

From:- Headquarters, No.6 (RCAF) Group.

To:- O.C. No.424 Squadron.

Date:- 19th March, 1945.

S E C R E T . .

Ref:- 6G/S.3055/424/Hist.

Operations Record Book - 424 Squadron - February/45.

Your February O.R.B. has been checked and the following points are brought to your attention for correction and clarification.

- 1 Feb. 1. F.540 states 7 a/c were detailed but F.541 and Group detail 8.
- 2/3 Feb. 1. F.540 states 6 a/c took off but F.541 and Group list 7.
- 15/16 Feb. 1. ME.456 - mined at 2105 hrs. Is this correct? The other a/c mined at 2138 hrs.
- 20/21 Feb. 1. Correct narrative for a/c ME.456 "K" is required for F.541.
2. It is requested, please, that your reply be sent in five copies.

[Signature]
F/L for
(R.P. KLOMBLES) Flight Lieutenant,
For Senior Air Staff Officer,
No.6 (R.C.A.F.) Group.
ROYAL AIR FORCE.

RAF Form 540

See instructions to use of this form in KR and A.C.I.
para 259 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and
notes in RAF Pocket Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

8253

Page No. 008

No. of pages used for day ELEVEN

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON -ON-SWALE	1.2.45.		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy with light rain in afternoon. Visibility good to moderate.</p> <p>WINDS: Fresh S.W.'ly becoming light variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was called upon to give 7 aircraft for operations today. The crews were briefed and all A/C took off for a very successful mission to LUNDTGSHAVEN. All our A/C returned successfully.</p> <p>TRAINING: Conversion to Lancaster 1 A/C is continuing in "H" Flight.</p> <p>GENERAL: The funeral of CAN.C.988 W/O E.M. Williams A.P.C. was held today in Harrogate. There was a large representation from the Squadron.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational - Day- Nil; Night- 55 hrs. 32 mins. Non-Operational - Day- 1 hr.50 mins. Night- Nil.</p>		A.1780-A.1787
DO	2.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy with rain during half of day. Visibility moderate in rain, good otherwise.</p> <p>WINDS: Variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was required for Operations today. 6 A/C took off for WIESENHAGEN and all returned safely from a good trip.</p> <p>TRAINING: Lectures were held this morning for the Aircrew. This afternoon a flying programme was laid on for conversion in "H" Flight.</p> <p>GENERAL: Arrangements are being made to re-decorate the offices of the Wing Commander and Adjutant.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational- Day- Nil; Night - 47 hrs. 56 mins. Non-Operational - Day- 4 hrs.06 mins. Night- Nil.</p>		A.1788-A.1794
DO	3.2.45.		<p>WEATHER: Fine becoming cloudy with rain. Visibility good becoming poor.</p> <p>WINDS: Fresh N.W.'ly backing to S.E.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was not required for either day or night operations today.</p> <p>TRAINING: Flying training was carried out on Lancaster 1 A/C for the converting crews. Lectures were organized in all Sections.</p> <p>GENERAL: The offices of the Squadron Commander and the Adjutant are now being re-decorated.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational - Nil. Non-Operational- Day- 6 hrs.19 mins. Night- Nil.</p>		
DO	4.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy with rain in early morning; fine in afternoon. Visibility moderate to good except in rain.</p> <p>WINDS: Variable but strong W'ly in afternoon.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was required for operations today. 8 A/C were briefed and took off successfully. From the mission to BORN all our A/C returned safely.</p> <p>TRAINING: A large flying training programme was carried out today with Lancaster Aircraft.</p> <p>GENERAL: Two cartons of chewing gum arrived from the Squadron personnel today.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational- Day- Nil; Night- 51 hrs.04 mins. Non-Operational- Day- 20 hrs.22 mins. Night- 4 hrs.04 mins.</p>		A.1795-A.A.1802

