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RAF Form 540

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 405 C.A.F. SQUADRON (C.P.F.)

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DAS
25-027

Page No. 086

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Grandson Lodge, Berkshire.	1-8-43		<p>Weather: - Mainly cloudy at first, becoming fair towards dawn, remaining fair with variable cloud at 2,500 feet throughout the day. Visibility good. Winds strong westerly.</p> <p>Training: - 3.15 hours flying training was carried out on a "T" training flight. Bombing and parachute drills were carried out by the crew during the day. Wireless operators were given Morse practice.</p>	
	2-8-43		<p>Weather: - Mainly cloudy from midnight until midday with large amounts of cloud at both low and medium levels, general base 2,500 feet. Low cloud tending to disperse during early afternoon, but medium cloud persisting until 1900 when all cloud clearing to small amounts and becoming fine by midnight. Visibility good. Winds strong southwesterly, falling light.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - BOMBING ATTACK ON "TRAVERS" - 15 AIRCRAFT REPORTED</p> <p>Five of our aircraft reached and bombed primary from an average height of 17,000 feet in poor visibility. Of the two aircraft that attacked as last report, one attacked Ball's Hill and the other an airbase near Harrogate. Six aircraft jettisoned and three aircraft were missing from this operation, and nothing has been heard from these crews since time of jettison.</p> <p>OPERATIONAL FLIGHTS - 70:45 HOURS - BEST</p> <p>Training: - 13:45 hours flying training were carried out during the day which included 10 hours "T", 7 hours Fighter Association and 2 1/2 hours S.M.A.</p> <p>OPERATIONS - CAPT. 11249 SGT MacLellan C.A.F. Gunner, died today as a result of a gunshot wound which he received on the night of July 24/25th, 1943, while on operations over Harbury. Sergeant MacLellan was a mid-upper gunner in this aircraft when he was wounded by gunshot. Sergeant MacLellan completed 12 operational flights while on this Squadron.</p>	A-1
	3-8-43		<p>Weather: - Fine at first but with increasing medium cloud from the West towards dawn and becoming cloudy with variable amounts of low cloud at 2,500 feet, until midnight. Visibility was moderate to good. Winds light northerly, veering to northeasterly and increasing.</p> <p>Training: - 2:45 flying training was carried out during the day, which included Fighter Association. Flying training was curtailed by bad weather. Progress was made in ground training. Bomb Alarms attended a lecture on "T" Air gunners took practice on turret manipulation and Navigators best plotted logs from previous operation.</p>	
	4-8-43		<p>Weather: - Fine at first with visibility deteriorating 5000 yards by dawn, becoming cloudy with mainly 2/10 to 3/10 medium cloud and variable low cloud until the late afternoon when becoming temporarily fog for a few hours to half cover and clouding over again by midnight. Slight rain at 1900 hours. Winds light, veering steadily throughout the day from northerly to north-westerly. Visibility improving again later to good.</p> <p>Training: - 16:22 hours flying training was carried out today, which included 2 hours "T" training and one hour S.M.A. Navigators took a lecture on averaging and estimating W/V.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: - A balloon was released today from Air Ministry, getting German information about fuel, release of gas. Also one dead, CHN.R. 60765 SGT G.W. Price, now classified missing, believed killed in action. Three airmen were reported missing on the night of 21/22nd June. Four bombing attacks reported.</p>	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Grandson Lodge, Bedfordshire	5-0-43		<p>Weather:- Cloudy with slight drizzle continuous for a period around dawn, ceasing soon after 0900 hours and low and medium cloud breaking. Visibility moderate to good. Winds fresh northwesterly backing to southerly late in period.</p> <p>Training:- 11:15 hours Flying Training was carried out today which included 3 hours "A" flying, 1 hour Air to Sea Firing. Bomb Alarms were given a lecture on "A" and Wireless Alarms took fault finding and manipulation exercises.</p>		
