

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

J. 22-1-43
 JMS

of (Unit or Formation) No. 43 Squadron (R.C.A.F.)

8525

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			SECRET.	
CROFT	1.3.44		<p><i>Level 1</i></p> <p>Came in like a bomb - an excellent clear cool sunny day. 1795816 Sgt. Hill, R. H., Air Gunner (R.A.F.), missing on operations against Berlin 20/21.1.44 appointed to a commission eff. 13.1.44. Mine training sorties were carried out during the day with a total of 16 flying hours.</p>	
CROFT	2.3.44		<p>Cool with accompanying frosty Yorkshire breeze. A total of 12 aircraft were called for a bombing mission to Naulen Lee W. range. All crews returned safely and excellent photographs are reported.</p>	
CROFT	3.3.44		<p>An early visit from the Postmaster Extra requesting an identification page but the problem has been solved without too much embarrassment to those concerned. A controversy still continues with Records Gloucester in posting of one clerk both by telephone conversation and signals. The squadron is already deficient one clerk out of an establishment of five and another posting would definitely be disastrous. An additional crew reported this date from 1666 Commission Unit for completion of training and subsequent operational duties. The crew members are E.158750 Sgt. Spence A. L. (Pilot), J.26667 P/O Holmes, E. D. (Navigator), E.129616 Sgt. Kelly W. J. (MU/AG), E.162125 Sgt. Hanson E. E. (A/O), E.111210 Sgt. Malcolmson A. D. (Bear A/O), E.218579 Sgt. Fisher J. W. (MU/AG), 181A773 Sgt. Killingsworth A. S. (P/O) (R.A.F.). Four training sorties were carried out this date.</p>	
CROFT	4.3.44		<p>Flying Officer E. P. Murphy (J.25126) Air Bomber (SAR) posted from this squadron to R.C.A.F. Station Middleton St. George, non-effective sick. Information obtained from Air Ministry that 181A1558 P/O Sgt. Halls J. E. (Pilot), missing on operations against Hanover 29.9.43 recovered 9.10.43 at Funa (Island West Coast of Denmark), and was buried 12.10.43 Greenland, Narsarsuaq, Denmark. Four training sorties were carried out this date.</p>	
CROFT	5.3.44		<p>Sunday - the Protestant Church Service being held in the crew room at 1130 hours, and R.O. church service in the recreation hall at 1100 hours. An additional crew posted to the squadron this date from No. 1666 Commission Unit for operational duties. Crew personnel are 181A2105 P/O Sgt. Laurence D. (Pilot), 158738 P/O Evans G. (SAR) (Navigator), E.158166 Sgt. White D. W. (R.C.A.F.) (A/O), 137838 Sgt. Cox W. E. (R.A.F.) (MU/AG), 181A2103 Sgt. Stiller A. H. (R.A.F.) (P/O), 1810097 Sgt. Smith J. S. (R.C.A.F.) (MU/AG), 1810075 Sgt. Summers G. E. (R.C.A.F.) (A.O.). Information obtained this date that Com/181A2103 P/O J. Ferguson</p>	

