OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK Asset

K.R. and A.C.I., chapter XX.. and

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

3853

No. of pa

A STATE OF	1	
Date	Time	Summary of Events SECR
lst J	enuary H	Squadron stand down.
		This was particularly appreciated as it allowed Squadron personnel to carry out or co
		the New Year festivities without interference.
2nd Jar	uary	Squadron stand down.
		Local flying was carried out, also two Radar cross country flights.
		A night bullseye was carried through with two aircraft from "B" Flight and three from
		The "Gen" books of the Lancaster sircraft and Merlin XXVIII engines for the use of Fl.
		Engineers arrived and were distributed.
3rd Jan	uary	Squadron stand down.
		A lecture was given to the aircrew personnel of the Squadron by Wing Commander Pleasar
		the subject of Crew Discipline and the results obtained by the Squadron on some of the
		raids on the enemy.
		Weather was very poor with the result that no flying could take place.
		The Bombing Leader gave a two-hour lecture to the Bomb Aimers on GE and W/T.
		F/L Bales, Engineer Officer, called a meeting of all Flight Engineers together to coll
		on attroraft performance.
		18 Lancasters were diverted to this Station with the result that the Armanent Section
		heavy day checking for hangeste. The Flight personnel were also very busy recondition
		refueling these aircraft.
th Jam	uary	12 aircraft were detailed for Gardening in the Bay OF BISCAY. Ten planted their veget
		successfully. On return "P" ran short of petrol and crash landed at GLATTON. No dan
		the crew resulted. The plane was Cat. AC.
	Mark Strain Control	is this was a late "do", normal training was carried through during the day.
	CONTROL CONTROL CONTROL	The meeting of the newly formed Moose Club was held to discuss the details of the inau
		dinner which was sheduled to take place the following week.
th Janu	lary (Radar equipped aircraft were detailed for Gardening. At briefing take-off was annou
l		3.30 hrs. the following morning. At 21.30 hrs. the crews were called out of bed and
		assembled in the briefing room where they were notified that take-off had been change
	!	

Date Time	Summary of Events SECRE							
th Jamuary (Cont'd)	at 22.30 hrs. ops. were scrubbed, much to the discussed disgust of all concerned.							
(Cone.a)	Owing to the lateness of the original hour of take-off, a small amount of training was							
	out in the morning, the crews being advised to try and get some aleep in the afternoon							
	A new W/T Section room fitted with home made practice apparatus was completed and was							
	opened by F/L Brown, the W/Op Leader, with a full dress practice.							
	R73894 Cpl. Whitehead, S.W. of the Squadron Armoury was attached to No. 10 S of T.T. K							
	on a Bolton Paul Turret Course preparatory to his taking over the training of the Squn Armsment personnel on Lancaster armsment.							
th January	6 aircraft were detailed for Gardening off BREST. The crews reported a good trip, but							
	A small amount of training was carried out during the day but owing to the operations							
	this was confined to non-operational crews.							
th January	Squadron stand down.							
	One aircraft was detailed for cross country Redar training flight.							
	One aircraft flew a crew to 429 Seen. to bring back a plane belonging to us.							
	Normal training was carried out during the day.							
	The Flight Engineers' graining programme for Lancaster aircraft was outlined by P/L Ha the Engineer Leader.							
	A Chinese War Correspondent was present at the interrogation of crews returning from							
	operation and seemed to find much to interest him.							
	17 Air Gunners proceeded to the range at Sutton Bank for firing practice.							
	The Squadron Armoury had a rousing football tussle with the Station Electrical Section							
	final score being very much in favour with the Armoury.							
th Jamery	There was a considerable amouth of "flap" when it became known that operations were or							
	with an all H.E. bomb load. Much speculation was indulged in as to the possible targe							
	Operations were scrubbed, however, before the target was known.							
	Air Marshal Breadner paid a visit to the Squadron and had a look around the hangars an							
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R. and A.C.I., hapter XX., and

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

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Date Tin	Summary of Events SECR
8th January	He also paid a visit to the W/T Section while F/S Packer was instructing a number of F
(cont d)	Engineers in Morse. He seemed to be quite pleased with the idea and handed around a f
	A lecture was given to the Wops on Fishpond.
	All Engineers not on flying duties started on a training programme of Wireless, Bombin
	and Navigation.
	F/Sgt. Brackenbury, who was in charge of the Radar section, was posted to take over siduties at Croft.
	The weekly meeting of the Senior N.C.O.'s in charge of flights was held presided over
	Bales, Engineer Officer,
9th January	Squadron stand down.
	Flying training was carried out, "R" was given a height test.
	Ground training of all non-flying aircrew personnel was carried out.
Oth January	Squadron stand down.
	This was the night of full moon.
	Radar training flights and air to air firing flights, were carried out.
	A lecture on escaping if forced down over enemy territory was given to the aircrew per
	of the Squadron.
	A W/T lecture was given to the Bomb Aimers, who also had a certain amount of Astro and
	practice.
	Manipulation of fishpond apparatus instruction was given to the W/Ops.
	Engineers were given training in Browning Gun. 4 details of gunners carried out air to
1th January	Squadron stand down.
	No flying of any description could be carried out owing to a complete breakdown in the
	accompanied by snow.
	As much ground training as possible was carried out, the emphasis being on inter-section
	F/L Hall, the Eng. Ldr., gave a lecture to pilots and Flight Engineers on airscrews.

