

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

(Unit or Formation) 431 R.G.A.F. SQUADRON

522-1-431
PA5Page No. 36
8372

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
B U R N.	May, 1st.		Weather was clear but cool and windy. Six crews were briefed for GARDENING at ST. NAZAIRE. All drove successfully planned Taps in the target area. The garden was located in the conditions of excellent visibility after visual pinpoint on LA GARDINER and adjacent Islands. Very little flak was encountered. Two aircrafts were written off in the garden area, but there were no casualties. All a/c landed safely at CHIVILLE except a/c "T" which landed at POMERIAC and had a taping accident on landing. S/L. Fairhurst performed the opening ceremony for the Wings for Victory at MIRAMONT.		F541 page 1/2
B U R N.	May, 2nd.		Weather was good clear and cold with some wind. Ten crews were briefed for operations but sorties were cancelled at 20:00 hours. In the evening a variety entertainment was given by the "Wings Range", from BRADFORD. At the conclusion of the performance W.O. Coverdale took the opportunity of publicly thanking F/Ls. H.G. Webb for his help in arranging the stage and installing the really first class lighting effects.		522-1-431 PA5 S/L. Headquarters JUN 5 1943 MIRAMONT FESTIVAL REGATTA
B U R N.	May, 3rd.		F/Ls. H.G. Webb, left the Squadron on posting to Bomber Command Headquarters. F/L. Webb had been with the squadron since its formation on November 11th, 1942, and did a lot of valuable work in getting things organized. His services will be missed. F/L. C. E. Higgins assumes the duties of Adjutant. F/Sgt. Hayes gave a lunch hour talk to factory workers for Wings for Victory at MIRAMONT.		
B U R N.	May, 4th.		Twelve crews were briefed for a bombing raid on DOUAIIRD carrying 2 x 300 lbs. 270 x 4 lbs. 32 x 20 lbs. and one 4000 lb. B/L. Aircraft "T" off. Weather was cancelled at take off as engine cut. Eleven a/c took off at 2230 hours. a/c "D" Sgt. Bryant, R.J. Chapman, Pilot Officer J. D. COOK, S/L. Jeffries, as he was unable to maintain height at the appointed time. A. Aircraft "D" Sgt. Bryant, R.J. Chapman mission at 21,000 ft. 3200 lbs. as still spotters developed during flight, both aircrafts brought bombs back to base. 9 a/c attacked the target successfully from heights of 14,000-15,000'. All reported good visibility, and that concentrated fire and two large explosions were seen in the target area. Four a/c landed very fast due to weather conditions at the home airfields. Sgt. Jeffries gave a lunch hour talk to factory workers at WAKEFIELD in connection with Wings for Victory.		F-SH page 1/2
B U R N.	May, 5th.		No operations were called for. Alvarez attended lecture in the afternoon and had a crew party at the House and Joiner in the evening. Weather was foggy in the early morning, clear at noon becoming cloudy in the afternoon and evening. P/O. Gorton left the Squadron on posting. P/A. Chick, (RAF) gave a lunch hour talk to factory workers at WAKEFIELD in connection with Wings for Victory.		
B U R N.	May, 6th.		No operations were called for. Alvarez attended a film showing in the morning followed by a lecture. In the afternoon they attended the "Sally Batts" for swimming instructions. A successful dance was held in the Sally Batts in the evening, many VISITORS attended from Shipton. P/O. Long spoke at a Wings for Victory ceremony at ALBEMARLE. Sgt. D'vre also spoke to factory workers at WAKEFIELD in connection with Wings for Victory.		
