                  R.C.A.F. STATION, THULCHOPE.</p>		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 1

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 2

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	1/5/45.		Conversion training to Lancaster X aircraft is proceeding well in favour of No.420 Squadron.	
	2/5/45.		No.425 Squadron received its first Lancaster X to-day. Normal flying training was carried out by No.420 Squadron and with the addition of more Lancasters in No.425 Squadron, this Squadron was able to employ 5 aircraft.	
	3/5/45.		A mock battle was laid on for No.420 Squadron with the usual briefing, and an operational take off was carried out with 18 aircraft taking the air within 15 minutes. The aircraft strength of No.425 Squadron has reached 15, and flying training was carried out in that number.	
	4/5/45.		Flying training was carried out to-day,	
	5/5/45.		The weather was very poor with the result that training was scrubbed in the afternoon for 420 Squadron, although 425 Squadron carried out training with 4 aircraft. The water pump supplying water to the static tank servicing most of the station broke down. The station Engineer was successful in securing a pump from a firm in York to service the equipment. This pump has not the required capacity to meet station needs, and it is recommended that a pump with at least 60,000 gallon capacity for a 12 hour period should be held in readiness to meet any emergency. The new installation, which is temporary, is capable of 2000 gallons per hour only, which is not adequate.	
	6/5/45.		Daylight flying training was carried out by both squadrons, and to-day brought the nicest day we have experienced to date, this year.	
	7/5/45.		News was received early in the day that VE day would be officially announced on the 8th of May by Prime Minister Churchill at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. A tentative programme for VE day was drawn up, but the adherence of some people brought about celebrations, on the eight living sites, where Officers and other ranks are accommodated, which took the form of small scale bonfires. 425 Squadron carried out training during the day and No.420 Squadron employed 7 aircraft on training during the morning. All aircraft and mechanical transport were immobilised in preparation for the stand-down tomorrow. No.6 Group softball programme opened with R.C.A.F. Station, Eastmoor, visiting this station for the first game of the season. The Station Commander G/O.L.H. Leconte, "DEE" (C.1181) was at bat with our "v" supervisor, Mr. George Herring catching and the station Administrative officer S/Lt.B. Campbell (C.5773) pitching. A large crowd was on hand to cheer Tholthorpe to victory.	

SECRET.







## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) REGT. STATION, THALTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 8

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
Thalthorpe.	12/5/45	(cont.)	425 Squadron used 10 aircraft on flying training. Another station dance was held, making the third since VE Day. All three dances, including this dance, were most successful and added to the joys that the war in Europe is over.		
	13/5/45.		No flying training was carried out by No. 420 Squadron, but 6 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron were on flying training, although this was cut short by poor weather.		
	14/5/45.		Normal flying training was carried out by both squadrons.		
	15/5/45.		There was no flying training, however ground lectures were resorted to by both squadrons.		
	16/5/45.		420 Squadron carried out its first cross countries for trans-Atlantic flying with 21 aircraft on the detail. 425 Squadron had 16 aircraft engaged on flying training. An inspection of sites was commenced in order to cover barrack damages, should marching-out orders be received after the aircrew members of the squadrons had departed the station.		
	17/5/45.		Ground schools continued for both squadrons. 420 Squadron had a detail of 20 aircraft on night cross countries, whilst No. 425 Squadron employed 15 aircraft during the day. 425 Squadron Parade was held in the afternoon, and the Air Officer Commanding, A/V. M. C.M. McGwen, C.B., D.F.C. & BAR (O.61) presented the Bombing and Gunnery Trophies.		
	18/5/45.		C.39205 - W/O, W.J. Hancock was posted to this Unit to assist the personal Counsellor.. Flying training for both squadrons continues. The Squadron Adjutants and station Adjutant attended a Meeting at Base Headquarters to receive instructions on the documentation of personnel with the imminent return of many of our airmen etc., to Canada.		
	19/5/45.		Flying training was carried out during the day by both squadrons.		
	20/5/45.		Owing to bad weather, there was no flying although ground schools were continued. Many ex members of No. 425 Squadron, who were prisoners of war, visited the station to renew acquaintances.		
	21/5/45.		No flying training was carried out and ground lectures were continued.		
	22/5/45.		The weather was dull again; consequently there was no flying.		
	23/5/45.		19 crews of No. 420 Squadron flew cross countries in the afternoon, whilst 18 were engaged in 425 Squadron.		
			The Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Colonel Woodward in company of Captain Corson visited the station, arriving at 1900 hours. A dining-in-night consisting of 75 officers was detailed by the Commanding Officer.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thalherpe.	23/5/45 (cont).		Cocktails were served at the bar, and a very nice dinner in the dining room. Following the meal, the Lieutenant Governor spoke briefly of conditions back home. At 21.00 hours in company of the Commanding Officer he visited the Y.M.C.A. and spoke to airmen whose homes are in the province of British Columbia. At 21.15 hours he departed for No. 6 Group Headquarters.	
			Another station dance was held in the Cinema, which was well attended as all crews were on the station. These dances are held in the Gymnasium which is also known as the station Cinema and is far from adequate to meet the demands of such an occasion. However, despite the crowded conditions they are always thoroughly enjoyed and go a long way in the interests of morale.	
	24/5/45.		Wing Commander Bruce Middleton, "ABC", in charge of Transport Wing at Air Force Headquarters, Ottawa, visited the station and gave a lecture to aircrews on Trans-Atlantic flying. Flying training was carried out by both squadrons during the day and night. In the afternoon Air Vice Marshal A. Raymond, C.B., (C.621) visited the station. He was conducted on a tour through the lecture rooms of No. 425 Squadron and around the aerodrome. On his departure, he expressed his appreciation of having been privileged to visit our station where, he stated, he found a spirit that he had not seen in his travels in this country.	
	25/5/45.		Flying training was carried out by both squadrons.	
	26/5/45.		As the weather was very poor, 420 Squadron carried out no flying training, although 425 Squadron employed six aircraft on training details. The station was visited by a variety show from Leeds, known as "Northern Spotlights". This show was excellent and more of their character would be greatly appreciated as very few live shows visit this station.	
	27/5/45.		No flying training was carried out, and ground schools were continued.	
	28/5/45.		There was no flying in No. 420 Squadron. 425 Squadron had three aircraft engaged in training during the day.	
	29/5/45.		To-day was declared a stand-down from 11.30 hours onwards for all ranks in favour of a field day. There were all forms of sporting activities, i.e., all character of races.	