ite Time	Summary of Events SECRE
th January	The Squadron Bomb Aimers were given a lecture on Fishpond. Navigators were given an hours W/T manipulation.
	The Flight Engineers received instruction in Wireless, Bombing and Gunnery.
	25 Gunners were sent to Sutton Bank range for firing practice.
h January	Squadron stand down. The weather still remained "duff" with the result that no flying could take place.
K	S/L E.C. Hamber (C1625) arrived to take over command of "B" Flight.
	W/C Pleasance held a conference of all Section Leaders to discuss the progress of the section training of aircrew.
	Normal ground training was carried through with a further 20 Gunners proceeding to the Bank range.
th January	Squadron stand down.
	The weather still remained bad. Again no flying could be carried out.
	A looker check was carried out.
	Ground training was carried through by the various Sections.
	The inaugural dinner of the newly formed Moose Club was held in the Vane Arms Hotel,
	Stockton. The affair was voted a huge success by the 115 original members of the Squa
	who had served under the leadership of W/C Moose Fulton, who were present.
th January	Squadron stand down.
	8 aircraft of the Squadron took part in a bullseye exercise. Two aircraft were detail
fly	practice bombing during the morning.
	Normal flying and ground training was carried through.
th January	Squadron stand down.
	The weather was extremely bad and ground training only could be indulged in.
	F/L Hall, the Eng. Ldr., gave a talk to all crew members on the subject of fuel system Lancaster A/C.
	F/L Toms, the Gunnery Ldr., visited Topoliffe Station to investigate the possibilities
	acquiring a similar Night Vision training set-up as is in existence on that Station.

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

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Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECR
15 - 1-4	+ (cont	d) Two aircraft had a practice bombing session on SWRATichall Range.	
18th J	amuary	Squadron stand down.	
		Poor flying weather persisted with the result that no flying of any de	scription maxim
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	was undertaken.	
		The Sqdn. Flight Engineers were given instruction in bombing-up aircra	ft.
		All aircrew attended a lecture on meteerclogy given by the Station Met	. Officer.
		A football match arranged by 428 and 419 Armoury resulted in the compl	ete vanquishing
	0	team.	
		A weekly meeting of the Senior N.C.O.'s was held, presided over by the	Station Technic
7th Je	muary	Squadron stand down.	
		The weather continued poor and there was no flying.	
		Ground training was carried out by all sections.	
		12 crews attended a demonstration of bombing-up procedure and a clustr	e demonstration
		given.	
8th Je	nuary	Squadron stand down.	
		The weather continued bad but it was eventually possible to get one ai	roraft off the
	Jairen	for an air test.	
	allow	All orews practiced a dry dinghy drill's in the morning and continued g	round instruction
		25 Gunners proceeded to SUTTON BANK for firing practice.	
th Jan	uary	Squadron stand down.	
		The weather continued poor. There were no operations or loc	eal flying.
		Wireless and Gunnery classes were held in the morning and also a lectu	***************************************
8	great of gas	engineers on conversion to Lancasters. This lecture was given by F/L I	Mall.
		25 Gunners proceeded to SUTTON BMNK for firing practice.	
		The Squadron Working WOP/AG's threw a dinner party in the Imperial	Hotel, Darling
		Which was attended by the Squadron Commander and some special guests.	This turned out
	¥		ogethers at rore
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ate	Time	Summary of Events SECRE
th J	anuary	16 aircraft were detailed to attack BERLIN. One aircraft was scrubbed just prior to ta
		and "T" returned early with the port inner engine u/s. "Q" was diverted to WOODRIDGE w
		engine w/s and short of petrol. "Y" landed at HARDWICK short of petrol.
		Two aircraft were missing from this operation, "M" - F/S Hopkins and "X" - P/O Bullis.
		was P/O Bullis' 14th operation and his 3rd on BERLIN in the present series.
		This was a Wangamui attack but those planes equipped with H23 equipment were of them op
		that it was most effective.
		The new daily maintenance and servicing scheme was started with this operation, a parti
	1	nice job being done by the Armoury Section when they bombed up 35 aircraft in record ti
		Those crews not detailed for operations were engaged in lining up the new crew room and
		the self help shame scheme did a nice job of painting the walls.
at J	anuary	14 aircraft were detailed to attack MAGDEBURG. There was one early return, "W" - pilot
		McVary with his port immer engine u/s. Unfortunately two aircraft were missing from the
		operation - F/S Hawkes in "D" on his 5th sortie and F/L Hermitage in "E" on his 3rd sor
**********		g/Ldr. Hamber, Flt. Commander of "B" Flight, had a rough time in "T" returning has with
		holes in his aircraft but, fortunately, no one was injured although there were several
		escapes.
		All planes were diverted on return, 8 landing at LAKENHEATH, 1 at MILDENHALL, 1 at ROT
		and 1 at TUDDENHAM.
		Those crews not engaged in this operation continued with the work in the new crew room
2nd 1	Panuary	Squadron stand down-
F-AASA . AA		The weather during the day was poor with the result that only five of our aircraft ret
		these arriving late in the afternoon.
é		Regrading tests for W/Op/AG's were given.
		A/C JD212 was received from 429 Sqdn.
23mi	Jenuary	Squadron stand down.
M-24.14.		The balance of the Squadron aircraft returned from their diversion bases.
		Two aircraft were put on height tests.

INICIDENCE PROPERTY.	ALCOHOLD BUILDING	

K.R. and A.C.L. chapter XX. and of (Unit or Formation) No. 419 (R.C.A.F.) Squaddon

