

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 420 Squadron, R.C.A.F.

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 1

(9472) Wt. 242N/1550. 1800. 8/40. P.I. 51-7781.

FOR THE MONTH OF October, 19 42

| DATE             | AIRCRAFT<br>TYPE & NUMBER | CREW   | DUTY                   | TIME  |       | DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT   | REFERENCES |
|------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------|-------|-------|---|------------|
|                  |                           |  |                        | Up    | Down  |   |            |
| 5/6th<br>October | Wellington<br>Z. 1724     | P/O. Burt<br>P/O. Pennington<br>Sgt. Bradley<br>Sgt. Harrington<br>Sgt. Dorland                      | Bombing -<br>Aachen    | 19.15 | 01.35 | Many fires and bomb flashes seen in target area with small fires around. One aircraft late on target, and reports a large triangular shaped fire burning fiercely in centre of town with several smaller fires to the North.  |            |
|                  | Wellington<br>W. 747      | P/O. Hudson<br>P/O. Gardiner<br>Sgt. Wilkinson<br>Sgt. Harris<br>Sgt. Murray, V.                     |                        | 19.15 | 23.20 | From Cambridge to Coast severe thunder showers and static encountered. English coast not visible. Weather cleared over channel and landfall identified on French Coast (Le Grotty). In target area 2/40th - 5/10th broken st. cumulus at 11,000 feet. Very dark and some ground haze which made identification of ground detail very difficult. Bomb load 6 x 500 G.P. and 2 S.B.C. (90 x 4) incendiaries. One photograph attempted.  |            |
|                  | Wellington<br>W. 297      | P/O. Craton<br>P/O. Kirby<br>Sgt. Stapley<br>Sgt. Couvill<br>Sgt. Kellaway                           |                        | 19.05 | 01.55 |   |            |
| 6/7th<br>October | Wellington<br>W. 296      | W/O. D.A.R. Bradshaw<br>P/O. J. Sandersby<br>P/O. H. Grant<br>P/O. A.L. Wayland<br>P/O. W. Bishop    | Bombing -<br>Osnabruck | 18.55 | 01.20 | Bomb load 6 x 500 and 2 S.B.C. (90 x 4) incendiaries. Bad haze and 5-7/10th over thin cloud covered target area, making accurate pinpointing impossible. Numerous decoys surrounding entire area. Many scattered small fires in target area. One growing fire of reasonable dimensions in South part of target area. No big conflagrations. Flak in area light, but heavy flak to west of area. Two cones of 20 searchlights West of target, fairly accurate. Raid assessed as only partially successful.   |            |
| 6/7th<br>October | Wellington<br>L. 3800     | S/L. D.S. Jacobs<br>P/O. T.R. McDougall<br>Sgt. A.J. Skinner<br>Sgt. R. Murray<br>P/O. R.M. Forster  | Bombing -<br>Osnabruck | 19.00 | 01.05 | Bomb load 6 x 500 and 2 S.B.C. (90 x 4) incendiaries. Many scattered small fires in target area with one growing fire of considerable dimensions visible 20 minutes away from target. On return Tenzel and Dummer See identified. P.P.F. flares seen at Malsen and Dummer See, and over target area, but low cloud and ground haze prevented positive identification of Vgrock. First aircraft bombed at 21.27 hours, last at 21.38 hours. Clear over North Sea, with some small patches of low cloud which increased towards Dutch Coast. Over the target no medium cloud, but about 5-7/10th thin low cloud and ground haze was encountered. Six photographs attempted. |            |
|                  | Wellington<br>Z. 1724     | P/O. J.R. Burt<br>P/O. J. Pennington<br>Sgt. A.C. Bradley<br>Sgt. J.R. Harrington<br>Sgt. R. Dorland |                        | 19.00 | 01.25 |   |            |
|                  | Wellington<br>L. 3800     | P/O. W.J. Whitland<br>P/O. E.W. Garrett<br>Sgt. H.L. Parsons<br>P/O. A.E. Dunes<br>Sgt. W.L. Earl    |                        | 18.55 | 01.00 |   |            |
|                  | Wellington<br>W. 235      | P/L. L.S. Anderson<br>P/O. E. Pogg<br>P/O. S. Brown<br>P/O. F.P. Marsh<br>P/O. J.L. Durocher         |                        | 19.16 | 00.44 |   |            |