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, FRESHFORD.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	29/5/45 (contd.)		<p>football throw, softball throw, tug of war, and softball games, making a full afternoon of sports. Our civilian neighbours from the neighbouring villages were invited, and afternoon tea was served in No.425 Squadron briefing room. The civilians were also permitted to view the aircraft. In the evening a lawn social was held on the 'drome which proved satisfactory. In order to prepare for the dance a 10 ton roller was secured and the area well rolled. The grass was cut short and proved satisfactory. Street lighting was obtained and coloured bulbs were strung about the platform where the band was stationed. 43, 28 gallon kegs of beer were available and within 2 hours very little was left. Possibly the fact that the grass was well watered with beer from the spirits of those in attendance it can be said that ample was consumed. This party was sponsored by the aircrew members of both squadrons, who bore the brunt of the expense. There was no flying training carried out.</p>		
	30/5/45.				
	31/5/45.		<p>19 aircraft of No.420 Squadron were airborne on cross countries in the morning, which made up the last training flights for most of the crews. There was no flying in No.425 Squadron. Most of the crews of both No.420 and No.425 Squadron were busily engaged on clearances during the day, as this Station received word that a Pay Parade will be held on June 4th.</p>		
<b>STRENGTH AS AT 31ST MAY, 1945.</b>			<b>OFFICERS.</b>	<b>OTHER RANKS.</b>	
			4	6	
			R.C.A.F. 65	1068	
			2	4	
			C.A.D.C. 1	146	
			W.A.A.F. 1	Nil	
			C.N.S. 1	Nil	
			W.D. 2	Nil	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
			<u>SUMMARY.</u>		
			<p><u>GENERAL.</u> There were no serious accidents of any description during the month, nor was there any outbreak of infectious disease. The morbidity and V.D. rates remain unchanged. Owing to the cold and damp weather, colds have increased, and can be attributed to the parade which was held on the 28th of April, when a down-pour of sleet and rain soaked many people.</p>		
			<p><u>SPORTS.</u> The station football team has done exceptionally well, winning 6 out of 7 games, and stands in first place in the Group Tournament. Lacrosse has been organized and we hope to have a formidable team to take part in the Group Tournament scheduled to commence on the 17th inst. Our Volley Ball team has walked away over the pasteur team, winning two out of three games. The inter-section football teams turned out well during the first two weeks of the month but owing to rain and activity with regard to pack-up for the imminent move to Canada, it is impossible to keep up the schedule.</p>		
			<p><u>MESSING.</u> Advice has been received that this station holds the distinction of having the best mess hall in No. 6 Group. The renovation that has been brought about in the dining hall has contributed without question to the standard of messing, and it is now a happier place for the messing staff to work. Regimentation has been introduced whereby the control of traffic has resulted in cleaner tables and less crowding. Approximately 158,100 regular meals were served during the month. Regular rations have been normal except for a general shortage of fresh vegetables and an increase in the fresh egg issue. The addition of a good supply of fresh eggs has meant a great deal to the morale of personnel and it is hoped that this supply will continue.</p>		
			<p><u>MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.</u> With the conclusion of operations, the demands on the M.T. section lessened considerably in the early part of the month. However, when flying training became intensive it was necessary to convert several nitrogen tenders to three ton general purpose tenders for off the station runs. Again, this month, there have been no accidents involving either M.T. or personnel in the M.T. section, which is a <u>glorious</u> record, running two months in a row without an accident. Rigid supervision is being continued in order to maintain the standard attained.</p>		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK


