

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

5777

No. of pages used for day

Page No. ONE

SECRET.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Gransden Lodge, Beds.	1		<p>Weather: Cloudy, slight drizzle 0100 to 0800 hours, visibility poor at first, improving towards midday. Winds, strong S.W.ly veering S.W.ly.</p> <p>Training: No flying training was carried out today. Ground training included the following:</p> <p>Nav: Instruction on G.P.I. and A.P.I.</p> <p>A/B: Star plotting and map reading.</p> <p>W/P: Morse practice and Astro Navigation.</p> <p>A/G: Daily inspections, clay pigeon shooting (100 rounds).</p> <p>F/S: Familiarisation of hydraulic, pneumatic and fuel systems.</p>	
	2		<p>Weather: Cloudy, becoming air after dusk. Light rain 0100 to 0400 hours, and slight drizzle about midday. Visibility good except in rain. Winds strong S.W.ly.</p> <p>Training: 20:40 hours flying training was carried out today, which included 6:25 hours eye training, 10:15 hours x-country flights, and 4:00 hours S.B.A. The large flying training programme and the P.F.F. Board prevented any further progress in ground training.</p> <p>PERSONNEL OCCURRENCE REPORTS: (See appendix B-11).</p>	B-11
	3		<p>Weather: Fair at first, cloud increasing during morning, breaking again to small amounts during evening. Slight rain 0800 to 0900 hours. Visibility good except in rain.</p> <p>Winds: strong S.W.ly veering N.W.ly.</p> <p>Training: 4:15 hours flying training carried out today, which included 1:40 hours practice bombing, 1:40 hours Fighter affiliation and 1:15 hours S.B.A.</p> <p>NAV: Instruction to new Navigators on P.F.F. Navigation.</p> <p>A/B: Map reading and lecture on H.2.S.</p> <p>W/P: Morse exercise and instruction on Gee.</p> <p>A/G: Daily inspections and instruction on harmonization.</p> <p>F/S: Bombing lecture and sheet shooting.</p>	
	4		<p>Weather: Cloudy with slight showers at first, becoming fine during the morning. Cloud increasing again during afternoon but breaking to small amounts after dusk. Visibility good. Moderate W.ly veering N.W. and increasing.</p> <p>Training: Air crew were given a start-down today. Flying and ground training.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: A signal was received from Air Ministry stating that CAN/S.18445 P/O H. Smith, (Pilot) who was reported missing from operations over Berlin on the night of 23rd/24th August, 1943, (interned in Sweden), has now arrived safe in the United Kingdom.</p> <p>PERSONNEL OCCURRENCE REPORTS: (See appendix B-12).</p>	B-12
	5		<p>Weather: Fair to cloudy. Visibility good at first, becoming moderate. Winds strong N.W.ly falling light.</p> <p>Training: 30:00 hours flying training was carried out today, which included, 10:05 hours x-country flights, 14:30 hours practice bombing, 4:20 hours Fighter affiliation and 35 minutes S.B.A. The large flying programme somewhat curtailed ground training.</p> <p>W/P: Lecture on Met. (fog and icing).</p> <p>A/G: Daily inspections.</p>	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Cranden Lodge, Beds.	FEB. 6		<p>Weather: Cloudy at first, cloud breaking towards dawn and increasing to 10/10 during the afternoon, remaining cloudy for rest of day. Intermittent rain during the evening. Visibility poor with mist 0700 to 1100 hours. Winds light and variable, becoming moderate S.W.'ly.</p> <p>Training: 2:20 hours S.B.A. was the only flying training carried out today. Ground training included the following:</p> <p>NAV: Viewed a 1½ Met. film.</p> <p>A/B: " " "</p> <p>W/F: Lecture on Radar '44.</p> <p>A/C: Daily inspections, clay pigeon shooting, aircraft recognition, range estimation and also viewed a 1½ hour Met. film.</p> <p>F/S: Lecture on bombing.</p>		
	7		<p>Weather: Cloudy all day, intermittent light rain 1100 to 1500 hours. Visibility 2,000 yards at first, improving slowly to 10 miles. Winds Winds, moderate S.S.W.'ly veering W.N.W.'ly.</p> <p>Training: No flying training carried out today. Ground training included the following. NAV All sections viewed interest film.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: A signal was received today from Air Ministry, stating that CAN/W.22113 P/O Davies D.P., and RAF.962480 SGT Catling J.C., who were interned in Sweden after being reported missing after a bombing attack on Berlin 23rd/24th August, 1945, are now reported safe in the United Kingdom.</p> <p>A signal was received today from Air Ministry stating that RAF.1294715 SGT R.A. Andrews and CAN/R.146659 P/SGT King W.H., and CAN/R.107109 SGT L.D. Kohnke, who were interned in Sweden after being reported missing after a bombing attack on Hamburg 2nd/3rd August, 1945, are now classified safe in the United Kingdom.</p> <p>PERSONNEL OCCURRENCE REPORTS: (See appendix B-13).</p>		
	8		<p>Weather: Cloudy at first, clearing at dawn, small amounts during whole day, becoming cloudless during evening. Visibility 4 to 8 miles. Winds W.N.W. to N.W., 10 to 16 m.p.h.</p> <p>Training: 17:25 hours flying training was carried out today which included 11:25 hours x-country flights, 2:00 hours bombing practice, 3:10 hours fighter affiliation and :50 minutes miscellaneous flying. Ground training included the following:</p> <p>NAV: Group exercise.</p> <p>A/C: Daily inspections,</p> <p>F/S: Lecture on icing and carburettors.</p>		B-13.
