

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. ONEUnit (or Formation) 424 (R.G.A.R.) SQUADRON5.47.20-424
242 No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	20781	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	1.7.44		<p>Weather: Cloudy with rain becoming fine. Visibility moderate becoming good. Winds - Light variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron was detailed to prepare 17 A/C for operations tonight. All preparations were made but late in the afternoon an order came through cancelling the task.</p> <p>TRAINING - Due to the fact that all personnel were busily engaged on preparations for operations very little time was left for organized training although one lecture of one hour was given by the Signals Leader to his Section. Discussion groups were held in the various Sections led by the Section Leaders.</p> <p>GENERAL - Two new crews reported in to-day. They are as follows: CAPT. G.A. J.25688 S/O P.O. KENDRICK: NAV. C.M.R. 35822 S/O E.L. STEPHEN: S/A C.M.R. 69989 SGT. COOPER, A.S.: W/O C.M.R. 86283 S/O J.R. ANSCOMB: S/E R.A.F. 1607428 SGT. LEE, R.W.: W/O C.M.R. 251521 SGT. HILLSON, H.D.: A/O C.M.R. 205599 SGT. WILSON, R.R. CAP. C.M.R. 176026 SGT. LANG, J.P.G.: NAV. C.M.R. 35048 S/O J.H. FRANK: S/A C.M.R. 35244 S/O P.J. BARNES: W/O C.M.R. 37268 S/O SKIFFER, R.C.M. S/S R.A.F. 643372 SGT. GARSIDE, W. W/O C.M.R. 163673 S/S DAVIES, L.G. A/O C.M.R. 162255 SGT. DICKET, J.E.</p> <p>No flying to-day.</p>			
do	2.7.44		<p>Weather: Cloudy, occasional showers during day. Rain at night. Visibility moderate to poor. Winds - Light S.W. by.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 16 A/C were detailed for operations tonight which were later cancelled. The time was all taken up with preparations for operations which left little or no time for ground training.</p> <p>TRAINING - Some flying training was carried out in both "A" and "B" flights.</p> <p>GENERAL - A new crew reported to the Squadron to-day. They are as follows: CAPT. G.A. J.5789 P/L A.S. PETERMAN: NAV. C.M.R. 164772 S/S DINE, J.W.: S/A C.M.R. 27383: S/O BOWLES, R.R.: W/O C.M.R. 135106 W/O LESTER, W.R.: S/S R.A.F. 625522 SGT. GARDNER, H.E.: W/O C.M.R. 210909 SGT. PRICE A.M.: A/O C.M.R. 210906 SGT. UNDERHILL, A.L.</p> <p>OPERATIONAL Time - Nil; Non-Op. Flying Time - 5 hrs. 15 mins.</p>			
DO	3.7.44		<p>Weather: Cloudy with continuous rain. Visibility poor to moderate. Winds - Light variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to detail 16 A/C for operations and all preparations were completed when the order came through to cancel the job.</p> <p>TRAINING - Lectures and discussions were held in all Sections on a new system of training procedure. Little time was left for flying training.</p> <p>Operational Time - Nil; Non-Op. Flying Time - 40 minutes.</p>			
DO	4.7.44		<p>Weather: Cloudy with rain in morning becoming fair. Visibility poor becoming good. Winds - Light westerly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 16 A/C were ordered for operations against VILLERS-LEVE ST. SECRENS. All A/C took off and 15 were successful in reaching the target and returning to base. One A/C, S/O STUBBS and crew, failed to return from this mission. The target was successfully bombed visually and Master Bomber of great assistance. Bombing well concentrated and all bombs were seen bursting on the target.</p> <p>Operational Time - 89 hrs. 55 mins. Non-Op. Flying Time - 5 hrs. 50 mins.</p>			A.667 - A.682

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SELTON-ON-SWALE	5.7.44		<p>WEATHER - Cloudy with an occasional shower. Visibility moderate. Winds Light S.W. fly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to detail 16 A/C for operations tonight. All preparations were completed but later cancelled.</p> <p>TRAINING - The "Fishpond" Trainer in the new Radar Building is fully serviceable and arrangements have been made with the other Sections and 433 Squadron for time allotments for the use of this new equipment. Lectures and discussions were held in all Sections by the Section Leaders. Some of the new crews were engaged in training flights.</p> <p>Operational Time - Nil; Non-Op. Flying Time - 5 hrs. 05 mins.</p>		