www.bombercommand.com

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			(Navigator) and CAN/719732 P/O S. Saprznoff (Air Gunner) who went missing on operations against Berlin 29.1.44 reported as prisoners of war. Fourteen training flights carried out this date with a total of 11 hours.		
CROFT	6.1.44		A check was made of all secret and confidential publications and all found to be correct and accounted for. This squadron called upon to provide 11 aircraft for operations against Tripes this date. No early returns and all aircraft returned safely.		
CROFT	7.1.44		Information received from Air Ministry that 1316836 Sgt. L. H. Doe (Air Gunner), missing on operations against Berlin 21.1.44 killed. R.123767 P/Sgt. S. Mason R. G. (Bomb Aimer) commissioned in the R.C.A.F. Special Reserve in rank of Pilot Officer and given personal N. J19899. Eleven operational sorties were carried out this date on a raid against Le Mans. One early return due to engine failure and remaining 10 aircraft returned safely.		
CROFT	8.1.44		CAN/7188512 Sgt. Lehu J. J., Rear Air Gunner, missing on operations against Berlin 29.1.44, now reported as killed. Operations calling for twelve aircraft were scheduled but later cancelled. Three crews proceeded to Thornaby Baths for wet singly drill. No flying this date to allow maintenance time for aircraft as operations were on previous two nights.		
CROFT	9.1.44		A parade of all aircraft and groundcrew personnel was held at 0815 hours with few absentees. An additional crew posted to the squadron for operational duties from No. 1664 Conversion Unit. Members of the crew are Cdn/22676 P/O Wright W. G. (Pilot), Cdn/22274 P/O Millingaley H. G. (Nav), RAF157872 P/O Pettit R. W. (W/O/AG), Cdn/225695 P/O McClellan, R. (A/D), RAF 1685861 Sgt. Clarke J. S. (P/Sgt.), RAF 160616 P/O Gray L. (W/O/AG), Cdn/2192284 Sgt. Foster J.O.R. A/C. Give cross country training flights carried out. P/O Smalls A. E. (new) (RAF) 157758 screened this date on completion of 29 operational sorties and will be available for posting 22.1.44 on completion of his leave.		
CROFT	10.1.44		A smothering day with a good promise of spring. A busy afternoon preparing for 15 aircraft to proceed on operations, later reduced to 9 and finally cancelled. Records Gloucester having the upper hand, still insist on posting valuable orderly room clerks and in spite of resistance, the squadron must suffer. Three cross-country training flights were carried out with a total of 11 hours flying time.		

10-000000-000-000-000-000

RECORD BOOK

www.bombercommand.com

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 438 Squadron (R.C.A.F.)

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
GROFT	11.3.44		<p>Information received from Air Ministry that W/O J. Snowball (Can. J23636) (Bomb Aimer) who went missing on operations against Berlin 20.1.44 captured and now prisoner of war. Can. B-57681 Sgt. Morgan J. B. (W/R) and Can. J26616 W/O H. Gains (MI/AG) who went missing on operations against Berlin 20.1.44 classified as killed. The C. G. G/O D. M. Edwards A.F.O. (G.126) interviewed six R.C.A.F.'s airmen re commissions. Word received from No. 6 Group Headquarters that 3 additional crews are being posted to the squadron which will bring our total crews to 32. The present strength is 26 full crews, and 3 crews presently without pilots. With 26 crews and 21 aircraft which the squadron presently has at its disposal some very good efforts should be expected. One night cross country training flight was carried out. Four aircraft were called for on a mixing operation off the Farne Islands. Three aircraft returned safely and one diverted to Molesworth, an American airbase. Aircraft diverted was 16582 piloted by W157600 W/Sgt. W. Wood. A lone fighter attacked and heavy shell fire rendered one engine unserviceable. The Bomb Aimer, Can. W157991 Sgt. T. Burns, has flesh wounds in calf of leg and the MI/AG Can. W216097 Sgt. Petrosch P. has flesh wounds in thigh. These two airmen hospitalized at Molesworth but injury appears slight and should be available in the near future. The W/R/AG, Can. W170645 Sgt. Newton J. was hit by shell fragments in face but caused only bruises.</p>		
GROFT	12.3.44		<p>1760096 Sgt. Baby W. (W/R) (RAF) and 1525056 Sgt. Fletcher H. (W/R/AG) (RAF) now posted to No. 105 Squadron, commissioned in the R.A.F. in the rank of Pilot Officer. Advice also received that Can. W15773 Sgt. Kim F. J. (W/R), Can. W177184 W/Sgt. Demers J.W.B. (A/O), and Can. W190962 Sgt. McKinnon G. H. (A/O), who went missing on operations against Berlin 29.1.44 appointed to the rank of Pilot Officer in the R.C.A.F. S.P. The usual Sunday church services were held with surprisingly good attendance. Can. J20968 W/O Steacy A.G. (W/R), Can. W128515 W/O Snow G. E. (W/O/AG), RAF 131776 W/O Armitage J. R.J. (A/O), RAF 1835004 Sgt. Fuller A. W. (W/R), Can. W155087 Sgt. Monk E. A. (MI/AG), Can. W197869 Sgt. Comden U. J. (A/O) attached to 1659 Conversion Unit this date to crew with W/O Maffeo (Pilot). This crew lost their pilot Can. J22149 W/O T. H. McPherson, who went missing when on operations over Berlin as second pilot 15/16 February 44. W/O C.S. Bartlett D.F.C. (RAF 39928), Officer Commanding</p>		

