

47.20.419
DAS

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F. Form 540
See instructions for use of this form in R.R. and A.C.I.
Para. 1349 and War Manual P. 11, Chapter 13.1, and
notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 439 (BOAF) SQUADRON No. of pages used for 12

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	1ST FEB. 1945		9 aircraft were detailed to attack Ludwigshafen; these were all of the serviceable aircraft and crews available on the Squadron. Weather at base and enroute was very good, and at the target, 8/10ths low cloud was encountered. Timing was 100% on the attack, and bombing was from 15,000 to 17,000 feet. Most crews bombed the T.I.'s and the results of the attack are expected to be good. Flak defences were comparatively light but enemy fighters were greatly in evidence. One enemy fighter was shot down (Confirmed) by P/O D.W. Storms (J85757), flying aircraft "T" N8154.		A.91 to A.99 B.8 B.2 (2nd Attack)
	2ND FEB. 1945		Flying training was laid on, but this was cancelled when a request came through for 15 aircraft to attack Weishaden. Take-off times were set ahead or postponed six times, but eventually the aircraft got away at approximately 20.00 hours. The weather was bad and timing on the target was poor owing to a radical wind change on the last leg into the target. Marking was late and the target was covered by 10/10ths cloud. Crews bombed on "GHS". The results of this attack are likely to be very poor as the bombing was wild. There appeared to be very little opposition, but one aircraft is missing from this attack. This was "N" N8750, piloted by J68129 P/O B.W. Martin on his 15th sortie.		A.100 to A.114 B.9
	3RD FEB. 1945		Operational stand-down.		
	4TH FEB. 1945		A small amount of flying training was undertaken during the day, but most training was restricted to ground work. A special lecture was given to the aircrew on "Fispong".		
	5TH FEB. 1945		15 aircraft were required to attack Bonn. Weather at base, enroute and at the target was terrible. Wind changes again made many crews late. P.F.F. were also late. When the first crews arrived, there was no marking and bombing was done on "GHS". Markers were later dropped, but the cloud-tops were too high for effective marking. The attack was probably scattered. There was isolated predicted flak but as far as is known no fighters.		A.115 to A.129 B.10 B.3
			One crew was lost from this attack. Aircraft "W" N8787, piloted by J16953 P/L J.P. Barlow, on the 22nd sortie of his second tour. This would normally have been P/L Barlow's last operational sortie. Word was received late the following day that the WOP/MS, S/O G.S. Sutter (J90668), was safe on an advanced airfield in France. Word was later received		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	4TH FEB.	1945	that the aircraft had been involved in a mid-air collision and had crashed in an inaccessible part of the Ardennes. Four bodies were recovered in the immediate vicinity but no news has as yet come to hand as to the fate of the REMAINS other members of the crew.		
	5TH FEB.	1945	15 aircraft were required for a late-evening effort. Take-off times were postponed several times and finally scrubbed. Flying training had to be curtailed due to the operational requirement but a certain amount of ground training was successfully undertaken.		
	6TH FEB.	1945	Operational stand-down, which was later changed to a stand-by. It was possible to get in a certain amount of flying training as the weather at base was fairly good. Normal ground training was proceeded with as usual. Special demonstrations were given to the Air Gunners on the Glenfartin Turrets in anticipation of arrival on the Squadron of aircraft equipped with Mid-Upper Turrets of this type.		
	7TH FEB.	1945	14 aircraft were required for a night attack on Cooch by Nijmegen. This was an attack on a target in support of our ground troops. Unfortunately, by the time the aircraft arrived, the target marking had become obscured, and on instructions from the Master Bomber, most of the crews returned with their bombs. Take-off was after dark. Weather enroute was very good but 30 miles from the target, the crews encountered low cloud at 6,000 feet. Flak defences were fairly light but enemy fighters were out in great strength. All of our aircraft returned safely. Due to the operational requirement very little flying training was undertaken and a small amount of ground training was proceeded with.		A.130 to A.143 E.11 E.4