| DATE             | AIRCRAFT<br>TYPE & NUMBER | CREW  | DUTY                   | TIME  |       | DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT   | REFERENCES |  |
|------------------|---------------------------|---|------------------------|-------|-------|---|------------|--|
|                  |                           |   |                        | Up    | Down  |   |            |  |
| 6/7th<br>October | Wellington<br>L. 3963     | P/S. W. W. Kennedy<br>P/S. J. W. May<br>P/O. G. J. Williams<br>Sgt. J. P. Goldstone<br>Sgt. A. D. F. Watt | Bombing -<br>Osnabruck | 18.53 | 00.28 |   |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE. 297     | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   |                        | 18.57 | 00.18 |   |            |  |
| 13/14<br>October | Wellington<br>HE. 235 "A" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.30 | 19.38 | Individual reports not available. Following in company of Operations from RAF Station, Leamington, Notts. Two Wellingtons from III aircraft dispatched. Two aircraft, "A" and "B", attacked the primary target, <u>Worms</u> , with results as follows: Both crews attacking primary pin-pointed objectives <u>see</u> and <u>Worms</u> . Bombs were well illuminated by flares from P.F.F. Bombs were seen to burst about 1000 yards north of aiming point and from other aircraft about 500 yards south west of aiming point. Flares were seen springing up and glowing in intensity and were visible half an hour after landing targets. First aircraft on target 27.30 hours, last 28.30 hours. Bombs dropped on target - 4 x 500 lbs., 4 x 250 lbs., 4 lbs. (500), 2 x 250 lbs. (500). |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE. 331 "B" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.30 | 01.40 | Two aircraft attacked last resort targets. "A" attached concentration of searchlights south west of <u>Worms</u> . "B" attached at time believed to be <u>Worms</u> . Bombs dropped on three targets were 4 x 500 lbs., 4 x 250 lbs., 4 lbs. (500), 6 lbs. (500).   |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE. 636 "B" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.31 | 01.30 | Our aircraft returned early - "A", "B", "C", "D", "E", "F", "G", "H", "I", "J", "K", "L", "M", "N", "O", "P", "Q", "R", "S", "T", "U", "V", "W", "X", "Y", "Z". Aircraft "A" crashed at landing, crew killed. Aircraft "B" crashed at landing, no serious injury sustained by crew.   |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE. 217 "B" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.46 | 01.16 | 4 x 500 lbs., 4 x 250 lbs., 12 lbs. (500), 12 lbs. (500). (8 x 50) bombs jettisoned. 4 lbs. (500) brought back to base, hung up.  |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE. 277 "B" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.36 | 01.50 | Further operations were closed 23.1/10th with tops 15,000 feet. Visibility good, some haze off the sea. The photograph occurred.  |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE. 235 "B" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.28 | 00.25 |   |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE. 215 "A" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.28 | 00.25 |   |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>L. 3963 "B" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.25 | 01.37 |   |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>L. 3963 "B" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.25 | 01.37 |   |            |  |
|                  | Wellington<br>L. 3963 "B" | P/O. J. D. G. Grant<br>P/O. H. H. Kirby<br>Sgt. R. Lashley<br>Sgt. W. B. Council<br>Sgt. L. E. Kellaway   | Bombing                | 18.25 | 01.37 |   |            |  |

Wellington, HE. 717 "A" P/O. Cook  
Wellington, L. 3929 "A" P/O. Lamb  
Bombing  
Bombing  
18.32  
18.32  
00.57  
01.15  
P/O. Bartlett, G., P/O. Watts, D., Sgt. Bunkley, J., Sgt. Davenport, G.,  
P/O. Remington, P/O. Dickinson, Sgt. Harrison, Sgt. Ireland, R.

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

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APPENDIX

R.A.F.  
FORM 541.

SECRET

PAGE No. 1

(7472) W. 2428/1450. 1200. 840. P.I. 51-7781.

