

Compiling Officer: P/L H.C. Hallett (313276)

R.A.F. Form 540  
See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I.,  
para. 1543 and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
note in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 1

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

No. of pages used for Month 14

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Croft	1.12.44		A short lecture was given and a film shown to all aircrew this afternoon who were not flying. The subject was First Aid. No Operations today. Training was laid on.		
Croft	2.12.44		This Squadron was required for sixteen aircraft today for an attack on Hagen. All took off successfully. Weather over the target was 10/10ths cloud which made it impossible to assess the results, however, most of the crews considered the bombing to be scattered. Aircraft "P" with CAN J14087 P/L T. Coghlan, as pilot returned early with the port inner engine unserviceable. Aircraft "H", piloted by CAN J36615 P/O G. Marlow returned after bombing the target and landed at Linton aerodrome due to shortage of fuel. All remaining aircraft returned safely to Base. All crews bombed on Gee. Ten Aircraft were on Training Flights this morning. Nine of the Aircraft were recalled for the Operation.		
Croft	3.12.44		No Operations today, however information received that we would be required for an early morning attack tomorrow with sixteen crews. This Operation was cancelled at approximately 1700 hrs, but aircraft were to remain bombed up. CAN J36615 P/O G. Marlow, pilot, returned with Aircraft "H" today from Linton where he landed last night returning from Operation.		
Croft	4.12.44		A call came through this morning for sixteen crews. Navigation briefing was held at 1200 hours and Main at 1300 hours. All aircraft took-off successfully by approximately 1640 hours, for an attack on Karlsruhe. Aircraft "P" with CAN J14087 P/L T. Coghlan as pilot, returned early with the starboard inner engine unserviceable. Aircraft "H" landed at Tholthorpe on the way back to refuel. All aircraft returned safely to Base. At take-off today a Spare crew which had been briefed and prepared sat in readiness in spare aircraft "D" all bombed up. It so happened that aircraft "H" became unserviceable just prior to take-off and "D" replaced it, thus saving any delay. Most crews reported 10/10ths cloud over target area. Aircraft "G" with pilot CAN J20938 P/O J.M. Hall, was approached by an ME 109. The rear gunner fired a short burst and evasive action was taken. The Enemy Aircraft disappeared. No claim. Crews report it appeared to be a good attack.		
Croft	5.12.44		Sixteen aircraft were detailed today for operations. Navigation briefing was held at 11.00 hrs. and Main at 1400 hours. All aircraft took-off successfully by approximately 1830 hrs, the time being delayed. The target was the Marshalling Yards at Soest and crews returning considered		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Croft	5.12.44 (Continued)		the markers well concentrated making a very good attack. All aircraft of this Squadron returned safely to Base by approximately 0130 hrs. on the 6th except "M" with pilot CAN J27726 P/O T. Kowalchuk who failed to return and has been reported missing. CAN J15499 P/L C.S. Brady was screened from Operations today having completed 21 sorties, totalling 59 points for his Second Tour. P/L Brady is our present Signals Leader.		
Croft	5.12.44		By 0130 hours approximately, fifteen aircraft which attacked Soest returned safely to Base. Aircraft "M" with CAN J27726 P/O T. Kowalchuk as pilot failed to return and has been reported missing for Operation. This Squadron was detailed again today for sixteen aircraft. Navigation briefing was held at 1300 hrs. Main at 14.00 hrs. All aircraft took-off successfully for an attack on Osnabruck. Weather over the target was 10/10ths cloud. Assessment of the attack was difficult due to cloud. Aircraft "q" with pilot CAN J87555 P/O E. Telford reported an ME110 or ME210 just after leaving target area. It disappeared into cloud without firing. No claim. All aircraft returned safely to base.		
