

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
MIDLAND ST. GEORGE	1ST DEC.	1944	Operational stand-down. A considerable programme of air training was undertaken during the day, a special drive being made to train crews in H2S bombing.  Two crews who were unserviceable proceeded on a liaison visit to Newcastle, where they were entertained during the course of the afternoon aboard H.M.C.S. Uganda. This was a most successful visit, the boys being very high in their praise of the way they were received, and judging by the length of time they stayed on board, (from 14.30 to 21.30), they must have had a pretty good time.		
	2nd Dec.	1944	Operations were ordered for 16 aircraft with the target Egen. Take-off was postponed twice, but eventually the aircraft were airborne at approximately 1655. Bad icing conditions were encountered during this sortie, weather over the target was very poor, and due to the cloud cover, bombing had to be by instruments. Navigation and timing were fair, but there were some failures due to the exceptionally high winds encountered. Bombing attack are uncertain. Results in this <del>sortie</del> . Some of the Squadron's aircraft landed at Mandelahn to refuel before returning to base. One aircraft, ED753, remained there for an engine change. There was one combat during this attack. Bombing heights were from 16,000 to 18,000.		E.10 A.2956 to A.2971
	3RD DEC.	1944	Operational stand-down was given, but 16 crews were warned for an early morning effort on the 4th. This, however, was scrubbed at 17.30.  A considerable amount of air training was carried out during the day, but this had to be scrubbed in the evening as weather conditions became unfavourable. A fair amount of ground training was carried out.		B.67
	4th Dec.	1944	16 aircraft were required for a night attack on Karlsruhe. This was a very long but very good route. Weather over the target was poor with the result that most of the aircraft had to bomb by instrument. Navigational timing was good but bombing results were very uncertain. Again there were some diversions on return to refuel, but all aircraft eventually put down at base. Bombing heights from 17,000 to 19,000. "H" had a hang-up of a 500 lb bomb which was jettisoned in the North Sea on return.  A small amount of flying training was undertaken during the morning, and a detail of Air Gunners proceeded to the Sutton Bank Range.		E.11 A.2972 to A.2987

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MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	5TH DEC.	1944	15 aircraft were required for an attack on Seest. Weather over the target was good and an excellent job of bombing was done. Bombing heights varied from 18,000 to 20,000 feet. Defences were fair to medium on this target and one aircraft suffered some damage from flak. All returned safely to base. Tactics on this attack were particularly good. Some flying training was carried out during the morning, and a fair amount of ground training was also undertaken by those crews not detailed for the operation.		E.12 A.2988 to A.3002
	6TH DEC.	1944	16 aircraft were required for an attack on Osnabruck. The weather conditions during this attack were very bad, and severe icing was experienced by most of the aircraft. 14 aircraft attacked the primary in 10/10ths cloud, all bombing on Gee fixes. Bombing heights were from 19,000 to 21,000 feet. Owing to the severe icing, there were no less than 18 bomb hang-ups. One aircraft did not bomb, being unable to fix their position. One crew was missing from this attack, "B" KB779, Pilot W/O <sup>B-8</sup> <del>H.A.</del> Hyndman, (J35209). This was W/O Hyndman's eight sortie. Timing on the attack was only fair, and it is not expected that the results were good.		E.13 A.3003 to A.3018
	7TH DEC.	1944	Operational stand-down. The weather during the days was not good, and very little flying training could be undertaken, what little was done being confined to local flying during short breaks in the weather. A warning was received for an early-morning effort, but this was scrubbed in the course of the evening. Ground training was carried through.		
	8TH DEC.	1944	Operational stand-down. Due to the inclement weather conditions, no flying training could be undertaken. Ground training was carried through, 21 Gunners proceeding to Sutton Bank Range for firing practice. The remainder of the Gunners were given lectures on Flak Defences and the new Gyre Gun Sight. An intelligence lecture was given to all aircrew members during the afternoon.		
	9TH DEC.	1944	17 aircraft were required for operations, but this requirement was later scrubbed. A "Cagle" exercise was called for with a take-off for 1300 hrs, 10 of the Squadron's aircraft participating. The result of this exercise was not good, as a great deal of cloud		