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Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECF
23rd J	anuary	The balance of the Squadron W/Op's sat their regrading tests.	4
(Con	t'd)	Lectures on the Lancaster fuel systems and electrical systems were given by F/L	Hall,
		Squadron Engineer Ldr.	
24th J	nuary	Squadron stand down.	
		Local flying was carried out, several of the Captains receiving dual instruction	n on L
		aireraft.	λ
		Normal flying training was proceeded with.	
		Lectures were given to all aircrew on met. and flying control by the Met. Offic	er and
	• . 	Control Officer.	
		25 Gunners were sent to STTON BANK for firing practice.	
	***************************************	F/L R.P. Bales, i/c Servicing Echelon, assumed the duties of C.T.O. of the Stat	ion.
5th Jan	nuary	10 aircraft were briefed to attack FRANKFURT but 1/2 hr. before take-off this ope	ration
		scrubbed.	
		Two new aircraft were received from London Aircraft, Nos. JP.201 and JP.200.	
26th Je	nuary	Squadron stand down.	
	***************************************	P/O Metheral and crew were screened from operations, this being the 19th crew t	hat had
		screened on the Squadron since they started operating on Halifaxes a year ago.	
		Several air tests were carried out, and several pilots received dual on Lancast	ers.
		23 Gunners proceeded to SUTTON BANK range for firing practice.	
		Two new aircraft were received from London Aircraft nos. JP 202 and JP.203.	
7th Jan	uary	12 aircraft were briefed to attack BERLIN but this was eventually scrubbed.	
		The weather was poor and no flying was attempted during the day.	
		As sar as possible ground training was carried on.	
27 1,200		One new aircraft was received from London Aircraft, JB. 204.	
28th Ja	nuary	14 aircraft were detailed to attack BERLIN.	
		"O", F/S Palmer as Pilot on his 142 sorties was missing from this operation.	
		"I" landed at COLTISHALL short of fuel. The remainder returned to base safely.	
		The general concensus of opinion was that this had been a most successful attac	k.
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Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRE
9th Jar	nuary	Squadron stand down.	
(Chart)		Conversion training on Lancaster was carried through as far as possible	e. Ground train
		all Sections was carried on with particular emphasis on inter-section.	
		A major inspection was carried out on aircraft "V" JD. 114, this aircraft	ft having tied t
		Squadron's record of having completed 48 operations.	.
		S/L Dyer, "A" Flt. Commander, presented the Wings for Victory plaque t	o the town of GU
th Jan	nuary	Squadron stand down.	
		4 special training cross-okuntry flights were carried out.	
		Air to air firing was carried out by four details.	
		Dry dinghy drills were carried out.	
		W/C Miller, the Group Engineering Officer, visited the Squadron to dis	cuss the problems
		from conversion to the Canadian Lancaster, and also to see a demonstra	tion of the possi
		of carrying four 1500 lb. mines on Halifax aircraft.	
lst Ja	nuary	6 aircraft were detailed to carry out Gardening operations. This was	later scrubbed.
		Two details on fighter affiliation were carried through,	
		Word was received that a Duty Signals Officer would be posted to 419 S.	dn. to assist in
	٩.	Conversion of WOP/AG's to Bendix equipment.	
st Jan	uary	General Summary of the Month's Activities by Wing Commander W.P. Please	moe,
		(a) The month was very disappointing so far as operational sorties was	concerned, the S
		only being called on to operate on five nights. The conversion to Land	easter A/C is pro
		fairly satisfactorily, the principle hold-up being the lack of A/C, on	y one being serv
		for Conversion flying, Aircrew training is proceeding very satisfactor	rily, particularl
		training of the various sections in other than their own normal duties.	
		(b) Fishpond modifications and general modifications to the Halifax A/C	were carried ou
		during the month and groundcrews received a fair amount of training in the Lancaster A/C.	the peculiaritae
		(c) Under the self-help scheme, the N.C.O.'s in charge of Flights have	been improving t
		dispersal areas and the flight huts have also been cleaned and decorate	d.

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

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Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRI
blst J	nuary	(d) The Squadron's new drying room is not in full operation as yet but the new locker
(Con		is in operation and the old locker room has been converted to a crew room, the re-deco
		of which has been carried out by Squadron personnel.
		(e) During the month a total of approximately 200 groundcrew personnel were posted to
		Middleton St. George to fill establishment vacancies in 9419 Echelon and the Station S
		Wing, leaving the present Squadron groundcrew strength at around 240 personnel.
lst Ja	nuary	POSTINGS DURING THE MONTH
		Postings to the Unit:
		(6th January) J25385 F/O S.J. Gibson (Pilot), R160773 Sgt. Lowe, T.B. (Nav.), R177545
		V.N. (A/B), R106982 W/O Humphreys, E.O.E., WOP/AG), R197965 Sgt. Wheeler, M.H. (MJ/AG
		R212525 Sgt. Surridge, D.G. (R/G), 1822200 Sgt. Sinclair, W.A. (F/E) reported for flying
		from 1664 Conv. Unit, Croft.
		(12th February) S/L E.C. Hamber (Pilot), J22605 F/O S.G. Philp (Nav.) J25125 P/O J.A. 1
		R97357 W/O Hope, J. (WOP/AG), 1537278 Sgt. Kemp, A.R. (F/E), 2220339 Sgt. Minten, W.F.
		R188459 Sgt. Loyst, J.R. (R/G), reported for flying duties from for 1664 Conv. Unit, Da
		(25th January) C25188 F/O D.A. Neft (Tech./S.) reported to the Squadron from H. Q. 6 G.
		to take over duties as Radar Officer.
		Postings from the Unit:
		(6th January) P/O J.V. Karleff (J17797) was posted to 1659 Conv. Unit, Topcliffe to or
		W/C Burgess. P/O Karleff was commissioned while on the strength of the "Moose Squadro
, p		had been employed as a spare A/B for some time. He was best known for his fantastic of
		depicting life in the Air Force, many of which had been reproduced in the R.C.A.F. Ma
	7.0	"Wings" which is published in Canada.
		(21st January) J21370 F/O J.C. Turnbull, (Pilot), J14793 F/O E.T. Albert (Nav.), J23638
		A.H.A. McBain (A/B), 1575683 Sgt. Gillett, R.G. (WOP/Air), R60144 Sgt. Michael F.E. (F/
		R193130 Sgt. Hutt, C.A. (MI/AG), R225229 Sgt. Malec, J. (A/G). were posted to No. 424
		Squedron, Dishforth. F/O Turnbull was posted to the Post of Depaty Flight Commander.