of (Unit or Formation) R.O.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 8

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.			<p><u>TRADE IMPROVEMENT.</u> The Trade Test Board convened at this station over the week 21st to 28th May inclusive. The schools set up for smouers have proven themselves in that the percentage of passes in the exament trades were well above the average. The majority of the failures were many recent arrivals from Canada who had not sufficient time to bring themselves up to the required standards. Results generally over all trades indicate that a fair showing was made. However, better could have been done because a number of personnel waived the test, whilst others showed a decided lack of interest. Trade improvement classes will be continued preparatory to the next Trade Test Board.</p> <p><u>DISMANTLING OF STATION.</u> The flying training conversion programme together with flying training to prepare for the ferrying of aircraft to Canada has been intensive over the month. The move of the Squadrons to Canada entails much work in all departments, i.e., personal records for the personnel involved in the move had to be brought up to date in all respects, equipment spares in all departments in accordance with the schedules laid down by Group Headquarters have to be packed. Pre-fabricated cases have been received and station workshops on a production line basis produced 150 per day and 150 by night with destination stencilled thereon together with other necessary markings. Additional spares were forwarded on Maintenance Units and this equipment is being received in good time. A shipping officer who will be responsible for the outward movement of all equipment has been appointed. A Baggage Officer has also been appointed to take care of excess baggage of personnel moving by air as each individual is only permitted to take 80 lbs. Baggage tags plus receipts have been printed to facilitate handling of equipment. A Railway Transportation officer has also been appointed to take care of any marching out party, should same be despatched to point of embarkation by rail. As yet, nothing has been received with regard to the disbandment or otherwise of this station. Early information would be of the utmost importance to the efficient closing of the Unit if such is to be the case.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
			<p><b>RECREATION.</b> Entertainment during the month was of a high order and, of course, VE day brought much activity. On VE day two dances were held in the evening, one in the station cinema to the music of No. 62 (RCAP) Base Band/the other in the Airmen's Mess to the music of records over an amplifying set. Open house was held in both the officers' and Sergeants' Messes and the Y.M.C.A. was open for free popai-colas and cigarettes to everyone who paid a call there. More live shows would be appreciated as they are well received and much liked by personnel on this station. During the month the Y.M.C.A. was able to secure permits, chocolate bars and chewing gum for re-sale fresh from Canada. This policy is a splendid one, and the whole daily quota of 20 dozen chocolate bars is devoured in short order.</p> <p><b>CONCLUSION.</b> The month has been a historical one for the station, full of activity to be remembered by all its members. The squadrons will be setting course early in June for our new destination R.C.A.F. Station, Debert, Nova Scotia by way of the Azores and Gander, Newfoundland. It is hoped that after the Squadrons leave the station, groundcrew movements will come soon. If such is not the case, morale and discipline will become a problem as it will not be possible to keep the station strength fully employed.</p>		
			 (Lt. COLONEL) Group Captain, Commanding Officer, R.C.A.F. STATION, TRIMMER.		

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Instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I., para. 130 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and in the I.A.F. Pocket Book.

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Compiled by: S/L. J.B. CAMPBELL.

547-20-11  
DAS

Page No. 1.

2:517

of (Unit or Formation) RAF, S.F. STATION, TELHEIDE.

