

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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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) 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
R.A.F. Station Chivenor	1.3.45		Operational sorties were flown today by F/O W.S.H. Grant, F/O H.H. Hooper, F/L S.V. Dickworth and F/L G. Olean and their crews. All were uneventful. F/O Grant and crew were diverted to Exeter in the early morning but returned to base this afternoon when the weather cleared. Weather conditions prevented any flying training this morning but air tests, practice bombing, S.E. Homing, air to sea firing exercises were carried out during the afternoon. The R.C.A.F. Trade Test Board which has been here for three days completed its work today. F/L S.V. Cassell S.22815, the Officer in Charge reported very satisfactory results and highly complimented the W/O's work of 407 and 347 for their keen interest in preparing the airmen for the tests.		
	2.3.45		Operational sorties were flown today by F/L G. Olean, F/L H.H. Hooper, F/L S.V. Dickworth, F/L W.H. Turnbull and F/L R.D. Haryett and their crews beginning at 0306 hrs. F/O G. Olean and crew left on posting today for Exeter's base where he will serve as an instructor on 1510 HABS Flight. This W/O type was an asset to the Squadron and will be missed by his many friends and associates here. There is much to be said against this Canadianisation scheme which is fast removing the last vestiges of Empire from our Squadron. Politically it may be a good idea but from the wider viewpoint of Empire it is not too good. Canada is a very important part of the British Empire but without the backing of the British Empire, Canada would be only another young country available as easy prey to avaricious and ambitious dictators of the Hitler-Mussolini-Hirohito brood. There is nothing better for Canada in particular than the British Empire and the world in general than the Service men of all the English speaking United Nations to work and live and serve together during the war. The "Colonial" issues plenty from the "Daily" and vice versa and we all learn plenty from the aggressive go-getting "Yank". F/L R.D. Haryett S.13556, Pilot, returned from RAF Cranwell after completing the Jr. Commander's Course. Another "winning-in" night was held in the Officers' Mess and attended by 25 detailed Officers of this Squadron.		
	3.3.45		F/L R.D. Haryett S.21872 and crew who took off on Ops. late yesterday dropped six bombs on a swirl at 0740 hrs. today. Wreage appeared on the water and pictures were taken but so far we do not know if it was a U-boat or a submerged vessel that was attacked. However, it was a good effort and F/L Haryett and crew are to be congratulated on their prompt action taken under poor visibility conditions. Other Ops. patrols were flown today by F/L G. Olean, F/L R.D. Henry and F/O D.H. Durhan and crews but all were uneventful. The weather was hazy all day and visibility decreased later in the afternoon but considerable flying training was carried out with emphasis on S.E. Homing, air to sea, and practice bombing on the towed schmarkel target. The main air party of 36 Squadron left for their new station at Bonbecula today and some of the more adventurous types tried to take a few of our roof tops with them before setting course. Memories of the Good Old Days of the Demon Squadron are revived by the attached copies of "Extracts From No. 407 Demon Squadron Scrap Book". Unsuccessful Op. sorties were reported by F/L S.B. Gill, F/L S.V. Taylor DFC and F/O L.A. Aspin and crews on landing today. A fog warning proved to be a false alarm and flying training continued with emphasis on air testing, towed schmarkel practice bombing practice, Air to Ground Firing and S.E. Homing. Three other flights were cancelled because of A/C going U/S. A signal was received from Coastal Command H.Q. today advising that the attack by S/L C.W. Taylor DFC & Crew on 29.12.44 had been re-assessed as (U-boat probably sunk) and congratulating the popular (GM) and his keen crew on a good show. The Squadron Protestant Padre held his usual Sunday Services in the Mess and after flight dispersal this morning. The service held at Flight Dispersal brought the following unsolicited comment from F/L		
	4.3.45				

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