Croft	7.12.44		No operations today. Four Lancaster aircraft arrived on the Squadron from Middleton St. George this afternoon. There are seven there to come over. Conversion to Lancaster X is to commence as soon as possible. Cold and snowing this afternoon. The following aircrew personnel were screened from Operations today - CAN J16128 P/L R.C. Berry (W/O/AG) with 21 sorties on 2nd Tour, CAN J15787 P/L E.V. Fulton (A/O) with 21 sorties on 2nd Tour, CAN J16139 P/L L.H. Fleming (B/A) with 21 sorties on 2nd Tour and CAN J16599 P/B G.H.A. Halore (Pilot) with 23 sorties on 2nd Tour.		
Croft	8.12.44		160638 P/O T. Graham (Nav) was screened from Operations with effect today having completed 27 trips consisting of 101 points. He was a member of P/L Halore's crew screened yesterday. No operations today. Snowing and raining most of the day. The Squadron Commander and the two Flight Commanders and the Gunnery Leader attended a Lecture at Middleton St. George today on the new Gyro Gun Sight which will be in the Lancaster X Aircraft to which we are converting. Lecture number one was given this morning by the Station Commander to all aircrew personnel. This was the first of a series of 14 lectures to be given to all Flying Officers, Pilot Officers and Senior N.C.O.'s aircrew. The following lectures are to be given on stand-down days: Mess Etiquette, Discipline and Morale, Personnel Services, Organization R.C.A.F. Accounting and Finance.		

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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of pages used for Month  
1944

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
Groft	8.12.44 (continued)		Administration, Personnel Policy and Procedure, Air Force Law, Estates and Disposal of Personal Effects, Summaries of Evidence, Courts of Enquiry and Investigations, Medical and Dental Security, Closing Address by Station Commander, Station Parade March Past, Drill to be given before and after each lecture. Three more Lancaster X Aircraft arrived on the Squadron today making a total of seven.		
Groft	9.12.44		No Operations today. Conversion to Lancaster X Aircraft has commenced in earnest today. "A" Flight converting first. Four aircraft were serviceable. Four crews on training, completed 7.30 hrs. dual and 7.20 hrs. solo day; and 3.05 hrs. dual and 1.30 hrs solo night. Late in the afternoon word came through this Squadron would be required for an early morning effort. Navigation briefing was to be held at 0330 hrs and Main at 0430 hrs. All aircrew were called to rise and eat at 0245 hrs. and about 15 minutes later the Operation was cancelled. Seven of our aircraft took part in a "Circle Formation Practice."		
Groft	10.12.44		No Operations today. The operation scheduled for early this morning was cancelled at approximately 0300 hrs. RAF 155868 E/O W. Lane (WU/AIR) was screened with effect today having been on his present tour since January 1942. He had 29 tips, 24 of which were against Major German targets. Word came through shortly after 1700 hrs., that we would be required for 8 aircraft for an early morning attack. This was cancelled around 2300 hours. For converting the weather was poor, but the forecast is good for tonight. Two aircraft available. One crew was checked out another had 20 minutes dual. Weather became unfit for flying at 1200 hrs. A lecture was given to all crews in "A" Flight on fire, abandoning aircraft and dingy drill. Three crews started ground training today. There was no night flying owing to weather conditions. One more Lancaster X aircraft arrived at the Squadron today making a total of eight aircraft.		
Groft	11.12.44		At approximately 1030 hrs. word was received that we were to supply 8 aircraft for an afternoon attack today. Navigation briefing was set for 1300 hrs. Main at 1400 hrs. Main briefing was advanced to 1330 hrs at about 1300 hours, and take-off time advanced to 1508 hrs. At approximately 1500 hrs. the "Op" was cancelled. Of the eight Lancaster aircraft, two were unserviceable. Three crews were on Cross Country and three were checked out for day dual and solo. The weather was unfit for bombing and for night flying.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Croft	12.12.44		No operations today. At approximately 1700 hrs. the Squadron was detailed for 10 aircraft for an operation tomorrow. Navigation briefing set at 0630 hrs. Main at 0730 hrs. Night Lancaster aircraft were serviceable. Four crews were checked out day and two checked out for night. Four crews were on day Cross Countries and three on Night Cross Countries. It was a good day for training with the met. suitable enabling the completion of 46 hrs. 50 minutes training. Seven aircraft of this Squadron took part in "Goggle Formation Practice". Taking off at 1410 hours and returning at 1900 hrs. approximately.	<b>SECRET.</b>
Croft	13.12.44		The Aircrew Boys were all up and eating by shortly after 0600 hrs. this morning. Those detailed attended Navigation and Main briefing. Take-off was delayed and finally the operation was cancelled at approximately 1100 hrs. The expected operation and the Met forecast delayed any training. Visibility was fair. Seven aircraft were serviceable. Two crews were on day Cross-Countries and four on fighter affiliation, air to air firing and bombing. Night flying was cancelled owing to weather conditions. A total of 21 hrs. 20 mins. was completed.	