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	8th FEB.	1945	14 aircraft required for operations at 1530 hours. Take-off later changed to 2300, but operations finally scrubbed. Flying training and ground training carried out.		
	9th FEB.	1945	14 crews briefed for operations, but operations later cancelled. Flying training carried out.		
	10th FEB.	1945	15 crews briefed for operations, take-off scheduled for 1500 hours. Take-off time changed to 1530 hours and later to 1640 hours. This was finally scrubbed. A considerable amount of flying and ground training carried out.		
	11th FEB.	1945	15 crews briefed for operations, take-off times set at 2000 hours. Operations scrubbed at 1700 hours. Flying training carried out and ground training lectures given.		
	12th FEB.	1945	Operational stand-down. Raining and low clouds all day. Hydraulic film presented to some of the aircrew. No flying training carried out due to inclement weather.		
	13th FEB.	1945	15 crews were detailed for an operation on Dresden. Take-off set for 2040 hours. 15 aircraft took off and diversion of all aircraft expected. This attack was made at 19,000 feet on good P.F.F. marking. This was considered a very successful attack. On return from Dresden several aircraft were diverted for refuelling and did not return until the following day. Two aircraft landed in France. All aircraft eventually returned safely from this attack. Flying and ground training carried through.		A.144 to A.158 B.12
	14th FEB.	1945	5 aircraft attacked Chemnitz, taking off at 1610 hours. Weather at Base was poor. 9 aircraft were detailed for this operation, but four crews were taken off due to fatigue from previous night's operation. Attack made in good weather and should prove to be very successful. Flying training carried out.		A.159 to A.163 B.13 B.5
	15th FEB.	1945	Operational stand-down. Weather good during the day but fogged in during the evening. A considerable amount of flying and ground training was carried out.		
	16th FEB.	1945	Operational stand-down. Weather at Base was terrible, and no flying training was possible. Ground training was pushed to the limit.		
	17th FEB.	1945	Operational stand-down. Weather very poor and no flying training could be carried out, but a considerable amount of ground training was undertaken.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	18th FEB. 1945		Operational stand-down. Weather at Base was good and a sizeable amount of flying training was carried out. Ground training also carried out		
	19th FEB. 1945		Operational stand-down. Weather was poor and no flying training was possible. Ground training pushed to the limit.		
	20th FEB. 1945		14 crews were required for a night attack on Dortmund. Weather at Base and enroute was very good. Fighter opposition was considerable and three combats were reported by our Gunners. This attack should prove to be highly successful. One crew failed to return from this mission - aircraft "F" KB804, piloted by J29684, P/O L.A. Blaney on the 19th trip of his first operational tour. Weather at Base was good and a large amount of flying training was undertaken. Ground training was also carried out.		A.164 to A.177 E.14 B6, B7, B8.
	21st FEB. 1945		14 aircraft were required for a night attack on Duisburg. Results of this attack were reported to be very good, and all aircraft returned safely to Base. A small amount of flying training and some ground training was undertaken.		A.178 to A.191 E.15
	22nd FEB. 1945		Operational stand-down. The Squadron was warned to be prepared for an early morning take-off, but nothing came of it. A fair amount of flying training was carried out, and ground training undertaken as usual.		
	23rd FEB. 1945		15 aircraft carried out a night attack on Pforzheim. Weather enroute and over target was good and visibility clear. Bombing heights were from 7500 to 8500 feet on well concentrated T1's and the results of this attack are expected to be very good. Enemy fighters and flak defences were in evidence and one combat was reported, in which the enemy aircraft was claimed to have been destroyed by J87585 P/O M. Charbonneau, Rear Gunner, Flying aircraft "M" KB866. A small amount of flying training carried out.		A.192 to A.204 E.16 B.9
	24th FEB. 1945		Operational stand-down. A considerable amount of flying and ground training was carried out. Weather at Base was passable.		
	25th FEB. 1945		Operational stand-down. Flying and ground training of all types undertaken. An intelligence lecture was given to most of the aircrew personnel.		
	26th FEB. 1945		Operational stand-down. Weather at Base was very good for flying, and all types of flying training tasks exercises were carried through. Ground training in full swing today and		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of pages used for month 12