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	5.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Fair with occasional rain or showers; Visibility moderate to good.</p> <p><u>WINDS:</u> Wind S.E.'ly becoming S.W.'ly.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was required to give 7 A/C for operations today. All preparations were made and the briefing carried out but the operation was cancelled at a late hour.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> Flying training was carried out today with "B" Flight still converting and "A" Flight doing normal training work.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> Re-decoration of the offices of the Squadron Commander and Adjutant is now complete. An exchange is being made to provide more office space for the Adjutant.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational- Nil Non-Operational- 7 hrs.07 mins. Day; Night 4 hrs.04 mins.</p>		
DO	6.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Cloudy with rain in afternoon and evening. Visibility good becoming poor.</p> <p><u>WINDS:</u> Wind Fresh S.W.'ly becoming S.E.'ly.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was not required today for either day or night operations.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> Owing to the weather no flying training was carried out. However lectures were organized in all sections to further the conversion programme.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> CAN. J.41115 P/O W.D. Lighthall and Crew reported to the Squadron for operational duties today.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> No flying today.</p>		
DO	7.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Fair to cloudy with occasional showers. Visibility poor becoming good.</p> <p><u>WINDS:</u> Fresh S.E.'ly becoming S.W.'ly.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was detailed to give 8 A/C for operations today. The crews were briefed and the times set back several times. However, all A/C took off for an Army co-operation mission to GOOCH. Disappointing effort as Master Bomber called bombing off early in raid. All our A/C returned safely.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> A conversion flying training programme was carried out.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> Notification came through today of the promotion of CAN. J.27679 P/O S.D. Sanders and CAN.J.87424 P/O C.S. Walker DFC to the Acting rank of Flight Lieutenant.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational- Day; Night- 49 hrs.15 mins. Non-Operational - Day-6 hrs.21 mins; Night- 13 hrs. 19 mins.</p>		A.1805-A.1810.
DO	8.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Cloudy with rain in evening, visibility moderate to poor.</p> <p><u>WINDS:</u> Light S.E.'ly.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was required to give 8 A/C for operations. After briefing had been carried out the target was changed and after further delay, at a late hour the operation was cancelled.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> A round table discussion was held today concerning training in all Sections. Ground lectures were organized but no A/C flown flew owing to adverse weather.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> CAN.J.20167 P/L G.L. Coutts DFC from R.C.A.F. Station Dalmen and former member of this Squadron paid a liaison visit to the Bombing Section today.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> No Flying today.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	9.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Fair becoming cloudy with rain late in day. Visibility good except in rain.</p> <p>WINDS: Fresh S.E.'ly becoming S.E.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was notified to give 8 A/C for operations this morning but shortly after noon the operation was cancelled.</p> <p>TRAINING: With good weather today a large flying training program was carried out.</p> <p>GENERAL: The Base Public Relations Officer paid the Squadron a visit today and his photographer took advantage of the sunshine to clean up a backlog of newsworthy photographs.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational - Nil.</p> <p>Non-Operational - Day-33 hrs. 30 mins. Night - Nil.</p>		
DO	10.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Occasional showers. visibility good.</p> <p>WINDS: Variable.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: 8 A/C were required for operations today but the operation was cancelled during the afternoon.</p> <p>TRAINING: Some flying training was carried out today, consisting of a X- Country and practice bombing exercises.</p> <p>GENERAL: A general clean-up around the Squadron was held today.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational-Nil Non-Operational- Day-7 hrs 12 mins. Night- Nil.</p>		
DO	11.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy with snow in afternoon. Visibility moderate becoming foggy at night.</p> <p>WINDS: Light S.E.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was required for operations today. The battle order was as for yesterday and tactics called for a very late take-off. Late in the afternoon, however, the operation was cancelled.</p> <p>TRAINING: A lecture on special duties was given by S/L Brandon from 100 Group to all Squadron Aircrew. A small amount of flying training was carried out during the morning.</p> <p>GENERAL: The Squadron Commander held commissioning interviews today. A contingent of the A.T.C. visited the Squadron today and they were all given Night Vision Training.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational-Nil; Non-Operational- Day-Nil, Night- 34 mins.</p>		