	6-0-43		<p>Weather:- Cloudy with slight rain. Slight fog towards dawn, visibility down to 2,000 yards becoming moderate during the day. Rain recurring intermittently during afternoon until 1600 hours. Continuing cloudy until midnight. Winds moderate northwesterly.</p> <p>Training:- 16:00 Flying Training was carried out during the day and 19:15 hours Flying Training carried out during the night. Day flying included 3 hours "A" training, 4 hours Air to Sea Firing, 4 hours Air to Air Firing. Night aircraft were detailed for a barrage practice and four for an Intra- and Bombing exercise.</p> <p>RETI:- Cpl. 11549 Sgt. McLellan G., Air Gunner, missing was buried today with full military honours at Spangmoor, in R.A.F. Regional Cemetery.</p>		
	7-0-43		<p>Weather:- Cloudy throughout the day with slight rain for a few hours around midday and again towards evening. Visibility good becoming poor after dusk. Winds moderate southwesterly.</p> <p>Training:- 22:29 hours Flying Training was carried out during the day which included 6 hours "A", 4 hours Air to Sea Firing and 10 hours "B" training. Bomb Alarms attended a lecture on "A" and Flight Engineers were given a lecture on the Lancaster III, general description, fuel system and engine starting and stopping.</p>		
	8-0-43		<p>Weather:- Cloudy with mainly medium cloud at first. Mainly large amounts of low cloud after dawn but lowering to 1,500 feet by afternoon, in intermittent slight rain and drizzle or drizzle around midday. Visibility moderate to good and strong "A".</p> <p>Training:- Training was somewhat curtailed owing to bad weather.</p> <p>RECEPTION DINNER:- The 405 R.C.A.F. Squadron Dinner given by the Aircrew in honour of the Ground crew was at first postponed due to operations, but when operations were scrubbed, arrangements were proceeded with. The R.C.A.F. Overseas Dance Orchestra provided excellent music which contributed greatly to the success of the dinner. Due to the original postponement, a full attendance of invited guests was not possible. The Squadron was honoured by the presence of the Squadron P.O. 1947, from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters. There was a large attendance of personnel from Station Headquarters, R.A.F. Flight and R.A.F. Regiment, who had been cordially invited to attend as guests.</p>		
	9-0-43		<p>Weather:- Cloudy with slight rain to 0600 hours, cloud breaking to small amounts by dawn but becoming cloudy again during the day, becoming fair towards midnight. Visibility good. Winds fresh northwesterly backing to west and falling light.</p> <p>OPERATIONS:- REMAINING ATTACK BY "B" AIRCRAFT 2 AIRCRAFT DETAINED</p> <p>Flight of our aircraft reached and bombed primary from an average height of 10,000 feet in good visibility. The timing was reported as good, and early arrivals report fair concentration of Red Tails. A good concentration of large fires were observed. One of our aircraft is missing from this operation. Numbers of crew are: Cpl. G. 10548 W/O Gray E.M., Cpl. J. 12502 W/O Middleton A.J., Cpl. E. 13030 Sgt. Evans J.M., 1025718 Sgt. King H., Cpl. E. 105745 Sgt. Piskering G., Cpl. R. 130175 Sgt. Evans J., Cpl. R. 10430 Sgt. Black D.</p> <p>OPERATIONAL FIXES TIME: 45:16 HOURS NIGHT</p>		A-2