R.A.F. Station Giverson			<p>Peter, taking off shortly after 2000 hrs. on a routine S.E. Homeing Flight under perfect conditions was unable to gain height because of engine trouble and crashed into a field near Bideford four minutes later. The crew of four would probably have survived the crash except that the A/C in skidding along the ground went through one of those rows of six-foot high walls of stone, dirt and shrubs which in this part of the country is known as a hedge. The A/C was completely wrecked and later burned. The Pilot was killed instantly as was P/O G.J. Butler J.22078 WOP/AG and P/O J.K. Andrews J.90251 WOP/AG while the 2nd Pilot P/O A. Isenberg J.35793 survived with a badly torn knee joint and is now in hospital. Amie was one of the squadron's spare pilots being squadron operations officer and ever willing to lend a hand wherever needed. His quiet, friendly manner made him a host of friends. He and the other two members of his crew both this morning and last morning at Bideford, will be sorely missed by all ranks. P/L S.E. Taylor DPO, Flight Commander recorded the following lines in the Flight Daily Diary to commemorate the passing of three of the best of the 407 crew "Never the lotus bloom never the wild bird mate But a soul goes out on the west wind star Who died for England's sake".</p> <p>This crew consisted of P/L S.V. Duckworth J.25770, Pilot and Captain of St. Thomas Ontario, P/O A. Isenberg J.35793, 2nd Pilot of Montreal, P/O H.L. Reed J.37574, Nav. P. of London, N.B., P/O G.J. Butler J.22078 WOP/AG of West Harbour, Halifax County, N.S., P/O J.K. Andrews J.90251 WOP/AG of Willowdale, Ontario and P/O J.K. Andrews J.90251, WOP/AG of Blenheim, Ontario.</p>	<p><u>SECRET.</u></p>
	0.3.45		<p>Six operational ops. patrols were flown by 407 today. As a result of 100 aircraft caused cancellation of most flying training plans but three exercises were completed. A commission was received in to-day's mail for P/O H.L. Reed J.37574 as Pilot Officer J.95704 effective 18.1.45. Another of our ops. crews consists of P/L H.L. Reed J.37574 Pilot and Captain of Toronto, Ontario, P/O S.C. Chapman J.25590 2nd Pilot of Weyburn, Sask., P/O L. Goldblum J.17947 Nav. P. of Montreal, Que., P/L S.E. Taylor J.27221 WOP/AG of Blenheim, N.C., P/O J.R. Cameron J.19833 WOP/AG of Standerham, Montreal, Que. and P/O G.S. Brown J.25669 WOP/AG of Toronto, Ontario.</p>	
	5.3.45		<p>Operational sorties were completed by P/O's S.E. Taylor and G. Spin, H.L. Reed, and P/O H.L. Reed and their crews today but they were uneventful. A very thick haze caused cancellation of all flying training this morning but seven exercises were completed this afternoon. P/O W.B. Gill J.20569 Pilot and Captain went over the 100 operational hour mark today and is now screened awaiting posting or permission to carry on to the 550 hour mark to finish off his tour. A commission was received in to-day's mail for P/O H.L. Reed J.37574 WOP/AG as Pilot Officer J.95661 effective 6.12.44. Another of our ops. crews consists of P/L S.E. Taylor J.25997 Pilot and Captain of Breslau, Ontario, P/O V.H. Lamy J.35221 2nd Pilot of West Lorne, Ontario, P/O S.C. Lansell J.10147 Nav. P. of London, Ont., P/O L.J.M. Bisler J.92892 WOP/AG of Vibank, Sask., P/O J.M. Garrigan J.91000 WOP/AG of Montreal, Que., and P/O S. Falconer J.90003 WOP/AG of Aurora, York County, N.S.</p>	
	10.3.45		<p>Operational sorties were completed by P/O's Giff, Boulton, Bouy, Reed and P/O Wilson and their crews in the Irish Sea, Land's End and Scillies areas but they were all uneventful. Flying training was somewhat curtailed by adverse met. conditions this morning, practice Nav., S.E. A Air Tests were carried out in the afternoon. P/O A. Isenberg Pilot J.35793 injured in P/L Duckworth's fatal accident last Wednesday has been transferred to No. 24 Canadian General Hosp. Horley, Surrey and is now out of danger. Our Ops. crews include P/L P.S. Henry J.14134,</p>	<p>22</p>

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
R.A.F. Station Chiverton			<p>Captain and Pilot of Port Arthur, Ontario; F/O L.D. Ontario J.36195, 2nd. Pilot of Toronto Ontario; F/O R.R. Lonsdale J.10447, Navigator of Saskatoon, Sask.; R/A J. Lonsdale J.92892, Pilot of Vickers, Ont.; F/O A.A. Corrigan J.93000, Pilot of Montreal, Quebec; F/O J. Lonsdale J.93000, Pilot of Montreal, Quebec; F/O L.D. Ontario J.36195, 2nd. Pilot of Toronto Ontario; F/O H.K. Bommer J.18764, W/O of Coble Hill, B.C.; F/O R.F. Ames J.88670 W/O of Leamington Ontario; and F/O R.D. Poole J.88764, W/O of Souris P.E.I. F/O G. Goldammer 035052 official War Artist from RCAF O/S H.Q. returned to the Squadron today from H.Q. for approximately four weeks to complete work started last winter.</p>	