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	26th FEB. 1945	(Cont'd)	An Intelligence lecture was given to some of the Squadron aircrew. 16 crews were warned for an early morning take-off.		
	27th FEB. 1945		16 crews carried out an attack on Mains. 10/10ths clouds encountered over target. Bombing heights were from 16,000 to 18,5000 feet. P.F.F. were late marking target, and bombing was on green smoke puffs as instructed by Master Bomber, and some bombed by GEE. Route and tactics were reported as satisfactory. Results of this attack could not be assessed due to heavy clouds overcast. A small amount of flying and ground training carried out.		A.205 to A.220 E.17
	28th FEB. 1945		16 crews took-off for a daylight attack on Neuss. This raid was intended for an Army Co-operation do, but as the Army captured their objective beforehand, all aircraft were recalled approximately 20 minutes after take-off. Most of the aircraft jettisoned their 4000 lb bomb and some also jettisoned a few other types of bombs in the allotted area, and returned with the remainder of their bomb loads. Flying and ground training carried out.		A.221 to A.236 E.18
	28th FEB. 1945		(a) CASUALTIES		
			J58129 P/O MARTIN R.W. P		Reported missing 2-2-45.
			J38227 P/O HODGSON R.W. N		Lancaster X A/C KB750 "N"
			J37891 P/O McDONALD J.A. AB		Target: WEISBADEN.
			R145566 P/S KEELIN P.F. WO		
			1037806 SGT MACAIEEE J. FE		
			R196981 P/S NISBET R.A. UG		
			R213975 P/S MONTAGGART W.J. RG		
			J16953 P/L BARLOW J.P. P		Reported missing 4-2-45 (News was later received that this aircraft was involved in a mid-air collision while enroute to the target)
			J39399 P/O SPENCE D.W. N		
			J17456 P/O BUCHANAN D.J.A. AB		
			182690 P/O EDMONDS L.P. FE		
			J17248 P/O GIBBS J.A. UG		Lancaster I KB787 "M"
			J16490 P/O KERRIS W.R. RG		Target: BONN.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events			SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	28th FEB. 1945		(a) CASUALTIES (CONT'D)				
			J29684	F/O	HANEY L.A.	P	Reported missing 20-2-45
			R81884	WO	HANNA D.	N	Lancaster I KB804 "B"
			J19929	F/O	OWEN P.E.	AB	Target: DORTMUND.
			J93164	F/O	KIDDEY A.	WO	
			302446	SGT	INSTON T.S.	FE	
			R259706	F/S	NORRIS T.J.	UC	
			R215821	F/S	ALTHAM R.	RC	
			(b) POSTINGS IN				
			J41517	F/O	WALKER R.	AB	Posted from 76 Base waf 1-2-45
			J41159	F/O	Smith J.W.	P	Posted from 76 Base waf 6-2-45
			R190279	F/S	KEIZER F.L.	N	
			J42194	F/O	HELL P.P.	AB	
			R223730	SGT	MOORE W.W.	WO	
			R202723	SGT	MURGE K.C.	FE	
			R202796	SGT	FRATT J.W.	UC	
			R272213	SGT	MOORMAN P.E.	RC	
			J38055	F/O	LAUROUGHTON D.M.E.	P	Posted from 76 Base waf 6-2-45
			R206083	SGT	ROWBOTTOM J.B.	N	
			R212522	SGT	MOGALLAM J.C.	AB	
			R252623	SGT	HENRY J.F.	WO	
			1896987	SGT	WISE M.J.	FE	
			R267144	SGT	DWYER B.K.	UC	
			R289837	SGT	DEWIS R.M.	RC	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 49 (R.O. & F.) SQUADRONNo. of pages used for Aug month 12

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	28th FEB, 1945		(b) POSTINGS IN (CONT'D)		
			R183896 SGT GURMAND D.R.	F	Posted from 76 Base w.e.f. 6-2-45
			J4408 P/O MCLAN B.E.	N	
			J40522 P/O BRICKSON L.S.	AB	
			J43059 P/O FRIESEN W.G.	WO	
			J91017 P/O JOHNSTON P.A.	FE	
			R185797 SGT BIRNELL J.W.	UG	
			K272366 SGT HEST D.G.	RG	
			J35568 P/O KEITLO G.L.	F	Posted from 76 Base w.e.f. 12-2-45
			R24554 SGT HENLEY J.E.	N	
			J41610 P/O DE WITT W.N.	AB	
			R219073 SGT LEST P.R.	WO	
			GAN2563 SGT KING J.A.	FE	
			R113178 SGT CHAMMAN R.A.	UG	
			J45933 P/O HOLLINER G.J.	RG	
			G27955 P/O MACNEILL B.T.	F	Posted from 76 Base w.e.f. 17-2-45
			J40907 P/O SHIRT W.E.	N	
			R223955 SGT EBACH E.V.	AB	
			R190117 P/S COLE H.O.	WO	
			R207486 SGT WILSON R.T.	FE	
			R281610 SGT JAMIESON D.O.	UG	
			R272251 SGT MITCHELL R.L.	RG	
			J92230 P/O CROUCHER N.S.	WO	Posted from 425 Sqn, w.e.f. 25-2-45
			J27858 P/O CHAMMAN C.E.	F	Posted from 64 Base w.e.f. 26-2-45

