

S. 47-20-434
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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F. Form 548

The instructions for use of this form in R.E. and A.C.I. Para 289 and Part II, Chapter XX, and also in R.A.F. Postal Book.

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

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Crews	1.9.44		The following crews were screened from operations with effect today: GAN J.19619 W/L G. Huxley (Pilot), 40 trips; GAN J.24560 W/O E. Macklin (Nav), 38 trips; GAN J.27152 W/O F. Letz (A/O), 38 trips; GAN R.140945 Sgt A. Jenkins (A/O), 38 trips; GAN J.26542 P/W J. Kincaid (A/O), 38 trips; GAN J.86713 W/O Dalmell J. (WO/AG), 38 trips; RAF 17671A W/O A. Simpson (P/R), 38 trips.		
Crews	2.9.44		The following Air Members who were recently screened are posted to 4048 with effect 1.9.44 for assessment and future employment: GAN J.86281 P/O Roy J.R.D., GAN J.19419 P/O Brown R., GAN J.27226 P/O Giddon W.J., GAN J.21734 W/O Roberts W.L. A lecture was held in the main briefing room this afternoon for all pilots of 434 Sqn. Subject: flying control, safety aids, emergency landing procedures and a general discussion. Funeral took place today at 1030 hours in the Stonefall Cemetery, Harrogate, for six of the crew which were killed in the crash on the 10th August on returning from a Bullseye. They were: GAN J.87363 P/O G.H. Tothunter (Pilot), GAN J.37763 W/O J.C. Eastwood (Nav), GAN J.36886 W/O G.G. Kennedy (P/A), GAN R.195719 Sgt Gordon R.D. (WO/AG), GAN R.14361A Sgt Brown G. (WO/AG), GAN R.208037 Sgt Dutton R.A. (P/AG). The disposal of the Flight Engineer of the crew, RAF1797001 Sgt Mollison J.H. is awaiting instructions from his father in Elm. GAN R.112686 W/O McDermott G.A.P. (A/O) and R.117240 W/O Stewart J.A. (A/O) received notification today that they were granted a commission as pilot officer in the RAF Reserve, Special Section, and given new numbers J.89067 and J.89203 respectively. Notification was also received that the following aircrew reported missing have now been presumed, for official purposes, dead: GAN R.57681 Sgt Morgan J.R. (P/R), missing 20/21.1.44; GAN J.26616 W/O M. Quinn (A/O), missing 20/21.1.44; GAN R.43255 P/W Brown G.P. (A/O), missing 22/23.10.43; GAN R.133519 W/A Monteith J.H.T. (A/R), missing 27/28.9.43.		
Crews	3.9.44		The following navigators of this Squadron who were recently screened are posted with effect 3.9.44 to 4048 for assessment and future employment: J.21893 W/O D.R. Hitchen (Nav); J.86715 P/O G.T. Marshall (Nav); J.19731 P/O H.W. O'Gorman (Nav); J.86215 P/O J.S.M. Smith (Nav). We started on the sixth year of this war today. Very little flying today. Weather poor. Today was the day set for all crews to move to the quarters allotted them. This, however, was cancelled as a heavy rain had set in and made moving impracticable.		
Crews	4.9.44		Stand-down today. A little flying training carried out. Weather was poor and very windy.		

