

MONTH OF JUNE, 1943 (1st to 30th.)  
**OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK**

APPENDIX .....  
 FORM 541.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 425 (RCAP) Squadron.

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 1.

FOR THE MONTH OF June 1943.

(Form) Wt. 6021-36 No. 200 540 T.S. 700

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
						This Squadron was not in readiness for operations until June 26th, consequent of the unit's move from United Kingdom to North Africa. Ground personnel however, had landed at Algiers on May 22nd. On June 3rd, 20 A/C's took-off from Portreath, and 19 a/c arrived safely in North Africa on the same date. One A/C was forced to bale out over Portugal after being attacked by enemy aircraft en route. Two members of the crew were injured. The missing crew was composed as follows:- CAN-116789 T/P/O. Lacerte, R.J. Captain. CAN-R122777 T/Sgt. French, L.F. Nav. 933865 T/Sgt. Wright, E.W. W.A. 124549 T/P/O. Shaw, B.L. W.A. CANR25126 T/Sgt. Brianan, W.J. A/G. CAN-R81900 IAG. Dufresne, L.A. F.I.I.E. (Injured). CAN-R91611 IAG. Larche, R.F. F.I.I.A. (Injured). By June 22nd, all ground and aircrew personnel had arrived at the Kairoan/Zina aerodrome. Operations were started on June 26th.	
Night. 26/27-43	Wellington I. H.E. 522 "B"	W/O. St-Pierre, J.M.W. (Sgt. Osmond, H.N.) P/Lt. Bell, J.W. P/Lt. Walmeright, L.A. P/O. Strong, R.J. Sgt. Hyde, E.	Bombing. Sciacoa.	2102	0006	Bomb load:- 9 x 500, dropped from 7,000 feet. Target was visually identified and bombs dropped accordingly. A fair amount of heavy and accurate flak & S/L's over target. A successful trip.	A-467
"	H.E. 970 "C"	P/O. Anderson, G.A. P/O. Young, J.W. Sgt. Roberts, J. P/S. Campagna, J. Sgt. Gray, B.B.	"	2108	0136	Bomb load:- 9 x 500 dropped from 7,500 feet. Target visually identified and own bombs seen to burst in target area. Accurate & heavy flak co-operating with S/D's and night fighters observed over target. Trip considered successful.	A-468
"	H.E. 900 "E"	P/Lt. Delisle, J.C.H. (S/Lt. Richer, E.D.) P/O. Blach, A.F. P/O. Bellamy, J.M. P/O. DeBoer, A.G. P/S. Doucet, P.G.	"	2100	0026	Bomb load:- 9 x 500 dropped from 8,000 feet. Target visually identified and own bombs seen to burst. Results not observed. Many other bomb bursts seen in target area. Heavy flak seen to be coming from hills E. of target. Aircraft returned safely to base. A successful trip.	A-469
"	H.E. 977 "I"	P/O. Hall, T.F. P/O. Duguay, R.E. Sgt. Millar, R.V. Sgt. Hale, C.T. Sgt. Ferris, E.R.	"	2057	Missing	Bomb load:- 9 x 500. This aircraft took-off from this aerodrome at 2057 hours, and nothing was heard of it since time of take-off.	A-470
"	H.E. 261 "R"	P/Lt. Makensy, C.M. P/O. Taschersau, G. Sgt. Roberts, L. P/O. Hutton, J.S. P/S. Goyette, J.F.	"	2059	2310	Bomb load:- 9 x 500. <del>Propagator, R. M. H. H. H.</del> jettisoned at 5,000 feet. This aircraft was attacked by enemy A/C which was identified to be a JU.88, on crossing coast of Sciacoa. The A/C was not observed until it began firing a burst which was immediately returned by the Rear gunner who fired a 6 seconds burst point blank at E/A. The Wireless Operator was badly wounded in the leg. Approx. three minutes after attack, when A/C straightened out, what appeared to be an A/C was seen to burn on the water. The A/C is claimed as destroyed by the crew. A/C. returned safely to base.	A-471

