OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

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

ate T	Summary of Events SECR
Decembe	or/43 14 aircraft and 14 crews were briefed for an attack on Berlin. Fifteen minutes before
-	the operation was postponed until 25.30 hrs. and eventually sorubbed at 22.45 hrs. A
	of early briefing and postponements of take-off, no training of any type could be und the Squadron.
A. Decembe	taken off, it having to be recalled.
	Owing to the fact that Wing Commander Pleasance was hospitalized, Squadron Leader Dye
	took the briefing for this operation and received many compliments on his concise del
	and full coverage of the subject.
	GRE training was undertaken by the Navigators who are not warned for this operation.
	Flight Lieutement Brown, the WOp. Leader, gave a half-hour lecture to Squadron WOps
	on Radar equipment carried in sircraft. A considerable amount of time was also spent
	WT training section fitting up demonstration tables.
	Squadron Air Gumners not warned for operations were allocated to training in skeet a
	✓C recognition, and spotlight trainer and air firing.
l Decembe	a ceiling of 5,000 ft. Cloud layer extended to 7,000 ft. Moderate rime icing was at
	on the way to the target. General opinion was that the PFF had laid a wary successful
	pattern. Several large explosions were observed. Enemy aircraft appeared to mark th
	in and out by dropping clustres of the white flares at regular intervals.
	NO "p", P/Sgt. Parker as Captain, returned early because the port undercart of his a
	failed to retract fully. A/C "E", E/O Byford as Captain, was forced to return early
	of heavy loing. P/O Hamilton was also forced to turn back because of icing and exces
(c) .	engine heating. "Q", after bombing, lended at WRATTING COMMON.

te	Time	Summary of Events SECRE
Dece	mber	"W", P/O Metheral as Captain, had to feather his starboard inner engine while still 20 m
jont'	a)	from the target but, although he was losing height rapidly and was obviously going to be
		to attack, he continued on and bombed at 13,000 ft. after the last wave had passed. P/C
		Metheral has since been swarded the D.F.C. for his devotion to duty in this attack.
Dece	mber	Squadron stand down.
4		Considerable amount of GEE training was undertaken by the Navigators, also Navigational
		training.
		4 crews undertook Radar training.
		Signals Section had a general "natter" on general behaviour, etc. as regards signals an
E C		operations.
		18 Gunners proceeded to SUTTON BANK Range on a turret firing detail.
		A met dinghy drill was held by A grows at THORNARY baths.
	mber	Command Stand down
	MILDIAL	Crew Navigation training was carried out and the Security lecture was given to aircrew
		in the afternoon.
		Practice bombing up was carried out by the Armament Section with the new type 4 lb. inc
		clustre projectile.
		5 comparatively new W/Ops. were given an hours lecture followed by a practical demonstr
		on the Halifer inter-comm. system.
	mber	Commend stend down.
	mails alb	Sider, Dyer delivered a talk to the Squadron on the subject of R/T procedure, turnbacks
		ing turret failures, and Squadron emprit de corps. It was unanimously decided to estab
	<b>1</b> "	prisoner of war digarette fund, the intention being to send digarettes to ex-419 person
		are now prisoners of war, it being hoped that 500 digarettes could be sent to each pris
SOF	-	3 month intervals.
		18 air gunners were detailed for firing on the SUTTON BANK range.
		Flight Engineers had a lengthy discussion on the peculiarities of the Merlin XXII engin
		Fight Engineers had a tengthy discussion of the postantial
-		4 6

in K.R. and A.C.I., II., chapter XX., and of (Unit or Formation) No. 419 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron

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Time	se successive section appropriate to present the Summary of Events of an interpretation of the section of the s
n December	Considerable assissment was caused in the Armanat Section by the arrival of an Acceptance a
Sont'd)	Inspection Sheet for the Armsont Officer's signature for the inspection of the Station Ti
	This has given rise to the remour that it is intended to arm elementary trainers with has
	for the opening of the second front. It may be added that the Intelligence Section has at
	squashed this remour.
acember	Seminary party graces, else elle party the the party the former of the former of the party the p
	The Squadron was visited by No. 15 Squadron Navigation Officer. In the course of his tall
	the Navigators, several new ideas were exchanged and discussed.
	A footbell match between the Armement Section and the Station I & R Electrical Section was
	by the Station with a score of 11 to 1, the only casualty being the Squadron's goalkeeper
	suffered a strained back from picking the ball out of the net so often.
	P/Lt. Hall, the Squadron Engineer Leader, proceeded on the initial Flight Engineer Leader
	A special talk was given to the Air Gunners by S/Ldr. Dyer on the subject of "Gunners co-
	That the Pilot.
December	Squedron stand down.
	This being the start of the moon period 8 crews were sent on leave maketing a total of 17
	Governouse is alternations excee sport the posatisticy of the finition current to be design
l l	Special Mavigation training for Bomb Almera was undertaken in the morning, pilots, navigation
compet	bomb simers being shown a special film on H2S equipment in the afternoon.
	Special check of ground maintenance of strongst was carried out by the pilots.
o cores	A special crew arrived from TSPULINGS to carry out the tail modifications to Halifar sires
ecember	Squadron stand down.
	Individual crew Navigation training was undertaken and Flight Engineers were given special
	in astro navigation.

