

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) **425 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON - NORTH OTTAWA**

Page No. **001**  
No. of pages used for **425**

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
<b>Sunderland, Eng.</b>	<b>1.10.45</b>		<p>Two operational aircraft, Kl. 641 and Kl. 642, departed on 10.9.45, one day ahead of proposed schedule. For this date one operational aircraft, Kl. 658, departed on India trip. Weather cloudy with mist and haze - A/C not ground aircraft however.</p> <p>The squadron was officially transferred to 47 group from 4 group effective today. Squadron Librarians are departing in the afternoon of the day ahead of that indicated in the regular schedule. This allows for daylight landing at Malbrook rather than 0530H.</p> <p>47 group HQ has authorized interchange of squadron aircraft if necessary in exceptional circumstances in order that training programme may not be jeopardized.</p> <p>S/Ldr. J.R. McArthurson RMC, assumes command of the squadron in the absence of W/O. R.R. Miller RMC, who has departed for India on the first aircraft to take part in the new service.</p>		
	<b>2.10.45</b>		<p>Two aircraft Kl. 670 and Kl. 619 departed on operations to India today. Weather misty and cold, clearing up after dinner to 6/10 clouds at 1500 feet. Scheduled services departed without incident and two more India training flights were sent off. C. 3851 S/Ldr. E. McLeod, personnel Counsellor with the squadron ceased attachment today and departed to 3 P.R.O. Bournemouth for commencing duties there. Another new pilot reported reported this morning being (C. 94641) S/Ldr. R.B. Hodgkinson formerly a flight commander with 511 Squadron.</p>		
	<b>3.10.45</b>		<p>Aircraft Kl. 679 on operational trip to India today. Weather continues cloudy and hazy; 10/10 cloud at 2500'. Regular services and training flights despatched without incident. Five vehicles arrived from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters this afternoon for use of the squadron for the next 3 months. M.T. personnel have accompanied them and although the station M.T. section facilities still be made available, the vehicles and drivers will be for the sole use of 425 Squadron.</p>		
	<b>4.10.45</b>		<p>Two operational aircraft, Kl. 665 and Kl. 621 were detailed and departed on India trip today. Heavy blizzard set in, covered the area all day and prevented any flying training. Regular scheduled services departed for Brussels Malbrook at 1500 hours safely. Very wet and cold during day. All available personnel attended a station parade at 1030 hours at which the Station Commander spoke of the work to be done by this station during the next few months in European Command.</p>		
	<b>5.10.45</b>		<p>One only aircraft departed on operational trip to India - Kl. 618. Foggy in early morning, but cleared up by 1100 hours becoming very warm and pleasant. Flight Officer Stacey of the Catering Department at R.C.A.F. HQ, Headquarters visited the squadron during the afternoon. She was accompanied by Flight Officer Campbell, who is remaining at R.A.F. Sunderland, attached to 425 Squadron, for duties as a catering officer. She will assist the present R.A.F. Catering Officer.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tampford, Beds.	5.10.45	(CONTINUED)	Advised by letter from R.C.A.F. O/S Headquarters that all Canadian personnel must be canvassed again to determine whether or not they are desirous of serving during the transitory period until Sept. 30th, 1945, when permanent force establishment will have been completed.		
	6.10.45		On operational flights to India, two aircraft departed today KK-340 and KK-574. Weather: Regular misty weather, cool wind, clearing up in afternoon. No incident occurred to regular routine.		
	7.10.45		One more aircraft KK-267 departed on operational India trip whilst two aircraft returned to base on completion of India trip - KK-611 and KK-311. Weather misty and cool, clearing before noon to reveal clear sky and warm sun. Base settled over airfield in late afternoon. Scheduled services continue without any hitch. The first two of our aircraft to complete the new schedule arrived at Tampford at 1400 hours today carrying British soldiers formerly fighting in Burma. A large turn-out of squadron groundcrew greeted the returning aircraft, all very anxious to observe the passengers. Six crews were returned to the squadron today on completion of India training flights - some had been delayed on the route for a considerable period. S/O. J. Morris (G.25613) reported this morning on posting to the squadron as an engineer officer from R.C.A.F. Station, Skipton-on-Wharfe.		
	8.10.45		Two more aircraft detailed for operational flights to India departed today - KK-825 and KK-535. Weather warm and clear in morning with 4/10 cloud developing after noon. Visibility satisfactory and training program continued during day; scheduled services departed for India as planned. S/Lt. J.F. Green (G.1576) attended a conference at R.C.A.F. O/S Headquarters today, concerned with organization of the Ninth Canadian Victory Loan. S/Lt. Green has been appointed Officer in Charge Committee for 426 Squadron. The campaign overseas will open on 22nd October.		
	9.10.45		One aircraft only on scheduled operational flight to India departed - KK-381. Two more aircraft returned to base on completion of trip - KK-658 and KK-613. Weather mild and heavy, 10/10 cloud throughout most of the day. Two more aircraft returned during the morning from India on completion of training sorties. One other training aircraft also returned with 4 crews which had been out since the night for some time. S/O. Skinner, W.E. (J.28256) proceeded to London to attend a conference at Overseas Headquarters of all Special Duty Returns. Officers who have been appointed to supervise polling arrangements at Canadian Units for the British Columbia general election. Voting is to take place on October 13, 15 and 16.		