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Craft (continued)	4.9.44		but the heavy downpour which lasted yesterday and most of the night ceased. The first attempt to solve the serious accommodation problem on this Station was made today. At 1315 hours all personnel were to be standing by their beds with everything packed, ready to move. A list of names of occupants was taken to each hut showing where each person was to proceed, i.e. site, hut and room number. It was a very busy afternoon on HQAF Station, Craft.		
Craft	5.9.44		Postagram was received today from Headquarters Bomber Command stating as follows: His Majesty the King, on the recommendation of the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, has approved the Immediate Award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Flying Officer John Sugman (J.35150) Pilot. After much difficulty the body of RAF 1797001 Sgt Melbham J.H., who was killed in the crash on August 30th, was sent by rail to his parents in Limerick, Eire. RAF 169042 P/O J. Clayton accompanied the body as escort. A signal was received from Air Ministry today stating that information was received from IXCC quoting German information stating R.213532 Sgt Hill I. (A/O), R.204449 Sgt Low K.R. (A/O), J.28693 P/O J. Wilson (R/A), J.12305 P/O R.G. Chalk (W/O/S), J.25174 P/O D.A. McIntyre (Pilot), all captured and reclassified prisoners of war. German information also states that J.35757 P/O R.D.B. Jelley (Dev) is dead. All the above personnel were reported missing on 12.8.44.		
Craft	6.9.44		Notification was received from Air Ministry today that GNR R.128601 Sgt Milton A.E. (Dev) was appointed to a commission in the HQAF Reserve, Special Section, in the rank of Pilot Officer, and given a new number J.20447. Squadron was standing by all day for operations and at approximately 1640 hours 15 aircraft took off successfully. All returned to base at approximately 2045 hours. The attack was on Baden and from all accounts very successful. GNR R.13478 P/O H.G. Ballatt, attached to this Squadron for temporary extra duties since 21.8.44, was posted to the Squadron with effect 31.8.44 and granted the rank of acting flight lieutenant.		
Craft	7.9.44		Information received from Air Ministry today states information received stating R.190192 Sgt Dawson G.H. (W/O/S) and R.212338 Sgt Mellis E.A. (A/O), who were reported missing on 4.8.44 arrived back in the United Kingdom on 3 Sept. 44. Signals were received from 6 Group HQ posting the following HQAF crews into this Squadron: J.15758 P/O J.H. Francis D.F.C. (Pilot),		

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of (Unit or Formation) No. 133 Squadron (R.C.A.F.)

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Craft	7.9.44		J.17400 P/O D.E. Harris (W/R), J.13842 P/O F.A. Jackson (W/R 'B'), J.16422 P/O F.J. Morris D.P.M. (W/AG), J.16790 P/O F.J. Meyer (W/AG), J.18524 P/O S.D. Admonson (A/O), 1626125 Sgt Spencer H.G. (P/R), from 61 Base on ceasing to be attached to 1664 C.U. with effect 6 September for operational duties; G.1771 P/L D.E.T. Wood (Pilot), J.38699 P/O W.R. Esing (W/R 'B'), J.24539 P/O D.G. McDougall (A/O), E.210513 Sgt Stamatia O.S. (W/AG), E.207105 Sgt Ward D.W. (W/AG), E.110593 Sgt Parsons O. (A/O), 2221017 Sgt Grant G.D. (P/R), from 61 Base on ceasing to be attached to 1659 C.U. with effect 7.9.44 for operational duties. The weather was very poor for flying today and no aircraft of this Squadron were flown. At 1415 hours the Squadron Commander, C/M G.846 W/O S. Blackburn gave a lecture to the pilots of this Squadron on flying generally.		
Craft	8.9.44		Stand-down today as far as operations concerned. A command Bullseye was planned with nine crews of this Squadron participating, however, this was postponed 10 hours at 2000 hours due to weather conditions at Base. Notification was received from Air Ministry today advising that C/M E.223009 Sgt Richardson W. (A/O) was appointed to a commission in the RCAF Reserve, S.S., and given the new number J.66541. Effective date 16.7.44. A signal was received from No. 6 Group H.Q. addressed to all Bases, stating "When bomb loads are ordered by this Headquarters for particular operations and these operations are cancelled, bomb loads are not to be changed nor removed from aircraft, except for technical reasons, without reference to this Headquarters." Apparently, this is being done on this Squadron. The following officers of the Squadron, recently screened, were posted with effect today, to HQAC for assessment and further employment: C/M J.6540 P/O Grant J.A.Y.W. (A/O), C/M J.66262 P/O E.E. McGuire (A/O), C/M J.66540 P/O Robert W.N. (A/O).		
Craft	9.9.44		The Command Bullseye postponed from yesterday was converted into a cross country this morning and the same nine crews participated. It is a pleasant change to see blue sky and the sun again after such a long period of rain. The weather has turned quite cold. Signal was received today instructing J.15400 P/L G.S. Brady, our Squadron Signals Leader, to report to W/L Bayly HQAC Overseas Headquarters, for an interview on 11.9.44. As W/L Brady is commencing a five-day signals course commencing on that date, Overseas Headquarters were asked if 16.9.44 would		