No. of pages used for day 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Phaltherpe.	1/6/45.		9 crews of No.425 squadron have completed their training for the transatlantic flight, and four aircraft were engaged in daytime flying training. 3 aircraft of No.420 squadron were detailed for daytime flying, bring the transatlantic training programme to a close.		
	2/6/45.		4 night cross country details were completed by No.420 squadron, whilst No.425 squadron employed 10 aircraft on night flying training.		
	3/6/45.		All crews of No.420 squadron have completed training and are ready for the transatlantic ferry job. Poor weather scrubbed the flying programme for No.425 squadron. All sections of No.420 and No.425 squadrons have cleaned up and packed the necessary equipment ready for transportation to Canada.		
	4/6/45.		A fly parade was held for all ranks forming the air lift party. Link trainer instruction was given throughout the day for pilots. 425 squadron employed 9 aircraft on night flying training. A farewell party was held in the sergeants' Mess and proved to be a very successful affair, the last to be held in the Mess.		
	5/6/45.		Test flights for aircraft prior to take-off for Canada were cancelled owing to bad weather, which also kept 425 squadron aircraft on the ground with aircrews employed on ground training.		
	6/6/45.		The pilots of No.420 squadron spent the morning checking their aircraft and in the link trainer. 18 crews did air test in the afternoon. There was no flying training for 425 squadron owing to poor weather. However, crews including ground personnel flying with them carried out dinghy and parachute drill. O.11520 - F/L. H.R. Estey was attached to replace O.20091 - S/L. E.S. Light, Chaplain (P) who has been posted to the Continent. A station picnic was held which was much enjoyed by all ranks, and contributed greatly to the going away spirit which existed throughout the station among the personnel.		
	7/6/45.		The pilots of No.420 squadron spent most of the time in their aircraft and the link trainer. W/O. R.J. Gray, MEMB (G.905) O.C. of No.420 (NDAP) squadron briefed his pilots as to what was expected of them insofar as discipline both in the air and on the ground was concerned on departure from this station and arrival in Canada. 10 aircraft of 425 squadron continued daytime flying training. The loading of 425 aircraft with equipment was commenced.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thalharpe.	8/6/45.		20 crews of No.420 Squadron were briefed for take-off at 1400 hours but the flight was cancelled. 3 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were employed on flying training. All screened aircrew on the strength of the station were posted to No.64 (RCAF) Base to be prepared for return to Canada.		
	9/6/45.		420 Squadron crews are still standing by for take-off with all personnel confined to Camp. 8 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were employed on flying training.		
	10/6/45.		Crews were again briefed for overcast take-off but the flight was again cancelled. 6 aircraft from R.C.A.F. Station, Crefit arrived to make up the complement of 16 aircraft for the first wave on the transatlantic flight. 2 aircraft of No.425 Squadron were engaged on training exercises. A Thanksgiving Mass was held in the Roman Catholic Chapel for the crews of No.425 Squadron preparing for the transatlantic flight.		
	11/6/45.		C.12531 - W/L. J.W. Ryan, Adjutant No.420 Squadron proceeded on posting to No.427 (RCAF) Squadron, being replaced by C.35419 - W/L. J.S.D. Francis. V.30574 - W/O. E.M. Finzeer reported on posting from No.3 (RCAF) P.R.C. to replace (V.30176) - W/O. C.L. Ferguson (Catering) who was posted to the R.C.A.F. Holding Unit at Rufforth.		
	12/6/45.		A farewell party was held by many old members of the station in favour of the Y.M.C.A. Supervisor Mr. G.P. Herring who has been posted to the Continent, being replaced by Supervisor W.G. Lee (2-744). This farewell party is indicative of the esteem in which Mr. Herring was held whilst serving on this station and speaks for the fine work he has done. The Topcliffe Variety Show visited the station and was well received by a full house of approximately 400 personnel. The entertainment provided might be placed in the class of high calibre. 20 crews of No.420 Squadron and 6 crews from Crefit were detailed to take-off to-day. All were briefed and 10 crews of this Unit plus 5 from Crefit became airborne. 5 crews of No.425 Squadron were ready for take-off in the afternoon but the movement was scrubbed owing to bad weather. RAF.73384 - W/O. J. Salmon, "OBE", Bomber Command Headquarters visited to carry out an inspection of the Messes.		



## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.A.F. STATION, WELTHORPE.No. of pages used for day 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Welthorpe.	13/6/45.		The remaining 30 aircraft of No. 20 Squadron left today for point Mergans together with 5 of No. 425 Squadron. 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron scheduled for take-off in the afternoon were held over because of weather conditions.		
	14/6/45.		The remaining aircraft of No. 20 Squadron cleared the station yesterday whilst the remaining 15 aircraft of No. 425 Squadron took off at 0800 hours on the first wave of the transatlantic flight.		
			G.12850 - P/L. J.A. Scott, Medical officer reported on posting to replace G.4019 - S/L. J.M. Kayser who has been posted on the overseas draft due to depart on the 19th June.		
	15/6/45.		Preparations for the movement of personnel by drafts are well in hand, the station orderly room working into the night on documentation.		
	16/6/45.		Station workshops and all sections were busily engaged winding up the sea pack, the dead line for which has been set as of tomorrow.		
	17/6/45.		Sea pack completed and ready for shipment save for the fixing of shipping index number and Best number. The official date for completion of the sea pack was to be the 21st June. However, the station bettered this date by four days.		
	18/6/45.		Pay parade was held commencing at 0930 hours in a hangar for all ranks, with the strength of the draft broken down into three i.e. all officers being attended by one paying clerk, N.O.S., by another and aircrewmen by another. Base Accounts is to be complimented for the excellent way in which this parade was conducted with approximately 1000 bodies passing through their hands throughout the day.		
			G.39184 - P/O. J.H. Tom was posted from No. 62 (RDAP) Base to replace the Station Equipment officer - G.10489 - P/L. D.I. McQueen.		
			J.29268 - P/L. J.H. Brown, "DRU" was posted as M.T. officer to replace G.32296 - P/O. E.B. McIlwain. A draft of 50 officers and 50 senior N.O.S., proceeded to Greenock at 22.00 hours under the command of J.13967 - S/L. G. Nicholas, "DRU" under Movement Order No.1 dated 17th June, 1945.		(Appendix No.5).
	19/6/45.		500 aircrew personnel under the command of G.1205 - W/O.D.G. Marshall broken down into two squadrons entrained at Greenock in accordance with instructions contained in Movement Order No.2 dated 18th June, 1945.		(Appendix 6).



Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Thalborough.	19/6/45		200 groundcrew personnel under the command of O.2276 - S/L. R.P.S. Kempter entrained in accordance with Movement Order No.3 dated 19th June 1945.	(Appendix 7)
	20/6/45		368 personnel under the command of Group Captain L.H. Leconte, "DPO" (G.1181) entrained at H.Q. station at 2100 hours in accordance with Movement Order No.4 dated 20th June 1945. This draft moved out with 100 other ranks of R.C.A.F. station, personnel entraining at the same point.	(Appendix 8)
			The R.C.A.F. Show "All Clear" visited the station and was much appreciated as live shows at this station are few in number.	
			O.5773 - S/L. J.B. Campbell (Admin) assumes command of the station over the closing down period, with the departure of G.1181 - Group Captain L.H. Leconte, "DPO".	
	21/6/45		A Muster parade was held for all ranks at 1400 hours.	
	22/6/45		Bay parade was held in the morning and in the afternoon the house-cleaning of the living sites was commenced. Dispersal Hutts were also in the process of being cleaned up.	
	23/6/45		Work ceased at 11.30 hours and the station enjoyed a stand-down over the week-end.	
	24/6/45		The M.T. Section held a party at Gearborough on the beach, and the outing which took place on a lovely summer's day was beneficial to all in attendance.	
	25/6/45		With the heavy turnover of personnel, all bedding with the exception of that in use required laundering. Advice was also received that in all probability by Thursday of this week, the station strength would be increased by 1400 bodies. This necessitated a visit to the laundry, requesting a priority job. Advice was obtained that by Wednesday 2000 clean blankets would be ready for use with 500 per day thereafter until station requirements had been met.	
	26/6/45		A meeting was convened between the station Commander, I.M.C.A. Supervisor and Sports Officer to set up a tentative programme to cover the station as a holding unit whereby personnel might be kept busy. A Muster parade was held at 0830 hours at the request of the Medical Officer so that all ranks might be examined for pediculosis. 476 personnel were examined in 1 1/2 hours.	
27/6/45		O.5773 - S/L. J.B. Campbell, attended a C.O.'s Conference at H.Q. No.6 (HQAF) Group on the subject of the digestion of aircrews.		

