HISTORY OF NO. 460 SQUADRON R.A.A.F.

15th. NOVEMBER 1941 to 30th. APRIL 1945

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.336

SECRET

HISTORY OF NO. 460 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

NOVEMBER, 1941.

NOVEMBER 15th, 1941. The Squadron started to form on this date under the command of Australian W/Cdr. A.L.G. Hubbard, D.F.C., at R.A.F. Station, Molesworth.

S/Ldr. C.L. Gilbert was Flight Commander of "A" Flight.

Among the first R.A.A.F. crews who joined the squadron are:-

PILOTS:- Aus. 402742 P/O. J.W. Keane, Aus. 402948 Sgt. A.C. Grand, Aus. 400305 Sgt. D.G. Kitchen, Aus. 402653 Sgt. M.D. Frecker, Aus. 402397 Sgt. C.S. Richards, Aus. 400578 Sgt. R.J. Buckingham, Aus. 402862 Sgt. D. Hurditch.

OBSERVERS:- Aus. 404256 Sgt. J.J. Nugent and Aus. 404353 P/O. W.M. Murphy.

WIRELESS OPERATOR/AIR GUNNERS:- Aus. 404448 Sgt. E.F. Maher, Aus. 400160 Sgt. C.L. Stevens, Aus. 404539 Sgt. W.J. Chaplain, Aus. 408047. Sgt. W.D. Cheese, Aus. 407282 Sgt. R.J. Biglands, and Aus. 406136 Sgt. D.R. Beinke.

NOVEMBER 24th, 1941. F/Lt. H.W. Davies arrived to take up duties as Squadron Adjutant.

DECEMBER, 1941.

DECEMBER 9th, 1941. Squadron was visited by Staff Officers from No.8. Group.

DECEMBER 12th, 1941. Squadron was visited by Air Vice Marshal A. Lees, D.S.O., A.F.C., Air Officer Commanding No. 8. Group.

JANUARY, 1942.

JANUARY 4th, 1942. The Squadron started to move to Breighton, No.1. Group, Bomber Command.

JANUARY 5th, 1943. Moving still in progress and Air Vice Marshal R.D. Oxland, O.B.E., Air Officer Commanding No.1. Group arrived to welcome the Squadron.

JANUARY 6th, 1943. Group Captain F.E. Nuttall, O.B.E., Officer Commanding R.A.F. Station, Holme, visited Breighton in the morning to welcome the Squadron.

JANUARY 13th, 1943. Air Marshal R. Williams, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. Chief of the Royal Australian Air Force, accompanied by Wing Commander Knox-Knight, Royal Australian Air Force arrived on a tour of inspection. Air Chief Marshal Sir A.M. Longmore, G.B.C., D.S.O., Inspector General of the Royal Australian Air Force also visited the Squadron.

JANUARY 26th, 1942. P/O. C.L. Harris assumed the duties of Squadron Adjutant.

FEBRUARY, 1942.

FEBRUARY 17th, 1942. During a night cross country training flight the Wellington captained by Aus. 402897 Sgt. Ware, J.H. crashed into a hillside near Huddersfield and was completely destroyed by fire. The crew Aus. 402894 Sgt. Tresidder, R.L. Sgt. W.I. Ashplant, Sgt. C.C. Davies, Sgt. F. Dutton, Sgt. C.R. Dickeson and their captain, were all killed.

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FEBRUARY 23rd, 1942. Sgt. Ware and his crew were buried at Holme.

FEBRUARY 25th, 1942. Wing Commander Carter of No.1. Group lectured to aircrews on Flying Accidents.

During the past month a large number of cross country training flights have been carried out.

There are now 19 Wellingtons on strength.

MARCH, 1942.

MARCH 10th, 1942. Another visit was paid to the Squadron by Air Vice Marshal R.W. Oxland, O.B.E.

MARCH 12th, 1942. FIRST OPERATION. Five aircraft took off to attack Emden. One returned early after jettisoning its bombs in the sea, and the other four carried on and bombed the Emden-Oldenburgh area. There were no casualties.

MARCH 13th, 1942. RAID ON DUNKIRK. Five aircraft took off to attack Dunkirk. One aircraft captained by Sgt. J.P.D. Cooney failed to return to base.

MARCH 16th, 1942. S/Ldr. J.W.E. Leighton arrived today and took over the duties of Officer Commanding "B" Flight.

MARCH 25th, 1942. RAID ON ESSEN. Three aircraft attacked Essen and returned safely.

Four aircraft dropped Nickels in the Lille area and all returned safely to base.

MARCH 27th, 1942. Four aircraft carried out an uneventful sea search.

MARCH 28th, 1942. Nickels were dropped in Lens area by four aircraft from this Squadron. They all returned safely.

APRIL, 1942.

APRIL 1st, 1942. RAID ON LE HAVRE. Eight aircraft set off to destroy shipping and harbour installations at Le Havre. Seven attacked but one landed at Tangmere on the outward journey owing to pitch control of starboard propellor.

APRIL 2nd, 1942. RAID ON LE HAVRE. Six aircraft from the Squadron took part in a raid on Le Havre. All returned safely.

RAID ON POISSY. Two aircraft successfully attacked Poissy and returned to base.

APRIL 3rd, 1942. Viscount Trenchard, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., D.S.O., D.S.L., visited the Squadron.

APRIL 5th, 1942. Five aircraft took part in a bombing attack on Cologne. One returned early with artificial horizon unserviceable.

APRIL 5th, 1942. RAID ON LE HAVRE. Four aircraft took off to attack Le Havre. One of them was unable to identify the target so jettisoned bombs. All returned safely.

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APRIL 5th, 1942. Squadron was visited by Group Captain A.R. Coome, Officer Commanding R.A.F. Station, Holme.

APRIL 8th, 1942. RAID ON LE HAVRE Seven aircraft took off but only five successfully dropped bombs in the Dock area. Two aircraft jettisoned their bombs near the target.

RAID ON HAMBURG. Four aircraft carried out a successful attack on Hamburg.

APRIL 10th, 1942. RAID ON ESSEN. Eight aircraft successfully attacked and bombed Essen, many large fires being left in the target area.

APRIL 12th, 1942. The Squadron had a visit from Australian pressmen.

RAID ON ESSEN. Four aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Essen.

RAID ON LE HAVRE. Five aircraft set off to attack Le Havre but one returned early owing to a technical failure.

APRIL 14th, 1942. RAID ON DORTMUND AND LE HAVRE. Seven aircraft took part in a raid on Dortmund and two aircraft attacked Le Havre. All returned safely.

APRIL 15h, 1942. RAIDS ON DORTMUND AND LE HAVRE Two aircraft once more attacked Dortmund and four successfully attacked the dock area at Le Havre.

APRIL 16th, 1942. RAID ON LE HAVRE. Two more aircraft attacked the docks at Le Havre.