ate	Time			St	ummary of Events		SECRE			
31st	January	POSTINGS DURING THE MONTH - Cont'd								
(00	mati'd)	Postings foot								
	***************************************						mstrong (Nav.), R150			
							865144 Sgt. Sharples			
) were posted to 405			
		Carried and Carried Activities and Carried Car					rted to the Navigati			
	***************************************				or to reporting	g to the Squad	icon.			
alst 1	lamiary	ATRMEN COMMISSIONED DURING THE MONTH								
		R131730 W.O.2								
		Rll0962 F/S MacLean, D.H. (Pilot)								
		1578686 F/S L								
		R108409 W.O.2								
		R123028 W.O.2 Marritt, R.H. (A/G)								
		1320032 F/S S								
		1398837 Sgt. 1		Deploy that were all and the same of the s	***************************************					
		1148066 F/S P)					
		R144248 W.O.2								
		R145227 F/S TI								
st Ja	nuary		ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY OF		th ame as foll					
		13 x 2,0001b. H.C., 58 x 1,000 lb. M.C., 31 x 1,500 lb. mines, 1032 x 30 lb.								
		33,360 x 4 1b. insertitions incendiaries. The tonnage dropped was: High Explos								
			THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER.	endiaries, 82	at our speaking a		*			
lst J	anuary	The strength	of the Squadr	on as at 31st	January, 1944	is as follows	The second secon			
	y	AIRCREW:	R.C.A.F.	R.C.A.F.	R.A.F. OFFICERS	R.A.F. AIRMEN	u.s.a.a.f. Atricin			
			56	99	9	64	1			
		GROUNDCREW:	R.C.A.F.	R.C. A. F.	R.A.F.	R. A. F.	W.A.A.F.			
			OFFICERS	ATRMEN	OFFICERS	ATRUEN-	AJRWOMON			
			2	209	Ni-1	25				

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K.R. and A.C.I.

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

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			- 1
Date 1	Time	Summary of Events	SECR
lst Janua	ry No	and type of aircraft on Unit charge: 18 Halifax Mark II, 3 Lancas	ster Mark X.
(Cont d) lst Janua		lying time for the month of January, 1944: Operational: 451.35 Non-operational: 228.55 Non-operational: (Larcast	er) 11.30
		mber of sorties carried out: 59	
	Er	nemy aircraft claimed as caualties during the month of January, 1944:	
	ar	Although a number of combats took place on operations during the	month, no enemy
		tached herewith Combat Reports for the month, shown as Appendices "F	п.
		tached herewith shown as Appendix "C" is a short report on the activ	
st Januar	Pu At	ulton Club". tached herewith shown as Appendix "C" is copy of Squadron news in K ALTH	
	Th	me health of the Squadwon continued to be generally satisfactory.	

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) to 2 m	cr. NZE
		Commanding 419	e) Wing Command (RCAF) Squadro
		anadleton St.	Goerge, Durham.

R.A.F. Form 540
See materiations for one of this form in K.R. and A.C.I., none, 290, and War Manual, Pt. II., chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Peulps Book,

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

Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	Appendices
19	444	processor and the second of th	
lst Ja	nuary	Squadron stand down.	
		the New Year festivities without interference.	
2nd Jar	mary	Squadron stand down.	
		Local flying was carried out, also two Radar cross country flights.	
		a might bull save was carried through with two aircraft from "B" Flight and three from "A" Flight	it.
		"he "Gen" books of the Lancaster siroraft and Merlin XXVIII engines for the use of Flight	
		and down	
3rd_Jar	WALY	given to the aircrew personnel of the Squadron by Fing Commander Pleasance on	
		A lecture was given Discipling and the results obtained by the Squairon on some of the later	
	ļ	raids on the energy.	Marie L
		Weather was very poor with the result and the Book Aircra on G.F. and W/T.	
		The Bombing Leader gave a two-hour lecture to the Bond Light Engineers together to collect "ger	
		에 가장 사용을 보고 있다. 그는 사람들은 사용을 보고 있는데 그는 사용을 보고 있다면 되었다면 되었다면 되었다면 되었다면 되었다면 되었다면 되었다면 되었	
		on elitoreft performance.	
		18 Lancasters were diverted to this Station with the result that the recordification and	
(2000)		heavy day checking for hangests. The Flight personnel were also very busy reconstitution	700
		refueling these aircraft.	A.1191-A120
4th Ja	muary	12 aircraft were detailed for Cardening in the Bay OF BISCAY. Ten planted their vegetables	
		successfully. On return "P" ran short of petrol and crash landed at GLATTON. No damage to	A.1198
		the come resulted. The plane was Cat. AC.	,
		Tota "do" normal training was carried through during the day.	
2000		The reating of the newly formed Moose Club was held to discuss the details of the inaugural	0.3
7000		the man shaduled to take place the following week.	
100		a state of the detailed for Gerdening. At briefing take-off was amounted as	V - Garage
5th Je	STREET,	At 21.30 hrs, the crews were called out of Bed and	VPRD
-		03-30 hrs. the 10110 that the changed to 2	.30 hrs.,
	lot Je 2nd Jes 3rd Jes kth Je		Int January Squadron stand down. This was particularly appreciated as it allowed Squadron personnel to carry out or complete the New Year festivities without interference. And January Squadron stand down. Local flying was carried out, also two Redar cross country flights. A might bull says was carried through with two aircraft from "B" Flight and three from "A" Flight The "Gen" books of the Lancaster strearft and Merlin XXVIII engines for the use of Flight The "Gen" books of the Lancaster strearft and Merlin XXVIII engines for the use of Flight The "Gen" books of the Lancaster strearft and Merlin XXVIII engines for the use of Flight The "Gen" books of the Lancaster stream of the Squadron by Fing Commander Fleasance on the subject of Grew Discipline and the results obtained by the Squadron on some of the later raids on the enemy. Weather was very poor with the result that no flying could take place. The Booking Leader gave a two-hour lecture to the Book Aimors on GE and V7. The Booking Leader gave a two-hour lecture to the Book Aimors on GE and V7. F/L Bales, Engineer Officer, called a meeting of all Flight Engineers together to collect "gen on astrorat performance. 18 Lancasters were diverted to this Station with the result that the Armacent Section had a heavy day checking for hange the Flight personnel were also very busy reconditioning and refuling these aircraft. 4th January 12 sireraft were detailed for Gardening in the Bey OF BISCAY. Ten planted their vegetables successfully. On return "P" ran short of petrol and crash landed at Glatron, No damage to the craw resulted. The plane was Gat. G. Still was a late "40", normal training was carried through during the day. The Booting of the newly formed Moose Club was held to discuss the details of the inaugural The secting of the newly formed Moose Club was held to discuss the details of the inaugural