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events				SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	28th FEB. 1945		(b) POSTINGS IN (CONT'D)					
			R19348	P/S	HARRISH C.W.	P	Posted from 76 Base w.o.f. 26-2-45	
			J38288	P/O	HUNGESSY M.R.	N		
			R218606	SGT	GILFERR C.	AB		
			R205102	SGT	VICKERY G.M.	WO		
			R265181	SGT	BOWMAN F.V.	FE		
			R292668	SGT	BRITTON E.	UG		
			R287063	SGT	BRIDIN M.W.	RG		
			J92191	P/O	RICKERT D.E.	P	Posted from 76 Base w.o.f. 28-2-45	
			J42189	P/O	MACALPINE W.S.	N		
			J43054	P/O	DITMER G.N.	AB		
			R151324	P/S	COOPER R.C.	WO		
			O2148	PO	THOMAS A.C.	FE		
			R218573	SGT	HAYMAN R.C.	UG		
			R134392	SGT	GURNEY K.W.	RG		
			J38836	P/O	HORNER J.M.	P	Posted from 76 Base w.o.f. 28-2-45	
			J41609	P/O	O'BRIEN W.J.	AB		
			J41387	P/O	BASTABROOKS W.R.	N		
			R194067	P/S	ALLARD W.W.	WO		
			R223980	SGT	STERLIN B.T.	FE		
			R281230	SGT	WESTBURY J.A.	UG		
			R122636	SGT	PARKER C.A.	RG		

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of (Unit or Formation) No. 49 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON

No. of pages used for Month 12

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	28th SEP. 1945		(c) <u>POSTINGS OUT</u>		
			J92659 E/O <u>FRASER H.R.</u> N Posted to 1659 G.U. w.e.f. 3-2-45 (Instructor)		
			J92265 E/O <u>CLARKE K.F.</u> WO Posted to 1666 G.U. w.e.f. 3-2-45 (Instructor)		
			E90440 E/O <u>RABONE G.L.</u> WO Posted "R" Depot w.e.f. 5-2-45 (Repatriation)		
			R164561 WO1 <u>SHIFFT E.J.</u> WO		
			188089 E/O <u>CROOK C.W.H.</u> FE Posted to 64 Base w.e.f. 5-2-45 (Instructor)		
			J17447 E/O <u>MCKINNON L.M.</u> WO Posted "R" Depot w.e.f. 12-2-45 (AMO 245/44 Para.7)		
			J92560 E/O <u>WESTON L.J.</u> AG Posted "R" Depot w.e.f. 12-2-45 (Repatriation)		
			J85961 E/O <u>MAGNELL D.T.</u> N Posted to 1666 G.U. w.e.f. 13-2-45 (Instructor)		
			J92017 E/O <u>REID D.L.</u> N Posted "R" Depot w.e.f. 1-2-45 (Repatriation)		
			J29890 E/O <u>FOGHAY F.</u> N		
			182814 E/O <u>GREENWOOD J.</u> FE Posted to 64 Base w.e.f. 14-2-45 (N.E. Sick)		
			J26413 E/L <u>COX R.L.</u> P Posted "R" Depot w.e.f. 19-2-45 (AMO A945/44 Para.7)		
			J36298 E/O <u>HERBERT C.R.</u> N Posted 432 Sqn, w.e.f. 22-2-45 (Operations)		
			J15819 E/L <u>BISHOP A.A.</u> P Posted "R" Depot w.e.f. 23-2-45 (Repatriation)		
			185451 E/O <u>GERARD M.A.</u> AG Posted to A.C.A.C. w.e.f. 25-2-45 (Assessment)		
			185454 E/O <u>FLIPPANT F.W.J.</u> AG		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events			SECRET.	References to Appendices
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	28th FEB. 1945		(c) POSTINGS OUT (CONT'D)				
			J85111	F/O	BATHARD A.E.	P	Posted to 429 Sqdn, w.e.f. 25-2-45 (Operations)
			AUSA 28164	F/O	SANDERS M.F.	N	Posted to A.C.A.G. w.e.f. 26-2-45 (assessment)
			J25383	F/O	SHAHAN G.L.	P	Posted 1659 C.U. w.e.f. 27-2-45 (Instructor)
			(d) PROMOTIONS				
			J24764	F/O	TULK PH	P	Promoted to T/P/L w.e.f. 6-1-45
			178233	F/O	GRIVE J.F.	FE	Appointed to A/P/L w.e.f. 10-1-45
			J18117	F/O	SUTER W.F.	WO	Appointed to A/P/L w.e.f. 24-1-45
			(e) COMMISSIONS			OFFICER'S NO.	EFF. DATE
			R140624	WO2	KENDRICK A.	WO	J93164 11-9-44
			R201675	Sgt	TROTT D.A.	AG	J92914 3-10-44
			R188974	Sgt	TIERNEY T.B.	AG	J92476 3-10-44
			(f) HONOURS AND AWARDS				
			The award of the Distinguished Flying Cross (Non-Immediate) was made to:				
			J86681	F/O	H.C. SPEIGHT	P	
			J89231	F/O	P.R. BROWN	AG	
			J23599	F/L	J.A. ANDERSON	DSO P	
			J27402	F/O	G.C. GILLESPIE	AD	
			The award of the Distinguished Flying Medal (non-Immediate) was made to:				
			J90155	F/O	L.P. MORGAN	AG	
			1515049	F/S	KRYTON A.A.	FE	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of pages used for month 12
days