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. THREE

of (Unit or Formation) No. 405 R.C.A.F. SQUADRON (P.F.F.)

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Oxendon T. Ops, Bedfordshire.	9-9-43		(Continued) Training - 11:00 hours flying training was carried out during the day which included 2:50 hours "X" training, 4 hours X-County, 2 hours Fighter Affiliation and 2 hours map reading.		A-2
	10-9-43		Weather - Fair with small amounts cloud to 0800 hours, clouding over thereafter for a period becoming fine again by dusk. Some large patches of medium cloud persisting throughout. Visibility good. Winds moderate westerly. OPERATIONS - BOMBING ATTACK ON "BERGHEIM" - 14 AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED Fourteen of our aircraft reached and bombed primary from an average height of 17,000 feet in visibility moderate to good. No. 1 had generally reported very scattered. No good clouds seen until 0100 hours and at 0200 hours, the glow was seen from 150 miles away. Aircraft No. 1 was attacked by a fighter believed to be an H.R.109. Enemy aircraft is believed to have suffered serious damage. TRAINING - 2:50 hours flying training was carried out during the day, which included 2 hours X-County and 2 hours Fighter Affiliation. INCIDENTS IN SERVICE - The following spontaneous information was received from RAF WRENSBY stating that the following aircraft were reported missing on the night of 2/9th AUGUST 1943, from bombing attack on Bergheim, are returned in service: 135041 SGT J.A. Phillips, 135115 SGT R. H. MOTTEN P/O Madge G.W., 1415022 SGT Y.A. Knight, 135331 SGT H.L. King, 141110709 SGT Robert L.D., 141110709 SGT Nelson H.O., 1394715 SGT Andrew R.A. Sergeant King: number 141110709.		A-3
	12-9-43		Weather - Cloudy all day. Showers during the late morning and afternoon becoming fine towards dusk. Visibility moderate. Wind light Northwesterly falling calm. Training - No flying training was carried out today. The day was spent in repairing and servicing aircraft after the last two nights operations. As most of the crew were on operations the previous evening, training was necessarily restricted. The afternoon was devoted to Squadron sports.		
	13-9-43		Weather - Fair with moderate visibility to 0800 hours becoming fair with variable amounts of 3,000 feet and later cloudy with mainly 10/20 medium cloud. Winds moderate to fresh Southwesterly. Visibility good. OPERATIONS - BOMBING ATTACK ON "TUNN" - 14 AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED The 14 aircraft employed, all reached and bombed primary in excellent visibility from an average height of 17,000 feet. Target was identified visually by many of the crews with flares and incendiaries brightly illuminated area round aiming point. Very little opposition was seen well concentrated in the vicinity of aiming point with numerous flames burning well. One of our aircraft was engaged in combat with the enemy. No damage claimed. TRAINING - 2:50 hours flying training was carried out in Air to Air firing. INCIDENTS IN SERVICE - 141110709 SGT Nelson H.O., 1394715 SGT Andrew R.A. Sergeant King: number 141110709.		A-4
15-9-43		Weather - Fair most of the day but with large amounts of medium cloud throughout the morning. Variable and small amounts of low about 3,000 feet. Visibility good. Winds strong SW. Training - 2:50 hours flying training was carried out in a "X" flight. Flight instructor was lectured on Lancaster engine limitations, emergency equipment and exits. Wireless operators took Morse practice and Air Gunner did pigeon shooting.			

