



OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. ONE

5.22-1-408
PAE

of (Unit or Formation) No. 403 (R.G.Ar.P.) Squadron, LINGERS

No. of pages used for day _____

Place	Date	Summary of Events	SECRET.	Reference to Appendices
LINGERS	1.6.43	Weather - Continuous rain with moderate visibility until 0800 hours becoming cloudy with showers and good visibility later. We were stood down to-day. Ground and air training was carried out by aircrew personnel.		
LINGERS	2.6.43	Weather - Cloudy with frequent showers; visibility was good. We were stood down again to-day. Ground training was carried out by aircrew personnel.		
LINGERS	3.6.43	Weather - Occasional showers and light rain, cloudy with good visibility part of the day. Visibility poor with heavy showers towards dusk. We were stood down from operations to-day. Air and ground training was carried out by aircrew personnel.		
LINGERS	4.6.43	Weather - Cloudy to overcast - rain in afternoon and evening; visibility moderate. Seventeen aircraft were prepared for bombing operation, but all were scrubbed prior to take off.		
LINGERS	5.6.43	Weather - Cloudy with good visibility. We were stood down to-day from operations. The R.C.I.A.F. Overseas Band visited the station to-day giving a band concert in the N.C.O.'s Mess Hall from 1700 hours to 1900 hours. From all reports, the concert was very enjoyable. From 2000 hours to 2145 hours the R.C.I.A.F. Overseas Orchestra made up from members of the band supplied music for an all ranks dance which was attended by a very large number of personnel.		
LINGERS	6.6.43	Weather - Cloudy with showers - visibility moderate to poor. We were again stood down from operations to-day. Air training was carried out by members of aircrew personnel.		
LINGERS	7.6.43	Weather - Occasional showers with hazy visibility. Seventeen aircraft were prepared for bombing operations seven of which were scrubbed early and the remainder at 2045 hours.		
LINGERS	8.6.43	Weather - Cloudy with good visibility. We were stood down from operations to-day. Air training was carried out by aircrew personnel.		
LINGERS	9.6.43	Weather - Fair to cloudy - moderate visibility. Sixteen aircraft were prepared for bombing operations, but all were scrubbed after 2000 hours.		
LINGERS	10.6.43	Weather - Cloudy and hazy. We were again stood down from operations to-day. Ground training was carried out by aircrew personnel.		
LINGERS	11.6.43	Weather - Cloudy with occasional slight rain or drizzle. Visibility poor most of day, improving to good after 2100 hours. Eighteen aircraft took-off from this base for bombing operations over Gelsenkirchen, Germany. Fifteen aircraft were assigned to their assignment and returned to base without casualty. Two aircraft were forced to return early, one due to vacuum pump going up and the other due to oxygen failure lock in system. One aircraft failed to return from this operation. Remaining are the names of the missing crew together with their operational trips and hours. Ae1700 - Ae1717		
		G.S.M. J17002 P/O Arthur Gordon GRANT (pilot) 15 75.30		
		G.S.M. J17002 P/O Ray Elliot DAWER (Nav) 12 77.31		
		G.S.M. J17002 P/O Theodore FLEMING HODGES (pilot) 10 62.00		
		G.S.M. 36657 P/M Michael Robert (Gunner) 13 75.25		
		G.S.M. 36289 P/M ROBERT, Albert Mervin (Gunner) 14 66.04		
		G.S.M. 311975 R/T ALLEN, James Murray Reginald (Radio) 11 71.1		