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) 426 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON - MIDDLE OF OCTOBER

No. of pages used for Month 13

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
<b>Tampford, Beds.</b>	<b>10.10.45</b>		As per schedule aircraft KL 647 and KL 341 departed on operational India trips. Aircraft KL 670 and KL 639 returned on completion of India trips. Weather mild and cloudy, light haze, clear during afternoon and good visibility. Two more services completed, arriving at 1000 hours today with full load of troops.		
	<b>11.10.45</b>		Two R.A.F. pilots reported to the squadron on posting for co-pilot duties. It is thought that there might have been some mistake as all aircrew on this squadron are Canadian and Transport Command has been requested to clarify these postings. The only aircraft scheduled for India trip departed today - KH 333. No aircraft returned from these Far East trips. Weather mild and clear, overcast with 9/10 cloud in late afternoon. J. G. 7991, P/L. E. Myer, radio P.M.O. from R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters arrived at Tampford today to prepare for a trip to India on which he will procure information for a radio story on the activities of 426 Squadron. He had been unable to leave 2 weeks earlier because inoculations were not completed.		
	<b>12.10.45</b>		Two more aircraft departed on India trips, KL 641 and Kq. 363 whilst one aircraft completed the return trip - KL 621. Weather misty and mild, the haze clearing sufficiently after dinner to allow regular services to depart. The Commanding Officer, W/O Miller attended a conference at Transport Command Headquarters this morning at which representatives of all troop-carrying squadrons were present.		
	<b>13.10.45</b>		Operational flights continued with one aircraft departing on outward journey to India - KL 658. Three aircraft returned today on completion of operational trips - KL 663, KL 618 and KL 346. Weather mild. 5/10 light stratus cloud, Vis: 2 miles in afternoon. P/L. Crawford, P/O. Noel and P/L. Housh arrived back from Karachi.		
	<b>14.10.45</b>		The aircraft on operational India flights departed today - KH 179 and KL 670. Weather, 5/10 light Strato Cumulus cloud, Vis: 2 to 4 miles. Flying program continued uninterrupted.		
	<b>15.10.45</b>		One aircraft only on operational flight to India - KL 639, but two aircraft returned on completion of India trips - KH 267 and KH 255. Sun weather continuing, misty in morning and hazy in afternoon. No incident to report.		