APRIL 17th, 1942. RAID ON HAMBURG. Ten aircraft took part in a bombing attack on Hamburg and the alternative target of Cuxhaven.

APRIL 24th, 1942. RAIDS ON ROSTOCK AND DUNKIRK. Three aircraft attacked Rostock and four raided the docks at Dunkirk. Many large fires were left burning in the Rostock area.

APRIL 25th, 1942. RAIDS ON ROSTOCK AND DUNKIRK. Four aircraft again bombed Rostock and two attacked Dunkirk.

APRIL 26th, 1942. RAID ON ROSTOCK. Three aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Rostock. One was attacked by an enemy aircraft and the second pilot Aus. 407534. Sgt. Moyle was slightly injured and the rear gunner F/Sgt. D.A. Black was dangerously wounded.

APRIL 27th, 1942. SEA SEARCH. Four aircraft took part in an uneventful sea search.

APRIL 28th, 1942. RAID ON KIEL. Ten aircraft took off to attack Kiel. One of them, captained by Aus. 404868 Sgt. Shephard, failed to return to base.

APRIL 3 0th, 1942. A message of congratulation was received from the A.O.C. No.1. Group on the fine work done by the Squadron.

MAY 1942.

MAY 4th, 1942. RAID ON STUTTGART. Ten aircraft set off to bomb Stuttgart. One did not carry out its attack.

MAY 6th, 1942. RAID ON STUTTGART. Once again Stuttgart was the target, ten aircraft from the Squadron taking part. While over enemy territory the second pilot of one of the aircraft Aus. 404718 Sgt. Corser was found to be missing from the aircraft and as a large hole was found in the bottom of the fuselage it is assumed that Sg.Corser kicked the hole prior to abandoning the aircraft.

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MAY 6th, 1942. RAID ON STUTTGART(Contd) Two aircraft captained by Aus. 402362 F/O. W.J. Kennedy and S/Ldr. Gilbert failed to return to base.

An enemy aircraft circus consisting of one Ju.88, one Me. 111, and one Me.110 paid a visit to the Squadron and gave a flying demonstration.

MAY 8th, 1942. RAID ON WARNEMUNDE. Eight aircraft set off and seven successfully attacked Warnemunde. One returned early with bombs.

MAY+ 14th,1942. Thirty six members of the Squadron travelled to R.A.F. Station,Linton, where they were presented to the Right Honourable Mr. W.S. Churchill, the Prime Minister and Dr. H.V.Evatt, the Australian Minister for External Affairs. The Prime Minister and Dr. Evatt talked with Aus.400305 Sgt. D.G. Kitchen who had just been commended by Air Marshal A.T. Harris, Commander-in-Chief, Bomber Command, for his bravery and skill in bringing back his aircraft after it had been attacked by an enemy fighter over Denmark on the way back from a successful attack on Rostock.

MAY 19th,1942. RAIDS ON MANNHEIM AND ST. NAZAIRE. Eight aircraft carried out a successful attack on Mannheim and three out of the four aircraft which took off attacked St. Nazaire. The fourth returned early.

MAY 23rd. 1942. F/Lt. R.B. Osborn,D.F.C. arrived to assume command of "A" Flight vice S/Ldr. C.L. Gilbert (missing from operations).

MAY 29th, 1942. Four aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Gennevilliers. Two of them, captained by Aus. 402907 P/O. R.A. Jones, and Aus. 407192 F/O. W.H. Bourke failed to return to base.

MAY 30th, 1942. 1,000 BOMBER RAID ON COLOGNE. Eighteen aircraft from this Squadron took part in the most successful operation yet carried out. All returned safely to base.

JUNE, 1942.

JUNE 1st. 1942. Congratulations were received from the A.O.C. No.1. Group on the work done by the Squadron in the 1,000 Bomber raid on Cologne.

1,000 BOMBER RAID ON ESSEN. Nineteen aircraft took part in this attack but two of them captained by F/Lt. A.J. Holland and Aus. 404701 Sgt. Walsh failed to return to base.

JUNE 2nd, 1942. A postcard was received from Aus. 406180 P/O. I.F. Keys stating he is a prisoner of war. He was reported missing on the 6th May,1942.

JUNE 3rd, 1942. A postcard was received from P/O. H.R. TRAIN stating he is a prisoner of war.

A signal was received from Air Ministry to the effect that the International Red Cross Committee reports that Sgt. Sharp and Aus. 406089 P/O. R.R. Ferry are prisoners of war in Germany.

June 2/3rd RAID ON ESSEN. Ten aircraft were detailed to carry out a bombing raid on Essen. Eight were successful but two, captained by Aus.402910 Sgt. Levitus and Aus. 402742 P/O. J.W. Keene failed to return to base.

JUNE 4th, 1942. Six aircraft successfully attacked Bremen.

JUNE 6th, 1942. Twelve aircraft took part in a bombing attack on Emden and all returned safely to base.

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JUNE 8th, 1942. RAID ON ESSEN Seven aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Essen, but one captained by Aus. 402862 Sgt. Hurditch, failed to return.

JUNE 8th, 1942. Aus. 402933 P/O. W. Brill was awarded the D.F.C.

JUNE 10th, 1942. A postcard was received from Aus. 400762 Sgt. Stephenson, J.M. stating that he is a prisoner of war. News was also received from the International Red Cross to the effect that Aus. 404421 Sgt. J.G. Lake is a prisoner of war

JUNE 11th, 1942. MINELAYING. Nine aircraft successfully laid mines in enemy waters.

JUNE 18th, 1942. MINELAYING Twelve aircraft laid mines and returned safely to base.

JUNE 19th, 1942. RAID ON EMDEN. Twelve aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Emden. Aircraft captained by Aus. 400805 Sgt. Kitchen, D.G. failed to return to base.

JUNE 21st, 1942. MINELAYING. Twelve aircraft took part in a minelaying operation. One aircraft captained by Aus. 400578 Sgt. Buckingham, failed to return to base.

JUNE 22nd, 1942. RAID ON EMDEN. Ten aircraft from the Squadron raided Emden, and all returned safely.

JUNE 24th, 1942. A visit was paid to the Squadron by Air Vice Marshal R.D. Oxland, C.B.E.

JUNE 25th, 1942. 1,000 BOMBER RAID ON BREMEN. Twenty aircraft took part in this raid and all returned safely. One aircraft destroyed a Ju.88.

JUNE 26th, 1942. MINELAYING. Twelve aircraft took part in a minelaying operation and all returned safely.

JUNE 29th, 1942. MINELAYING. Seven aircraft took part in a minelaying operation and all returned safely.

JUNE 30th, 1942. SEA SEARCH. Four aircraft took part in an uneventful sea search.

JULY, 1942.

JULY 2nd, 1942. RAID ON BREMEN. Eighteen aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Bremen. Two aircraft captained by Aus. 404844 Sgt. Whittick and Aus. 404784 Sgt. Johnston failed to return.