	9		<p>Weather: Cloudless at first, increasing during morning and remaining cloudy during afternoon and evening. Slight drizzle 1600 to 1900 hours. Visibility mainly 3 to 4 miles. Winds W. to N.W. 10 to 16 m.p.h.</p> <p>Training: 17:20 hours flying training carried out today which included 6:50 hours x-country flights, 3:45 hours air to air firing and 6:55 hours fighter affiliation.</p> <p>A/C: Daily inspections, clay pigeon shooting (150 rounds).</p> <p>F/S: Lecture on carburettors and icing.</p>		
	10		<p>Weather: Cloudless Cloudy at first, dispersing at 0500 hours, and increasing again at 0800 hours. Sleet showers 1400 to 1600 hours. Visibility good. Winds strong N.W.'ly.</p>	P.T.O.	P

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Gransden Lodge, Beds.	10	(Cont'd)	<p>Training: No flying training was carried out today. Ground training included the following:</p> <p>E/A: Ground training on H.2.S. MK III.</p> <p>W/P: Lecture on intercom and emergency intercom.</p> <p>A/G: Daily inspections, aircraft recognition, range estimation, clay pigeon shooting (100 rounds).</p> <p>F/E: Weekly examination, lecture on practice bombing plots.</p> <p>VISITS AND INSPECTIONS: Their Majesties, The King and Queen, accompanied by their retinue, the Deputy A.O.C.-in-Chief, R.C.A.F. O'neal H.Q., A/V/M N.R. Anderson, the A.O.C. Path Finder Force (No. 8 Group), A/V/M D.C.T. Bennett, C.B.E., D.S.O., visited this Station for the primary purpose of meeting aircrew of No. 405 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron. In spite of inclement weather, the ceremony was carried out successfully. Photographs showing Their Majesties greeting these aircrew are attached as appendix 'C' 1.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: A signal was received from Air Ministry today, stating that 126821 P/O P.W. Wilson, CANO.16957 P/O R.T. Botkin and NO.43249 P/O J.G. Taylor, who were reported missing from bombing operations over Hanover on the night of 8th/9th October, 1943, are now classified "believed killed in action".</p>		C-1
	11		<p>Weather: Small amounts of cloud at first, increasing to 10/10ths at 0200 hours, remaining cloudy for rest of day and dispersing again at 2300 hours. Visibility moderate, Sleet showers during morning. Winds N.W.'ly, moderate.</p> <p>Training: 7:55 hours flying training was carried out today which included 50 minutes x-country 4:35 hours air to air firing and 2:30 hours air to sea firing. Ground training.</p> <p>NAV: Two dry swims, parachute and dinghy drill.</p> <p>E/A: Lecture on MK III bombsight.</p> <p>W/P: Horse practice and star plotting.</p> <p>A/G: Daily inspections, harmonisation.</p> <p>F/E: Lecture on all components.</p>		
	12.		<p>Weather: Mainly cloudy all day. Slight rain during morning. Visibility 2,000 to 3,000 yards. Winds N.W.'ly 5 to 10 m.p.h.</p> <p>Training: No flying training carried out today. Ground training included the following:</p> <p>NAV: Lectures on escape and prisoner of war conditions.</p> <p>E/A: Lecture on escape and bomb damage. Instruction to all engineers on MK XIV bombsight.</p> <p>W/P: Horse practice and instruction on astro navigation.</p> <p>A/G: Two hour lecture by intelligence and also daily inspections.</p> <p>F/E: Intelligence lectures.</p>		
	13.		<p>Weather: Mainly 10/10ths cloud all day, slight rain during early hours of morning. Visibility 1,000 to 2,000 yards, from 0100 to 0700 hours, improving to 6 miles during morning but decreasing to 1,600 yards, during afternoon, and improving again during evening. Winds, light and variable.</p> <p>Training: No flying training carried out today. Preparations for operations which were scrubbed later on in the day, prevented any further progress in the ground training.</p> <p>HONOURS AND AWARDS: The two following members of this Squadron received the Distinguished Flying Medal: RAE.136731 W/O S.F. Fineman (Air Bomber), and RAE.171177 P/O B.J. Langley (Wireless Operator/Air).</p>		H

