

5.22-1-425
2568

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

RAF Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in R.R. and A.C.I. para. 249 and War Manual Pt. II, Chapter XX, and note in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

R.C. & A. ST
O.S. Headquarters
FEB 23 1943

(Unit or Formation) 425 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON.

No. of pages used for day 42

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices																																								
SECRET.																																												
DISHFORTH, YORKS.																																												
			NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF UNIT AS AT 1st JANUARY, 1943:																																									
			<table border="0"> <tr> <td>RAF OFFICERS:</td> <td>AIRCRAFT:</td> <td>26</td> <td>Ground Crews:</td> <td>5</td> <td>RAF AIRMEN:</td> <td>AIRCRAFT:</td> <td>100</td> <td>Ground Crews:</td> <td>273</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RAF</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>RAF</td> <td></td> <td>14</td> <td></td> <td>53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WAAF</td> <td></td> <td>Nil</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>WAAF</td> <td>AIRWOMEN:</td> <td>Nil</td> <td></td> <td>53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL OFFICERS:</td> <td></td> <td>53</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>TOTAL AIRMEN/WOMEN</td> <td></td> <td>114</td> <td></td> <td>359</td> </tr> </table>	RAF OFFICERS:	AIRCRAFT:	26	Ground Crews:	5	RAF AIRMEN:	AIRCRAFT:	100	Ground Crews:	273	RAF					RAF		14		53	WAAF		Nil			WAAF	AIRWOMEN:	Nil		53	TOTAL OFFICERS:		53			TOTAL AIRMEN/WOMEN		114		359	
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TOTAL OFFICERS:		53			TOTAL AIRMEN/WOMEN		114		359																																			
	1 Jan/43		2. Weather - fog and slight rain in morning clearing in afternoon. Squally with heavy rain in evening. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: Not required.																																									
	2 Jan/43		Weather - snow and sleet showers afternoon and evening. Visibility good except in showers. Wind S.W'ly 10 m.p.h. becoming N.W'ly 15-20 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: No flying. "B" FLIGHT: one aircraft moved from one advanced base to another and one aircraft also was on N.P.T. OPERATIONS: (DAY): standing by and cancelled. (NIGHT): 6 aircraft required. 2 aircraft returned early on account of severe icing, 2 aircraft D.M.C.O. and 2 aircraft D.C.O.	A-138 to A-143 incl.																																								
	3 Jan/43		Weather - fine becoming cloudy in afternoon. Visibility excellent all day. Wind N.W'ly 10-35 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: 5 aircraft came back to base from an advanced base, also 6 aircraft were detailed to proceed as follows: 1 aircraft to advanced base and cancelled. 2 aircraft on N.P.T. 1 aircraft was cancelled. 1 aircraft on local routine flying. 2 aircraft on night cross-country, one was cancelled. "B" FLIGHT: 5 aircraft came back to base from an advanced base, also 1 aircraft was on N.P.T. and 1 aircraft was detailed for a night cross-country and was cancelled. OPERATIONS: Not required.																																									
	4 Jan/43		Weather - fine. Visibility excellent all day. Wind E.W'ly. "A" FLIGHT: No flying. "B" FLIGHT: 6 aircraft detailed as follows: 5 aircraft either on dual instructions on New Type or solo circuits and landings, or on local routine flying. 1 aircraft was cancelled. Also 1 aircraft was on N.P.T. OPERATIONS: Not required.																																									
	5 Jan/43		Weather - fog all day. Snow in afternoon. Wind E. S.W'ly very light. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: Not required.																																									
	6 Jan/43		Weather - snow in morning changing to sleet in afternoon. Visibility poor. Wind S.W'ly, 10-15 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: Not required.																																									
	7 Jan/43		Weather - Continuous rain and sleet with moderate to poor visibility. Wind N.W'ly, 10 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: Not required.																																									
	8 Jan/43		Weather fine with moderate visibility during the day becoming foggy in evening; calm. "A" FLIGHT: 9 aircraft were detailed and proceeded on N.P.T.s. "B" FLIGHT: 8 aircraft detailed as follows: 4 aircraft on N.P.T.s; 2 aircraft cancelled. 3 aircraft either on dual instructions on New Type or local routine flying. 1 aircraft was cancelled, and one aircraft on night cross-country and cancelled. OPERATIONS: (Night) 9 aircraft required and cancelled.																																									
	9 Jan/43		Weather - Partly cloudy, but little low cloud. Visibility poor all day. Wind S.W'ly 10 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: No flying. "B" FLIGHT: 1 aircraft was on an Air Test. OPERATIONS: (Night) 9 aircraft required and 1 aircraft returned early, engine trouble, and 8 aircraft D.C.O.	A-144 to A-152 incl.																																								
	10 Jan/43		Weather - Mist or fog all day, wind S.S.W'ly light. "A" FLIGHT: 3 aircraft were detailed to come back to base from an advanced base and were cancelled. "B" FLIGHT: 1 aircraft was detailed to come back to base from advanced base and cancelled. OPERATIONS: Not required.																																									
	11 Jan/43		Weather - Mist or fog all day and slight rain early, S.S.W'ly 20 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: (Night) 4 aircraft required and cancelled.																																									