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Graft (continued)	9.9.44		be agreeable. GAN J.26746 P/O A/W/L H.G. Wright (Pilot), who was recently screened from operations, was posted today to 24 O.T.U. with effect 13.9.44, for instructor duties, acting rank to be relinquished. 176367 P/O J. Bennett (W/O/Air) was posted to 22 O.T.U. with effect 11.9.44 for instructor duties. P/O Bennett was recently screened. A signal was received today from Air Ministry as follows: "Telegram from IEDM quoting Gansen information states J.15243 P/O G.L. Murray (Pilot) killed 20/Nov./1944 buried 25/Nov. cemetery at Gohre near Stendal. Declassified missing believed killed. Presumption of death action to follow." P/O Murray was a pilot with this Squadron and he and his crew were reported missing on 19.2.44 when an attack was made on Leipzig. At approximately 1900 hours, the Adj. GAN G.13278 W/L H.G. Hallett and his backroom boys in the Orderly Room GAN R.78205 Sgt Richmond J., R.20477 LAG Miller M., R.107718 LAG Lattimer A.K., R.187062 LAG Buchanan R.N., R.92536 LAG Ward L., R.201704 LAG Vailancourt G.D., met and cycled into the Shamrock Arms pub in Harworth. The occasion for the party was (a) The adj's promotion to P/O rank; (b) an informal get-together so that the Adj could get to know his staff a little better and vice versa. A fine time was had by all.		
Graft	10.9.44		The following new crew was posted in today for operational duties from 61 Base on ceasing to be attached to 1666 Conversion Unit: GAN J.18584 P/O A. Kiehlhauch (Pilot), GAN J.38729 P/O G.G. Shaw (Nav), GAN R.213651 Sgt Wilson W.P. (W/O/A), GAN J.37818 P/O H.C. Edden (A/B), GAN R.98236 P/O Turner D. (P/O), GAN R.196661 Sgt Carolyn A.G. (W/O/A), GAN R.191567 Sgt Martin W.D. (A/O). This squadron was detailed for 18 aircraft for operations today. All aircraft took off successfully at approximately 1430 hours and returned at approximately 1845. The target was La Herpe and from all accounts of the attack it was a good prang.		
Graft	11.9.44		The Squadron was called for 15 aircraft today. All aircraft took off successfully at approximately 1625 hours and returned to Base at approx. 2140 hours. The target today was Ostrop-Burzel and from all reports the target was very hot, with intense flak. J.11599 W/L F. Reader (W/O/A) was screened from operations today having completed 34 trips for 122 points. GAN J.18506 P/O W. Lederoute, the rear gunner in aircraft "C" ME920 (Pilot GAN J.16599 P/O G. Malero), was killed over the target by flak. He will be buried in Stendal Cemetery, Harrogate, on Friday, 15th September. The following crew were screened from operations today: GAN J.86256 P/O J.G.		