KH 179 added to  
18/10/45

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Tampa, Bada.	16.10.45		One operational aircraft, KL 621, departed today India bound. Two aircraft completed their return journey from India today - KL 620 and KL 581. Heavy rain in morning and late afternoon but flying conditions satisfactory. Scheduled services departed and arrived without incident.		
	17.10.45		Two operational on troop transport trips to India departed base today - KL 650 and KL 618. Heavy mist and haze throughout most of the day. No flying with exception of departure of regular services. W/O. P.F. Grant newly appointed R.O.A.F. Staff Officer at Headquarters Transport Command visited the squadron to enquire of any difficulties being encountered on present operations and offer advice on any uncertain points.		
	18.10.45		Aircraft KL 350 and KL 619 departed on operational flights to India and aircraft KL 647 completed his return trip this date. Weather mild and cloudy, no haze or mist, but ceiling very low. Air Vice Marshal Stevens, A.O. C. of 43 group visited the squadron this morning to observe operational procedure at Tampa. He was shown the method of recording employed by the squadron to compile permanent statistics of the unit effort and to ensure control of aircraft services when on the routes. Headquarters Transport Command signal specified this morning, warning that 426 squadron is to move from R.A.F. Tampa at 24 hours notice to another airfield not yet named.		
	19.10.45		Aircraft KL 267 departed today on operational trip to India while aircraft KL 641 returned to base on completion of India route. Excellent weather, clear sky and no wind. The two R.A.F. pilots recently posted to the squadron by mistake have now been withdrawn and sent to R.A.F. Transport squadrons. The Canadian Dental Clinic headed by Capt. Moore is posted w.o.f. today to R.O.A.F. "B" Depot at Torquay. Replacement personnel will be arriving here today.		
	20.10.45		Two aircraft KL 663 and KL 255 departed on operational trips to India. Aircraft KL 335 returned this base today completing India trip. Weather clear and mild in early morning, clouding over before noon 3/10. Light haze during afternoon. A new Dental Officer, Captain Brandst, reported to the squadron this afternoon to serve the dental requirements of Canadian personnel. Two aircraft crewed by squadron personnel took off from Tampa airfield at 1900 hours and put on a Tropic Light display over the nearby town of Singapore. The National Savings Thanksgiving work is commencing in this town today and our "sky display" was part of the opening ceremonies.		

### OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 426 (R.C.A.F.) SQUADRON - MONTH - OCTOBER No. of pages used for Month 9

