

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 427 Squadron, R.C.A.F.

No. of pages used for day.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. LORNING	15.3.45		ground marking and illuminating flares. M.B. was clearly heard. Fires were visible up to 100 miles from the target. Many bombs were seen bursting right on the ground markers. Attack rated as very good to excellent.		"A" 1F - 13F "B" 6
	16.3.45		Weather: Cloudy. Visibility moderate to good. Wind westerly 10 - 15 m.p.h. Operations Order No. 360 detailed 5 aircraft. Take off around 1750 hours. Target: "Gardening" - HELIGOLAND. All aircraft returned to base by 2240 hours. Crews report 7/10 to 9/10 strata cumulus with tops generally 6000 to 7000 ft. Visibility above the cloud fairly good to excellent. All a/c mined on H2S. No results are as yet available.		"A" 1G - 5G "B" 7
	17.3.45		Weather: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Mainly fair to fine. Visibility good. Wind westerly 10 - 15 m.p.h. Training Order issued today for 8 crews. Training exercises included Fighter Affiliation, air to Sea, Cross Country, Range and Sim Bombing. The day was quiet otherwise.		
	18.3.45		Weather: Fair at first becoming cloudy. Wind S.W'ly 10 - 15 m.p.h. Visibility moderate to good. Three crews were detailed on Operations Order No. 361 for Sweepstakes effort. Take off at approx. 2223 hours. Crews did not return to base by midnight.		
	19.3.45		Weather: Cloudy becoming rainy. Visibility moderate. Wind light S.W'ly becoming moderate S.W'ly. Crews returned to base by 0611 hours this morning. Sweepstakes exercise was carried out as per schedule. No Operations today but big clean-up campaign was in progress. All sections are painting and cleaning up.		
	20.3.45		Weather: Fair to cloudy. Vis. excellent. Wind W'ly moderate. Operations Order No. 362 was issued today detailing 15 aircraft. Kites did not take off by 2359 hours.		"A" 1H - 15H "B" 8.
	21.3.45		Weather: Fair to cloudy. Visibility excellent. Wind W'ly light to moderate. Crews took off around 0150 hours. Target: H2S/THUNDER. (H2S) Crews returned to base by 0723 hours. Crews report weather over the target was all to 4/10 broken stratus. All crews bombed with the aid of 40-42-43 who was clearly heard giving concise instructions. Some crews were aided by H2S off Heligoland, in identifying the target position. Fires and smoke over the target area were visible 50 miles (downward). All crews are of the opinion that this attack should be a definite success.		"A" 1H - 15H "B" 8
	22.3.45		Weather: Fair to cloudy. Vis. poor at first, becoming Moderate. Wind light S'ly. Operations Order No. 363 issued this morning detailing 15 aircraft. Take off around 1100 hours. Target: HELIGOLAND. Crews returned to base by 1723 hours. They report continent clear of cloud. Target was identified visually. The centre of the target was covered by billowing smoke obscuring the T.I.'s. H2S instructed bombing on ascending T.I.'s. Area of fire and smoke grew under very accurate bombing until huge ring of smoke covered everything but the outskirts of the town. Target considered a write-off.		"A" 1I - 15I "B" 9.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. LANDING	22.3.45		Battle Order No. 364, through late this evening detailing 15 aircraft. Kites did not take off by midnight.		
	23.3.45		Weather: Fog at first becoming fine with moderate vis. Wind light S'yly. Operations were scrubbed, but in the afternoon another Battle Order No. 369 was issued detailing 11 aircraft. Aircraft did not take off by midnight.		"A" 13 - 11J "B" 10
	24.3.45		Weather: Little cloud with poor Vis. at first, becoming moderate. Wind calm becoming light SE'yly. Aircraft took off around 1300 hours. Targets: (ROTHROP) MATHIAS STERNES. Crews returned to base by 1905 hours. Crews report all cloud in target area. P.F.P. marking was not considered too satisfactory. I.R. instructed that crews be disregarded. Crews bombed by various methods. Bombing would appear to have been somewhat scattered although assessment cannot be considered too accurate because of smoke obscuration during the latter part of the attack.		"A" 13 - 11J "B" 10
	25.3.45		Weather: Fair to cloudy. Vis. poor becoming moderate. Wind calm becoming light S'yly. Operations Order No. 366 issued detailing 14 aircraft. Take off around 0600 hours. Target: MANOVER. R17842 W/O Proudlove, A.O., Rear Gunner of F/O Kaye's crew was wounded by flak. All crews returned to base by 1251 hours. Crews report weather over continent ideal. The A/P was obscured by smoke which covered most of T/L's. Some R/L's seen to have been dropped short and bombing on these was short of A/P. R.B. heard clearly by most crews. Instructions were changed from CR of R and G/L's to overshoot 1 Sec. on R/L, and then Pickwick. These instructions seemed to control the bombing very effectively. Target was enveloped in a huge mass of billowing smoke which rose to at least 8000 ft. All crews seemed satisfied that the raid was very effective.		"A" 1K - 14X "B" 11
	26.3.45		Weather: Fine. Excellent vis. Wind light variable. Very quiet today. No operations. Stand down.		
	27.3.45		Weather: Fine, becoming rainy in evening. Vis. excellent, becoming moderate. Wind S'yly light to moderate. Operations Order No. 367 issued this morning detailing 15 aircraft. This operation was scrubbed in the afternoon.		