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References to Appendices

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
DISHFORTH, YORKS.	12 Jan/43		Weather - Mist or fog all day and slight rain or drizzle at times. Wind S.E'ly 10 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: (Day) 8 aircraft required and cancelled. (NIGHT) Not required.	
	13 Jan/43		Weather - Cloudy. Visibility good at first steadily deteriorating to fog at dusk. S.W'ly light backing S.W'ly falling calm. "A" FLIGHT: 12 aircraft detailed as follows: 7 aircraft on N.P.T. backing 2 aircraft were cancelled. 3 aircraft on local routine flying, 1 aircraft was cancelled and 2 aircraft on bombing practice and D.C.O. "B" FLIGHT: 2 aircraft came back to base from advanced base, also 1 aircraft proceeded to advanced base and 10 aircraft detailed as follows: 4 aircraft on N.P.T.s, 1 aircraft on bombing practice, 2 aircraft on dual instructions on New Type, 3 aircraft either on circuits and landings, or on local routine flying. OPERATIONS: Not required.	
	14 Jan/43		Weather - Little low cloud; visibility poor at first, improving to good by afternoon, moderate in evening. N.W. 5-10 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: 8 aircraft detailed as follows: 2 aircraft on Night Air Test and cancelled, 4 aircraft on fighter affiliation and D.C.O., and 2 aircraft on Night Cross country and D.C.O. "B" FLIGHT: 9 aircraft detailed as follows: 3 aircraft on fighter affiliation, 3 aircraft on dual instructions on new type. 2 aircraft on night cross-country, also 1 aircraft on practice of circuits and landings and cancelled. OPERATIONS: (Night) 6 aircraft required and all D.C.O.	A-153 to A-158 incl.
	15 Jan/43		Weather - Generally small amounts of low clouds. Visibility good. Wind N.W. S.W'ly 5-10 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: 8 aircraft detailed as follows: 3 aircraft on N.P.T.s, 2 aircraft to proceed to advanced base, 1 aircraft on fighter affiliation, 1 aircraft on local routine flying, and 1 aircraft on practice of circuits and landings. "B" FLIGHT: 1 aircraft came back to base from advanced base, also these were 7 aircraft detailed as follows: 1 aircraft on dual instructions on New Type and cancelled, 1 aircraft on fighter affiliation and cancelled, and 3 aircraft on N.P.T.s and D.C.O. OPERATIONS (Night) 7 aircraft required and D.C.O.	A-159 to A-165 incl.
	16 Jan/43		Weather - Mist or fog all day with slight rain at 1000 hrs onwards. Wind S.S.E'ly 10 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: (Day) 7 aircraft required and cancelled. (NIGHT) 7 aircraft required and cancelled.	
	17 Jan/43		Weather - Continuous rain with moderate or poor visibility till 1430 hrs. then breaking with excellent visibility by 1600 hrs. Wind S.S.E'ly, 15-20 m.p.h., becoming S.W'ly, 10 m.p.h. later in afternoon. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: (Night) 7 aircraft required and cancelled.	
	18 Jan/43		Weather - Fog or mist all day; wind light, variable or calm. "A" FLIGHT: No flying. "B" FLIGHT: 1 a/c returned to base from advanced base. OPERATIONS: Not required.	
	19 Jan/43		Weather - Fog all day; wind light N.W'ly or calm. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: not required.	
	20 Jan/43		Weather - Fog or mist all day with continuous rain 1100 hrs. onwards. Wind S.E'ly 10 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: (NIGHT) 5 a/c required and cancelled.	
	21 Jan/43		Weather - Rain at first, then cloudy with good visibility. Wind S.W'ly 15 m.p.h. becoming S'ly 5 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: 10 a/c detailed either for N.P.T.s or Air Test. 1 a/c of these cancelled. Also 1 a/c returned to base from advanced base. "B" FLIGHT: 2 a/c detailed for N.P.T.s and cancelled. OPERATIONS: (NIGHT) 3 aircraft required and D.C.O.	A-166 to A-168 incl.
	22 Jan/43		Weather - Rain all day, with fog at first improving to moderate visibility in afternoon. Wind N.W'ly 10 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: Not required.	