www.bombercommand.com

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
CROFT (Continued)	12.3.44		ing, proceeded by air to Moleworth and brought back all members of Gen. R157600 P/Sgt. Wood W. (Pilot) crew who diverted there night of 11.3.44. The Bomb Almer and EW/AG however were retained in hospital at Moleworth. Three night cross countries scheduled this date but cancelled due to weather.		
CROFT	13.3.44		Ten additional crews posted to the squadron effective this date for operational duties from No. 166 Conversion Unit. Personnel of first crew - Gen. J19621 P/O D. A. Thicks (Pilot), Gen. J25557 P/O G. F. McGilone (Nav), Gen. R130654 P/Sgt. Brown H. (WOP/AG), R110453 Sgt. Turishals A. E. (A/N), 1386783 Sgt. Williamson T. G. (P/R), Gen. R203473 Sgt. Divitoff A. (W/AG), Gen. R160555 Sgt. McKay G. G. (Pilot), Gen. J28560 P/O E. H. Mackin (Nav), Gen. R102667 Sgt. Dalsell J. (WOP/AG), RAF 1894717 Sgt. Simpson A. J. (P/N), Gen. R172469 Sgt. Kincaid J. W. (W/AG), Gen. R140845 Sgt. Jenkins A. W. (A/N). Welcome to the squadron, fellows. AIR 421915 P/Sgt. Laurence D. (Pilot) and crew who reported to the squadron 5.3.44 posted to 138 Squadron. Apparently crew with too many RAF personnel in the crew are being taken from us - certainly no time wasted with this crew. RAF 139210 P/L. Hamilton W. E. (W/AG), Signals Leader of the squadron posted to 125 Squadron for operational duties and relinquishes acting rank of Flight Lieutenant on posting. Gen. J12105 P/O D. H. Crawford (WOP/AG) in crew of 29228 W/O G. S. Bartlett D.F.C., Officer Commanding, assumes duty of Squadron Signals Leader. Fourteen aircraft proceeded on a bombing mission to Le Mans, France, and all aircraft returned safely.		
CROFT	14.3.44		Information from Air Ministry that RAF 1320477 Sgt. J. C. W. Olliffe (WOP/AG) who went missing on operations over Berlin 29.1.44 in crew of Gen. R114041 P/Sgt. Stanley E. is now classified as killed in action. One night cross country carried out - no operations and aircrew personnel resting from operation night previous.		
CROFT	15.3.44		Air Vice Marshal G. W. Nelson M.C., D.F.C., P.S.A. (Gen. G.60), Air Officer Commanding No. 6 RAAF Group, and Air Commodore A. De Ross (Gen. G.111), Commanding Officer R.C.A.F. Base Linden arrived by air on an inspection tour, 1500 hours, and accompanied by the Commanding Officer Group Captain D. M. Edwards A.P.C. (G.126) inspected the station. Fifteen aircraft proceeded on an operation against Antennae. W/O G. S. Bartlett D.F.C. (RAF 39928),		158

W. 2000000 2000 2000 C.A.L. 10700

OPERATIONAL RECORD BOOK

www.bombercommand.com

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 438 Squadron (R.C.A.F.)