DO	22.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy with fog until evening and rain from early morning. Visibility. poor becoming moderate in evening.</p> <p>WINDS: Light to Fresh S.E.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was not required for either day or night operations.</p> <p>TRAINING: Lieut. Commander Connell, No. 6 Group Naval Liaison Officer, gave a lecture on Mining to all Aircrew. Major Nicholson, No.6 Group Plak Expert, gave a lecture on tactics. No flying training was carried out owing to bad weather.</p> <p>GENERAL: After being warned that the Squadron would not be required for operations, all Sections devoted a large amount of time during the day to bringing various Squadron matters up to date. Commissioning interviews were held and the Base Commander saw some of our Aircrew with respect to commissioning.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: No flying today.</p>		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	13.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Fair to fine except for a period with cloud and rain in early morning. Visibility moderate to good.</p> <p>WINDS: Fresh S.W.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: Notification was received this morning that 7 A/C were required for operations today. All preparations were made and the A/C took off at a late hour. A very long and tiring trip was experienced by the crews who bombed DESSENEN but all our A/C returned safely and a very good bombing effort was reported.</p> <p>TRAINING: A flying programme was carried out today, consisting of H2S Bombing, Fighter Affiliation and Practice Bombing Flights.</p> <p>GENERAL: The Public Relations Department interviewed the new Squadron Adjutant, CAN.C.12615 Flight Lieutenant H.R. Jarmay, and photographs were taken of him and other members of the Squadron.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational - Night - 68 hrs. 04 mins. Non-Op. Day - 2 hrs 15 mins. Night - 3.20 Hrs.</p>		A.1811-A.1817
DO	14.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy, visibility good.</p> <p>WINDS: Fresh S.W.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was called upon again today and gave 4 crews for bombing and 5 for mining. All A/C took off for both operations. From the bombing of SLESBITZ all our A/C returned safely but CAN. J. 13051 F/L P.C. Aldworth and crew failed to return from the mining operation to POMERANIA BAY.</p> <p>TRAINING: Some flying training was carried out today and lectures were held in all the sections.</p> <p>GENERAL: The loss of CAN. J. 13051 F/L P.C. Aldworth, the Deputy "B" Flight Commander, is much felt by all the Squadron as he was a very popular member of the Squadron.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational - Night - 63 hrs. 18 mins. Non-Operational - Day - 2 hrs 15 mins. Night - 3 hrs. 25 mins</p>		A.1818-A.1821 A.1822-A.1826
DO	15.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Fair to fine. Visibility moderate to poor.</p> <p>WINDS: Light S.E.'ly or calm.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: 3 A/C were required for operations today from the Squadron for minelaying. All A/C took off mission which was MINING in OSLO HARBOUR. All A/C returned safely to a diversion base.</p> <p>TRAINING: Two A/C carried out X-Country Exercises and a large link training programme was carried out.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational - Night - 19 hrs. 44 mins. Non-Operational - Day - 8 hrs 30 mins. Night. - Nil.</p>		A.1827-A.1829.
DO	16.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy with poor visibility, reaching fog levels after dusk.</p> <p>WINDS: Light S.E.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was not required either for day or night operations.</p> <p>TRAINING: During the morning ground lectures were organized and the Link Trainer was busy.</p> <p>GENERAL: At noon to-day the Squadron was given a stand down until 23.59 hrs.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational - Nil Non-Operational - Nil.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE.	17.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Cloudy with much fog all day.</p> <p><u>WIND:</u> S.E.'ly.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was not required for either day or night operations today.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> S/L Stephens from Group Headquarters gave all Aircrew on the Squadron a lecture on tactics this afternoon. The whole Squadron carried out crew drills today.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> Cdn. J. 87424 P/L J.J. Stalberger DFC and his crew was soreased today from operations. The three mining crews who sent to OSLO on the 15th returned with their A/C to the unit today.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational- Nil. Non-Operational-Day-2hrs.27 mins. Night-Nil.</p>		
DO	18.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Cloudy with poor visibility becoming fair with moderate visibility.</p> <p><u>WIND:</u> S.E.'ly becoming generally W'ly.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was required to give three aircraft for a mining operation. The A/C all took off successfully and mined at KATTEGAT. All our crews returned safely.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> A flying training programme was carried out today.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> The Assistant Editor of the proposed Squadron Journal "Tiger Rag" has been collecting entries from all Sections. It is proposed to publish "Tiger Rag" once a week and divide it in editorials under "Sense and Nonsense".</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational- Night- 28 hrs. 39 mins. Non-Operational-Day-23 hrs. 19 mins. Night-Nil.</p>		A.1830-A.1832
DO	19.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Fair to fine becoming cloudy. Moderate visibility becoming poor.</p> <p><u>WIND:</u> Light S.E.'ly wind.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was not required for either day or night operations.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> No flying training was done today but in the morning all Pilots did plotting with their Navigators. An engine handling lecture was given by RAF.54255 P/L L.R. Tomkins, Squadron Engineer Leader, in the afternoon. Gunners did Night Vision and Navigators, Dry Swims in the afternoon.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> A large consignment of cigarettes arrived from the City of Hamilton Chamber of Commerce today. The Station Medical Officer gave a lecture to all Aircrew on V.D. and a film was shown.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> No Flying Today.</p>		
DO	20.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Fair to cloudy with slight rain early morning. Moderate visibility becoming good.</p> <p><u>WIND:</u> S.E.'ly wind veering W'ly.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was debriefed to give 14 A/C for operations today. Briefing was carried out and all crews took off for a successful raid on DOWMUND. There was considerable fighter activity and moderate to light flak. From this operation Cdn. U.199230 P/3 COZENS, W.J. and crew failed to return.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> Flying training was carried out with one crew on a X-Country and details of bombing and fighter affiliation flights.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> Cdn. J. 27644 P/L H.P. TAYLOR and crew picked up our A/C "B" PR.897 from R.A.F. Station, Harrington.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational- Night- 88 hrs. 54 mins. Non-Operational-Day- 3 hrs. 47 mins. Night- 9 hrs. 48 mins.</p>		A.1835-A.1846