FOR THE MONTH OF October, 1942

| DATE             | AIRCRAFT<br>TYPE & NUMBER | CREW  | DUTY    | TIME  |       | DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT  | REFERENCES. |
|------------------|---------------------------|---|---------|-------|-------|--|-------------|
|                  |                           |   |         | Up    | Down  |  |             |
| 15/16<br>October | Wellington<br>H. 235 "A"  | S/L Anderson, L.S.<br>S/O Page, S.<br>S/O Brown, S.<br>S/O Smith, J.F.<br>S/O Davidson, J.L.          | Bombing | 10.53 | 00.40 | Primary target, Aiming Point "A", OULOH, attacked even 14,500 feet 100ft. at 20.38 hours. 7-8/10th cloud at 6,000 feet, good visibility. No ground details visible bombed in area lit by P.F.F. flares. Target not in sight, bombs not seen. No fires in target area on arrival, but two good fires could be seen to start as aircraft left area. The store of the mid seemed to be quite scattered. Photograph - technical success - 10/10th cloud or haze. |             |
|                  | Wellington<br>H. 717 "A"  | S/L Cook, R.G.<br>S/O Davidson, G.A.<br>S/O Smith, J.L.<br>Sgt. Davidson, J.<br>Sgt. Hornsford, G.S.  | Bombing | 10.55 | 00.54 | Primary target, Aiming Point "A" OULOH, attacked even 12,500 feet 300ft at 21.05 hours. 8-10/10th thin cloud - visibility very good. One river bridge and bridge and P.F.F. flares. Target was in sight and bombs were believed to drop in vicinity of aiming point. One burst not identifiable. Attack was not a completely success, fires being very scattered and small. Bombs 6 x 5000lb. Photograph - technical success - 10/10th cloud.                |             |
|                  | Wellington<br>H. 297 "J"  | Sgt. Wilson, D.A.<br>Sgt. Hinchey, A.J.<br>S/O Green, G.S.<br>Sgt. Volkm, R.<br>Sgt. Sturges, G.E.    | Bombing | 10.56 | 00.44 | Primary target, Aiming Point "A" OULOH, attacked - 12/12,000 feet at 21.00 - 21.05 hours. Results of bombing not observed. Visibility fair over target area. Port engine fuel pipe broken. Tail wheel broke on landing. "J" lost equipment unserviceable on outward journey. Landed Redhill Bay. Bombs 6 x 500 lb.   |             |
|                  | Wellington<br>H. 300 "A"  | S/O Kennedy, W.F.<br>S/O Bay, J.L.<br>S/O Williams, G.J.<br>Sgt. O'Sullivan, J.L.<br>Sgt. Watts, A.D. | Bombing | 10.54 | 01.00 | Primary target, Aiming Point "A" OULOH, attacked - 15,000 feet at 20.54 hours. 10/10th strata cumulus, tops 6,000 feet, visibility good above cloud, ground haze. Bombed on P.F.F. flares. Aiming point not seen, target not in bomb sight. Bombs seen to explode. Target identified by concentration of flares and river banks. Bombs 6x500 lb. Photograph technical success.   |             |
|                  | Wellington<br>H. 331 "A"  | S/O Anderson, J.<br>S/O Davidson, G.L.<br>S/O Brown, J.L.<br>Sgt. Hinchey, G.E.<br>Sgt. Hinchey, G.E. | Bombing | 10.45 | 01.04 | Primary target, Aiming Point "A" OULOH, attacked - 15,000 feet 150ft. 21.00 hours. 10/10th cloud at 5,000 feet. Ground visibility good, no ground features visible; bombed on P.F.F. flares and reflection of fire on cloud. Target not in sight, bombs not seen. Bombs 6 x 500 lb. Photograph technical success - only half negative available due to aiming post being released but looking lower not discernible.   |             |
|                  | Wellington<br>H. 330 "A"  | S/O Davidson, G.J.<br>S/O Brown, J.L.<br>S/O Brown, J.L.<br>S/O Brown, J.L.<br>S/O Brown, J.L.        | Bombing | 10.50 | 20.19 | Aircraft returned early due to engine trouble in both engines. Bombs jettisoned into 4500 feet 19.50 hours 5940ft. 0730Z. No photograph attempted (dark)   |             |
|                  | Wellington<br>H. 300 "A"  | S/O Brown, J.L.<br>S/O Brown, J.L.<br>S/O Brown, J.L.<br>S/O Brown, J.L.<br>S/O Brown, J.L.           | Bombing | 10.50 |       | Aircraft missing. No messages received.  |             |

