

R.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I., para. 2349 and War Manual Pt. II., chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 1.

of (Unit or Formation) No. 407 Squadron, R.C.A.F.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
RAF Station Chivenor	1.8.44		Very hot and sultry today, four crews on Ops. and all returned safely		
" " "	2.8.44		Warm today. Three crews on Ops. All returned safely.		
	3.8.44		Hot today. Two crews on Ops. returning safely		
	4.8.44		Very hot today. Three crews on Ops. returning safely		
	5.8.44		Warm again today with three crews on Ops. returning safely		
	6.8.44		Another hot day. Four crews on Ops. All returned safely. Arrangements made for a few crews to go to the nearby beach each day for wet dingy drill. P/O Turnbull made his first trip last night		
	7.8.44		Cloudy but still very warm. Five crews on Ops. and two were diverted due to ground fog.		
	8.8.44		Clear and hot. Four crews on Ops. all returning safely. P/O Olson made his first trip last night		
	9.8.44		Ground fog this morning but lifted early in the afternoon, another hot day five crews on Ops. all returned safely. P/O Bell made his first trip and was diverted in due to bad weather at base.		
	10.8.44		Heavy weather all day with fog and rain. Four crews on Ops. returning safely		
	11.8.44		Weather somewhat improved. Three crews on Ops. returning safely		
	12.8.44		Bright and warm today. Three crews on Ops. returning safely		
	13.8.44		Very warm today. Six crews on Ops. P/O Kemper failed to return from Ops. off the French Coast. No word was received from the A/C so one can only guess as to what might have happened. His was one of the oldest and most respected crews on the Squadron and will be greatly missed. With him were P/S Richardson 2nd Pilot, P/O Hoddinett Nav., P/O Henderson & P/O Gauthier & W/O Elliott WOP/AG's.		
	14.8.44		Hot and sultry today. Five crews on Ops. All returned safely.		
	15.8.44		Another hot day. No rain to speak of for some days now. Four crews on Ops. all returned safely		
	16.8.44		Overcast and a little cooler but still no actual sign of rain. One crew on Ops and returned safely.		
	17.8.44		Very warm today. Three crews on Ops. All returned safely.		
	18.8.44		Another beautiful day. Four crews on Ops. All returned safely. Lord Trenchard Marshall of the Royal Air Force visited the station today, and gave the Officers a very interesting talk in the mess during noon hour. G/C Lightburn and S/L Grant visited the Sqn this afternoon.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
RAF Station Chivenor	19.8.44		Weather fine all day. Four crews on Ops to day returning safely. F/O Shaw made his first trip and was diverted to St. Eval.		
	20.8.44		Rained most of the morning. Four crews on Ops. returning safely.		
	21.8.44		Orders received today for the Sqdn. to move to Wick. ^{One} everybody busy packing. No. Ops. today returning safely. Rained all forenoon making loading difficult.		
	22.8.44		Ten aircraft in main air party got away this afternoon. Train party pulled out at 2230 hours in two sections.		
	23.8.44		On train all day.		
R.A.F. Station Wick	24.8.44		Train arrived at Wick at 04.00 hours and everyone proceeded to camp. Unloading took place all day and billets were arranged. The weather was lovely.		
" " "	25.8.44		Another nice day and everyone getting settled in their new offices. W/C Ashman arrived by air this afternoon.		
	26.8.44		Bright and clear this morning. Three crews on Ops. tonight returning safely.		
	27.8.44		Rained all morning. but cleared a little in the afternoon. F/O Esch arrived with our last A/C from Chivenor. Four crews on Ops. All returned safely.		
	28.8.44		Weather conditions fair and flying training well organised and being carried out. Four crews on Ops. All returned.		
	29.8.44		Some rain during day and much cooler. Three crews on Ops. All returning safely.		
	30.8.44		Five crews on Ops. returned safely. F/O Pengelley and crew had an narrow escape. when their A/C was struck by lightning. Rain squalls during day and cold wind.		
	31.8.44		Cold and wet. One crew on Ops. returning safely.		
			TOTAL OPERATIONAL SORTIES: 97		
			TOTAL OPERATIONAL HOURS. 886:45		
			TOTAL NON-OPERATIONAL HOURS 232:00		
			A/C STAFF: A/C ON STATION CHARGE.. 17 WELLINGTON MK XIV USED BY THE SQUADRON		

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 3

of (Unit or Formation) No. 407 Squadron, R.C.A.F.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>					References to Appendices																																																																			
RAF STATION WICK			<p><u>SQUADRON HEALTH - SQUADRON HEALTH STILL REMAINS GOOD.</u></p> <p><u>PERSONNEL STRENGTH AS 2359 HOURS 31.8.44</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>R.C.A.F.</u></th> <th><u>R.A.F.</u></th> <th><u>R.A.A.F.</u></th> <th><u>USAAF</u></th> <th><u>WAAF.</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="6"><u>OFFICERS</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PILOTS</td> <td>60</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>NAVIGATORS</td> <td>24</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>WOP/AC'S</td> <td>43</td> <td>10</td> <td>9</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><u>AIRMEN</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PILOTS</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>NAVIGATORS</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>WOP/AC'S</td> <td>32</td> <td>4</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="6"><u>GROUNDSMEN</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>OFFICERS</td> <td>9</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>AIRMEN</td> <td>131</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>22</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(A.H. Leidlaw) Squadron Leader, Officer Commanding, No. 407 Squadron, R.C.A.F.</p>		<u>R.C.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.F.</u>	<u>R.A.A.F.</u>	<u>USAAF</u>	<u>WAAF.</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>						PILOTS	60			1		NAVIGATORS	24	1	2			WOP/AC'S	43	10	9	1		<u>AIRMEN</u>						PILOTS	2					NAVIGATORS	3					WOP/AC'S	32	4				<u>GROUNDSMEN</u>						OFFICERS	9	1				AIRMEN	131	3			22	
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