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON -ON-SWALE.	21.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Fair to fine becoming cloudy, during day. Much haze.</p> <p><u>WINDS:</u> Light S.W.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was detailed to give 15 crews for operations tonight. After several alterations all A/C took off at a late hour for a <u>BOMBING</u> operation against DUISBURG. The raid was reported as being good and in spite of considerable fighter activity all our A/C returned safely.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> Due to extensive requirements for operations training was of necessity curtailed.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> Air Commodore Moberley and Wing Commander Smith visited the Squadron from No. 6 (P.C.A.F.) Group Headquarters, today. Word was received by telephone from Group Headquarters that CAN. U. 199230 P/S. Cosens, W.J. (Pilot), CAN. J. 40914 P/O G.D. Koe (Navigator), and CAN. J. 36232 P/O H. Rubenstein (Air Bomber), all members of the crew reported as missing on the DUISBURG raid on the night of February 20/21st are safe in Allied hands.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational- Night- 100 hrs. 03 mins. Non-Operational- Nil.</p>		A.1847-A.1861
DO	22.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Cloudy with periods of slight drizzle. Moderate to good visibility.</p> <p><u>WINDS:</u> Light variable.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was not required for day or night operations.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> A small amount of flying training was carried out today. Gunners did night vision and a small link trainer programme was carried out.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> CAN. C. 1205 W/C C.S.W. Marshall, the Squadron Commander, proceeded on leave and CAN. A. 4428 S/L. W.G. Anderson "A" Flight Commander, has assumed command in his absence.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational- Nil. Non-Operational- Day- Nil, Night- 2 hrs. 32 mins.</p>		
DO	23.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Cloudy becoming fair to fine. Period of rain early morning. Good visibility.</p> <p><u>WINDS:</u> N.W. 14y.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was required to give 6 A/C for operations today. After a change in briefing times all A/C took off and returned safely from a <u>MINING</u> trip to FERNBERGSTEADT.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> A fairly extensive training programme was carried out with D) country. Fighter affiliation and bombing exercises. Gunners did night vision and some link work.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> Additional news was received that CAN. A. 278536 Sergeant Rhodes, S.F. Rear Gunner of the crew of CAN. U. 199230 P/S Cosens, W.J. which was reported as missing on the night of February 20/21st is safe in Allied hands.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational- Night- 42 hrs. 45 mins. Non-Operational- Day- Nil, Night- 1 hrs. 01 mins.</p>		A.1862-A.1867
DO	24.2.45		<p><u>WEATHER:</u> Fine becoming fair to cloudy. Good visibility.</p> <p><u>WINDS:</u> Fresh to strong, W. 14y.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS:</u> The Squadron was detailed to give two A/C for a Sea Search. They took off at noon and after an intensive search returned to base reporting no sightings.</p> <p>5 A/C were detailed for a <u>MINING</u> operation tonight. All took off successfully but one A/C returned early due to intercom trouble. The remaining 4 crews dropped their mines at BREXID and returned safely.</p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u> A large fighter affiliation programme was carried out and air to sea firing and practice bombing was done by both flights.</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational- Night- 30 hrs. 44 mins. Non-Operational- Day- Nil, Night 18 hrs. 24 mins.</p>		A.1868-A.1869 A.1870-A.1874