	11.3.45		<p>Ops. patrols were carried out by S/L G.W. Taylor DFC & F/L's Pongalley, Durham & Henry & Crews, F/L R. Durham & Crew sighted a number of dinghies and about 40 survivors in the water from a U-boat sunk west of the Billies by an American Liberator about 1030 hours. It was a lucky break for the Liberator which was merely passing through the area where our A/C were patrolling but it goes to prove that constant visual and S.S. vigilance pays dividends. Weather conditions were very good today and considerable flying training was completed including S.I. practice, air to ground firing, towed target bombing, air tests while several other exercises were cancelled because of W/S A/G. The usual Sunday services were conducted by S/L McLean, our Squadron Protestant Padre, in the Mess and out at 407 Flight dispersal and well attended on a voluntary basis. The V. Rona 20th Concert Party of 12 girls and 2 men arrived by road late today and the girls have been billeted in Ilfracombe and the men on this Station. They will play in the station theatre on Monday and Tuesday evenings. A movie was shown in the Officers' Mess by the auxiliary services this evening and enjoyed by a large gathering.</p>	
	12.3.45		<p>Six successful ops. patrols were flown in the Billies area. During the day S/L D.P. Durham flew a taxi trip to Silloth and Haverfordwest and return. Three T.T.B. exercises were completed this morning and two more this evening while a consumption and S.S. practice exercise were completed in the afternoon. An air to air firing exercise was scrubbed when the Mustang did not show up. S/L F.M. Seaborn O.2751, pilot and Capt R.M. Spiller 132013 glider pilot visited the Squadron today. Capt. H.W. Reeves our popular Squadron Dental Officer is on leave in Edinburgh at present. W/O O.S.M. Williams Staff Officer from Headquarters Coastal Command visited the Squadron and conferred with W/O R.D. Wilson. S/L W. McLean, padre, F/O R.M. Florence, F/L C Myers, F/O R.L. Read and F/L G.J. Sullivan left today to attend the funeral of Squadron personnel at RAF Reg. Cemetery, Brookwood, Surrey tomorrow. A Commission was received in today's mail for F/O B.C. Lea J.93524 effective 18.1.45.</p>	
	13.3.45		<p>Four successful Ops. sorties were flown today in the P.102 area. The S/L flown by S/L F.T. Pongalley and F/O L.A. Aspin and their crews were diverted to the American Base at Brunswick where the crews enjoyed some real food which was a welcome change. Other Ops. trips scheduled were cancelled because of fog. Flying training continued during the day with S.I. practice bombing air to sea firing, air tests, C.C.H. & T.T.B. & Photography exercises being completed. One night T.T.B. & Photography exercise was completed tonight and another cancelled because of weather. The funerals of F/L R.V. Duckworth J.25570, F/O G.J. Butler J.88278 and F/O H. Andrews J.96251 were held at the RAF Regional Cemetery, Brookwood, Surrey today with S/L W. McClean 407 Squadron Protestant Padre and S/L Crossland RCAF R.O. Padre from No. 2 District H.Q. officiating and with 8 officers of this Squadron in attendance. Three of our former second pilots namely F/O L.W. Crosser J.36192, F/O J.S. Goodley J.10662 and F/O L.D. Ontario J.29096 reported to No. 49 Captains Course at 6 O.T.U. Silloth today. The auxiliary services operated</p>	2051

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R.A.F. Station Gibraltar			by the K. of G. is a popular spot with peanuts, Coca Cola, magazines etc. available.		
	14.3.45		There were no Ops. flown because of fog and low cloud during the hours of darkness and early morning. P/O Foxsett flew to Limerick in Northern Ireland and return this afternoon while several T.T.B. and airstest exercises were carried out. W/O Lawson, RAF Naval Liaison Officer at Plymouth arrived today with 3 Royal Officers this P.M. and will be our guests for 24 hours. P/O Lawson has been instrumental in arranging the leave for numerous RAF Personnel with the Royal Navy. Another of our Ops. crews consists of P/O J.L. Bennett J.57170 Captain and Pilot of Unity Base; P/O A.L. Morrison J.35831 2nd Lt. Pilot of Montville H.S.; P/L H.M. Gilchrist J.27895 H.M.B. of St. John's B.C.; P/O J.A. Dowler J.28776 W/O/A of Wayside Lyminster Sussex England; W/O Bryan, G.P. J.51844 W/O/A of Wythio Len, Caeshallion, Dorset England; and W/O Smith, G.P. J.337790 W/O/A of Chilton, Wilt. England.		
