

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

APPENDIX

R.A.F.
Form 541.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 424 (H.C.A.F.) Squadron

SECRET

Page No. One

(972) W. 2422(148). 1894. 845. P.I. 51-751.

FOR THE MONTH OF June, 1943

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
27th June Night	WELLINGTON X "K" HE.974	(CAPT) P/O Bain, G.C. (NAV) Sgt Brown, E.H. (B/A) P/O Wilson, A.H. (W/OP) Sgt Miller, J. (A/G) Sgt Blue, W.D.	BOMBING SAN GIOVANNI	22.16	03.40	This A/C carrying 2 x 1000 lb. and 4 x 500 lb. H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.03 hrs. flying at 8,500 ft. Visibility was good and the target easy to identify. Bombs were dropped and seen to burst in the dock area. Some light inaccurate flak was experienced. Two S/L were seen off Cape Pelora. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
27th June Night	WELLINGTON X "E" HE.371	(CAPT) P/O Copenhagen, J.B. (NAV) P/O Parker, F.L. (B/A) P/S Walrath, G.A. (W/OP) P/O Shearer, H.H. (A/G) Sgt Smith, G.A.	BOMBING SAN GIOVANNI	22.17	03.49	This A/C carrying 2 x 1000 lb. and 4 x 500 lb. H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.07 hrs. flying at 7,500 ft. No cloud, visibility very good. Bombing was visual and bomb bursts were seen in the town. Flares were scattered and a small fire, which did not seem to be in the target area, was noticed. Flares were too scattered to be of any use to bomb on. Heavy inaccurate flak was experienced at 11,000 ft. Seven S/L were seen off Cape Pelora and a few other S.W. of the target. The bombing appeared too scattered to have been a great success. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
27th June Night	WELLINGTON X "G" HE.968	(CAPT) P/O Duffield, G.W. (NAV) Sgt Nye, P.F. (B/A) Sgt Watson, A.H. (W/OP) Sgt Illingworth C. (A/G) P/O Paddock, G.W.	BOMBING SAN GIOVANNI	22.22	04.09	This A/C carrying 2 x 1000 lb. plus 4 x 500 lb. H.E. Bombs. Visibility was good although there was a slight haze. Bombs were seen to drop in the dock area. A small fire was also noticed in the target area. Light inaccurate flak was also experienced, and a few S/L noticed. Not a very concentrated attack. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
27th June Night	WELLINGTON X "F" HE.453	(CAPT) P/O Leare, J. (NAV) Sgt Casorso, A.R. (B/A) Sgt McEntee, D.J. (W/OP) Sgt Wilson, H.A.D. (A/G) Sgt Kelly, J.F.	BOMBING SAN GIOVANNI	22.20	03.45	This A/C carrying 1 x 4000 lb. H.E. bomb dropped the latter on the runway while taking off. As this was not noticed by the crew they flew on to the target. Visibility was good and one fire was noticed in the dock area. Some light heavy inaccurate flak was noticed. A decoy fire was also seen in the mountains east of the target. This A/C was caught over Messina. No damage sustained and landed safely at base.	
27th June Night	WELLINGTON X "S" HE.735	(CAPT) Sgt Parker, D.F.G. (NAV) P/O Brook, A.H. (B/A) P/O Hackett, D. (W/OP) Sgt MacDonald, M.B. (A/G) Sgt Anderson, H.G.	BOMBING SAN GIOVANNI	22.21		This aircraft took off at 22.21 and had its port tire burst just a few seconds before it was airborne. The 4,000 lbs. of H.E. bombs it was carrying dropped on the runway without exploding. The port wing was pulled off, the propellers broken and the aircraft badly damaged. Fortunately no one was hurt. Aircraft classified as Cat. B.	