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No. of pages used for x-ray

MONTH FEBRUARY

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	25.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Fair to cloudy. Slight period of rain during day. Good visibility.</p> <p>WINDS: Fresh S.W.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: Two A/C were detailed for a sea search early this morning and took off successfully. Both A/C made sightings and the necessary wireless action was taken. The Squadron was not called upon for operations to-day.</p> <p>TRAINING: Both Flights did X-Country's and in addition there were air to sea and bombing exercises.</p> <p>GENERAL: CAN.J.19075 P/O SKENE, E.A. and Crew reported from 1666 Conversion Unit for Operational duties with the Squadron.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational- Nil. Non-Operational- Day- 13 hrs. 28 mins. Night- Nil.</p>		A.1875-A.1876
DO	26.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Fair to cloudy. Slight period of rain during day. Good visibility.</p> <p>WINDS: Fresh S.W.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron mining crews were required to have five crews standing by for a mining operation. The A/C were mined-up but the operation did not take place.</p> <p>TRAINING: Hqs, Cross Countries, bombing and Fighter Affiliation Flights were carried out during the afternoon. Wet dinghy drills were held in Ripon for three of our crews.</p> <p>GENERAL: CAN.U.199230 P/S COZENS, W.J. (Pilot), CAN.J.40914 P/O G.D. Kee (Navigator), CAN.J.36232 P/O H. Rubenstein (Air Bomber) and CAN.R.278536 Sergeant Rhodes, E.J. (Air Gunner). All members of the crew reported missing on the night of February 20/21st, and then later reported safe in Allied hands, rejoined the Squadron today after having been transported from the Continent by Dakota aircraft. There is no word on the remainder of the crew.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational- Nil. Non-Operational- Day- 31 hrs. 31 mins. Night- Nil.</p>		
DO	27.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Cloudy becoming fair, slight shower in afternoon. Good visibility.</p> <p>WINDS: S.W.'ly.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron mining crews who were standing by were stood down today when the operation was cancelled. However the mines were left on the A/C. 10 A/C were required for bombing and an early briefing was effected. After an alteration in times all the crews took off shortly after noon. All our A/C returned safely from this daylight BOMBING attack on MAINS.</p> <p>TRAINING: No flying training was carried out but the Skeet Range was in use by the Gunners and the Sections held lectures.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational - Day- 68 hrs. 24 mins. Non-Operational. Nil.</p>		A.1877-A.1886
DO	28.2.45		<p>WEATHER: Mainly fair, good visibility.</p> <p>WINDS: S.W.'ly becoming fresh late evening.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: The Squadron was not required for operations today but was warned for an early call tomorrow morning. The Battle Order for 9 crews was made out and approximate briefing times were set.</p> <p>TRAINING: A large number of Gunners were on the Skeet Range today. A Group Signals Exercise was held in the Signals Section.</p> <p>GENERAL: CAN.J.92101 P/O J.W. Emerson and Crew reported from 1666 C.U. for operational duties with this Squadron.</p> <p>FLYING TIMES: Operational- Nil. Non-Operational- Day- 3 hrs. 33 mins. Night- Nil.