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Ormsdon I., Age, Bedfordshire.	11-8-43		<p>Weather: Cloudy with continuous slight drizzle until dawn becoming fair with well broken cloud at both low and medium levels. MODERATE VISIBILITY. WINDS moderate westerly becoming fine towards midnight.</p> <p>Training: 04:30 hours Flying Training was carried out today which included 15 hours T-Country, 14 hours "T", 2 hours Air to Sea Firing, 4 hours Fighter Affiliation and 9:30 hours Lancaster bombing, and one hour Lancaster conversion. Conversion training on the Squadron from 11:00 am to Lancaster co-pressed with wing Commander J.E. Pargetter, D.F.C., giving dual instruction. Due to the extensive flying training programme for today, ground training was necessarily curtailed.</p>	
	12-8-43		<p>Weather: Fine, becoming fair about half cover of fair weather cumulus and no medium cloud west of the time. Low cloud dispersing towards dusk to little or none but medium cloud increasing from the West. Visibility good. WINDS moderate westerly, falling light.</p> <p>Training: 06:30 hours flying training was carried out today which included 8 hours T-Country, and 18 hours "T" training. Wireless operators were given Morse Exercises. Air Gunnery was lectured on sighting. Flight Engineers were lectured on Lancaster III Hydraulic System.</p>	
	13-8-43		<p>Weather: Fair becoming fine. Only small amounts of cloud all day. Visibility excellent. WINDS fresh west to southwest.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON "SHEEN" - 15 AIRCRAFT DETAINED</p> <p>Fourteen aircraft reached and bombed primary in bright moonlight with moderate visibility from an average height of 17,000 feet. Bombing was well concentrated on and around ground targets. The river and built up areas were observed and attack appeared to be developed in the flight planes. Numerous bomb flashes were seen. One of our aircraft failed to return from this operation. Numbers of crew are: 139637 P/O Manning P.; 139675 P/O Heston G.C., 139726 SGT Howe W.E.; 139732 P/O Curry W.E.; 139733 P/O Curry W.E.; 139734 P/O Curry W.E.; 139735 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139736 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139737 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139738 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139739 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139740 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139741 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139742 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139743 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139744 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139745 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139746 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139747 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139748 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139749 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139750 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139751 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139752 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139753 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139754 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139755 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139756 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139757 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139758 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139759 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139760 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139761 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139762 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139763 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139764 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139765 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139766 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139767 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139768 SGT 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	14-8-43		<p>Weather: Fine with local fog towards dawn, cloudy for a period in early morning soon becoming fair with no low cloud and well broken medium. Visibility poor at first improving to good later. WINDS moderate east south east.</p> <p>OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON "SHEEN" - 12 AIRCRAFT DETAINED</p> <p>Eleven aircraft reached and bombed primary from an average height of 12,000 feet in bright moonlight with fair visibility and some stratus cloud at 5,000 feet. Large explosions with billowing clouds of smoke were seen in location of Aiming Point "B". Bomb flashes indicated intense bombing on all Aiming Points. One of our aircraft is missing from this operation. Numbers of crew are: 139637 P/O Manning P.; 139675 P/O Heston G.C., 139726 SGT Howe W.E.; 139732 P/O Curry W.E.; 139733 P/O Curry W.E.; 139734 P/O Curry W.E.; 139735 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139736 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139737 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139738 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139739 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139740 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139741 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139742 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139743 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139744 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139745 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139746 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139747 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139748 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139749 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139750 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139751 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139752 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139753 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139754 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139755 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139756 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139757 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139758 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139759 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139760 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139761 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139762 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139763 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139764 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139765 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139766 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139767 SGT Hillyer M.C., 139768 SGT 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R.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in KR and ACL, para 249 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. FIVE

of (Unit or Formation) No. 405 R.C.A.F. SQUADRON (R.C.A.F.)