www.bombercommand.com

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
Night. 26-27/6/43	Wellington X. H.E. 930 "A"	Sgt. Hawkins, R.C. Sgt. Bunting, R. P/O. Stafford, T. Sgt. Moreau, G.S. Sgt. Platana, D.D.	Bombing. Sciaccia.	2105	0013	Bomb load:- 9 x 500 dropped from 8,000 feet. Target was visually identified by aid of flares and bombed accordingly. Own bombs were seen to burst but results were not observed. A fair amount of flak over target with S/L's definitely co-operating with night fighters. A successful trip.	A-472.
"	H.E. 978 "X"	P/O. Turenne, D.J. P/O. Williams, H.F. P/O. Mailleur, J.A.F. P/O. Stillings, J.E. Sgt. Cammell, R.S. (Sgt. McIlraith, S.J.)	"	2053	0055	Bomb load:- 9 x 500 dropped from 7,500 feet. Target visually identified and own bombs seen to burst. A fair amount of flak and searchlights observed co-operating with night fighters. A successful trip.	A-473.
"	H.E. 979 "X"	Sgt. Montpetit, J.F. P/O. McEne, L.H. Sgt. Dousignant, J.R. Sgt. Turcotte, J.F. Sgt. Desjardins, P.	"	2059	0028	Bomb load:- 9 x 500 dropped from 8,000 feet. Target visually identified but bombs dropped accordingly. Due to flight haze over target results were not observed. A fair amount of flak and S/L's experienced. Trip should be successful.	A-474.
"	H.E. 521 "Y"	Sgt. Brousseau, J.H. Sgt. Moreau, J.H. P/O. Rosen, P.H. P/O. Hodgins, D.B.J. Sgt. Marceau, D. P/O. Desjolis, H.	"	2058	0103	Bomb load:- 9 x 500 dropped from 7,000 feet. Target identified by aid of flares and own bombs seen to burst in target area. A fair amount of heavy accurate flak with staggered S/L's observed. A successful trip.	A-475.
Night. 28-29/7/43.	H.E. 930 "A"	P/O. Lomburner, J.M. P/O. Lago, J.E. P/O. Woodrow, J.E. P/O. Daoust, J.M.	Bombing. Messina.	2031	0221	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 8,500 feet. Target visually identified by flares and S/L's and bombed accordingly. Own bombs seen to burst in area. Defences were few and ineffective. Visibility was good, but ground haze hampered observations over target. Effort considered satisfactory.	A-476.
"	H.E. 522 "B"	S/L. Hebert, J.C. P/O. Elliott, D.A. Sgt. Jenkins, A. P/O. Strong, R.H. Sgt. Hyde, P.	"	2040	0238	Bomb load:- 2x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 9,000 feet. Target was visually identified by firing activities and searchlights. Own bombs were not seen to burst. Medium light and heavy flak fairly accurate with searchlights. Ground haze over target area; bombing results could not be observed. A successful trip.	A-477.
"	H.E. 970 "C"	Sgt. McIlraith, S.J. P/O. Brown, T.B. Sgt. Muir, J.H. Sgt. Calderwood, J.D. Sgt. Balderston, J.E.	"	2039	0225	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 8,500 feet. Target was easily identified by aid of flares and was bombed accordingly. Bursts could not be seen of own bombs. A few flares observed burning in target area. Light & medium flak experienced over target. A good trip.	A-478.
"	L.N. 436 "D"	Sgt. Hawkins, R.C. Sgt. Bunting, R. P/O. Stafford, T. Sgt. Moreau, G.S. Sgt. Platana, D.D.	"	2035	0240	Bomb load:- 1 x 4,000 dropped from 9,000 feet. Target was identified by aid of flares. Bomb burst could not be seen due to haze. Small flares observed. A fair amount of accurate flak over target area. Fighter encountered but not identified. A successful trip.	A-479.
"	H.E. 900 "E"	P/L. Delisle, J.C.H. P/O. Biech, A.T. P/O. Haldaday, L.M. P/O. Debeer, A.G. P/O. Doucet, P.G. P/O. Stanford, A.E.	"	2034	0119	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 9,000 feet. Target was identified by duds and bombed accordingly. Bomb bursts observed. Medium heavy flak scattered & inaccurate and also 2x S/L's observed. Heavy flares observed at Reggio de Calabria that became heavy as A/C left target. Should be good trip.	A-480.

www.bombercommand.com

3



# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

APPENDIX ..... A.F. FORM 541.


DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT  
By 425 (BCAF) Squadron  
FOR THE MONTH OF June 1943

**SECRET** PAGE No. 3

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
Night 28/5-43	Wellington I. H.E. 976 "H"	P/O. Jackson, A.H. P/O. Bell, D.A. P/S. Ross, J. P/O. Atkinson, P.G. P/S. Tremblay, J.E.	Bombing. Messina.	2037	0234	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 8,400 feet. Target easily identified and bombed. Fires seen in vicinity of target. Heavy flak, fairly accurate experienced. Visibility was poor due to haze. Searchlights observed, evidently co-operating with night fighters. A good trip.	A-481
"	H.E. 260 "P"	P/O. DeSolla, H. Sgt. Cavonius, J.C. Sgt. Callant, G.F. P/O. Hill, G.A. Sgt. Liddell, J.	"	2032	0215	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 8,500 feet. Town and Railway tracks seen very plainly. Bombs believed to have dropped close to shore line on Rly tracks. Heavy flak, rather accurate observed. Searchlights in clusters of 8 to 12 from W. side of target. Vis. hazy and poor. Should be a successful effort.	A-482.
"	H.E. 931 "I"	P/O. Spenser, C.L. P/O. Leigh, J.E. P/S. MacKay, R.S. P/S. Ledrassy, F.M. Sgt. Blackett, S.G.	"	2049	0154	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 9,000 feet. Target visually identified and own bombs seen to burst. Light & medium flak with 2 cones of 6 S/L's N.W. of town. Should be successful trip.	A-483.
"	551 "H" H.E. 934 "I"	P/O. Stutt, R.A. P/O. Dabe, J.R.G. P/O. Manning, H.R. P/O. Hodgson, E.G. Sgt. Pettit, W.D. Sgt. Osmond, H.N.	"	2012	0235	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 8500 feet. Town and marshalling yards clearly identified by flares. Own bombs seen to burst close to shore in marshalling yard. A fair amount of heavy flak and searchlights encountered. A successful trip.	A-484.
"	H.E. 978 "X"	P/O. Curran, D. P/O. Williams, J.P. P/O. Mellour, J.A.F. P/S. Stillings, J.E. Sgt. Campbell, R.S. P/O. Cairns, J.G.	"	2040	0210	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 7,000 feet. Target visually identified by aid of flares. Own bomb bursts seen in target area. Little heavy flak very accurate was observed; also S/L's in clusters of 6-7. A very successful trip.	A-485
"	H.E. 979 "Y"	Sgt. Montpetit, J.F. P/O. McPhee, L.W. Sgt. Remington, J.R. Sgt. Furotte, J.F. Sgt. Desjardins, P.	"	2038	0159	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500 dropped from 7,500 feet. Target identified by flares and own bomb bursts seen in vicinity of marshalling yards. Mostly light and inaccurate flak. Two small fires working in cluster of approx. 7 S/L's encountered. A good trip.	A-486
"	W.S. 492 "F"	W/O. Junker, J.N. P/O. Farley, D.C. Sgt. McMillan, D.L. Sgt. Saunders, V.A. Sgt. Mahan, E.G.	"	2030		Bomb load:- 1 x 1,000. This aircraft ran short of petrol and ditched at 0123 hours approx. 5 miles N. of Sfax. The main gunner is presumed to have drowned, the remainder of the crew suffered minor bruises and were picked up at 1130 hours by L.C.I. boat 106, and landed at Sousse.	A-487
Night 29/5-43	Wellington I. H.E. 930 "A"	P/O. Michaud, J.P. P/O. Lymburner, J.L. P/O. Lago, J.A. P/O. Woodrow, J.H. P/O. Daoust, M.	Bombing. Messina.	2145	0230	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500, 2 x 250, dropped from 7000 feet. Vis. was good and target easily identified. Own bombs seen to burst in built-up area. Other bomb bursts were also observed. Fairly accurate & heavy flak experienced. A successful trip.	A-488
"	H.E. 522 "B"	W/O. St. Pierre, J.H.W. P/O. Bell, J.W. P/O. Wainwright, L.A. P/O. Strong, R.J. Sgt. Gray, A.B.	"	2133	0214	Bomb Load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500, 2 x 250 dropped from 8500 ft. Target identified visually and bombs dropped N.W. of target. Flares appeared to have been dropped W. of aiming point. Heavy flak bursting at 8-12,000 ft. over target. Approx. 12 S/L's operating individually but were not very effective. What appeared to be smoke screen observed N.W. of town. A very successful trip.	A-489

