

Compiled by S/L J.D. Long

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 1

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.

of (Unit or Formation) 407 Squadron, R.C.A.F.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.A.F. Station, Wick.	1.11.44		Gold and cloudy. Only three crews sent out on operations due to weather conditions. Word received to-day that W/C R.A. Ashman is to be posted to Canada following one year as W/O of Squadron. S/L R.C. Wilson is to assume command.		
	2.11.44		Gold and cloudy. No ops due to bad weather in patrol area.		
	3.11.44		Gold and wet. Two crews on ops. returning safely.		
	4.11.44		Gold and windy. Four crews on ops all returning safely. W/C R.A. Ashman left for London today where he intends to visit H.A.C.C. before reporting to Warrington.		
	5.11.44		Gold and wet with rain most of the morning. No ops. tonight.		
	6.11.44		Rain changing to snow flurries. Three crews on ops. all returning safely. Pooling in appointing S/L R.C. Wilson to command the Squadron with promotion to Acting Wing Commander. Signal received instructing the Squadron to move to Chivenor at the earliest possible date. Seventh victory loan closed today. We sold 35,550 dollars, which is twice the amount subscribed to the last loan.		
	7.11.44		Snow and rain. No training flying being done as everyone is busy packing. Five crews on ops. returning safely.		
	8.11.44		Very cold today. Advance party of one aircraft left for Chivenor today. Train loaded during the day. No ops. tonight.		
	9.11.44		Main air party left for Chivenor during fore-noon. Train party left Wick at 21.10 hrs. No ops. tonight.		
	10.11.44		On train enroute to Chivenor all day.		
R.A.F. Station, Chivenor	12.11.44		Arrived at Chivenor on time at 9.38 hours. Equipment train did not arrive until very late in the afternoon however, so little equipment was unloaded.		
	13.11.44		Train unloaded today and offices set up. Weather very heavy, but two crews got away on ops.		
	13.11.44		A little cloudy with some rain. Four crews on ops. all returning safely. Full training program now in force again.		
	14.11.44		Cool and cloudy. Four crews detailed for ops. but, only one got away due to icing conditions.		
	15.11.44		Cool but clearing during the afternoon. One crew on ops. tonight returning safely.		
	16.11.44		Ground haze all day. Four crews on ops. W/O D.P. Dushan and W/O L.D. Henry making their first trip. W/L Boyd and W. Rathwell, R of C., were visitors from Exeter today.		
	17.11.44		Rain all day. No ops. tonight. S/L C.W. Taylor DRO, reported back to the Squadron today for his second tour. He will assume his old roll of operations flight commander in charge of operations.		

181

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.A.F. Stn. Chivenor.	18.11.44		Another wet day. Ops were eventually scrubbed after midnight.		
	19.11.44		Rain and wind. No ops. again tonight.		
	20.11.44		Weather slightly improved. One crew on ops. returning safely.		
	21.11.44		Warm with rain squalls all day. Impossible to get much training during this wet spell we seem to be having. Three crews on ops. returning safely.		
	22.11.44		Still very wet and a little cooler. Ops scrubbed due to weather conditions.		
	23.11.44		Cold and wet with rain most of the day. No ops. tonight.		
	24.11.44		Still very wet, but one crew managed to get off on ops. returning safely.		
	25.11.44		Weather considerably improved and it was impossible possible to get in a little air training during the day. Four crews on ops all returning safely. W/L Fletcher, Personnel Counsellor reported today 23rd No. 2 District Headquarters.		
	26.11.44		Scattered showers during the day. Two crews on ops. returning safely.		
	27.11.44		Very heavy haze today, but local flying carried out. Two crews on ops. returning safely. W/O Goldhamer, War artist from RCAF HQ reported this afternoon.		
	28.11.44		Scattered showers but warmer. Two crews on ops returning safely. W/O K.C. Wilson left this morning for London to attend a conference at H.Q.C.C.		
	29.11.44		Cloudy and cool. Three crews on ops. all returning safely. W/L C.T. Sutherland reported this afternoon from RCAF HQ to take over the duties of Squadron Adjutant.		
	30.11.44		Trade Test Board arrived this fore-noon. Weather unsettled. Two crews on ops returning safely.		
			<u>TOTAL OPERATIONAL SORTIES:</u> 50		
			<u>TOTAL OPERATIONAL HOURS:</u> 797:04 149:55		
			<u>TOTAL NON-OPERATIONAL HOURS:</u> 524 161:39		
			<u>AIRCRAFT STATION:</u> Aircraft on station change. 15 Wellington Mk. IV used by this Squadron.		
			<u>PERSONNEL STRENGTH AS AT 2359 HOURS 30.11.44</u>		
			<u>R.C.A.F.</u> <u>R.A.F.</u> <u>R.A.A.F.</u> <u>N.A.A.F.</u>		
<u>Officers</u>					
Pilots			51		
Navigators			26	1	2
W/O/AG's			58	0	1
<u>Airmen</u>					
Pilots			1		
Navigators			1		
W/O/AG's			19	4	

WL 87015/02532 335M 12/43 C & L. 51-7706

OPERATIONAL RECORD BOOK

[Handwritten signature]

R.A.F. Form 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 2

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.

of (Unit or Formation) 407 Squadron, R.C.A.F.

No. of pages used for day.....

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
<u>R.A.F. Sta. Chivenor.</u>			<u>PERSONNEL STRENGTH AS AT 2359 HOURS 30.11.44 (cont'd)</u>		
			<u>GROUND CREW</u>		
			Officers <u>11</u>		
			Airmen <u>113</u> <u>2</u> <u>24</u>		
			<u>SUMMARY OF COMMISSIONS, PROMOTIONS, AWARDS AND COMBAT</u>		
			R.125069 WO1 Andrews, J.K. (WOP/AG); R.108490 WO1 Martin, H.J.P. (WOP/AG); R.129304 WO1 Newberry, C.R. (WG/AG); R.79051 WO1 Bathorne, G.W. (WOP/AG); R.139498 WO1 Hartshew, G.V. (WOP/AG) were commissioned as Pilot Officers.		
			W/O J.E. Campbell (J.14663) Wav. R promoted to T/P/L w.e.f. 21.9.44		
			P/O W.J. Gallagher (J.13750) Pilot promoted to T/P/L w.e.f. 28.9.44		
			P/L E.C. Wilson (G.1217) Pilot granted acting rank of W/O w.e.f. 1.11.44		
			R.171356 W/S Mulhall, U.L. WOP/AG promoted to T/W/O II w.e.f. 26.10.44		
			No awards.		
			No combats.		

Chapman

For- (S.O. Wilson, Wing Commander,
Officer Commanding,
No. 407 Squadron, R.C.A.F.)

182