	15.3.45		Adverse met. conditions in the patrol areas with sea fog and low stratus clouds caused cancellation of all Ops. Flying training today consisted of airstests, practice bombing, A.B. air to ground firing and T.T.B. exercises while P/L K. Croft flew a taxi trip to Prestwick with two American Army Medical Officers as his passengers. P/O P. Pennefather J.37550, W/O/A left today for a week's leave with the Royal Navy operating from Plymouth. He journeyed to Plymouth with P/L Lawson RAF and the 3 Royal Officers who have been our guests since yesterday. They expressed themselves as very pleased with their stay here which included plenty of "allow bombing", a visit to "Operations Base" where a mock landing was staged for their benefit and "trips" on training flights this morning.		
	16.3.45		P/O Wilson, K.G. and P/L L.V. Harrel took off late this afternoon as the only two Ops. patrols flown. Flying training was severely restricted today by a sudden epidemic of U/S aircraft but nevertheless airstests, A.B. trials, T.T.B., fighter affiliation and air to ground firing exercises were completed and P/L Croft returned from Prestwick where he had been held overnight by adverse weather. The dining-in flight scheduled for tonight was cancelled to the relief of all concerned. Another of our Ops. crews consists of P/O W.H. Reed J.10665, Captain and Pilot of Castlegar, B.C.; P/O A.L. Hanson J.58316, and Pilot of Macklin, Base; P/L H.B. Kelly J.8829 H.M.B. of Bathurst, N.B.; P/O G.C. Barrett J.26791 W/O/A of Pointe Bay, Newfoundland; P/O G.A. Anderson J.87236 W/O/A of Vancouver, B.C.; and P/O J. Spence J.85581 W/O/A of Verdun, Quebec.		
	17.3.45		Five uneventful Ops. patrols were completed today but P/L W.H. Reed J.10665 and crew had their share of excitement for one night. They started out in A/C "F" Freddie but returned to base with the artificial horizon U/S and landed after jettisoning the O.C.'s and most of the fuel load at 0225 hrs. they took off again in A/C "F" mother but bad luck still flew with them. After 0420 hrs. on patrol No. 121 south of Plymouth the port engine cut out completely at about 1200 feet and the A/C was down to 700 ft. in no time at all before the crew could jettison enough equipment to lighten the A/C and the pilot bring it under control W.M.s signals were sent out followed at once by 308 and also Mayday on the HF and they were acknowledged. During the next 1.20 hrs. the pilot managed to attain 2000 feet of altitude and landed at Exmouth in poor visibility as dawn was breaking. This show represented very cool & skilful flying on the Captain's part assisted by splendid crew cooperation. Congratulations. Flying training		

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R.A.F. Station Chivenor			<p>consisted of S.E. practice flights & fighter affiliation, T.T.B. exercises both day and night an air tets and a flight to Fredmansok with a maintenance crew to look after 1/0 "M" mother. F/L W.B. Gill J.20369 Pilot and F/L G.D. Myers J.23215 WOP/AG recently tour expired are now on leave pending posting to instructional duties. Another ops. crew consists of 1/0 G. Olson J22016 Captain and Pilot of Lake Corichan, B.C.; F/O G.D. Long J.35804 2nd Pilot of Windsor, Ontario; F/O W.J. Shannon J.38688 NAV.B. of Montreal Quebec; F/L L.A. Dawson J.24063 WOP/AG of Montreal Quebec; F/O H.A. Nicoman J.40657 of London Ont.; F/O H.A. Vance J.36696 WOP/AG of Toronto Ontario.. Bicycling is a popular form of Squadron a recreation as all ranks explore the picturesque winding roads of N. Devon.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SECRET.</p>