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
27th June Night	WELLINGTON X "V" HL.929	(CAPT) P/O Wilson, L.G. (NAV) Sgt Davis, J.E. (B/A) Sgt Cunningham, W.J. (W/OP) Sgt Burnell, W.A. (A/G) Sgt Watson, W.H.	BOMBING SAN GIOVANNI	22.25	05.54	The A/C carrying 2 x 1000 lb. and 4 x 500 lb. bombs arrived over the target at 01.06 hrs. flying at 8,500 ft. Visibility was good, no cloud, but there was a slight sea haze. A flare was seen at a point where the Italian Coast was crossed. Also flashes were seen on the Sicilian Coast (looked like dots). The flares dropped by the P.O. were scattered and uneffective. Bombs were seen to burst across the docks and the marshalling yards. Very little flak and that only from Messina. Five S/L seen on Sicilian Coast and four on Italian Coast. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
27th June Night	WELLINGTON X "W" HL.492	(CAPT) S/L Klassen, W.C. (NAV) P/O McAllister, J.E. (B/A) Sgt Rose, W.E. (W/OP) P/O Cook, H.E. (A/G) Sgt Martin, E.J.	BOMBING SAN GIOVANNI	22.15	05.30	This A/C carrying 2 x 1000 lb and 4 x 500 lb. bombs arrived over the target at 01.05 hrs. A few flares were seen South of the aiming point. Bombs fell a little South of the aiming point. Light inaccurate flak was experienced at 8,000 ft. 10 S/L were seen on the Sicilian Coast and 5 on the Italian Coast. This Captain considers this operation as being fairly successful. No damage to the A/C which landed safely at base.	
27th June Night	WELLINGTON X "X" HL.411	(CAPT) P/O Groat, A.C. (NAV) P/S Agrico, J.E. (B/A) Sgt Gilbert, G.W. (W/OP) Sgt Dore, G. (A/G) P/O Galloway, D.B.	BOMBING SAN GIOVANNI	22.19	04.24	This A/C carrying 1 x 4000 lb. H.E. bomb flew over the target at 01.17 hrs. Visibility was good. On the way to the target flares were seen burning in the mountains. A pin point was obtained on Messina. Bombs were seen to burst in the marshalling yards and 3 or 4 other bursts were also noticed. Light inaccurate flak was experienced at 9,000 ft. 14 S/L were seen off Messina. A successful trip but bombing was very scattered.	
28th June Night	WELLINGTON X "D" HL.974	(CAPT) S/L Allison W.E. (NAV) P/S Henderson B.E. (B/A) P/S Irvine, A.J. (W/OP) Sgt Finlayson, S.E. (A/G) Sgt Blue, W.D.	BOMBING MESSINA	20.43	02.07	This A/C carrying 1 x 1,000 lb. plus 4 x 500 lb. H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 23.26 hrs. flying at 9,000 ft. Visibility was very poor, dark and hazy, may have been a smoke screen. Bombs were aimed at the marshalling yards, heavy bursts seen in this neighborhood but own not identified. Light inaccurate flak was experienced and about 20 S/L were noticed. This crew was comed at 11,000 ft. but only for a few seconds. This A/C sustained no damage and returned safely to base.	
28th June Night	WELLINGTON X "H" HL.476	(CAPT) P/L Amies, G.H. (NAV) P/O Leitch, A.K. (B/A) Sgt Buss, F.H. (W/OP) Sgt Molkel, D.H. (A/G) Sgt Arnold, E.L.	BOMBING MESSINA	20.49	02.59	This A/C carrying 2 x 1000 lb. and 4 x 500 lb. H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 23.29 hrs. flying at 12,000 ft. Poor visibility with a probable smoke screen over the bombing area. Bombs were seen to drop on marshalling yards. Some concentrated heavy flak on the target, light and ineffective on the way out. This crew were among the first on the target and bombing did not appear to be very concentrated but should have been later. 12 - 14 S/L were seen working in small coms, not very accurate. Dummy fires seen in the toe of the boot. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	

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By 424 (H.C.A.F.) Squadron

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(177) W. 2422(185) 1800. 8/60. P.I. 51-7261