Time	Summary of Events
cember	Owing to the repairs being carried out on runways, 3 aircraft were despatched to TOPCLIFFE a
*d)	their crews could continue their RADAR training.
ember	Squedron stand down.
	Orew training was carried out in the morning, the afternoon being left free.
	Considerable discussions arose about the possibility of the Squadron converting to Lancaster
	and the difficulties that would be involved in changing over without an actual conversion of
ember	Squedron stand dom.
υ.	Great interest was taken in the arrival of the Airborne Lifeboat Demonstration Unit and thei
řů:	lectures and demonstrations were greatly enjoyed by the Squadron sirerew and they felt that
	had derived great benefit from those
i o	Flight Engineers had a long discussion on engine handling and engine conditions.
	8 bomb simers and their captains attended a bombing-up demonstration given by sur Squadron a
	Cpl. Hulse of S. of T.T. Kirkham arrived to give the Squadron Armourers (Guns) instructions
100	demonstrations in turret procedure.
ember	Squadron stand down.
1	2 Canadian built Lancasters arrived for the use of the Squadron with the immediate results
	all sections took up a certain amount of training in Lancaster equipment.
ember	The the communicative the shound from. It may be added that the Litellisation section has all
**************************************	The 3 crews who had been sent to TOPICIFFE for Bader training returned to the Squaren, havis
ua,c^	completed theining.
Se company	Further talks and demonstration tours on our new Lamoaster sirereft were carried out by pre-
	all mortions.
	The Armsment Section started to break in some newly arrived sirmen in bombing up procedure.
cember	Squadron stand down.
	Grew training was carried out in the morning and a special propaganda film was shown to all in the afternoon.
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of (Unit or Formation) No. 419 (R.C.A.P.) Squadron

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Time	Summary of Events
th December (Cont'd)	oer Cpl. Hulse of S. of T.T. Kirkhem finished his course of instruction the Armoury Section
	A Conversion of the Squadron to the new Bomber Command Servicing Units was completed
	remains to be done is the actual posting of the various bodies to H.Q. Wing, I. & R.
	Servicing Bobelone.
	A meeting was held of those members of the Squadron who had been on Squadron strangth
	Fing Commander Pulton's period of command. It was decided at this meeting to form a
	eligibility for membership being confined to those who had at any time served with 41;
	It was tentatively agreed to hold a dinner on January 12th which would be the second a
	of the Squedrom's first operational flight. A committee was formed to handle the dete
	dinner and it was decided that only those personnel who had been on strength of the So
	that date, together with some special guests, should be invited. It is enticipated the
	Constitution of the Club would be drawn up and Officers elected during the course of
December	Squadray stand forms. O
-	Grew and GRE training were carried out in the morning, most of the aircrew being given for the afternoon.
	6 grows proceeded to THORNABY BATHS for a wet dinghy drill.
	25 air gumers proceeded to SUTTON BANK for turret firing.
	S/Ldr. Trites, Group Armssent Officer, paid the Armssent Section a visit.
December	Squedron stand downs
Paper per	Station Commanding Officer had a parade for promulgation of Court Martial, this Squadr
	No.2 Squadron on the Station Wing.
	GHE and erew braining was carried out by the Navigators.
	A demonstration of incendiary clustres was carried out in the open ground behind the b

Time	Summary of Events*
December	This was attended by all Squadron already
ecember	Squadron stand down.
	Information was received from Air Ministry that S/Ldr. Weedon, ex "B" Flt. Commander, and F
	Campbell, an ex Nav. of the Squadron, had been swarded D.F.C.'s for their good work while
	to the Squadren.
	More CES and crew training.
	Commanding Officer inspected the airmen's barrack blocks and found them satisfactory.
	18 sir summers were detailed for firing at SUTTON BANK; but this had to be sorubbed due to transport.
comber	It sircraft were detailed for operations on LEVERRUSEN but these were sampled at briefing.
cember	Squedron stand doma.
	Crew training was carried through until noon, then a Squadron stand down was declared, with
1	exception of two crews who were detailed to carry out air tests. On landing "R" got into d
	owing to the loss of an engine and a moderate cross-wind on the runway. On attempting a se
	circuit the aircraft orashed, luckily without injury to the crew, the sircraft being catego
	"E". A prisoner of war lecture was given to all aircrew personnel.
cember	14 siroraft were detailed to attack FRANKPURT. There were two early returns, the remainder
	and returning to base without incident. The general concensus of opinion was that the P.P.
	was not particularly good and scattered regults were expected.
(222,0)	P/Sgt. Parker returned from 405 Squadron after being there under instruction for 8 days on
	hancaster A/C. The Ruhr Express, the 1st Can, built Laneaster, having been allotted to this
	Squadron was brought home by P/Sgt. Parker and was the object of a great deal of interest.
pember	Squadron stand down.
	Wing Commander Pleasance returned from leave and gave a lengthy address to the aircrew pers
	on results of the previous months Bomber Command activity with special reference to the p
	played by the Moose Squadron.

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Time	Summary of Events
t December (Gent'd)	Sgt. Richardson of Air Ministry completed a series of lectures on the Lencaster X airframe riggers of the Squadron have been attending these lectures and it is felt that much benefit derived from them.
	Sgt. Kene, N.G.O. 1/c Squadron Stores, returned from 405 Squadron and R.A.F. Station, WYO studying their system of Stores procedure for Lancaster spares.  Engineering publications for the Lancaster X and Merlin Engines have arrived in satisfactor Sundron stand down.
	8 aircraft of the Squadron were detailed for special bullseys exercise. 8 officers of the and ack-ack groups were carried as passengers to observe the effect of ground defences. U this exercise had to be cut short due to ensuy action.  Special lectures and instruction were given to ground drew personnel on Radar.  During the morning Radar training, fighter affiliation, flight tests and air to air firing
1	carried out.  15 A/C were detailed for operations. These were scrubbed at noon.  A new system of fighter affiliation in conjunction with Critfire O.T.U.'s was inaugurated two fighter affiliation flights, these proving quite successful.
	Squadron stand down.  Normal duties were carried out in the morning with Radar training and GES training dominat A complete squadron stand-down was declared in the afternoon owing to it being Christmas E The Armanent Section were called on to supply Station Groft with special slings for mines had been called on for a Gardening sortic and were short of this equipment.  A goodwood effort was ordered at 0930 hrs. and scrubbed at 1030 hrs.
	Christmas feativities were carried out as planned. The general consensus of opinion being these were most successful.