</p>		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	26.2.45		<p><u>SUMMARY:</u></p> <p><u>CASUALTIES - MISSING CREWS</u></p> <p>P. J.19051 P/L ALDORTH, P.O. N. H.39761 P/O HENRY, B.P. B/A R.190791 SGT. MILLER, J.A. W/C R.203359 SGT. GUMMER, G.S. P/E 1272740 SGT. DAVIS, L.P. M/G R.244893 SGT. SMITH, V.B. A/G R.253156 SGT. McBRIDE, K. (NIGHT 14/15th FEB. 1945.)</p> <p><u>CASUALTIES - KILLED OR INURED - NIL.</u></p> <p><u>POSTING IN - CREWS.</u></p> <p>EFF. DATE 6.2.45. P. CAN. J.41115 P/O LIGHTHALL, W.D. N. CAN. R.202904 P/S LAUT, G.W. B/A CAN. R.203153 P/S DAVIES, P.W. W/C R.2592557 SGT. YANAI, P. P/E CAN. R.196417 SGT. HELLAM, J.A. M/G CAN. R.266823 SGT. ALLAN, J.W. A/G CAN. R.266866 SGT. HELLAM, M.D.</p> <p>EFF. DATE 26.2.45. P. CAN. J.41166 P/O POLEY, T.L. N. CAN. J.40915 P/O ROBINSON, D.W.B. B/A CAN. J.39910 P/O STANDFIELD, D.A. W/C CAN. J.43759 P/O LAWRENCE, T.S. P/E CAN. R.105664 SGT. KLEM, J. M/G CAN. R.274046 SGT. ROSU, S. A/G CAN. R.263269 SGT. BEAMAN, K.P.</p> <p>EFF. DATE 27.2.45. P. CAN. J.92101 P/O ROBINSON, J.W. N. CAN. J.41645 P/O HUGHES, G. B/A CAN. J.42757 P/O MOORE, D.A.G. W/C CAN. R.189162 P/S WILLIAMS, E.D. P/E CAN. R.122689 SGT. MANNEY, J.W. M/G CAN. R.280354 SGT. MOSE, D.P. A/G CAN. R.259958 SGT. HEDDER, C.N.</p> <p><u>POSTING IN - MISCELLANEOUS PERSONNEL.</u></p> <p><u>OFFICERS</u> R.C.A.F. A/G CAN. J. 17324 P/O D.H. BUTLER. (From 433 Sqdn. w.e.f. 18.2.45.) R.A.F. NIL.</p> <p><u>AIRSEN.</u> R.C.A.F. A/S CAN. R. 67205 P/S HAREBELL, A.R. (From 76 Base w.e.f. 2.2.45.) A/S CAN. R.136324 P/S CHOQUETTE, J.M. (From 76 Base w.e.f. 27.2.45.) W/C CAN. R.136324 W/O BOROY, P.J. (From 76. Base w.e.f. 10.2.45.) R.A.F. NIL.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events		SECRET	References to Appendices
SKIPTON-ON-WHALE	28.2.45		POSTING OUT			
			OFFICERS - R.C.A.F.			
			CAN.J.35048	P/O J.J. PEACH	To Depot	W.O.C. 16.1.45
			CAN.J.89751	P/O G.L. DAVIDSON	" "	" "
			CAN.J.85309	P/O J.A. RICHARDSON	" "	" "
			CAN.J.88973	P/O R.G. DONALD	" "	" "
			CAN.J.90138	P/O C.D. CUTHBERT	" "	" "
			CAN.J.89257	P/O A.A.S. PLATO	" "	" "
			CAN.J.89359	P/O F.B. PITCHER	" "	" "
			CAN.J.89342	P/O J.W. MORRIS	" "	" "
			CAN.J.86959	P/O R.G. BURNS	" "	" "
			CAN.J.88553	A/P/O J.P.B. LANG	" "	" "
			CAN.J.89325	P/O A.L. KRITCHMAN	" "	" "
			CAN.J.92427	P/O A.L. COLQUHOUN	" "	" "
			CAN.J.86960	P/O J.G. VIGGS	" "	" "
			CAN.J.88787	P/O N.A. WINDER	" "	" "
			CAN.J.29980	P/O G. PAPPAS	" "	23.1.45
			CAN.J.29698	P/O P. KUCH	" "	23.1.45
			CAN.J.86925	P/O G.B. HAWTHORN	" "	1.2.45
			CAN.J.86492	P/O D.G. CHANCE	" "	1.2.45
			CAN.J.29854	P/O J.D. MYERS	" "	" "
			CAN.J.92320	P/O K.T. DICK	" "	" "
			CAN.J.90608	P/O C.B. SIMMONSON	" "	" "
			CAN.J.89634	P/O B.D. CLECKE	" "	" "
			CAN.J.89348	P/O D.R. PARLISON	" "	" "
			CAN.J.27308	P/O I.O. MOSSEVER	" "	" "
			CAN.J.27388	P/O W.R. KIDGELL	" "	" "
			CAN.J.89015	P/O W.B. LEBBY	" "	1.2.45
			CAN.J.90536	P/O C.B. CRIPPLE	" "	" "
			CAN.J.90833	P/O A.M. UNTERWATER	" "	" "
			CAN.J.40097	P/O P. DENNY	" "	" "
			CAN.J.28546	P/O G.H. MURDO	" "	5.2.45
			CAN.J.90106	P/O D.E. HENNESSY	" "	16.2.45
			CAN.J.3760	P/L A.P. FAWLEY	" "	19.2.45
			CAN.J.19176	P/O W.E.C. MORRIS	415 SQUADRON	2.2.45
			CAN.J.14887	P/L W.R. GATWAY	62 BASE	1.2.45
			CAN.J.27003	P/L C.D. MOIR	405 SQUADRON	10.2.45
			CAN.J.37922	P/O L.B. GROSSMAN	" "	" "
			CAN.J.37182	P/O R.S. BIRCHON	24 C.T.U.	15.2.45
			CAN.J.89250	P/O J.A.V. DIXON	1666 C.U.	20.2.45
			CAN.C.92374	P/O J.B. LAWRIE	1664 C.U.	21.2.45
			CAN.J.25937	P/O L.W. WHITE	RAF O/S H.Q.	10.2.45
			CAN.J.15154	P/L H.W. SMITH	" "	24.2.45
			CAN.C.7279	P/L R.M. HOWARD (ADMIN)	62 BASE	30.1.45

