

COMPILED BY *STANHOPE (C13682) 507th ADJUTANT.*

47-20-425  
D.O.J.

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. L

R.A.F. Form 540  
See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I.,  
para. 2340 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) No. 425 Squadron - R.C.A.F.

No. of pages used for day 6

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. Station	1.5.45		Flying training was carried out by two aircraft on this date. The Squadron is converting from Halifax III to Lancaster Mark X. The first Lancaster was received to-day.	
Tholthorpe, Yorks.	2.5.45		Flying training was carried out by five aircraft in daylight.	
	3.5.45		Training was carried out by fifteen aircraft to-day.	
	4.5.45		Six aircraft were engaged on flying training during the day.	
	5.5.45		The weather still holds good and four aircraft were engaged on flying training.	
	6.5.45		The good weather conditions permitted seventeen aircraft to fly on training during the day.	
	7.5.45		The long awaited news has been received that V.E. day will be to-morrow. Celebrations began on a small scale this evening. Numerous huge bonfires were seen all over the Station for a good part of the evening.	
	8.5.45		This is V.E. day, and naturally everybody slept in this morning. In the afternoon an informal parade was held in the R. & A. Mess where personnel were addressed by the Station Commander, G/C L.H. Leconte (C.O.), after which Church Services were held. A mass was celebrated in the hangar for the R.C.'s and Protestant Service was held in the Station Cinema. A V.E. dance was held in the evening in the Station Cinema; at midnight, everybody joined in a snake dance and proceeded to a big joy fire around which they performed the Indian Dance which lasted until approximately two o'clock.	
	9.5.45		To-day being a holiday, nobody is working. The celebrations continued.	
	10.5.45		Everything is back to normal again and all personnel reported back to work. All aircrew personnel were re-called from leave for training.	
	11.5.45		Six aircraft were detailed for training on this date. All kinds of games are being organised for the Squadron. This evening 425 Air Gunners won a soft-ball game 13 to 8 against 428 Squadron Air Gunners.	
	12.5.45		Flying training was carried out by ten aircraft to-day. Sixteen crews which are not required for Trans-Atlantic Flight Training were sent on leave to-day.	
	13.5.45		Six aircraft were on flying training to-day. The weather has turned cold again and the scattered showers have curtailed most of our flying training.	
	14.5.45		Only one aircraft was on training this date. Squadron Personnel returning from leave met a great number of ex-squadron personnel who were prisoners of war and have now returned to this Country.	

**SECRET.**

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. Station,	15.5.45		No aircraft were detailed for training this date but ground training was carried out.		
Tholthorpe YORKS.	16.5.45		16 aircraft were engaged on flying training.		
	17.5.45		15 aircraft were engaged on flying training to-day. A Squadron Parade was held to-day when the Squadron was presented with the Bombing and Gunnery trophies by the A.O.C. No. 8 (R.C.A.F.) Group Air Vice Marshall C.M. McEwen.		
	18.5.45		Training was carried out by eight aircraft today. The Squadron Adjutant Flight Lieutenant St. Amour (C13682) attended a conference at No. 82 (RCAF) Base H.Q. Linton. This meeting was held for the purpose of receiving instructions on Documentation when the unit moves to Canada.		
	19.5.45		To-day flying training was carried out by seventeen aircraft. Apart from training, all is very quiet on the Squadron these days. Everyone is waiting anxiously for the hope over the Atlantic.		
	20.5.45		The Squadron was stood-down to-day, except for pilots who attended lectures. A great number of ex-prisoner of wars, formerly of this unit, are presently visiting their many friends on the Squadron for a few days. Their return really called for celebration.		
	21.5.45		There was no flying carried out to-day. Aircrew attended lectures in their respective sections and games were played.		
	22.5.45		There was no flying to-day. It was <del>was</del> decided to-day to have a final Squadron Party before personnel leave Tholthorpe in the "Mid". A committee was formed and the <del>final</del> day is to take place next week, followed by an organised outdoor dance on the aerodrome.		
	23.5.45		Eighteen aircraft were engaged in flying training. A Station Dance was held in the Cinema this evening. The attendance was such that it was difficult to move in the hall.		
	24.5.45		Six aircraft were engaged on day training and thirteen aircraft on night training. Air Vice Marshall A. Raymond (C 821) visited the Squadron, after arriving from Canada the previous day.		
	25.5.45		Day training was carried out by one aircraft and night training by thirteen aircraft. The Squadron Adjutant, Flight Lieutenant St. Amour J.E.R. (C13682) left for London to-day where he is to attend the wedding of Squadron Leader J.G. Duhamel (C13874) of the D.F.R. Branch in R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters.		
	26.5.45		Two aircraft carried out flying training to-day. The Northern Spotlights Variety Show from Leeds, gave a performance in the Station Cinema this evening, which was greatly enjoyed.		
	27.5.45		There was no flying to-day. Lectures were given to aircrew personnel.		
	28.5.45		3 aircraft were engaged on training to-day. The Squadron Adjutant S/L J.E.R. St. Amour (C13682) returned from London where he attended the wedding of Squadron Leader J.G. Duhamel (C13874) of the D.F.R. Branch, RCAF O/S H.Q.		