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MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	9th DEC, 1944		was encountered enroute and the formation was split up. Normal ground training was carried through the day, but no other flying training could be carried through due to this exercise.		
	10th DEC, 1944		16 crews were call at 0200 hours in anticipation of an early-morning attack, the effort being scrubbed at 0300 hours while the crews were eating. The weather at Base was good and a great deal of flying training was undertaken, including all met classes of exercises. Ground training was also pushed to a great extent.		
	11th DEC 1944		17 aircraft were required for an operation, but this requirement was scrubbed as the aircraft were marshalled approximately 5 minutes before take-off time. Weather at Base was fairly good, and as much air training as possible was carried out in view of the projected operations. Two crews, whose skippers were unserviceable, visited Newcastle under the auspices of the Naval Liaison Officer and had the privilege of seeing over an aircraft carrier. This proved a most interesting and instructive visit, and those fortunate enough to take part, were very high in their praise of the hospitality and consideration shown them by the crew of the Carrier.		
	12th DEC 1944		Operational stand-down. Several aircraft were debused as the weather at base was good, and these were used for air training. This consisted of all types of air exercises, and in addition, ground training was carried out. During the air exercises, formation flying was practised, with comparatively good results. 44 H2S Bombing Runs were also completed, and a fair amount of night flying was also carried out. New crews were given special lectures on "Z" Equipment.		
	13th Dec 1944		16 crews were awakened at 0415 hours in anticipation of an early-morning take-off. Take-off was postponed 3 times and eventually scrubbed. Weather at Base was fair and some of the aircraft were again in anticipation of air training. This was carried through successfully. Ground training was also carried out. In the evening, 10 aircrew and 10 of the aircraft ground staff were the guests of the "Darlington Twenty" Club at the Imperial Hotel in Darlington. The entertainment consisted of a very fine dinner, followed by a stag party, which was thoroughly enjoyed.		

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MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	13th DEC	1944	by the personnel fortunate enough to be present.		
	14th DEC	1944	At 1100 hours the Squadron was asked for 16 aircraft for a night operation. This requirement was cancelled at 1330 hours.		
			The weather at Base was unfit for any air training with the result that all Squadron activities were confined to the ground.		
	15th DEC	1944	16 aircraft were required for an attack on <del>Wessanen</del> <sup>Wessanen</sup> . During briefing, the times were put forward one hour, with the result that there was quite a scramble to get the aircraft off the ground by set-course time. The target conditions were good and all crews bombed within one minute of their briefed bombing times. The P.F.P. markings were well concentrated and the attack should prove very successful. Bombing heights were from 16,000 to 18,000 feet. One aircraft was shot up and the Bomb Aimer, R161211 Sgt. McKinnon <del>R.S.</del> was severely injured in the right foot. All crews were diverted on return but one landed at Base. A special discussion was held with the Group Gunnery Leader regarding the fitting of Glen Martin Turrets to a Lancaster X Aircraft.		E.14 A.3019 to A.3034 E.68
	16th DEC	1944	There were no operations required from the Squadron, and during the course of the day, most of the Squadron's aircraft returned from their diversion bases. A small amount of air training was carried out.		
	17th DEC	1944	15 aircraft were required for a night operation. This take-off time was postponed three times and eventually set for the morning of the 18th. The weather at Base was good, but due to the operational requirement, very little air training could be carried out. Ground training was carried through, and the crews detailed for the following morning's operation, were sent to bed early in the afternoon.		
	18th Dec	1944	15 aircraft were required with take-off set shortly after midnight, but 16 actually proceeded and attacked Duisburg. On the route to and from the target, very bad weather was encountered combined with severe icing, with big wind changes. The target was obscured by 10/10ths cloud and bombing was done GEE, H2S, and Wanganui. Photographic results showed no failures and fire glow could be seen through the clouds, but it is very difficult to give any assessment of the results. There were two combats with enemy aircraft.		E.15 A.3035 to A.3090 E.69 - E.70

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(Unit or Formation) NO. 419 (BCAF) SQUADRONNo. of pages used for Month 18

