

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

5.47.20-428
DAS

of (Unit or Formation) No. 428 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Compiled by: (R.G. Bowron) Flight Lieutenant, (C.7249)(R.C.A.F.)	Summary of Events	5302	SECRET	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. STATION, MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE.	MONDAY	1.1.45		New Year's Day, no ops laid on as the weather is pretty duff. The only flying training was two cross countries with H2S bombing. The weather was too poor for range bombing. Ground training was continued with Air Bombers on link in the forenoon and dry swime in the afternoon and flight engineers on lectures. The Signal section arranged a Group exercise but could not get through so it was scrubbed. Air Gunners had a busy day on aircraft recognition and fired 825 rounds of skeets.			
	TUESDAY	2.1.45		W/C HULL (C.1256, RGAF) left for Group Headquarters to take over as Senior Operations Controller. S/A M.W. GALL (C.887, RGAF) took over command of the Squadron. Sixteen crews were detailed for operations on NUREMBERG. All took off but F/L J.D. CRATOR (J.15666, RGAF) was an early return due to turret failures. The rest bombed successfully and returned safely, reporting a very good prang. No flying training was carried out as all kites were bombed up. Ground training was carried out in the forenoon but was held up by ops in the afternoon. F/O H.W. WALKER (J.87551, RGAF) and crew made their final trip on their first tour and will be screened.			A.1.
	WEDNESDAY	3.1.45		Fifteen crews were detailed for operations but they were scrubbed before take-off. Flying training was limited to one air test by the weather, which is particularly dirty looking. Ground training chiefly consisted of a lecture by Major Nicholson, Group flak Officer though some air bombers were on blind panel drill and air gunners on aircraft recognition and firing 300 rounds of skeets. F/L A. FARMENTER (162168) Flight Engineer Leader left for Stanmore on a Stromberg carburetor course.			
	THURSDAY	4.1.45		No operations are scheduled for today so a comprehensive schedule of flying training was laid on. This was scrubbed due to the weather which is still very duff. Four aircraft were detailed for a bullseye and Flashlight exercise for tonight but this was scrubbed. The Station Commander lectured all section heads today. Bomb aimers practised W/T, Wops had a "Gen" session and worked on "Infomenos". Air gunners practised turret manipulation and fired 200 rounds of skeets. S/L G. GONYON (J.25985, RGAF) and crew went to Group to interview the S.A.S. F/O A.D. MUNCH (J.39551, RGAF) and W/O G.A. JOHNSON (R113075, RGAF) and crews reported in for duty.			

708

www.bombercommand.com

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. STATION, MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE.	FRIDAY	5.1.45	Fourteen crews were detailed and briefed for night operations on HANOVER. All took off bombed and returned safely. Flying training was limited due to kites being bombed up. One solo check followed by H2S cross country and S.B.A. landing was flown and a second check was cancelled in flight by engine failure. Air gunners had a practise in aircraft recognition and fired 300 rounds of skeeta, air bombers practised W/T and had blind panel drill. Wops did usual DI's and lectures. Some Flight engineers were on link. F/O G. FRACOCK (J.89640, RCAP) and crew completed their tour on tonight's trip and will be screened.		A.2
	SATURDAY	6.1.45	Fourteen crews are scheduled for operations on HANAU. All took off with the spare crew flying as F/O J.J. THOMSON (J.90835, RCAP) navigator with F/O G.W. FRASER RFC, (J.89640, RCAP) had the misfortune to slip in the aircraft and cut his head fairly badly on the steps of the mid-upper turret. All returned safely reporting a good prang. Flying training had been laid on but two flights that were airborne were recalled and the rest was scrubbed due to operations. F/O MCWILLIEN (J.90038, RCAP), F/O MURCH and W/O Johnson made the trips to-day as second diceys. F/L W.B. EDMONDSON (J.26767, RCAP) and F/O H. HUNTER (J.89364, RCAP) completed their tour and will be screened. Air bombers were on Radar training and link, Wops on Fishpond and Bendix and air gunners practised turret manipulation and fired 450 rounds of skeeta.		A.3
	SUNDAY	7.1.45	Two crews were detailed for operations on MUNICH. Both got away but were diverted on return due to duff weather over base. Flying training consisted of three solo checks, four cross countries with air to air firing and bombing. Fighter affiliation was laid on but cancelled as no fighter was available. Air gunners practised aircraft recognition and fired 100 rounds of skeeta. Signal section were on H2S and Fishpond training, Air bombers on panel drill. The aircrew were pretty tired after two nights of operations and felt very much like resting. The board seems bare with so many crews screened during the last few days and it is starting to look as if our offer for operations may be small as several crews are un-serviceable through colds.		A.4
	MONDAY	8.1.45	No operations are detailed for to-day and no flying training possible as it is snowing very hard, at times developing into a real old-fashioned blizzard. Our two kites are still diverted with no chance of returning to-day. Ground training was continued with Flight Engineers on		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 428 (R.C.A.A.F.) Squadron.