Time	Summary of Events
December	Squadron stand dom Congress and a congress of the congress
	A special lecture was given to the Mavigators on PPP Navigation.
	Reder training height tests and air to sea firing carried out.
	It having been found that lacker accommodation was allowing flying clothing to get damp, a
pour ou	room was improvised. In the event of operations being ordered flying clothing is now street
	lines in the Bomb Aimer's instruction room and a heater van backed up to the window, the he
	being passed into the room and the heat turned on until the atmosphere and clothing are con
Contract.	dried. Airgrew attire themselves in this room just prior to proceeding to the marnalling p
ecember ^	8 A/C were detailed for gardening in the BALFIC. After briefing take-off was postponed 5 h
	and then finally scrubbed. It may be noted that Mavigational gam for this operation was ex
6- 0	late in coming through and caused quite a panic in the Navigation department.
	Owing to the operations ordered the only training done was by those crews detailed for Rade
	training. A detail of gummers had been sent to SUTTON BANK but these were recalled on ope
	Paint 1819 co.
comber	Squadron Stand dom.
	The weather was particularly good for local flying with the result that many training flight
\$1.00 min. 106 min. 1	and air tests were carried out, particularly a large number of details for air to air firing
	fighter affiliation were laid out.
conter	17 A/G were detailed to attack REMAIN. There was one early return, A/C "B" with port inner
CLEAT)	and hydraulics w/s. "Y" minus missing and the remainder bombed the target and returned saf
,	"M" and "T" landed at COLTISHALL, the Squadron diversion base.
	The details of the orew of "Y" are as follows: - Ceptain: R145227 P/S Thompson, R.L. on M.s.
	operational sortie; Navigatori R139545 Sgt. Webb, F.H.; Air Bomber: R130425 Sgt. Waloney, S
	W/Op. (Air): 1320259 Sgt. Bilyard, R.G.; Flight Engineer: 1873080 Sgt. Cooper, J.; M/U: Ri
	Sgt. Carroll, A.; Rear Sunner: 193059 Sgt. Barry W.J.
cember	Squadron stood-dom.

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of (Unit or Formation) No. 419 (R.C. A.P.) Squadron

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	Time	Summary of Events
h D Con	ecember	Crew training was carried out with particular emphasis on GKS and Radar.
		A detail of 15 gumners proceeded to SUTTON BANK for turnet training.
De	cember	14 aircraft were detailed for operations on FRANKFURT. These operations were sorubbed one
	*	before take-off. A Squadron stand down was immediately declared to allow personnel to tal
		in New Year feativities.
Dec	cember	POSTINGS DURING THE MONTH
		Postings to the Unit:
		(3rd December) 1709161 Sgt. Wood, G. (F/E) from 431 (RCAF) Sqdn. for operational duties.
	*	(6th December) J. 22470 P/O A.L. Warren (Pilot); 1387861 Sgt. Sutton, S. (Nav.) R158079 F/
		T. (A/B); 1035031 Sgt. King, W.J.P. (W/Op (Air)); R98044 Sgt. Kent, E.D. (F/E); 1510808 Sg
		tree, H. (MU/AG); R189979 Sgt. Minett, M. (R/G). from 1659 Conv. Unit, TCPCLIFFE.
	r.r.c.	(13th December) R147417 Sgt. McIvor, R.A. (Pilot); R157928 Sgt. Bremmer, J.D. (Nav.); R158
		Sgt. Goulding, S.H. (A/B); R119519 F/S Claridge, W.T. (W/OP A.G.); R109302 Sgt. Rigden, S.
		R1900(1 Sgt. Tucker, K.D. (MU/AG); R190321 Sgt. Dujay, R.E. (R/G). from 1659 Conv. Unit, 1
	260 DEL 9	(25th December) J9072 F/L J.A. Westland was posted to the Squadron to the post of Deputy
		Commander, "B" Flight.
		Postings from the Unit:
1	1	(3rd December) 127107 F/O A. Winskill (A/B) was posted to 20 O.T.U., LOSSIEMOUTH, for Inst
		duties. F/O Winskill completed a tour of operations with the MOOSE SQUADRON, at the concl
		of which he was detailed for a Bombing Instructor's Course which he passed very successful
	erici i	(9th December) J14185 F/O E.G. Gray (A/G), R194654 Sgt. Miskanen, S.E. (A/G) were posted to
	1	(RCAF) Sodn. CRANEDEN LODGE, for operational duties.
	- /	(22nd December) 68185 F/L H.L. Shackleton (Pilot), 1601726 Sgt. Gibson, R.C. (Nav.), 15121
		A.A. Ashford (A/B), 1314440 Sgt. Williams, H. (WOP (Air); 1678297 Sgt. Newton, T. (A/G) 15

Time	Thinks teachers			Summary of Events				
cember	Posting s fro	m the Unit (Co	mt'd)		3 . 1.			
	Sgt. Palmer,	W.R. (F/E); 10	77032 Sgt. Wall	cer, J.W. (MU/AG	); posted to 40	5 Squadron, GRAN		
***************************************	F/L Shackleto	m had held the	post of Deputy	Flight Command	ler "B" Flight w	ith this Unit fo		
	time and was	a very popular	member of the	Squadron.	~ ?* * * * 1			
	(23rd December	r) 961438 Sgt.	Brakes, B. E.	(WOP (Air)) was	posted to 1659	Conv. Unit, TOP		
	recrewing, ha	wing been on t	he strength of	this Unit as a	spare Eireless	Operator for son		
cember	Details of bo	mbs dropped du	ring the month	are as follows:				
	14 x 2,000	1ь. н.с., 10	76 x 30 lb. L.C	., 61 x 1,000 11	м.с., 36,690	x 4 lb. incendi		
	The tony	nage dropped we	as: High Explo	sives, 44.5 ton	, incendiaries,	89.52 tons.		
cember	The strength	of the Squadro	n as at 31st De	comber, 1943 is	as follows:			
	ATRCRET:	R.C.A.F.	R.C.A.F.	R. A. F.	R.A.P.	U.S.A.A.P.		
		<u>07770888</u>	121	5	72	. Ny		
	GROUNDERENT:	R.C.A.F.	. R.C. A. F.	R.A. J.	R.A.F.	V.A.A.P.		
		OFFICERS	ATRION	O) / JOHNS	ATROOST	ATRWOMEN		
		3	342	NIT	66	37		
ember	No. and type	of aircraft on	Unit Charge:	18 Halifax Mark	II, 3 Lancaste	r Mark I.		
ember	Flying time f	or the month o	December, 194	3: Operational Non-operati				
	-	NOTE OF THE		78 T.	and cher and	3 60		
	Number of Sor	ties carried o	ut: 45					
A. I			Alberta Control of the Control of th	ng the month of	[2] 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10			
	Only one combat took place on operations during the month, and no enemy aircraft are							
	as camulties.							
	Attached herewith 1 combat report for the month of December, shown as Appendix "B".							
	General Summary of the Month's Activities by Wing Commander W.P. Pleasance.  (a) It is noted that very few operational sorties were made during the month, this being							
ember	WASHINGTON TO SERVICE OF THE SERVICE	Part And Annual Control	PERSONAL TRANSPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO	AND THE PARTY OF THE PARTY OF THE	<ul> <li>■ 2 19 2 19 10 2 10 10</li> </ul>			