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Place	Date .	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	References to Appendices
fidaleton St. George	5th Ja	amary	at 22.30 hrs. ops. were sorubbed, much to the dismensed disgust of all concerned.	
	(COI	(a)	Owing to the lateness of the original hour of take-off, a small amount of training was carrie	A
35			out in the morning, the crews being advised to try and get some aleep in the afternoon.	
			A new W/T Section room fitted with home made practice apparatus was completed and was formall	7
			opened by P/L Brown, the W/Op Leader, with a full dress practice.	
			R73894 Cpl. Whitehead, S.W. of the Squadron Armoury was attached to No. 10 S of T.T. Kirkham	Tito - and
			on a Bolton Paul Turret Course preparatory to his taking over the training of the Souns	
			Armsent personnel on Lancaster armsent.	
	6th Je	nuary	6 aircraft were detailed for Gardening off BREST. The drews reported a good trip, but some f	lak. A.1203-A.
			A small amount of training was carried out during the day but owing to the operations schedule	ed "B.14"
			this was confined to non-operational crews.	A . L . L . L . L . L . L
	7th Ja	nuary	Squadron stand down.	
*			One sixoraft was detailed for cross country Redar training flight.	
			One siroraft flew a crew to 429 Sam. to bring back a plane belonging to us.	
			Normal training was carried out during the day.	
57452			The Flight Engineers' graining programs for Lancaster aircraft was outlined by P/L Hall,	
			the Engineer Leaders	
			A Chinese War Correspondent was present at the interrogation of crews returning from Cardenin	ıg
			operation and seemed to find much to interest him.	
			17 Air Gunners proceeded to the range at Sutton Bank for firing practice.	Mary State 2
			The Squadron Armoury had a rousing football tussle with the Station Electrical Section, the	
			final score being very much in favour with the Armoury.	
	8th Je	mary	There was a considerable amouth of "flap" when it became known that operations were ordered	
			with an all H.E. bomb load. Much speculation was indulged in as to the possible targets,	
133234			Operations were scrubbed, however, before the target was known.	
			Air Marshal Breadner paid a visit to the Squadron and had a look around the hangars and Squadron	on A/C.
COSTA AND ST	mjumumim.			200

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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 SECRET.	References to Appendices
fiddleton St. George	8th Janua		He also paid a visit to the W/T Section while F/S Packer was instructing a number of Flight	10
	(cont	(a)	Engineers in Morse. He seemed to be quite pleased with the idea and handed around a few	
			compliments to the personnel concerned.	
			A lecture was given to the WOps on Fishpond.	
			All Engineers not on flying duties started on a training programme of Wireless, Bombing, Gunner	y
			and Navigation.	
-		,	P/Sgt. Brackenbury, who was in charge of the Redar section, was posted to take over similar	The Par
25.			duties at Croft.	
			The weekly meeting of the Senior N.C.O.'s in charge of flights was held presided over by P/L	100
			Bales, Engineer Officer.	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	9th Ja	nuery	Squadron stand down.	201
			Flying training was carried out, "R" was given a height test.	
			Ground training of all non-flying aircrew personnel was carried out.	
	10th J	anuary	Squadron stand downs	
602			This was the night of full moon.	
483-343-3			Radar training flights and air to air firing flights, were carried out.	
			A lecture on escaping if forced down over enemy territory was given to the aircrew rersonnel	
		2	of the Squadron.	
			A W/T lecture was given to the Bomb Aimers, who also had a certain amount of Astro and GEE	
			practice.	
			Manipulation of fishpond apparatus instruction was given to the W/Ops.	
X24			Engineers were given training in Browning Gun. 4 details of gunners carried out air to air	
			firing	
	11th J	anuary	Squadron stand down.	
		×	No flying of any description could be carried out owing to a complete breakdown in the weather	
-			accompanied by snow.	
			as much ground training as possible was carried out, the emphasis being on inter-section training	8. OF
			E/L Hall, the Eng. Ldr., gave a lecture to pilots and Flight Engineers on airscrews.	

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	References to Appendices			
rince							
ddleton St. George	llth J	enuary	The Squadron Bomb Aimers were given a lecture on Fishpond.				
	(Cont	(a)	Navigators were given an hours WT manipulations				
			The Flight Engineers received instruction in Wireless, Bombing and Gunnery.				
			25 Gunners were sent to Sutton Bank range for firing practices				
	12th Ja	muary	Sandren stand down.				
			The weather still remained "duff" with the result that no flying could take place.				
		Vie	g A B C Harber (01625) arrived to take over command of "B" Flight.				
N 30 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3		T	W/C Pleasance held a conference of all Section Leaders to discuss the progress of the inter-				
			section training of sirorsw.				
			section training was carried through with a further 20 Gunners proceeding to the Sutton				
			Benk range.				
	13th	January	Squadron stand down.				
			The weather still remained bad, again no flying could be carried out.				
			A looker check was carried out.				
	NA STATE		Ground training was carried through by the various Sections.				
			The inaugural dinner of the newly formed Moose Club was held in the Vane Arms Hotel,				
			Stockton. The affair was voted a huge success by the 115 original members of the Squadron,				
			who had served under the leadership of W/C Moose Fulton, who were present.				
	72.+h	January					
			8 aircraft of the Squadron took part in a bullseye exercise. Two aircraft were detailed on				
		Celons	practice bombing during the morning.				
			Normal flying and ground training was carried through.				
	75.1	January	Squadron stand down.				
	15th	January	training only could be indulged in-				
TANK BARRET			The weather was Gallace, gave a talk to all Grew members on the subject of fuel systems of P/L Hall, the Eng. Ldr., gave a talk to all Grew members on the subject of fuel systems of				
			Lancaster 4/0.				
***************************************			P/L Toms, the Gunnery Ldr., visited Topoliffe Station to investigate the possibilities of acquiring a similar Night Vision training set-up as is in existence on that Station.	MAS			