JULY 6th, 1942. MINELAYING. Ten aircraft took part in a minelaying operation and all returned safely. One aircraft destroyed an Me. 109.

JULY 8th, 1942. RAID ON WILHELMSHAVEN. Thirteen aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Wilhelmshaven and all returned safely.

JULY 9th, 1942. News received from the International Red Cross that F/Lt. A.J. Holland, Aus. 406349 Sgt. C.S. Douglas and Aus. 400080 Sgt. A.F. Dansey are now prisoners of war.

JULY 12th, 1942. MINELAYING. Twelve aircraft took part in a minelaying operation. One aircraft captained by Aus. 407534 Sgt. Moyle, failed to return.

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JULY 13th, 1942. RAID ON DUISBURG. Twelve aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Duisburg and all returned safely.

JULY 17th, 1942. News received that Aus. 404448 Sgt. Maher,E.F. and F/Sgt. Henden,C.O. are prisoners of war.

Group Captain R.S. Blucks,A.F.C., Officer Commanding R.A.F. Station, Holme, inspected the morning working parade when he visited the Squadron.

JULY 21st,1942. RAID ON DUISBURG. Another raid on Duisburg, this time twelve aircraft taking part. All returned safely.

The Air Officer Commanding No.1. Group, Air Vice Marshal R.D. Oxland, O.B.E., paid a visit to the Squadron.

JULY 25th, 1942. RAID ON DUISBURG. Fifteen aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Duisburg. One returned early, and two, captained by Aus.406344 P/O.O.C.Burgess and S/Ldr. J.W.E. Leighton failed to return to base.

JULY 26th, 1942. RAID ON HAMBURG. Twelve aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Hamburg. One returned early as the rear gunner was sick and two, captained by Aus. 402760 P/O. F.J. Breen, and Aus. 406359 F/Lt.V.F. Keyser failed to return to base.

JULY 26th, 1942. SEA SEARCH. Four aircraft took part in a sea rescue search. No sightings were made.

JULY 29th, 1942. F/Lt. Buckingham and W/Cdr. E.H. Anderson (S.O.Med) from R.A.A.F. Headquarters visited the Squadron.

Raid on Sarrbrucken. Thirteen aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Saarbrucken. All returned to base but the aircraft captained by Sgt. R.A. Brittingham was attacked by a Me.110 and the rear gunner, Aus.402710 Sgt. R.A. Johns was killed. Group Captain R.S. Blucke,A.F.C., accompanied P/O. A.W. Doubleday on the trip.

JULY 31st. 1942. RAID ON DUSSELDORF. Eight aircraft took part in a successful raid on Dusseldorf. There were one or two engagements with enemy aircraft but all returned safely to base.

AUGUST, 1942.

AUGUST 4th, 1942. Squadron Leader J.F.H. Booth arrived and took over the duties of Officer Commanding "B" Flight.

MINELAYING. Ten aircraft took part in a minelaying operation and one aircraft captained by Aus. 402948 Flight Sergeant A.G. Grand failed to return.

AUGUST 5th, 1943. Nine aircraft took part in a minelaying operation. All returned safely.

AUGUST 9th, 1942. RAID ON OSNABRUCK. Twelve aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Osnabruck. One aircraft captained by Aus. 403175 Sgt.Finlay, J.A. failed to return.

AUGUST 10th, 1942. The Air Officer Commanding No.1. Group, Air Vice Marshal R.D. Oxland, O.B.E. accompanied by Group Captain R.S. Blucke, A.F.C., paid a visit to the Squadron.

AUGUST 11th, 1942. RAID ON MAINZ. Nine aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Mainz and all returned safely.

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AUGUST 12th, 1942. RAID ON MAINZ. Mainz was again the target and this time seven aircraft took part. One aircraft returned early without carrying out the duty assigned as the pilot was sick and another returned early owing to a W/T failure. Aircraft captained by Aus. 400886 P/O. W.A. Clegg failed to return.

AUGUST 15, 1942. No. 460 Squadron Conversion Flight moved to R.A.F. Station, Holme. Four crews of this Squadron will continue their training on Halifax aircraft there.

AUGUST 15th, 1942. RAID ON DUSSELDORF. Six aircraft took part in a bombing attack on Dusseldorf. On the return journey, aircraft captained by Aus. Sgt. Brasher, E.K.F. destroyed a Ju.88. The wireless operator, Aus.401685 Sgt. J. Forrest, was wounded in the thighs.

AUGUST 16th, 1942. MINELAYING. Four aircraft carried out a minelaying operation, and all returned safely.

The D.F.C. has been awarded to Aus. 402495 P/O. Arthur William Doubleday and P/O. Walter Hugh Thompson.

AUGUST 17th, 1942. RAID ON OSNABRUCK. Five aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Osnabruck and all returned safely. Aircraft captained by Aus.403106. Sgt. Brittingham, R.A. had two encounters with anenemy aircraft on the return journey. The second time they claimed a Ju.88. probably destroyed.

AUGUST 18th,1942. MINELAYING. Three aircraft took part in a Minelaying operation and all returned safely.

AUGUST 20th, 1942. MINELAYING. Two aircraft carried out a minelaying operation and returned safely to base.

AUGUST 27th, 1942. RAID ONKASSEL Ten aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Kassel. Two failed to return to base and have been reported missing. They were captained by Aus. 408139 Sgt. C.C. Viney and Aus. 403152P/O.J.F.Summers.

AUGUST 28th, 1942. RAID ON SARRBRUCKEN. Six aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Sarrbrucken. One, captained by Aus. 403663 P/O R.D. Elrington, failed to return to base.

SEPTEMBER, 1942.

SEPTEMBER 1st. 1942. Wing Commander K.W. Kaufmann, D.F.C. assumed command of No. 460 Squadron,R.A.A.F., vice Wing Commander A.L.G. Hubbard,D.F.C. posted to Headquarters, Bomber Command.

SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1942. Parade of all personnel in the presence of Group Captain R.S. Blucks, A.F.C., Officer Commanding R.A.F. Station, Holme. Wing Commander A.L.G. Hubbard, D.F.C. addressed the Squadron upon relinquishing his command.

SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1942. RAID ON KARLSRUHE. Three aircraft carried out a successful bombing attack on Karlsruhe.

SEPTEMBER 4th, 1942. RAID ON BREMEN. Six aircraft, including that captained by Wing Commander K.W. Kaufmann, D.F.C. set off to attack Bremen. One had to return owing to sickness of the rear gunner.

SEPTEMBER 6th, 1942. RAID ON DUISBURG. Four aircraft took off to attack Duisburg. One failed to reach the target. Aircraft captained by Aus. F/Sgt. R.F. Jackson was attacked by an enemy fighter and three members of the crew were injured. The aircraft reached this country in damaged condition.

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SEPTEMBER 7th, 1942. MINELAYING. Three aircraft carried out a minelaying operation and all returned safely to base.

