

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

APPENDIX

R.A.F.  
FORM 541.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

BY 405 (BCAF) SQUADRON, POCKLINGTON.

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 4

(7472) WL 242291650. 1806. 8/40. P.I. 51-7751.

FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1942.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
11/12 Feb. '42.	Wellington II					<u>Bombing Attack On LEHAVRE</u>	B.8.
	"N"	Sgt. Howsan, Sgt. Knight, P/O Burgoyne, Sgt. Harcourt, Sgt. Hughes P/O McKinnon.		1736	2329	Pocklington Ops. Order No. 75 Two A/C (freshers) detailed. Bombload: 16x250 G.P. T.D. 0.025. Both to carry cameras. Weather: 2/10 cloud but visibility good. Seine estuary and coastal features clearly identified. Snow seen on both banks of Seine but no ice noticed.	
	"P"	P/O Durbridge, P/Sgt. Sidney, Sgts. Skuthorpe, Brown, Campbell, Cole.		1738	2330	With good visibility "N" (Sgt. Howsan) bombed docks on third run East to West and appears to have straddled dock area. One flash pinpointed by rear gunner (P/O McKinnon) on quay between BASSIN DE MAREE and Western dock 7. Took photo with bombing and awaiting results. Bombing A/C "P" (P/O Durbridge) encountered 6/10 cloud with some breaks but was unable to identify ground features. Could get no pinpoints and jettisoned safe in sea 15 miles North of CHERBOURG. Both Captains impressed by bad black out in district and report subnormal flak and S/L activity.	
12/2/42	"B"	S/Ldr Fauquier, Sgts. Hill, Gardner, Tatro, Beare, P/O Andrew.		1356	1726	<u>Bombing Attack On BATTLESHIPS AT SEA</u> Position at 1225 hrs. S. FORLAND 091°	B.9.
	"X"	P/O Allison, Sgts. Higgins, C.W. Hamstock, Dodds, Hamilton, Sanderson.		1357	1747	Pocklington Ops. Order No. 76 Six A/C detailed. Bombload: 8x500 S.A.P.	
	"W"	P/Lt. Frizzle, Sgts. Kaiser, Dyson, Francois, Biggs, Smith, A.		1354	1657	Weather: 10/40 cloud shortly after leaving NORFOLK Coast and no breaks found. Snow and rain also encountered.	
	"V"	P/O Robson, Sgts. Weakley, Leith, Phillips, Robson, M.F. P/O McKinnon.		1357	1720	All aircraft encountered 10/10 cloud East of NORFOLK Coast and no Captain saw sea except "B" (S/Ldr. Fauquier) who searched at 300 feet. While at this altitude, at 1530 hours "B" rear gunner (P/O Andrew) saw ME 110 cross from starboard to port about 1,000 yards away. There were no engagement. All A/C returned with bombs.	
	"M"	P/O Fenwick-Wilson, Sgt. Slaughter, P/O Lockyer, Sgts. Blackman, Cook, Lomas.		1352	1650	"W" (P/Lt. Frizzle) had inter-comm. failure.	
	"S"	Sgt. Baltzer, Sgt. Farrell, P/O Gerty, Sgts. Brown, Graves, Jeffery.		1353	1648		
12/2/42	"P"	Sgt. Wigley, Sgts. Deeks, Higgins, J. Harcourt, Rice, Watters.		1644	2032		
	"N"	P/O Thiele, Sgts. Field, Leslie, Gardiner, Nutt, White.		1643	0244	<u>Bombing Attack On BATTLESHIPS AT SEA</u> Position at 1440 hrs. 5140 N. x 0258 E.	B.10.
						Pocklington Ops. Order No. 77 Two A/C detailed. Bombload: 8 x 500 S.A.P. Weather: 10/10 cloud with very few breaks.	