R. and A.C.I., apter XX., and

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

No. of page

Date Time	Summary of Events SECR
Mat. December	General Summary of the Month's Activities by Wing Commender W.P.Pleasance (Cont'd.) anticipated that this will greatly benefit the Squadron on future operations.
	(b) The course of lectures by the Engineering Officer and Snr.N.C.O's has been well by all "C" Group tradesmen. These lectures are designed to enable these tradesmen to the coming trade test board exeminations.
1st. December	HEALTH. Excepting for the usual rum of winter colds, the health of the Squadron is general satisfactory.
Slat December	Short Summary of the Year's Activities by Wing Commander W.P. Fleasance  (a) During the year the Squadron has flown a total of 1190 operational sorties and has responsible for dropping the following townsee of bombs on the enemy:  2,000 lb. H.C 114 tons. 1,000 lb. M.C 224 tons, 1,000 lb. G.P 164.5 tons,  500 lb. M.C 88.75 tons, 500 lb. G.P 7.5 tons, 1500 lb. mines - 47.25 tons,  1,000 lb. mines - 44.5 tons, 30 lb. L.C 581.52 tons, 4 lb. incendiaries - 1347.  Grand total dropped: 3219.22 tons.  (b) During the year the Squadron gumners accounted for 10 enemy aircraft shot down and troyed, and have also claimed one as probably destroyed and one damaged. The details  A/C claimed destroyed: 1 ME.110, 1 ME.210, 3 JU.88's, 3 W.190's, 2 unidentified A/C,  1 ME.110 probably destroyed and one JU.88 damaged.  (c) There were 50 crows lost during the year involving a total personnel of 358. Of the have returned to this country and exactly 100 are known to be prisoners of war. 119 known to have lost their lives, the remaining 136 have not as yet been accounted for.  Squadron's percentage of losses in ratio to operational sorties undertaken is 4.24.  Widdleton St. George. Durham.  Middleton St. George. Durham.

R.A.F. Form 540

See sustructions to use of this form in K.R. and A.C.J., bare. 2349 and War Manual. Pt. II. chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Pocher Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK 5.22-1-411

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

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	References to Appendices
iddleton St. George	1st Dec	amber/43	14 aircraft and 14 crews were briefed for an attack on Berlin. Fifteen minutes before take-	er.
			the operation was postponed until 2.30 hrs. and eventually scrubbed at 22.45 hrs. As a resu	dt
			of early briefing and postponements of take-off, no training of any type could be undertaken	
			the Squadrone	
	2nd Dec	ember	. 1b. aircraft brisfed to attack LEIPZIG. This operation was scrubbed after the first plane had	Meadque, A
			taken off, it having to be recalled.	14H 15 3
			Owing to the fact that Wing Commander Pleasance was hospitalized, Squadron Leader Dyer under-	4
			took the briefing for this operation and received many compliments on his concise delivery	
			and full coverage of the subject.	MADA
			GRE training was undertaken by the Mavigators who are not warned for this operation.	
			Flight Lieutement Brown, the W/Op, Leader, gave a half-hour lecture to Squadron W/Ops (Air)	
			on Reder equipment carried in sircraft. A considerable smount of time was also spent in the	
			WT training section fitting up demonstration tables.	3.00
			Squadron Air Gunners not warned for operations were allocated to training in skeet shooting,	
			A/C recognition, and spotlight trainer and air firing.	
	3rd Dec	mber	14 aircraft of the Squadron were briefed to attack LEIPZIG. Take-off was at 23.30 hrs. with	A-1146 - 11
			a ceiling of 5,000 ft. Cloud layer extended to 7,000 ft. Moderate rime icing was experience	<u>a</u>
			on the way to the target. General opinion was that the PFF had laid a very successful Wangam	11
			pattern. Several large explosions were observed. Sheary sirorest appeared to mark the track	
			in and out by dropping clustres of the white fleres at regular intervals.	
			A/C "D", P/Sgt. Parker as Captain, returned early because the port undercart of his aircraft	
(A)			failed to retract fully. 4/0 "E", 2/0 Byford as Captain, was forced to return early because	
			of heavy toing. P/O Hamilton was also forced to turn back because of toing and excessive	
CASTAL STATISTICS	(0)	L.	engine heating. "O", after bombing, landed at WRATTING COMON.	
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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	References to Appendices
iddleton St. George	3rd Dec		"W", P/O Metheral as Captain, had to feather his starboard inner engine while still 20 minutes	
	(Cont	·a)	from the target but, although he was losing height rapidly and was obviously going to be late	
			to attack, he continued on and hombed at 13,000 ft. after the last wave had passed. P/O	
			Metheral has since been swarded the D.F.C. for his devotion to duty in this attack.	
	4th Dec	ember	Squadron stand down.	
			Considerable amount of GEE training was undertaken by the Navigators, also Navigational crew	
				·
			A craws undertook Reder training.	
			Signals Section had a general "natter" on general behaviour, etc. as regards signals and	·····*
	= 1		18 Gunners proceeded to SUTTON BANK Range on a turret firing detail.	
			A mot dinghy drill was held by A grows at THERNARY baths.	
	5th Dec	embar	Command, Stand, down.	
-			Grew Navigation training was carried out and the Security lecture was given to aircrew person	el.
			in the afternoon.	
	(4)		Practice bombing up was carried out by the Amament Section with the new type 4 lb. incendiary	
			dustre projectile.	
			5 comparatively new WOps. were given an hours lecture followed by a practical demonstration	
			c to retire in the control of the co	
	6th Dec	ember	Occared stand dome	-
(14)	Say See	197	spids. Dyer delivered a talk to the Squadron on the subject of R/T procedure, tumbacks concer	m-
		40	ing turnet failures, and Squadron esprit de corps. It was manimously decided to establish a	
		1	prisoner of war digarette fund, the intention being to send digarettes to ex-419 personnel when	
Agail, .		1	are now prisoners of war, it being hoped that 500 cigarettes could be sent to each prisoner a	
abathy can profit parcess	On a Disso	enger.	5 anth intervals	
11-14 . t. v.			18 sir gunners were detailed for firing on the SUTTON BANK range.	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
			Flight Engineers had a lengthy discussion on the peculiarities of the Merlin IXII engine.	/
for the second	i		The second of th	5