SEPTEMBER 8th, 1942. RAID ON FRANKFURT. Two aircraft took off to attack Frankfurt, but neither of them were able to locate the target.

SEPTEMBER 10th, 1942. News received from the International Red Cross reports that Aus. S/Ldr. J.W.E. Leighton and Aus. Sgt. Sinclair, C.F. are prisoners of war, and Aus. Sgt. L.J. Sams, and Aus. Sgt. S.G. Taylor have been killed.

RAID ON DUSSELDORF. Ten aircraft took part in a large-scale bombing attack on Dusseldorf. Two aircraft were lost as a result of this operation. They were captained by Aus. 404601. Sgt. Bryden, J.A. and Aus. 404941. Sgt. J.C. Pearson. The aircraft captained by Sgt. J.C. Pearson had to make a forced landing on the sea due to an engine failure. Two of the crew were picked up but the remainder are feared to have been drowned.

SEPTEMBER 13th, 1942. RAID ON BREMEN. Six aircraft took part in a raid on Bremen. One, captained by Aus. 404944 Sgt. E. Brasher, D.F.M. failed to return.

SEPTEMBER 14th, 1942. RAID ON WILHELMSHAVEN. Five aircraft carried out a successful attack on Wilhelmshaven and all returned safely to base.

SEPTEMBER 15th, 1942. Instructions were received from Headquarters No.1. Group that the five remaining Wellington aircraft should be transferred to No. 142 Squadron. The Squadron today ceased Operations for an indefinite period until such time as Halifax aircraft, and crews, were ready to resume operational work.

SEPTEMBER 17th, 1942. A message of congratulation was received from the A.O.F. No. 1. Group for the good work done by the Squadron during the past sixteen days.

The D.F.M. was awarded to Aus. F/Sgt. F.R. Jackson.

SEPTEMBER 19th, 1942. While engaged on Air Firing practice, a Halifax caught fire and crashed. All members of the crew lost their lives. They were:- Aus. 403079 Sgt. S.A. Solomons, Aus. 401220. Sgt. S.R. Keys, Aus. 400931 Sgt. A.R. Morant, Aus. 403658 P/O. H.S. Brander, Sgt. Betteridge, Aus. 416113 Sgt. F.E. Bishop, Aus. 404860 Sgt. J.T. Sutton and Aus. 22126 Cpl. W.J.R. Hazelton, a member of the Ground Staff.

The D.F.M. was granted to Aus. 400752 Sgt. Ghorham-Henderson,P.J.V.

SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1942. While engaged on Air Firing and Bombing Practice a Halifax crashed and all the crew, including two members of this Squadron, were killed. They were Aus. F/O. J.A. Falkiner, and Aus. 40258 Sgt.R.G. Cox.

OCTOBER, 1942.

OCTOBER 3rd, 1942. The Squadron was visited by the Air Officer Commanding No.1. Group, Air Vice Marshal, R.A. C.B.E. Oxland.

OCTOBER 8th, 1942. The Station Commander, R.A.F. Holme, Group Captain R.S. Blucke, A.F.C. visited the Squadron.

OCTOBER 13th, 1942. Squadron Leader R.E. Bailey,D.F.C. assumed command of the Squadron, vice Wing Commander K.W. Kaufmann,D.F.C., proceeding on leave.

OCTOBER 18th, 1942. Instructions were received from Bomber Command posting S/Ldr. R.E. Bailey,D.F.C. from No. 460 Squadron to No. 466 Squadron to command on formation,

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OCTOBER 19th, 1942. A Manchester of No. 1656 Conversation Flight while engaged on a short flight with Air Firing Practice crashed in a field. Flying low the aircraft struck a tree, tore off the starboard mainplane and, nose diving into the ground caught fire and was burnt out. All members of the crew and two ground crew passengers died instantaneously. The crew included three officers of this Squadron - Aus. 408768 P/O. R.W. Wood, Aus. 405580 P/O. L. Forrester, and Aus. 404146 P/O. D.M. Murphy.

OCTOBER 21st. 1942. W/Cdr. K.W. Kaufmann,D.F.C. resumed command of the Squadron.

OCTOBER 23rd, 1942. The Squadron paraded with all other personnel of the Station and was given a brief address by Group Captain L.W. Dickens,D.F.C. A.F.C., Station Commander.

NOVEMBER, 1942.

NOVEMBER 1st. 1942. S/Ldr. J. Dilworth, R.A.F. assumed command of 'B' Flight.

NOVEMBER 5th, 1942. The Station and Squadron were visited by the A.O.C. No.1. Group, Air Vice Marshal, R.A. Oxland,C.B.E.

NOVEMBER 8th, 1942. News was received of the non-immediate award of the D.F.C. to Aus. F/O. I.F. Tamagno, and Aus. Sgt. P. Isaacson, the D.F.M.

NOVEMBER 9th, 1942. News was received of the award of a Bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross already held by the Commanding Officer, Wing Commander K.W. Kaufmann, D.F.C.

NOVEMBER 16th, 1942. All ranks were confined to camp, and all leave stopped, for an indefinite period, and the camp placed in quarantine owing to the discovery of a suspected case of smallpox. Personnel were vaccinated.

RAID ON STUTTGART.

NOVEMBER 22nd, 1942. The Squadron had their first operation in Lancasters when nine aircraft were detailed for an operational sortie against Stuttgart. Five successfully accomplished their mission. Aircraft captained by Aus. 400976 P/O. D.T. Gault failed to return to base. The attack was very concentrated and large fires were left in the vicinity of the Main Railway Station.

NOVEMBER 23rd, 1942. Aus. 400989 P/O. F.R. Jackson and Aus. 400752 Sgt. Chorham-Henderson,P.J. attended an Investiture at Buckingham Palace to receive the award of the Distinguished Flying Medal.

News was received of the non-immediate award of the D.F.M. to Aus. P/O. C.R.G. Grant.

NOVEMBER 24th, 1942. The Squadron was visited by a party of Australian Journalists, together with S/ Ldr. W.B. Tart, Australian Press Representative in Great Britain and F/O. T.J.N. Smyth, Public Relations Officer.

NOVEMBER 26th, 1942. The Squadron was visited by the Air Officer Commanding No.1. Group, Air Vice Marshal R.A. Oxland,C.B.E.

NOVEMBER 28th, 1942. RAID ON TURIN. Twelve aircraft were detailed for a bombing raid on Turin. All returned safely. Reconnaissance Report states that 98% of the fires were in the centre of the town.

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DECEMBER, 1942.

DECEMBER 6th, 1942. RAID ON MANNHEIM. Ten aircraft took part in a raid on Mannheim. One returned after jettisoning the 4,000 lb. bomb. Four of the crew successfully baled out in order to lessen the weight of the aircraft.

DECEMBER 8th, 1942. MINELAYING. Nine aircraft took part in a minelaying operation. All returned safely, two without completing their mission.