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Gravelly Lodge, Bedfordshire.	15-0-43		<p>Weather:- Fair at first, becoming cloudy with slight intermittent rain for a short period. Large amounts of mist until mid-afternoon when clearing slowly to little or no cloud. No fog cloud all day becoming fine towards dusk. Visibility good. Winds fresh westerly falling light.</p> <p>Training:- 2 1/2 hours flying training was carried out in air to sea flying during the day. Wireless Operators were given Gee training. Flight Engineers were lectured on Lancaster III coolant system. Air Gunners were lectured on sighting and Navigators had plotted logs of operation on previous night.</p>		
	20-0-43		<p>Weather:- Fine at first becoming fair with variable amounts of cumulus developing, evening misty. Variable mainly small amounts of mist cloud increasing to large amounts after dusk. Visibility good. Winds light southwesterly.</p> <p>Operations:- 13 Aircraft were detailed for bombing but was scrubbed at 1700 hours.</p> <p>Training:- 1 1/2 hours flying training was carried out during the day which included 1:30 hours Lancaster conversion instruction and 2:30 hours S.D.A. wireless operators took fruit training and manipulation exercise. Air Gunners took clay pigeon shooting.</p>		
	20-0-43		<p>Weather:- Fair all day with little low cloud but with mainly large amounts of mist cloud broken at times. Visibility moderate. Winds West southwesterly, falling light.</p> <p>Operations:- Eight aircraft were detailed for a bullseye exercise which was scrubbed at 1700 hours. 2:00 hours flying training was carried out today which included 2:30 hours T.I., 5 hours Lancaster conversion instruction and 2:30 hours S.D.A. wireless operators took fruit training and manipulation exercise. Air Gunners took clay pigeon shooting.</p>		
	22-0-43		<p>Weather:- Cloudy with rain commencing 0500 hours and continuing until 1400 hours, clearing towards dusk becoming small amounts. Visibility moderate, improving to good. Winds light southwesterly.</p> <p>Training:- 5:45 hours flying training was carried out today which included 2 hours bombing practice, and 3:50 hours Lancaster conversion training. Air Gunners were given instruction on target navigation. Flight Eng. were lectured on Lancaster III fuel system.</p>		
	22-0-43		<p>Weather:- Fine at first becoming cloudy towards midday with showers in the afternoon. Fine again towards dusk. Visibility moderate at first improving to excellent. Winds moderate southwesterly.</p> <p>Training:- 3:45 hours flying training was carried out during the day and 10:30 hours during the night, which included, Gee training, one hour, 3 hours fighter affiliation, 7 hours bombing practice, 1 1/2 hours night country, and 4:30 hours Lancaster conversion training. Flight Eng. operators took ground Gee training.</p>		
	23-0-43		<p>Weather:- Fine at first, becoming fair for most of period. Well broken cloud amounts about 2,000 feet. Visibility moderate becoming excellent. Winds moderate southwesterly.</p> <p>Operations:- 15 AIRCRAFT DETAILED FOR BOMBING</p> <p>Training:- 15 aircraft bombed and bombed primary from an average height of 20,000 feet in good visibility. Many bomb bursts were seen exploding on target with numerous spreading flames. Four aircraft returned early, three with engine trouble and one because oxygen supply ran out. Five of our aircraft failed to return from this operation and members of crew were:</p> <p>150164 SGT GADLEY S.; OUL. 56270 SGT HENDERSON A.; OUL. 235127 SGT HILLIER J.A.; 220014 SGT KING L.H.; D.P.M.; OUL. 56283 W/O SMITH H.; OUL. 22343 S/O DAVIS D.P.; OUL. 214550 SGT DUNN L.H.; 115429 SGT STONE S.; OUL. 24505 SGT GIBSON J.H.; OUL. 16121 SGT HILLIER J.A.; 24430 SGT GADLEY J.G.</p>		A-7

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
Granadan Lodge, Bedfordshire.	25-0-43		<p>OPERATIONAL FLYING TRAINING 7:30 HOURS NIGHT (Continued)</p> <p>Training - 9:42 hours flying training was carried out today which included one hour Air to Air firing, 1.40 hours 7 hours bombing practice and 1:30 hours S.B.A.</p>		
	26-0-43		<p>Weather - Fair all day with very variable cloud amounts at all levels. Visibility becoming good. Winds light southwesterly.</p> <p>Training - 11:20 hours flying training was carried out today which included "Y" training one hour, Air to Air firing 1.40 hours, 3 hours S.B.A., 4 hours "Country" night, and 2 hours Lancaster conversion. Operators took ground crew practice. Air Gunners were given turret manipulation and engine handling.</p>		
	27-0-43		<p>Weather - Fair at first. Rain continuous for a period towards dawn continuing until midday and then cloud breaking to small amounts for rest of period. Visibility moderate becoming good. Winds light southerly freshening and veering to southwest.</p> <p>Training - 30:37 hours flying training was carried out during the day and 9:43 hours S.B.A., 9 hours "Country" and one hour Lancaster conversion. Air Gunners were given turret manipulation instruction and Wireless operators 1/2 wireless.</p> <p>OPERATIONAL FLYING TRAINING - 12:00 hours flying training was carried out during the day and 20:22 hours during the night. Air Gunners were given turret manipulation and engine handling.</p>		
	28-0-43		<p>Weather - Cloudy. Rain continuous during morning ceasing towards midday and cloud breaking slowly to small amounts, becoming fine by midnight. Visibility moderate becoming good. Winds very light southerly veering steady.</p> <p>Training - 7 aircraft were detailed for bulge exercise including infra-red bombing. 1:20 hours flying training was carried out during the day and 20:22 hours during the night. Air Gunners were given turret manipulation and engine handling.</p>		
	29-0-43		<p>Weather - Fine at first, fair thereafter, with variable mainly large amounts of low cloud above 2000 feet all day. Visibility moderate. Winds southerly fresh.</p> <p>OPERATIONAL FLYING TRAINING - 12:00 hours flying training was carried out during the day and 20:22 hours during the night. Air Gunners were given turret manipulation and engine handling.</p> <p>Training - 1:15 hours flying training was carried out during the day.</p>		A-6
30-0-43		<p>Weather - Fair soon becoming cloudy with rain beginning about dawn and continuing intermittently until dusk. Much low cloud often down to 1,000 feet. Visibility moderate. Winds light westerly, becoming strong.</p> <p>Training - No flying training was carried out today on account of the bad weather. Operators were given ground crew practice. Air Gunners were given turret manipulation and engine handling.</p>			