No. of pages used for day.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. STATION, MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE.	MONDAY	8.1.45	link, air bombers on panel drill and air gunners on turret manipulation. Some hardy gunners were sent out in the snow firing skeet. In the afternoon F/L A. DUROGHER (J.24076, RCAP) Signals Leader lectured the squadron on the aids and uses of radio, IFF etc. and W/C GALL also gave an introductory talk. A squadron party was held at 1600 hours but was interrupted by a call for all to go out to shovel snow on the runways. This was a futile effort as it was still snowing hard and little was accomplished other than getting everybody wet.		
	TUESDAY	9.1.45	Still snowing so no operations or flying training. Everybody was out practically all day shovelling snow from the runways so ground training also went by the board though the gunners fired a hundred rounds of skeets.		
	WEDNESDAY	10.1.45	The runways are still w/s so there were again no operations or flying training. Air Gunners were busy with eight hours of turret manipulation and firing 550 rounds of skeet. Air Bombers had radar training in the forenoon and dry swim all afternoon and Flight Engineers had lectures on engine handling. Wops had Fishpond lectures, a lecture on radio faults and an amendment session. Five crews were detailed to standby for early morning ops but these were cancelled early in the evening.		
	THURSDAY	11.1.45	The weather is still very duff and the runways in poor shape so no operations or flying training laid on. When it does snow in this country it really does. S/L G. GONDOU (J.25985, RCAP) is getting settled down as Training Officer and his successor as "B" Flight Commander F/L R. SWARTZ (J.10572, RCAP) has taken over the Flight. Ground training made progress with the air gunners on aircraft recognition, night vision lectures and skeet shooting; air bombers on W/E in the forenoon, Wops on Bendix and Morse practise. All aircrew attended a lecture in the afternoon on tactics, which was delivered by F/L HANLIL of the Intelligence section.		
	FRIDAY	12.1.45	The morning was spent with the entire Squadron attending a PFF lecture by G/CAPT MCEAVISH. Operations were laid on at noon with six crews detailed. After briefing and takeoff being set back twice these were scrubbed. Flying training was started for the first time for several days. Two radar cross countries, two cross countries with air to air firing and radar bombing, one bombing detail and two air tests were flown. Ground training was as usual with Air bombers spending the day on link, radar and blind panel drill, Air gunners on turret manipulation and Wops on lectures. Our diverted aircraft returned to base.		