B U R N.	May, 7th		Six crews were briefed for operations but the sorties were cancelled before take off. Weather was fine in the morning deteriorating to heavy rain and overcast at night. Lt. Banks spoke to factory workers at WAKEFIELD on behalf of Wings for Victory.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
B.U.R.N.s	May, 8th.		No operations were called. Crews were lectured and given fundamentals practice with safety equipment. Weather was strong with heavy rain showers. W/C. Gossdale and P/O. Quilter were engaged with personnel at Wings for Victory assemblies at WADDESD and NIMPHED. An E.M.S.I.A. concert was given in the evening by Waldini and his band in a packed house.		
	May, 9th.		Weather cloudy and stormy with cold, clearing to showers and heavy wind in the afternoon. 12 crews were briefed for operations but the sorties were cancelled owing to bad weather. The "showgirls" gave a good concert in the dining hall in the evening.		
	May, 10th.		Weather was cold and rainy. No crews were called for. Airshows were busy. A mass drill in Dingby practice. S/L. Higgins spoke at airfield in connection with wings for Victory. Mr. L. Shire, Canadian T.M.C.A., visited the station and showed a film in the dining hall and in the officers mess.		
	May, 11th.		Weather was still stormy. 15 crews were briefed for operations, but the trip was cancelled. P/O. Morris, Command Canadian Chaplain visited station. S/L. Povey, R.G.A.F., R.C. visited the station in connection with the compiling of Canadian Historical Records.		
	May, 12th.		12 crews were briefed for bombing raid over DUESBERG. A/c. "P" Pilot Sgt. Sullivan, R.D. & A/c. "Q" pilot S/L. Davis, P. abandoned the mission owing to heavy icing reducing the speed. A/c. "R" pilot S/L. Marshall abandoned mission at 24,000' due to thickness of the rear gunner sig. JOSHUA. A/c. "S" pilot Sgt. Redding abandoned mission at 24,000' due to as they had no means of navigating. The low and "P" was 1/a and slow. There were obscured. The raiding a/c. bombed the target from height of 17,000' to 15,500'. They reported that large explosions were seen to the E.E. of the firing point and extensive fires visible from the Dutch coast. Moonlight activity was considerable, visibility in some, it is believed in conjunction with night fighters. Radar was moderate to intense in E.A. but defences generally not so intense as on the 26/27 April, 1944. Cloud 10/10ths over base improving to clear with good visibility over target area. A/c. "T" Pilot Sgt. Wood, G.H. failed to return from operation. S/L. Gossdale spoke at station at 0800H in connection with "WINGS FOR VICTORY" campaign.		F541 May 14
	May, 13th.		13 crews were briefed for a raid on BOCHUM at 0230 hours. At the last minute a/c. "U" pilot Sgt. Norton, J. was cancelled as trouble developed with the rear turret and aircraft was too late to take off. A/c. "V" pilot Sgt. Hartley, R.T. returned early with both owing to gunner trouble. The aircraft successfully bombed the target from 17,000' to 15,000'. They reported no cloud and got vis. over target area. Numerous fires were seen and also a large explosion. A considerable attack was reported. Defences were many, 8/10 and intense. Flak not very accurately directed. A/c. "W" pilot S/L. Marshall failed to return. This crew is really missed in the Squadron. S/L. Marshall had been with the Squadron since 22nd December, 1942, as O.G. 21st Flight and had done much to get the Squadron organised		FSH page 6