DO	6.7.44		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy. Visibility poor improving to good. Winds - Light S.W. fly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 15 A/C were detailed for a daylight operation against SIRA COURT. All took off, one returned early due to mechanical difficulties and another, 2/0 Bawdrie and crew, failed to return. The balance were successful. All crews report very concentrated bombing. Considered a successful effort.</p> <p>TRAINING - No training carried out today as all time was taken up in preparing for operations.</p> <p>Operational Flying Time - 58 hrs. 40 mins. Non - Operational Flying - Nil.</p>		A.683 - A.697
DO	7.7.44		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy with rain in afternoon. Visibility moderate. Winds - Light variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 15 A/C were detailed for an early morning operation but before take off time, cancellation came through.</p> <p>TRAINING - Due to the fact that the A/C were all bombed it was impossible to do any organized flying training although one A/C was up for local flying.</p> <p>Operational Time - Nil; Non-Operational Flying time - 30 minutes.</p>		
DO	8.7.44		<p>WEATHER: Fair with occasional showers. Visibility moderate to good. Winds Light variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 14 A/C were detailed for operations - 6 of which were detailed for a daylight bombing raid against ANDOVA and the remaining 8 were detailed for SIRA. All A/C successfully took off and all returned safely to base after highly successful trips.</p> <p>TRAINING - The new crews were engaged in training flights. Not much time was given to ground training today as those who weren't engaged in the training flights were busy with preparations for operations.</p> <p>Operational Time - 76 hrs. 38 mins. Non-Operational Flying Time - 9 hrs. 20 mins.</p>		A.698 - A.705 A.706 - A.711
DO	9.7.44		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy with rain in afternoon. Visibility foggy in morning becoming good in evening.</p> <p>WINDS - South Easterly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron was told to stand by for an operation which may have been required. All preparations were made but no order came through.</p> <p>TRAINING - The preparations and uncertainty whether or not we should be needed for operations interfered greatly with any organized training. Discussions were held in all Sections and some local flying was carried out.</p> <p>Operational Time - Nil. Non-Operational Flying Time - 1 hr.</p>		
DO	10.7.44		<p>WEATHER: Fair, cloudy with occasional showers. Visibility moderate to good.</p> <p>WINDS - Moderate Westerly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to stand by for operations.</p> <p>TRAINING - Considerable flying training was done by the new crews such as cross countries and circuits and bumps which prepared them for the work to come. Lectures and discussions and ground work was carried out in all sections. Target manipulation and sheet shooting was carried out in the Gunnery Section.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	10.7.44	(Contd.)	<p>GENERAL - A new crew reported to the Squadron to-day- they are as follows, CAPT. CAN.J.86925 P/O G.S. Hawthorn; NAV. CAN.J.29854 P/O J.D. Myers; P/A CAN.R.174698 SGT DEER, E.T.; W/O CAN.T.150212 SGT SIMMONS, G.E.; P/E RAF.181796 SGT EDWARDS, J.H.; P/O CAN.E.143517 SGT LACUM, P.; CAN.E.201679 SGT CLARKE, E.C. Non-Operational Flying Time - 8 hrs. 55 mins.</p>		