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices									
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	28th FEB. 1945		(g) CHANGES IN COMMAND - NIL											
			(h) CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATION - NIL											
			(i) AIRCRAFT ON CHARGE (TYPE AND NUMBER)											
			Lancaster X 20											
			(j) OPERATIONAL AND NON-OPERATIONAL FLYING TIME											
			<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">DAY</th> <th style="text-align: center;">NIGHT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lancaster NonOperational</td> <td style="text-align: center;">388.55</td> <td style="text-align: center;">26.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lancaster Operational</td> <td style="text-align: center;">160.55</td> <td style="text-align: center;">847.50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		DAY	NIGHT	Lancaster NonOperational	388.55	26.30	Lancaster Operational	160.55	847.50		
	DAY	NIGHT												
Lancaster NonOperational	388.55	26.30												
Lancaster Operational	160.55	847.50												
			(k) NUMBER OPERATIONAL SERVICES - 146											
			(l) MONTHLY AND CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF BOMBS DROPPED AND MINES LAYED											
			TON = 2240 lbs											
			H.B.	INCENDIARIES										
			Bombs dropped during the month of February 1945	235.04	262.08									
			Bombs dropped during the month of January, 1945	197.32	54.55									
			Cumulative total since 1st January, 1945:	432.36	316.63									
			1500 Lb mines	1000 15 Mines										
			Mines Layed from 1st January 1945 to 28th February: (Number <u>not</u> tons)	NIL	NIL									
			(m) NUMBER OF COMBATS WITH ENEMY AIRCRAFT											
			There were eight combats with enemy aircraft during the month, and the following are claimed:											
			Destroyed: Three (see appendix B.2 Second Attack, B.5, and B.9)											
			Damaged: One (see appendix B.4)											
			No damage claimed: Five (see appendix B.2 First attack, B.3, B.6, B.7, B.8.)											

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices		
MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE	28th FEB.	1945	(n) THE STRENGTH OF NO. 49 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON AS AT 28th FEBRUARY, 1945 WAS AS FOLLOWS:				
				R.C.A.F. OFFICERS	R.C.A.F. AIRMEN	R.A.F. OFFICERS	R.A.F. AIRMEN
			AIRCRAFT:	125	111	7	14
			GROUND CREW:	1	-	-	-
			(o) SHORT SUMMARY OF THE MONTH'S ACTIVITIES BY WING COMMANDER M.E. FERGUSON				
			During the month 146 operational sorties were flown. Two long trips were made in support of the Russian advance, one to Dresden and one to Chemnitz, which were very successful. Three aircraft were lost during the month, P/Lt Barlow, P/O Maney and P/O Martin. A very unfortunate accident occurred on the attack on Bonn. P/Lt J.P. Barlow's aircraft became involved in a mid-air collision with an aircraft from No. 43 Squadron over our front lines in France on the way to the target. Word has been received that the bodies of 4 member of this crew have been recovered, leaving the Pilot and Engineer unheard of. P/O Sutter, Wireless Operator, was the fortunate member of this crew, having parachuted to safety and since returned to this Unit to continue operations after a slight rest. This crew was very experienced and some of the members were on their final trip of their second tour.				
			An extensive effort was made during the month to get in as many hours as possible, in spite of night operations being laid on and warnings of daylight operations for the following day. Many operations were scrubbed and in one case 16 aircraft were recalled from a daylight attack on Neuss shortly after take-off. In spite of many interferences a good month's training was put in. The weather was marked by high winds generally.				
			6 meetings of all Squadron aircrew were held on various dates in the Intelligence Library at 0900 hrs in the morning. Short lectures were given and the general progress of the war was explained by Intelligence Officers. These meetings were found both very interesting and instructive to all concerned and will be continued in future months.				

W1 21102101 2808 244 CAL 24898

M.E. Ferguson
 (M.E. Ferguson) Wing Commander,
 Commanding No. 49 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron
 No. 64 (R.C.A.F.) Base
 Middleton St. George, Durham

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