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events		SECRET.	References to Appendix
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	28.2.45		<u>POSTING OUT</u>			
			<u>OFFICERS - R.A.F.</u>			
			R.A.F. 187474	P/O L. CADDALL	To 1664 C.U.	W.o.F. 21.2.45
			R.A.F. 184743	P/O D.W. SMITH	A.C.A.C.	26.2.45
			R.A.F. 55723	P/O G.W. PRESTON	" "	" "
			<u>POSTING OUT</u>			
			<u>AIRCREW - R.C.A.F.</u>			
			CAN.R.196021	W/O STEWART, J.L.	"R" DEPOT	16.1.45
			CAN.R.165673	W/O DAVIES, L.G.	" "	" "
			CAN.R.183400	W/O DUFFESSIE, L.A.	" "	1.2.45
			CAN.R.210909	P/S PRICES, A.H.	" "	" "
			CAN.R.165033	P/S MACLEOD, D.M.	" "	9.2.45
			CAN.R.252127	P/S MACDONALD, G.H.	" "	12.2.45
			CAN.R.212940	P/S RICHIE, H.W.	" "	" "
			CAN.R.183213	P/S BAKER, J.D.	433 SQUADRON	6.2.45
			CAN.R.205167	P/S BAKER, R.V.	405 SQUADRON	10.2.45
			CAN.R.218446	P/S SHILLINGBROOK, W.J.	" "	" "
			CAN.R.201124	P/S BAKER, L.J.	" "	" "
			CAN.R.113066	P/S DELONG, C.A.	" "	" "
			CAN.R.113066	Sgt KERR, K.	" "	" "
			<u>AIRCREW - R.A.F.</u>			
			NIL			
			<u>PROMOTIONS & OFFICERS</u>			
			CAN.J.87605	P/O F.C. PEARSON	PROMOTED TO RANK OF A/P/L	W.o.F. 12.11.44
			CAN.J.86756	P/O W.W. ARMSTRONG	PROMOTED TO RANK OF T/P/D	W.o.F. 28.11.44
			CAN.J.27679	P/O S.D. SANDERS	PROMOTED TO RANK OF A/P/L	W.o.F. 18.1.45
			CAN.J.87424	P/O C.S. WALKER DFC	PROMOTED TO RANK OF A/P/L	W.o.F. 18.1.45
			RAS.54265	P/O L.H. TOMKINS	PROMOTED TO RANK OF A/P/L	W.o.F. 2.1.45
			<u>COMMISSIONS</u> - During the month the following Airman Aircrew were commissioned.			
			Airman No.	Rank	Name	Officer No.
			1166900	W/O	McALONEY, W.	J.93525
			1592439	Sgt	CATHORNE, G.A.	120750
			1591196	Sgt	ROTHWELL, J.	190746
			<u>HONOURS AND AWARDS</u>			
			<u>IMMEDIATE D.F.C.'S</u> - Authority H.Q. Bomber Command Pgm. HQ/S.23191/P. d. 27.2.45			
			CAN.J.4428 S/L W.C. ANDERSON			
			CAN.J.17061 P/L C.F. LINDEN DEM			
			<u>NON-IMMEDIATE D.F.C.</u> - Authority H.Q. Bomber Command Pgm. HQ/S.23191/P. d. 14.2.45			
			CAN.J.21359 P/O G.R. PRICE			