DECEMBER 9th, 1942. RAID ON TURIN Eight aircraft took part in a very successful raid on Turin. Many fires were seen concentrated in a small area.

DECEMBER 11th, 1942. RAID ON TURIN. Turin was again the target and this time seven aircraft attacked. It was an unsuccessful raid owing to the extremely bad weather conditions.

DECEMBER 13th, 1942. Wing Commander K.W. Kaufmann, D.F.C. relinquished command of the Squadron. S/Ldr. J.F. Dilworth assumed command as from today.

DECEMBER 16th, 1942. Two aircraft carried out a minelaying operation.

DECEMBER 17th, 1942. MINELAYING. Four aircraft took part in a minelaying operation. All returned safely.

DECEMBER 18th, 1942. An Australian Padre paid a visit to the Squadron.

DECEMBER 19th, 1942. Air Marshal R. Williams visited the Squadron.

DECEMBER 20th, 1942. RAID ON DUISBURG. Eight aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Duisburg, and very satisfactory results are reported. All aircraft returned safely.

DECEMBER 21st, 1942. RAID ON MUNICH. Eight aircraft took off to attack Munich and very good results were observed. One aircraft was attacked by an enemy fighter on the return journey, but managed to reach base quite safely.

DECEMBER 22nd, 1942. News was received of the non-immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Medal to Aus. 402447 F/Sgt. Kevin William Light and Aus. 402653. F/Sgt. Mason Day Frecker.

JANUARY, 1943.

JANUARY 4th, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Ten aircraft took part in a raid on Essen. One aircraft, captained by Aus. Sgt. H.G. Brooks failed to return.

JANUARY 7th, 1943. Mr. MacAlpine, a British War Correspondent visited the Squadron.

JANUARY 9th, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Four aircraft took part in a bombing raid on Essen. All returned safely to base.

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JANUARY 11th, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Once more Essen was the target, seven aircraft taking part. P/O. K.H. Grenfell states that after leaving the target he found that the aircraft had turned over on to its back. The Starboard inner engine cut out but picked up when the aircraft straightened. All aircraft returned safely.

JANUARY 13th, 1943. The Squadron was visited by Mr. Bateman, the British War Correspondent.

RAID ON ESSEN. Essen again, this time five aircraft attacked. All aircraft returned safely.

JANUARY 16th, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Six aircraft took part in an attack on Berlin. Mr. Hooper a British War Correspondent flew with a crew on the raid. All aircraft returned safely.

JANUARY 17th, 1943. S/Ldr. Thrush, an Australian Padre, conducted divine worship in the Station Church.

RAID ON BERLIN. Berlin again, this time seven aircraft took part. All returned safely but the aircraft captained by Aus. Sgt.W.M.Wendon ran out of petrol just as the English coast was reached. The crew baled out and all landed safely with the exception of Aus. Sgt. D.A. Corfe who was killed.

JANUARY 21st. 1943. Aus. 411124. Sgt. D.A. Corfe was buried at the village cemetary at Bubwith.

JANUARY 23rd, 1943 BOMBING ATTACK ON DUSSELDORF. Six aircraft took part in an attack on Dusseldorf. The aircraft captained by S/Ldr. R.B. Osborn, D.F.C., failed to return to base.

JANUARY 25th, 1943. S/Ldr. R.D. Speare,D.F.C. arrived at the Squadron to take over duties as O.C. "A" Flight.

JANUARY 26th, 1943. Aus. 400804 P/O. J.H. Kearns, the Squadron Adjuatant, was taken suddenly ill and died within 24 hours from Cerebro Spinal Fever.

BOMBING ATTACK ON LORIENT. 26th Three aircraft attacked Lorient. Two returned safely but the Lancaster captained by Aus. Sg. Oliver,H.B. failed to return and is reported missing.

JANUARY 27th, 1943. RAID ON DUSSELDORF. Seven aircraft took part in a raid on Dusseldorf. Aus. F/Sgt. R.A. Brittingham and crew failed to return and are reported missing.

JANUARY 29th, 1943. Aus. 3587 F/Lt. L.F. Schumacher arrived to take over duties as Squadron Adjutant. P/O. Kearns was buried today.

JANUARY 31st. 1943. RAID ON HAMBURG. Four aircraft took off to attack Hamburg but two of them abandoned their missions.

FEBRUARY, 1943.

FEBRUARY 2nd, 1943. RAID ON COLOGNE. Seven aircraft took part in a raid on Cologne. Many fires were seen burning and the raid was considered a success. One or two enemy aircraft were encountered but all our aircraft returned safely to base.

FEBRUARY 3rd, 1943. RAID ON HAMBURG. Six aircraft took part in a raid on Hamburg but owing to cloud conditions results were difficult to observe. All aircraft returned safely.

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FEBRUARY 4th, 1943. RAID ON TURIN Four aircraft took part in a raid on Turin. All returned safely.

FEBRUARY 7th, 1943. RAID ON LORIENT. Eight aircraft took part in a highly successful raid on Lorient. Reports state that the whole of the dock and town areas were well alight and that the fires were heavily concentrated. All aircraft returned safely.

An immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Cross has been granted to Aus. 400976 P/O. David Taylor Galt.

FEBRUUARY 11th, 1943. RAID ON WILHELMSHAVEN. Nine aircraft took part in a very successful raid on Wilhelmshaven. Large concentration of fires were observed in the target area. All aircraft returned safely.

FEBRUARY 13th, 1943. RAID ON LORIENT. Nine aircraft took part in another highly successful raid on Lorient. Great concentrations of fires enveloped the whole of the target area. All aircraft returned to base.

FEBRUARY 14th, 1943. RAID ON MILAN. Eight aircraft took part in a successful raid on Milan and all returned safely.

The non-immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Medal has been granted to Aus. 400639 Sgt. R.A. Appleton and Aus. 400764 F/Sgt. R.C. Witney.

The non-immediate award of the Distinguished Service Order has been granted to Squadron Leader Richard Bentley Osborn,D.F.C.

FEBRUARY 16th, 1943. RAID ON LORIENT. Eight aircraft took part in a raid on Lorient and results were good. Fires enveloped the whole of the target area. All aircraft returned to base.

Wing Commander C.E. Martin, D.F.C. assumed command of the Squadron.

FEBRUARY 18th, 1943. RAID ON WILHELMSHAVEN. Seven aircraft attacked Wilhelmshaven. The raid proved very successful and all aircraft returned to base.

FEBRUARY 21st. 1943. RAID ON BREMEN. Nine aircraft took part in a raid on Bremen. The weather over the target was bad and results were difficult to estimate. All aircraft returned safely.

FEBRUARY 25th, 1943. RAID ON NURNBURG. Eight aircraft took part in a fairly successful raid on Nurnburg and all returned to base.

FEBRUARY 26th, 1943. RAID ON COLOGNE. Eleven aircraft took part in a raid on Cologne. Reports suggest that the raid was quite successful. All aircraft returned safely.