	18.3.45		<p>Three operational patrols were flown without incident, but others were cancelled because of adverse weather. Flying training consisted of T.T.B., F.T.B., S.E., practice bombing, & circuits. Weather again interfered with further flying and several 1/0 were also found to be U/S. The usual Sunday services were held in the Hangar and out at 1407 Flight Dispensary by S/L McLean our Squadron Protestant Padre and were well attended on a voluntary basis. Another of our Ops. crews consist of F/L L.J. Hargrett J.24872 Captain and Pilot of Lancaster Ontario; F/O R.S. McKim J.86013 2nd Pilot of Wallace Idaho, U.S.A.; F/O H.A. Stauth J.28389 NAV.B. of Windsor, Ontario; R24502 WOP/AG of Ottawa, K.A.S. WOP/AG of Montreal Quebec; F/O J. Gregorichuk G.93805 WOP/AG of Ardick, Manchester and R.84333 WOP/AG H.L. Brooks WOP/AG of Woodstock N.B. Squadron pictures were taken today of the aircrew as a group crew combined and separately by the Squadron Photographic Section as per attached samples.</p>	
	19.3.45		<p>Poor weather conditions prevailing in the patrol areas caused cancellation of all ops. but four S.E. training exercises were flown during the day. Another of our Ops. Crews consists of F/O W.A. Dowling J.20134 Captain and Pilot of Vermilion Alberta; (former lawyer of Toronto Ontario); F/O J.E. French J.35195 Pilot of Toronto Ontario; F/O C.G. Parkers J.25116 NAV B of St. Thomas Ontario; F/O G.H. Knight J.87258 WOP/AG of Oak River Manitoba; F/O H.A. McGrath J.91151 WOP/AG of Kitchener Ontario and F/O G.J. Branch J.91027 WOP/AG of Windsor Ontario. A Squadron fund has been operating since the first of the year for the purpose of financing Squadron dances, parties, etc. It is maintained by voluntary monthly donations of 3 s. per officer, 2 s. per WO & Sr. NCO and 1 s per other ranks.</p>	
	20.3.45		<p>F/L's D.R. Dukes, F/L W.B. Keale, L.S. Manual, H.J. Bousy and S/L G.E. Taylor DFC and crews took off on Ops. but F/L Bousy and S/L Taylor DFC were later recalled in perfect weather because of an adverse front expected by met. later on. The other trips were uneventful. Flying training consisted of T.T.B. both day and night, practice bombing, photography familiarisation flight around 19 sq. diversion crews, air to air boxing. F/O Mitchell and crew flew to RAF Talbenny in S. Wales in A/C "J" Johnny for an Advanced Practice Camp course of one weeks duration taking along an AFM ad AMM for maintenance purposes. Another of our Ops. crews consist of F/L L.W. Manual J.24053 Captain and Pilot of Charlottetown P.I.I.; F/O G.A. Clark J.27192 2nd. Pilot of London Ontario; F/O J.F. Parslow J.42205 NAV.B. of Ottawa Ontario; F/O D.B. Ailton J.86054 WOP/AG of Toronto Ontario; R237671 F/SMT D.A. McKenzie WOP/AG of Timmins Ontario and F/SMT J.K. Lawson R.209582 WOP/AG of London Ontario. The grass plots in front of Guard van H.Q. Building are now in process of being dug up and converted into flower gardens. by W/O J. Cantin. Squadron Discip and his staff augmented by a few Aircrew detailed to do some spade work after being late for morning crew meetings.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>ACD</i></p>

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.A.F. Station Chivero	21.3.45		The main East-West runway was under repair until 1400 hrs. today so the only flying training today consisted of T.T.B. exercises by P/L M.S. McLean and P/L W.H. Bowden and crews. Adverse met. conditions caused cancellation of Ops. W/O's Brooks, Watson, Botham and Benedict were summoned to S.H.Q. this morning for 1000A interviews with the Group Capt in. Another of our Ops. crews consists of P/O H.H. Hooker J.25425 Captain and Pilot of Winnipeg Manitoba, P/O W.A. Stewart J.37061 and Pilot of Francis Sask.; P/O W.A. Mitchell J.31119 NAV.B. of Chathamton Sask.; R.180988 W/OI Benedict, O.C. WOP/AG of Hull Quebec; P/O J.B. Milton J.92819 WOP/AG of Moncton N.B. and P/O D.W. Stuart J.87530 WOP/AG of N. Devon. Several more tour expired airmen including P/O A.C. Ramirez J.10111 Nav.B., P/O E. Smith R.179160 WOP/AIR, P/L H.L. Pfander J.23647 WOP/AG left on leave pending posting. Two new crews captained by P/O A.H. Marr J.29352 and P/O J.F.M. Coubert J.92108 arrived on posting from 6 O.T.U. Silloth today.		