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Tampford, Beds.	21.10.45		<p>One aircraft KL 625 departed today on operational trip. Weather mild and wet - light drizzle throughout most of day. This is our first rain in weeks.</p> <p>Advised today that our troopng schedule will change w.e.f. 24th October. Passengers will now be landed at Tampford instead of Brussels Melsbroeck, and the destination will be Poona in India, instead of Karachi.</p> <p>Training courses assigned to the squadron this week at 1529 B.A.T. flight, St. Margaret's and 1517 H.A.F. flight Brimstone. There are 2 vacancies at each school, in Radio Range and Runway Localisation (S.C.S.51).</p> <p>Nine of the squadron aircraft are to be sent to R.A.F. Speke for modification as they are not yet fitted for troopng duties. Up to this date, they have been used for training flights.</p>		
	22.10.45		<p>Two aircraft departed on operational flights today, KL 647 and KH 361. Two aircraft returned to base on completion of return trip to India, KL 670 and KH 341. Weather clear and mild, moderate wind; visibility very good.</p> <p>Four aircraft returned from overseas during the day, two from training trips and two from troopng duties.</p> <p>Today is the first day of the official R.C.A.F. Overseas 9th Victory Loan Campaign and 426 Squadron announced a grand total of \$105,000.00 for the first day's sales! However the sales campaign has been on for the past week which accounts for the excellent showing on the first official day. The squadron quota was set at \$80,000.00 originally, but it is now thought that \$150,000.00 can be raised before the end of the campaign on Nov. 3rd.</p>		
	23.10.45		<p>No departures today. Three aircraft KH 340, KL 647 and KH 361 returned to base on completion of India trip. Weather very poor for flying, strong wind and rain during most of the day. Ceiling very low and poor visibility.</p> <p>No departures today as there are no troops for ferrying at Brussels Melsbroeck. Four aircraft are returning to base from Brussels for this reason.</p>		
	24.10.45		<p>One aircraft KL 641 departed on operational India trip. One aircraft only returned to base today, KH 267.</p> <p>Weather continuing very rough and unsettled.</p> <p>First aircraft on the new schedule left this morning with full load of passengers for Castel Bontio. Scheduled time of departure from Tampford is 0800 hours. Instead of carrying on to Poona in India as first advised in recent instructions it has been decided that 426 Squadron aircraft will only go as far as Karachi.</p> <p>S/Lt. H.B. Thielick (G.8116) reported on posting to the squadron this morning. He is a Radar Officer but it has not yet been confirmed that he is to be used on radar duties here.</p>		
	25.10.45		<p>Two aircraft, KH 341 and KL 647 departed on India trips today.</p> <p>Very strong to gale winds prevailing accompanied by heavy rain during afternoon. Regular India departures got-off safely at 0900 hours but there were no arrivals, weather conditions between North Africa and England being too unsuitable to allow any flights.</p>		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices	
Tempford, Bada.	25.10.45	(CONTINUED)	Transport Command Operation Order No. 75 received this afternoon advising the intention of Transport Command to carry troops from U.K. to India and return with a greater frequency than up to the present. 426 Squadron will now despatch 2 aircraft every day except Wednesday, leaving Tempford at 1400 hours daily and returning within 7 days.	<b>SECRET.</b>	
	26.10.45		No departures today. Four aircraft completed their return trip from Overseas to base, KH.179, KH.439, KH.650 and KH.618. Strong westerly winds continuing with periodic rain. Early morning despatch to India was delayed until 2200 hours. Four a/c returned in the afternoon each with a full load of passengers from India.		
	27.10.45		Three aircraft, KH.267, KH.381 and KH.329 departed on operational flights. Four more aircraft returned to base today, KH.621, KH.983, KH.619 and KH.663. Strong winds prevailing over past 5 days have moderated this morning. Clear sky in morning clouding over in mid-afternoon. Four more aircraft returned during the day with full loads of passengers.		
	28.10.45		Aircraft KH.381 departed today on Overseas flight, while two aircraft, KH.625 and KH.255 returned to base today. Weather cloudy and heavy, visibility poor. Signal O.219 received from H.Q. Transport Command ordering the move of 426 Squadron to R.L.F. Base in hours as soon as accommodation vacated by 466 Squadron is ready. H.Q. 47 group is to issue instructions for local action including movement of advance party forthwith.		
	29.10.45		Two aircraft departed on operational flights overseas, KH.670 and KH.333. One aircraft only returned today on completion of India flight, KH.667. Weather mild and wet - light rain throughout morning and early afternoon; no wind. Ten aircrew personnel arrived this afternoon on posting to the squadron. They are of various trades and will be used as reserves against sickness, etc. among the present 48 operational crew.		
	30.10.45		Aircraft KH.625 departed on operational flight. No aircraft returned today. Regular schedule maintained in favorable weather conditions. Nursing Staff Officer of the R.C.A.F. (Nob) reported to the squadron on posting this morning, to assist the Squadron M.O.		
	31.10.45		Two aircraft departed base today on operational flights overseas, KH.618 and KH.179. Weather foggy in early morning, clearing before noon and becoming warm and bright. The Deputy A.O.C. in C. of R.C.A.F. Overseas, A/O. Godwin, visited the station this morning and in company with Squadron Commander E.B. Miller, journeyed to inspect accommodation which will be used by 426 Squadron when the move is made in the near future.	RAF Station Bomber Command	





