

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

(Unit or Formation) No. 432 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron

No. of pages used for day _____

5.22.43
206

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Skipton-on-Swale.	1.6.43		Weather:- Cloudy becoming fair. Visibility moderate to good. The Squadron is detailed for 6 aircraft for gardening operation. All the aircraft took off and successfully planted their vegetables in their allotted garden. W/Odr. Miller and S/Ldr. Douglas from No. 6 Group H.Q. visited the Station. S/Ldr. Douglas advised that about 10000 seedlings would soon be arriving at No. 6 Group for posting and asked for a speedy request for the quantities needed for each section, this was supplied without any loss of time. Mrs. Barber wife of Sgt Barber visited the Station to inquire about her husband who was missing from Operations night 29/30.5.43. All the help that could possibly be given was rendered to her. The medical officer W/Odr. Hamilton gave a serious lecture to aircrew personnel on venereal diseases.		A.54 to A.59
Skipton-on-Swale.	2.6.43		Weather: Fair becoming cloudy with rain in the evening. Visibility was good becoming moderate in rain. Funeral was held at Ripon for W/Lt. Night and Sgt. Dingwall. Ten Officers and ten Sergeants went as guard of honour. W/Odr. H.W. Kesty, S/Ldr. H.W. Kesty, S/Ldr. H.W. Kesty attended the funeral. Sgt. Dingwall's brother, Private Dingwall and W/Lt. Night's brother, Private Night arrived for the funeral and every assistance given them. The Squadron was stood down for to day.		
Skipton-on-Swale.	5.6.43		Weather cloudy with rain, visibility cloudy with haze. We were stood down for Operations. Flight Commander's busy with training and lectures for aircrew. Special evening lectures on "WMS" training part I and II shown to all aircrew at 11.30hrs. Commanding Officer interviewed all aircrew who had completed 24 Operational trips.		
Skipton-on-Swale.	4.6.43		Weather and visibility:- Cloudy with rain. 14 A/C detailed for Operations but were cancelled owing to weather conditions. Two crews posted away. One crew captained by Sgt. Andrews posted to 199 Squadron and the other, Sgt. Harrison's crew posted to 199 Squadron (RAF) Flying-Right flying tests.		
Skipton-on-Swale.	5.6.43		Weather and visibility:- Cloudy and hazy. We were stood down for Operations. Sgt. Lakesmillie Air Officer received his commanding papers. W/Odr. Kesty proceeded to No. 6 Group for conference of Squadron Commanders.		
Skipton-on-Swale.	6.6.43		Weather and visibility:- Cloudy and good. We were stood down for Operations. Mrs. Shuttle civilian who is operating installation of "Mundin" in aircraft reported in. Lecture at 1400hrs. for all aircrew in the briefing room.		
Skipton-on-Swale.	7.6.43		Weather and visibility:- Cloudy with haze and raining in the evening. 14 aircraft detailed for Operations and were cancelled. Sgt. Barber taken off by Chief Marshal Sir Philip J. Smeeth to La Force HQ, Odr. H.Q. with S/Ldr. Cliff visited the Squadron and remained until after the briefing.		
Skipton-on-Swale.	9.6.43		Weather and visibility:- Cloudy with rain becoming fair. Four becoming good. 6 A/C detailed for operations but were cancelled owing to bad weather. 24 RCAF Personnel reported in from 199 Squadron.		
Skipton-on-Swale.	9.6.43		Weather and visibility:- Fair becoming cloudy and hazy. 14 aircraft detailed for Operations. but were cancelled owing to bad weather.		
Skipton-on-Swale.	10.6.43		Weather and visibility:- Cloudy with haze. We were stood down for Operation. Two new crews reported in from O.F.U.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices																														