	22.3.45		Uneventful Ops. trips were flown by P/L's Bowden, Keele and Harvey. Training today included 3 F.T.B. exercises, a familiarization circuit flight of 19 Group Diversion drones, Loran and S.E. Practice, consumption tests, a taxi trip to Prodamack with a crew to being back A/O "M" Mike and a Navigation exercise to Leuchars via the North Sea and return via Silloth W/O K.C. Wilson O.1217 Squadron O.C. and P/L W.J. Wilson O.6118 Medical Officer and P/L G.T. Sutherland O.3180, Adjutant were passengers on the trip to Leuchars with P/L R. Goff J.2981 as pilot. The first two mentioned were starting out on leave to Aberdeen where they are to attend the wedding of P/L H. Leitch formerly of this Squadron on Saturday 24.3.45 but the Adjutant only went along for the ride on his "Day off" and returned to base in the evening. Another commission was received this morning in the mail, this time W/OI J. Gregorchuk R.56827 WOP/AG as P/O O.95805 effective 29.12.44. Another of our Ops. crews consists of P/L B.A. Quinlan WFC J.16969 Captain and Pilot of Calgary Alberta; P/O P.E. Cote J.30593 2nd. Pilot of Quebec, P.Q.; P/O B.D. Post J.42203 NAV.B. of Winnipeg Manitoba; R.118853 W/OI Edmunds, A. WOP/AG of Toronto Ontario; R.255997 P/O Baker, J.B. WOP/AG of Lindsay Ontario and R.204553 W/OI Watson, W.B. WOP/AG of Victoria, B.C.. Our Squadron basketball team held their final practice in No.2 Hangar this evening in preparation for the R.C.A.F. tournament in Bournemouth this week-end.		
	23.3.45		Unsuccessful patrols were flown by crews captained by P/O W. Grant, P/O S.H. Taylor W/O, P/L L.W. Manuel, P/L DR Dunham, P/L Quinlan WFC and P/L W.H. Reed. Training consisted of Routine exercises by P/L P.D. Henry, P/L H.L. Bury and P/O W.H. Hooker, P/L P.D. Henry returned early when one of his WOP/AG's P/O R.P. Ames J.80670, injured his hand rather badly while operating the height light. A consumption test, 2 familiarization circuit flights of 19 Group Diversion drones, 3 F.T.B. exercises and a night bombing exercise completed a full training programme. Another Op. crew consists of P/O W.J.M. Grant J.25311 Captain and Pilot of Vancouver B.C.; P/O J.G. McVade J.28621 2nd. Pilot of Windsor, Ont.; P/O G.R. Thomson J.39950 NAV.B. of Toronto Ontario; P/O R.I. Nixon J.36691 WOP/AG of Portage La Prairie Manitoba; P/O H.P. Jones J.37363 WOP/AG of Blind Bay B.C.; and P/O W.H. Maddell J.92449 WOP/AG of Toronto Ontario. Our Basketball team left for Bournemouth today to play in the RCAF tournament being held there over this week-end. They were accompanied by Mr. LeBlanc Air Services Supervisor and W/O Gartin, Squadron Discip.		
	24.3.45		Two Ops. sorties were completed but there was nothing to report. Loran exercises, a familiarization flight of 19 Group Diversion drones and 3 F.T.B. exercises comprised today's training programme. Another Ops. crews consists of P/L J.A.V. Gauthier J.22886 Captain & Pilot of Long Lac Ontario;		

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			<p>WOLF J.B. Kitchen R.246199 2nd Pilot of Wells, B.C.; F/O J.B. Howson J.43895 RAV.B. of Toronto Ontario; F/O A.H. Lamb J.46364 WO2/AG of Hanna Alberta; F/O R.B. Glass J.46056 WO2/AG of Woodroffe Ontario and F/O R.W. Appel J.45203 WO2/AG of Stratford Ontario. A double feature movie was the chief attraction on camp tonight and was enjoyed by a large gathering in the Station Cinema. The type and class of films obtained here are very good and well above the average.</p>	
	25.3.45		<p>Uneventful Ops. sorties were flown by F/L J.L. White, F/O H.H. Hooker, F/L H.L. Bouay, F/L L.A. Keele, F/O O Olson and S/L H.J. Bach. Training consisted of Loran exercises, circuits of 19 Grp. drums, consumption tests, S.E. Practice, T.T.B. & T.T.B. exercises and S/L G.W. Taylor DFC ejected out three new crew Captains, F/O A.H. Marr, F/O J.H. Joubert in daytime and F/L J.A.V. Gauthier at night. The usual Sunday services were held in the hangar and out at flights by S/L W. McClean, Protestant Padre and well attended on a voluntary basis. Preparations are now being made for Special Easter Services next Sunday at which it is hoped to have S/L MacGregor Grant, former Squadron Padre present, as he is now in this District for a week or so awaiting repatriation.</p>	