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| DATE             | AIRCRAFT<br>TYPE & NUMBER | CREW   | DUTY    | TIME  |       | DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT  | REFERENCES |
|------------------|---------------------------|--|---------|-------|-------|--|------------|
|                  |                           |  |         | Up    | Down  |  |            |
| 23/24<br>October | Wellington<br>HE.150 "K"  | S/O. Snodgrass, D.F.C.<br>P/O. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. McInnes, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Murray, D.F.C.<br>P/O. Macdonald, D.F.C.      | Docking | 12.44 | 16.48 | Target Alving Point "A" HESPERIA. No attack. Docks, 2 x 1000 and 2 x 500 GP jettisoned at position 51°20'N, 30°E at 14.40 hours. Planes abandoned at French Coast due to insufficient cloud cover. Distances varied from 0 feet to approximately 1000 feet, in stages between 2000 and 3000 feet. No high cloud, brilliant sunshine above cloud, visibility good beneath cloud. No photograph attempted.   |            |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE.151 "G"  | S/O. Duff, D.F.C.<br>P/O. Pennington, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.     | Docking | 12.55 | 16.35 | Target Alving Point "A" HESPERIA. No attack. Docks, 2 x 1000 and 2 x 500 GP jettisoned into sea. Position 51°10'N, 05°25'E at 14.30 hours, 3,000 feet. Decided to turn back at first turning point in Belgium, owing to cloud cover decreasing and Belgium being easily visible. Starboard row counters were unserviceable, but thought at time to be constant speed limit. JMS seen on return over Channel, attacking aircraft thought to be Wellington. No results seen owing to cloud obstruction. No photograph attempted. |            |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE.157 "U"  | S/O. Graham, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Murray, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.       | Docking | 12.47 | 17.25 | Target Alving Point "A" HESPERIA. No attack made. Docks, 2 x 100 and 2 x 500 GP jettisoned into sea at position 51° 20'N, 05°05'E at 15.15 hours, 3,000 feet. Hydraulic system failed on way to target. No photograph attempted.   |            |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE.171 "Q"  | S/O. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>P/O. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C. | Docking | 12.45 | 17.45 | Primary target, Alving Point "A" HESPERIA, attacked on D.F.C. at 15.45 hours from 3,000 feet, 05°E. 10/10th cloud 700 - 3,000 feet. Docks on D.F.C., only cloud from English Coast. No risk encountered either at target or on return. No results of bombing could be observed owing to cloud, but aircraft violently shaken by blast. No photograph attempted owing to cloud. Docks 2 x 1000 and 2 x 500 GP.  |            |
| 31 October       | Wellington<br>HE.171 "Q"  | Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C. | Docking | 10.50 | 16.22 | Primary target, HESPERIA, not attacked. Unidentified four believed north of Hesperia, attacked at 15.35 hours from 1700 feet, 27°E. 10/10th cloud, base 1400 feet, tops 2000/3000 feet, about 1/10th at 15/10,000 feet. Target not identified, lost "Q" for 35°05'N, 05°05'E. Seen seen at 800 feet. Climbed into cloud and bailed. Explosion of bomb felt in aircraft. Return trip without incident. Photograph technical success, no ground detail.  |            |
|                  | Wellington<br>HE.150 "K"  | S/O. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>P/O. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C.<br>Sgt. Macdonald, D.F.C. | Docking | 10.55 | 17.30 | Target, HESPERIA. Lost "Q" for 35°05'N, 05°05'E. Docks on D.F.C. No ground feature visible. Docks through cloud at 15.11 hours from 3,000 feet 17°N, 10/10th cloud. Top 1500/1700 feet. No photograph attempted.   |            |

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