DO	11.7.44		<p>WEATHER - Cloudy, visibility good. Winds - Fresh Westerly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron still standing by for operations. All preparations were completed for an emergency call for operations.</p> <p>TRAINING - The preparedness for operations prevented a great deal of training being done.</p> <p>GENERAL - Another new crew reported to the Squadron to-day. They are as follows, CAN.J.18064 CAPT. P/O R.D. GUILD; NAV. CAN.J.36594 P/O MOTTUS, E.H.; P/A CAN.J.35063 P/O V.L. RILEY; W/O CAN.J.25251 P/O GRACE, J.F.; P/E CAN.R.58288 SGT SMITH, N.A.; W/O CAN.J.11553 P/O H.J. LOUGHRAN; A/O CAN.J.22936 P/O W.E. JORY.</p> <p>Operational Time - Nil; Non-Operational Flying Time - 10 hrs. 10 mins.</p>		
DO	12.7.44		<p>WEATHER - Cloudy, good visibility. Winds - Moderate Westerly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 16 A/C detailed for a night bombing operation against BRESCIA. All A/C successfully took off and returned to base. Visibility was poor due to cloud and prevented the observation of the bomb bursts on the red and yellow target indicators. Very little flak, no enemy A/C attacks and the few S/L were ineffective through the cloud. Considered a fair attack.</p> <p>TRAINING - Ground training was carried out in all Sections. Both day and night flying training was carried out by the new crews.</p> <p>Operational Time - 65 hrs. 32 mins. Non-Operational Flying Time - 17 hrs.</p>		A.712 - A.727
DO	13.7.44		<p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to stand by for operations which might be called for at any time. All preparations were made as far as possible for the operation which was not required.</p> <p>WEATHER - Cloudy with slight rain becoming fair. Good visibility. Winds strong South Westerly.</p> <p>TRAINING - Preparing for operations prevented any large scale training scheme. Some local flying was carried out by the new crews.</p> <p>Operational Time - Nil. Non-Operational Flying Time - 3 hrs. 50 mins.</p>		
DO	14.7.44		<p>WEATHER - Fair becoming cloudy. Good visibility. Winds - S.W.ly becoming S.E. 'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 12 A/C were ordered for a night bombing attack on ABERDEEN. All A/C reached the target and successfully deposited their bombs on a good concentration of red indicators. Weather over the target was clear and visibility good. Some flak but no damage sustained to any of the A/C. One enemy A/C made an attack but no claim was made and the attack was considered as fair.</p> <p>TRAINING - New crews were engaged in Radar and cross country flights.</p> <p>GENERAL - Another new crew reported to the Squadron, they are as follows: CAPT. CAN.R.167414 SGT. FRANKSON, P.O.; NAV. CAN.J.37537 P/O P.B. GORDON; P/A CAN.R.136651 SGT. EDEN RAYDALE, E.H.; W/O CAN.R.172915 SGT CAMPBELL, A.; P/E RAF.1592439 SGT CAMPBELL, C.A.; W/O RAF.1625057 SGT BELSTED, H.; CAN.E.200121 SGT CORVEE, G.E. A/C.</p> <p>Operational Time - 40 hrs. 19 mins. Non-Operational Flying Time - 15 hrs. 50 mins.</p>		A.728 - A.739

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	15.7.44		<p>Weather: Cloudy with slight rain at first becoming fair. Good visibility. Winds S.W.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to stand by and be ready on short notice for operations. Late in the afternoon we were notified that we would not be required.</p> <p>TRAINING - Grounding was given over to flying mostly. A Bullseye was planned to give the new crews the training they needed. Both day and night flying was participated in.</p> <p>GENERAL - Another new crew reported in to-day. They are as follows: CAPT. CAN. J. 85939 P/O W.S.P. BOWEN; NAV. CAN. R. 108011 SGT CAYE, A.J.M.; P/A CAN. R. 185327 SGT LAMBERT, J.A.J.; W/G CAN. R. 189511 SGT COPE, J.M.; P/S RAF. 1896431 SGT GALESMITH, P.; W/G CAN. R. 211660 SGT. MCULLIN, A.E.; A/G CAN. R. 218247 SGT KEEFING, A.T.</p> <p>Operational Flying Time - Nil; Non-Operational Flying Time - 47 hrs. 35 mins.</p>		