	26.3.45		<p>Four uneventful operational patrols were flown without incident. The runway under repair for the last few days is now serviceable. Training continued with S.E. Exercises, circuit flights of 19 Group Drums. S/L G.W. Taylor DFC flew to Durbanville and return and F/L J.L. White flew over to Falberny and brought F/O Mitchell & Crew back to base. F/O Mitchell and crew have been on course at Falberny but overshot the runway a day or so ago and damaged V/O 2719 somewhat but fortunately no one was injured. Bathing exercises were carried out by F/L's McLean & Manuel. F/L J.L. White did an airtest and S/L G.W. Taylor DFC flew to Falberny and back in the early evening with the Squadron Adjutant as a passenger and did some experimental D.C. dropping near Hund Island on the way. Four T.T.B. exercises were completed. Word was received this evening that F/L L.A. Aspin J.21781 Captain and Pilot on leave at present had met with an accident on his motorcycle near Bampton, N. Devon late this afternoon and is now in the Cottage Hospital, South Moulton with rather serious head injuries. The bad as he had almost finished his Ops. tour.</p> <p>Another Ops crew consists of F/L J.A.V. Gauthier J.22086 Pilot and Captain from Long Lac Ont. R.246199 WOLF Kitchen, J.B.C. 2nd Pilot of Wells, B.C., F/O J.B. Howson J.43895 RAV.B. from Toronto, Ont., F/O A.H. Lamb J.46364 WO2/AG from Hanna, Alta., F/O R.W. Appel J.45203 WO2/AG from Stratford, Ont., and F/O R.B. Glass J.46056 WO2/AG from Woodroffe, Ont. The Squadron entertainment committee headed by F/L W.G. Keele is working hard to make the Squadron dance on 31.3.45 a big success.</p>	
	27.3.45		<p>Only three ops. patrols took off and all three were recalled early on account of adverse Met. forecast which also caused cancellation of all the ops. an airtest and two bombing exercises comprised the training program which was cut short by bad weather. F/L L.A. Aspin J.21781 Pilot, was injured in a motor cycle accident on leave last week and has been removed by air to No. 2 C. G. H. Bramshot, but his condition is still serious. Another Ops. crew consists of F/O G.A. Middle J.19606 Pilot and Captain from Windsor, Ont., F/O R.W. Hill J.29298 2nd Pilot from Sarnia Ont., F/O R.P. Dignart J.89153 RAV.B. from Laggan, Ont., S/L R.A. Curtin J.16697 WO2/AG from Toronto, Ont., F/O H.J. Cunningham J.85649 WO2/AG from Orillia, Ont., and F/O J.A. Perma J.88156 WO2/AG from Toronto, Ont.</p>	K/601

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 5

R.A.F. Form 540

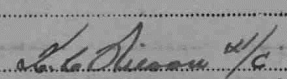
See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I., para. 2349 and War Manual Pt. II., chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

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

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

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
R.A.F. Stn. Chivenor.	28.3.45		Low clouds, rain and wind grounded all aircraft and cancelled all ops and flying training. A commission was received in today's mail for W/O G.D. Woodcock R.12512 WOP/AG as P/O J.93941 effective 25.10.44. Mr. W. Mynott, civilian representative of Royal Ltd. Gloucester arrived today for a stay of several weeks in an advisory capacity. Another ops. crew consists of P/O A.S. Mitchell J.92250 Pilot & Captain of Hamilton, Ont., P/O H.L. Deynand J.57616 2nd Pilot of Upper Stewiacke, N.S., P/O S.R. Pattison J.92156 Nav. B Long Branch, Ont., P.156850 Sgt Gonzalez, U.S. WOP/AG Thorold, Ont., W/O P.O. Lee J.93594 WOP/AG Port Dalhousie, Ont., and P/O H. Edge J.46065 WOP/AG of Toronto, Ont.		
	29.3.45		Three ops. patrols took off, but P/O W.H. Reed returned early with the artificial horizon U/s. Adverse weather curtailed flying training greatly and only one P.T.D. and one S.H. exercise were carried out. Captain K. McCain O.D.C. left on posting to Bournemouth today after a stay of several weeks on the squadron during which he became and favorably known. The squadron is sorry to see this popular Patrol Officer go. P/O G.L. Milley, -ress operations OPR core is spending a few days with the Squadron. P/O P.A. Fletcher, R.C.A.F. personal counsellor arrived today and will be on this station over the week-end for the purpose of interviewing Canadian regarding post-war plans and problems. The Squadron Educational officer P/O J. Masland went to London today for the week-end and to confer with Educational Officers at R.C.A.F. Headquarters, London.		