Croft	14.12.44		Eleven aircraft were detailed for operations this afternoon. However, this attack was cancelled at approximately 1320 hrs. The weather was unsatisfactory for any kind of flying today. Lectures were given to crews and dinghy drills were carried out.	
Croft	15.12.44		This morning the Squadron was requested for eleven aircraft for operations this afternoon. This "Ops" was cancelled. No flying was carried out owing to weather conditions. Crews attended lectures and dinghy drills.	
Croft	16.12.44		No operations today. Very poor flying weather. The weather was poor today however flying was attempted. Two crews were checked out prior to the cancellation of all flying, at 1130 hrs. Training hours flown: 4 hrs. 15 mins.	
Croft	17.12.44		This Squadron was detailed for eleven crews for a late operation tonight. At approximately 16.30 hrs. times of briefing were received: 2300 hrs. Navigation and 2359 hrs. for Main Briefing. Weather was very poor in the morning with high winds. Two crews were checked out only. Night flying was laid on. Two more Lancaster X aircraft were received bringing our <sup>total</sup> <del>up</del> up to ten. Including night flying 47.00 hours training was completed.	
Croft	18.12.44		Eleven aircraft took-off successfully for an attack on Duisberg. Time of take-off was 0220 hrs.	

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Crest	18.12.44	(Continued)	<p>On return all Aircraft were diverted due to weather conditions at base. Nine aircraft landed at Little Snoring. One at Northolt. All aircraft returned safely to base later on in the afternoon with the exception of A/C "H" NR118 with pilot CAN J21251 P/L J.M. Farratt who became airborne at 0250 hrs. and has since not been heard from. Weather over the target was 10/10ths cloud and from reports the attack was considered scattered. Aircraft "N" with pilot CAN J29273 P/O J.W. Andres reported being attacked from the port quarter level by an FW190. The FW190 fires one long burst and broke off to port as aircraft "H" corkscrewed to starboard. The enemy aircraft was then lost to sight. Aircraft "X" with CAN J35150 P/O J. Wagon as pilot was attacked and fired upon by an ME109 which came in for the port quarter 250 yards above. Aircraft "X" corkscrewed to port, enabling the mid-upper and rear gunners to open fire as the enemy aircraft followed in to about 150 yards. The <del>enemy</del><sup>enemy</sup> continued firing as he went into a steep dive and was seen to burst into flame before going through cloud tops. Reflection of an orange explosion was seen through the clouds. Aircraft "X" claimed one ME109 destroyed. Weather very poor for flying today. Met forecast for take-off at 1300 hrs. Three aircraft were on <del>local</del><sup>local</sup> check outs and six on Cross Countries. Flying was washed out at 1600 hrs. Aircraft "J" was transferred to 431 Squadron and one aircraft was unserviceable today.</p>		
Crest	19.12.44		<p>This Squadron was required for eleven aircraft for an operation this afternoon. Navigation briefing was held at 1130 hrs. Main at 1230 hrs. At approximately 1345 hrs. this "Op" was cancelled. Most of us expected the cancellation as the fog was very thick. In describing just how badly it really was, one Bomb Aimer remarked that even the cross were walking. No flying training today on account of the fog. The crews attended lectures on Lancaster X aircraft.</p>		
Crest	20.12.44		<p>Very foggy around base this morning and no flying was possible. At approximately 1000 hours this Squadron was detailed for ten aircraft for operations. Navigation briefing was held at 1005 hours and Main was to be held at 1115 hrs. Main briefing was advanced to 11.00 hrs. Crews were out at their aircraft by 12.30 hrs. The attack was cancelled just prior to takeoff. Still very foggy and no flying training was carried out.</p>		
Crest	21.12.44		<p>This Squadron was detailed for 10 aircraft for an operation today. Times of briefing were changed three times during the morning and finally the figure was reduced to 4 aircraft all</p>		

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Croft	25.12.44		No Operations today, or flying due to heavy ground fog.		