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Gransden Lodge, Beds. Beds.	14.		<p><u>Weather:</u> Cloudy with slight mist all day. Slight rain between 0600 and 0800 and 1000 and 1200 hours. Slight drizzle 1600 and 1800 hours. Winds S'y veering S.S.W., later backing S.E.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> No flying training was carried out today. Ground training included the following: <u>NAV:</u> Four dry swims were carried out. <u>A/E:</u> Instruction on 'Y' MK III and night photography. <u>WCP:</u> Lecture on Radar Patter on operations, incorporation of flashpond with H.2.S., Morse training, ground gas training and Lancaster familiarization. <u>A/G:</u> Clay pigeon shooting (100 rounds); aircraft recognition, range estimation. <u>F/S:</u> Familiarisation of aircraft, lecture on night photography.</p> <p><u>CASUALTIES:</u> Information was received today that CAN/J.22208 P/O D.J. Elliott, who was reported missing from bombing operations over Berlin on 2nd/3rd January, 1944, is now classified "believed killed in action".</p>		
	15		<p><u>Weather:</u> Cloudy until 1500 hours with intermittent slight drizzle 0500 hours. Fine until 2900 hours, then cloudy again. Mist 1300 to 1500 hours, otherwise slight. Moderate S.S.'ly winds.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> A 2:05 hour x-country flight was the only flying training carried out today. Ground training was speeded down owing to preparations for operations.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON "BERLIN" * 23 AIRCRAFT DETAINED</u></p> <p>Thirteen Lancasters attacked primary, dropping 5 x 4,000 H.C., 16 x 1,000 H.C., 40x 2,000 H.C., 6 x 500 M.C., 4 x T.I. Red, 4 T.I. Green, 8 Flares Red/Green, from 2111 to 2127 hours, between 20,000 feet and 19,000 feet. Weather, 10/10ths cloud from 8 to 12,000 feet. Target marking generally considered concentrated, with Flares Red/Green in good supply and Red and Green T.I.'s cascading into cloud. At 2110 hours, first Flare Red/Green and T.I. Red released and at 2112 hours, first T.I. Green released. At 2126 hours, marking was spreading East and West. Flak - intense H/F 14,000 to 25,000 feet, moderate I/F. Searchlights ineffective. Thirteen aircraft attempted photos. Few fighter planes other than our own.</p> <p><u>Operational Flying Time: 57:58 HOURS (MTR)</u></p> <p><u>OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON "FRANKFURT-ON-MAINE" * 7 AIRCRAFT DETAINED</u></p> <p>Three Lancasters attacked primary, dropping 3 x 4,000 H.C., 12 x 1,000 M.C., 4 x T.I. Red, 4 x T.I. Green, from 2115 to 2120 hours, between 18,500 and 17,000 feet. Weather, 10/10ths cloud from 5 to 8,000 feet. Target marking considered very good. First T.I. Red released at 2116 hours and first T.I. Green released at 2113 hours. Defences, nil. Three aircraft attempted photos.</p> <p><u>Operational Flying Time: 21:14 HOURS (MTR)</u></p> <p><u>PERSONNEL OCCURRENCE REPORTS:</u> (See appendix B-L).</p>		A-10 A-11 B-14
	16		<p><u>Weather:</u> Cloudy, slight mist with occasional slight drizzle until 0600 hours. Continuous moderate rain then commencing until 1300 hours lessening a little and ceasing by 1800 hours. Visibility gradually deteriorating to 800 yards, but improving by midnight to 4 miles. Winds S.S.E.'ly moderate becoming calm and finally veering N.N.W.'ly.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> No flying training carried out today. Preparations for operations prevented any further progress in ground training. Operations were scrubbed later in the day.</p> <p><u>CASUALTIES:</u> Information has been today received from Air Ministry that CAN/J.17634 P/O A.W. Nichols, B.E.M., and CAN/J.17110 P/O R.A. Livingston, who were reported missing from operations over Krefeld, 21st/22nd June, 1943, are now presumed, for official purposes, dead.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Gransden Lodge, Beds.	17.		