FEBRUARY 28th, 1943. RAID ON ST. NAZAIRE. Thirteen aircraft took part in a raid on St. Nazaire which proved highly successful. The town was reported to be well alight when the bombers left. All aircraft returned safely to base.

MARCH, 1943.

MARCH 1st. 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Thirteen aircraft took part in a highly successful attack on Berlin. The town centre was well blitzed and many fires were left raging in the target area. All aircraft returned to base.

MARCH 2nd, 1943. While on a Cross Country flight as aircraft captained by Aus. 411890 Sgt. E.C. Fulton, crashed, and the whole crew were killed.

MARCH 3rd, 1943. RAID ON HAMBURG. Eleven aircraft took part in an attack on Hamburg. Good fires were left burning in the target area and the raid appeared to be quite successful.

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MARCH 5th, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Ten aircraft took part in an attack on Essen. This raid was very successful and crews reported that there were great concentrations of fires. All aircraft returned safely.

MARCH 8th, 1943. RAID ON NURNBURG. Eleven aircraft took part in an attack on Nurnburg. The Path Finder flares were scattered but the raid was very effective there being many fires in the town and suburbs.

The non-immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Medal has been granted to Aus. 404536 F/Sgt. S.R.D. McGrory, Aus. 405223 F/Sgt. H.E.A. Knox, Aus. 411092 Sgt. R.S. McFarlane Nielson, Aus. 400754 F/Sgt. A.H. Hammet, Aus. 402601 Sgt. R.M. Mould, and Aus. 406434 F/Sgt. E.M. Copley.

MARCH 9th, 1943. RAID ON MUNICH. Ten aircraft took part in a raid on Munich. The raid was successful there being a fair concentration of fires. A huge explosion in the target centre was observed by many crews.

MARCH 11th, 1943. RAID ON STUTTGART. Ten aircraft took part in a raid on Stuttgart. The Path Finder flares were reported to be rather scattered but many fires were seen to be taking hold.

MARCH 12th, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Eleven aircraft took part in a devastating attack on Essen. Large concentration of fires were observed in the target area and these were visible from the Dutch Coast. A tremendous explosion was seen by many crews. One captain reports that Essen positively blew up.

MARCH 22nd, 1943. RAID ON ST. NAZAIRE. Eight aircraft took part in a fairly successful raid on St. Nazaire. Many fires were observed burning in the target area. Aircraft captained by Sgt. D.E. White was attacked by a Ju. 88 which it claims to have damaged, and had to crash land. The crew were uninjured.

MARCH 26th, 1943. RAID ON DUISBURG. Eleven aircraft took part in a very disappointing raid on Duisburg. The marker flares were scattered and bombing was therefore also scattered. Aircraft captained by Aus. 413468 Sgt. R.E. Wilson failed to return to base.

MARCH 27th, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Eleven aircraft took part in an attack on Berlin. The raid appeared to be very successful there being many fires and explosions in the target area. . All aircraft returned safely.

MARCH 29th, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Nine aircraft took part in a successful raid on Berlin. The raid seemed to be concentrated in the South East of the target where many fires and bomb bursts were observed. They were captained by Aus. 403735 F/Lt. K.H. Grenfell and Aus. 416322 F/Sgt. Charlick, D.H.V.+

APRIL 1943.

APRIL 1st, 1943. Immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Medal hasbeen granted to Aus. 408896 F/Sgt. D.E. White and Aus. 411207 Sgt. F.H. Ward.

APRIL 2nd, 1943. RAID ON ST. NAZAIRE. Four aircraft took part in an attack on St. Nazaire. Many fires were left burning in the target area but as the aircraft were over the target early full results could not be estimated. All aircraft returned safely to base.

APRIL 3rd, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Twelve aircraft took part in a raid on Essen. Large fires were seen burning in the target area. All aircraft returned safely.

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MARCH 27th, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Eleven aircraft took part in an attack on Berlin. The raid appeared to be very successful there being many fires and explosions in the target area. All aircraft returned safely.

MARCH 29th, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Nine aircraft took part in a successful raid on Berlin. The raid seemed to be concentrated in the South East of the target where many fires and bomb bursts were observed. Two aircraft failed to return and have been reported as missing. They were captained by Aus. 403735 F/Lt. K.H. Grenfell and Aus. 416322 F/Sgt. Charlick, D.H.V.

APRIL, 1943.

APRIL 1st, 1943. Immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Medal has been granted to Aus. 408896 F/Sgt. D.E. White and Aus. 411207 Sgt. F.H. Ward.

APRIL 2nd, 1943. RAID ON ST. NAZAIRE. Four aircraft took part in an attack on St. Nazaire. Many fires were left burning in the target area but as the aircraft were over the target early full results could not be estimated. All aircraft returned safely to base.

APRIL 3rd, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Twelve aircraft took part in a raid on Essen. Large fires were seen burning in the target area. All aircraft returned safely.

APRIL 4th, 1943. RAID ON KIEL. Thirteen aircraft took part in a disappointing raid on Kiel. Results were not observed owing to cloud conditions. One aircraft, captained by Aus. 400595 F/O. K. Moore, D.F.C. failed to return to base.

APRIL 8th, 1943. RAID ON DUISBURG. Nine aircraft took part in a raid on Duisburg. One aircraft, captained by Aus. 408949 Sgt. J.H. Ball is missing.

APRIL 9th, 1943. RAID ON DUISBURG. Another attack on Duisburg, this time seven aircraft taking part. Aircraft captained by Aus. 405593 W/O. D.I. MacDonald failed to return.

APRIL 10th, 1943. RAID ON FRANKFURT. Seven aircraft took part in a raid on Frankfurt. The attack was very scattered and results were not observed owing to cloud conditions.

APRIL 13th, 1943. RAID ON SPEZIA. Thirteen aircraft took part in an attack on Spezia. Many fires were left burning in the target and dock areas. The raid was considered a great success and all aircraft returned safely.

APRIL 14th, 1943. News was received that the non-immediate awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross has been granted to P/O. J.H. Crabb (401084) and P/O. F.G. Jackson (404503).

RAID ON STUTTGART. Six aircraft took part in a raid on Stuttgart. Fires were seen to be well established and this was considered a very successful raid.

News was received of the non-immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Medal to 403268 F/Sgt. R.T. Hood.

APRIL 16th, 1943. RAID ON PILSEN. Fifteen aircraft took part in a highly successful raid on Pilsen. Hits and fires were seen in the target area. One extremely good photograph was taken by aircraft captained by P/O. E.A. Hudson, D.F.C. Three aircraft failed to return from this attack - their captains were Aus. 408896 F/Sgt. D.E. White, D.F.M., Aus. 411165 Sgt. I.G. Miller, and Aus. 416135 Sgt. J.N. Williams.