Croft	26.12.44		The aircraft still at diversion bases this morning when a call came through that we would be required for two aircraft for an operation. Approximate take-off time to be around 1200 hrs. meaning a rush job. This "Op" however was cancelled just before 1100 hrs. At approximately 1640 hrs. this Squadron was detailed for two aircraft. The crews were to be ready and standing by to take-off within an hour and half of briefing. Briefing times and take-off times not known. This was postponed to an early morning effort. Unfavorable weather conditions still prevent the collection of aircraft from No. 64 (RCAF) Base. Ten Lancaster X aircraft are now available for "B" Flight at Middleton St. George.		
Croft	27.12.44		The two crews detailed for operations were called this morning at 0500 hrs. Navigation briefing was at 0600 hours and Main at 0700 hrs. At approximately 0730 hrs. time of take-off was delayed until 1140 hrs. This Operation was later cancelled and the Squadron advised they would not be required for today or tonight. Weather around base here has been very poor for the last few days with heavy fog. However, from first appearances this is going to be a good day for flying. Several patches of blue sky can be seen and the sunrise was beautiful. With the exception of aircraft "G" with pilot CAN J9178 P/L T. Buttle who landed at Downham Market, all aircraft which were diverted on 24.12.44 returned safely to base. Ten Lancaster X aircraft arrived today from Middleton St. George for the conversion of "B" Flight. Three crews in "B" Flight were checked out on Lancaster X aircraft. Shortly after 1700 hrs. the Squadron was called for operations. Seven aircraft were to be provided. Navigation briefing was at 2300 hrs. and Main at 2359 hrs. As from the 23rd we are now operating in Lancaster X aircraft.		
Croft	28.12.44		Seven aircraft detailed took-off at approximately 0235 hrs. for an attack on Opladen. No ground detail could be seen but the markers were well concentrated and the attack considered good. All aircraft returned safely to base at approximately 0930 hrs.		
Croft	29.12.44		Seven aircraft were detailed for operations today. Navigation briefing was set for 1245 hrs and Main 1345 hrs. Both briefing times were later advanced fifteen minutes. Time of take-off was originally set for 1530 hrs but was advanced to 1445 hrs. All aircraft took-off successfully by approximately 1510 hrs. The target was Scholven. All crews returned safely to base by approx-		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Croft	29.12.44 (continued)		tely 1030 hrs. Weather over the target was 10/10ths thin cloud however crews report that the attack was well concentrated and appeared good.		
Croft	30.12.44		CAN J90198 P/O R. Henderson an Air Gunner spare was screened from operations today with 32 trips, totalling 114 points to his credit. This Squadron was detailed for five aircraft today for an attack on Koln. Navigation briefing was at 1145 hrs. and Main at 1245 hrs. Take-off was delayed until 1715 hrs. The attack was on Koln. Weather over the target was 10/10ths cloud, flak was considered light to moderate. Concentration was fair to good and assessment of the attack was fair to good. All aircraft returned safely to base shortly after midnight.		
Croft	31.12.44		No Operations today. All aircraft detailed on an attack on Koln on 30.12.44 returned early this morning. There was day and night flying training only during this last day of the year.		
<b>CASUALTIES</b>					
Pilot	J27726	P/O Kowalchuk, T.	- 5th December, 1944 - Missing - 9 Sorties - 35 Points - 56.50 hrs.		