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 3

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of (Unit or Formation)

No. of pages used for day 6

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. Station, Tholthorpe, Yorks.	29.5.45		No. 420 and 425 Squadrons got together and organised and paid for a final Station Outdoor Party. A field day was held in the afternoon, to which the neighbouring civilians were invited. A dance was held in the evening, near the Control Tower. Plenty of beer was served and all enjoyed the party which finished by heavy lighting of the sky by rockets and very few flares.		
	30.5.45		Everyone seems to feel rather "cloudy" to-day, and the blame goes to the muddy beer that was drunk yesterday.		
	31.5.45		More crews were sent on leave to relieve the accommodation on the Squadron. Clearances were given to the Atlantic Flying crews to-day, in preparation for their flight.		
<b>CASUALTIES:-</b>			NIL		
<b>HONOURS &amp; AWARDS.</b>			J15447 A/S/L R.D. Hemphill "DFC" - Awarded Immediate First Bar to D.F.C. on 1515.45. J6958 R/E/L J.R. Laporte "DFC" - Awarded Immediate First Bar to D.F.C. on 1515.45.		
<b>COMMISSIONS.</b>			J94488 F/O J.A.W.L. Laplante - W/AG - Commissioned wef. 28.3.45 J94575 F/O J.O.M. Talbot - A/B - " " 18.2.45 J94679 F/O S. Glass - Nav. - " " 26.3.45 J94675 F/O R. Horsfall - F/E - " " 18.3.45 J94708 F/O A.J. DeGruyere - W/AG - " " 27.3.45 J94703 F/O I.A. Kallherz - A/B - " " 27.3.45 J94699 F/O R.M. Scott - A/G - " " 16.2.45.		
<b>POSTINGS IN.</b>			J22019 F/L J.D. Simond - Pilot Posted from 78 RCAP Base wef. 8.5.45. R194326 F/S Collette J.G.R. 9 Nav. " " " " " J45840 F/O Gossau J.N.J. - W/AG " " " " " J45655 F/O Gagnon J.A.H. - A/B " " " " " J44850 F/O Neilson R.A. - F/E " " " " " J47194 F/O Black G.B. - M/AG " " " " " J46496 F/O Menard - R/AG " " " " " J36056 F/O Varga J.E. - Pilot " " " 3.5.45. R125875 Sgt. Dube E. - Nav. " " " " " J46113 F/O Menard J.A.C. - W/AG " " " " " J45197 F/O Matte C.E. - A/B " " " " " R210131 Sgt. Christianson A.G. - F/E " " " " " R130894 F/S Dubuc G. - M/AG " " " " " R243123 F/S Labonte R.F. - R/AG " " " " " R197535 WO2 Bailey M.A. - Nav. Posted from 62 RCAP Base wef. 5.5.45. R258885 WO2 Vandaele P. - A/G Posted from 429 Sqdn (RCAP) wef. 11.5.45. R114568 Sgt. Lermineux J.R.E. - A/G Re-Posted from 62 RCAP Base wef. 5.5.45. (Ex N.R. Sick) R198480 Sgt. Craig R.L. - F/E Posted from 429 RCAP Sqdn. wef. 13.5.45. R188333 Sgt. Durkin D.E. - F/E Posted from 429 RCAP Sqdn. wef. 13.5.45. R59719 Sgt. Horsfall E. - F/E Posted from 429 RCAP Sqdn. wef. 13.5.45. R210647 F/S Edwards G.R. - W/AG Posted from 62 RCAP Base wef. 24.5.45 (Ex N.R. Sick)		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events		SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. Station	31.5.45.		J28203	F/O Decoste J.N.D.	- A/B	Posted to 22 O.T.U. wof. 3.5.45.