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	16TH DEC. 1944		<p>All crews were diverted on return due to the rapidly deteriorating weather conditions.</p> <p>During the day most of the aircraft straggled back in rather unfavourable weather. One aircraft missed the diversion and returned to base. Before the crews had returned, the Squadron was asked for a maximum effort, and as only four serviceable aircraft remained on the Squadron, these were offered but the effort was scrubbed during briefing.</p>		
	19TH DEC. 1944		<p>16 aircraft were required for an operation. Weather conditions at base were horrible, and at time of take-off, visibility was reduced to 150 yards. This operation was scrubbed 5 minutes before take-off time.</p> <p>Due to the hopeless weather conditions, no flying training was carried on, but those crews not required for the operation received a fair amount of ground training.</p>		
	20TH DEC. 1944		<p>16 aircraft were called for at 10.30 for a 12.30 take-off. During briefing the take-off time was changed to 11.52, which resulted in a first-class panic. The operation was scrubbed just before take-off time.</p> <p>Weather at base was hopeless with extremely low visibility and low cloud.</p> <p>An escape lecture was arranged for the afternoon for all aircrew members. News was received that RA6505 F/Sgt. Shields, K.G. had been killed in an automobile accident at Oldham on the night of the 20th. F/Sgt. Shields was Mid-Upper Gunner of one of our operational crews and had 7 operational sorties to his credit.</p>		
	21ST DEC. 1944		<p>16 crews took part in a night attack on the marshalling yards in Cologne. Take-off was originally set for 11.00 hours and then the operation was cancelled, was put back on again at noon, times were set back twice, but eventually all aircraft got away. Cloud was encountered over the target and bombing had to be done by sky marking, with the result of the attack was hard to assess. Winds were not as forecast, but for the most part, Navigators did a good job and most crews bombed on time. One aircraft did not bomb on time due to the poor work of the Navigational team. All aircraft returned safely to base.</p>		E.16 A.3051 to A.3066
	22ND DEC. 1944		<p>Operational stand-down.</p> <p>Weather at base was not particularly good, but a certain amount of flying training was undertaken and ground training was pushed to the limit.</p>		

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MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	22ND DEC. 1944	/CONTD.	Special lectures were given to the newer crews on crew co-operation and "g" equipment. A bull session, under the chairmanship of the Wing Commander, of the Pilots and Navigation teams, proved very helpful and much "gem" was dispensed.		
	23RD DEC. 1944		16 crews were standing by for an operation, but this was finally scrubbed, and as the weather was not particularly good, little air training was undertaken, but a full program of ground training was got under way.		
	24TH DEC. 1944		16 aircraft took off to attack Lohausen Airfield near Dusseldorf. Target conditions were very good and bombing results should prove to be excellent. The target was hotly defended by anti-aircraft fire. This was the first "gaggle" attack from this station and appeared to have been quite a good effort with a fair concentration of aircraft. Aircraft were <del>XXXXX</del> diverted on return because of poor weather conditions at base. One crew was missing from this operation. Aircraft "X" ED715, captain J29777 P/O T.H. Cowtan, on his fifth operational sortie. Aircraft "Y" was one of the original Lancaster I's received on the Squadron and had more than 60 operations to its credit. Two cross-countries were also flown during the day, but these also had to be diverted as visibility clamped down very suddenly.		E.17 A.3067 to A.3082
	25TH DEC. 1944		The weather remained very bad with extremely poor visibility caused by fog and smoke. It was found to be impossible to bring the diverted crews home, and they were forced to spend their Christmas at their diversion stations. The bulk of the crews were at Charter Hall and were very well looked after at this diversion. The Christmas festivities were proceeded with by those members of the Squadron who were fortunate enough to be on their home station and were much enjoyed by all.		
	26TH DEC. 1944		The Squadron was asked to put up a maximum effort and were eventually enabled to supply 4 aircraft and crews. This effort was eventually scrubbed. It was still impossible to bring back the diverted crews owing to the continuing poor visibility and air training was hopeless. Those crews remaining on the station received a certain amount of ground training.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDLETON ST. GEORGE	27TH DEC. 1944		4 aircraft were required for an early-morning effort. Take-off was eventually postponed until 11.28. This effort was eventually scrubbed. During the course of the afternoon, our aircraft started to return from their diversions. J.29684 P/O L.A. BLANEY and his crew proceeded to R.A.F. Regional Cemetery at Harrogate to act as bearers for their Mid-Upper Gunner, Sgt. Shields, who was killed on the night of the 20th.		
	28TH DEC. 1944		15 aircraft were required to attack Opladen. Take-off time was set for 14.30. Bombing heights were from 18,000 to 20,000 feet, the weather enroute to the target was good, but over the target area itself, there was thin strata of cloud. Navigational results were good, enemy opposition was fair. One crew was missing from this attack, aircraft "D" KB738, captain J17469 P/O F.W. How, on his 19th sortie.		E.18 A.3083 to A.3097
	29TH DEC. 1944		17 crews were required to attack the <sup>Waldhof</sup> Gelsenkirchen Oil Refinery just outside Gelsenkirchen. Only 16 aircraft got away, one suffering a burst tire just at take-off. Bombing heights were from 17,000 to 20,000 feet, and bombing was done through low, thin clouds. Markers were bursting at cloud top. Judging by the crew's reports, this appeared to be a very good effort. Heavy oil fires were visible through the clouds. Timing was only fair owing to a change of wind in the target area. There was a considerable amount of heavy flak from the Ruhr defences. Two aircraft are missing from this attack, "L" KB753, pilot J90229 P/O R.F. Adam, on his 19th sortie, and "q" KB765, pilot J29220 P/O R.A. McVicar, on his 18th sortie. The Wing Commander J9656 W/O D.C. Hageman finished his second operational tour on this attack, flying with a brand new crew. He had the misfortune of having to return with all his bombs to the jettisoning area and then having considerable difficulty in getting rid of them.		E.19 A.3098 to A.3113
	30TH DEC. 1944		15 crews attack Cologne from a height of 18,000 to 20,000 feet in bright moonlight. Timing on the target was very good. There was 10/10ths cloud up to 12,000. Bombing was done on sky markers, which most of the Navigators seemed to think were about 3 miles south of the release point. Bombing concentration seemed to be very poor. Weather enroute was good, and the usual Ruhr defences were met. All aircraft returned safely to base.		E.20 A.3114 to A.3128