(70000-3300) WL 24052-022A 1200 1254 T.S. 700

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
B U R N.	May, 13th.	0700H	operational. P/O, R.S. Godwin, Navigator was to the Squadron on the 1st, December, 1942, and has always been ready to undertake any duty. He had Argusland for the Flight Commander and the Adjutant, a most dependable officer. The other members of the crew had all been with the Squadron since its formation.		E541 page 15.
	May, 14th.		Squadron stand down. Ground crews were busy getting aircraft serviceable after operations, aircraft were mostly resting after hard night's.		
	May, 15th		Squadron stand down. Group Captain Major addressed aircraft at 16.15 hours and ground crew at 15.30 hours. Weather was fine, clear and warm.		
	May, 16th.		Six a/c were selected for 'Gardening' at 0800H. 1/4 took off at 08.30 hours and all successfully planted veg. at altitude of 7000' to 10000'. Veg. was red, green, white with no cloud. No fighter or A.A. opposition was met. Five aircraft landed at Chipping and one at St. Eval. Other crews were engaged in practising flying. Four crews were engaged in bollitore practice. The Station Concert Party gave a very good show in the concert hall. Several members of the Squadron took part in the party.		E541 page 15.
	May, 17th.		No operations were called for. Crews were engaged in practice flights and formation flying. W/F. Dm., Germany Officer at Group visited the Squadron. Stand to arms was carried out at 16.05 hours.		
	May, 18th.		No operations were called for. Crews were engaged on aircraft and in training. 2 Crews were specially practised in Highy drill. Aircraft were taken for bombing practice in the afternoon. Weather was fine and clear.		
	May, 19th.		Crews were selected for operations. In the morning were cancelled. Four crews took part in a H.V. demonstration and training. Weather was fine and clear.		
	May, 20th.		No operations were called for. Weather was fine, clear and warm. In the afternoon crews were busy on aircraft, and non-mechanic in aircraft were taken for bombing instruction at Golby-Bath.		
	May, 21st.		6 crews were selected for bombing practice and five crews for 'Gardening' practice, but the bombing practice was cancelled. Three crews successfully planted veg. in HEPARDON L from height of 1000' on 08 Pix.		4 ex
			(Contd. overleaf)		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
B U R N	1943 May 22nd (Contd)		Aircraft "P" Pilot Sgt. Macney, L.J. brought his w/g. back to base as both hung up over target. Aircraft "P" Pilot Sgt. DICK L.A. failed to return and was not heard from after take off. Cloud base was at 10000' over whole target area, with considerable sea haze and broken cloud. Night light flak was encountered from 2 Flak ships in the area. There were a few single 4/5 from anti-submarines.		F541 page 16
	May 22nd		No operations were called for. Weather was clear in morning deteriorating to overcast with heavy rain storms in evening and at night. Air crews were busy flight testing a/c and anti-submarine refueling exercises.		