<p><u>Weather:</u> Cloudy with slight mist all day. Continuous slight rain 0200 to 0600 hours. Rain commencing 1000 hours becoming granulated snow 1100 to 1500 hours, then slight rain again ceasing by 1700 hours, but beginning at 2300 hours. Winds, N.N.W.'ly at first, veering N.E.'ly moderate.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> No flying training carried out today. Ground training included the following: Preparations for operations which were scrubbed later on in the day, somewhat curtailed ground training.</p> <p><u>WOP:</u> Morse training, fishpond lecture, ground Gee training, star recognition.</p> <p><u>A/G:</u> Clay pigeon shooting (150 rounds), range estimation, harmonization.</p> <p><u>P/S:</u> Lecture on bombing theory and Mk. II V bombsight.</p> <p><u>HONOURS AND AWARDS:</u> The following two members of this Squadron received the Immediate Award of the Distinguished Flying Cross: CAN/J.2143, P/O Biden, (Pilot) and CAN/J.11222 P/O Barb H.B. (NAV).</p> <p><u>PERSONNEL OCCURRENCE REPORTS:</u> (See appendix B-15).</p>		B-15.
	18		<p><u>Weather:</u> Cloudy, slight mist all day, with occasional slight rain or snow until 1700 hours. Winds, N.N.E.'ly light.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> 5:15 hours flying training was carried out today, which included the following: local miscellaneous flying. Ground training included the following: NAV: One hour lecture by the Officer Commanding, 405 (RCAF) Squadron, W/O R.J. Lane, DGO, DFC. Two hour lecture to new Navigators.</p> <p><u>P/A:</u> Ground training on H2S navigation.</p> <p><u>WOP:</u> Morse training and Astro Navigation.</p> <p><u>A/G:</u> Daily inspections, skeet shooting (100 rounds), aircraft recognition.</p> <p><u>P/S:</u> Instruction on pneumatics and hydraulics.</p> <p><u>CASUALTIES:</u> Information was today received from Air Ministry, stating that CAN/J.18901 P/O J.J. March (A/B) who was reported missing from operations over Brunswick Lath/ 15th January, 1940, is now reclassified "Prisoner of War". Information was also received that CAN/J.10313 P/L W.S.E. Cloutier, DFC, (Pilot), who was reported missing from operations (as above), is now reclassified "believed killed in action".</p>		
	19		<p><u>Weather:</u> Cloudy, slight mist until 0600 hours. Occasional slight snow until 1200 hours, then cloudy until 1700 hours, occasional slight snow or rain until 2300 hours, then fair. Winds N.N.W.'ly, light becoming moderate.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> 5:30 hours flying training was carried out today on local flying practice. Ground training was stood down owing to preparations for operations.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON "LITVAK" "LA AIRCRAFT DETAIL"</u></p> <p>Fourteen Lancasters attacked primary between 0356 and 0412 hours, from 20,000 to 16,900 feet, dropping 9 x 4,000 H.C., 37 x 1,000 H.C., 16 x 500 H.C., 25 x 2,000 H.C., 8 T.I. Red and 8 Flares Green/Red. Weather, 10/10 cloud, tops 5 to 8,000 feet. One aircraft reports first flares green/red and T.I. red at 0351 hours, but several others give 0354 hours. At 0357 hours, 12 flares green/red, very concentrated. At 0358 hours, numerous flares green/red scattered North to South 5 to 6 miles. At 0405 hours, 30 flares green/red concentrated North to South. At 0405 hours, T.I. Green on East edge of about 25 concentrated flares green/red. At 0410 hours, nothing down. At 0412 hours, up to 30 flares green/red concentrated. At 0413 hours, good glow on cloud, believed from fires. Marking well concentrated at first, scattered at times later on, with a gap of several minutes just before 0412 hours. Slight to moderate H/P. Flight activity on outward route, especially round Stendal. Also on home-ward route, crossing enemy coast. Fourteen aircraft attempted photographs.</p> <p><u>Operational Flying Time: 92:45 HOURS (REHE).</u></p>		A-12

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Gransden Lodge, Beds.	19	(Cont'd)	PERSONNEL OCCURRENCE REPORTS: (See appendix B-16).		B-16.