		G.S.M. 366479 R/T STANNETT, Kenneth Richard (Radio) 13 75.45		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
LEAVING	12.6+3		Weather- Fair at first; fine after 0600 hours with good visibility. Twelve aircraft took-off from this base for bombing operations over DOORM, Germany. Eleven aircraft were successful in their assignment and all returned without casualty. One aircraft is reported missing from this operation. Hereunder are the names of the missing crew together with their operational trips and hours.		A.1710 - A.1720
			CAN. J. 9688 P/O George Russell LAKE (Pilot) 3 04.37 CAN. N121801 SGT RAYNER, Albert Frederick (Nav.) 1 5.36 CAN. J.20316 P/O Francis Lloyd MILLER (A.B.) 1 5.36 Sgt. 5133234 SGT BANNISTER, Neasey (Top/G) 1 5.36 Cpl. R.46960 SGT FOREY, Joseph Holland (A.G.) 1 5.33 Cpt. 1127926 SGT HUNTERSON, David Hunter (Loc.) 1 5.30 Cpl. M37121 SGT MCKEEEN, Thomas (E/MG) 1 5.30 H I L		
LEAVING	13.6+3		Weather- Mainly fair with good visibility. The squadron was stood down to-day and aircrew personnel were given a rest.		
LEAVING	14.6+3		Weather- Fair becoming cloudy in morning with frequent showers; good visibility. Twelve aircraft were prepared for operations, but all were scrubbed prior to take-off.		
LEAVING	15.6+3		Weather- Cloudy with frequent showers; good visibility. Three aircraft departed from this airbase on a Blind Search at 0700 hours. This search was carried out with hopes of finding V/F Ad. Grant and his crew and V/F Cpl. Lange and his crew who went missing on the 11.6+3 and 12.6+3 respectively. All aircraft returned to this base without success. Fighter Affiliation, Air Piping and R.A. Local flying, was carried out by aircrew personnel on this day.		
LEAVING	16.6+3		Weather- Fair to fine at first becoming cloudy after mid-day with frequent showers; good visibility. Fifteen aircraft were prepared for operations, but all were scrubbed at 1330 hours. Bombing practice was carried out by some members of aircrew personnel.		
LEAVING	17.6+3		Weather- Fair to fine at first becoming cloudy after mid-day with frequent showers; good visibility. Bombing practice and local flying (S.B.C.) was carried out by aircrew personnel.		
LEAVING	18.6+3		Weather- Cloudy with period of continuous rain from 0900 - 14.00 hours; visibility good except for period 0900 - 11.00 hours. Flying Airtest was carried out by aircrew personnel.		
LEAVING	19.6+3		Weather- Fair to cloudy with good visibility. Sixteen aircraft took-off from this airbase for bombing operations over LE CHATEL, France. All aircraft but one were successful in their assignments. One aircraft failed to return from this operation. Hereunder are the names of the missing crew together with their operational trips and hours.		A.1730 - A.1740
			R.F. 1A1102 P/O Richard Anthony HOGG, R.E.M. (Pilot) 29 210.8 Cpl. 1A67902 SGT McNAUL, James (Nav.) 14 57.44 Cpl. J17007 P/O (A/B/MG) Max. 3.04.28 (A.B.) 16 117.51 A/C 5133234 P/O Peter Eggington 0.04.00 (Top/G) 29 149.26 Cpl. 5130948 SGT REED, Ronald Allen (A.G.) 10 0.00 Cpt. J123265 P/O Frederick Jerome John HALL (Loc.) 24 0.32 Cpl. J17468 P/O Vaughan Carter (E/MG) 14 0.23		
			To-day, this Squadron was paid a formal visit by Canada's High Commissioner, The Honourable Mr. Vincent Massey and his wife Mrs. Massey. They spent the entire day visiting the buildings and installations, etc.		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 100