DO	16.7.44		<p>Weather - Fair, slight rain in late evening. Good visibility. Winds - Light variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 14 A/C were ordered to be detailed for a night operation but later the cancellation came through.</p> <p>TRAINING - During the day lectures and discussions were held in all Sections and the training was much appreciated by all concerned. Considerable flying training both day and night was carried out as the A/C were not bombed up which allowed this.</p> <p>GENERAL - Two more crews reported to the Squadron to-day. They are, as follows: CAPT. CAN. J. 15117 P/O H.Y. LEFEBVRE; NAV. CAN. J. 29980 P/O G. PAPAS; P/A CAN. J. 29698 P/O KUCH, P.; W/G CAN. R. 24811 P/O R. NEWTON; P/S RAF. 1860911 SGT TAMES, C.G.; W/G CAN. R. 207065 SGT CARR, E.O.; A/G CAN. R. 207112 SGT HYDE, L.B. CAPT. CAN. J. 86341 P/O LINDQUIST, D.E.; NAV. CAN. R. 179620 SGT SUTHERLAND, E.P.; P/A CAN. J. 21780 P/O J.V. McQUADE; W/G CAN. R. 117440 W/O LEMIRE, L.H.; P/S RAF. 1860960 SGT S.E. GILBERT; W/G CAN. R. 262224 SGT MAIN, J.B.; A/G CAN. R. 192402 SGT HENRIET, A.</p> <p>Operational Flying Time - Nil; Non-Operational Flying Time - 35 hrs.</p>		
DO	17.7.44		<p>Weather - Fair becoming fine. Visibility moderate becoming good. Winds - N.W.'ly becoming light S.W.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 16 A/C were ordered to be detailed for operations, 8 of which were for a MINNIE job, and the other 8 A/C for BOMBING operations on GARN in the early morning hours of the 18th. All 16 A/C were successful in carrying out their duties. All returned safely to base.</p> <p>TRAINING - The new crews were kept very busy all day and considerable training was accomplished not only on ground but in the air.</p> <p>GENERAL - P/O Hamish and crew left the Squadron to-day to take up their new duties with 405 Squadron in the P.P.T. Group. Another new crew reported in - they are, as follows: CAPT. CAN. J. 85239 P/O L.M. LARSON; NAV. CAN. R. 16467 SGT DODDS, G.; P/A CAN. R. 165984 SGT BOLAN, J.M.; W/G CAN. R. 114775 W/O VAN HEUTE, E.B.; P/S RAF. 1894729 SGT POTTER, M.A.; W/G CAN. R. 61840 P/S LITTLE, E.M.; A/G CAN. R. 224871 SGT BORN, S.</p> <p>Operational Flying Time - 105 hrs. 55 mins. Non-Operational Flying Time - 24 hrs. 40 mins.</p>		A.740 - A.747 A.748 - A.755
DO	18.7.44		<p>Weather: Fair becoming cloudy. Good visibility. Winds - Easterly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - 14 A/C were detailed for bombing operations against WESTERLINE. One A/C failed to take off due to mechanical difficulties. All other successfully bombed the target and returned safely to base. Visibility over target and no defence encountered.</p> <p>TRAINING - Good</p> <p>The new crews were again busily engaged in flying training, all others who were not engaged in preparations for operations were kept quite busy in their respective Sections.</p>		A.756 - A.768

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SLIPTON-ON-SWALE	18.7.44	(OVD)	GENERAL - CAN. C. 11434 P/L G.S. Marchie reported in to-day on attachment. He has assumed the duties of Mark II Adjutant. A new crew also reported in to-day, they are as follows: CAPT. CANT. 11428 P/L W.C. ANDERSON; NAV. CANT. 27587 P/O S.R. McFARLANE; P/A CANT. 25606 P/O J.H. JACKMAN; W/O CANT. 76420 W/O MCULLIN, G.L.; P/E RAF. 1589003 SGT McANULTY, B.; P/O CANT. 217042 SGT ROBERTS, W.G.; P/O CANT. 40213 P/O PERCH, G.V. Operational Flying Time - Nil; Non-Operational Flying Time - 12 hrs. 15 mins.		
DO	19.7.44		WEATHER - Cloudy, visibility good. Winds - Light variable. OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to stand by for operations but were not required to offer any A/C. TRAINING - All Sections were busy with ground training of various sorts. Both day and night flying training was carried out. Operational Flying Time - Nil; Non-Operational Flying Time - 19.35 hrs.		