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31ST DEC. 1944		Operational stand-down, for which we are truly grateful, as most of the boys are fairly tired. Some training was undertaken in the afternoon, but most sections quit early to help celebrate the coming of the New Year.		
	31ST DEC. 1944		(a) CASUALTIES		
			J35209 FO Hynman B.D.	P	Reported missing 6.12.44
			J38713 FO Choceman G.R.	N	Lancaster X 2/C KB.779
			R186652 Sgt Smith G.E.	AB	Target: OBERMUN
			R187846 Sgt Graham L.T.	WO	
			1882274 Sgt Ovis R.D.	FE	
			R254554 Sgt Marcellus D.L.	UG	
			R185898 Sgt Hansen E.M.	RG	
			J29777 FO Cowtan T.H.	P	Reported missing 24.12.44
			R180068 Sgt Thompson CW	N	Lancaster X 1/C KB.715
			J39257 FO Cartier J.L.	AB	Target: DUSSELDORF
			J26179 FO Hale, R.W.	WO	
			J89040 FO Ransen, J.V.	FE	
			R114679 Sgt Hector, F.A.	UG	
			R265557 Sgt Little G.B.	RG	
			J17469 FO How, F.W.	F	Reported missing 26.12.44
			J29618 FO Nickle, R.K.	N	Lancaster X 1/C KB.738
			R148448 WO MacGregor, J.A.S.	AB	Target: GELDEN
			R14220 WO Hubley, C.D.B.	WO	
			613970 Sgt Kenneth Atkinson J	FE	
			R207980 FS Tait, C.E.	UG	
			J92433 FO Springstein, N.R.	RG	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31 Dec, 1944		(a) CASUALTIES		
			J90229 FO Adam, R.P. P	Reported missing 29.12.44	
			R160481 WO Wakely, L.P. N	Lancaster X KB, 753	
			R186617 FS Taraswell, H.C. AB	Target: SCHOLVEN	
			R130571 WO INGHIS, P.S. WO		
			162234 SGT Eratt, R.E. FE		
			K253830 FS Rhind, J.D. UC		
			R192615 WO Rogers R.G. RG		
			J29220 FO NOVIGAR R.A. P	Reported missing 29.12.44	
			J36947 FO SORRETTI V.A. N	Lancaster X KB, 765	
			R191241 FS MORGAN W.G.R. AB	Target: SCHOLVEN	
			R188962 FS MALONEY J.J. WO		
			R145525 SGT FELDMAN J. FE		
			R136127 FS CONLEY, R.G. UC		
			R205672 FS MCBOD W.R. RG		
			R146505 FS SHIELDS K.J. AC	Killed in street accident while on leave 20.12.44	
			(b) POSTINGS IN		
			J16112 FO HALKETT A.M. P	Posted from No. 76 Base w.o.f. 7.12.44	
			J19142 FO PUFFER A.W. N		
			J17618 FO STILLINGS J.C. AB		
			J19114 FO MILLAR A. WO		
			1593619 SGT WILDE H. FE		
			J85757 FO STORMS D.W. UC		
			J17046 FO ROBERTS W.M. RG		