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Craft (continued)	11.9.44		Stinson (Pilot), GAN J.2172, P/O W.H. Johnston (Nav), GAN J.2630 P/O R. Sneyd (A/O), GAN J.2629 P/O E.T. Manton (A/O), RAF 178895 P/O E.V. Burdham (WOP/Air), RAF 177564 P/O I.A. Gamm (A/O), RAF 177525 P/O R. Evans (P/O).		
Craft	12.9.44		Sixteen aircraft were detailed for an attack on Dortmund. All aircraft with the exception of "M", with pilot P/O J. Wagon J.35150, which would not retract the undercarriage and returned early, completed the attack on Dortmund.		X
Craft	13.9.44		The following signals were received from Air Ministry today: "Personnel official information forwarded by IREI states two unknown identified as RAF 220816 Sgt A.B. Randall (P/O), GAN J.20962 P/O A.E. Young (Nav), shot down 28.8.44, buried 1.5.44, St. Trond Cemetery, graves AAJ and AAJ. Reclassified missing believed killed in action. Death presumption action to follow. Informant." Sgt Randall and P/O Young were reported missing from operations 27/28.8.44 on an attack on Montevideo. Information received states following arrived United Kingdom 8/Sept.: GAN J.66218 P/O S.A. Osmond (P/O), J.66904 P/O G.W. Martin (A/O), 7/Sept.: J.24060 P/O D.V. Robertson (Nav), J.66805 P/O J. Fatache D.P.N. (A/O). All reclassified as "U.K. Informant." The above were members of a crew reported missing 12.6.44 while attacking Arnes. The following aircraft were screened from operations today: GAN J.19418 P/O A. Gardner (P), GAN J.85261 P/O W. Oostelle (Nav), GAN J.85179 P/O R. Lenn (P/O), RAF 178905 P/O R. Southgate (WOP/Air), GAN J.85152 P/O R. Stevens (A/O), RAF 176715 P/O S. Smith (P/O), GAN J.85771 P/O A. Spence (P), GAN J.24657 P/O R. Wilson (Nav), GAN J.85761 P/O J. White (P/O), GAN J.87450 P/O W. Kelly (A/O), GAN J.87367 P/O Malcolmson A. (A/O); GAN J.85383 P/O George J. (Nav.), GAN J.4425 P/O B. Davis (Pilot). "W" Flight Commander of this Squadron, was injured while riding his bicycle about 2300 hours between Craft and Daxington. He is reported to have a fractured skull. An investigation is being made. In accordance with the present policy, P/O Stinson J.R., J.86256, Pilot, and his crew, who were screened from operations on the 11th September, visited No. 6 Group Headquarters for an interview with the A.O.C.		
Craft	14.9.44		The crews of GAN J.19418 P/O A. Gardner and GAN J.85771 P/O A. Spence, who were screened from operations yesterday appeared before the AGO this morning for an interview. The following crew were posted to this Squadron with effect today for operational duties: GAN J.44667		

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Croft (continued)	14.9.44		<p>R/O J.G. Henry (Pilot), GAN J.36946 R/O A.P. Coleman (Nav), GAN J.38228 R/O I. Walsh (A/B), GAN R.90310 R/S Ward H.L. (WO/AG), GAN R.209215 Sgt Thompson A.V. (M/AG), GAN R.219049 Sgt Pyras R.L. (A/G), GAN R.139596 Sgt Casavant J.K.E. (R/E). The following signal was received from Air Ministry today: "Information received states R.165655 Sgt McIntosh A.V. (R/E) arrived United Kingdom 10 Sept. Reclassified safe U.K." Sgt McIntosh was reported missing on 19.11.43 after an attack on Leverkusen. The rest of his crew are prisoners of war with the exception of the Wireless Operator who has been reported killed. No operations today. Five crews were detailed for cross country exercise but after they had left, the weather closed in at base causing four to be diverted. The other landed safely.</p>		
Croft	15.9.44		<p>The funeral for GAN J.18906 R/O M. Lederoute (A/G), who was killed by flak over Castro-Baum on the 11th September, took place in Stonefall Cemetery, Harrogate, at 1130 hours. His crew were among the attending party and many other friends attended. Recommendations for non-immediate D.F.C. were submitted on the following aircrew personnel who were recently screened: J.14210 R/O W.A. Frow (Nav), RAF 160616 R/O D. Gray (A/B), GAN J.24560 R/O E.V. Macklin (Nav), GAN J.22744 R/O H.G. Millingale (Nav), GAN J.57124 R/O R.H. Davis (A/G), GAN J.19619 A/R/L G.G. McKay (Pilot), RAF 156822 R/O W. Richardson (R/A), GAN J.26746 A/R/L (R/O) W.G. Wright (Pilot), GAN J.86256 R/O J.G. Stinson (Pilot), GAN J.57132 R/O F.P. Wilson (Nav), GAN J.24000 R/O D.H. Robertson (Nav), GAN J.86805 R/O J. Patoche D.F.W. (A/G), and GAN J.86804 R/O G.W. Wordin (A/B), all of whom were reported missing on operations on 12.6.44 on an attack on Aviano, walked back and dropped in the Adj's office of their old Squadron. Many of the personnel have been changed and they were known to only a few, but we were all very happy to see them back. They are very fine chaps just like the rest on this Squadron and are sure glad to be back. None show any ill effects from their experiences. GAN J.27152 R/O F. Lutz (A/B) is posted with effect tomorrow to 1664 Conversion Unit for Radar Instructor duties. GAN J.19764 R/O (A/R/L) P.R. McHullough D.F.C. (Pilot), is posted to 82 OBU with effect Sept. 16th for instructor duties, acting rank to be relinquished. GAN J.19619 R/O (A/R/L) G. G. McKay (Pilot) is posted to 86 OBU with effect Sept. 16th for instructor duties. Acting rank to be relinquished. A recommendation for immediate D.F.M. was submitted today on GAN R.164464 R/S Henry Earl Kauffman, a WO/AG</p>		