of (Unit or Formation) No. 408 (R.G.A.F.P.) - GUAERNY, LEBING

No. of pages used for day _____

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
LEBING	20.6.43		Weather:- Fair to cloudy with intermittent rain in the morning; good visibility. Few aircraft were prepared for bombing operations, but all were scrubbed at 1900 hours.		
LEBING	21.6.43		Weather:- Fair to fine with good visibility. Thirteen aircraft took-off from this base for bombing operations over KRETSCH, Germany. All but three were successful in their assignment and returned to base without casualties. Three aircraft are reported missing from this operation. Hereunder are the names of the missing crews together with their operational trips and hours:		A.1743 - A.1755
			C.W. J.1745 F/O Joseph Gardiner, Albert PERRY C.W. R.119.08 F/A KELLY, Norman P.W. 1319.221 307 RUDY, Desmond R.W. 1302.02 302 MURRAY, George Albert C.W. R.104.03 307 HOGGROST, Edward O.W. R.106.02 307 HOGGROST, Albert Leonard C.W. R.699.09 307 HOGGROST, John Harold William	(Pilot) 13 67.10 (Nav) 11 67.17 (Obs) 11 67.17 (A/C) 11 67.17 (Gunner) 11 67.17 (Gunner) 11 67.17 (Gunner) 11 67.17 (Pilot) 11 67.17 (Nav) 11 67.17	
			R.A.F. 129791 307 HOGGROST, Dennis C.W. R.136.09 307 HOGGROST, George Edward C.W. R.303.02 307 McGRATH, James Clarence R.W. 1306.07 307 MCGRATH, Michael David O.W. R.76.07 307 MCGRATH, William Dawson C.W. R.100.01 307 MCGRATH, Joseph Rene O.W. R.94.070 307 MCGRATH, Cyril Lester	(Pilot) 8 53.34 (Nav) 6 56.38 (Obs) 6 56.38 (A/C) 6 56.38 (Gunner) 6 56.38 (Gunner) 6 56.38 (Gunner) 6 56.38 (Pilot) 6 56.38	
			C.W. 1107.09 307 MCGRATH, Clifford Clarence C.W. J.22.011 F/O James Coyle Brown MERRILL C.W. J.10.024 F/O Joseph Earl MERRILL C.W. R.107.070 307 MCGRATH, John Peter C.W. R.108.053 307 MCGRATH, George Eric C.W. R.91.011 307 MCGRATH, William C.W. R.340.008 307 MCGRATH, Gordon Mitchell	(Pilot) 16 73.17 (Nav) 13 71.35 (Obs) 16 66.11 (A/C) 12 62.49 (Gunner) 18 101.21 (Gunner) 11 59.33 (Pilot) 15 70.09	
LEBING	22.6.43		Weather:- Fair to cloudy with occasional showers; moderate visibility. Nine aircraft were prepared for operations. One aircraft was scrubbed prior to take off. The remainder took-off from this base for bombing operations over MUNICH, Germany. The aircraft were unsuccessful in their assignment and were forced to return early. One was forced to return due to bomb timer having expired, and the others returned due to air-speed indicator going u/a. The remaining six aircraft were successful in their assignment and return to this airbase without incident.		A.1756 - A.1763
LEBING	23.6.43		Weather:- Cloudy with frequent showers; visibility good. We were stood down from Operations today. Air Tests were carried out by members of airbase personnel.		
LEBING	24.6.43		Weather:- Fair to fine with good visibility. Nine aircraft were prepared for operations and all took-off from this base for bombing operations over MUNICH, Germany. All aircraft returned to this base without serious incident after a successful assignment. Air Tests were carried out by members of airbase personnel.		A.1764 - A.1772