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MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31st Dec. 1944		(b) POSTINGS IN (Cont'd)		
			891024 FO MALLIN N.D. P	Posted from No. 76 Base w.e.f. 7.12.44	
			J40184 FO MILLER J.A.F. N		
			R181672 SGT DICKSON R.S. AB		
			R169031 WO CAMERON R.B. WO		
			303143 SGT HALL P.W. FE		
			R274911 SGT POOLE N.R. UG		
			R274907 SGT DRINKA C. RG		
			J89431 FO MCGREGOR J.W. P	Posted from No. 76 Base w.e.f. 7.12.44	
			J38772 FO FRANCE K.G. N		
			R172515 FS PRATT F.B. AB		
			R191163 FS McDONALD D.A. WO		
			R115993 SGT FRANKSON CW FE		
			R268185 SGT JONES W.H. UG		
			R272652 SGT HARRIS D.T. RG		
			J85304 FO NICHOLS B.A. P	Posted from No. 76 Base w.e.f. 7.12.44	
			J40495 FO ZINIC Y.M. N		
			J39271 FO BOWLEY E.E. AB		
			R251740 SGT BREWSTER S.J. WO		
			J89041 FO WOODROW G.H. FE		
			R263500 SGT MORE A.J. UG		
			R197422 FS HLAUGHEY C.F. AB		
			J38181 FO LINDSAY S.B. N	Posted from No. 64 Base w.e.f. 30.11.44	
			J90440 FO RAPONE G.L. WO	Posted from No. 408 Sqn. w.e.f. 13-12-44	

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MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31ST DEC. 1944		(b) POSTINGS IN (cont'd)		
			0994 SL NORRIS, R.W. P Posted from No. 76 Base w.e.f. 21.12.44		
			06706 FL DYER, D.M. N		
			J41696 FO MURRAY, G.M. AB		
			R131630 WO1 BARGRAY, J.M. WO		
			J89754 FO DUGGAN, J. FE		
			J45700 FO TORRELLI, J. UG		
			R196028 SGT STEWART, J.F.E. RG		
			2206194 SGT GLANTON, H.G. FE Posted from No. 64 Base w.e.f. 23.12.44.		
			J27560 FO MILLAR, R.W. F. Posted from No. 64 Base w.e.f. 24.12.44.		
			J24761 FO MERTVIER, H.A. P Posted from No. 76 Base w.e.f. 29.12.44.		
			J42181 FO TODD, J. N		
			J40077 FO JOHNSON, R.O. AB		
			R201447 SGT MATUSEWSKI, G. WO		
			R209575 SGT SOMMERVILLE, W. FE		
			R256177 SGT GIBBSON, J.L. UG		
			R220162 SGT BONKIL, H. RG		
			G1579 SL SHURBURN, H.R. P Posted from No. 64 Base w.e.f. 30.12.44		
			J16259 FO PRICE, J.R. N		
			J36870 FO HALL, D.G. AB		
			R186311 FS SHORE, R.E. WO		
			G18841 FO JOY, W.H. FE		
			R222966 FS WOLFF, H.G. UG		
			R254643 FS MORRIS, J.E. RG		

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MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31ST DEC. 1944		J92767	PO	MACREIL, J. C.	P	Posted from No. 76 Base w.o.f. 30.12.44	
			R2102A7	FS	CROSS, G.M.	N		
			R154077	FS	SULLIVAN, A.S.	AB		
			R191308	FS	PAISLEY, J.	WO		
			R262039	SOT	FROST, A.W.	FE		
			R116285	FS	GIRARDIN, J.L.	UE		
			R276062	SOT	COUKINS, G.C.	RE		
			J37559	PO	BOWEN, D.S.	P	Posted from No. 76 Base w.o.f. 31.12.44	
			R255556	FS	HEERY, G.R.	N		
			J39988	FO	GLADISH, J.J.	AB		
			R192365	SOT	MACLENNAN, G.B.	WO		
			R219876	SOT	HEA, J.	FE		
			R280452	SOT	MILNE, W.H.	UE		
			R284342	SOT	ROWLANDS, R.W.	RE		
			J27558	FO	SMITH, G.	P	Posted from No. 76 Base w.o.f. 31.12.44	
			J16411	FO	RUBIN, H.B.	N		
			J16273	FL	SKINNER, A.J.	AB		
			J17447	FO	MCKINDON L.M.	WO		
			R187697	SOT	MOGANN, J.J.	FE		
			J85460	FO	CALLER, J.J.	UE		
			J86520	FO	GOYETTE, J.P.	RE		
			(e) POSTINGS OUT					
			J90196	FO	HUTTON, E.H.	AB	Posted to No.25 O.T.U. w.o.f. 4.12.44 (Instructor)	
			53680	FO	O'CONNOR, T.R.G.	FE	Posted to No.51 Sqdn. w.o.f. 5.12.44 (Operations)	
			J85134	FO	TEES, J.F.	P	Posted to No.22 O.T.U. w.o.f. 5.12.44 (Instructor)	