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Graft (continued)	15.9.44		<p>of this Squadron. The particulars of his meritorious service are as follows: "On the night of August 16th 1944, Flight Sergeant Kaufman was wireless operator of an aircraft detailed to attack Kiel. The petrol tanks were holed by anti-aircraft fire when approaching the target. After bombing and setting course for base, it became necessary for this aircraft to ditch under very hazardous weather conditions forty miles from the English coast. Although P/S Kaufman had only completed three previous operational sorties, he displayed great skill, courage and devotion to duty, carrying out a flawless distress procedure which resulted in the entire crew being quickly located and rescued." Postings were received today on the following officers to AGAC with effect 20.9.44: RAF 169042 P/O J. Clayton (A/G), RAF 172886 P/O S. Thompson (WG/Air), RAF 169681 P/O J.E. Nicholas (WDE/Air). All of these were screened from operations recently. GAW J.19418 P/O A.B. Gardner (Pilot), who has just been screened recently from operations, was reported to this Squadron as Captain of Aircraft and granted the acting rank of Flight Lieutenant with effect 22.7.44. This Squadron was detailed for an attack on Kiel. Seventeen aircraft were required. Sixteen took off successfully at approximately 2230 hours. The one which failed to take off was due to technical failure. Notification was received from Air Ministry that RAF 220984 Sgt Galloway J. (A/R) and RAF 1676235 Sgt Lee J.R. (P/R), who were reported missing on 20.1.44, are now for official purposes presumed dead.</p>	SECRET.	
Graft	16.9.44		<p>From the attack on Kiel last night fifteen aircraft returned safely to base, the remaining one landed at Carnaby, caused by magnet failure. As far as can be ascertained the crew are alright. From reports of the aircraft, it was a very good attack. The following E28 crew has been posted to this Squadron from 1664 Conversion Unit with effect 16th September: GAW J.11673 P/O C.H. Forster (Pilot), GAW J.38753 P/O M.A. Dobbin (WAC), GAW J.36899 P/O B.S. Maguire (A/R), GAW R.198789 Sgt Perry A.H. (WO/SG), GAW J.41697 P/O C.E. Baxley (MI/SG), GAW R.228297 Sgt Otto G.S. (A/R), RAF 750019 Sgt Marshall J.W.E. (P/R), for operational duties. GAW J.68284 P/O H.G. Swithen (A/R) was screened from operations today having completed 36 trips with 116 points. Notification was received today from Air Ministry stating that GAW J.20647 P/O J.C. Small (Pilot), who was reported missing on 8.10.43, is now for official purposes presumed to have died on 9 October, 1943. GAW J.85771 A/P/O A.I. Spence (Pilot), recently screened from operations on</p>	SECRET.	