			J90876	F/O Dumas W.A.S.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
Tholthorpe Yorks.	POSTINGS OUT.		C86576	F/O Horsnell G.K.	- F/E	" " " " " "
			J36827	F/O Cross J.S.	- May.	Posted to RCAF O/S H. wof. 1.5.45.
			J36861	F/O Berube J.P.	- May.	Posted to 1659 Con. Unit wof. 10.5.45.
			J93587	F/O Griffin L.S.	- May.	Posted to 1659 Con. Unit wof. 17.5.45.
			J44177	F/O Dufour J.G.D.	- W/AG	Posted to RCAF "R" Depot wof. 17.5.45.
			J93511	F/O Robert A.	- May.	Posted to RCAF O/S H.G. (S.D. - 1st) wof. 1.5.45.
			J29730	F/O Lanthier J.J.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
			J93358	F/O Hawkins R.A.	- May.	" " " " " "
			J89827	F/O McGie H.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
			J36548	F/O Bourke J.L.	- May.	Posted to RCAF "R" Depot wof. 7.5.45.
			888541	F/O Guilbeault A.L.	- May.	" " " " " "
			J94575	F/O Talbot J.M.	- A/B	" " " " " "
			J93451	F/O Williams J.C.	- A/B	" " " " " "
			J89087	F/O Gharabta J.M.H.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
			J82082	F/O Godin W.B.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
			J94153	F/O Macmill J.E.G.	- A/G	" " " " " "
			J94217	F/O Foster K.L.	- A/G	" " " " " "
			J93879	F/O Para J.R.B.	- A/G	" " " " " "
			J93922	F/O Thievin A.P.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
			J13447	A/S/L Campbell R.D. DFC	- Pilot	Posted " " " " " " 10.5.45.
			J85310	A/W/L Brassard J.A. DFC	- Pilot	" " " " " " 22.5.45.
			J211031	F/A Alarie J.C.	- A/G	" " " " " "
			E207187	WO Lalonde J.K.C.	- A/G	" " " " " "
			J90455	F/O Ethier J.S.E.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
			J27416	F/O Jacobs S.A.	- May.	" " " " " " 21.5.45.
			J35347	F/O Spesslars A.E.	- May.	" " " " " "
			J95569	F/O Hansen D.R.	- A/B	" " " " " "
			J38248	F/O Ogilvie F.H.	- A/B	" " " " " "
			J94187	F/O Dowling F.W.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
			J99670	F/O MacLennan B.A.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
			J82837	F/O Rummerville J.D.A.	- W/AG	" " " " " "
			J94699	F/O Scott K.M.	- A/G	" " " " " "
			E260645	F/S Carrwell B.O.	- F/B	Posted to A.C.A.C. Caterick wof. 17.5.45.
	RAF188972	F/O Sniderman A.R.	- F/E	" " " " " "		
	RAF191270	F/O Bryan C.F.M.	- May.	" " " " " "		
	RAF185328	F/O Clarke W.P.	- F/E	" " " " " "		
	RAF2212823	Sgt. Holland D.L.	- F/S	" " " " " "		
	RAF190851	F/O Eddy E.	- F/S	" " " " " "		
	RAF186676	F/O Warren J.	- F/S	" " " " " "		
	RAF186910	Sgt. Birch C.A.	- F/E	" " " " " " 427 Sqn. wof. 15.5.45.		
	RAF189608	Sgt. Jensen G.A.	- F/E	" " " " " "		
	RAF189254	Sgt. West K.W.	- F/E	" " " " " "		
	RAF189174	Sgt. Spenser I.	- F/E	" " " " " "		
	RAF189641	F/A Tice J.W.	- F/S	" " " " " "		
	RAF189610	F/O Wild G.	- W/AG	" " " " " " A.C.A.C. Caterick wof. 31.5.45.		
	R189677	F/S Dubus J.A.M.	- May.	Posted to RCAF "R" Depot wof. 17.5.45.		
	E261180	WO2 Simons W.B.	- A/G	" " " " " " 7.5.45.		
	E212347	WO2 Sutherland E.W.	- A/G	" " " " " "		