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MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31ST DEC, 1944		(a) POSTINGS OUT (Cont'd)		
			J18502 FO BOWENMAN L.E. P Posted to RCAP "P" Depot w.e.f. 11-12-44 (Repatriation)		
			J26610 FL BELL J.F.D. P		
			J35031 FO CLEHAM J.H. N		
			J89319 FO RICE C.K. N		
			J35710 FO BARRATT R.E.W. N		
			J89302 FO KEELAN W.G. N		
			J35103 FO BARRON D.C.A. AB		
			J29708 FO HINDLE J.F. AB		
			J88217 FO ROGERS H.W. AG		
			J92081 FO STRAIN R.H. AG		
			J92078 FO MURPHY G.E. AG		
			R139163 WO2 BONE L.H. AG		
			R12444 WO2 MCINDON W.K. AG		
			J27527 FO BRIG G.H.K. P Posted to 405 Sqn. w.e.f. 11-12-44 (Operations)		
			J38787 FO McDAVID D.S. N		
			J38255 FO LE SERGEANT M.W. AB		
			R122792 WO1 BROWN G.P. WO		
			1592445 SGT JACKSON E.A. FB		
			R201405 SGT ANGUS A.P. UC		
			R189308 FB SHINDLE W.K. BC		
			J21973 FO ORDIN C.J. N Posted to 428 Sqn w.e.f. 11-12-44 (Operations)		
			R178731 WO2 HOGAN P.E. AB		
			1806065 SGT BULLOCK N.H. FB		
			J91199 FO HAMMOND K.H. UC		
			R205967 FB GARTSIDE G.L. BC		

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MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31st Dec. 1944		(c) POSTINGS OUT (Cont'd)				
			J88286	FO	MOORE M.G.	WD	Posted to No.1666 C.U. w.e.f. 11-12-44 (Instructor)
			J20477	FO	STIRLING W	AB	Posted to RCAF "R" Depot w.e.f. 13-12-44 (AMO A.945/44)
			J20515	FO	MCDONALD L.H.	P	Posted to No.64 Base w.e.f. 15-12-44 (Non-Op. Tour)
			J88318	FO	WESTON A.C.	P	
			R109177	WO1	MCCALLUM	AG	
			187040	FO	RYAN E.J.	FE	
			1336102	WO1	KARPASSITI N.W.	WD	Posted to No.64 Base w.e.f. 16-12-44 (Non-Op. Tour)
			187728	FO	MUSTO S.A.	FE	Posted to No.1666 C.U. w.e.f. 15-12-44 (Instructor)
			J86907	FO	JOHANSON E.B.	WD	Posted to RCAF "R" Depot w.e.f. 29.12.44 (AMO A.945/44)
			J36790	FO	WIGHTMAN H.M.	P	Posted to No.64 Base w.e.f. 18-12-44 (N.E. Sick)
			R161214	FS	MCKINNON B.L.	AB	
			J36292	FO	GUNN J.H.	N	
			(d) PROMOTIONS				
			J85961	FO	MCNEIL D.T.	N	Promoted to T/9/O w.e.f. 20-9-44
			J16101	FO	TUCKER E.J.	WO	Promoted to T/9/L w.e.f. 30-9-44
			J20246	FO	STEELE T.L.	N	Promoted to T/9/L w.e.f. 23-10-44
			J23026	FO	DANSON P.G.	P	Promoted to T/9/L w.e.f. 6-10-44
			J26415	FO	COX R.L.	P	Appointed to A/9/L w.e.f. 12-12-44
			J26673	FO	OSBORN W.E.	P	Appointed to A/9/L w.e.f. 12-12-44
			J25385	FO	SHEAHAN G.L.	P	Appointed to A/9/L w.e.f. 12-12-44

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of pages used for month 18  
XX