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Groft (continued)	16.9.44		This Squadron is posted to 64 Base (RCAF) for Air Sea Rescue duties at RCAF Station, Groft, with effect 25.9.44. CSM J.4325 P/L D. Boyle (Pilot) is to be attached to O.A.T.S., Crumell, from 20.9.44 to 11.10.44, to attend No. 18 Junior Commanders Course. No operations today, however, the Squadron was detailed to prepare for twelve aircraft for an early morning take-off tomorrow.		
Groft	17.9.44		The following crew was posted to this Squadron from 429 Sqn. with effect today for operational duties: CSM J.7459 P/L J.A. Morris (Pilot), CSM J.7027 P/L J. Brown (Nav), CSM J.16781 P/O I.G. Kuebler (A/N), CSM J.18839 P/O Linaker G.W. (W/OAG), CSM G.19689 P/O H.D. Haldaday (N/A), CSM J.17140 P/O G.H. Scott (M/AG), CSM J.85126 P/O W.R. Burton (A/N). CSM J.7459 P/L J.A. Morris is posted to Flight Commander, Sqn Ldr Post.		
Groft	18.9.44		Weather excellent all day. 15 aircraft detailed for a raid on Dortmund. Very good take-off however, as was feared, a cloud moved over the target previous to bombing and as a consequence the aircraft did not release their bombs. Upon return the aircraft were diverted due to excessive haze on the airbase. CSM J.4425 P/L E.G. Durie (P), who was injured in a bicycle accident on 11th Sept. 1944, has been placed on the seriously ill list and transferred by air ambulance from RAF Hospital North Allerton to the Canadian Neurological Hospital, Basinstoke.		Domburg
Groft	19.9.44		Thirteen of our aircraft, which had been diverted, were detailed for operations. Taking off from the diversion aerodromes they had not proceeded very far on their course when they were recalled. Returning to base and finding that their all-up weight was too high to land, they were ordered to stooge around for a while. Twelve landed safely. The 13th, 18908, with CSM J.86771 P/O J. Lees at the controls, developed engine trouble and the Captain gave the order to bail out. Six members of the crew safely did so and found themselves near R.A.F. Station Milfield. Unfortunately, P/O Lees was unable to get clear of the aircraft and was killed. Promotion notice received for CSM J.21327 P/O W.V. Dumas (P) and CSM J.22455 P/O L.A. Browning (P), both presented to A/P. Ward received that CSM J.25389 P/O E.J. Lang (P), who went missing on a raid on Bois de Cassan 4 August 1944, is now safe in England and also CSM J.14510 P/O H.H. Lee (P), who has been a prisoner of war since the 22nd October 1943, while on raid to Kassel, is now safe in England. Operation detailed during the day was classified as training.		