\*9305: WL 51579-3544 116M 1/48 T.S. 70

Wt. 28426/1104 200M. 7/41 P.J. Led. 51-611

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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.

of [Unit or Formation] No. 419 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron

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Place	Date	Time	a transmitted the property of the summary of Events of structure of the party of the conte	References to Appendices
ddleton St. Geo	orge 6th	December	Considerable assumement was caused in the Armemet Section by the arrival of an Acceptance and	
	(00	at'd)	Inspection Sheet for the Armsont Officer's signature for the inspection of the Station Tiger Moth.	
			This has given rise to the runour that it is intended to arm elementary trainers with hand granade	
			for the opening of the second front. It may be added that the Intelligence Section has since	
			squashed this resour.	mio ( 2000 m. a.
	7th Dec	ember	Source Stand Dome	
	1STP THE		The Squadron was visited by No. 15 Squadron Mavigation Officer. In the course of his talk with	
			the Mavigators, several new ideas were exchanged and discussed.	
			A football match between the Armament Section and the Station I & R Electrical Section was won	
			by the Station with a score of 11 to 1, the only casualty being the Squadron's goalkeeper who	•
			suffered a strained back from micking the ball out of the net so often.	
	-		MAL Hall the Sausdron Engineer Leader, proceeded on the initial Flight Engineer Leader's Course.	
	-		to the sin formation by Sflar, Breer on the subject of "Gunners co-operation	
			with the Pilot".	
	8th De	cember	Admentin acesa mum	
		1	This being the start of the moon period 8 crews were sent on leave making a total of 17 crews	
	1 - 1	M. TH	Contemporary of the state of the state of the policy of the state of t	
		l	Special Nevigation training for Bomb Aimers was undertaken in the morning, pilots, navigators and	
	Josh Dea	HTCHES.	bomb simers being shown a special film on H2S equipment in the afternoon.	
			Special check of ground maintenance of sircraft was carried out by the pilots.	
Leton St. Daox	Se Say Se	ounce.	A special orew arrived from TEPULIFFS to carry out the tail modifications to Halifar siruraft.	
	9th Dec	ember	Squadron stand down.	Q
			Individual orew Marigation training was undertaken and Flight Engineers were given special training	000
			in actro parigetion.	

Place Date Time Summary of Events  Owing to the repairs being carried out on runways, 3 aircreft were despatched to TOPULIFFE so that (Grout d) their crews could continue their RADAR training.  10th December Squadron stend down.  Ores training was carried out in the morning, the afternoon being left free.  Considerable discussions arcses about the possibility of the Squadron converting to Lamosater A/O and the difficulties that would be involved in changing over without an actual conversion course.  Squadron stend down.  Great interest was taken in the arrival of the Airborne Lifeboost Demonstration Unit and their lectures and demonstrations were greatly enjoyed by the Squadron aircrew and they falt that they had derived great benefit from them.  Flight Engineers had a long discussion on engine benefiting and engine conditions.  S book sincre and their captains attended a bombing-up demonstration given by any Squadron amounters.  Opl. Rules of S. of T.T. Kirkhen arrived to give the Squadron Amounters (Guns) instructions and demonstrations in turnst procedure.  Squadron stand down.  2 Canadian built Lamosators arrived for the use of the Squadron with the immediate results that all sections took up a cartain amount of training in Lamosator equipment.  The J crews who had been sent to TOPICITYS for Edder training returned to the Square, having completed techning.  Further tables and desconstration towns on our new Lamosator advanced out by practically
(Constident of their crews could continue their RADAR training.  10th December
their grows could continue their RADAR training.  10th December  Squadron stend down.  Crew training was carried out in the morning, the afternoon being laft free.  Considerable discussions arose about the possibility of the Squadron converting to Lamosster A/C and the difficulties that would be involved in changing over without an actual conversion course.  11th December  Squadron stand down.  Great interest was taken in the arrival of the Airborne Lifeboat Demonstration Unit and their lectures and demonstrations were greatly enjoyed by the Squadron aircrew and they felt that they had derived great benefit from them.  Flight Engineers had a long discussion on engine handling and engine conditions.  8 book siners and their captains attended a bombing-up demonstration given by any Squadron amounters.  Cpl. Bulse of S. of T.T. Kirkham arrived to give the Squadron Amounters (Guns) instructions and demonstrations in turret procedure.  12th December  Squadron stand down.  2 Canadian built Lamosasters arrived for the use of the Squadron with the immediate results that all sections took up a certain amount of training in Lamosater equipment.  13th December  Squadron stand down.  The 3 crews who had been sent to TURIGIFFS for Radar training returned to the Squarea, having completed techning.
Oth December Squadron stand down.  Orew training was carried out in the morning, the afternoon being left free.  Quantiderable discussions arose about the possibility of the Squadron converting to Lancaster A/C and the difficulties that would be involved in changing over without an actual conversion course.  Ilth December Squadron stand down.  Great interest was taken in the arrival of the Airborne Lifeboat Demonstration Unit and their lectures and demonstrations were greatly enjoyed by the Squadron aircrew and they felt that they had derived great benefit from them.  Flight Engineers had a long discussion on angine handling and engine conditions.  8 book siners and their captains attended a bombing-up demonstration given by any Squadron amounters.  Cpl. Rules of S. of T.T. Lirkham strived to give the Squadron Amounters (Guns) instructions and demonstrations in turnet procedure.  12th December Squadron stand down.  2 Canadian built Lancasters arrived for the use of the Squadron with the immediate results that all sections took up a certain amount of training in Lancaster equipment.  Squadron stand down.  The 3 crews who had been sent to TORIGIFFE for Ridar training returned to the Square, having completed instance.
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13th December Squares stand down The 3 crows who had been sent to TORIGIPPE for Ridar training returned to the Squares, having
The 3 crews who had been sent to TORIGIFFS for Rider training returned to the Squires, having
Townsel Minning
And Additionally the second of the second of the second of the second of the proof of the proof of the second of t
1 Author Table and Committee a
all motions.
The Armsment Section started to break in some newly arrived airmen in bosbing up procedure.
11-th December Squadren stand down.
Grew training was carried out in the morning and a special propaganda film was shown to all aircrew
in the afternoon.
IN I