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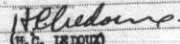
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RCAF Station Thelthorpe.	31.5.45		<p><b>CHANGE IN COMMAND:</b> - Nil.</p> <p><b>CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATION:</b> - Nil.</p> <p><b>AIRCRAFT ON CHARGE:</b> - 20 Lancasters Mk. I.</p> <p><b>HEALTH:</b> - The Squadron health for the month of May has been very satisfactory. There were no serious accidents during the month.</p> <p><b>PROMOTIONS:</b></p> <table style="font-size: small; border: none;"> <tr><td>J93027</td><td>F/O.</td><td>W.C. Davidson</td><td>- Pilot.</td><td>Appointed Acting Flying Officer eff. 30.3.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J93068</td><td>F/O.</td><td>S.J. Miller</td><td>" "</td><td>" " " " " " 22.3.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J4449</td><td>F/O.</td><td>J.W.B. Elvett</td><td>" "</td><td>Acting Flight Lieutenant eff. 9.4.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J1252</td><td>F/O.</td><td>L.E. Dumas</td><td>" "</td><td>" " " " " " 2.4.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J6958</td><td>F/Lt.</td><td>J.R. Leparto</td><td>" "</td><td>Squadron Leader eff. 22.5.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J2248</td><td>A/W/O.</td><td>J.E. Marcoux</td><td>" "</td><td>Flight Lieutenant eff. 5.4.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J9045</td><td>F/O.</td><td>J.E. SMITH</td><td>W/AG.</td><td>Promoted T/F/O. eff. 27.3.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J8834</td><td>F/O.</td><td>J.L.C. Leguier</td><td>Pilot.</td><td>Promoted T/F/O. eff. 18.3.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J89670</td><td>F/O.</td><td>E.A. MacLennan</td><td>W/AG.</td><td>Promoted T/F/O. eff. 6.3.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J1478</td><td>A/T/Lt.</td><td>J.G.M. Begibald</td><td>Nav.</td><td>Promoted T/F/Lt. eff. 10.7.44</td></tr> <tr><td>J89787</td><td>F/O.</td><td>K. Patterson</td><td>A/G.</td><td>Promoted T/F/O. eff. 6.3.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J82100</td><td>F/O.</td><td>H.E. Skiles</td><td>Nav.</td><td>Promoted T/F/O. eff. 23.2.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J48782</td><td>F/O.</td><td>R. Webster</td><td>F/E.</td><td>Promoted T/F/O. eff. 20.3.45</td></tr> <tr><td>J17533</td><td>F/O.</td><td>D.J. Turanne</td><td>Pilot.</td><td>Promoted T/F/Lt. eff. 12.4.45</td></tr> </table>	J93027	F/O.	W.C. Davidson	- Pilot.	Appointed Acting Flying Officer eff. 30.3.45	J93068	F/O.	S.J. Miller	" "	" " " " " " 22.3.45	J4449	F/O.	J.W.B. Elvett	" "	Acting Flight Lieutenant eff. 9.4.45	J1252	F/O.	L.E. Dumas	" "	" " " " " " 2.4.45	J6958	F/Lt.	J.R. Leparto	" "	Squadron Leader eff. 22.5.45	J2248	A/W/O.	J.E. Marcoux	" "	Flight Lieutenant eff. 5.4.45	J9045	F/O.	J.E. SMITH	W/AG.	Promoted T/F/O. eff. 27.3.45	J8834	F/O.	J.L.C. Leguier	Pilot.	Promoted T/F/O. eff. 18.3.45	J89670	F/O.	E.A. MacLennan	W/AG.	Promoted T/F/O. eff. 6.3.45	J1478	A/T/Lt.	J.G.M. Begibald	Nav.	Promoted T/F/Lt. eff. 10.7.44	J89787	F/O.	K. Patterson	A/G.	Promoted T/F/O. eff. 6.3.45	J82100	F/O.	H.E. Skiles	Nav.	Promoted T/F/O. eff. 23.2.45	J48782	F/O.	R. Webster	F/E.	Promoted T/F/O. eff. 20.3.45	J17533	F/O.	D.J. Turanne	Pilot.	Promoted T/F/Lt. eff. 12.4.45		