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RAF Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in KR and ACI, para 2349 and War Manual, Pt. II, chapter XX, and notes in RAF Pocket Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 33741

of (Unit or Formation) RAF 405 B.C.C.F. SQUADRON (P.F.F.)

No. of pages used for day _____

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Grandson Lodge, W. Yorkshire	20-3-43		<p>Weather:- Cloudy all day. 8/10 to 10/10 cloud at 2,000 feet or above throughout the day. Visibility moderate becoming good. Winds moderate westerly backing to southwest and increasing. 3743 hours flying training was carried out today which included 5 hours of 9 hours Fighter Affiliation, 2 hours Lancaster Conversion and one hour S.B.A. Cross carried out parachute and dingy drills during the day.</p>		
	20-3-43		<p>Weather:- Cloudy with slight intermittent rain till dawn continuing cloudy throughout but becoming fine towards dusk. Visibility moderate becoming good. Winds strong Southwesterly veering to East and falling light.</p> <p>OPERATIONS:- BOMBING ATTACK ON "BURSE" - 3 AIRCRAFT DETAILLED TIME 8:26 HOURS</p> <p>The three aircraft detailed reached and bombed primary from an average height of 12,000 feet. No results were observed except one bomb flash in target area.</p> <p>OPERATIONS:- BOMBING ATTACK ON "BURSE" - 2 AIRCRAFT DETAILLED TIME 8:30 HOURS</p> <p>Six of our aircraft reached and bombed target from an average height of 12,000 feet in fair visibility. Numerous incendiary fires were observed among Red F. A. Many burning incendiaries were burning on the ground round aiming point. Many large explosions were seen. One aircraft abandoned mission 8 minutes after take off with port inner engine coolant leak.</p>		A-9
	21-3-43		<p>Weather:- Fine at first becoming clear and later cloudy towards midday. Continuing clear till midnight. Mainly 8 to 10/10 cloud above 3,000 feet at first but lowering to 1,500 feet latterly. Visibility moderate. Winds light westerly backing to southwest and increasing.</p> <p>OPERATIONS:- BOMBING ATTACK ON "BURSE" - 2 AIRCRAFT DETAILLED TIME 22:02 HOURS</p> <p>Six aircraft reached and bombed primary from an average height of 12,000 feet in good visibility, above cloud. One aircraft suffered numerous scattered fires. Many large explosions were observed through gaps in clouds in target area. One aircraft suffered engine damage. Two aircraft abandoned mission, one with engine trouble and the other abandoned mission immediately after take off when Air Speed Indicator was 1/2. One of our aircraft failed to return from this operation and NUMBER OF NEW ARR: 13677 P/O HEDGECOCK J. E.; 13470 P/O PEARSON G. E.; D.F.C. 134283 SGT BOWDEN L. A.; 77462 P/O HOLMES R. M.; 61429 SGT BRIDGEMAN, R. 90890 P/O GORING G. A.; 576362 SGT COOPER A. L.</p> <p>OPERATIONS:- BOMBING ATTACK ON "BURSE" - 3 AIRCRAFT DETAILLED - 9:14 HOURS (EVEN)</p> <p>The three aircraft detailed, reached and bombed primary from an average height of 5,000 feet in good visibility. The only observations made, were numerous bomb bursts in target area.</p> <p>Training:- 11:00 hours flying training was carried out during the day and 11:10 hours training during the night.</p>		A-11
			(cont)		A-12

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