	May 22nd		Fourteen aircraft were detailed to attack JOHNSTON, all aircraft took off at 2230 - 2300 hours and bombed target from 17000 - 18000 ft. All aircraft returned to base with the exception of "P", Pilot S/L. Hall, G.W. This aircraft was landed at GRANVILLE by the bomb aimer S/L Sloane. The aircraft was caused by a light over the target after dropping its bombs and the pilot eventually went into a very steep dive from which he only pulled out with the help of his bomb aimer. He was still held by a light and escaped by flak, so went into another dive. The rear gunner called that the aircraft was hit and on fire. The pilot then "baled out" but the bomb aimer realizing that the rest of the crew had not left the aircraft tried to bring it out of its dive. He managed to do this and finding the aircraft was uncontrollable decided after a hurried conference with the navigator, Sgt. Purcell and the WAG, P/O Bellamy, to attempt to bring the a/c back to base. It was then found that the A.G. Sgt. Vassie had shutdown the a/c apparently on the assumption that the aircraft was empty. A good piece of work by the Air Bomber S/L. Sloane, Navigator Sgt. Purcell and WAG P/O Bellamy.		F541 page 16
	May 22nd		The weather was fine and clear except for haze from flak over target area. Defense flak and a/bomb were encountered but the road is estimated as being generally very successful.		
	May 22nd		No operations were called for. Aircrews were exercises and practiced Bathy Drill. Some silent practice was held in the evening. The Canadian DFAI gave a dinner show in the evening and attracted a good audience.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
B U R N	1943 May, 2nd, (Contd.)		Aircrew's 'P' Pilot Sgt. Blamey, L.R., brought his a/c back to base as both hung up over target. Aircrew's 'P' Pilot Sgt. Ruth R.A. failed to return and was not heard from after take off. Cloud base was at 8000' over whole target area, with considerable sea haze and broken cloud. Night flight was unencumbered from 2 Flak ships in the area. There were a few single a/c from unidentified.		F541 page 16
	May, 22nd,		No operations were called for. Weather was clear in morning deteriorating to overcast with heavy rain storms in evening and at night. Air crews were busy flight testing a/c and making emergency refueling exercises.		
	May, 23rd,		Fourteen aircraft were detailed to attack DARMSTADT, all aircraft took off at 2230 - 2300 hours and bombed target from 17000 - 18000 ft. All aircraft returned to base with the exception of 'P', Pilot F/O, Hall, G.H. This aircraft was leaded at 18000 ft by the bomb aimer P/O Sloane. The aircraft was coded by a/lights over the target after dropping its bombs and the pilot eventually went into a very steep dive from which he only pulled out with the help of his nose aileron. He was still held by a/lights and engaged by flak, so went into another dive. The rear gunner called that the aircraft was hit and on fire. The pilot then "baled out" but the back door was sealing that the rest of the crew had not left. The aircraft tried to bring it out of its dive. He managed to do this and finding the aircraft was uncontrollable decided after a hurried conference with the navigator, Sgt. Purcell and the WAG, P/O Bradley, to attempt to bring the a/c back to base. It was then found that the A.G. Sgt. Wren had checked the a/c apparently on the assumption that the aircraft was empty. A great piece of work by the Air Bomber P/O, Sloane, Navigator Sgt. Purcell and WAG P/O Bradley.		F541 page 16
	May, 24th,		The weather was fine and clear except for haze from flak over target area. Defense flak and a/lights were unencumbered but the raid is estimated as being generally very successful.		
	May, 25th,		No operations were called for. Afternoon menu exercises and practiced BINGY DRILL. Some cricket practice was held in the evening. The Canadian TMA gave a circus show in the evening and attracted a good attendance.		