Nav	J38780	P/O Christian, K.G.	- 5th December, 1944 - Missing - 8 Sorties - 31 Points - 51.10 hrs.		
B/A	R163240	SGT Frouse, Y.	- 5th December, 1944 - Missing - 8 Sorties - 31 Points - 51.10 hrs.		
WO/AG	R88129	P/S Levalley, D.	- 5th December, 1944 - Missing - 8 Sorties - 31 Points - 51.10 hrs.		
WO/AG	R208660	SGT Coughlin, G.	- 5th December, 1944 - Missing - 8 Sorties - 31 Points - 51.10 hrs.		
P/AG	R215235	SGT de Macedo, J.	- 5th December, 1944 - Missing - 8 Sorties - 31 Points - 51.10 hrs.		
P/E	2205657	SGT Higginbotham, C.	- 5th December, 1944 - Missing - 17 Sorties - 47 Points - 73.40 hrs.		
Pilot	J21251	P/L Parrott, J.	- 18th December, 1944 - Missing - 5 Sorties - 20 Points - 30.05 hrs.		
NAV	J27505	P/O Pearce, S.	- 18th December, 1944 - Missing - 4 Sorties - 16 Points - 24.20 hrs.		
B/A	R110193	SGT Kurtshals, A.	- 18th December, 1944 - Missing - 4 Sorties - 16 Points - 24.20 hrs.		
WO/AG	J90827	P/O Brown, H.	- 18th December, 1944 - Missing - 10 Sorties - 33 Points - 50.00 hrs.		
WO/AG	R209473	SGT Divitcoff, A.	- 18th December, 1944 - Missing - 4 Sorties - 16 Points - 24.20 hrs.		
P/AG	R192540	SGT Olafsen, G.	- 18th December, 1944 - Missing - 4 Sorties - 16 Points - 24.20 hrs.		
P/E	R.98704	SGT Jansen, L.	- 18th December, 1944 - Missing - 4 Sorties - 16 Points - 24.20 hrs.		



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<b>POSTINGS-III</b>					
			Pilot J38383 P/O Purnell, R. w.o.f. 9.12.44		
			Nav R181145 SGT Kay, A. w.o.f. 9.12.44		
			R/A J39996 P/O Wynant, A. w.o.f. 9.12.44		
			WO/AG R123176 SGT Harder, H. w.o.f. 9.12.44		
			MU/AG R225332 SGT Barrett, J. w.o.f. 9.12.44		
			R/AG J92677 P/O McKay, R. w.o.f. 9.12.44		
			P/E 089756 P/O Culter, E. w.o.f. 9.12.44		
			Pilot J36968 P/O Jenkins, R. w.o.f. 21.12.44		
			Nav J28963 P/O Savage, A. w.o.f. 21.12.44		
			R/A J38296 P/O Hines, P. w.o.f. 21.12.44		
			WO/AG R165106 P/S McClean, J. w.o.f. 21.12.44		
			MU/AG R292282 SGT Foss, R. w.o.f. 21.12.44		
			R/AG R211886 SGT Baird, T. w.o.f. 21.12.44		
			P/E R200478 SGT Moodie, K. w.o.f. 21.12.44		
			Pilot J15681 P/L Bann, R. w.o.f. 30.12.44		
			Nav J16576 P/L Bann, A. w.o.f. 30.12.44		
			R/A J18182 P/O Copeland, T. w.o.f. 30.12.44		
			WO/AG J17438 P/O Latrenouille, J. w.o.f. 30.12.44		
			MU/AG J18994 P/O Scott, G. w.o.f. 30.12.44		
			R/AG J19723 P/O Marceau, H. w.o.f. 30.12.44		
			P/E 185500 P/O Jones, W. w.o.f. 30.12.44		
			Pilot J15297 P/O Cameron, D. w.o.f. 31.12.44		
			Nav J10720 P/O Rhoads, G. w.o.f. 31.12.44		
			R/A J39998 P/O Sutton, D. w.o.f. 31.12.44		
			WO/AG R194254 SGT Derry, H. w.o.f. 31.12.44		
			MU/AG R275185 SGT Weaver, S. w.o.f. 31.12.44		