Skipton-on-Seale	11.6.43		<p>Weathered visibility: Cloudy with rain but good. 16 a/c detailed for operations and all took off. Two aircraft returned early owing to technical defect. One of our aircraft is missing since this operation and below are the names of the members of the crew and their operational hours and flights:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Serial</th> <th>Rank</th> <th>Name</th> <th>Position</th> <th>Hours</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>15577</td> <td>P/O</td> <td>(A/P/Lt.) Leslie Alban</td> <td>BOUNDSMAN (pilot)</td> <td>1 16.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15544</td> <td>SGT.</td> <td>PHILIPPS, James</td> <td>Albert, Mascot (Nav)</td> <td>1 16.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15263</td> <td>P/O</td> <td>George</td> <td>Aviating BOMBARDIER (A/O)</td> <td>1 16.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15377</td> <td>SGT.</td> <td>WADSWORTH, Henry</td> <td>Dales (A/O)</td> <td>1 16.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15550</td> <td>SGT.</td> <td>WADSWORTH, Ronald</td> <td>(A/O)</td> <td>1 16.37</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>13 aircraft left on this target and were very successful. None hit fires were burning in the target area with very big explosion on the A/R. Station Commander G/R, Curvallen visited the Squadron at 17.00 hrs. Sgt. Eddy's crew walked into a propeller after the landing and was temporarily injured and taken to Northampton Hospital.</p>	Serial	Rank	Name	Position	Hours	15577	P/O	(A/P/Lt.) Leslie Alban	BOUNDSMAN (pilot)	1 16.37	15544	SGT.	PHILIPPS, James	Albert, Mascot (Nav)	1 16.37	15263	P/O	George	Aviating BOMBARDIER (A/O)	1 16.37	15377	SGT.	WADSWORTH, Henry	Dales (A/O)	1 16.37	15550	SGT.	WADSWORTH, Ronald	(A/O)	1 16.37	A.60 to A.75
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Skipton-on-Seale	12.6.43		<p>The weather was cloudy and fair with the visibility good. Four aircraft detailed for operations and they all took-off. One returned early owing to technical defect. Remainder planted their vegetables in their allotted garden. W/Obs. Army Commissioning Officer and P/Lt. Beville's Gunnery Leader visited A/R. No. 8 for Conference. Sgt. Eddy died in Northampton Hospital at 17.00 hrs. W/Obs. Parsons visited the squadron.</p>	A.76 to A.79																														
Skipton-on-Seale	13.6.43		<p>The weather was fine becoming cloudy with a very good visibility. We were stood down to day for operations.</p>																															
Skipton-on-Seale	14.6.43		<p>The weather was cloudy with showers becoming fair with a good visibility. Six aircraft detailed A.80 to A.85 for operations and all took-off. One returned early owing to technical defect. Remainder planted their vegetables in their allotted garden, and were very successful. Aircraft 15263 "A" caught fire and was totally burnt for some unknown reason, no one was injured.</p>																															
Skipton-on-Seale	15.6.43		<p>The weather was fine becoming cloudy with a good visibility. We were stood down for operations to day. P/O. Glisten did some exercises after their first four.</p>																															
Skipton-on-Seale	16.6.43		<p>The weather was cloudy becoming fair with good visibility. We were stood down for operations to day. Training carried out by Section and Flight Commanders.</p>																															
Skipton-on-Seale	17.6.43		<p>The weather was fine becoming cloudy with good visibility. Three aircraft detailed for "BUNNY" training. One was cancelled and one turned back. We were stood down for operations.</p>																															
Skipton-on-Seale	18.6.43		<p>The weather was fine becoming cloudy with fair becoming good visibility. We were stood down for operations to day. W/Obs. Beville visited the Squadron to get details concerning the recommendation of the IAW for Sgt. Collins. W/Obs. Kirby proceeded on leave.</p>																															
Skipton-on-Seale	19.6.43		<p>The weather was cloudy with mist haze with a fair visibility. We were stood down for operation to day. Station proceeded to RCAF Station MERRIDEN to meet the High Commissioners for Canada Mrs. Vincent Massey.</p>																															
Skipton-on-Seale	20.6.43		<p>The weather was cloudy with rain becoming fair with a good visibility. Three aircraft detailed for operations but were cancelled in the evening.</p>																															