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

No. of pages used for day....

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
middleton St. Ge	earge 14th	December		Jacob Control Spine Control Spine
· ·	(0)	He-e/	census of opinion was that his visit had been well worth while.	
		1	A Conversion of the Squadron to the new Bomber Command Servicing Units was completed and all that	
		J	remains to be done is the actual posting of the various bodies to H.Q. Wing, I. & R. and the	
	IVER THE	oc. nex	La mangara page and data to attach Massachitts. There were the sanity retidate the destruction but in	
		ال ا	A meeting was held of those members of the Squairon who had been on Squadron strangth during	
			Fing Commander Fulton's period of command. It was decided at this meeting to form a "MOOSE CLUB",	Market 100.000
		- 1	eligibility for membership being confined to those who had at any time served with 419 Squadrens	
			It was tentatively agreed to hold a dinner on January 12th which would be the second anniversary	75
			of the Squadron's first operational flight. A committee was formed to handle the details of the	
			dinner and it was decided that only those personnel who had been on strength of the Squadron at	
F	7777	oryes.	that date, together with some special guests, should be invited. It is anticipated that a	Ann
			Constitution of the Club would be drawn up and Officers elected during the course of the dinner.	
	15th Dec	cember	Squadras stand dom.	
*		4.413	Grew and GES training were carried out in the morning, most of the aircrew being given stand-down	
	. >	( )	for the afternoon.	
			6 grews proceeded to THORNABY BATHS for a wet dinghy drill.	
			25 air gumers proceeded to SUTTON BANK for turnet firing.	
1		4	S/Ldr. Trites, Group Armment Officer, paid the Armment Section a visit,	
and the second second	16th Dec	comber	Squadron stand down.	
Odleton St. Goby	Te 3640 1	s er gen.	Station Commanding Officer had a parade for promulgation of Court Martial, this Squadron forming	
			No.2 Squadron on the Station Wing.	IN
			GRE end erow training was carried out by the Marigators.	M
			A demonstration of incendiary clustres was carried out in the open ground behind the bomb dump.	- <u> </u>
	A SECTION OF	AND THE REAL PROPERTY.	The state of the s	

DI.	1.		Page No	Refer
Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	Appe
eton St. G	ekerge 16th	December	13 190.6 1	
	(Co 17th De	nt'd)	Squadron stand down.	
		MANUAL WALL	Information was received from Air Ministry that S/Ldr. Weedon, ex "B" Fit. Commander, and F/O	
	***************************************		Campbell, an ax Hay, of the Squadron, had been searched D.F.C.'s for their good work while attached	*****
			to the Squadron.	-
			Nore GHE and over training.	
			Commanding Officer impected the airmen's barrack blooks and found them satisfactory.	
	9., 1		18 air gumers were detailed for firing at SUTTON BANK, but this had to be sorubbed due to lack of	
***************************************			transport.	
	18th Dec	ember	Il strongs were detailed for operations on LEVERISES but these were sorubbed at briefing.	
**********	19th Dec	ember	Squadron stand down.	
			Grew training was carried through until noon, then a Squadron stand down was declared, with the	
			exception of two arews who were detailed to carry out air tests. On landing "R" got into difficulties	
1			owing to the loss of an engine end a moderate cross-wind on the runsay. On attempting a second	
3			circuit the aircraft crashed, luckily without injury to the crew, the strongt being categorised	
****			"E". A prisoner of war lecture was given to all aircrew personnel.	
	20th Dec	ember	14 siroraft were detailed to attack FRANCPURT. There were two early returns, the remainder bombing	-1160
			and returning to base without incident. The general concensus of opinion was that the P.F. marking	
			was not particularly good and scattered regults were expected.	
			P/Sgt. Parker returned from 405 Squadron after being there under instruction for 8 days on	
			Lamonster A/C. The Ruhr Express, the 1st Can. built Lamonster, having been allotted to this	
			Squadron was brought home by P/Sgt. Perker and was the object of a great deal of interest.	************
Name of the last o	21 st Deos		Squadron stand down.	
			Wing Commander Pleasance returned from lasers and gave a lengthy address to the aircrew personnel	
	1		on results of the previous months Bomber Command activity with special reference to the part	
			played by the Moose Squadron.	
offerences (1964)	Page 1995 and			
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of (Unit or Formation) No. 419 (R.C.A.P.) Squadron

No. of pages used for day.....

