

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) **426 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON**

25379

Page No. **008**

No. of pages used for **Month 7**

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tampford, Beds.	1.8.45		Posting notice received today which will transfer all 426 groundcrew to 4426 servicing echelon, under the control of the G.F.O., R.A.F. Tampford. It is expected this transfer is going to necessitate considerable re-shuffling from an administrative point of view as all Canadian aircrew will now come directly under the R.A.F. Good weather conditions favoured our flying training program.		
	2.8.45		Excellent weather conditions with clear sky and good visibility. A/Lt. Cook from A Group visited the unit during the morning to discuss navigational problems and to offer any suggestions and assistance to our navigation leader. P/Lt. K. Warner and crew departed for R.A.F. Station Netheravon where they will take a modified Liberator on a trial run to India as a troop-carrying test. The last of 4 aircraft transferred to No. 66 Squadron was flown out today to R.A.F. Station TAIN. This has reduced our own strength to 16.		
	3.8.45		Excellent flying weather continues. Much more intense flying program is impossible due to the very few aircraft available at any one time. This difficulty is explained by the lack of tools; original demands for Liberator tools have still not been met despite frequent inquiry. Two more aircraft arrived during the day - full strength of 46 crews should very shortly be reached.		
	4.8.45		Excellent weather continues and daily flying program completed without any incident.		
	5.8.45		Seems to be no end to the good weather altho forecasts are that clouds and thunderstorms will be with us soon. Only 3 vacancies at S.B.A. Course allotted this squadron for the coming week. More could have been had but the G.O. does not wish them, preferring more of the Radio Range courses if possible.		
	6.8.45		Unsettled weather with frequent rain storms accompanied by thunder and lightning. Planned flying program pretty well completed despite weather. Three flight engineers have reported in within the past two days for duties as engineers instructors. Another is expected very shortly. Their stay with the squadron will only be temporary during our training period. Authority has been received from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters for the naming of our aircraft with Canadian cities. Maple Leaf crests are also to be painted on the nose alongside the name, and a supply of 30 stencils has now been received.		
	7.8.45		The training program "spread out" today with the commencement I-Countries in Germany. Three routes have been authorized reaching as far north as Kiel and south as far as Bonn. Four aircraft went out today, each carrying six extra groundcrew personnel as passengers. Very poor weather at base and flying training program in this area somewhat curtailed because of this.		

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Tempford, Beds	8.8.45		Weather unsettled, with periodic showers. Training flights over Germany continued with 4 aircraft away. Shortage of flight engineers compensated by return of 3 to 422 Squadron from whom they had been attached since formation of 426. Crew strength is presently 41 complete with 3 more partially completed. Pending action to bring complete crew strength up to 48 has been promised by Transport Command as quickly as possible. R.O.A.F. "All Clear" show presented a first class performance in the N.A.A.F.I. building this evening. A second show will be put on tomorrow evening.		
	9.8.45		Very poor weather very nearly washed out the flying program completely, only radio range flights being flown. Allocated 14 exercises for radio range training this coming week but later informed that figure would be reduced to only 6. The C.O. had a visit from the Command Education Officer, W/O. Thomas during the afternoon.		
	10.8.45		This squadron has been instructed by R.O.A.F. to ferry all the Liberators in to R.A.F. Station, Basingstoke for use of 422 Squadron since the latter has no Lib-trained pilots. Nineteen will be flown in and the first 3 were picked up this afternoon.		
	11.8.45		Routine day's training with no incident to report.		
	12.8.45		Fasting notice received today for 58 groundcrew personnel of 426 Squadron on the first leg of their journey back to Canada. Replacements are expected in within 2 days. Flying program very limited because of poor weather conditions. The squadron was visited by A/C. GORDON, Deputy A.C.O. in C., R.O.A.F. Overseas and A/C. McDougall, Canadian Liaison Officer at Transport Command Hq. Both Officers were conducted around the squadron buildings and aircraft by the C.O., W/O. D.E. Miller.		
	13.8.45		Day flying program limited to 3 flights to Germany due to continuing poor weather conditions. Night flying scrubbed for the 2nd night in succession. Ferrying of aircraft for 422 Squadron continued today, a total of 11 have been flown in from Frankfurt up to date.		
	14.8.45		Continuing poor weather here, and light rain, limited flying training program. News flashed over the radio just after midnight tonight that Japan had agreed to surrender terms of the Allies, this is therefore V-J Day.		
	15.8.45		C.O. attended conference with station commander at which it was decided that the station would close down until A.M. August 16th. Today's flying program therefore scrubbed and there will be no aircraft in the air until 16th August.		