FOR THE MONTH OF _____, 19__

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
26th June Night	WELLINGTON X "B" HE.275	(CAPT) Sgt Molanus, A.F.H. (NAV) P/O Fickard, W.H.J. (B/A) Sgt Hollinson, E.D. (W/OP) Sgt Ganning, J. (A/G) Sgt Ferguson, A.A.	BOOMBING MESSINA	20.48		This crew took off at 20.48 hrs. Unfortunately nothing has been heard of them since.	
26th June Night	WELLINGTON X "P" HE.275	(CAPT) P/S Mayer, E.E. (NAV) P/O Harland, K. (B/A) P/O Mansham, L.H. (W/OP) Sgt Whiteman, A.C. (A/G) Sgt Roberts, W.H.	BOOMBING MESSINA	20.45		This crew took off at 20.45 hrs. Nothing has been heard of them since their departure.	
28th June Night	WELLINGTON X "V" HE.289	(CAPT) P/O Luddy, G.H. (NAV) P/O McGregor, W.K. (B/A) P/O Souch, G.A. (W/OP) Sgt Keller, J.A. (A/G) Sgt Rudd, A.	BOOMBING MESSINA	20.40	02.54	This A/C carrying 2 x 1,000 lb. plus 4 x 500 lb. H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 23.33 hrs. flying at 10,550 ft. Visibility was poor with probable smoke screen. Light inaccurate flak was experienced. Flares were not much help. Bombs were seen to drop near the marshalling yards. A few fires were noticed but nothing outstanding - a fairly successful trip. No damage to this A/C which landed safely at base.	
28th June Night	WELLINGTON X "J" HE.477	(CAPT) Sgt White, E.C. (NAV) P/O James, C.J. (B/A) P/O Hackett, D. (W/OP) Sgt Hughes, E.J. (A/G) Sgt Reed, K.	BOOMBING MESSINA	21.02	02.54	This A/C carrying 2 x 1,000 lb. and 4 x 500 lb. H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 23.38 hrs. flying at 10,000 ft. Visibility fairly good over the target with possible smoke screen South end of Sicily. 6 flares assisted visibility over the target. This A/C's rear turret was struck by flak just before bombing, nothing vital was touched. Violent evasive action was taken immediately. 15 S/L working in 3/4 were noticed. Bombs were aimed at the marshalling yards and bomb bursts were seen. This aircraft sustained no serious damage and landed safely at base. Personnel unhurt.	
26th June Night	WELLINGTON X "W" HE.492	(CAPT) P/O Leano, J. (NAV) Sgt Casorso, A.R. (B/A) Sgt McEntee, D.J. (W/OP) Sgt Wilber, H.A.D. (A/G) Sgt Kelly, J.R.	BOOMBING MESSINA	20.46	02.13	This A/C carrying 2 x 1,000 lb. and 4 x 500 lb. H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 23.45 hrs. flying at 8,000 ft. Flares helped a lot to make visibility good and permitted an easy identification of target area, but at time of bombing no flares could be seen. Bombs were seen to burst alongside ferry boats. Light inaccurate flak was experienced and 12 ineffective S/L were noticed. A fairly good trip. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