(7000-9200) WL 1451-2122 1200 1144 T.S. 700

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
B U R N	May, 25th	1943	<p>Fourteen crews were briefed for a bombing raid on HAMBURG. Thirteen aircraft took off at 23.30 hrs. A/c "X" Sgt. Poole was cancelled at the last minute owing to the sickness of the pilot. Twelve aircraft bombed the target from 16000' to 17500' ft and returned safely to base. A/c "G" Pilot Sgt. Barley M. failed to return. The raid was not as successful as the raid on DORTMUND on the 23rd. Bombing appeared to be somewhat scattered owing to the late arrival of R.P. Flak and a/lights were moderate. Weather was 9/10ths cloud over route and T.A. with some breaks over T.A. and clearing on return journey over North Sea.</p> <p>The "Handelstheater". A Canadian Army Concert Party gave a performance to a packed hall. The show was put on early to enable airshow going on "open" to start. The audience proved a most appreciative one. Later the members of the cast witnessed the take off of the 14 aircraft.</p>		F 541 page 17
	May, 26th		Ten crews were briefed for operations but sorties were cancelled. Weather was slightly overcast in day, deteriorating to cloudy with rain at night. Crews not detailed for operations swing compasses and checked aircraft.		
	May, 27th		<p>Nine swimmers of aircrew were taken to Belly Baths for instructions and Dinghy Drill in the morning. Swimmers paraded for swimming and Dinghy Drill in the afternoon. Ten crews were briefed for a bombing raid on KIEL, but this was reduced to six. Six a/c took off and all successfully completed the mission. A 100% effort. A/c bombed from 16000' - 17000' via, was good with 9/10 cloud over target area with good breaks. Four crews reported having seen a large yellow explosion and all crews reported substantial fires. Heavy Flak over T.A. was intense with light flak moderate. A/lights were considerably weakened by cloud conditions. Provided R.P. was correct this raid was considered a good show.</p>		F 541 page 18
	May, 28th		<p>Six aircraft were detailed for "Gardening" at Beecham. Five a/c took off at 1615 hours for advanced bases at Chivenor. All aircraft successfully located their target by "G" Fix and dropped 200 mines each. No opposition was encountered. Low cloud over channel clear over target area, but via, was poor owing to sea mist. Fog were planted from 700'.</p>		F 541 page 19.
			(cont'd. overleaf)		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
B U R N.	May, 29th.	1943.	11 a/c. were detailed for bombing raid over WUPPERTAL. Eleven a/c. took off, and 6 attacked the primary target. Two returned early. A/c. "A" P/O. Valentine, J.A. returned owing to trouble with turret doors. A/c. "D" pilot Sgt. Peble, J.S. dropped bombs at 52.21N 02.21E from 8000', and returned as starboard engine was overheating and oil pressure low. A/c. "B" pilot Sgt. Smith, A.M. failed to return from the operation. 6 a/c attacked from 17000' to 18000'. All crews considered the raid very successful. A very large explosion was seen in the target area at 0115 hrs. Weather was clear on route and over target area, some opposition was encountered over Belgium coast.		F541 pyle 19/20.
	May, 30th.		No calls were made for operations. Arrangements were made for a joint 'Alarm' exercise with local Home Guard Units, but owing to heavy rain this was cancelled by the Home Guards. During the day crews which had landed away from base returned and ground crews were busy checking and doing minor repairs.		
	May, 31st		Six crews were detailed for operations but sorties were cancelled before briefing owing to poor visibility and forecast of bad weather. The Y.M.C.A. gave a cinema show in the Airmans Mess, there was good attendance. Head was received that Sgt. S.M. Silen, Bomber Aimer, who brought a/c. "D" back from DORTMUND had been granted a commission, effective 1st. June.		
PRESENT STRENGTH OF SQUADRON					
Officers GROUNDED.	3 CAN.	Officers AIR.	26 RAF.	2 CAN.	
Senior N.C.O. OFFICERS.	15 R.F.	NO CAN.	AIR. 80 RAF.	1 RCAF. 2 AUS.	
Other ranks.	103 R.A.F.	CAN. 275.			
RAF.	OFFICERS. NIL.	Other ranks. 35.			
TOTALS.	Officers 35. Senior N.C.O's. 122. Other ranks 376.	R.A.F. 35.			
NOTWITHSTANDING A LISTED					
Officers OUT.	R/C. H.A. Norton, #	11A705	60.	Posted to 159 Sqdn. w.e.f. 1st. 5. 43	
				Auth. R.A.F Sig. P.111. dated	
		(contd. page 42.)		2-5-43.	