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. THREE

of (Unit or Formation) 426 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON

No. of pages used for Month 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tampford, Beds.	15.8.45	CONTINUED	Four engineers arrived from 422 Squadron today to replace four that were heading to 423 Squadron on 16th August. S/L. E. Warner and his crew returned to Tampford this evening after having completed a trip to Karachi, India; they departed this station on August 2nd.		
	16.8.45		No life whatsoever on the squadron; working routine completely suspended and a good many of the personnel away from camp.		
	17.8.45		No life about the squadron for the 2nd day - all personnel still enjoying their VJ holidays.		
	18.8.45		S/L. Lingham, navigation leader officer from R.Q.T.C. visited the squadron to discuss nav. problems. Flying training program restricted due to poor weather conditions.		
	19.8.45		Thanksgiving church services were held this morning on one of the runways at which approximately 350 aircrew and groundcrew personnel of 426 Squadron were in attendance, as well as other sections of the station. Poor weather again restricted the flying training program.		
	20.		A volleyball team consisting of officers and aircrew was taken by air to R.C.A.F. Linton-on-Ouse this afternoon to represent No. 1 District in the R.C.A.F. Overseas championships. At a short conference in S.H.Q. today, it was confirmed that the administration of 426 servicing echelon would be taken over by the station headquarters as of 21st August through the servicing wing headquarters.		
	20.8.45		Fairly good weather conditions. Local flying and Germany trips carried out as detailed. Night flying training was continued. Six new engineers reported for duty today and were billeted and ground crewed up. S/L. Miller, Canadian Personnel Counsellor Officer arrived and had talk with Commanding Officer re placing one of their officers with this squadron.		
	21.8.45		Germany trips cancelled by order of 1 Group. Local flying program somewhat curtailed by weather conditions. Five pilots left by rail for Bramcote, R.H. Course. Somerset aircrew travelled by road to Basingstoke for yellow fever inoculations. S/L. Miller returned to make arrangements re setting up of office for Personnel Counsellor.		
	22.8.45		Germany trips carried on. S/L. McLeod established office in building with Education Officer as our new Personnel Counsellor. The first night X-Country trips were cancelled on account of weather.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tampford, Beds.	23.8.45		Germany trips carried out. First night I-Country training trips carried out. Arranged visit by W/L. Boig from Transport Command for Saturday to straighten out repeat situation and transfers from 422 Squadron.		
	24.8.45		Commanding Officer made trip to St. Marys re Castel Benito trips. Germany trips carried out but night flying was cancelled on account of weather.		
	25.8.45		Germany trips carried out. O.K. given for Castel Benito trips to start and arrangement made for first trip on Monday. W/L. Boig unable to come to Tampford today. Squadron dance plans changed to meet the approval of Station Commander. Arrangements for nine pilots to attend R.R. Course at Prestwick and Bramcote made with a group.		
	26.8.45		Authority received and first trip briefed for Castel Benito trip tomorrow. No other incident to report.		
	27.8.45		First Castel Benito trip away today. Aircraft for other flights not available. Squadron aircrew on sea parade in P.M. Tampford lost first softball game to Basingbourne in the evening. A new dental clinic, headed by Captain R.A. Moore arrived on the station today to replace Capt. McKimney. This station has now come within the area of another Canadian Dental Company and the change in clinics was therefore necessary. W/L. R.P. Homemaker arrived this afternoon to take up duties as Squadron M.O. The present Medical Officer, W/L. Young will be posted shortly to a Canadian General Hospital.		
	28.8.45		Re-Organisation meeting of the entertainment committee and more arrangements made for squadron party. One pilot more allotted to Prestwick R.R. course. Castel Benito and other trips carried out according to detail. G. 56101 W/O. P.T. O'Brecht reported to the squadron for duties as a Link Trainer Instructor. He will work in with the S.H.Q. Link Trainer Officer and assist the Squadron Training Officer in his ground program.		
	29.8.45		Weather conditions very poor curtailing the training program. Lack of available aircraft also providing a restrictive force - the serviceability is retarded by lack of tools, these have been "on the way" for weeks. Advised late this evening that our first aircraft returning from Castel Benito had been damaged at R.A.F. Station, Werrifield while preparing to return to Tampford. The undercarriage gave way while aircraft was being taxied resulting in Cat 1/C. damage. Air Commodore Walker, S.A.S.O. at a group H.Q. visited the unit this afternoon to discuss progress being made in training of 426 Squadron.		
	30.8.45		Fog blanketed the airfield for greater part of the day and prevented any training. Only flying carried out was an air test of converted Liberator of No. 1 R.A.M.B. - this squadron has been carrying out all such tests for the Modification Unit.		