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Eddleton St. Geor		December Cent'd)	CARE TO BEST OF THE TOTAL PARTY OF THE PARTY	
	-	a wildings.	riggers of the Squedron have been attending these lectures and it is felt that much benefit was derived from them.	
		-	Sgt. Kane, N.G.O. 1/o Squadron Stores, returned from 405 Squadron and R.A.F. Station, WYNON after	
	-		studying their system of Stores procedure for Lancaster spares.	
		1	Engineering publications for the Lancaster I and Merlin Engines have arrived in satisfaceory volume	•
	22nd De	spember .	Single-con at each decom.	I
***************************************		1-1	8 aircraft of the Squadron were detailed for special bullseys exercise. 8 officers of the Searchli	ght
		1	and sok-ack groups were carried as passengers to observe the effect of ground defences. Unfortunate	ely
			this exercise had to be out short due to enemy action.	
			Special lectures and instruction were given to ground crew personnel on Radar-	1
	577 59	1	During the morning Radar training, fighter affiliation, flight tests and air to air firing was carried out.	-
	23rd Dec	oember	15 A/O were detailed for operations. These were scrubbed at noon.	
			A new system of fighter affiliation in conjunction with Spitfire O.T.U,'s was inaugurated with two fighter affiliation flights, these proving quite successful.	
	24th Dec	cember	Squadron stand down.	
	-	- annuanna	Normal duties were carried out in the morning with Reder training and GES training dominating.	
(A)			A complete squadron stand-down was declared in the afternoon owing to it being Christmas Eve.	
		-	The Armement Section were called on to supply Station Groff with special slings for mines as they	
Meson St. (serv	\$ 00,500 pc		had been alled on for a Cardening sortic and were short of this equipment.	
·	25th Dec	cember	A goodwood effort was ordered at 0930 hrs. and scrubbed at 1030 hrs.	CA
1			Christma festivities were carried out as planned. The general consensus of opinion being that	W
			these were most successful.	

ice D	Date Time	Summary of Events	Refer
	1900	Summary of Events	Apper
t. George 2	26th Decembe	Squadron Stand down.	
		A moscial locture was given to the Havigators on PFF Havigation.	
		Reder training height tests and air to see firing carried out.	
		It having been found that lecker accommodation was allowing flying clothing to get damp, a drying	
	961	room was improvised. In the event of operations being ordered flying clothing is now strong on	
		limes in the Bomb Aimer's instruction room and a heater was backed up to the window, the heater ho	_
		being passed into the rams and the heat turned on until the atmosphere and clothing are completely	
		dried. Aircrew attire themselves in this room just prior to proceeding to the markalling point.	
27:	th December	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
		and then finally sorubbed. It may be noted that Havigational gam for this operation was extremely	
		late in owning through and caused quite a panio in the Navigation department.	
	-	Owing to the operations ordered the only training done was by those crews detailed for Radar	
		training. A detail of gumers had been sent to SUTTON RAIK but these were recalled on operations	
		being ledg on a floor and anti-detailed for special bullacte exercises, got said of ac lesve	
286	th December	The state of the s	***************************************
	1	The weather was particularly good for local flying with the result that many training flights	-
	300	and air tests were carried out, particularly a large number of details for air to air firing and	
,		fighter affiliation were laid out.	
904	th December	17 A/C were detailed to attack REGIM. There was one early return, A/C "B" with port inner engine	
	ALL APPENDINGS.	and hydraulics w/s. "Y" sking missing and the remainder bombed the target and returned safely.	
* 300 S	Strict Property	"N" and "T" landed at COLTINALL, the Squadron diversion base.	A-1190
		The details of the crew of "Y" are as follows: - Captain: R145227 F/S Thompson, R.L. on his 7th	
-		operational sortie; Navigatori R139545 Sgt. Webb. F.H.; Air Bomber: R130425 Sgt. Maloney, S.J.;	a-1190
		W/Op. (Air): 1320259 Sgt. Bilyard, R.G.; Flight Engineer: 1873080 Sgt. Cooper, J.; M/U: E193150	
1000		Sgt. Garroll, A.; Rear Gunner: 193039 Sgt. Barry W.J.	
30t	th December	Squadron stand dom.	
>			

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No. of pages used for day.....

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Middleton St. Ge			Orew training was carried out with particular emphasis on GRE and Radar.	
	(Ce	mt'd)	A detail of 15 gunners proceeded to SUTTON BANK for turnet training.	
	31st I	ecember	14 aircraft were detailed for operations on FRANKFURT. These operations were sorubbed one hour	
			before take-off. A Squadron stand down was immediately declared to allow personnel to take part	***************************************
***************************************			in New Year feativities.	
	31st D	ecember	POSTINGS DURING THE MONTH	
		_	Postings to the Units	*****
			(3rd December) 1709161 Sgt. Wood, C. (F/E) from 431 (RCAF) Sqdn. for operational duties.	
			(6th December) J. 221,70 P/O A.L. Warren (Pilot); 1387861 Sgt. Sutton, S. (Nav.) P158079 F/S Korber,	
			T. (A/B); 1035031 Sgt. King, W.J.E. (W/Op (Air)); R98044 Sgt. Kent, E.D. (F/E); 1510808 Sgt. Crab-	
			tree, H. (MU/AC); R189979 Sgt. Minett, M. (R/C). from 1659 Conv. Unit, TCPCLIFFE.	
		11	(13th December) R147417 Sgt. McIvor, R.A. (Pilot); R157928 Sgt. Bremmer, J.D. (Nav.); R158757	
			Sgt. Goulding, S.H. (A/E); R119519 F/S Claridge, W.T. (W/OP A.G.); R109302 Sgt. Rigden, S.L. (F/E)	
	1 15		R1900(1 Sgt. Tucker, K.D. (MU/AG); R190321 Sgt. Dujay, R.E. (R/G). from 1659 Conv. Unit, TOPCLIFFE.	
	1 72 90,50	octoer s	(25th December) J9072 F/L J.A. Westland was posted to the Squadron to the post of Deputy Flight	
A Control			Commander, "B" Flight.	
			Postings from the Unit:	
			(3rd December) 127107 F/O A. Winskill (A/B) was posted to 20 O.T.U., LOSSIEMOUTH, for Instructor	
			duties. F/O Winskill completed a tour of operations with the MOOSE SQUADRON, at the conclusion	
			of which he was detailed for a Bombing Instructor's Course which he passed very shocessfully.	
gregorii pr. cert	3000	artigs.	(9th December) J14,185 F/O E.G. Gray (A/C), R194654 Sgt. Miskanen, S.E. (A/C) were posted to 405	
li de la composition della com			(RCAF) Sqdn. CRANEDEN LODGE, for operational duties.	W
4		4	(22nd December) 68185 F/t H.L. Shackleton (Pilot), 1601726 Sgt. Gibson, R.C. (Nav.), 151215 P/O	, M
			A.A. Ashford (A/S), 1314440 Sgt. Williams, H. (WOP (Air); 1678297 Sgt. Newton, T. (A/G) 1583509	
Sold Control		10/2000		