708

www.bomber.com

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. STATION, MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE.	SATURDAY 13.1.45		<p>Eleven crews were detailed for operations but these were scrubbed during briefing. Flying training consisted of four cross countries. We had tough luck on one of these. P/O W.S. McMullen (J.90038, RCAP) had his port outer engine catch on fire in mid air over DARLINGTON. The propeller would not feather so the fire would not extinguish. He baled his crew out and rode down the kite himself but unfortunately was killed as it crashed. The aircraft crashed just within the limits of DARLINGTON but cleared all houses. The aircraft was a total wreck and was badly burned. P/O McMullen's body was recovered several yards from the wreckage. The remainder of the crew were uninjured excepting R212033 P/S. DIXES the mid upper Gunner who suffered a sprained ankle. Bomb aimers were on panel drill. Wops spent the day on amendments session and diversion schedules. Air gunners had aircraft recognition in the forenoon and night vision all afternoon.</p>		
	SUNDAY 14.1.45		<p>Eleven crews are detailed for night operations on MERSEBURG. All took off and returned safely reporting a fairly good prang. The spare crew piloted by P/O V. CASKIN (J.85592, RCAP) flew on the sortie as P/L A. GOOGE, (J.11313, RCAP) was a non-starter due to engine failure. S/L D. LAMONT, (J.7467, RCAP) and P/L L. KACNA (J.16847, RCAP) completed their tour with to-days's trip and will be screened. Flying training was limited by the kites being bombed up so only two details of fighter affiliation with bombing and air to air firing and some circuits and bumps were flown. Ground training consisted of radar training for air bombers, turret manipulation and skeet shooting for gunners and lectures for other sections.</p>		A.5
	MONDAY 15.1.45		<p>No operations are scheduled for to-day so bags of training was laid on. Four details of fighter affiliation, air to sea firing and bombing, one radar cross country and four exercises of radar bombing were flown. On the ground air bombers practised link, and air gunners harmonised kites, and fired 150 rounds of skeets.</p>		
	TUESDAY 16.1.45		<p>Twelve crews were detailed for night operations on ZEITZE to get an oil refinery. Twelve tookoff, the spare crew flying as P/L SWARTZ (J.10572, RCAP) was a non-starter due to last minute trouble. P/L GOOGE was an early return due to a leak in his gas tank. All returned safely reporting a successful prang. No flying training was done as no kites were available except for operations. The operations restricted ground training, also and very little was carried out.</p>		A.6

W/210/01213 1238 514 CAL 91006

www.bombercommand.com

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 428 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. STATION, MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE.	WEDNESDAY 17.1.45		No operations are laid on for to-day. Flying training consisted of three air tests and two details of bombing and S.B.A. A bulls-eye was laid on for the night but it was scrubbed due to the weather threatening to turn duff. Air gunners had aircraft recognition, lectures on point five machine gun and fired 325 rounds of skeets and other sections had usual ground training. A film was shown for all aircrew in the briefing room in the afternoon.		
	THURSDAY 18.1.45		No operations are scheduled for to-day and the duff weather prohibited any flying at all. Ground training was continued with Wops on fault finding lectures, air bombers on blind panel drill and dry swim. Flight engineers had a written quiz and air gunners had turret manipulation and fired 150 rounds of skeets. The funeral of P/B MUMFORD killed in a crash on 15th January was held at the Regional cemetery, Harrogate at 1030 hours today. The Squadron was represented by his crew and the service was conducted by S/L CLARK the station Padre. F/L C. PRATT (J.10162, RCAP) and F/L J. GOLDIE (J.5981, RCAP) are the new Deputy Flight Commanders in "B" and "A" flights respectively.		
	FRIDAY 19.1.45		Training flights were laid on but had to be scrubbed on account of the icy conditions of the runways. Ops were laid on but were also scrubbed early. Ground training was carried on with air gunners on aircraft recognition, Wops on lectures and air bombers on link and radar. Navigators had 28 man hours of speed-up exercise. S/L H.L. KAY (C.888, RCAP) and crew reported in from GROFT. S/L KAY is taking over "A" Flight Commander. Four new crews reported in for Dutia. The pilots are F/L G.W. CONQUIST (J.16812, RCAP) F/L J.F. HADLEY (J.10986, RCAP), P/O D.R. BROWN (J.25096, RCAP) and P/O E.T. LEWIS (J.90150, RCAP).		
	SATURDAY 20.1.45		No operations are laid on for to-day. Flying training was carried out in the afternoon with five details of bombing, three details of fighter affiliation and four of H28 bombing and air to sea firing. The morning was spent at an intelligence lecture and film. Ground training in the afternoon consisted of panel drill for the air bombers, dry swim for navigators. Harmonisation and turret manipulation for air gunners. Night flying training was scrubbed as met pointed duff weather. F/L L.A. MATTHEWS (C.27109, RCAP) flew the Oxford to Hatford Bridge to pick up some equipment urgently required by the C.T.O. Flight engineers started Lancaster ground school for the new crews.		