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
CREW (Continued)	15-3-44		<p>Officer Commanding the Squadron also adds another operation with S/O D. W. Edwards A.P.O. (Can. CR26) who accompanied as second pilot. This aircraft made an early return due to port outer engine failure. No aircraft are missing from the operation, however, only five landed at base. An aircraft of No. 431 Squadron caught fire on landing due to an explosion thus rendering one runway unusable, and one of our aircraft piloted by W/Sgt. Goulet F. (Can. W38521) crashed on another runway caused by undercarriage collapsing. There are no casualties as result of this crash although aircraft W4596 is complete write off. Remainder of 10 aircraft diverted to RAF Station Sporton and RAF Station Leeming.</p>		
CREW	16-3-44		<p>Crews of aircraft diverted to RAF Station Sporton and RAF Station Leeming returned early this date. An additional crew posted to the squadron this date from 1664 Conversion Unit, personnel as follows: Can. W16766 Sgt. Tandy E.A.E. (Pilot), Can. W155423 Sgt. Morgan C.J. (Nav), Can. W164531 P/Sgt. Legg S.S. (W/AG), Can. W159938 P/Sgt. Dean J. K. (A/O), RAF 1836007 Sgt. Robert T.R.W. (P/N), Can. W20668 P/O Hewitt E.W. (W/AG), Can. W11609 Sgt. Edward C.V. (R/AG). This brings our total number of complete crews to 28. Information received from Air Ministry that Can. W19262 Sgt. Douglas M.G. (R/AG), Can. W76951 P/Sgt. Crossley P.W. (Nav), and Can. W17460 P/Sgt. Glover W. A. (A/A), who went missing on operations against Wadsworth 21.1.44 now believed to have been killed in action. Also RAF 136891 P/O G. B. Ford (A/A), RAF 169651 P/O P. G. Kearney, RAF 168964 P/O G. Barrett P/N, RAF 168852 P/O J. W. Angler (W/O/AG), who went missing on operations against Berlin 29.1.44 captured and was prisoner of war. Twelve aircraft proceeded on an operation against Jinsen this date and all returned to base safely. The Flight Engineers have devoted a great deal of energy and completed the painting of the briefing room this date.</p>		
CREW	17-3-44		<p>A crew posted to the squadron this date from 1669 Conversion Unit which brings our total crews to 29. Members of the crew are Can. W156087 P/Sgt. Down A. J. (Pilot), Can. W2041 P/O R.W. Warren (Nav), Can. W27563 P/O Hughes B. (W/O/AG), Can. W27275 P/O T. Christie (A/O), RAF 657992 Sgt. Henry G.H. (P/N), Can. W257381 Sgt. Dunlop G. J. (W/AG), Can. W20881 Sgt. Gordon J. E. (A/A) - welcome to the squadron follows. In operations this date, however two crew country training flights were cancelled out - P/Os B. G. East, leading leader of the squadron.</p>		138