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See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I. para. 212 and War Manual, Pt. II, chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) 425 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON.

No. of pages used for day 4

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
HIGHWORTH, YORKS.	23 Jan/43.		Weather - Mainly cloudy with moderate visibility. Wind light, variable or calm. "A" FLIGHT: 1 a/c on local routine flying. "B" FLIGHT: 3 a/c came back to base from advanced base also 1 a/c detailed for N.F.T.s. and cancelled. OPERATIONS: (DAY) Sea-Search. First sea-search of the Squadron. 5 a/c required and all D.C.O. Also 3 aircraft on Maling and D.C.O.		A-169 to A-176 incl.
	24 Jan/43.		Weather - Fog all day, wind S.W'ly 10 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: 10 a/c required and cancelled.		
	25 Jan/43.		Weather - Cloudy all day with rain from 1000 hours till 1600 hours. Visibility moderate. Surface wind S.S.W'ly 15 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: (NIGHT) 5 aircraft required and cancelled.		
	26 Jan/43.		Weather - Fair to cloudy. Good visibility. Surface wind S.W'ly, 15 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: 7 a/c detailed to proceed on N.F.T.s, 1 a/c was cancelled. "B" FLIGHT: 6 a/c detailed for N.F.T.s, 1 a/c was cancelled. OPERATIONS: (NIGHT) 11 a/c required and all D.C.O.		A-177 to A-187 incl.
	27 Jan/43.		Weather - Cloudy. Moderate visibility. Wind S.W'ly 10 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: 1 a/c came back to base from an advanced base. "B" FLIGHT: 3 a/c came back to base from an advanced base. Also 2 a/c detailed to proceed on a cross-country and cancelled. OPERATIONS: No a/c required.		
	28 Jan/43.		Weather - Overcast all day with slight rain around dawn and again in early afternoon. Visibility moderate. Wind S.S.W'ly 15-20 m.p.h., gusting to 30 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: 1 a/c proceeded on an Air test. "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: No a/c required.		
	29 Jan/43.		Weather - Fair with good visibility, becoming moderate later in day. Wind S.S.W'ly 15 m.p.h. backing gradually S.S.W'ly 5-10 m.p.h. after dark. "A" FLIGHT: 3 a/c detailed to proceed on N.F.T.s and 6 of these a/c were cancelled. "B" FLIGHT: 1 a/c was on dual instruction on New Type. OPERATIONS: (NIGHT) 10 a/c required. 2 a/c cancelled, 3 a/c D.C.O. and 5 a/c D.N.C.O. and returned early.		A-188 to A-195 incl.
	30 Jan/43.		Weather - Cloudy to overcast most of day, heavy thunderstorm from 1000 to 1100 hrs. Showery with breaking skies in afternoon. Visibility mainly moderate. Wind S.S.W'ly 10-20 m.p.h. "A" FLIGHT: 1 a/c were detailed as follows: 1 a/c on operations of circuits and landings and cancelled. 2 a/c for Air Test and 1 a/c cancelled. "B" FLIGHT: 1 a/c came back to base from advanced base and 3 a/c proceeded on local routine flying. OPERATIONS: (DAY) 4 aircraft required, 3 a/c returned early, 1 a/c D.C.O.		A-196 to A-199 incl.
	31 Jan/43.		Weather - cloudy all day with continuous rain till noon. Visibility mainly moderate. Wind S.S.W'ly 25 m.p.h. at first, veering S.W'ly 30-35 m.p.h. in afternoon with gusts to 45 m.p.h. "A" & "B" FLIGHT: No flying. OPERATIONS: No a/c required. Number of operational sorties flown during the month: 62.		
	<p>HONOURS & AWARDS: Nil.</p> <p>COMMISSIONS: Sgt. J.D. Rodgers, appointed to a commission as a Pilot Officer w.e.f. 30 Nov., 1942. Auth: AM Ltr. A.46884/42/S.7(f)1.(b) dated 22nd December, 1942.</p> <p>Sgt. G.J.H. Rogers, appointed to a commission as a Pilot Officer w.e.f. 16th August, 1942. Auth: A.M. Ltr. A.47623/42/S.7(f)1.(b) dated 13 Jan., 1943.</p> <p>Sgt. J.L. Ingham, appointed to a commission as a Pilot Officer w.e.f. 30th Nov., 1942. Auth: A.M. Ltr. A.46882/42/S.7(f)1.(b) dated January, 1943.</p> <p>P/O L.F. Causley, appointed to a commission as a Pilot Officer w.e.f. 9th Oct., 1942. Auth: A.M. Ltr. A.47261/42/S.7(f)1.(b) dated 7th January, 1943.</p> <p>P/Sgt. R.G. Hodgson, appointed to a commission as a Pilot Officer w.e.f. 30th Nov., 1942. Auth: A.M. Ltr. A.46883/42/S.7(f)1.(b) dated 30th January, 1943.</p> <p>P/Sgt. A.C. Rowe, appointed to a commission as a Pilot Officer w.e.f. 30th Nov., 1942. Auth: A.M. Ltr. A.46885/42/S.7(f)1.(b) dated January, 1943.</p>				