nu 8

www.bomber.com

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. STATION, MIDDLETOWN ST. GEORGE.	SUNDAY 21.1.45		Operations were laid on for tonight but were scrubbed later on account of duff weather. The kites being bombed prevented very much flying training but two familiarization flights and one air test were flown. One crew flew on a bombing detail dropping two bombs, as it was recalled for operations. Ground training was also held up by ops but ground school and familiarization of new crews was continued. P/O H. WILSON (J.38166, RCAP) took over as Navigation leader vice P/L W.L. TURNHULL (J.35824, RCAP) who is on repat for the "Ham and Egg" country. The long stand-down is starting to worry the boys and get them pretty restless. We hope the weather clears up soon so we can get cracking.		
	MONDAY 22.1.45		Thirteen crews were detailed for ops but they were scrubbed before briefing. Flying training consisted of five bombing details, four details of fighter affiliation and air to sea firing and four details of H2S bombing. A good day for air training considering the weather which is pretty duff. Ground training was in full swing with air bombers on radar, both bench and trainer, and link. Wops on radar and Fishpond, Flight engineers lectures and navigators on H2S training. Air gunners had turret manipulation and fired 105 rounds of skeets. P/L A.S. WERR (J.16722, RCAP) and crew reported in for duty.		
	TUESDAY 23.1.45		No operations are laid on today and the duff weather prevents any flying training. This duff weather and snow is sure hanging on. Natives claim that is is the worst spell of weather since 1878. Ground training was carried on in the forenoon with a lecture for all aircrew on tactics. A squadron stand-down was called for the afternoon. A quiet day all around and everybody glad to get back to the mess to warm up.		
	WEDNESDAY 24.1.45		The weather is still cold and snowy with no sign of a let-up. No operations are scheduled and the weather prohibits any flying training. A full day of ground training was carried out. Bomb aimers were on link and radar in the forenoon and dry swim in the afternoon, Navigators were on bench H2S, air gunners on turret manipulation, sighting lectures and lectures on .5 Browning. Wops practised fault finding and Fishpond and flight engineers continued ground school for new crews. The station met. officer lectured all aircrew in the afternoon. Navigators and air bombers combined in a speed up exercise from 1500 to 1630 hours.		Nave
	THURSDAY 25.1.45		Another day of stand-down, and no flying. The weather is still very cold and a heavy mist has the		

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 428 (R.G.A.F.) Squadron.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. STATION, MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE.	THURSDAY 25.1.45		<p>airdrome obscured. The met. forecast is gloomy with threats of continued cold and more snow.</p> <p>Ground training was in full swing with air bomber on panel drill, Wops on a Morse session, air gunners on aircraft recognition and firing 100 rounds of skeet. Navigators had lectures on photography of HBS, P.P.I.. In the afternoon P/L HAMMILL Of Intelligence lectured on Interrogation procedure. W/C GALL attended a conference of Squadron Commanders at H.Q. No. 6 Group. S/L Magnusson Station Navigation, visited the Nav. section today.</p>		
	FRIDAY 26.1.45		<p>No operations scheduled for today and no flying training was carried out due to weather. Ground training was continued with air bombers on blind panel drill and bench and trainer radar, air gunners on turret manipulation and lectures on .5 Browning. Wops had an amendment session and navigators spent the day on H2S bench trainer and supervising dry swim for the pilots.</p> <p>In the afternoon a lecture was given by Group tactics officer to all aircrew in the NAAFI. The gunnery section held a party in the Imperial Hotel, Darlington for their section which proved very successful.</p>		
	SATURDAY 27.1.45		<p>Fourteen crews were detailed for operations despite the heavy snow which prohibited flying training. The operation was scrubbed at 1630 hours just prior to takeoff. The ground training was also somewhat restricted by the ops being laid on. However the Wops had lectures on Bendix and training on H2S turning. Air gunners had sighting lectures and fired 425 rounds of skeet. S/L Fagley, Group Gunnery Leader was a visitor to the gunnery section.</p>		
	SUNDAY 28.1.45		<p>Fourteen crews are detailed for operations on STUTTGART. All took off but S/L H.L. KAY (G.888, RCAF) and crew failed to return. The rest reached the target, bombed and returned, safely being diverted to EAST KIRBY. This was S/L Kay's first operation since being posted in as Flight Commander. Flying training consisted of two radar cross countries. P/O H.L. CLARK (J.90197, RCAF) with a crew of six crashed near Elton about five miles from the drone. All were killed excepting the Navigator (R.187954 P/S Brabb, B.) who was seriously injured. The aircraft was a complete wreck and burned badly. No reason for the crash is apparent.</p>		A.7
	MONDAY 29.1.45		<p>Ground training was restricted owing to operations.</p> <p>No operations scheduled for today. The duff weather prevented any flying training although the diverted kites returned to base in the afternoon, excepting P/O D.R. WAISH (J.37032, RCAF).</p>		