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Croft	20.9.44		Fourteen aircraft were detailed for a raid on Calais. All returned safely to this country after a successful trip. Weather here at base very poor and the A/C were diverted to the south of England. The following were screened from operations on completion of a tour, GAN J.85325 P/O A. Gable (P) and GAN E.218578 P/Sgt Fisher J. (A/O).		
Croft	21.9.44		Weather poor all day. No flying not even training. However, at noon weather cleared sufficiently to allow our A/C to return from their diverted base.		
Croft	22.9.44		Weather still very poor. Still no flying. The following were screened from operations today, GAN J.86807 P/O P. Malnesnik (A/O) after completion of two tours and GAN J.86814 P/O J.A. White (WO/SG), GAN J.86803 P/O F. Henderson (A/O), RAF 176676 P/O W.G. Edwards (A/O) and J.86906 P/O G. Walker (A/O). Word received that RAF 131776 P/O J. Arscott (A/A), who went missing on a raid to Montreaux 27th April 1944, is now safe in the U.K. Funeral held today for GAN J.06771 P/O John Clive Lown (P), who was killed on 19 Sept. 1944.		
Croft	23.9.44		No operations today. Extensive training program carried out including Bombing, Cross Countries and Fighter Affiliations. GAN J.85776 P/O R.L. Fetherston (P) promoted to rank of A/P/O.		
Croft	24.9.44		No operations and only limited training today due to poor weather. Lectures held for aircrew and the various sections today.		
Croft	25.9.44		Nineteen aircraft carried out a successful and uneventful raid on Calais. All returned safely.		
Croft	26.9.44		Sixteen aircraft were again detailed for a raid on Calais. As was the day's before, it was successful and again, fortunately, uneventful. Word received that GAN J.21522 P/O J. Glisbehill (P), GAN J.20816 P/O W. Sloan (Nav) and GAN E.196245 Sgt McCaffrey E. (WO/SG), who went missing 20/21 Jan. 1944 on a raid to Berlin, are now presumed to have died on that date.		
Croft	27.9.44		Twenty-one aircraft were detailed for an attack on Starksade. All aircraft took off successfully and returned safely. Aircraft "X" MK7A9, with GAN J.87134 P/O J. Redgley (Pilot), blew a tyre while approaching the runway to take off. The ground crew immediately got to work and the tyre was changed in sufficient time for the aircraft to get off. The following signals were received from Air Ministry: "INFO quoting German information states 4th August (GAN) J.37186 P/O J.A. Bally (Nav) and GAN J.28280 P/O G.G. Perkins (A/O) dead. Declassified missing believed killed in action." Both officers were members of GAN J.25389 P/O R.J. Long's (Pilot).		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Groft (continued)	27.9.44		<p>crew which was reported missing on August 4 while attacking Bois de Cassen. "(CAN) E.185-519 P/S Wentworth W.G. (A/O) arrived in United Kingdom 22 September. Reclassified safe U.K." This U.C.O. was reported missing with crew of CAN E.124642 WOII Laffin M. (Pilot), while attacking Startende on June 16th 1944. "(CAN) J.20960 P/O A.G.P. Stacey (Nav) arrived United Kingdom Sept 22nd. Reclassified safe U.K." P/O Stacey was the navigator in the crew of CAN J.10973 P/O G. Maffre (Pilot), which went missing on night of 27/28 April 1944 while attacking Montau. A carton containing 40 lbs. of candy was received today from the Rotary Club of Havana, Cuba. The carton was addressed to Officer Commanding RAF Station, Groft, for air crews, so the candy has been divided half for 431 Sqn and half for 434 Sqn for distribution to the aircrew. A thank you note is being forwarded for this Squadron. CAN J.19318 P/O A.B. Gardner (Pilot), recently screened, has been posted to 86 OCU with effect 30 Sept. for instructor duties. The Squadron Commander, two Flight Commanders and the Adjutant of this Squadron attended a talk by A/V/L Sully J. A/O, MAF from Ottawa. A/V/L Sully spoke on Canada's plans for demobilization. They were very interesting and encouraging. It was stated that the policy would probably be "First in - First out" for releasing men. Commanders will be visiting all Stations to assist all personnel to get started on preparing for post war employment.</p>		
Groft	28.9.44		<p>The following signal was received this morning posting personnel of the Squadron who were recently screened: Following HQAF personnel are detached from 434 Squadron to RAF Digby with effect Sept. 28/1944 pending absorption into HQAF, Brackles: CAN J.85719 P/O E.E. Lunn (A/B), CAN J.85761 P/O E.E. Wolts (A/B), CAN J.26301 P/O P. Barclay (A/B), CAN J.24724 P/O W. Johnston (Nav), CAN J.85261 P/O W.P. Costello (Nav), CAN J.24657 P/O E. Wickens (Nav), CAN E.140845 Sgt Jenkins A.V. (A/B), CAN E.218578 Sgt Fisher J. (A/B). CAN J.86713 P/O J. Delsell, WO/AG, who was recently screened and who is now attending a course at the Air-Sea-Rescue School, has been posted to No. 64 HQAF Base with effect 6/10/44 as Air-Sea-Rescue Officer. Sixteen aircraft were detailed for an attack on Cap Gris-Nez today. All took off successfully and with one exception returned safely to base. Aircraft "P" 88853 with pilot CAN J.27828 P/O C. Chapman was diverted on return to Montau with hydraulic unserviceable. CAN E.161998 W/S Amittage H.V. (Nav) and CAN E.154059 Sgt Pupin J.E.A. (A/B) received commissions in the HQAF Reserve,</p>		