	28.3.45		Weather: Fair with rain in evening. Vis. good but poor in rain. Wind S to SW light to mod. In Operations laid on today. The following awards of Non-Immediate D.F.C. were received today for officers recommended at this Squadron, but no longer on our strength. These awards are issued under authority of Bomber Command letter BC/S.23191/1/E, dated 21.3.45. J.11866 P/L E.D. Bus J.18935 P/O C.E. Mont J.28286 P/O W.B. Brittain J.8133 P/L J.D.V. Lariviere J.25544 P/O P. Slipes J.34908 P/L D.F. Heburn J.88373 P/O McKenney R.R. Operations Order No. 368 issued detailing 14 aircraft. Ops. were scrubbed however.		

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of (Unit or Formation) NO. 27 Squadron, R.C.A.F.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. LEEING.	29.3.45.		Weather: Fair, apart from rain in the evening. Vis. excellent. Wind S/W'ly, light to mod. No operations, laid on for today. Some training carried out for the benefit of new crews.		
	30.3.45.		Weather: Occasional showers. Visibility excellent. Wind W'ly moderate to strong. Very quiet day, no operations laid on.		
	31.3.45.		Weather: Fair to cloudy becoming rainy in evening. Wind S/W'ly moderate to strong. Two operation orders issued this morning detailing five crews for mining and two crews for bombing. The mining 'DE' was scrubbed however. All aircraft took off for the bombing and the target was TUNISIA. 10th cloud in target area. The target was poorly marked and owing to cloud condition no assessment can be made but crews thought the attack was poor. The gaggle was 9 minutes late on the target. Enemy fighters were encountered. A/C "S" NX552 had three combats. A JU 88 and a ME 262 were sighted and both gunners opened fire but the enemy aircraft disappeared from sight. A Jet A/C attacked and opened fire at 700 yds. Gunners opened fire and A/C was observed by our crew to roll on his back and go down in a vertical dive issuing black smoke. Claim "B" A/C "D" NX393 encountered a ME262 and R/AG fired 150 rds. at 800 yds. astern. No claims. A/C "H" NX553 also encountered a ME262 on starboard quarter at 400 yds. R/AG opened fire and A/C disappeared. No claim. A/C "W" PA271 encountered a ME262 and R/AG and R/AG fired 200 yds. and 75 rds. respectively and A/C broke away. Heavy flak was encountered over target. All aircraft returned to base.		"A" 14-101 "B" 12 "C" 2-8
	2.		FORCES AND AWARDS: J.11026 R.J. Gavigo, J22764 P/L J.M. Murphy, J.27798 P/L J.F. Smart were awarded immediate D.F.C.		
	3.		CASUALTIES: NIL		
	4.		POSTINGS: J.32970 P/O G.M. Campbell posted from 429 Sqd. 3.3.45 J.35732 P/O J.M.L. Oulton, to 1666 O.U. 1.3.45 J.26816 P/O W.B. Dutton, to 3659 O.U. 2.3.45 J.27163 P/O S.A. Martyn, to 22 Q.U. 1.3.45 J.36112 P/O W.J. Barrett from 63 Base 26.2.45 J.26317 P/O V.J.P. Gerald from 63 Base 22.2.45 J.35282 P/O W.E. Roberts to 63 Base 20.2.45 J.16872 P/O A.W. Kennedy from 76 Base 25.2.45 J.12968 P/L E.H. Gardner " J.12986 P/O L.N. DeDressay " J.88305 P/O R.A. Deines " J.18851 P/O C.R. Townsend " J.19168 R.L. McMillaney " J.35137 P/O W.R. Correll to "R" Depot 27.2.45	Commissioning in March J93632 P/O S.G. Woods (joined for det 7/4) J93560 P/O TR Tollison " J93877 P/O B. Maitland "	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
	5.		POSTINGS (CONT'D)		
			F.27858 P/O G.K. Chapman From 419 Sqdn. 12.3.45.		
			F.28989 P/O J.R. Thackeray To 'H' Depot 14.3.45.		
			F.33099 P/O G.H. Laing To 'H' Depot 14.3.45.		
			F.28374 P/O G.D. Blair To 1639 G.U. 17.3.45.		