			R/AG R212543 SGT Johnston, W. w.o.f. 31.12.44		
			P/E R225245 SGT Stanfield, J. w.o.f. 31.12.44		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
			<b>POSTINGS-IN (Cont'd)</b>		
			<del>W/R</del> W/R 1676059 SGT Parry, W.	w.o.f. 7.12.44	
			W/R 1868354 SGT Walby, J.	w.o.f. 11.12.44	
			W/R 173166 W/O Fordham, F.	w.o.f. 3.12.44	
			<b>POSTINGS-OUT</b>		
			Pilot J25295 P/O Currie, N.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			Nav J35050 W/O Swanson, M.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			WQ/AG J13084 W/L Knapp, W.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			A/G J39042 W/O Johnston, L.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			A/G J88224 P/O Leach, G.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			B/A J29196 W/O Jenkinson, S.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			A/G J88271 W/O Purdy, G.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			A/G J38275 W/O Pederson, S.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			WQ/AG J11589 W/L Reader, F.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			WQ/AG J90136 P/O Nevison, J.	w.o.f. 27.11.44	to "R" Depot.
			A/G J87809 P/O Barnes, D.	w.o.f. 5.12.44	to Dalton
			A/G J88007 P/O Perkins, W.	w.o.f. 5.12.44	to Dalton
			B/A J88297 P/O LeBlond, G.	w.o.f. 5.12.44	to 22 O.T.U.
			W/R 088008 P/O Turner, G.	w.o.f. 2.12.44	to 24 O.T.U.
			Pilot J7459 W/L Morris, J.	w.o.f. 11.12.44	to "R" Depot.
			Nav J7027 W/L Brown, J.	w.o.f. 11.12.44	to "R" Depot.
			W/R 019689 W/O Halladay, F.	w.o.f. 11.12.44	to "R" Depot.
			B/A J16781 W/O Kuebler, F.	w.o.f. 11.12.44	to "R" Depot.
			WQ/AG J18839 W/O Lineker, G.	w.o.f. 11.12.44	to "R" Depot.
			A/G J85126 W/O Burton, W.	w.o.f. 11.12.44	to "R" Depot.
			A/G J17140 W/O Scott, G.	w.o.f. 11.12.44	to "R" Depot.
			WQ/AG J88103 W/O Loney, A.	w.o.f. 11.12.44	to 1666 C.U.
			Pilot J28546 W/O Munroe, G.	w.o.f. 28.12.44	to 424 Squadron

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<b>POSTINGS-OUT (Cont'd)</b>					
Nav	J27204	F/O	McKeever, I.	w.o.f. 28.12.44 to 424 Squadron	
B/A	J38792	F/O	Anderson, R.	w.o.f. 28.12.44 to 424 Squadron	
WO/AG	J90106	F/O	Hennessey, D.	w.o.f. 28.12.44 to 424 Squadron	
P/E	C92378	F/O	Leavitt, J.	w.o.f. 28.12.44 to 424 Squadron	
Pilot	J36074	F/O	Moffatt, J.	w.o.f. 11.12.44 to "R" Depot.	
Nav	J13069	F/L	Genesaux, C.	w.o.f. 11.12.44 to "R" Depot.	
B/A	J88028	F/O	Foley, F.	w.o.f. 11.12.44 to "R" Depot.	
B/A	J36220	F/O	Kowatch, A.	w.o.f. 11.12.44 to "R" Depot.	
A/G	J86511	F/O	Forsyth, F.	w.o.f. 11.12.44 to "R" Depot.	
A/G	J88184	F/O	Baldwin, J.	w.o.f. 11.12.44 to "R" Depot.	
A/G	C90785	F/O	Hache, D.	w.o.f. 11.12.44 to "R" Depot.	