	20		Weather: Fair, slight mist sett becoming cloudy 0800 hours. Slight snow 1600 and 2000 hours to 2300 hours. Winds N.E. to moderate. Training: No flying and no ground training carried out today owing to preparations for operations. OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON " STUTTGART " 14 A/C DETAILED (1 CANCELLED) Thirteen Lancasters attacked primary, dropping 8 x 4,000 H.C., 87 x 1,000 M.C., 16 x flares green/red, 8 x T.I. red, 8 x T.I. green, from 0356 hours to 0414 hours, between 20,000 and 19,000 feet. Weather, varying from clear to 3 to 4/10, drifting at approximately 5,000 feet. All crews report seeing built up areas with waggam and red T.I.s spread over the town, with very few green T.I.s seen. At 0357 hours, the first green/red flare was seen, and a greenish blue explosion 1/2 miles Northeast of town centre. The early marking appeared to be on North edge of town, later covering the town, which was outlined by snow. At 0402 hours, an oil tank on edge of built up area was ablaze. This was 2 1/2 miles Northeast from the centre of the main attack, with further fires 2 1/2 miles to Northeast in built up area and woods. Glow of fires were seen from 150 miles away. Flak was moderate with very few and ineffective searchlights, below thin clouds. Twelve aircraft attempted photos. Operational flying time: 80:16 HOURS (NIGHT)		A-13
	21		Weather: Fair to cloudy until 2000 hours with slight snow 0300 to 0600 hours, and snow 1130 hours. Fine rest of day. Slight mist 0600 to 1200 hours. Winds N.E. to moderate. Training: 8 1/2 hours flying training was carried out today which included 7 1/2 hours 2-country flights and 1 1/2 hours S.B.A. Ground training included the following: B/A: Link training, Haz. S. instruction. WOP: Gee training, Sextant lecture and astro recognition, horse training, Simpson lecture. A/C: Daily inspections. CASUALTIES: Information was today received from Air Ministry stating that CAPT. J. BROWN P/O H.A. Flouren (Pilot), who was reported missing from operations over Brunswick 14th/15th January, 1944, is now reclassified "believed killed in action". CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE: The following signal was received today from Air Officer Commanding, Path Finder Force, quote: "The following signal has been received from A.O.C.-in-C. BOMBER COMMAND, begins. I HAVE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM GENERAL SPAHRZ U.S.A.F. BEGINS YOUR GREAT EFFORT AGAINST HEIPALZ LAST NIGHT WAS A TREMENDOUS HELP TO OUR SUCCESSFUL MISSION TODAY. THE FIRES RESULTING FROM YOUR BOMBING GUIDED OUR PLANES TO THEIR OBJECTIVE AND FIGHTER OPPOSITION WAS MINIMISED. I FEEL OUR JOINT BLOWS AGAINST THE ENEMY DURING THE LAST 24 HOURS ARE A REAL STEP TOWARD FINAL VICTORY. PLEASE EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION AND HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMAND. WITH YOUR PERMISSION I SHOULD LIKE TO REPEAT THE ABOVE MESSAGE TO MY COMMAND. ENDS. I HAVE SENT THE FOLLOWING REPLY. BEGINS. I MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR WELCOME MESSAGE AND CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU IN TURN ON YOUR HEAVY AND MOST SUCCESSFUL ATTACK. THANKS LARGELY TO OUR COMMAND EFFORTS ON THE PREVIOUS DAY AND NIGHT. THE ENEMY FIGHTER FORCE FAILED TO ACHIEVE ANY SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE OF STUTTGART WHICH WE HERE HAS NOW BEEN HEAVILY HIT AT A SMALL COST. BY AIRMAIL HELP SUCH AS THIS WE CAN BRING A STRIKE ON THE GERMAN FERRETS WHICH WILL BREAK THEM DOWN. IF WE THIS SHARE THE LOAD WE HAVE THE POWER TO REDUCE TO IMPOTENCE THE GREATEST OBSTACLE TO COMPLETE AND FINAL VICTORY. I SHALL BE MOST GRATEFUL IF YOU WILL COMMUNICATE YOUR MESSAGE AND THIS REPLY TO YOUR COMMAND. ENDS."		