DO	20.7.44		WEATHER - Cloudy, visibility good becoming moderate in slight drizzle. Winds - N.W. OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to detail 17 A/C for operations. These were all for daylight raids and were broken up into 12 and 5 A/C respectively. The 12 A/C which took off early in the afternoon attacked FUELS DU GRAND NOIR. They were all successful in reaching the target and a good concentration of bombs were dropped over the target area. No interference was encountered and all crews returned safely to base. The 5 A/C which took off early in the evening bombed ANDERELWICK. All 5 successfully reached the target and bombed with no interference or opposition. All A/C returned safely to base. TRAINING - Some flying training was carried out to-day. Operational Flying Time - 60 hrs. 19 mins. Non-Operational Flying Time - 9 hrs. 35 mins.		A.769 - A.780 A.781 - A.785
DO	21.7.44		WEATHER - Cloudy with slight drizzle early morning and late evening. N.W. Winds. OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to stand by for operations but at a later time this was cancelled with the order to continue to stand by. TRAINING - The stand by order with the resultant pressure near activity hampered training somewhat but lectures and discussions were held in all Sections. Considerable flying training was carried out by the new crews in "A" Flight. Operational Time - Nil; Non-Operational Flying Time - 16 hrs. 50 mins.		
DO	22.7.44		WEATHER - Cloudy with moderate visibility. Winds - N.W. 11y to N. 13y. OPERATIONS - The Squadron was told to stand by for operations but just prior to take off this was cancelled. TRAINING - Mock shooting and turret manipulation was carried out by all members of the Gunnery Section and all Section Leaders and their personnel busy on ground training. There was some local flying carried out by the new crews. Operational Time - Nil. Non-Operational Flying Time - 7 hrs. 45 mins.		
DO	23.7.44		WEATHER - Cloudy becoming fair to fine. Visibility moderate becoming good. Winds - Light N.W. 1y to W. 1y. OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to detail 15 A/C for operations tonight. All A/C successfully reached the target which was DUNKES. No enemy interference and this was considered a very successful attack. Attack developed very quickly and crews reported large explosions which lit up the sky and a high cloud of black smoke rising to 5,000 ft. All A/C returned safely to base.		A.786 - A.800

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	23.7.44	(COINED)	TRAINING - NEW CREWS PARTICIPATED in local flying to-day. GENERAL - During the day Miss Molly McGhie, War Correspondent, of a Toronto paper, visited the Squadron and interviewed personnel of Hamilton and District for the benefit of their relatives at home. W/O Blane had all the Aircrew over in the briefing room for the purpose of a talk by the War Correspondent which was greatly appreciated as she had recently come from the Normandy front.		
DO	24.7.44		WEATHER - Fine becoming cloudy. Visibility hazy at first becoming good. WINDS - Light S.E.'ly winds. OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to detail 14 A/C for operations - 10 A/C for a bombing job and 4 A/C with the most experienced crews for a mining operation. Both of these operations were carried out successfully by all crews and all the A/C returned safely to base. The bombing target was LUTER, and this was considered quite a very successful raid with some opposition in the way of flak encountered. The mine was to explode and it did and while visibility was poor, good visibility was not needed as the crews worked their secret equipment. There was no enemy activity nor flak encountered. GENERAL - Training was carried out in all Sections and a wet dingy drill held at Binon for some of the crews who were not needed on operations. Operational Time - 51 hrs. 48 mins. Non-Operational Time - 3 hrs. 20 mins.		A.801 - A.810 A.811 - A.814
DO	25.7.44		WEATHER: Cloudy with rain in late evening. Heavy visibility. WINDS - Light S.E.'ly OPERATIONS - 16 A/C were ordered to be detailed for a night operation and all 16 were successful in getting away. One A/C "W.131" got well over enemy territory but had to turn back before reaching the target due to the port outer engine becoming U/S. The other 15 A/C got to the target which was STUTTGART and released their bombs successfully. Many fires were reported covering a large area. Brilliant flashes and a large explosion were seen and the glow of the fires could be seen for 100 miles after leaving the target. TRAINING - Very little training was carried out during the day as all the time was taken up in preparations for the operation. Operational Time - 136 hrs. 37 mins. Non-Operational Time - 5 hrs. 05 mins.		A.815 - A.830
DO	26.7.44		WEATHER - Cloudy with fair periods. Thunderstorms during evening. Visibility moderate becoming good. WINDS - S.E.'ly winds. OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to stand by for operations but at noon this was definitely not required. TRAINING - VERY - An extensive training programme was carried out to-day. All Sections held lectures and discussions and considerable flying training was carried out in "a" and "b" flights. The gunners carried out turret manipulation and aircraft shooting on the range. GENERAL - Two crews left to-day to join the 145 Squadron at Bicester. They are, P/O Lindquist and crew and P/O Patten and crew. Operational Flying Time - Nil; Non-Operational Flying Time - 15 hrs. 20 mins.		