**SECRET.**

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THORNTON,

No. of pages used for day 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Thorntone.	28/6/45.		Approximately 250 bodies made up of roughly 100 ground crew, the remaining personnel being aircrew officers were received on this station to await disposal at some future date. J.28178 - P/O. D.L. Rebank (pilot) was attached from Overseas Headquarters as station Entertainment Officer.		
	29/6/45.		Organized clean-up parties are progressing favourably with the gathering together of equipment and the cleaning up of refuse.		
	30/6/45.		Advice was received that the gas pack was to be ready for movement, commencing work at 0800 hours Monday July 2nd, 1945. All personnel to be engaged in this work were given a stand-down over the week-end. A successful station dance was held commencing at 20.30 hours with the skipton band in attendance.		
			<b>SUMMARY</b>		
			<b>OFFICERS</b>		
			<b>OTHER RANKS</b>		
			R.A.F. 2	3	
			R.C.A.F. 176	458	
			C.D.C. 1	2	
			W.A.A.F. 1	142	
			C.N.S. 1	Nil.	
			W.D. 3	Nil.	
			<b>SUMMARY</b>		
			The month of June will be one long remembered in the history of this station by those who have served here at this time of posting to Canada. This might also be said for the arrangements that were posted in to satisfy the complement required to meet the ships' accommodation for those who stayed behind to clean up the station, the going away parades will be one's long to be remembered because of the spirit under which the personnel marched off the station. The parades moved off the station parade square on the aerodrome by flights, marching approximately one mile. Each draft was broken down into a Squadron or Squadrons in flights of 60 bodies with an officer in charge of each.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			<p><b>SECRET.</b></p> <p>This, together with the fact that personnel were not allowed to carry baggage unless they so desired facilitated train loading which was accomplished in a very short space of time.</p> <p>For once in the history of an airman's life he found himself marshalling off his station not having to carry his baggage. This was made possible by reason of ample N.T., and the fact that baggage cars were provided and the baggage loaded well in advance of entrenchment times. Lunches were provided for each member of a draft and under the supervision of the Y.M.C.A. Supervisor Mr. G.W. Lee cigarettes and chocolate bars were added to each package. Small games were also given away to help make the trip a happy one.</p> <p>There was no electric power in the neighbourhood of the railway station. However a power plant was provided by the N.T. Section whereby a P/A system was installed in order that movement control over the personnel would be exercised to the fullest. For the draft leaving at 2355 hours a runway floodlight was installed. 6 Group press and band band attended the outward movement of the first draft consisting of 500 personnel. Band music was supplied for future drafts through the P/A system on records. The co-operation of all personnel concerned from Base Headquarters down through the various sections of the station made the success of this movement which brought praise from our Base Commander - Air Commodore J.G. Kerr "ARD" (O.130).</p> <p><b>HEALTH:</b> The health of personnel on the station continues to be good with no serious ailments or illnesses.</p> <p><b>MESSING:</b> The Station messing continues to be good. However, additional greens in the form of onions, radishes and lettuce which are available on the market to-day would give morale an uplift through a more enticing looking meal more often. Very little of this is being received.</p> <p><b>WORK SERVICES:</b> Many toilets are still unserviceable throughout the Camp by reason of leg-winter's freeze up. Cisterns for water closets were received but were returned as they could not be adapted to fittings. Metal cisterns were ordered and porcelain ones were sent in their place. The matter has been followed up but there are still no results. This is again being put forth to No. 6 Group Headquarters.</p>	

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.O.A.F. STATION, THRAUGHTON.

No. of pages used for day 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
			<p>Station improvements were curtailed owing to the closing down. Barrack damage, which have accumulated over the period of the station's operations and which were not repaired owing to the inability of the contractor to cope with the work have been undertaken by R.O.A.F. personnel and much will be saved in the way of the cost of making good damage, at the same time protecting the good name of the station. The assessment of barrack damage on marking out parades is most unfair in the light of the circumstances mentioned which would be responsible for leaving the station with a bad name if the method of making damage good was not resorted to. Organised clean-up parties which have been working under the supervision of senior N.C.O.s., have been accomplishing much view a view to leaving the station in first class condition for the handing over.</p> <p><u>ENTERTAINMENT.</u> Entertainment through E.N.S.A. and Y.M.C.A. Movies continues to be good. The Hobby shop and Camera Club which were closed down and which will play a major part insofar as the welfare of the personnel is concerned now that this station is a Holding Unit are being re-opened. Base Headquarters has been requested to screen certain personnel for the operation of various activities which will play a paramount part in the happiness of personnel awaiting disposal. When a new Commanding Officer and station Administrative staff arrive, Committees will again function and a strong station Welfare Committee will be set up through which a high standard of morale and discipline might be attained.</p> <p><u>MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.</u> The M.T. Section has gained the distinction for the third consecutive month of having no accidents involving either M.T. or personnel.</p>		
			<p><i>J. B. Campbell</i>                  (J.B. CAMPBELL) S/Lt.                  Commanding Officer,                  R.O.A.F. STATION, THRAUGHTON.</p>		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

COMPILED BY S/L J.B. CAMPBELL.