(P-0085-0200) WL 24021-0212 1200 12/12 T.B. 700

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
<u>BURG</u>	<u>1943</u>		<u>MISSING OFFICERS & AIRCREW (CONT)</u>		
			Officers OUT. P/O H.G. DODDS, 106957 AM20, Dispersed to R.A.F. for O.R. Duties (1/2/43)		
			R.A.F. 5.S.A.L. duty, HQG 10/12/42/1/A/P. Arrived 25.4.43.		
			P/O H.G. DODDS, 106958 00 Period to R.A.F. Smith, major'y. R.A.F. 4.S.A.L. Attached same date to 1146 P.T. Mission in May. For Heavy Training pending posting overseas, duty, HQG 10/2/42/1/A/P. Arrived 30.4.43.		
			S/L T.J. MARSHALL, 30639 00 Missing from operations against the enemy night of 11/12th May, 1943 BOGOM.		
			S/L T.J. MARSHALL, 30639 00 Missing from operations against the enemy night of 21/22th May, 1943 BOGOM.		
			S/L D.S. GOODFELLOW, 305713 00 Missing from operations against the enemy night of 13/14th May, 1943 BOGOM.		
			S/L T.J. MARSHALL, 306360 00 Missing from operations against the enemy night of 13/14th May, 1943 BOGOM.		
			(cont. on reverse)		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
1943 B.U.B.B. Bay, Italy			POSTDAYS OFFICERS & AIRCREW (CONT'D)		
			Officers ONE, P/O D. Cawley, 127277 GD Missing from operations against the enemy night of 23/24th May, 1943 BOMBER		
			P/O A. G. Hartman, 128727 GD Missing from operations against the enemy night of 25/26th May, 1943 BOMBER		
			***** Officers TWO, P/O R. A. Ferguson Wright, 09002 GD Posted from 1502 Day Flight, (A/V/R) Infield March 17.5.43, for Flying Duties. P/O went acting rank to P/O reference. Authority, HQAG Sig. RAGS dated 26.5.43.		
			P/O H. V. J. Johnson, 32653 GD 2000hrs from 22 OTU w.e.f. 20.5.43. P/O G. O. Gandy, 129530 GD Authority 220/220/1/1/bis dated 15.5.43. P/O E. V. M. McWhirter, 129092 GD		
			P/O H. S. Oldham, 129430 GD Posted from 22 OTU w.e.f. 23.5.43. P/O A. N. Penman, 129496 GD Authority 220/220/6/bis dated 15.5.43.		
			***** Officers ONE, P/O G. L. Hartman, 128264 GD Posted to 1502 Com. Unit. w.e.f. (A/V/R) 9.5.43, Authority, HQAG Sig.P.103 dated 1.5.43.		
			(Cont'd. page 44)		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events			<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
<u>B U R N</u>	<u>1943</u> <u>May 31st.</u>		<u>POSTING AIRCREW RCO's G.U.Z.</u>				
			P/Bs. M.J. Bryant, Pilot	657347	Posted to Sqn. Smith, R/C		
					Sick, w.o.f. 8, 5, 43 Anthy, SH/		
					1024/2 MAD. dated 12, 5, 43		
			P/Bs. L.G. Hughes, A.G.	967063	Posted to Sqn. Smith, R/C		
					Sick, w.o.f. 2, 5, 43 Anthy,		
					44/3/43, dated 24, 5, 43.		
			Sgt. A.R. Williams, Pilot	1330333	Posted to Sqn. Smith, w.o.f.		
			Sgt. G.M. Hughes, Nav.	1333327	4, 5, 43 (Surgery) and attached		
			Sgt. J.P. Dawson, W.O.M.	1073126	same date to 1446 P/F Newton		
			Sgt. A.G. Smith, A.G.	1295127	In the March for Ferry Training pending posting overseas.		
					Anthy, AG/1009/65/P, 2, dated 30, 5, 43.		
			Sgt. A.E. Quade, W.O.M.	930228	Missing from operations against the enemy night of 13/14th May, 1943 BOCHIN.		
			Sgt. G.H. L. Wood, Pilot	658405	Missing from operations against		
			Sgt. H.L. Greenway, Nav.	1379214			
			Sgt. L.E. McNaught, R.A.	1379213	the enemy night of 13/14th May,		
			Sgt. A. Crosswell, W.O.M.	1205070			
			Sgt. T.H. Smith, A.G.	9950127	1943 INTAKE.		
			Sgt. R.A. Bush, Pilot	1380277	missing from operations against		
			Sgt. R.A. Williams, Nav.	1295128	the enemy night of 21/22nd May,		
			Sgt. H.G. Williams, R.A.	1380210			
			Sgt. A.G. Williams, W.O.M.	1205062	1943 INTAKE. 1.		
					1380232		
			Sgt. J. Marshall, A.G.	1380246			
			Sgt. J.A. Marshall, R.M.W. 1380250		Missing from operations against		
			Sgt. A.H. Smith, Pilot	1211524	the enemy night of 22/23rd May.		
			Sgt. A. Spratt, B.A.	1076957	1943. WUPPERHAL.		
			Sgt. R. King, W.O.M.	1376608			
			Sgt. M.L. Berlin, A.G.	1199530			