www.bombercommand.com

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
CHOFF (Continued)	17.3.44		is a very pleased bombing leader recently with the photographs of sinking points obtained by the Air Bombers on recent raids.		
CHOFF	18.3.44		<p>Can. #148521 P/Sgt. Johnson F. W. (Pilot) who has been non-effective sick for past 2 months now returned for duty with the squadron. Information received that Can. #255536 P/O W. G. Duggan (Bomb Aimer), Can. #167346 P/Sgt. Wilson A. M. (Nav) who went missing on operations against Berlin 20.1.44, now captured and classified prisoners of war. Can. #141768 P/Sgt. Mould G. G. (Pilot) and Can. #216118 Sgt. Deak P. R. A. (M/AG) who went missing on the same crew reported killed. Can. #26168 Sgt. Parrier G. W. (P/N), Can. #159122 P/Sgt. Raymond W. G. E. (N/A) and Can. #153896 P/Sgt. Gilman J. P. W. (Nav) who went missing on operations against Leipzig 19.2.44 now reported as captured and prisoners of war. Eight aircraft on operations this date on a minelaying expedition off Heligoland. All aircraft returned safely to base with the exception of Halifax #1178 piloted by P/O D. Evans Can. #21016. This aircraft crashed on return 6 miles east of Thirsk, Yorkshire. All members of the crew including the second pilot on his first operation were killed. Remainder of the crew are: Cap. #19621 P/O D. Thicke (2nd pilot), Can. #1685 P/O Armour E. (Nav), Can. #145408 P/Sgt. Jackson D. (N/A), RAF 1392583 Sgt. Cotton E. (M/AG), Can. #195216 Sgt. Kiegher J. (M/AG), Can. #108630 Sgt. Ballentine E. (N/AG), RAF 1581770 Sgt. Mutt G. (N/A).</p>		
CHOFF	19.3.44		<p>Funeral arrangements being proceeded with re Can. #21016 P/O F. Evans and crew whose death occurred 18.3.44. Two additional crews posted to the squadron this date from 166. Conversion Unit. Personnel comprising crews as follows: 1st crew Can. #19788 P/O A. E. McCullough (Pilot), Can. #13069 P/O Wilson T. P. (Nav), Can. #121082 P/Sgt. Sutton H. G. (M/AG), Can. #28249 P/O L. E. Kelly (A/N), RAF 1605511 Sgt. Payne E. (N/A), Can. #198121 Sgt. Stevenson E. G. (M/AG), Can. #197416 Sgt. Davis E. E. (A/O); second crew Can. #19788 P/O E. S. Dwyer (Pilot), Can. #129961 Sgt. Kaiser E. E. (Nav), Can. #19314 P/O Morley A. E. (M/AG), Can. #38211 P/O J. G. Lewis (A/N), RAF 1664574 Sgt. Nelson J. H. (N/A), Can. #173605 Sgt. Turner T. B. (M/AG), Can. #196185 Sgt. Moore E. E. (A/O). Welcome to the 41st Squadron, follow.</p>		
CHOFF	20.3.44		<p>Five training sorties carried out this date with a total of 10 hours. Rainy most of the day but a bright sun appeared late afternoon. This squadron called upon</p>		

www.bombercommand.com

OBSCURED RECORD BOOK

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 433 Squadron (R.C.A.F.)

No. of pages used for day _____

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
CROFT (Continued)	20.1.44		<p>for an effort of 15 aircraft on operations but was cancelled at a late hour. Rather a day that grows hair quickly, what with funerals, arrangements for operations, shortage of staff and threats of losing still more. Information received from Air Ministry this date that Gen. JACOB Squadron Leader J. E. Hickey (Pilot) who went missing on operations against Berlin 29.1.44 now captured and prisoner of war. This entire crew are no prisoners of war except the second pilot for whom no word has yet been received. RAF 157758 P/O A. J. Bussell (Nav) posted to 1659 Conversion Unit as an instructor and should certainly prove to be an excellent one.</p>		
CROFT	21.1.44		<p>One crew posted to the squadron this date from 1659 Conversion Unit, personnel as follows: Gen. HIRSH 2 W/O Joffin M. A. (Pilot), Gen. J24723 W/O J. E. Martin (Nav), Gen. HIRSH 26 P/O Donaldson J. E. (W/O/AG), Gen. J27389 P/O S. A. Chapman (A/O), RAF 575343 Sgt. Druitt E. J. W. (O/N), Gen. H205370 Sgt. Soderstrom G. V. (W/O/AG), Gen. H285519 Sgt. Montgomerie G. W. (A/O). This squadron called upon to provide 13 aircraft for operations against and operations cancelled. Ground crew certainly kept in trim by these runs but many messes and groves heard in wasted effort.</p>		
CROFT	22.1.44		<p>An early visit from the local Police Constable serving summons on three airmen who were riding bicycles off the station without lights. Was no help - what with operations scheduled and making funeral arrangements. Thirteen aircraft provided to proceed on an operation against Kiel area. There were two early returns but all aircraft returned safely to base.</p>		
CROFT	23.1.44		<p>Funeral held this date for Gen. J21036 W/O D. Bussell (Pilot) and crew at RAF Conybury, Humbergate. Thirty heavy party personnel was provided, a large number for attendance party and also a firing party. A funeral deploys a squadron of personnel to an absolute minimum especially with operations scheduled as they are today. The Station Commander G/O D. M. Edwards A.P.O. (G-126) held a conference of all squadron and section leaders at 1000 hours and terminated approximately 1145 hours. Many messes and groves were put forth, signed upon, and some forgotten - however, a very successful conference. Fifteen aircraft scheduled to proceed on an operation against Berlin. One aircraft failed to take off due to engine trouble and only 14 proceeded on the mission. Aircraft 11225 piloted by W/Opt. J. Schinner-Gun</p>		