A/G	J89389	F/O	Shultz, D.	w.o.f. 11.12.44 to "R" Depot.	
P/E	1868354	Sgt	Walby, J.	w.o.f. 15.12.44 to 76 Base.	
A/G	E266419	F/S	McConnell, E.	w.o.f. 28.12.44 to 424 Squadron	
A/G	E264786	F/S	Power, A.	w.o.f. 28.12.44 to 424 Squadron	
Nav	E150750	W/O	Wilson, C.	w.o.f. 11.12.44 to "R" Depot.	
A/G	E259338	Sgt	Masterbrook, A.	w.o.f. 16.12.44 to 426 Squadron	
<b>PROMOTIONS</b>					
B/A	E110453	F/S	Kurtzals, A.	to WO2 w.o.f. 25.9.44	
A/G	E192540	F/S	Olafson, G.	to WO2 w.o.f. 17.12.44	
WO/AG	E168174	F/S	Lee, A.	to WO2 w.o.f. 12.10.44	
WO/AG	E136494	Sgt	Orellin, G.	to F/S w.o.f. 13.12.44	
A/G	E210439	Sgt	Waters, R.	to F/S w.o.f. 12.12.44	
A/G	E271553	Sgt	Lawler, E.	to F/S w.o.f. 10.12.44	
WO/AG	E218021	Sgt	Clokes, C.	to F/S w.o.f. 13.12.44	
Nav	E158339	Sgt	Bawlyok, P.	to F/S w.o.f. 17.12.44	
A/G	E211886	Sgt	Baird, T.	to F/S w.o.f. 24.12.44	

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			<u>PROMOTIONS (Cont'd)</u>		
			WO/AG R123176 P/S Harder, H. to WO2 w.e.f. 20.12.44		
			A/W R225332 SGT Barrett, J. to P/S w.e.f. 24.12.44		
			WO/AG R68129 P/S Levalley, D. to WO2 w.e.f. 28.9.44		
			WO/AG R210204 SGT Tschuk, H. to P/S w.e.f. 6.12.44		
			WO/AG R191619 P/S Tait, V. to WO2 w.e.f. 6.12.44		
			B/A R163240 SGT Prouse, V. to P/S w.e.f. 26.8.44		
			A/G R208660 SGT Coughlin, G. to P/S w.e.f. 24.9.44		
			A/G R209473 P/S Divitcoff, A. to WO2 w.e.f. 1.12.44		
			WO/AG J86447 P/O MacLeod, I. to P/O w.e.f. 12.11.44		
			WO/AG J16128 P/O Berry, E. to P/O w.e.f. 10.10.44		
			Pilot J85778 P/O Petersen, B. to P/O w.e.f. 11.10.44		
			<u>COMMISSIONS</u>		
			P/R 1595310 SGT Coates, R. Comm. w.e.f. 20.11.44 (188096)		
			A/G R173945 WO1 Hannaberg, W. Comm. w.e.f. 25.10.44 (J92000)		
			Nav R182666 P/S Odgaard, W. Comm. w.e.f. 23.9.44 (J91110)		
			A/G R214203 SGT Talbot, E. Comm. w.e.f. 25.10.44 (J90996)		
			A/G R252997 P/S Otto, G. Comm. w.e.f. 25.10.44 (J91043)		
			A/G R207105 P/S Ward, D. Comm. w.e.f. 12.10.44 (J92137)		
			A/G R198661 P/S Carolan, A. Comm. w.e.f. 11.10.44 (J91150)		
			A/G R191567 P/S Martin, W. Comm. w.e.f. 11.10.44 (J91116)		
			A/G R209321 SGT Hitchman, F. Comm. w.e.f. 26.10.44 (J92001)		
			WO/AG R169357 SGT Banville, J. Comm. w.e.f. 28.9.44 (J91009)		
			B/A R186992 SGT Wood, A. Comm. w.e.f. 6.10.44 (J90987)		
			P/S R76724 SGT Lacroix, J. Comm. w.e.f. 7.10.44 (092374)		
			WO/AG R213651 WO1 Wilson, W. Comm. w.e.f. 25.10.44 (J92521)		
			A/G R215814 P/S Symes, G. Comm. w.e.f. 10.11.44 (J92564)		
			Pilot R79732 WO1 Ferris, G. Comm. w.e.f. 12.11.44 (J92660)		

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) No. 434 Squadron (R.C.A.F.)