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
B.U.B.W.	1943 Nov. 30th.		<u>CONFIRM AIRCREW KILLED, OUT.</u>		
			Sgt. R.T.Burkley, Pilot 1343921 Missing from operations against Sgt. W.Mc., Rcv. 1257232 the enemy night of 25/26th, May, Sgt. M.Geffrines, W.O. 1260562 204.5. 1943. 10000000. Sgt. J.Smith, A.C. 1261519		
			Sgt. J.A.Doll, A.C. 1263602 Posted to Sta. Smith, N/S Sick W.C.F. 11.5.43. Auth. C.C. Station		
			Sgt. G.A.Williams, A.C. NE 422201 Missing from operations against the enemy night of 23/24th, May, 1943. 10000000.		
			<u>AIRCREW KILLED, IN.</u>		
			Sgt. R.L.Palmer, Pilot 1318616 Posted from 15 OTU W.C.F. 11.5.43. Sgt. K.H.Bridges, Rcv. 1320609 Auth. 210/1206/15/15/Air. 2. Sgt. H.Burke, B.A. 1376014 dated 8.4.43. Sgt. W.McAllister, W.O. 1323039 Sgt. J.A.Mitchell, A.C. 1263607		
			Sgt. H.H.Appleyard, Pilot 1337074 Posted from 30 OTU W.C.F. 23.5.43. Sgt. V.G.Thorn, W.O. 1281577 Auth. 930/330/6/1.1. dated 15.5.43. Sgt. G.A.Williams, A.C. 1267206		
			N/S E.H.Berry, A.C. 967367 Posted from 1598 G.U. N.C.F. Sgt. T.J.O'Gallagher, A.C. 9930127 8.5.43. Auth. WAG Sig. P.900 N/S M.Gallagher, A.C. 1377206 dated 20.4.43.		
			Sgt. F.L.Alps, A.C. 1167046 Posted from 51 Sqdn. N.C.F. N/S D.Williams, A.C. NE 422776 20.5.43. Auth. Sig. P.530 dated 15.5.43.		

(P-0000-0000) WL 12501-0000 1200 1200 T.S. 700

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B U R N	19 & 20 May, 1942				
			ADMIRAL HEDGES IN.		
			Sgt. W. J. G. Goldsmith, W.O. 1/c 2A35622 Sgt. W. J. H. Mitchell, W.O. R.130836 Arrived from 20 O.T.U. 7/4/41 20 S.A.S., Acting, 930/5344/7/14. 20/05/42 130836		
			In A.G. Sgt. A.G. Thompson, 1/c 2A35728 Arrived to RAVENHORST and promoted to the rank of Temporary Flight Lieutenant 20/05/42. Acting Rank, 12/05/42 2A35728 dated 25/5/42.		
			A.02 Sgt. F. P. Anthony, 1/c 2A35620 Promoted to WIRELESS OP/AIR CARRIER and promoted to the rank of Temporary Sergeant 20/05/42. Acting Rank, 12/05/42 2A35620 dated 25/5/42.		
			PROMOTION - OFFICERS		
			R/O. D. A. Hines, Pilot 130483 O.N. Appointed to the rank of Acting Flight Lieutenant, 20/05/42. Acting Rank, 20/05/42 and 20/05/42 20/05/42/2, dated 25/5/42.		
			R/O. Quiller, 2.D. O.N. 40047 Promoted to the rank of Flying Officer (new rank) 20/05/42. Acting Rank, London Date, No. 32001 dated 25/5/42.		
			R/O. F. E. Mitchell, CA 120679 Promoted to the rank of Flying Officer (new rank) 20/05/42. Acting Rank, London Date, No. 32001 dated 25/5/42.		
			R/O. F. J. P. Thompson, 2.W. Gun, 53092 Promoted to the rank of Temporary Flight Lieutenant 20/05/42 Acting, 10/05/42, 53092 dated 25/5/42.		