of (Unit or Formation) 426 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON

No. of pages used for ~~doc~~ ^{Month} 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tampa, Fla.	11.8.45		Weather considerably improved, but no local flying training was carried out. The schedule of trips to Castle Benito was continued. W/O. Rizzo, of the Training Staff at 4 group visited the squadron this afternoon to discuss training progress with the C.O. Advised today of postings of 3 more crews shortly from 1st and 4th squadrons at Basingbourne to bring our strength up to the complete 48 crews originally intended.		
CASUALTIES - NIL					
PASTORS "IN"					
J.2345	E/L	V.L. BRANNETT	(PILOT)	Posted from Birchen Newton	w/c 10.7.45
J.30651	E/O	D.W. GRAY	(NAV)	" " " No.242 Squadron	26.6.45
J.59477	E/O	A.J. INCH	(WG)	" " " " "	26.6.45
J.57368	E/O	A. ROSE	(PILOT)	" " " " "	26.6.45
J.25687	E/O	L. MORISIALO	(PILOT)	" " " No. 3 P.R.O.	10.7.45
J.25748	E/O	T.M. RODGERMAN	(WG)	" " " No. 511 Squadron	26.7.45
J.25838	E/O	A.G. PARKER	(NAV)	" " " No. 17 A.C.H.U.	29.7.45
J.25838	E/O	R.G. TRENKLE	(WG)	" " " H.Q.T.G.	29.7.45
J.23345	E/L	J.D. McMANUEL	(PILOT)	" " " No. 3 P.R.O.	17.7.45
J.25959	E/O	G.W. BROCKHAMPTON	(NAV)	" " " No. 48 Squadron	26.6.45
J.12655	E/L	M.A. BAKER	(PILOT)	" " " " "	" "
J.17205	E/O	H.G. MITCHELL	(E/R)	" " " " "	" "
J.39426	E/O	E.P. SANDERS	(E/R)	" " " " "	" "
J.11394	E/L	K.K. PROBERTS	(NAV)	" " " Birchen Newton	26.6.45
C.30843	E/O	F.O. BARRETT	(E/R)	" " " No. 1338 H.Q.U.	29.7.45
C.24725	E/O	S.L. FOLLOE	(E/R)	" " " No. 3 P.R.O.	17.8.45
J.17043	E/L	R.M. THORNTON	(NAV)	" " " H.Q.T.G.	8.8.45
J.35443	E/O	J.M. GADMAN	(PILOT)	" " " No.1513 RAF PLANT	28.6.45
R24535	E/O.I	BRAIDING, M.	(E/R)	" " " No. 3 P.R.O.	2.7.45
R25040	E/O	KLING, L.E.	(E/R)	" " " No. 423 Squadron	16.8.45
R25047	E/O	ROBERTS, J.S.	(E/R)	" " " " "	" "
R25048	E/O	MCNALLY, J.S.	(E/R)	" " " " "	" "
R225418	E/L	MINE, J.	(NAV)	" " " Birchen Newton	10.7.45
R25049	E/O	LANE, W.E.	(E/R)	" " " No. 423 Squadron	16.8.45
R25049	E/O	LITTLE, A.E.	(E/R)	" " " " "	" "
R25049	E/O	JOHNSON, J.M.	(E/R)	" " " " "	" "
R25049	E/O	LAVIN, K.G.	(E/R)	" " " " "	" "
PASTORS "OUT"					
C.1456	E/O	J. BOTHBY	(E/R)	Posted to	No. 17 A.C.H.U. w/c 18.7.45
C.94640	E/L	H.G. LOWMYER	(PILOT)	" " "	RAF Basingbourne 13.8.45
J.15086	E/L	F.M. HAINES	(PILOT)	" " "	No. 17 A.C.H.U. 26.7.45