www.bombercommand.com

708

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.C.A.F. STATION, MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE.	MONDAY 29.1.45		Ground training continued with Wops on H2S and Fishpond. Air bomber on link and radar (bench and trainer) and air Gunners on lectures on Glenn Martin turrets and fired 100 rounds of skeets. This made a full day of training with bags of man-hours and ground training is well ahead of schedule.		
	TUESDAY 30.1.45		No operations or flying training are scheduled for today on account of duff weather. The storm during the night piled up the snow into drifts blocking roads and runways. It almost looks like home with the deep snow all over the ground. The morning was occupied by the mess meeting which lasted until noon. Some ground training was carried out in the afternoon. S/L MAGNUSSEN, Station Nav. Officer lectured pilots and navigators on the new concentration points as laid down by Group. Wops were on D.I.s, Air gunners on skeet shooting and bombers on panel drill.		
	WEDNESDAY 31.1.45		No operations laid on to-day so training programme was organised. Five new crews were checked out on "circuits and bumps" after which they did solo flying. Ops were laid on just at noon but were scrubbed later. Ground training was carried out with Wops on H2S and Fishpond, bombers on panel drill and air gunners on D.I.'s and harmonisation. Flight Engineers put in four hours at link. Major TALBOT lectured all aircrew in the NAAFI on air support for the army. This lecture was enjoyed and well appreciated by all as Major Talbot has a pleasant delivery.		