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See assertion to me of the form in K.R. and A.C.J.
see assertion of War Manual. Pt. II. chapter XX. and
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No. of pages used for day.....

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	References to Appendices
Middleton St. George	15-1-	(cont	d) Two aircraft had a practice bombing session on STRANSALL Range.	
	16th .	January	Squadron stand down.	4
		The state of	Poor flying weather persisted with the result that no flying of any description afterproduction	
			was undertaken.	
		- V	The Sodn. Flight Engineers were given instruction in bothing-up aircraft.	
			All aircrew attended a lecture on meteorology given by the Station Met. Officer.	
		1	A football match arranged by 428 and 419 Armoury resulted in the complete vanquishing of 428	
			team.	12
			A weekly meeting of the Senior N.C.O.'s was held, presided over by the Station Technical Office	er.
	17th J	Lanuary	Squadron stand down.	
			The weather continued poor and there was no flying.	
			Ground training was carried out by all sections.	0.100
			12 grews attended a demonstration of bombing-up procedure and a clustre demonstration was also	
			given.	
	18th J	anuary	Squadron stand down.	
			The weather continued bad but it was eventually possible to get one aircraft off the "deck"	gran x
		lairca	for an eir test.	
		allon	All crews practiced a dry dinghy drills in the morning and continued ground instruction in the	
			afternom.	
			25 Gunners proceeded to SUTTON BANK for firing practice.	
	19th Ja	nuary	Squadron stand down.	
			The weather continued poor. There were no operations or local flying.	
			Wireless and Gunnery classes were held in the morning and also a lecture for pilots and	
		8 met day	engineers on conversion to Lancasters. This lecture was given by P/L Hall.	14 95 400 13
			25 Gunners proceeded to SUPTON HENK for firing practice.	
			The Squadron Windhorftix) WOP/AC's threw a dinner party in the Imperial Hotel, Darlington	
			Which was attended by the Squadron Commander and some special guests. This turned out to be	OVRA
			A most enjoyable affair and it was voted to have similar section get-togethers at more frequent	intervals.

	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	to Appendices
20th J	anuary	16 aircraft were detailed to attack BELLIN. One aircraft was scrubbed just prior to take-off	
		and "T" returned early with the port inner engine u/s. "Q" was diverted to WOODRIDGE with one	A.1209toA.122
		Two aircraft were missing from this operation, "M" - F/S Hopkins and "X" - P/O Bullis. This	
	100		
		that it was most effective.	
		The new daily maintenance and servicing scheme was started with this operation, a particularly	7
		nice job being done by the Armoury Section when they bombed up 35 aircraft in record time.	
		Those crews not detailed for operations were engaged in lining up the new crew room and under	
•			
2) at J	amuary	14 aircraft were detailed to attack MAGDESURG. There was one early return, "W" - pilot F/S	
		McMary with his port immer engine w/s. Unfortunately two aircraft were missing from this	A.1224 to
		operation - F/S Hawkes in "D" on his 5th sortie and F/L Hermitage in "E" on his 3rd sortie.	▲.1236
		s/ldr. Hamber, Flt. Commander of "B" Right, had a rough time in "T" returning is with 85 fla	B.15
	W	holes in his aircraft but, fortunately, no one was injured although there were several narrow	B.16
		All planes were diverted on return, 8 landing at LAKENHEATH, 1 at MILDENHALL, 1 at ROTTING CO.	MON
		Those grews not engaged in this operation continued with the work in the new grew room.	
00.4.			
	- J.	The mather during the day was poor with the result that only five of our aircraft returned,	
. 6			
777	1.30%		
22-2	Tonuery	Exercise Service Report of the Control of the Contr	
6.21.91.	P. SHANNA J.		
			STREE-
	2 pt. J	Zet Jemary 22nd Jemary	and "T" returned early with the port inner engine w/s. "Q" was diverted to WOORIDGE with one engine w/s and short of petrol. "Y" landed at HARDSTOX short of petrol. Two aircraft were missing from this operation, "W" - N/S Hopkins and "X" - N/O Bullis. This was P/O Bullis' Lith operation and his 3rd on BERLIN in the present series. This was a Wangamui attack but those planes equipped with H2S equipment were of thes opinion that it was most effective. The new daily maintenance and servicing scheme was started with this operation, a particularly nice job being done by the Armoury Section when they bombed up 35 aircraft in record time. Those crews not detailed for operations were engaged in himing up the new crew room and under the self help shows scheme did a nice job of painting the walls. Laircraft were detailed to attack MADDERURG. There was one early return, "W" - pilot N/S Molary with his port samer engine w/s. Unfortunately two aircraft were missing from this operation - N/S Hawkes in "D" on his 5th sortie and N/L Hermitage in "E" on his 3rd sortie. Syladr. Hember, Nt. Commander of "B" Might, had a rough time in "T" returning is with 85 flat holes in his aircraft but, fortunately, no one was injured although there were several narrow escapes. All planes were diverted on return, 8 landing at LADERURAN, 1 at MIDDERHAL, 1 at ROTTING OO and 1 at MIDDERHAL. Those crews not engaged in this operation continued with the work in the new crew room. Squadron stand down. The weather during the day was poor with the result that only five of our aircraft returned, these arriving late in the afternoon. Regrading tests for N/Op/AO's were given. A/C JDZ12 was repeived from 429 Sgdn.