Page No. 1

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THUNDERBOLT.

No. of pages used for day 1

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
THUNDERBOLT	1st July, 1945		The first day of July recorded the strength of the Station diminished to an average figure of 795 bodies (all ranks). It was also Dominion Day back home but was quietly observed as just another day.		
	2nd July		Sixty-six (66) Officers and six (6) N.C.O.s were posted out for repatriation.		
	3rd July		The clean-up of the Station grounds and buildings is well in hand in areas not in use.		
	4th July		Work Parties were organised from among transient personnel for the purpose of gathering for storage equipment no longer in use. This work is proceeding favourably. Group Captain R.F. Miles, "DPO" and Bar (36945) took command vice S/L J.B. Campbell (0.5775) who resumes the position of Station Administrative Officer.		
	5th July		The canteen club reopened to-day and much enthusiasm is expected from among the transient personnel. R.255167 - LAC. Paisley, D.A., and R.255177 - LAC. Giffin, D.M., have been screened from posting to operate the club.		
	6th July		Repairs to barrack damages being carried out by the carpenters of Station Workshops, are progressing favourably.		
	7th July		The Hobby Shop was moved to its new site next to the Protestant Chapel. These quarters are not spacious but so far have been adequate. R.21875 - LAC. Abreu, J.L.V.R., has been screened to operate the shop.		
	8th July		A meeting of the Sports Officer, DDA Supervisor, Station Administrative Officer and W/O W.F. MacInnon (J.8412) Officer i/c of Airways awaiting posting was held to formulate a programme whereby they might be kept busy. Plans were formed for issue at the earliest possible date.		
	9th July		Routine operations on Station cleaning are progressing favourably.		
	10th July		There was nothing unusual to report to-day.		
	11th July		Twenty-seven (27) W.A.A.F. personnel were posted to the Station. As many could not be fully employed in their trades they were allotted to the various Messes for part-time work in the preparation of vegetables.		
	12th July		The Y.M.C.A. Cinema opened officially on the Old Communal Site in the Old Airmen's Mess. This building has improved sound effects immensely.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
THORNTON	12th July, 1945 (cont.)		A larger screen was secured thereby increasing the size of objects bringing 16 in almost up to 35 in. Four different shows a week are run and the cinema is becoming a popular place.	
	13th July.		There is nothing unusual to report upon to-day.	
	14th July.		Tinlithorpe has returned to the front in the sporting field winning first place in the 440 yard relay, 2nd place in the 440 yard dash and 3rd place in the 220 yard dash at the 6 Group Field Day held at R.C.A.F. Station, Leeming.	
	15th July.		There is nothing of interest to report to-day being Sunday. A 36 hour pass has been granted to be effective each week and hereafter with skeleton staffs employed.	
	16th July.		The Education Officer attended a Conference at 6 Group Headquarters to learn of plans for a modified educational programme. The meeting was held in the Conference Room No. 6 Group.	
	17th July.		119 Officers, 128 Senior N.C.O.s., and 8 W.A.A.F. personnel reported in on posting to await ultimate posting action elsewhere.	
	18th July.		A successful Station Dance was held being well attended, there being a large number of transient personnel on the Station.	
	19th July.		63 Officers and 53 Senior N.C.O.s., were posted away only to receive 155 N.C.O.s., Downland in.	
	20th July.		A portrait cubicle was set up in the Camera Club and first results proved successful.	
	21st July.		All Officers and 70 Senior N.C.O.s., were received to-day suggesting the strength G.11520 - S/L.H.R. Estey returned to the Station on attachment as Protestant Padre.	
	22nd July/23rd July.		There is nothing unusual outside of Station routine to record.	
	24th July.		There is nothing of importance to report on.	
	25th July.		61 Aircrew Officers were posted to the strength of the Station to await repatriation. A lathe complete with buffer and grinder was added to the hobby shop. This will prove a valuable asset and time-saver to the many personnel frequenting the shop.	
	26th July.		The softball team attained second place in the 6 Group tournament held at Wombleson being defeated by R.C.A.F. Station, Dishforth by a score of 5 to 1.	
	27th July.		G.6503 - S/L. H.M. Bell (Admin) reported on posting to replace G.5773 - S/L.W.B. Campbell who has been posted to the position of S.P.S.O. at 6 Group (Base) H.Q., reporting 30th July.	