www.bombercommandmuseum.co.uk

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 428 (R.G.A.F.) Squadron.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.G.A.F. STATION, MIDDLETON ST. GEORGE.			<u>CASUALTIES.</u>		
			<u>Killed night of 13th January, 1945.</u>		
			P/O W.S. McKullen, (J.90038) - Pilot		
			<u>Killed night of 26th January, 1945.</u>		
			P/O H.L. Clark, (J.90197) - Pilot	R188387 P/S Carter, J.H. - A/Bomb.	
			3009365 Sgt Morris, F.H. - P/Eng.	R221177 Sgt Philipchuk, G. - WOP/AG.	
			R197407 " Ross, J.W. - MUG.	R	
			<u>Missing night of 28/29th January, 1945.</u>		
			S/L H.L. Kay, C.888 - Pilot	J.38170 P/O Stapleford, R.L. - Nav.	
			P/O G.J. Liney, J.40040 - A/Bomb.	J.35935 P/O Blades, J.W. - WOP/AG	
			1895420 Sgt Gullick, R.W. - P/Eng.	R204027 P/S Jolicœur, P.L. - MUG	
			R273430 P/S Ossington, E.F. - R/Oung.		
			<u>POSTINGS IN.</u>		
			<u>Posted from 76 Base wef 18.1.45.</u>		
			P/L J.F. Hadley, (J.10986) - Pilot	P/O D.R. Brown, (J.25096) - Pilot	
			P/O W.J. Spence, J.40193 - Nav.	P/O A.H. Finestone, J.7785 - Nav.	
			P/O G.A. Goddier, J.40516 - A/B	P/O H.G. Kellaway, J.38244 - A/B.	
			P/O D. Frame, J.5349 - MUG	P/O R.G. Townsend, J.36533 - WOP/AG	
			R208648 Sgt Mackenzie, J. - WOP/AG	R203281 Sgt Edwards, J.D. - P/Eng.	
			R209659 " Duke, R.R. - P/Eng.	R113644 " Montgomery, H.D. MUG	
			R270570 " Belamy, J.W. - R/G	R272788 " Smith, K.H. - R/G.	
			<u>Posted from 76 Base wef 18.1.45.</u>	<u>Posted from 64 Base wef 15.1.45</u>	
			P/L G.W. Conquist, J.16812 - Pilot	S/L H.L. Kay, (G.888) - Pilot	
			P/O H.B. Elhorn, J.19085 - Nav.	P/O R.L. Stapleford, J.8170 - Nav.	
			P/O G.W. Heselton, J.18175 - A/B	P/O G.W. Liney, J.40040 - A/B	
			P/O O.D. Pullerton, J.86640 - WOP/AG	P/O J.W. Blades, J.35935 - WOP/AG	
			P/O G.F. Manvel, J.90119 - P/Eng	R204027 Sgt Jolicœur, P.L. - MUG	
			P/O S.G. Blackert, J.19196 - MUG	R273430 " Ossington, E.F. - R/G	
			P/O G.C. Blair, G.C. J.87293 - R/G	1895420 " Gullick, R.W. - P/E	
			<u>Posted from 76 Base wef 1.1.45.</u>	<u>Posted from 76 Base wef 18.1.45.</u>	
			R113075 W/O Johnson, G.A. - Pilot	P/O E.T. Lewis, J.90150 - Pilot	
			P/O W.H. Farrel, J.15461 - NAV	P/O W.R. Prestie, J.40343 - A/B.	
			P/O E. Howey, J.97175 - A/G	R185810 Sgt Berry, G.D. - Nav.	
			R138502 W/O Mann, A. - A/B	R155782 " Marsh, I.E. - WOP/AG	
			P/O E.F. Finsagan, J.17232 - WOP/AG	R212778 " McAllister, R. - P/E	
			R213100 H.G. Quinn, (Sgt) - P/E	R282251 " Gordon, E.R. - M/U	
			R130074 W/O Blue, W.D. - A/G	R278268 " Marshall, W.T. - R/G	