PL 10/10/44

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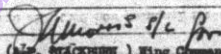
OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 133 Squadron (RCAF)

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices																																				
Craft (continued)	28.9.44		Special Section, with effect 23.8.44. They were allotted new personal numbers J.89036 and J.89001 respectively.																																						
Craft	29.9.44		No operations today, however, some training was carried out. Six aircrew were interviewed by the Squadron Commander and recommended for appointment to commissioned rank.																																						
Craft	30.9.44		<p>GAN E-141218 P/S Callomy G.W. (W/O/G) received a commission in the RCAF Reserve R.S. with effect 20.8.44 and was given the new personal number of J.88976. The following signal was received today from Air Ministry: "55718 P/O E.J.W. Drusett (P/S) arrived United Kingdom 22.9.44 reclassified rank V.L." P/O Drusett and crew were reported missing on operations on 16.6.44 whilst attacking Soderkunda. A total of 192 sorties carried out for the month of September, bringing the grand total since formation of the Squadron to 1649 sorties.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF UNIT AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1944</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin: 5px 0;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Officers</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Aircrew</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Aircrew</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Groundcrew</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Aircrew</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Groundcrew</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">RCAF</td> <td style="text-align: center;">168</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">77</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">RCAF (USA)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">RAF</td> <td style="text-align: center;">21</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">RAF (CAN)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">RNRCAF</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">RAAF</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: center;">169</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">97</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Officers		Aircrew		Aircrew	Groundcrew	Aircrew	Groundcrew	RCAF	168	2	77	RCAF (USA)	-	-	-	RAF	21	-	20	RAF (CAN)	-	-	-	RNRCAF	-	-	-	RAAF	-	-	-	TOTAL	169	2	97		
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			<p>Numbers of hours flown Operationally during the month of September, 1944 - 892 hrs. 30 mins.</p> <p>Numbers of hours flown Non-Operationally during the month of September, 1944 - 313 hrs. 50 mins.</p> <p>Number of Operational Sorties during the month of September, 1944 - 192 Sorties</p> <p>Number of Aircraft and type on charge of Squadron on 30th September, 1944 - 25 Aircraft</p>																																						

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
			<u>WEIGHT OF BOMBS</u>		
			Weight of bombs dropped from Jan. 1, 1944 to 31st August, 1944	Weight of bombs dropped for the month of September, 1944	
			Bombs 8,548,250 lbs. 3,677 English Tons.	Bombs 1,663,360 lbs. 742.5 English Tons.	
			Mines 426,090 lbs. 191 English Tons.	Mines N I L	
			Total 8,974,340 lbs. 4,068 English Tons.	Total 1,663,360 lbs. 742.5 English Tons.	
			GRAND TOTAL FOR FIRST NINE MONTHS OF YEAR : - 10,638,690 lbs or 4,810.5 English Tons.		
			<u>Commanding Officer's Remarks : -</u>		
			During the month of September this Squadron was kept very busy. Twelve operations were carried out, totalling 192 sorties on which 1,663,360 lbs. of bombs were dropped on the enemy. There were no early returns or non-starters during the month.		
			The morale of the ground-crew as well as the aircrew of this Squadron is very high and everyone is in there pitching together.		
			Unfortunately, the Squadron lost two valuable members, CSM 386771 P/O J.C. Less (Pilot) who crashed with his plane whilst returning from an operation that was recalled. His crew all successfully bailed out. AMM (CWS) 316906 P/O M. Loderwick (A/G) who was killed by flak over enemy territory whilst attacking Castron-Sauxel on the eleventh. Both were buried in Stonefall Cemetery, Harrogate.		
			 (W. STRICKLAND) Wing Commander, Commanding Officer, No. 434 Squadron (B.O.A.F.).		

W. STRICKLAND 316906 P/O M. L. L. 1944

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