No. of pages used for day \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<b>SECRET.</b>	References to Appendices
			<b>COMMISSIONS (Cont'd)</b>		
			A/G <u>R251637 SGT MacGregor, A.</u> Com. w.e.f. 25.10.44 (J92553)		
			NAV <u>R181748 SGT Anderson, W.</u> Com. w.e.f. 1.11.44 (J92447)		
			HONOURS AND AWARDS : - NIL		
			CHANGES SQUAD IN COMMAND : - NIL		
			CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATION : - NIL		
			AIRCRAFT ON CHARGE : - 19 LANCASTER X AIRCRAFT		
			LANCASTER OPERATIONAL FLYING TIME BY DAY : - 134 hrs. 50 mins. ✓		
			HALIFAX OPERATIONAL FLYING TIME BY DAY : - NIL		
			LANCASTER OPERATIONAL FLYING TIME BY NIGHT : - 39 hrs. 45 mins. ✓		
			HALIFAX OPERATIONAL FLYING TIME BY NIGHT : - 534 hrs. 30 mins. ✓		
			LANCASTER NON-OPERATIONAL FLYING TIME BY DAY : - 229 hrs. 40 mins. ✓		
			HALIFAX NON-OPERATIONAL FLYING TIME BY DAY : - 72 hrs. 00 mins. ✓		
			LANCASTER NON-OPERATIONAL FLYING BY NIGHT : - 148 hrs. 40 mins. ✓		
			HALIFAX NON-OPERATIONAL FLYING TIME BY NIGHT : - 32 hrs. 05 mins. ✓		
			TOTAL FLYING TIME FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1944 : - 1,191 hrs. 30 mins.		
			NUMBER OF OPERATIONAL SORTIES : - 105 Sorties		
			<b>WEIGHT OF BOMBS</b>		
			Weight of Bombs dropped since Jan. 1, 1944 to 30th November, 1944		Weight of Bombs dropped for the Month of December, 1944
			Bombs 13,019,150 lbs. or 5,871 English Tons.		Bombs 902,840 lbs. or 447.6 English Tons.
			Mines 428,080 lbs or 191 English Tons.		Mines N I L
			Total 13,447,230 lbs. or 6,062 English Tons.		Total 902,840 lbs. or 447.6 English Tons.
			GRAND TOTAL FOR WHOLE YEAR OF 1944 : - 14,346,010 lbs. or 6,509.6 English Tons.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices		
			NUMBER OF COMBATS DURING THE MONTH : - 5 Combats (Report Attached)				
			NUMBER OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED: - 1 M.E. 109.				
			STRENGTH OF SQUADRON AS AT 21-59 HOURS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1944.				
			Officers		Airmen		
			Aircrew	Aircrew	Groundcrew		
			BOAF	141	1	79	-
			RAF	22	-	19	-
			RAF (CMB)	-	-	-	-
			RAF	-	-	-	-
			RAF	-	-	-	-
			TOTAL	163	1	98	-
			<b>COMMANDING OFFICER'S REMARKS :-</b>				
			This Squadron is now fully converted from Halifax III to Lancaster X. Our first Operation with Lancaster X was done on the 24th of December. The conversion of the Squadron brought down the number of Operational Sorties which is only 105 this month, but our total since formation has now reached 2,077 Sorties. Two crews were lost and four new crews came in during the month of December in which this Squadron dropped 902,840 lbs. of bombs in ten Operations.				
			<i>A.P. Blackburn</i> (A.P. BLACKBURN) Wing Commander, Commanding Officer, No. 424 Squadron (R.C.A.F.)				