www.bombercommand.com archive reference

708

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 428 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
<u>PROMOTIONS.</u>					
F/O W.H. Farrell,	J.16461	26.12.44	T/P/L	F/O H.J. Humber	J.87364 19.12.44 T/P/O
F/O N.A. Wool,	J.87368	20.12.44	T/P/O	F/O H.W. Walker,	J.87551 20.1.244 T/P/O
F/O G.J. Ordin,	J.21973	18.12.44	T/P/L	F/O T. Rowan,	J.87175 23.12.45 T/P/O
R.58025 Sgt Homer, L.C.	27.12.44	T/P/S		R163474 Sgt Feeley, J.H.	12.12.44 T/P/S
R163535 " Orlinton, C.A.	24.12.44	T/P/S		R171326 " Sullivan, T.	17.12.44 "
R211664 " Abram, J.F.G.	"	"		R212033 " Dyles, E.D.	12.12.44 "
R225230 " Harrington, W.O.	"	"		R268177 " Thorburn, W.	24.12.44 "
R272559 " Lenders, S.R.	"	"		R277804 " Wright, J.E.	7.1.45 "
R178951 " Cowden, R.S.	15.1.45	"		R196368 W/S Piercon, L.H.	18.1.45 T/W/O.
R197407 " Ross, J.W.	21.1.45	"		R258135 Sgt McLeod, S.P.	23.1.45 T/P/S
R283112 " Burrows, N.R.	"	"		R285583 " Truman, V.S.	21.1.45 "
R285611 " Whiteside, W.H.O.	"	"			
<u>COMMISSIONS.</u>					
R178731 F/S Hogan, F.E.	1.11.44 (J.92655)			R205034 F/S Sharp, G.M.	21.11.44 (J.92758)
R262605 " Harper, W.D.	2.12.44 (J.92985)			R.66123 W/O Hffelman, S.	29.10.44 (J92835)
R.94135 " Lalonde, F.L.	26.10.44 (J.92779)			R113075 W/O Johnson, G.	26.11.44 (J.92860)
R134870 W/O Rodgers, A.D.	9.11.44 (J.92934)			R165536 Sgt Orlinton, G.	29.11.44 (J.92984)
R164746 W/O Wood, F.R.	25.11.44 (J.92887)			R168425 F/S Mackie, D.J.	2.12.44 (J92847)
R128358 F/S Bowrier, L.W.	5.12.44 (J.93002)			R198424 " Males, C.H.	7.10.44 (92952)
<u>HONOURS AND AWARDS.</u>					
The following is a list of the honours and awards received during the month.					
<u>Distinguished Flying Crosses.</u>					
F/O W.S. Hall,	J.87529,	F/O J. Waddell,	J.89089,	F/O D.E. Richmond,	J.89161.
F/Lt E.B. Graham, AFC	J.16364,	F/O G.R. Smith,	J.28699,	F/O A.G. Trotter,	J.28797.
F/O F.A. Gill,	J.89158,	F/L M. Steele,	J.21985.	F/O S. Ghiles,	161048.
<u>Distinguished Flying Medal - 1817188 Sgt Deaves, G.</u>					
<u>CHANGES IN COMMAND.</u>					
W/C M.W. Gull (C.887) assumes command of the Squadron on 2nd January, 1945 vice W/O A.G. Hull (C.1256) who has been posted to Headquarters, No. 6 (R.C.A.F.) Group, <i>same date</i>					
<u>CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATION - Nil.</u>					
<u>NUMBER OF OPERATIONAL SORTIES - (83)</u>					

708

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			<u>OPERATIONAL AND NON OPERATIONAL FLYING TIMES.</u>		
			Operational Day : Nil		
			" " Night : 658.30		
			Non " Day : 116.30		
			" " Night : 23.15		
			<u>MONTHLY CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF BOMBS DROPPED AND MINES LAID.</u>		
			Tons (2240)	Mines	H.B.
			Bombs and mines dropped from 1.1.44 to 31.12.44 -	800	6107
			" " " " During January, 1945.	-	765
			Cumulative total	800	6872
				257	48
				6544	813
			<u>NUMBER OF COMBATS WITH ENEMY AIRCRAFT</u>		
			There were two combats reported during the month. Probable damage was claimed on one enemy fighter.		
			<u>STRENGTH</u>		
			Airorew	Groundcrew	Total
			R.C.A.F. Officers 160	1	161
			" " W.D. " -	-	-
			" " Airmen 69	-	69
			" " W.D. Airwomen -	-	-
			R.A.F. Officers 15	-	15
			" " Airmen 15	-	15
			<u>SHORT RESUME BY SQUADRON COMMANDER PERSONALLY.</u>		
			January was not outstanding for operational flying as only 83 sorties were flown. Flying training was also restricted owing to the extremely bad weather with a great deal of rain and snow. Ground training was carried out well and is ahead of schedule. Losses were one missing on operations and two in crashes. The one missing was a serious loss as it involved a Flight Commander and in the crashes two pilots, one air bomber, one wireless operators, one gunner and one flight engineer lost their lives. Both crashes occurred on training flights. These crashes reduced the Squadron strength and aircraft strength considerably. Screening also reduced the operational strength as six crews were screened and the poor weather did not allow much training for new crews to become operational. No immediate awards were received but several non-immediate for personnel previously on the Squadron were received.		

WT. 2712/0216 2104 6/44 C.L. 51-9548

D. W. Gall
(M. W. Gall) Wing Commander,
Officer Commanding,
No. 428 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.