	30.3.45		Four uneventful sorties were flown, but with nothing to report on return. Those scheming U-boats are sure hard to locate. Training consisted of 3/1 and banking exercises, both day and night, Air tests and circuits flights of 19 Group diversion drones. The Squadron dance was held in the British Restaurant in Dunstable this evening and was a big success. The RCAF streamliners dance band provided an excellent brand of music and a very nice lunch was made available by the auxiliary services operated hereby the R. of G. and splendid co-operation of voluntary workers at the Canadian Hospitality Bureau, Peter. Much of the credit for the success of this dance goes to P/O W.H. Hoole and the members of the Squadron Entertainment Committee, who worked hard and long to make it a success. Everyone is now looking forward eagerly to the Squadron Anniversary Party on May 11th which it is planned to hold in Dunstable.		
	31.3.45		Only three ops sorties were completed and there was nothing to report. Weather conditions were very poor all day and Flying Training was greatly curtailed but some P.T.D. and S.H. exercises were carried out under difficult conditions. P/O Bill Reed, our 'Hard Luck' Pilot did it again. While on an 3/1 landing practice run at about 200 feet his dingy radion became jammed in the starboard aileron controls causing the aircraft to fly port wing low to such an extent that it took both pilots to hold it level. However a safe landing was made at base as this Captain's cool and skillful flying once more saved the day. The month of March has been a very successful one for this Squadron, marred only by the unfortunate accident on 7.3.45 resulting in the loss of P/O S.V. Suckworth, W/O G.L. Butler, W/O P.H. Andrews. A 19 Gp record for both ops. and training flying were exceeded and our Squadron Nav. section once again led all other unit/nav. sections in coastal command unit in operating efficiency. An impromptu party was staged at 407 Squadron dispersal this evening for the ground crew by W/O K.O. Wilson, P/O G.T. Taylor, P/O and P/O H.J. Esch in appreciation of the fine record of aircraft serviceability maintained during the month. Another commission was received today, this time for W/O H. Forrest, G.N. R.125982 WOP/AG as P/O J.93998 effective 1.11.44.		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			SECRET.	
			TOTAL OPERATIONAL SORTIES - 111	
			TOTAL OPERATIONAL HOURS - 1076:05 TOTAL NON-OPERATIONAL HOURS - 309:10	
			AIRCRAFT STAFF - Aircraft on station charge - 13 Mark IV Wellingtons used by this Squadron.	
			PERSONNEL STRENGTH AS 2359 HOURS 21.2.45	
				R.C.A.F. R.A.F. U.S.A.F.
			OFFICERS - Aircrew	
			Pilots	54
			Navigators	27
			WOP/AG's	76
			AIRMEN - Aircrew	
			Pilots	2
			Navigators	2
			WOP/AG's	14
				2
			GROUNDCREW	
			Officers	15
			Airmen	138
				1
				24
			PROMOTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, ETC.	
			P/O T. Leach RAF179160 WOP/AG promoted to flying Officer wef: 5.1.45.	
			P/O R.A. Curtin J. 16697 WOP/AG promoted to T/P/Lt. 18.12.44	
			P/O H.A. Gilchrist J. 27835 Nav.B promoted to T/P/Lt. 28.12.44	
			P/O W.A. Day J. 29906 Nav.B and P/O D.W. Short J. 23648 WOP/AG promoted to T/P/Lt. 5.2.45	
			P/O H.L. Pfander J. 23647 WOP/AG promoted to T/P/Lt. 1.2.45	
			P/O G.D. Myers J. 23215 WOP/AG promoted to T/P/Lt. 18.12.44	
			P/O J. D. Byrne J. 21074 WOP/AG; P/O L.R. Dawson J. 21063 WOP/AG; P/O H.V. Lawrence J. 21066 WOP/AG	
			P/O H.P. Lewis J. 21059 WOP/AG promoted to T/P/Lt. 22.2.45.	
			R. 139246 W/O I Lea, B.C. WOP/AG commissioned wef: 18.1.45.	
			R. 3947 W/O I Kerr, R.O. WOP/AG commissioned wef: 6.12.44	
			R. 56827 W/O I Gregorchuk, J. WOP/AG commissioned wef: 9.12.44	
			 (R.C. Wilson) Wing Commander, Officer Commanding, No. 107 Squadron, R.C.A.F.	