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. SEVENof (Unit or Formation) 424 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRONNo. of pages used for MONTH SEVEN DAY

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices																														
SKIPTON-ON-SWALE	28.2.45		<p><u>CHANGES IN COMMAND - NIL</u> <u>CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATION - NIL</u> <u>AIRCRAFT ON STRENGTH</u> Operational A/C Lancaster Mk. I. - 21 Non-Operational A/C Halifax Mk. III - 1</p> <p><u>FLYING TIMES:</u> Operational Day 68.24 hrs. Night 635.58 hrs. Operational Training Day 236.00 hrs. Night 58.36 hrs. Other Flying Day 16.34 hrs. Night Nil.</p> <p><u>NUMBER OF OPERATIONAL SORTIES:</u> 107</p> <p><u>BOMBS DROPPED AND MINES LAID</u> (Tons 2,240 lbs.) To 31.1.45 H.E. Incend. Mines 131 36.5 26.7 During February, 1945. 130.7 36.5 26.3 TOTAL for 1945. 169.7 73.0 53.0</p> <p><u>STRENGTH</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>OFFICERS</u></th> <th><u>AIRCRAFT</u></th> <th><u>GROUND CREW</u></th> <th><u>ARMY</u></th> <th><u>AIR CREW</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F.</td> <td>96</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F. (U.S.A.)</td> <td>6</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.A.F.</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>TOTAL</u></td> <td>102</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>117</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>NUMBER OF COMBATS WITH ENEMY AIRCRAFT</u> No. of Combats No Claim Dest. Prob. Damaged 7 (SEE APPENDICES 30 to 36 INCL.)</p> <p><u>COMMANDING OFFICER'S RESUME</u> February saw the Squadron fully operational on Lancasters. Both flights were fully operational and were able to meet their "Berly" figures for the month. During operations for February, the Squadron lost two crews of which one was on a mining operation. One of these crews bailed out over the front lines, and the Skipper, P/S Cozens, crash-landed just inside our lines. Three of the crew are still missing. The Squadron is proud again of its no accident record for February. There was not even a piece of paint scratched on an aircraft. The Squadron took part in 1 day bombing, 8 night bombing, 5 mining operations and 2 sea searches putting in a total of 107 sorties of which 104 were primaries. We flew 704 operational hours and 295 training hours. The Squadron worked hard for each hour put in particularly as the ground crews were still new on the aircraft and had to learn as they worked. The Sections again were all working well during the month. Navigation has slipped a bit re timing. There were no non-starters for the month - a real good show. The Squadron on the whole is working very well and everybody is keen to get the war over with.</p>		<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>AIRCRAFT</u>	<u>GROUND CREW</u>	<u>ARMY</u>	<u>AIR CREW</u>	R.C.A.F.	96	1	-	-	93	R.C.A.F. (U.S.A.)	6	-	-	-	24	R.A.F.	-	-	-	-	-	<u>TOTAL</u>	102	1	-	-	117		
	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>AIRCRAFT</u>	<u>GROUND CREW</u>	<u>ARMY</u>	<u>AIR CREW</u>																														
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<p><u>INDEX TO APPENDICES</u> Form 541 - 15 Battle Orders - 16 to 29 Incl. Combat Reports - 30 to 36 Incl.</p>			<p><i>W. Marshall</i> WING COMMANDER, COMMANDING NO. 424 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON.</p>																																