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			SECRET.	
			5. PROMOTIONS: W/O. D.C. Wilson, Bombing Leader, appointed to the rank of Acting Flight Lieutenant (Paid) w.e.f. 30th November, 1942. Auth: A.O.C. No.6 (RCAF) Group.	
			6. POSTINGS: 124318 W/O. H. Gray, Posted to this unit from 23 O.T.U. w.e.f. 12 Jan., 1943. AUTH: 91 Grp. Pgs. 910/1706/26/23/Pa. dated 4th Jan., 1943. 112981 W/O. D.C. Fairley, Posted to this unit from 420 (RCAF) Sqn., w.e.f. 25th January, 1943. Auth: HQ 6 (RCAF) Grp. Sig. P:18A. dated 24th Jan., 1943. 116501 W/O. G.J.A. Bruyere, "IPM" Posted from this unit to SHQ Topcliffe, W/E, Sick, W.s.E., 6th November, 1942. AUTH: HQ 6 (RCAF) Grp. Pgs. 60/4850/13/Pa. 9/25 Jan/43. C.6080 A/W/Lt. J.H.L. St Germain, (ADMIN), Posted from this unit to RCAF "B" DEPOT w.e.f. 20-1-43, pending repatriation. Auth: A.M. Sig. P.2303 dated 26 Jan. 1943.	
			7. CHANGES IN COMMAND: Nil.	
			8. CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATION: Nil.	
			9. AIRCRAFT ON CHARGE: 17 Wellington Mark III.	
			10. HEALTH: According to the report signed by Flight Lieutenant H. Payatte, M.O. in charge, the general health of the squadron for the past month has shown a prevalence of tonsillitis, colds, and influenza. No cases of infectious diseases were encountered, but two cases of Chicken Pox were found on the station and admitted to Isolation Hospital. The disposal for the month was as follows: AIRCREW: 52 on sick report. GROUND CREW: 107 on sick report. 22 exposed flying 48 hours. 17 admitted Station Sick Quarters. 19 admitted Station Sick Quarters.	
			11. NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF UNIT AS AT 31st JANUARY, 1943. R.C.A.F. OFFICERS: Aircrew: 30 Ground Crew: 5. RCAF. Airmen: Aircrew: 98 Ground Crew: 263 R.A.F. " " " 8 " " " 111 R.A.F. " " " 14 " " " 39 W.A.A.F. " " " 111 " " " 111 W.A.A.F. AIRWOMEN " " " 111 " " " 19 TOTAL OFFICERS: " " " 38 " " " 5 AIRMEN/WOMEN: " " " 112 " " " 311	
			12. OPERATIONAL, NON-OPERATIONAL AND TRAINING FLYING TIMES FOR MONTH OF JANUARY, 1943. Operational Flying Hours: DAY 19:50 NIGHT 269:10 TOTAL 289:30 Operational training hours: 3:45 8:25 12:10 Other flying: 52:40 5:30 98:10	
			 (G.M.W. ST. PIERRE) Wing Commander, Commanding, 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.	
			DISTRIBUTION: RCAF OVERSEAS H.Q.: 2 copies. AIR MINISTRY: 2 copies. HQ No. 6 (RCAF) Grp.: 1 copy.	

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