APRIL 18th, 1943. RAID ON SPEZIA. Thirteen aircraft took part in an attack on Spezia. Many fires and explosions were seen in the target area.

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APRIL 20th, 1943. RAID ON STETTIN. Seventeen aircraft took part in an attack on Stettin. This was an excellent raid, the target receiving many hits and being well alight. Three aircraft failed to return from this raid and have been reported as missing. They were captained by Aus. 416574 F/Sgt. R.S. Hogben, Aus. 409221 Sgt. W.F. Pridgeon, and Aus. 408656 F/Sgt. K. James.

APRIL 25th, 1943. ANZAC DAY. An address was given by the Squadron Commander W/Cdr. C.E. Martin, D.F.C. and the service was taken by the Station Padre S/Ldr. F.W.F. Cotterell.

APRIL 26th, 1943. RAID ON DUISBURG. Twelve aircraft took part in an attack on Duisburg. This raid was very successful, there being many fires.

APRIL 27th, 1943. MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in enemy waters.

APRIL 30th, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Seventeen aircraft took part in a fairly successful raid on Essen. Although cloud covered the target the Path Finder flares were visible and the results are believed to be good.

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MAY, 1943.

MAY 4th, 1943. RAID ON DORTMUND. Nineteen aircraft took part in a successful attack on Dortmund. Many fires and explosions were observed in the target area. Aircraft captained by Aus. 416680 F/Sgt. Jackel D.N. failed to return.

MAY 6th, 1943. AWARDS D.F.C. to Aus. 416735 F/O. C.B. Anderson and the D.F.M. to Aus. 415079 Sgt. Bushrmann.

MAY 12th, 1943. RAID ON DUISBURG. Fourteen aircraft took part in a highly successful attack on Duisburg, many fires and several large explosions being seen. All aircraft returned safely.

MAY 13th, 1943. RAID ON BOCHUM. Seventeen aircraft took part in the attack. The raid was very concentrated and many fires and explosions were seen. All aircraft returned safely.

MAY 14th, 1943. The Squadron moved from R.A.F. Station, Breighton to R.A.F. Station, Binbrook. The main party was moved in Horsa gliders. The Aircrews and maintenance personnel of the Squadron aircraft were moved by Lancasters.

MAY 18th, 1943. MINELAYING. Five aircraft took part in a minelaying operation, which was successful and uneventful. All aircraft returned safely.

MAY 23rd, 1943. RAID ON DORTMUND. Twenty-four aircraft took part in another raid on Dortmund. Very concentrated fires were seen and the raid was considered a success. Aircrafts captained by Aus. 408533 F/Sgt. Stevens, G.L. and Aus. 405966 F/Sgt. Davis, B.M.T. failed to return.

MAY 25th, 1943. RAID ON DUSSELDORF. Nineteen aircraft took part in an attack on Dusseldorf. Some fires were seen but 10/10 cloud covered the target. All aircraft returned safely.

MAY 27th, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Nineteen aircraft took part in an attack on Essen. 10/10 cloud covered the target area but a few fires were seen below the clouds. Aircraft captained by P/O. C. Harrison failed to returned.

MAY 29th, 1943. RAID ON WUPPERTAL. Twelve aircraft took part in an attack on Wuppertal. The whole town was well alight and it was considered a very successful raid. Two aircraft failed to return. They were captained by Aus. 413924 Sgt. Bull,H.E. and Sgt. Russel,T.P.

JUNE, 1943.

JUNE 11th, 1943. RAID ON DUSSELDORF. The first attack of the month was on Dusseldorf - 27 aircraft taking part. Several returned in a damaged condition and one, captained by Aus. 416324 Sgt. Christie, failed to return. Considered a very satisfactory raid.

JUNE 12th, 1943. RAID ON BOCHUM. Twenty two aircraft took part in the attack on Bochum and two, captained by Aus. 404704 P/O. Hadley and Sgt. R.O. Vaughan failed to return. Many large fires were left burning.

JUNE 14th, 1943. RAID ON OBERHAUSEN. Twenty two aircraft from the Squadron attacked Oberhausen. Large fires were left burning over a very extensive area. Three aircraft captain by Aus. 413178 F/O. Dennett, Aus. 411680 F/Sgt. Cope and Sgt. Crook failed to return.

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JUNE 16th RAID ON COLOGNE. Eighteen aircraft took part in the raid on Cologne which was not very successful as the P.F.F. were late. Aus. 412338 Sgt. Phillips and crew failed to return and Sgt. D.J. Strath and crew were all killed when they crashed at Elsham Woods on return.

JUNE 20th, 1943. MINELAYING. Three aircraft successfully laid mines in enemy waters and returned safely to base.

JUNE 21st. 1943. RAID ON KREFELD. Twenty-one aircraft took part in an attack on Krefeld. A successful raid, the target being well ablaze when our aircraft left. One aircraft captained by Aus. 414436 Sgt, Teerman failed to return from this operation.

JUNE 22nd, 1943. RAID ON MULHEIM Eighteen aircraft took part in an attack on Mulheim. One, captained by Aus. 416669 F/O. Harrison, failed to return.

JUNE 24th, 1943. RAID ON WUPPERTAL. Fifteen aircraft took part in the raid on Wuppertal which was considered a success, the target being left well ablaze. Aus. 409332 Sgt. Stooke and crew failed to return.

JUNE 25th, 1943. RAID ON GELSENKIRCHEN. Fifteen aircraft took part in the attack on Gelsenkirchen and all returned safely to base. The target was well hit and several large explosions were seen.

JUNE 27th, 1943. MINELAYING. Three aircraft took off, two successfully laid their mines and the other abandoned mission owing to bad visibility. All returned safely to base.

JUNE 28th, 1943. RAID ON COLOGNE. Fifteen aircraft took part in the attack on Cologne and all returned safely.

JUNE 29th, 1943. VISIT Dr. H.V. Evatt, Minister for External Affairs in Australia, visited the Squadron. He was flown from Northolt by W/Cdr. C.E. Martin, D.F.C. Press representatives were brought by plane from Hendon. Air Vice Marshal H.N. Wrigley,C.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C. accompanied Dr. Evatt.

AWARDS. The following awards were announced during the month.

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Aus. 411138 F/O. R.F. Friend
Aus. 403110 F/O. M.A. Keddie
Aus. 403242 P/O. R.M. Hetherington
Aus. 404713 W/O. A.B. Boyle
Aus. 411383 W/O. S.J. Ricketts
Aus. 405237 W/O. C.L. Taylor

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Aus. 405246 F/Sgt. J.A. Kirby
Aus. 407933 F/Sgt. A.L. Sanders
Aus. 403067 F/Sgt. J.N. Murray.

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JULY, 1943.

JULY 3rd, 1943. Two aircraft which were bombed up and ready to leave on operations, caught fire and were completely destroyed. Three became unserviceable. There were several terrific explosions, which obliterated huts, and smashed hangar windows. Fortunately there were no casualties, although several of the ground staff were in the aircraft when they caught fire, and had to run for it.