DO	27.7.44		WEATHER: Fair to cloudy becoming fine. Fog early in morning becoming good visibility. Thunderstorms in afternoon. WINDS - Light S.E.'ly becoming W. ly. OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to detail 15 A/C for operations. All preparations were completed but at the last moment this was cancelled. TRAINING - Preparations for operations furnished much opportunity for training either on the ground or in the air. Operational Flying Time - 194; Non-Operational Flying Time - 1 hr.		

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			SECRET.	
SEK-TON-OF-SWALE	26.7.44		<p>WEATHER - Fine becoming fair. Good visibility. Winds - light variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to detail A/C for a daylight operation but this was later cancelled and finally a night operation of both bombing and mining was called for. 11 A/C were detailed for bombing and 6 experienced crews for mining. Of the 11 A/C detailed for bombing only 10 A/C successfully got away. The target in this case being HESBURG. At the last moment W/O Blane decided to take P/L Hamilton's crew as P/L Hamilton had not returned from some duty at Leeming. Unfortunately W/O Blane with P/L Hamilton's crew did not return from this operation. The mining operation for which 6 were detailed only got five away as one A/C failed to take off because of technical difficulties.</p> <p>TRAINING - All time was taken up with planning and changing operations which did not allow for any flying training and very little ground training in the Sections.</p> <p>Operational Time - 73 hrs. 03 mins. Non-Operational Time - Nil.</p>	<p>A. 831 - A. 840</p> <p>A. 841 - A. 845</p>
DO	29.7.44		<p>WEATHER - Fair to cloudy, rain late morning. Fog by midnight.</p> <p>Winds - Light variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - The Squadron was ordered to prepare for operations but before take off time the operation was scrubbed with an order to stand by. Later on this was changed to a definite no operations to-day but to make preparations for an early raid on July 30th and 14 A/C were detailed for this.</p> <p>TRAINING - Due to the fact that W/O Blane had just been reported missing there was very little activity in any of the Sections during the day. No flying training was carried out in either "A" or "B" flight.</p> <p>Operational Time - Nil; Non-Operational Flying - Nil.</p>	
DO	30.7.44		<p>WEATHER - Foggy becoming fair to cloudy. Poor visibility all day. Winds - Light N.W.ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - Early in the morning 14 A/C detailed took off for an attack on VILGERS BOCAE which was entirely successful and reported by all crews as being a "grand do". All A/C returned safely to base.</p> <p>TRAINING - All sections were busy with training to-day and new crews took part in local flying.</p> <p>Operational Time - 55 hrs. 29½ mins. Non-Operational Flying Time - 8 hrs. 40 mins.</p>	A. 846 - A. 855
DO	31.7.44		<p>WEATHER - Cloudy and hazy. Winds N.W.W.ly becoming light S.W.ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - There had been a battle order prepared for a daylight raid on the flat, when this was not required at the time anticipated another battle order calling for 12 A/C for a night operation was made up. This was an operation against KUGER DUE CROO. All A/C successfully took off, reached the target and came safely back to base. Slight haze over the target but fair visibility. The bombing was well concentrated and there was no congestion over the target. This raid is considered to be most successful.</p> <p>TRAINING - Considerable training was carried out in all sections led by the Section Leaders but due to the fact that the A/C were loaded with bombs, it was not possible to do any flying training.</p> <p>Operational Time - 48 hrs. 50 mins. Non-Operational Flying Time - Nil.</p>	A. 860 - A. 871
DO	31.7.44		<p>CASUALTIES</p> <p>MISSING OFFICERS R.C.A.F. R.A.F. AIRMEN R.C.A.F. R.A.F.</p> <p>II O 7 3</p>	

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SHIP-TON-ON-SWALE	31.7.44		<u>POSTING IN - OFFICERS</u>		<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>	<u>ATTCN</u>	<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>																																																		