www.bombercommand.com

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
GROUP	25.3.44		WIA0741 made an early return. All aircraft returned safely but 7 were diverted to Tangmere due to inclement weather.		
GROUP	26.3.44		S/O S. W. E. Tyler (RAF 111498) (Pilot) assumes command of No. 43 Squadron since W/C G. E. Bartlett D.F.C. (RAF 10328) proceeding on 7 days privilege leave. No operations scheduled this date with training only of one cross country flight. Everyone rather weary what with late return from operation previous day and fighting fire of Sergeant's Mess. However, with a lot of effort and little water pressure the main part of the mess was saved with the entrance only destroyed. Information received from Air Ministry that RAF 1600035 Sgt. D. A. Young (W/AG) who went missing on operation against Funnabunde 17/18 August /43 was classified as dead.		
GROUP	26.3.44		Gen. WIA0741 S/Ogt Stinson G. (Pilot) and crew attached to 1652 Conversion Unit for night cross country refresher effective this date for a period of one week. Information received from Air Ministry that Gen. J575A S/O L. E. Channon (Pilot) who went missing on operations against Leipzig 19/20 Feb. /44 unclassified killed. RAF 126266 Sgt. Cox E. E. (W/AG) who went missing on operations against Berlin 20th January /44 was captured and prisoner of war. RAF 165836 Sgt. E. H. Davies (W/AG) who went missing on an operation against Leipzig 19th Feb. /44 classified as killed. Thirteen aircraft proceeded on an operation against Aulnoy. Twelve aircraft returned safely to base, another was diverted to Frinton, crash landing at that aerodrome with two engines inoperable due to damage sustained from enemy night fighters.		
GROUP	26.3.44		The usual Sunday morning church services were held with exceptionally good attendance. The squadron mess another good one to R/AF, namely Gen. W12960 S/Ogt. Saltcherry R. A. (Pilot), Gen. W15786 S/Ogt. Silver E. E. (W/AF), RAF 1261762 Sgt. Squerish S. (W/AG), Gen. W12880 S/Ogt. Albert E. L. (A/S), Gen. W11139 Sgt. Hussey G. E. (W/AG), RAF 1261735 Sgt. Smyth J. W. (W/AG), Gen. W12948 Sgt. Goodwin J. (A/S), who are posted to No. 105 Squadron effective this date. Gen. W12645 S/O J. W. Howard (Pilot), Deputy Flight-commander of "A" Flight granted rank of Flight Lieutenant. Congratulations, Howard - another party. RAF 105027 Sgt. Thompson S. (W/AG) granted a commission in the RAF(WR) in the rank of Pilot Officer.		

10-500000 000 000 C.S.L. 0000

REPLY TO RECORD BOOK

www.bombercommand.com

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 44 Squadron (R.C.A.F.)

No. of pages used for day _____

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	Reference to Appendix
	26.3.44		Station aircraft presented on an operations against ... and all ...		
	27.3.44		Gen. ... (Pilot) who has been ...		
	28.3.44		Information received from the ...		
	29.3.44		Station aircraft presented on an operations against ...		
	30.3.44		... (Pilot) ...		
	31.3.44		No operations ...		

www.bombercommand.com