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31st Dec. 1944		(a) <u>COMMISSIONS</u>		
			<u>OFFICER'S NO.</u>		
			<u>EFF. DATE</u>		
			809669 SGT CROOK W.H.G. FE 188089		
			1533841 SGT GREEN S. FE 187768		
			2206024 SGT GREENWOOD J. FE 187814		
			1812280 SGT HENLAND D.G. FE 187760		
			2220971 SGT HUSTO S.A. FE 187758		
			2206472 SGT KIRKMAN SGT TOOTHILL H.M. FE 186556		
			1026010 SGT ADAMTHWAITE T. FE 188092		
			1813746 SGT HAIN L. FE 187759		
			276475 WO1 SAUNDERS J.M. WO J90475		
			R189927 FS SHUTTLE R. AG J91154		
			R180994 FS QUIGG T.J.F. WO J92042		
			R200113 FS HARMOND K.M. AG J91199		
			R182292 SGT PAIR W.W. WO J90663		
			R176788 FS ARTHUR J.A. N J91169		
			R172774 WO2 REID D.L. N J92017		
			R93464 WO1 FOWELL F.C. WO J91072		
			R167659 WO2 KIRCHIE W. AB J92262		
			R215788 FS BONDRECK R.D. AG J92065		
			R219603 FS STORER W.D. AG J92080		
			R222488 FS STRAIN R.H. AG J92081		
			R204782 FS WILSON W.H. AG J92068		
			R116347 SGT BOYES R.H. FE 092237		
			R163430 FS CLARKE R.F. WO J92265		
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31st Dec. 1944		R187846 SGT GRAHAM L.T. WO J92095		
			R167956 FS JOHNSON F.C. WO J92268		
			R222732 FS MCDONALD K.G. AG J92114		
			R213536 FS MILLAR J.B. AG J90266		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31st Dec. 1944		(e) COMMISSIONS (Cont'd)		
			R118958 SGT FRISSE J.F. FB 092253 7.9.44		
			R219559 FS RINDLER J.J. AG 392077 26.10.44		
			R217322 FS ANDREW R. AG 392444 30.10.44		
			R121608 FS BROWN H.S. AG 392385 8.11.44		
			R209091 FS GRANT R.B. AG 392382 30.10.44		
			R131220 WO1 HURLEY C.D.B. WO 392593 15.11.44		
			R180800 WO2 LIGHT M.K. AB 392381 28.10.44		
			R148448 WO2 MACDONALD J.A.S. AB 392532 10.11.44		
			R221942 FS MURPHY W.H. AG 392483 8.11.44		
			R196792 FS SPRENGSTEIN M.R. AG 392433 12.11.44		
			R207980 FS TAIT G.R. AG 392452 12.11.44		
			R222454 FS WOODS G.J. AG 392592 8.11.44		
			R220619 FS WESTON L.J. AG 392560 8.11.44		
			(f) HONOURS AND AWARDS		
			J25377 P. ANDERSON J.A. P D.S.O. 19.12.44		110.14 13.10.44
			D.F.M. (Immediate) E22756 P6 Toane, R.A.		
			D.F.C. (Non-Immed.) J86179 P/O Fox, P.C.		
			J26045 P/O Paton, A.T.		
			J19524 P/O Foley, J.C.		
			J20224 P/O Ferris, J.R.		
			(g) OPERATIONAL AND NON-OPERATIONAL FLYING TIMES		
			Day Night		
			Lancaster Non-Operational 150.14 81.05		
			Lancaster Operational 191.31 92.38		
			(h) NUMBER OF OPERATIONAL SORTIES - 175		

WL FORM 1000 22M 1210 C.R.L. 21700

OPERATIONAL RECORD BOOK

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31st Dec. 1944		(a) COMMISSIONS (Cont'd)		
			R118958 SGT FRANK J.F. FE 092253 7.9.44		
			R219249 FS RINGLER J.J. AG J92077 26.10.44		
			R217322 FS ANDREW R. AG J92444 30.10.44		
			R121608 FS BROWN H.S. AG J92385 8.11.44		
			R209091 FS GRANT R.B. AG J92382 30.10.44		
			R134220 WO1 HURLEY G.D. E. WO J92593 13.11.44		
			R180800 WO2 LIGHT M.L. AB J92381 28.10.44		
			R148445 WO2 MACGREGOR J.A. B. AB J92532 10.11.44		
			R221942 FS MURPHY W.L. AG J92483 8.11.44		
			R196792 FS SPURGEON R.E. AG J92433 12.11.44		
			R207980 FS TAIT G.E. AG J92452 12.11.44		
			R222424 FS WOODS G.J. AG J92592 8.11.44		
			R220619 FS WINTON L.J. AG J92560 8.11.44		
			(f) HONOURS AND AWARDS		
			J25377 FS ANDERSON J.A. F D.S.O. 19.12.44		11/16/45 2/16/45 13/10/45
			(g) CHANGES IN COMMAND - NIL		
			(h) CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATION - NIL		
			(i) AIRCRAFT ON CHARGE (Type and Number)		
			Lancaster X - 19		
			(j) OPERATIONAL AND NON-OPERATIONAL FLYING TIMES		
			Lancaster Non-Operational 130.14 84.05		
			Lancaster Operational 191.31 92.38		
			(k) NUMBER OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES - 173		

Handwritten notes on a slip of paper, including the words "OPERATIONAL" and "NON-OPERATIONAL".