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No. of pages used for day: _____

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Grandson Lodge, Bede.	21	(Cont'd)	<u>PERSONNEL OCCURRENCE REPORTS:</u> (See appendix B-17).		B-17
	22		<p><u>Weather:</u> Fine until 0900 hours, with visibility gradually deteriorating to 700 yards. Cloudy until 1700 hours with improving visibility and occasional slight snow or snow showers.</p> <p><u>Flak:</u> until 2400 hours. Winds N.E. to N., light.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> 7:20 hours x-country flights was carried out today. Ground training included the following:</p> <p>NAV: 2 hour lecture to Navigators on A.F.I. use.</p> <p>B/A: 'Y' training.</p> <p>WCF: Gee training and Morse practice.</p> <p>A/G: Daily inspections and aircraft recognition.</p> <p>F/S: Instruction on Lancaster III fuel system.</p>		
	23		<p><u>Weather:</u> Fair with fog forming 0100 to 0900 hours, slight mist until 1900 hours with visibility gradually deteriorating to 1,000 yards, by midnight. Slight drizzle 0600 to 0800 hours, and slight rain 1700 hours. Winds light variable.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> 32:10 hours flying training was carried out today which included 28:55 hours x-country flights, 1:55 hours fighter affiliation and 1:20 hours S.B.A. The large flying programme prevented any further progress in ground training.</p>		
	24		<p><u>Weather:</u> Fine all day with mist until 1100 hours and slight mist 1100 to 1300 hours, 2000 to 2400 hours. Winds light N.E. to E.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> 3:50 hours x-country flights was the only flying training carried out today. Preparations for operations prevented any further progress in ground training.</p> <p><u>OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON "SCHNEIDMURT" (SECOND ATTACK) 2 AIRCRAFT DETAINED</u></p> <p>Three aircraft attacked primary from 2301 hours to 2305 hours, between 19,200 feet and 16,000 feet. Nil cloud and excellent visibility. Attack started with flares at 2359 hours. Our two visual markers both identified the Aiming Point and report T.I. red on A.P. with other T.I. reds on East end of marshalling yard, and in the New Town. Both agree that though the town area was well covered with incendiaries, there was a pronounced spread for 5 to 6 miles to the West and W.S.W. and that several T.I. reds were also in open country to the West. Three very good fires in town area. Flak, slight to moderate. 3/L numerous but generally ineffective. 3 A/C attempted photos. No fighter activity reported.</p> <p><u>Operational flying time:</u> 19:58 HOURS (NIGHT)</p>		A-14
			<p><u>OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON "SCHNEIDMURT" (SECOND ATTACK) 2 AIRCRAFT DETAINED</u></p> <p>Eight Lancasters attacked primary, dropping 1 x flares green/red, 8 x 10,000 H.C., 20 x 1,000 M.C., 14 x 2,000 M.C., 7 x T.I. red, 4 x T.I. green, between 19,000 and 17,000 feet, and between 0102 and 0108 hours. Weather was clear with such smoke and haze over the area of attack. All crews report a concentrated attack commencing North of area previously on fire, tending to creep South of the existing fires, and T.I.s illuminating built up area. Five or six outstanding large fires were seen. Only two or three loads of incendiaries were away from the main attack, one two miles to North and two 2 miles to the South. One crew reported explosion at 0130 hours. Flak was moderate W/F bursting from 17,000 to 22,000 feet with some medium flak below at 15,000 feet. 3/L were numerous in half circle to N.E. of town, some individual and some coming and a cone of 15 to 20 to North of town. Seven aircraft attempted photographs.</p> <p><u>Operational flying time:</u> 72:51 HOURS (NIGHT).</p>		A-15

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET:	References to Appendices
Grandson Lodge, Beds.	24		MISSING FROM OPERATIONS "SCHNEIDMUELLER" (FIRST ATTACK) Pilot CAN/J.41204 P/O Jackson E.G. CAN/V.10969 P/O Christison R.L. Nav. CAN/J.111217 P/O Bradford J.A. CAN/Z.115326 P/S Schwartz M.E. B/A CAN/J.22699 P/O Freidinger R.H. CAN/V.23637 P/O Shaw J.R. W/P RAF/A575074 P/S Rodstone P.S. CAN/V.9216 P/L Fielding J.W. W/U CAN/C.7735 P/O Eastman D.J. CAN/R.185808 SGT Robinson G.S. P/G CAN/R.182327 P/S Kay S. CAN/R.191119 SGT Pours E.L. P/E RAF/A862629 SGT Abern F.J. RAF/1870924 SGT Tongue C.W.L.		A-14