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
LEAVING	25.6.43		Weather - Cloudy becoming fair at night with good visibility. Ten aircraft were prepared for operations, but two were scrubbed prior to take-off. The remainder took-off from this airbase for bombing operations over ODESSA, Germany. Seven aircraft carried out their assignment successfully and returned to this base without incident. One aircraft failed to return from this assignment. Hereunder are the names of the missing crew together with their operational titles and hours.		A-1773 - A-1780
			C.W. H123305 W/T RUELLI, Bruce Ryerson C.W. J-3839 P/O Frederick Campbell CULBERT R.P. 1391023 SGT HENRY, John Henry C.W. R-66306 SGT AKERS, David C.W. R-53759 SGT HUNTER, John Douglas Bruce C.W. R-56551 SGT SPARKS, Monroe George R.P. 577246 SGT SUZET, Robert Banks C.W. V131106 W/T HALE, John Frederick	(Pilot) 15 112.22 (Nav.) 15 90.53 (R.A.) 20 122.05 (R.M.C.) 16 90.50 (A.G.) 16 90.50 (A.G.) 18 111.15 (R.M.C.) 15 92.14 (Co. Pilot) 15 5.65	
LEAVING	26.6.43		Weather - Fair or cloudy with slight mist. We were stood down from operations to-day. Crews personnel were released for a rest to-day.		
LEAVING	27.6.43		Weather - Fair or cloudy with slight mist at times. We were again stood down to-day, and aircrew personnel were given a rest from operations.		
LEAVING	28.6.43		Weather - Fair or cloudy with slight mist. Ten aircraft were prepared for operations and all were sent on crew for bombing operations over ODESSA, Germany. All but one were successful in carrying out their missions. One aircraft was forced to return early due to starboard outer engine going u/s. Seven aircraft were diverted at RAF Station, CHILWELL, WARWICKSHIRE, one at RAF Station, LEWES, SUSSEX, and another at RAF Station, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. These aircraft were diverted to unfavorable local weather conditions.		A-1781 - A-1790
LEAVING	29.6.43		Weather - Fair or cloudy. We were stood down from operations to-day. Air training (air firing) was carried out by aircrew personnel.		
LEAVING	30.6.43		Weather - Cloudy, slight drizzle clearing in morning. We were stood down from operations to-day. Air heating and heating practice was carried out by aircrew personnel.		
MESSAGE FOR AIRFIELD - Immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Cross was awarded to F16815 Pilot Officer C.J. Stovell, and the Distinguished Flying Medal to 61622 Flight Sergeant Smith, R.F.A.					
ANNOUNCEMENT - The following Pilot Officers have been appointed to the rank of Flying Officer: P/O. L. Becker, P/O. W.A. Hunt, P/O. A.G. Akers, P/O D.H. Young, P/O L.H. Usher and P/O T.J. Kennedy.					
NOTIFIED - Our "A" Flight Commander Squadron Leader R.F.M. Nesson has posted from this Squadron to take over command of No. 431 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.					
CHANGES IN COMMAND - NIL					
ANNOUNCEMENT OF CREW - NIL					
NOTIFICATION - 29 Monthly New Halifax MT II's					
During the general health of the Squadron has been quite good. We have had during this period no cases of serious disease in either ground or aircrew personnel. The aircrew strength has been badly depleted. Eight crews were posted away. We have seven crews missing in operations during this past month. There has been ninety one sorties and most of them in the latter two weeks of the month. The result is that the crew has all fallen on a few. The crews find it difficult to sleep on these bright nights, as a result they are pretty fatigued at the present time. (continued on page three)*****					

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. THREE

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 408 (R.G.A.F.) SQUADRON, LINCING

No. of pages used for day _____

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
			Continued from page two		
			The loss of so many crews on the station has naturally had an effect on those remaining. But morale nevertheless seems fairly good.		
			EXPERIENCE OF STATION -		
			OFFICERS AIRCREW TOTALS. 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100%		
			PILOTS 13 26 32 6 5 22 10 N.W. COPIES 11 21 12 11 15 21 ADMN 5 3 2 26 25 26 P/TNS 1 1 1 12 20 22 L/TNS 5 7 12 7 8 11 ADM/AL 1 2 4 10 22 30		
			TOTAL GROUND CREW MEMBERS OFFICERS 3 - AIRCREW 175 TOTAL PERSONNEL 139 51 - 118		
LINCING	(After 400 hours, etc)				
			Station and Squadron was visited by The Inspector General, Air Chief Marshal Sir Phillip Pouteau De Laffert.		

(Signature)
(A.D.L. Comptd)
Major Comptroller, Commanding
No. 408 (R.G.A.F.) Squadron

www.bombercommandmuseum.org.uk