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			SECRET.	
Tangford, Beds.				
FORWARDS "OUT" (CONTINUED)				
G.85758	P/O.	R.G. PARKER	(P/R) Posted to No. 422 Squadron	wef. 6.8.45
G.85661	P/O.	H. HENRY	(P/R) " " " "	" " " "
R144412	P/O.	ABBOTT, R. I.	(P/R) " " " "	" " " "
G.94048	P/O.	P.O. MARSHALL	(P/R) " " " "	" " " "
COMMISSIONS - NIL				
PROMOTIONS AND AWARDS				
J.24429	P/O.	J.A. REYNOLDS	Awarded the Non-Immediate D.F.C.	
PROMOTIONS				
J.48778	P/O.	H.E.G. MADILL	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 21.10.44
J.48782	P/O.	G.A. REYNOLDS	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 7.10.44
G.94046	P/O.	L.G. SMITH	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 16.6.45
J.53374	P/O.	J. FINLAY	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 2.6.45
J.43397	P/O.	E.H. H. BURNARD	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 2.6.45
G.94038	P/O.	H. WILSON	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 2.6.45
G.94047	P/O.	G.V. HINE	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 4.3.45
J.43795	P/O.	H.J. WARDHURST	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 2.5.45
J.44364	P/O.	H.H. GORDON	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 7.10.44
J.44368	P/O.	E.H. WATSON	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 21.10.44
J.50219	P/O.	M. RIDGEL	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 21.10.44
J.48794	P/O.	G.T. BUCKLAND	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 13.4.45
J.50228	P/O.	G.E. FRESTON	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 13.4.45
J.45311	P/O.	H.L. HICKING	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 20.12.44
J.50231	P/O.	M.E. HARRIS	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flying Officer	wef. 1.2.45
J.25221	P/O.	J.A. EVANS-DAVIES	Promoted to rank of Temporary Flight Lieutenant	wef. 1.2.45
CHANGE OF COMMAND - NIL				
CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION - NIL				
PERSONNEL AND NON-OPERATIONAL FLYING TIME				
Operational - Day -				NIL
Operational - Night -				NIL
Non-Operational - Day -				710.55
Non-Operational - Night -				110.05

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. SEVENof (Unit or Formation) A26 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRONNo. of pages used for Month 7

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<u>Tempsford, Beds.</u>			<p><u>STRENGTH</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>FLYING</u></th> <th><u>GROUND</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><u>OFFICERS</u></td> <td><u>211</u></td> <td><u>2</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>R.C.A.F.</u></td> <td><u>1</u></td> <td><u>111</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>TOTAL</u></td> <td><u>212</u></td> <td><u>2</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>ATTEND</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>FLYING</u></th> <th><u>GROUND</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><u>R.C.A.F.</u></td> <td><u>25</u></td> <td><u>23</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>R.A.F.</u></td> <td><u>1</u></td> <td><u>111</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>TOTAL</u></td> <td><u>26</u></td> <td><u>23</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>TOTAL AIRCRAFT IN STRENGTH OF A26 SQUADRON - LIVERMORE - 19</u></p> <p><u>SQUADRON COMMANDER'S REMARKS</u></p> <p>The progress in training made during the month of August was very satisfactory. Numerous snags were overcome which enable the training programme to run with greater efficiency and smoothness, although there is plenty of hard work and difficulties ahead the squadron is slowly moulding itself into an efficient transport unit.</p> <p><i>D.R. Miller</i> (D.R. MILLER) WING COMMANDER, Officer Commanding, No. 126 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON.</p>		<u>FLYING</u>	<u>GROUND</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>211</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>FLYING</u>	<u>GROUND</u>	<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>23</u>		
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