	(Cont'd)				
	25		Weather: Cloudy, slight mist 0001 to 1300 and 2300 and 2400 hours, with occasional slight rain or drizzle during the day. Winds light N.N.E., backing N.N.W. 1/2 towards end of period. Training: No flying training carried out today. Ground training included the following: Operations: Preparations for operations prevented any further progress in ground training. OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON "AUSBURG" (FIRST ATTACK) 11 AIRCRAFT DETAINED Two aircraft returned early, one with starboard engine 1/6 and the other with intercom up. Nine Lancasters attacked primary, dropping 20 T.I. red, 10 T.I. green, 4 flares white, 6 x 4,000 M.C., 43 x 1,000 M.C., between 19,000 and 17,000 feet, from 2339 hours to 2351 hours. Weather, no cloud with excellent visibility. The attack opened with the first greens falling at 2238 hours and two lines of flares, one East and one West of town, illuminating the target which was plainly recognized by all crews. Both visual markers identified the aiming point, which was very accurately marked with red T.I.s just before the one visual marker bombed at 2241 hours. The whole town area was covered with incendiaries in a carpet 5 miles by 1 1/2 and black smoke from three separate fires was rising to approximately 10,000 feet in town centre. H/P and L/P flak was moderate. S/L very numerous but no aircraft coded. Nine photos attempted. Fighters were active especially on Potts to target. Operational flying time: 1211X HOURS (NIGHT) 56:28		A-16
			OPERATIONS: BOMBING ATTACK ON "AUSBURG" (SECOND ATTACK) 3 AIRCRAFT DETAINED Three Lancasters attacked primary, dropping 4 T.I. red, 8 T.I. green, 8 flares green/red, 3 x 4,000 M.C., and 12 x 1,000 M.C., from 0112 hours to 0115 hours, between 19,000 and 18,000 feet. Weather, no cloud and good visibility. Glow of fires seen 130 miles from target. Large dump fires covered area 2 to 3 miles square with a pall of smoke to 10,000 feet. Our three reports agree that the main force attacked well ahead of P.P.F. Light flak seen at 0100 hours approximately, and incendiaries at 0105 hours. Incendiaries were seen burning on old farms, and to East, West and to South of them, some of the last definitely in open country. One crew reports large conflagration in in Southwest of town near marshall yard with other good fires running North. They also say that at 0116 hours, T.I. greens and flares green/red were over North edge of area covered by fires, main force were bombing the fires to the S.W. Sight to moderate H/P and moderate L/P. Up to 70 S/L mostly to Southwest of town, stationary or waving ineffectively. No fighter activity. Three aircraft attempted photos. Operational flying time: 1222X HOURS (NIGHT) 19:11 PERSONNEL COMPLIANCE REPORTS: (See appendix B-16).		A-17
	26		Weather: Cloudy, slight mist apart from 1200 yards visibility at 0800 hours, all day, with occasional slight rain or drizzle. Rain becoming continuous towards midnight. Wind N.N.W. veering N.N.E. then backing N.N.W. again, light.		B-18


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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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														
Gransden Lodge, Beds.	26 (cont'd)		<p><u>Training:</u> Nil flying training carried out today. Ground training included the following:</p> <p><u>NAV:</u> Instruction on P.F.F. Navigation, Parachute and Dingley Drills.</p> <p><u>B/A:</u> Lecture on MK XIV bombsight and H.2.S.</p> <p><u>W/P:</u> Astro navigation and Morse practice.</p> <p><u>A/G:</u> All gunners were stood down today.</p> <p><u>E/E:</u> Instruction on familiarization of Lancaster III to new Engineers.</p>																