www.bombercommand.com

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
Night. 29-30/6/43	Wellington I. H.E. 970 "G"	Sgt. McIlreath, S.J. P/O. Brown, R.E. Sgt. Muir, J.H. Sgt. Calderwood, J.H. Sgt. Balderston, J.E.	Bombing. Messina.	2131	--	This aircraft took-off from this aerodrome at 2131 but nothing was heard from it or any member of the crew after take off.	A-490
"	M.S. 496 "Q"	Sgt. Osmond, H.W. Sgt. Dennis, G.S.J. Sgt. Bell, H.R. Sgt. Morris, J.C. Sgt. Little, J.D.	"	2147	0303	Bomb load:- 1 x 4,000 dropped from 7,000 feet. Target was identified visually and bombed accordingly. Own bombs not seen to burst. Smoke screen appeared to be operating. Little heavy flak and few S/L's over target. Successful.	A-491
"	H.E. 976 "H"	F/S. Jackson, A.H. P/O. Bell, D.A. F/S. Ross, J. P/O. Atkinson, E.G. F/S. Tremblay, J.E.	"	2129	0237	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500, 2 x 250 dropped from 8000 feet. Target was clearly identified and own bombs seen to burst. Defences seemed slow in getting started. Some heavy flak from Volcano and Lipani island. Satisfactory trip.	A-492
"	H.E. 900 "E"	F/L. Blakeney, C.M. P/O. Taschereau, E. P/O. Selinger, F.P. P/O. Hutton, H.S. F/S. Coyette, J.P.	"	2134	0219	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500, 2 x 250 dropped from 7500 ft. Town of Messina clearly identified by built up area and marshalling yards. Two of our own bombs seen bursting in area. A fair amount of flak encountered over target. Successful trip.	A-493
"	H.E. 551 "F"	P/O. Stutt, R.A. P/O. Dube, J.E.G. P/O. Manning, R.R. P/O. Hodgson, E.C. Sgt. Pettit, W.D.	"	2140	0239	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500, 2 x 250 dropped from 8500 ft. Target identified visually and own bombs seen to burst in marshalling yards. One load of bombs seen to explode in town area. Slight heavy & inaccurate flak at 12-13000 ft. Approximately 8 S/L's operating individually. Smoke screen seen in operation. Successful raid.	A-494
"	H.E. 521 "V"	Sgt. Brousseau, J.H.M. Sgt. Moreau, J.H. Sgt. Roman, E.H. P/O. Hodgson, D.E.J. Sgt. Moreau, H.E.	"	2137	0241	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500, 2 x 250 dropped at 8,000 ft. Target clearly identified. Own and other bombs seen to burst. Heavy flak encountered about 12,000 feet. Flak also experienced from Cap Miseno. S/L's appeared ineffective. A satisfactory trip.	A-495
"	H.E. 978 "X"	P/O. Marcotte, A.H. "DFC" P/O. Spackman, H.H. P/O. Hobson, J.H. P/O. Young, W.J. F/S. McIlivray, R.L. (S/L. Richer, B.D.)	"	2156	0236	Bomb load:- 2 x 1,000, 5 x 500, 2 x 250 dropped at 7500 ft. Target clearly identified and bombs seen to burst in target area. Defences were negligible. Bombing credited a successful trip.	A-496

  
 J.M.V. St. Pierre  
 Wing Commander, Commanding,  
 425 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

www.bombercommand.com