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	Reference to Appendice
iddleton St. George	23rd J	anuary	The balance of the Squadron W/Op's sat their regrading tests.	
***************************************	(Con	t'd)	Lectures on the Lancaster fuel systems and electrical systems were given by F/L Hall, the	
			Squadron Engineer Ldr.	7
	24th J	enuary	Squadron stand down.	
***************************************			Local flying was carried out, several of the Captains receiving dual instruction on Lancaster	
			ainireft.	
			Normal flying training was proceeded with.	
•••••			Lectures were given to all aircrew on met. and flying control by the Met. Officer and Blying	
		-	Control Officer.	1
			25 Gunners were sent to STTON BANK for firing practice,	
			F/L R.P. Dales, 1/c Servicing Robelon, assumed the duties of C.T.O. of the Station.	in the second
	25th Ja	nuary	10 aircraft were briefed to attack FRANKPURT but 1 hr. before take-off this operation was	To the second
	5.0		scrubbed.	
			Two new aircraft were received from London Aircraft, Nos. JP. 201 and JP. 200.	
	26th J	muary	Squadron stand down.	
<u> </u>			P/O Metheral and crew were screened from operations, this being the 19th crew that had been	
			screened on the Squadron since they started operating on Halifaxes a year ago.	
	+		Several air tests were carried out, and several pilots received dual on Lancasters.	
		,	23 Gunners proceeded to SUTTON BANK range for firing practice.	
			Two new aircraft were received from London Aircraft nos. JP 202 and JP.203.	
	27th Jan	mery	12 aircraft were briefed to attack BERLIN but this was eventually scrubbed.	
			The weather was poor and no flying was attempted during the day.	1/.7
			As 26r as possible ground training was carried on.	
	100.00		One new aircraft was received from London Aircraft, JP. 204.	
	28th J	nuery	14 sirgraft were detailed to attack BERLIN.	
			"O", F/S Palmer as Pilot on his 142 sorties was missing from this operation.	A.1237to
			"X" landed at COLTISTALL short of fuel. The remainder returned to base safely.	A.1250
-			The general concensus of opinion was that this had been a most successful attack.	B.17
	1			OF RA

			Programme and the contract of	age No. 66			
Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	References to Appendices			
idleton St. George			Squadron stand down.				
	(Class	COLUMN TO A STATE OF THE PARTY	Conversion training on Lancaster was carried through as far as possible. Ground training of				
			all Sections was carried on with particular emphasis on inter-section.				
			A major inspection was carried out on aircraft "V" JD.lla, this aircraft having tied tha				
			Squadron's record of having completed 48 operations.				
			S/L Dyer, "A" Fit. Commander, presented the Wings for Victory plague to the town of CUISECROUG	Ha			
£ 2	30th Ja	muary	Squadron stand down.				
			4 special training cross-country flights were carried out.				
			Air to eir firing was carried out by four details.				
			Dry dinghy drills were carried out.				
			W/C Miller, the Group Engineering Officer, visited the Squadron to discuss the problems rising				
			from conversion to the Canadian Lancaster, and also to see a domonstration of the possibilities				
			of carrying four 1500 lb. mines on Halifax aircraft.				
A CONTRACTOR OF THE	3lst J	anuary	6 aircraft were detailed to carry out Gardening operations. This was later sorubbed.				
	lar to 198		Two details on fighter affiliation were carried through.				
			Word was received that a Duty Signals Officer would be posted to 419 Scen. to assist in the	3 17			
			Conversion of WOP/AG's to Bendix equipment.				
	31st Je	nuary	General Summary of the Month's Activities by Wing Commander W.P. Pleasance,				
			(a) The month was very disappointing so far as operational sorties was concerned, the Squadren				
			only being called on to operate on five nights. The conversion to Lancaster A/C is progressin	S			
Service Property			fairly satisfactorily, the principle hold-up being the lack of A/C, only one being serviceable				
			for Conversion flying. Aircrew training is proceeding very satisfactorily, particularly the				
			training of the various sections in other than their own normal duties.				
		1	(b) Fishpond modifications and general modifications to the Halifax A/C were carried out				
			during the month and groundcrews received a fair amount of training in the peculiaritaism of				
			the Lancaster 4/C.				
			() was the shall be a local to the state of Wichten have been improving the	ASSESSED FOR			
de a constante de la constante			dispersal areas and the flight huts have also been cleaned and docorated.	arres			