				25	0		18	11																																																			
			<u>POSTING OUT - OFFICERS</u>		<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>	<u>ATTCN</u>	<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>																																																		
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			<u>PROMOTIONS - OFFICERS</u>		1 Flying Officer to Flight Lieutenant 4 Pilot Officers to Flying Officers.																																																						
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			<u>FLYING HOURS</u> -		Operational - Day - 24.04 hrs. Night - 751.33 hrs. Non-Operational - Day - 194.05 hrs. Night - 104 hrs.																																																						
			<u>OPERATIONAL SORTIES</u> -		205																																																						
			<u>BOMBS DROPPED AND MINES LAID</u>		(Tons 2240 lbs.)																																																						
			From 1.1.44 to 30.6.44	1502.3	194.9	148.1																																																					
			During July, 1944	628.5		56.1																																																					
			OPERATIVE TOTAL FROM 1.1.44	2130.8	194.9	204.2																																																					
			<u>NO. OF COMBATS WITH ENEMY AIRCRAFT</u> -		NO. of Combats																																																						
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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. NINE

of (Unit or Formation) 424 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices																																										
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	31.7.44	(COND.)	<p><u>STRENGTH</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th><th>Aircrew</th><th>Groundcrew</th><th>AIRMEN</th><th>Aircrew</th><th>Groundcrew</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F.</td><td>95</td><td>2</td><td></td><td>126</td><td>263</td></tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F. (U.S.A.A.)</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td></td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr> <td>R.A.F.</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td></td><td>50</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr> <td>AUS.</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr> <td>W.A.A.F.</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td></td><td>-</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>103</td><td>2</td><td></td><td>177</td><td>274</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>COMMANDING OFFICER'S RESUME</u></p> <p>Of the 205 sorties flown by this Squadron this month 203 of these were successful. On the many occasions during which the aircrew personnel had to "stand by" and be in readiness for operations, other numerous occasions when the operation was cancelled at the last moment before proceeding to the aircraft, their high morale was maintained. It was only when our Commanding Officer, W/O Blane, did not return from the operation over Hamburg on the night of July 28th with P/L Hamilton's crew that everyone in the Squadron was shaken. His loss will be felt keenly by each and every member of the Squadron.</p> <p>Four mining operations, six daylight bombing raids and nine night bombing raids were carried out successfully against the enemy with a total loss of three crews. The number of operational hours flown was 287.37 hrs. The number of non-operational hours flown was 298.05 hrs. of which 161.23 hrs. was flown by "A" Flight and 136.40 hrs. by "B" Flight. Most of the non-operational hrs flying was training time.</p> <p>The splendid job done by the groundcrew throughout this past month is worthy of high praise and their efforts in each and every department to maintain the high serviceability record they have achieved is appreciated greatly by all the Aircrew on the Squadron.</p> <p><i>J. A. Westland</i> (J. A. Westland DFC S/L) Officer Commanding, No. 424 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.</p>	OFFICERS	Aircrew	Groundcrew	AIRMEN	Aircrew	Groundcrew	R.C.A.F.	95	2		126	263	R.C.A.F. (U.S.A.A.)	2	-		1	-	R.A.F.	6	-		50	7	AUS.	-	-		-	-	W.A.A.F.	-	-		-	4		103	2		177	274		
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