continued on next page

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices	
B. U. R. N	1943 May 31st.		PROMOTIONS - OFFICERS (CONT'D)			
			P/O S. G. Frost, GD 127289 Promoted to the rank of Temporary Flying Officer (war sub) w.e.f. 20.1.43. Auth. London Gazette. dated 19.2.43.			
			P/O N. Walker, GD 124759 Promoted to the rank of Flying Officer (war sub) w.e.f. 17.1.43. Auth. London Gazette. dated 19.2.43.			
PROMOTION - AIRCREW						
			Sgt. B. J. Bryant, Pilot 657347 w.e.f. 1.5.43. Sgt. L. C. Hughes, A.G. 967063 w.e.f. 1.5.43. Sgt. J. Pucker, Pilot 1042841 w.e.f. 1.5.43. Sgt. J. Redale, Pilot 1385890 w.e.f. 1.5.43. Sgt. J. Morton, Pilot 1095060 w.e.f. 1.5.43. Sgt. E. P. Jackson, Pilot 1148949 w.e.f. 2.5.43. Sgt. R. Clark, A.G. 1004554 w.e.f. 2.5.43. Sgt. R. L. Brown, A.Bomb. 1205557 w.e.f. 10.5.43. Sgt. E. H. Sullivan, Pilot 1313887 w.e.f. 17.5.43. Sgt. R. Holmes, A.Bomb. 1477342 w.e.f. 17.5.43. Sgt. D. McConville, A.Bomb. 1522099 w.e.f. 17.5.43. Sgt. R. K. D'Eve, Nav. 1555124 w.e.f. 28.5.43. Sgt. H. F. Macmillan, A.Bomb. 1586007 w.e.f. 26.5.43. Sgt. R. Williams, A.G. NZ 412776 w.e.f. 1.5.43. Sgt. C. A. Waite, A.G. NZ 412291 w.e.f. 1.5.43. Sgt. A. H. Smith, Pilot NZ 415224 w.e.f. 1.5.43.			
			Promoted to the rank of Temporary Flight Sergeant on dates stated. Auth. Books. 12/4.			
			Sgt. S. N. Sloane, A.Bomb. 1550966 Promoted to the rank of Temporary Flight Sgt. w.e.f. 18.5.43. Auth. Books. 12/4.			

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) 431 RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
B.U.Y.N.	May, 1943				
PROMOTIONS - ALBRECHT HOO.					
P/Lt. G. G. Hoo, R.A.F., 1550966 Granted immediate commission as Pilot Officer in the G.O branch RAF w/o.s.s. 25.5.43. Authy. H.M.C. Sig. P.213 d/d. 30.5.43. Later promoted to w/o.s.s. 1.6.43 for distinguished services.					
HONORS & AWARDS.					
S/L. J. D. G. Bailey, R.A.F. 40551 Distinguished Flying Cross, Distinguished Gallantry Medal P/Lt. G. G. Hoo, R.A.F. 1550966 Sgt. G.G. Purcell, R.A.F. 4332251 Distinguished Flying Medal. His Majesty the King on the recommendation of the A.O. C. R.M.C. has approved the immediate awards (detailed above) Authy. H.M.C. Sig. P.213 dated 3.5.43					

DISAPPEARING PERSONNEL - Informant Available.					
S/L. P. Fenton, R.A.F. Nov. On, 22562 Reported missing night 16/17th. Sgt. R. G. Webb, R.A.F. On, 1530665 April, 1943. Form 540 P.31 (cont'd. page 49)					
25.5.43					
4/4 32					

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
B.U.B.H.	1943 Nov. 30th.		STRENGTH OF OPERATIONAL BOMBERS flown during month of Nov (slightly wrong)		

Borden
Wing Commander, Commanding,
431 R.C.A.F. Squadron,