28th June Night	WELLINGTON X "U" HE.965	(CAPT) F/S Mang, R.F. (NAV) F/O Davidson, W.C. (B/A) Sgt Campbell, D. (W/OP) Sgt Garland, J. (A/G) F/S Vanderbeck, R.E.	BOMBING MESSINA	20.41	02.01	This A/C carrying 2 x 1,000 lb. and 4 x 500 lb. H.B. bombs arrived over the target at 23.35 hrs. flying at 10,000 ft. Several fires were seen in toe of the boat. Ground details were seen to burst in the light of the flares though they were not very accurate and could have been more effective. Bombs were seen to burst in the target area and appeared to be effective. Several scattered S/L were seen in cones of 8 to 10. Heavy moderately accurate flak was experienced. No much light flak at first but increasing as this crew left. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
28th June Night	WELLINGTON X "U" HE.968	(CAPT) F/O Duffield, G.W. (NAV) Sgt Eyre, F.F. (B/A) Sgt Watson, A.H. (W/OP) Sgt Illingworth, G. (A/G) F/O Paddock, G.W.	BOMBING MESSINA	20.47	02.21	This A/C carrying 2 x 1,000 lb. and 4 x 500 lb. H.B. bombs arrived over the target at 23.57 hrs. flying at 10,000 ft. Visibility was good over the target area, low patches of cloud at 5,000 ft. A few flares were seen on arrival enough to see the target in the light. Bombs were seen to burst in the target area and should be successful. Flak heavy to moderate although not very accurate. 12 to 15 S/L were seen in cones but did appear to be accurate. One A/G was seen oned across the straits. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
28th June Night	WELLINGTON X "U" HE.515	(CAPT) F/O Dugas, R.E. (NAV) F/L Harph, K.C. DFC (B/A) F/O Spencer, M.J. (W/OP) F/O Atkins, G. (A/G) F/S Moore, J.L.	BOMBING MESSINA	20.44	03.33	This A/C carrying 2 x 1000 lb. and 4 x 500 lb. H.B. bombs arrived over the target at 23.09 hrs. flying at 11,500 ft. Visibility was poor with a ground haze, may have been smoke screen. Yellow amber lights were seen on the sea along the track just prior to arriving over the target. A JU88 was seen flying at roughly 11,500 ft. but it finally disappeared and apparently did not see this A/C. Bombs were seen to hit the marshalling grounds but the effort seemed scattered. Very little flak on the target and only 2 S/L were seen. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
28th June Night	WELLINGTON X "X" All IN.	(CAPT) F/O Groat, A.C. (NAV) F/S Agrico, J.E. (B/A) Sgt Gilbert, C.W. (W/OP) Sgt Dore, G. (A/G) F/O Galloway, D.E.	BOMBING MESSINA	20.42	02.27	This A/C carrying 1 x 4000 lb. bomb arrived over the target at 23.37 hrs. Dumpy flares were seen on the toe of boat on the way over, also seen near San Giovanni. The weather was hazy on the coast line, otherwise fairly good. Flares lit up ground details over the target. Own bomb was seen to burst and light up town North of marshalling grounds. S/L were seen but ineffective. Some heavy flak but inaccurate, most of it bursting above A/C. What was believed to be an enemy night fighter flew to starboard of track as this A/C was leaving Sicily. Attack seemed more intensified than previous night. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	