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2) O V E R

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
12/2/42	Wellington II	Pooklington Ops. Order No. 77 (CONTINUED) from Page 1				Bombing Attack On Battleships At Sea (Con'd. from 1)	B. 10.
						<p>Although both Captains clearly identified one of the big ships in a momentary cloud break bombing results could not be observed since target was screened from view immediately following release of bombs.</p> <p>"W" (Sgt. Wigley) saw ship for a moment and released bombs from 3500 ft. at 1809 hrs. but cloud prevented any observation. At 1811 and at the same altitude saw 2 ME 109 one starboard above; other port and below. Engaged first with short burst at 500 yards but cloud concluded engagement. Reported big fire resembling ship, shortly after sighting warship, some 6 to 7 miles North NorthEast of her.</p> <p>"W" (P/O Thiele) observed ship in sudden cloud burst and estimated position as 52.28 x 03.58. Cloud immediately obscured target and a half hour search including descent to 1500 feet failed to locate again. Bombs jettisoned in target area.</p> <p>Both Captains state they were violently engaged by by warships and noted reduced speed of ship owing to lack of wake and no high water at bows.</p> <p>No cameras carried - there were no casualties.</p> <p>.....</p>	
13/14 Feb. '42.	"W"	E/O Locke, Sgts. Atkinson, Johnson, 1754 Jones, D.E. Jones, M.D. Sanderson.		0410		<p><u>BOMBING ATTACK ON LEHAUVE</u></p> <p>Pooklington Ops. Order No. 78. Four A/C (fresher) detailed. Bombload: "W", "X", "N", 4x250 L.D. D.C.25. "N" Nickels only. 22 packs P.11. Weather: 10/10 cloud over primary with tops at 8000 feet. Visibility good.</p>	B.11.
	"X"	P/O Hemy, Sgt. Edwards, E/O Gibson, 1743 Sgts. Forbes, Girieu, Porter.		0001			
	"T"	P/O Durbridge, Sgts. Sidney, Higgins 1740 Broddy, Wright, Tilley.		2327			
	"N"	Sgt. Howson, Sgt. Knight, E/O Burgoyne, Sgt. Page, Sgt. Hughes, E/O McKinnon 1728		2314		<p>All Captains encountered 8/10 and 10/10 cloud after leaving coast and were unsuccessful in reaching target.</p> <p>"W" (P/O Hemy) spent half hour searching for target and was fired upon by ship near LEHAUVE. Jettisoned "Live" about 15 miles N.E. of CHERBOURG at 2025 from 10,000 ft. One 250 failed to release despite jettison bars. Port engine failed at 30 ft. while landing.</p> <p>"T" (P/O Durbridge) jettisoned live at 2025 from 10,000 ft. 15 miles N.E. of CHERBOURG after a fruitless half hour search for target.</p> <p>"W" (P/O Locke) could make no attack owing to 10/10 cloud and jettisoned safe in sea at 2130 hours from 10,000 ft. Landed at Linton.</p> <p>"N" (Sgt. Howson) dropped its 22 packages nickels (P11) between 1948 and 2018 hrs. at 13000 ft. 10 miles off coast between Cap D'ANTIFER and mouth of SEINE. Estimated to have fallen in TOTES, ROUEN, BERRY and LISIEUX district.</p>	

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Bv405(RCAF) SQUADRON, POCKLINGTON.

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(7472) Wt. 24210/1450. 1804. 840. P.L. 81-3781.

FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1942.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
14/15 Feb. '42.	Wellington II "X"	P/O Taylor, Sgts. Kaiser, Roy, Francis, Biggs, Smith, A.		CANCELLED.		<u>BOMBING ATTACK ON MANNHEIM</u>	B-12.
	"R"	F/Sgt. Baltzer, Sgt. Deeks, P/O Certy, Sgts. Brown, R. Graves, Jeffery, R.E.		1813	0133	Pocklington Ops. Order No. 79. Eight A/C detailed. Bombload: "R", "J", and "S" 12,000. Others 1x1,000, 4x500, 4x250(M.L.D.)T.D.O.025. All A/C to carry nickels (G4) and Cameras. Weather: Cloud varying between 7/10 and 10/10 over target area.	
	"S"	Sgt. Swetman, Sgt. Farrell, P/O Lockyer, Sgts. Blackman, Cook, Lomas.		1827	2130	Bombing carried out in 10/10 and no precise information can be given as regards success of attack. It is thought that most Captains were over or near target and the bombs were released between 2100 and 2130 hours from 15,000 to 15,000 feet. The few results observed included vivid purple blue flash seen by rear gunner Sgt. Thomas of "R" (Sgt Lloyd) and which lasted nearly a minute. "S" (Sgt. Swetman) dropped his 4,000 pounder on what was believed MANNHEIM according to defences, and observed very big flash leaving red glow visible for 45 minutes after leaving target. "R" (Sgt Baltzer) while believed over MANNHEIM, could not get his 4,000 pounder disengaged and was unfortunately forced to bring it back. "S" (Sgt. Lloyd) also had one 500 pounder hang up. Nickels (G4) dropped in area by "R", "S", "T" and "N". "J" (P/O Frizzle) experienced severe icing which caused A/C to lose height and necessitated his return to base with bombs. "R", "X", and "Y" were CANCELLED, the latter having an oil leakage. Camera results only show cloud. There were no casualties.	
	"T"	Sgt. Lloyd, Sgts. Lonergan, Dansey, Gardiner, Nutt, Thomas.		1807	2100		
	"N"	P/O Thiele, Sgts. Field, E/Sgt. Leith Sgts. Waterworth, MacKenzie, Cole.		1803	2120		
	"J"	F/lt. Frizzle, Sgts. Chinn, Dyson, allen, Jones, M.D. Pickard.		1836	2040	NO SORTIE	
	"B"	S/Ldr. Fauquier, Sgts. Hill, Hamcock, Tatro, Jackman, P/O Andrew.		CANCELLED			
	"Y"	P/O Robson and Crew.		CANCELLED			
26/27 Feb. '42.	"B"	P/O Locke, Sgts. Atkinson, Johnson Jones, D.E. Dennis, Sanderson.		1843	0131	<u>BOMBING ATTACK ON KIEL DOCKS</u>	B-13.
	"J"	P/O Taylor, F/Sgt. Kaiser, Sgts. Roy Francis, Biggs, Smith.		1844	0105	Pocklington Ops. Order No. 80. Nine A/C detailed. Bombload: "J" and "S" carried 4,000 pounder while remainder 1x1,000 G.P. T.D. G.025, 3x500 G.P. S.F. T.D.O.012, 3x500 G.P. T.D. G.025. All A/C to carry cameras. All except "J" and "S" to carry nickels. Weather: 10/10 cloud over NORTH SEA clearing near SCALESWIG COAST.	
	"P"	P/O Thiele, Sgt. Weakley, P/O Baldwin E/Sgt. Campbell, Sgts. MacKenzie, Broch.		1847	0048	The five Captains who reached target report tremendous flak from Kiel harbour both the light and heavy heavy and usual abundant S/L concentrations. "P" (P/O Locke) bombed dock area from 15,000 ft. at 2232 in clear weather and good visibility but did not observe result. Air speed indicator unreliable and oxygen supply spasmodic through icing. Starboard engine failed over NORTH SEA on return.	
	"Y"	Sgt. Higginson, F/Sgt. Blizard, P/O Jones, Sgt. Sankey, F/Sgts. McGill, Morrison.		1848	0059		