			66 6 W. C.	Page No. 57  References
Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	Appendices
iddleton St. Geor	ge 31st I	ecember	Posting s from the Unit (Cont'4)	
			Sgt. Palmer, W.R. (E/E); 1077032 Sgt. Walker, J.W. (MI/AG); posted to 405 Squadron, SRAN	SON LODGE.
			B/L Shackleton had hald the post of Deputy Flight Commander "B" Flight with this Unit fo	2, 1000
			time and was a very popular number of the Squadron.	
			(23rd December) 961438 Sgt. Brakes, B. E. (WOP (Air)) was posted to 1659 Conv. Unit, TOP	
			recrewing, having been on the strength of this Unit as a spare Eireless Operator for some	e time.
	31st I	ecember	Details of bombs dropped during the month are as follows:	N. (1. (20))
		1	14 x 2,000 lb. H.C., 1076 x 30 lb. L.C., 61 x 1,000 lb. M.C., 36,690 x 4 lb. incendia	
			The tomage dropped was: High Explosives, 54.5 tons, incendiaries, 89.52 tons.	
	3lst I	December	The strength of the Squadron as at 31st December, 1943 is as follows:  ATRONS: R.C.A.F. R.C.A.F. R.A.F. R.A.F. U.S.A.A.F.	
			OFFICIENS ATTEMPT OFFICIENS ATTEMPT . ATTEMPT	
			59 12 5 12	
			CROUNDORS: R.C.A.F. R.C.A.F. R.A.F. R.A.F. ATRICALS:	
·			3 342 Nil 66 57	
	31st De	comber	No. and type of aircraft on Unit Charge: 18 Halifax Mark II, 5 Lancaster Mark X.	
# 4 · · · · ·	31at De	18-31	Flying time for the month of December, 1963: Operational: 329-10	
	-		Non-operational 23.55	776 774
	1000	Brown Tarity	Number of Sorties carried out: 45	to 6 perm.
	- 6	72.0	Enemy aircraft claimed as casualties during the month of December, 1943:	
CONTRACTOR SE	No Scan	geomines	Only one combat took place on operations during the month, and no enemy aircraft ar	e claimed
	(P		as cessalties.	
E. ADEA			Attached herewith 1 combat report for the month of December, shown as Appendix "B".	Appendix "B-
	31st De	comber	General Summary of the Month's Activities by Wing Commander W.P. Pleasance.	
	-		(a) It is noted that very few operational sorties were made during the month, this being	end it is
			due to bad weather conditions, however, flying training was carried on to a great extent	
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Service de				ALLEGATION AND ASSESSMENT
		SALES CONTRACTOR		
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See sustructions to use of this form in K.R. and A.C.L. perc. 280 and Wer Manual. Pt. II. chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Pocher Book.

#### OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 58

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

No. of pages used for day...

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	References to Appendices
ddleton St.George.	31st.	December	General Summary of the Month's Activities by Wing Commander W. P. Pleasance (Cont'd.)	
			anticipated that this will greatly benefit the Squadron on future operations.	
			(b) The course of lectures by the Engineering Officer and Snr. N. C. O's has been well attended	
			by all "C" Group trademen. These lectures are designed to enable these trademen to pass.  the coming trade test board exeminations.	
	31st.	December		
	37 et 1	December	Short Summary of the Year's activities by Wing Commander V.P. Bleasance	
		AND STREET, ST		
***************************************	ļ		(a) During the year the Squadron has flown a total of 1190 operational sorties and has been	
			responsible for dropping the following tonnage of bombs on the enemy:	
***************************************			2,000 lb. H.C 414 tons, 1,000 lb. M.C 224 tons, 1,000 lb. G.P 464.5 tons,	
	ļ		500 lb. M.C 88.75 tons, 500 lb. G.P 7.5 tons, 1500 lb. mines - 47.25 tons,	
·			1,000 lb. mines - 44.5 tons, 30 lb. L.C 581.52 tons, 4 lb. incendiaries - 1347.2 tons.	
·			Grand total dropped: 3219.22 tons.	
		h	(b) During the year the Squadron gunners accounted for 10 enemy aircraft shot down and des-	
	-	140-1	troyed, and have also claimed one as probably destroyed and one damaged. The details are:	
**************************************		A	A/C claimed destroyed: 1 ME.110, 1 ME.210, 3 JU.88's, 3 PW.190's, 2 unidentified A/C,	
			1 ME. 110 probably destroyed and one JU.88 demaged.	
			(a) There waxe 50 crews lost during the year involving a total personnel of 358. Of these	
······································			5 have returned to this country and exactly 100 are known to be prisoners of war. 119 are	
			known to have lost their lives, the remaining 136 have not as yet been accounted for. The	
			Squadron's percentage at lesses in ratio to operational sorties undertaken is 4.2%	
			(v. Pledante) Ving Commenter;	
			Commanding 419 (RGAT) Squadron,	
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