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No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices																																																
Skipton-on-Swale.	21.6.43		The weather was cloudy becoming fine with a good visibility, 12 aircraft were detailed for operations and all took-off, One returned early and remainder attack the target successfully. Many big fires were burning in the target area. The take off was witnessed by A/V/L, Brooks.		A.86 to A.97																																																
Skipton-on-Swale.	22.6.43		The weather was fine becoming cloudy with fair visibility, 11 aircraft detailed for operations. All of them took-off. One aircraft returned early owing to the unavailability of the rear turret. Remainder bombed the target successfully. Many big fires were burning in the target area. Three aircraft were damaged by flak.		A.98 to A.108																																																
Skipton-on-Swale.	23.6.43		The weather was cloudy with rain becoming fine with a good visibility. Three aircraft detailed for a mining operation and all of them took-off. One returned early owing to engine failure. Remainder landed their vegetables in their allotted garden. A successful trip.		A.109 to A.111																																																
Skipton-on-Swale.	24.6.43		The weather was fine becoming cloudy with good visibility. 13 aircraft detailed for operations. One of them did not take off owing to technical defects. Many fires burning in the target area with smoke rising up to 10000ft. Two aircraft did not return from this operation. Below are the names along with their trip and hours of the members of the crew-		A.112 to A.123																																																
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th colspan="2">OPERATIONAL TIME HOURS.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.12156</td> <td>SGT. MERRILL, Joseph, Jacques, Charles.</td> <td>(Pilot)</td> <td>4 21:51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.22232</td> <td>F/O Joseph, Ross, Guy, GIBBONS.</td> <td>(Nav.)</td> <td>NIL NIL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.158749</td> <td>SGT. DEVERELL, Mansel, Ramsay.</td> <td>(A/B.)</td> <td>NIL NIL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.151282</td> <td>SGT. TUDIN, Martin, Patrick.</td> <td>(WOP/AG)</td> <td>NIL NIL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.55534</td> <td>SGT. LAGACE, Maurice.</td> <td>(A/G.)</td> <td>NIL NIL</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.26316</td> <td>SGT. COLNIE, Neil.</td> <td>(Pilot)</td> <td>8 47:08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.39997</td> <td>SGT. LITTLE, George.</td> <td>(Nav.)</td> <td>10 59:06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.69690</td> <td>SGT. THOMSON, Frank, William, Seal.</td> <td>(A/B.)</td> <td>11 58:21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.51108</td> <td>SGT. KILLICK, Charles, Kingston.</td> <td>(WOP/AG)</td> <td>10 57:16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.80608</td> <td>SGT. SPARROW, William, Alister.</td> <td>(A/G.)</td> <td>12 70:01</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			OPERATIONAL TIME HOURS.		R.12156	SGT. MERRILL, Joseph, Jacques, Charles.	(Pilot)	4 21:51	R.22232	F/O Joseph, Ross, Guy, GIBBONS.	(Nav.)	NIL NIL	R.158749	SGT. DEVERELL, Mansel, Ramsay.	(A/B.)	NIL NIL	R.151282	SGT. TUDIN, Martin, Patrick.	(WOP/AG)	NIL NIL	R.55534	SGT. LAGACE, Maurice.	(A/G.)	NIL NIL					R.26316	SGT. COLNIE, Neil.	(Pilot)	8 47:08	R.39997	SGT. LITTLE, George.	(Nav.)	10 59:06	R.69690	SGT. THOMSON, Frank, William, Seal.	(A/B.)	11 58:21	R.51108	SGT. KILLICK, Charles, Kingston.	(WOP/AG)	10 57:16	R.80608	SGT. SPARROW, William, Alister.	(A/G.)	12 70:01		
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Skipton-on-Swale.	25.6.43		The weather was cloudy becoming fair with good visibility. 9 aircraft detailed for operations and three took-off six being cancelled. The three aircraft bombed the target but there was no 20th shot and no results could be observed.		A.124 to A.126																																																
Skipton-on-Swale.	26.6.43		The weather was fair becoming cloudy with good visibility. Four aircraft were detailed for operations and all of them took-off. One returned early owing to technical defects. One did not plant the vegetables in the allotted garden. One of our aircraft is missing from this operation. Below are the names along with their operational hours and trips-		A.127 to A.136																																																
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Skipton-on-Swale.	27.6.43		Weather fair with good visibility becoming hazy. We were stood down for the day.																																																		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices																								
Skipton-on-Swale.	28.6.43		The weather was fine becoming fair with a moderate visibility. Nine aircraft detailed for operation. Two aircraft returned early being to technical defect. Remainder bombed the target but as there was 10/10th cloud at 8000ft no results were observed. The raid was a poor show.		A-131 to A-139																								
Skipton-on-Swale.	29.6.43		The weather was fine becoming cloudy with the visibility very hazy. We were stood down to day for operations. Four new crew reported in from 4222, Middleton St. George.																										
Skipton-on-Swale.	30.6.43		The weather was cloudy with slight haze with a visibility very hazy. We were stood down for operations to-day. Two new crew reported in from an O.T.U.																										
			<p>REWARDS AND AWARDS: The Distinguished Flying Medal was awarded to Sgt. Gillies, L.O. (P.134058)</p> <p>PROMOTIONS: P/O. Hess, G.R. (J.6720) promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant. P/O. Starchan, H.W. (J.9863) promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant. P/O. Bone, W.R.R. (G.9830) promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant. (Engineer Officer)</p> <p>Senior in Command: W/O AMMUNITION CHARGE: W/O ENGINEER IN CHARGE: W/O FLIGHT: The general health of both aircraft and ground crew is good. morale appears to be very good. There was some of V.D. among ground crew but none among aircrew during the month.</p> <p>EMPLOYMENT OF UNITS IN AT REGION, ON THE 30th JUNE 1943.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Strength:</th> <th>AIRCRAFT</th> <th>GROUND CREW</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.A.F. OFFICERS</td> <td>24</td> <td>3</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.A.F. OFFICERS</td> <td>5</td> <td>-</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.A.F. AIRMEN</td> <td>75</td> <td>228</td> <td>303</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.A.F. AIRMEN</td> <td>24</td> <td>152</td> <td>176</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OTHER PERSONNEL</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY: 17 hours, 40 minutes. Training Hours: 152 hours, 20 minutes.</p> <p>PERSONNEL: 271 OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL DETAIL THIS MONTH: 86 PERSONNEL.</p>	Strength:	AIRCRAFT	GROUND CREW	TOTAL	R.A.F. OFFICERS	24	3	27	R.A.F. OFFICERS	5	-	5	R.A.F. AIRMEN	75	228	303	R.A.F. AIRMEN	24	152	176	OTHER PERSONNEL	1	-	1		
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W. H. ...
 Wing Commander, Commanding,
 No. 432 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

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