(CONTINUED ON PAGE NO. 4) OVER

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
26/27 Feb. '42.	"N"	P/O Durbridge, F/Sgt. Sidney, P/O Gerty, F/Sgt. Broddy, Sgt. Wright, Tilley.		1850	0059	<u>Rocklinton Ops. Order No. 80 continued from page No. - 3 -</u>	B. 13.
	"S"	Sgt. Lloyd, Sgt. Lonergan, P/O McEwen, Sgts. Gardiner, Nutt, Thomas JETT.	"LIVE"	1900	2212	Despite clear weather "J" (P/O Taylor) found it difficult to pinpoint because of frozen inlets and snow. Bombed what was believed town of SCHLEWIG. Large flash observed from 4,000 pounds and photo taken shows it exploding on edge of town. At 2013 hours near HUSUM saw two vapour trails and a minute later saw big red flash in sky and burning aircraft slowly descending.	
	"X"	F/Sgt Morris and Crew.		1842	2030	With excellent visibility over target "P" (P/O Thiele) released bombs at 2215 hrs. from 4,000 ft. on E. to W. run. Saw his stick fall just short of floating dock. Large fire observed by rear gunner (Sgt. Biech) for 50 miles. Could not drop leaflets or use camera since chute frozen.	
	"T"	P/O Swetman and Crew.		1849	2014	In excellent visibility "W" (Sgt. Higginson) made E. to W. run at 2230 hrs from 4,500 ft and saw green and red explosions from his stick falling on <del>DESTROY WERKE</del> <del>XXXXXXXX</del> In same conditions "M" (P/O Durbridge) straddled WERKE from 15,000 ft. at 2233 hrs.	
	"D"	F/Lt. Robson, W/Cdr. Mc Allister, Sgt. Dyson, F/Sgt. Phillips, F/Sgt. Robson, Sgt. Piers.		1855	MISSING.	"X" and "T" both experienced severe icing and returned with bombs while "S" (Sgt. Lloyd) trying to climb over 10/10 cloud with severe icing conditions found his starboard engine revs. began to surge and jettisoned 4,000 pounds live at 2040 hrs at 5438 Hex0525 E. and turned back. "S", "T" and "X" released their Nickels in the KILB BENDSEBURG area.	
						<u>CASUALTY</u> "D" Captained by F/Lt. Robson is missing from the operation. No word was received after take off. The Crew were: W/Cdr. McAllister, Sgt. Dyson F/Sgt. Phillips, F/Sgt. Robson, and Sgt. Piers.	
						<i>[Signature]</i> F/O No. 405 (RCAP) Squadron.	

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