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# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of pages used for month 18

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices																				
<u>MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE</u>	<u>31st Dec. 1944</u>		<p>(1) <u>MONTHLY AND CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF BOMBS DROPPED AND MINES LAID</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tons = 2240 lbs</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>SECRET.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>CONFIDENTIAL.</u></p> <p>Bombs dropped from 1st Jan. 1944 to 30th Nov. 1944:    <u>6172.59 tons</u>    <u>885.62 tons</u></p> <p>Bombs dropped during December, 1944:                    <u>850.44 "</u>            <u>49.11 "</u></p> <p>Cumulative Total from 1st Jan. 1944:                        <u>7023.03 "</u>            <u>935.73 "</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>1500 lb Mines</u>            <u>1000 lb Mines</u></p> <p>Mines laid from 1st Jan. 1944 to 30 Nov. 1944:            <u>261</u>            <u>75</u>    (Number not tons)</p> <p>No mines were laid during December, 1944.</p> <p>(m) <u>NUMBER OF COMBATS WITH ENEMY AIRCRAFT.</u></p> <p>There were four encounters with enemy aircraft during the month and the following are claimed:</p> <p>Destroyed - <u>Nil</u></p> <p>Damaged - <u>Nil</u></p> <p>No damage claimed: Four (See appendices B67, B68, B69, B70)</p> <p>(n) <u>THE STRENGTH OF NO. 419 R.C.A.F. SQUADRON AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1944 WAS AS FOLLOWS:</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>R.C.A.F.</u></th> <th><u>R.C.A.F.</u></th> <th><u>R.A.F.</u></th> <th><u>R.A.F.</u></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>OFFICERS</u></th> <th><u>AIRMEN</u></th> <th><u>OFFICERS</u></th> <th><u>AIRMEN</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><u>AIRCRAFT:</u></td> <td><u>164</u></td> <td><u>100</u></td> <td><u>18</u></td> <td><u>29</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Groundcrew:</u></td> <td><u>1</u></td> <td><u>-</u></td> <td><u>-</u></td> <td><u>-</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(o) <u>SHORT SUMMARY OF THE MONTH'S ACTIVITIES BY WING COMMANDER D.O. HAGERMAN, DFC.</u></p> <p>The month of December was remarkable for the number of operations and sorties flown by the Squadron as compared with previous years. In 1943 only 3 ops. and 45 sorties were flown as compared with 11 ops. and 175 sorties for this year. This is exceptional considering the weather conditions that prevailed. Unfortunately losses were fairly heavy five crews being lost, four being very experienced crews.</p>		<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>		<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>AIRMEN</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>AIRMEN</u>	<u>AIRCRAFT:</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>Groundcrew:</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
	<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>																				
	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>AIRMEN</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>AIRMEN</u>																				
<u>AIRCRAFT:</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>29</u>																				
<u>Groundcrew:</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>																				

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	31st. Dec. 1944		<p>The number of scrubs and diversions during the month, combined with a long stretch of bad weather, badly curtailed flying training although two group Gaggle formations were flown. The operational Gaggle formations could have been better but taking into consideration the amount of training the crews had received they were quite good.</p> <p>One of the unfortunately features of the month was the diversion of 16 crews over the Xmas period. However, the Station personnel at Charter Hall laid themselves out to entertain the lads who after all had a really good time.</p>	
<p><b>Comparative figures of Activities for Years 1943-44</b></p>				
			1943	1944
Bombs dropped			3219.22 tons	7958.76 tons
Aircraft Lost			50	39
Percentage of A/C lost			4.2%	2%
Sorties			1190	1940
Missing personnel			358	279
Escaped (Returned)			3	28
Prisoners of War			100	51
Known Dead			119	54
<p><i>D. C. Hagaman w/o.</i>                  (D. C. HAGAMAN) Wing Commander,                  Commanding No. 49 (R.O.A.F.) SQUADRON,                  No. 64 (R.O.A.F.) Group,                  Middleton St. George, Durham.</p>				

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