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SECRET.

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

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month

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of (Unit or Formation) No.419 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
MILDENHALL	1/3/42		A daylight search was made over the NORTH SEA for missing crews. Four aircraft took part but had no success on account of poor visibility. One Mark III was delivered.	
	2/3/42		Operations cancelled on account of weather.	
	3/3/42		Eight aircraft took part in a most successful raid on the Renault Works outside PARIS and returned to base, with the exception of one aircraft which made a forced landing a few miles from the drums. A letter of congratulation was received from AIR MARSHAL HARRIS on the result of the raid.	
	4/3/42		Operations cancelled and stand-down ordered. Flight Lieutenant D. S. MCCANN reported supernumerary and for subsequent posting as Adjutant.	
	5/3/42		Operations cancelled - training.	
	6/3/42		Operations cancelled - training.	
	7/3/42		Stand down.	
	8/3/42		Five aircraft took part in a raid - three to HAVRE and two to ESSEN. The two to ESSEN took off at 00.30 hours - the three to HAVRE at 03.15 and all returned safely after a successful raid.	
	9/3/42		Four aircraft took part in a raid on ESSEN and returned safely to base.	
	10/3/42		Six aircraft took off in a raid on ESSEN. One aircraft made a forced landing at MARTLESHAM HEATH due to engine trouble. Five aircraft returned safely to base.	
	11/3/42		Stand down.	
	12/3/42		Operations cancelled - training.	
	13/3/42		Operations cancelled.	
	14/3/42		Operations cancelled - training.	
	15/3/42		Operations cancelled - training.	
	16/3/42		Operations cancelled - training.	
	17/3/42		Operations cancelled - training.	
	18/3/42		Operations cancelled - training.	

J. G. Galloway

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
MILDEHALL	19th March	}	Operations cancelled - training.	
	20th March			
	21st March			
	22nd March			
	23rd March			
	24th March			
	25/3/42		Eight aircraft took part in a raid, six on ESSEN and two on St. NAZAIRE. Six returned directly to base and two made forced landings, one at STOKES ORCHARD and one at WREXHAM, without damage to aircraft or personnel.	
	26/3/42		Operations cancelled. Flight Lieutenant D. L. WOLFE assumed command of 'B' Flight vice Squadron Leader E. G. B. REID posted to No. 1504 B.A.T. Flight.	
	27/3/42		Operations cancelled - training carried out.	
	28/3/42		Six aircraft from this Squadron participated in a raid on the German port of LUBECK. Great success was reported by our crews who left the target a mass of flames. One aircraft failed to return. The names of the missing crew are:- Pilot Officer K. E. HOBSON (Captain), Flight Sergeant MARCOITE, J.C.A. (2nd Pilot), Sergeant PLESCH, A.L. (Observer), Sergeant PAUL, K.H. (W/Op.A.G.), Flight Sergeant BAILEY, S.J. (W/Op.A.G.), Pilot Officer W. E. BODRICK (Air Gunner). A congratulatory message was received from the Air Officer Commanding No. 3 Group, commending the Squadrons for the fine work accomplished on the 25th-26th, 26th-27th March, in which this Squadron had taken part. Three aircraft also carried out a "Nikel" raid in the PARIS area and all returned safely to base.	
29/3/42		Operations cancelled. Two aircraft took part in search for dinghies from aircraft missing from last night's operation.		
30/3/42		Operations cancelled.		
31/3/42		Operations cancelled.		
			The strength of the Squadron at the end of March was:-	
			R.C.A.F. Officers - Aircrew 15	
			" " - Groundcrew 1	
			R.C.A.F. Airmen - Aircrew 102	
			" " - Groundcrew 126	
			R.A.F. Officers - Aircrew 6	
			" " - Groundcrew 3	
			R.A.F. Airmen - Aircrew 9	
			" " - Groundcrew 263	
			There are now <u>10 Wellingtons</u> aircraft on the strength of the Squadron.	

(It appears that I.C.'s were ^{last} used on 10.3.42)
(by 418 Sqdn)

J. Foster Sqn.