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FORM 541.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 42nd (R.C.A.F.) Squadron

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FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1943.

(7473) W. 2422(145) 1808. 846. P.L. 51-721.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "I" MS.476	(CAPT) P/L Amies, G.F. (NAV) P/O Leitch, A.L. (S/A) Sgt Bunn, P.L. (W/OP) Sgt McNeil, D.L. (A/C) Sgt Arnold, R.L.	BOMBING CASUALTY	22.33	03.13	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.30 hrs. flying at 10,000 ft. Visibility was fairly good over the target area. Bomb bursts were seen very close to the target. One large fire was also noticed in the dock area. Light and heavy flak was inaccurate and of medium volume. One S/L was seen. No damage to the A/C which landed safely at base.	
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "C" MS.971	(CAPT) P/O Heden, F.C. (NAV) P/O Taylor, F.R. (S/A) P/O Bouch, G.A. (W/OP) Sgt Blunk, C.H. (A/C) Sgt S. J. Jamison, A.L.	BOMBING CASUALTY	22.35	03.38	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.19 hrs. flying at 9,000 ft. Weather was hazy over the target. Flashing light seen at sea position 5716N 104.0E. Ground details could be seen just before bombing and a few fires were seen burning in town. Little flak was noticed and one S/L was seen. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "E" MS.371	(CAPT) P/O Copenhagen, L.E. (NAV) P/O Parker, P.L. (S/A) P/S Walrath, C.A. (W/OP) P/O Shearer, H.L. (A/C) Sgt Smith, G.A.	BOMBING CASUALTY	22.37	03.30	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.12 hrs. flying at 11,000 ft. Visibility was fair and the target was identified visually with flares which showed up the town very well. Several bursts were noticed in the target area. Light and heavy inaccurate flak was experienced and S/L were seen. An enemy A/C thought to be a JU88 was seen but apparently it did not see this A/C. Apparently good results were obtained in this raid. This A/C landed safely at base.	
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "J" MS.477	(CAPT) Sgt White, R.C. (NAV) P/O James, C.J. (S/A) P/O Spencer, M.J. (W/OP) Sgt Hughes, E.J. (A/C) Sgt Reed, K.	BOMBING CASUALTY	22.39	03.41	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.25 hrs. flying at 9,000 ft. Visibility was fair and the target identified by flares which gave a good view of the built up area. Bomb bursts were seen near the railway stations and near barracks. Light inaccurate flak was experienced at 9,000 ft. No S/L were seen. A successful attack. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "A" MS.515	(CAPT) P/O Ledy G.B. (NAV) P/O McGregor, W.F. (S/A) Sgt Miskimin, R. (W/OP) Sgt Kellner, J.A. (A/C) Sgt Ruda, A.	BOMBING CASUALTY	23.00	03.03	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.05 hrs. flying at 6,900 ft. Visibility was good and the target area was visible. Bombs were seen to burst in the target area. Very little flak was experienced and a few S/L were noticed. A very satisfactory trip. One bomb hung up and was brought back. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "C" HE.967	(CAPT) S/L Klassen WO DEC (NAV) P/O McAllister, J.B. (B/A) Sgt Rose, W.B. (W/OP) P/O Cook, H.B. (A/G) Sgt Martin, R.J.	BOOMBING CASLIARI	22.28	05.45	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.32 hrs. flying at 9,000 ft. Visibility was good and flares were very helpful. Bombs were seen to drop on the target. Some light inaccurate flak was experienced. A few ineffective S/L were also noticed. On the way back flashing lights were seen at sea position 3620N 0150E. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "N" HE.962	(CAPT) P/O Brown, L.W. (NAV) P/O Barry, L.L. (B/A) P/S Drayson, W.N. (W/OP) P/O Levy, S. (A/G) P/O Thomson, P.A.	BOOMBING CASLIARI	22.27	05.21	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.18 hrs. flying at 7,000 ft. Visibility was fairly good and flares were quite helpful. The port district was clearly seen as well as the built-up area. Bombs were seen to drop on the target and a 4,000 lb. burst seen. A couple of small fires were also noticed. Some heavy and rather accurate flak at 10,000 ft. Two blue S/L were also seen. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "R" LM.433	(CAPT) W/O Roy, C.A. (NAV) P/O Wood, C. (B/A) Sgt Duncan, H.L. (W/OP) P/O Martin, H.A. (A/G) P/O MacGillivray, J.	BOOMBING CASLIARI	22.30	05.45	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.09 hrs. flying at 7,500 ft. Flares were helpful to pin points. Visibility was fair and both bursts were seen. A few small fires were seen in the built-up area. Some inaccurate light flak and some heavy flak was experienced. One S/L was seen. No damage was sustained by this A/C which landed safely at base.	
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "G" HE.968	(CAPT) Sgt Parker, D.F.C. (NAV) P/O Brook, A.H. (B/A) P/O Hackett, D. (W/OP) Sgt Macdonald, M.D. (A/G) Sgt Anderson, H.C.	BOOMBING CASLIARI	22.29	05.08	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.04 hrs. flying at 6,000 ft. Visibility was good over the bombing area. A few flares were seen burning in the water to the south of the target area. All these lights were yellow. Bombs were seen to burst just north of the dock area. Very little flak over the target and a few S/L were also noticed. A successful trip. This A/C sustained no damage and landed safely at base.	
30th June Night	WELLINGTON X "V" HE.929	(CAPT) P/O Wilson, L.C. (NAV) Sgt Davis, J.R. (B/A) Sgt Cunningham, W.J. (W/OP) Sgt Burnell, W.A. (A/G) Sgt Watson, W.H.	BOOMBING CASLIARI	22.26	05.25	This A/C carrying H.E. bombs arrived over the target at 01.19 hrs. flying at 7,000 ft. Visibility was fair with the flares found to be helpful, enabling to see the ground details. The Rear Gunner saw bombs burst near Railway Station, and a few fires were also seen. Some light inaccurate flak was experienced. A S/L were also noticed. No damage to the A/C which landed safely at base.	

Wing Commander
Wing Commander, Commanding,
424 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

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