			<p><u>Weather:</u> Cloudy slight mist until 2100 hours, with occasional slight rain, drizzle or sleet until 1200 hours. Fine 2100 to 2400 hours. WINDS light variable.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> No flying training today. Ground training included the following:</p> <p><u>NAV:</u> Three dry swims and lecture on P.F.F. Navigation.</p> <p><u>B/A:</u> Instruction on H.2.S. and MK XIV bombsight.</p> <p><u>W/P:</u> Morse practice and Gee training.</p> <p><u>A/G:</u> Daily inspections, Parachute and Dingley Drills.</p> <p><u>E/E:</u> Instruction on Hydraulic and electrical systems.</p>																
			<p><u>Weather:</u> Fine slight mist to 0700 hours, becoming cloudy with convection cloud to 2000 hours. Snow showers throughout cloudy period. Winds N.W. by, light moderate.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> 2:45 hours miscellaneous local flying was carried out today. Ground training included the following:</p> <p><u>NAV:</u> Two hour lecture to new Navigators.</p> <p><u>B/A:</u> Instruction on night photography and H.2.S.</p> <p><u>W/P:</u> Morse training and practice Gee training.</p> <p><u>A/G:</u> Daily inspections.</p> <p><u>E/E:</u> Lecture on carburettor.</p> <p><u>PERCENTAGE OCCURRENCE REPORTS.</u> (See appendix B-19).</p>		B-19														
			<p><u>Weather:</u> Fine until 1600, then cloudy from 1600 to 2400 hours. Slight mist all day. Winds N. by, gradually backing S.S.W. by, light becoming moderate.</p> <p><u>Training:</u> 4:15 hours flying carried out today which included 2:25 hours x-country flights and 1:50 hours practice bombing. Also, 15:20 hours night flying was carried out which included 10 hours x-country flights and 5:20 hours practice bombing. The large flying programme prevented any further progress in ground training.</p> <p><u>GENERAL STATE OF HEALTH OF SQUADRON FOR MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 29TH, 1944.</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Admissions to S.S.G. - Oakington.....</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Admissions to Other Hospitals.....</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Venereal Disease.....</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Infections.....</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cycling Accidents.....</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Accidents.....</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cases of Frostbite.....</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deaths.....</td> <td>NIL</td> </tr> </table> <p>The health of the Squadron for the past month has been generally good. The Squadron spirit seems to be very much improved.</p>	Admissions to S.S.G. - Oakington.....	2	Admissions to Other Hospitals.....	4	Venereal Disease.....	1	Other Infections.....	5	Cycling Accidents.....	6	Other Accidents.....	4	Cases of Frostbite.....	1	Deaths.....	NIL
Admissions to S.S.G. - Oakington.....	2																		
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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events						References to Appendices					
			SECRET.											
Grandden Lodge, Beds. (Cont'd)	29 (Cont'd)		<u>AIRCRAFT STRENGTH OF NO. 405 SQUADRON R.C.A.F. AS AT 29TH FEBRUARY, 1944.</u>											
			The Squadron has 14 Lancaster III and 9 Lancaster III Special aircraft on charge.											
			<u>NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF NO. 405 SQUADRON R.C.A.F. AS AT 29TH FEBRUARY, 1944.</u>											
					<u>CREW</u>		<u>OTHER PERSONNEL</u>			<u>W.A.A.F.</u>		<u>ARMY</u>		
					Officers	Other	Officers	Other		Officers	Other	Officers	Other	
					Ranks	Ranks	Ranks	Ranks		Ranks	Ranks	Ranks	Ranks	
					United Kingdom	21	51	1		54	-	9	-	136
					Australia	3	-	-		-	-	-	-	3
					Canada	60	60	2		234	-	-	-	356
					Newfoundland	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
					New Zealand	1	-	-		-	-	-	-	1
					Rhodesia	-	1	-		-	-	-	-	1
					United States	1	-	-		-	-	-	-	1
						96	112	3		288	-	9	-	498
					TOTAL NUMBER OF SORTIES FOR FEBRUARY	71								
		TOTAL NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT MISSING	2											
		TOTAL NUMBER OF OPERATIONAL HOURS	446:35 (NIGHT)											
		TOTAL NUMBER OF NON-OPERATIONAL HOURS	211:40 (DAY)		15:20 (NIGHT)									
		 (R. E. Lane) Wing Commander, Commanding No. 405 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.												