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<p><b>NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF UNIT AS AT 31st MAY, 1945.</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>R.C.A.F. OFFICERS:</td> <td>AIRCREW:</td> <td>132</td> <td>GROUND CREW:</td> <td>2</td> <td>RCAF AIRMEN:</td> <td>AIRCREW:</td> <td>148</td> <td>GROUND CREW:</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.A.F.</td> <td>"</td> <td>"</td> <td>"</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>R.A.F.</td> <td>"</td> <td>16</td> <td>"</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td></td> <td><u>136</u></td> <td></td> <td><u>2</u></td> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td></td> <td><u>164</u></td> <td></td> <td><u>Nil</u></td> </tr> </table>						R.C.A.F. OFFICERS:	AIRCREW:	132	GROUND CREW:	2	RCAF AIRMEN:	AIRCREW:	148	GROUND CREW:	Nil	R.A.F.	"	"	"	Nil	R.A.F.	"	16	"	Nil	<b>TOTAL</b>		<u>136</u>		<u>2</u>	<b>TOTAL</b>		<u>164</u>		<u>Nil</u>																																								
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<p><b>OPERATIONAL SORTIES CARRIED OUT DURING THE MONTH OF MAY 1945 - Nil.</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>DAY</th> <th>NIGHT</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Operational:</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>nil</td> <td>nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flying Training:-</td> <td>47h.00</td> <td>129.20</td> <td>603.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Flying:-</td> <td>9.05</td> <td>nil</td> <td>9.05</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							DAY	NIGHT	TOTAL	Operational:	Nil	nil	nil	Flying Training:-	47h.00	129.20	603.20	Other Flying:-	9.05	nil	9.05																																																						
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<p><b>BOMB EXPENDITURE:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>(TONS - 2,240 lbs)</th> <th>H. E.</th> <th>INCEND.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bombs dropped from 1.1.44 to 30.4.45.</td> <td></td> <td>8,095.87</td> <td>967.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bombs dropped during month of May, 1945.</td> <td></td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Cumulative total from 1.1.44</b></td> <td></td> <td><u>8,095.87</u></td> <td><u>967.3</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							(TONS - 2,240 lbs)	H. E.	INCEND.	Bombs dropped from 1.1.44 to 30.4.45.		8,095.87	967.3	Bombs dropped during month of May, 1945.		Nil	Nil.	<b>Cumulative total from 1.1.44</b>		<u>8,095.87</u>	<u>967.3</u>																																																						
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<p><b>NUMBER OF COMBATS WITH ENEMY AIRCRAFT: Nil.</b></p>																																																																											

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
RCAF Station Thelthorpe	31.5.45		<p><u>SHORT RESUMEY SQUADRON COMMANDER FOR MONTH OF MAY, 1945.</u></p> <p>Conversion to Lancaster X aircraft was completed and the month was mainly devoted to training flights in preparation to crossing the Atlantic. This conversion was done without a single untoward incident. The number of crews on the Squadron is at an all-time high level of thirty-nine.</p>		
			<p style="text-align: right;">             (H. C. IEDOUX)            Wing Commander, Commanding,            425 (R. C. A. F.) Squadron         </p>		
			<p>DISTRIBUTION: A.M. Kingway:- 2 copies.            RCAF O/S H.Q. :- 2 copies.            HQ 6 RCAF Group:- 1 copy.</p>		

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