			F.28310 P/O E.J.S. Wood To 'H' Depot 16.3.45.		
			F.29128 P/O R.W. Erickson To Dalton A/G Co. 17.3.45.		
			F.39470 P/O J.M. Matheson From 76 Base 16.3.45.		
			F.41338 P/O L.S. Lancaster		
			F.42270 P/O T. Fletcher.		
			F.18121 P/O W.H. Schmitt From No. 3 P.R.O. 7.3.45.		
			F.29618 P/O J.W. Cook to 62 Base 20.3.45.		
			F.26609 P/O S.G. Matheson from 76 Base 18.3.45.		
			F.14578 P/O B.H. Simpson.		
			F.28756 P/O J.D. Siddall.		
			F.26708 P/O K. Reed.		
			F.27428 P/O R.R.J. Rogers.		
			F.20890 P/O J.R. Moscalfe To 1639 G.U. 19.3.45.		
			F.35282 P/O M.R. Roberts From 62 Base 1.3.45.		
			F.36412 P/O M.J. Barrett to 'H' Depot 23.3.45.		
			F.27772 P/O J.J. Wylie To 22 G.U. 28.3.45.		
			F.40481 P/O A.G. Miller To 434 Sqdn 23.3.45.		
			F.36385 P/O R.A. MacKay.		
			F.42353 P/O G.H. Williamson		
			F.36933 P/O J.H. Nichol To 'H' Depot 29.3.45.		
			F.29874 P/O J.W. Curtin From 76 Base 26.3.45.		
			F.41684 P/O F.R. Fisher.		
			F.19938 P/O F.F. Farnell From 76 Base 25.3.45.		
			F.42494 P/O D.J. McIntyre.		
			F.45389 P/O G.D. Pirlette.		
			F.19115 P/O W.A. Gunning From 76 Base 26.3.45.		
			F.42021 P/O R.H. Renault.		
			F.40454 P/O A.G. Bruce.		
			F.34869 P/O L.B. Lemon.		
			F.28291 P/O S.W. Banks To A.G.A. 2.3.45.		
			F.7743 P/O P.O. Robson from 76 Base 18.3.45.		
			F.79423 P/O C.D. Little To 434 Sqdn 25.3.45.		
	6.		PROMOTIONS		
			F.22416 P/O J. Bradshaw To 7/9/0 15.1.45.		
			F.22268 P/O A.G. Manning To 2/2/0 27.1.45.		
			F.28294 P/O G.R. Rowley To 7/9/0 28.1.45.		
			F.5843 P/O G.G. Collins To 4/8/0 15.2.45.		
			F.33366 P/O T.O. Wagar To 4/8/0 15.2.45.		
			F.28712 P/O F.W. Millard To 4/8/0 15.2.45.		
			F.25496 P/O A.L. D'Son To 4/8/0 6.1.45. (sign ldr.)		

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R.O.A.F. LARKHURST	6.		PROMOTIONS- J 15875 P/O W.W. Kennedy to T/P/L 16.2.45 J 89878 P/O D.W. Murray to T/P/L 28.2.45. J.17009 P/O R.H. Morgan. to T/P/L 23.2.45.																																																										
	7.		CHANGES IN STATION COMMAND : Nil.																																																										
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	10.		AIRCRAFT ON CHARGE: LANCASTER II = 15 LANCASTER III = 4 HALIFAX III = 5.																																																										
	11.		HEALTH: With the help of nice weather (?) the health of the Squadron was very good.																																																										
	12.		NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF UNIT AT 31st MARCH, 1945. <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>PILOTS</th> <th>GROUND CREW</th> <th>AFSGH</th> <th>AFSGH</th> <th>AFSGH</th> <th>AFSGH</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R.O.A.F.</td> <td>128</td> <td>1</td> <td>R.O.A.F.</td> <td>94</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.O.A.F. USA</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>R.O.A.F. USA</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.A.A.F.</td> <td>13</td> <td></td> <td>R.A.A.F.</td> <td>24</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.A.A.F. CAN</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>R.A.A.F. CAN</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.N.Z.A.F.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>R.N.Z.A.F.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.A.A.F.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>R.A.A.F.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>USRAAF</td> <td>141</td> <td>1</td> <td>USRAAF</td> <td>118</td> <td></td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	OFFICERS	PILOTS	GROUND CREW	AFSGH	AFSGH	AFSGH	AFSGH	R.O.A.F.	128	1	R.O.A.F.	94			R.O.A.F. USA			R.O.A.F. USA				R.A.A.F.	13		R.A.A.F.	24			R.A.A.F. CAN			R.A.A.F. CAN				R.N.Z.A.F.			R.N.Z.A.F.				R.A.A.F.			R.A.A.F.				USRAAF	141	1	USRAAF	118		Nil		
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