D.H.

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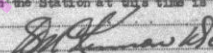
## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 3

of (Unit or Formation) R.C.A.F. STATION, THOLTHORPE.

No. of pages used for day 4

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tholthorpe.	27/28th July.		By reason of our success at 6 Group Field Day held at R.C.A.F. Station, Leeming on the 14th July, 1945, R.192648 - LAC. Phillips, R.J.S., LAC. Derby, A.W., R.195228; P/O. R.A. Kemp (D.2993) and P/S. McEneaney were eligible to take part in the R.C.A.F. C/S Track and Field Meet held at White City Stadium, London. LAC. Phillips came first in the 440 yard dash in the eliminations. He held 3rd place in the finals. He will take part in the R.A.F. finals to be held at the White City Stadium to be held 31st July and during the second week in August will take part in the Army Field and Track Meet to be held in Holland. LAC. Derby placed 2nd in the 220 yard dash but was not successful in entering the finals. The relay team in the 440, comprising all personnel previously mentioned was placed 4th in a very closely contested race.		
	28/29th July.		Stand-down over the week-end with nothing unusual to report.		
	30th/31st July.		Nothing of importance to report.		
			<u>STRENGTH AS AT 31ST JULY, 1945.</u>	<u>OFFICERS.</u>	<u>OTHER RANKS.</u>
			R.A.F.	1	2
			R.C.A.F.	296	368
			C.D.C.	1	2
			W.A.A.F.	1	161
			C.M.S.	N11	N11.
			W.D.	2	N11.
			<u>SUMMARY.</u>		
			<u>MEDICAL.</u> There were no serious accidents or illnesses during the month, the health of the Station being at a high level. The usual ante-Y.D. Programme was carried out during the month through the courtesy of the I.L.C.A. with films shown in the "T. Cinema.		
			<u>M.T.</u> Throughout the month, the M.T. Section was busily engaged in repairing and painting M.T. equipment suitable for re-allocation. Again for the fourth consecutive month there were no accidents involving either equipment or personnel. The M.T. establishment covering a holding unit has not yet been received with the result that the Station is faced with a problem of transporting personnel in ordinary Dodge cover over trucks, of which there are six.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			<p><u>ARMAMENT.</u> The Armament Section has been busily engaged throughout the month on the disposal of bombs and armament equipment generally. Aircraft from R.C.A.F. Station, Leeming visited the Station several times throughout the month with the result that all incendiaries in storage have been practically disposed of.</p> <p><u>EQUIPMENT.</u> Throughout most of the month little advice was received on disposal of ground equipment etc., that has now become surplus to requirements. It is expected that early in August will see the movement of much of this.</p> <p><u>ENTERTAINMENT.</u> Entertainment is considered to be good. The Y.M.C.A. Cinema has set up and 4 different pictures per week are shown, whilst two different pictures per week are shown in the Station Cinema under E.N.S.A. A number of live shows were secured for the latter part of the month and an endeavour is being made to arrange an active programme through our Y.M.C.A. Supervisor W.O. Lee. A recreation programme was framed (attached as Appendix 9). However, it has been impossible to put this work into being as the bulk of personnel have been granted leave. It is expected, however, that when they return it will be possible to follow the schedule laid down.</p> <p><u>STATION SERVICES.</u> Throughout the early part of the month the Station Works Party was busily engaged in cleaning up the Station grounds and buildings no longer in use. The accomplishment in this direction has reached a stage where it may be classed as fairly clean. Barrack damages covering carpentry work have been continued throughout the month by carpenters formerly employed in Station Workshops. All jobs have been carried out to the satisfaction of the Clerk of Works. Salvage disposal will be commenced the first week in August, completing the clean-up in the various Sections.</p> <p><u>MORALE.</u> The morale of the personnel on the Station at this time is considered good throughout the waiting period.</p>		
			 (W.F. McKINNON) Wing Commander, A/Commanding Officer, R.C.A.F. STATION, THORNHURST.		