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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	References to Appendices
Middleton St. George	31st J	enuary	(d) The Squadron's new drying room is not in full operation as yet but the new locker room	
	(00)		is in operation and the old locker room has been converted to a crew room, the re-decoration	
	200		of which has been carried out by Squadron personnel.	
*			(e) During the month a total of approximately 200 groundarew personnel were posted to	
			Middleton St. George to fill establishment vacancies in 9419 Echelon and the Station Servicing	
			Wing, leaving the present Squadron groundcrew strength at around 240 personnel.	
	31st J	nuary	POSTINGS DURING THE MONTH	
			Postings to the Unit:	ファー
			(6th January) J25385 F/O S.J. Gibson (Pilot), R160773 Sgt. Lowe, T.B. (Nav.), R177545 Sgt. Lu	mey,
			V.N. (A/B), R106982 W/O Humphreys, E.O.E., WOP/AG), R197965 Sgt. Wheeler, M.H. (MI/AG),	
			R212525 Sgt. Surridge, D.C. (R/G), 1822200 Sgt. Sinclair, W.A. (F/E) reported for flying dutie	18
		from 1664 Conv. Unit, Croft.		
			(12th Jehrnary) S/L E.C. Hamber (Pilot), J22605 F/O S.G. Philp (Nav.) J25125 F/O J.A. Neal (A)	ъ),
			R97357 W/O Hope, J. (WOP/AG), 1537278 Sgt. Kemp, A.R. (F/E), 2220539 Sgt. Minton, W.F. (MM/AG)	,
			R188459 Sgt. Loyst, J.R. (R/G), reported for flying duties from in 1664 Conv. Unit, Bighforth.	
			(25th January) C25188 P/O D.A. Neff (Tech./S.) reported to the Squadron from H. Q. 6 Group	
		William II	to take over duties as Radar Officer.	
			Postings from the Unit:	
			(6th January) P/O J.V. Karleff (J17797) was posted to 1659 Conv. Unit, Topoliffe to crew with	
			W/C Burgess. P/O Karleff was commissioned while on the strength of the "Moose Squadron" and	5.56
			had been employed as a spare A/B for some time. He was best known for his fantastic cartoons	
			depicting life in the Air Force, many of which had been reproduced in the R.C.A.F. Magazine	
		212	"Wings" which is published in Canada.	
			(21st January) J21370 F/O J.C. Turmbull, (Pilot), J14793 F/O E.T. Albert (Nav.), J23638 F/O	
			A.H.A. McBain (A/B), 1575683 Sgt. Gillett, R.G. (WOP/Air), R60144 Sgt. Michael F.E. (F/E),	
			R195130 Sgt. Hutt, C.A. (MU/AG), R225229 Sgt. Malec, J. (A/G), were posted to No. 424 (RCEP)	
			Squadron, Dishforth. 7/0 Turnbull was posted to the Post of Depaty Flight Commender.	OVNA

Place	Date	Time			. Su	mmary of Events		SECRET.	References to Appendices	
Middleton St. George	ge 31.st	January	POSTINGS DURI	NG THE MONTH -	- Cont' d		0.00	12 W.S. S. S.		
	(0	enti'd)	Postings from the Unit:							
		192	(25th January) J21384 F/O 1	L.P. Stronach	(Pilot), J2133	6 F/O A.T. AF	mstrong (Nav.), R150844		
			m/g Phillins.	R.J. (A/B).	1333987 Sgt. T	hornhill, M.A.	(WOP/Air), 1	865144 Sgt. Sharples, J.W.		
		(P/E), R163539 Sgt. Gingras, P.H. (R189973 Sgt. Dagenais, J.J. (A/C) were posted to 4.05 (ROM								
			Squadron, Gre	at Gransden, 1	Beds., for P.F	.F. duties. T	his crew repo	rted to the Navigational		
		Academic Services	Training Unit	. Upwood, for	training price	r to reporting	to the Squad	2014		
	31st	Eamiary	ATRMEN COMMUS							
			Continue and the contin	Chiswell, A.						
				aclean, D.H.	Marketing and Company of the Company					
			1578686 F/S I			Harris Market		The state of the s	16	
			References continues con	Mercier, J.L.	of the second second second second					
			Marritt, R.H							
				1320052 F/S Scade, G.M. (PIlot) (RAB)						
			Printer and the second	Rogers, B. (N						
					WOP/Air) (RAF)	ì		A STATE OF THE STA		
		1		Foley, J.C.C			44/4			
			P11 5227 P/9 9	homeon, R.L.	(Pilot) (miss	sing 29-12-43)				
						th ame as follo	ws:			
	31 st J	nuary	Details of or	MA H.C. 58	- 1 000 lb. l	(.C., 31 x 1.50	00 lb. mines,	1032 x 30 lb. incendiarie	8,	
			27 260 -	1 22 - 4-	incendiar	es. The tonne	and dropped wa	s: High Explosives, 42 t	ons,	
					endiaries, 82				123 6 2	
						January, 1944	is as follows	1		
	31.st	anuary			R.C.A.F.	R.A.F.	R.A.F.	U.S.A.A.F.		
		-	AIRCREW:	R.C.A.F. OFFICERS	ATRMEN	OFFICERS	ATROON	ATRION		
				56	99	9	64	1	Laborate A	
		13.8	GROUNDCREW2	R.C.A.F.	R.C. A. F.	R.A.F.	R. A. F.	W.A.A.F.	200000000	
	- 0.78 - co	<u> </u>		OFFICERS-	ATRICEN	OFFICERS	ATROON	ARWOTE	· OFRE	
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	1	1 .	No. of pages used	i ioi day
Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events SECRET.	References to Appendices
Middleton St. George	31st J	anuary	No. and type of aircraft on Unit charge: 18 Halifax Hark II, 3 Lancaster Mark I.	
	31st J	anuary	Plying time for the month of January, 1944: Operational: 451.35 Non-operational: 223,55 Non-operational: (Laprosater) 11,30	
	1,000		Number of sorties carried out: 59	
Si y	State V.		Energy aircraft claimed as caualties during the month of January, 1944:	
			Although a number of combats took place on operations during the month, no enemy aircra	-
		13	are claimed as casualties.	20
			Attached herewith Combat Reports for the month, shown as Appendices "B".	Appendix "B"-14
			Attached herewith shown as Appendix "C" is a short report on the activities of the "Moose	B-1
	31.st Jen		Pulton Club". Attached herewith shown as Appendix "C" is copy of Squadron news in Play "Store Income to the Copy of Squadron news in Play "Store Income to the	Appendix "C"-G3
	DIET DE	uary	newspapers	(on originals
			The health of the Squadwon continued to be generally satisfactory.	
				The second second
				NAME OF THE PERSON OF THE PERS
	-			
			Who die de se	
			(W.P. Pleasence) Wing Commender,	
			Middleton St. Goerge, Durham.	
			1 6	
AND RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T	A DESCRIPTION			