RAID ON COLOGNE. Seventeen aircraft attacked Cologne, leaving many concentrated fires burning fiercely. One aircraft, captained by Aus. 411885 F/Sgt. Edwards, C. failed to return.

JULY 4th, 1943. VISIT. S/Ldr. H.C. Thrush, Church of England Padre, from R.A.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, visited the Squadron.

JULY 6th, 1943. MINELAYING. Four aircraft were detailed to lay mines in enemy waters. Two were successful, and two abandoned mission owing to bad visibility and oil pressure trouble.

JULY 8th, 1943. RAID ON COLOGNE. Nineteen aircraft took part in a very successful raid on Cologne. One aircraft captained by Aus. F/Sgt. J. Goulevitch had its hydraulics shot away over the target and could not close the bomb doors. The journey home was made with difficulty, Sgt. Scarr, the flight engineer pushing forward on the control gear, and Aus. 414344 Sgt. Elwing, bomb aimer, clinging to the rudder bars. On landing the aircraft bounced over a fence and "ditched" in a field. None of the crew was hurt.

AWARDS. The following awards were in the 'London Gazette' today: -

Distinguished Flying Medal.

Aus. 403062 F/Sgt. W.M. Mitchell
Aus. 403619 F/Sgt. A. Kennedy

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Aus. 401542 F/Lt. L.J. Simpson
Aus. 401459 F/Lt. G.C. Keys

JULY 9th, 1943. RAID ON GELSENKIRCHEN. Fifteen aircraft took part in a successful raid on Gelsenkirchen and all returned safely to base.

JULY 12th, 1943. RAID ON TURIN. Twenty-two aircraft took part in a most successful raid on Turin. Bad conditions were met over the Alps and one machine failed to reach the target owing to icing.

JULY 13th, 1943. AWARDS. The following awards were in the 'London Gazette' today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross.

Aus. 411441 P/O. R.M. Canvin
Aus. 411808 F/O. A.S. MacWilliam

JULY 24th, 1943. RAID ON HAMBURG. Twenty-six aircraft made a successful attack on Hamburg. Very little opposition was met with. One aircraft, captained by Aus. 413522 F/Sgt. Ashley, A.G. failed to return.

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JULY 25th, 1943. RAID ON ESSEN. Twenty-five aircraft took part in a raid on Essen, which was generally considered a great success, large fires left burning fiercely.

While over the target, Aus. 415100 F/Sgt. Christensen and crew had an alarming experience. Incendiaries dropped into their aircraft - the starboard engine became unserviceable and a fire started in the elevator controls. Over the French coast they were attacked by an enemy fighter but evaded it. The aircraft could not be kept on a level course, diving and climbing alternately. Attempted to land at Hawkinge but crashed and burst into flames. Only minor injuries were sustained by the crew.

JULY 27th, 1943. RAID ON HAMBURG. Twenty-four aircraft took part in a very successful attack on Hamburg. All returned safely to base.

JULY 29th, 1943. RAID ON HAMBURG. Twenty-four aircraft made another successful attack on Hamburg. Two aircraft captained by Aus. 415079 F/Sgt. Fuhrmann and Aus. 402507 F/O. Johnson, A.J. failed to return.

JULY 30th, 1943. RAID ON REMSCHEID. Six aircraft took off to attack Remscheid. Only three reached the target, the other three returning to base with technical failures.

AWARDS. Approval was given for the Immediate award of the Distinguished Service Order to Aus. 402059 W/Cdr. C.E. Martin, D.F.C. and the Distinguished Flying Medal to Aus. 414144 F/Sgt. F. Lawrence.

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AUGUST, 1943.

AUGUST 2nd, 1943. RAID ON HAMBURG. Twenty-four aircraft took part in a raid on Hamburg, the success of which was doubtful owing to weather conditions. Aus. 414144 F/Sgt. F. Lawrence bombed target on one engine. All aircraft returned safely to base.

AUGUST 7th, 1943. RAID ON TURIN. Seventeen aircraft took part in a highly successful raid on Turin. It was generally considered one of the best raids in which the Squadron has taken part. All aircraft returned safely.

AUGUST 8th, 1943. A Squadron team played a Grimsby District eleven at cricket, which was unfortunately stopped by the rain.

AUGUST 9th, 1943. RAID ON MANNHEIM. Twenty-four aircraft took part in a concentrated attack on Mannheim. Many large fires were left burning. All aircraft returned safely to base.

AUGUST 10th, 1943. RAID ON NUREMBERG. Twenty-four aircraft took part in a highly successful raid on Nuremberg. On this raid, Aus. 402057 F/Lt. E.O. Lane completed his second tour. Aus. S/Ldr. C.R. Kelaher landed at Tangmere on return and gave everyone a scare as it was some time before this was known. All other aircraft returned safely to base.

AUGUST 12th, 1943. RAID ON MILAN. Twenty-four aircraft took part in a highly successful raid on Milan. Aus. 415193 F/Sgt. Rees, D. had to feather his starboard outer engine three times on the way in to the target. All aircraft returned safely.

AUGUST 14th, 1943. RAID ON MILAN. Eleven aircraft took part in another very successful raid on Milan. The Breda Works was well hit. Milan was left a "smouldering mass". All aircraft returned safely.

AWARDS. The following immediate awards were gazetted today.

Distinguished Service Order: - Aus. 402059 W/Cdr. C.E. Martin, D.F.C.

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 414144 F/Sgt. Frank Lawrence.

The following non-immediate awards were gazetted today.

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 404506 F/Lt. E.A. Hudson, D.F.C.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 400577 F/Lt. Kenneth D. Baird

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 411585 F/Sgt. R.W. Morgan
Aus. 403922 F/Sgt. S. Gordon

AUGUST 15th, 1943. RAID ON MILAN Once more Milan was the objective, this time twelve aircraft taking part. All returned safely and report a very successful attack.

AUGUST 17th, 1943. RAID ON PEENEMUNDE. Twenty-four aircraft took part in an attack on Peenemunde which proved very successful. All aircraft returned safely.

A party was to have taken place at Cleethorpes to celebrate the Squadrons 1000th sortie with Lancaster aircraft but this had to be cancelled owing to the raid on Peenemunde.

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AUGUST 17th, 1943. AWARDS. The following non-immediate awards were gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 416258 Sgt. Kenneth William Giles.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 404426 F/O. Thomas Liddle.
Aus. 402626 F/O. Phillip William Ward.
Aus. 406593 P/O. Ivan Ross Galbraith.
Aus. 406599 P/O. Ronald William Lawton.

AUGUST 18th, 1943. The party took place today and was agreat success. Australian Press representativeswere there.

AUGUST 22nd, 1943. RAID ON LEVERKUSEN. Twenty-one aircraft took part in a raid on Leverkusen. Not very satisfactory, but some of the larger fires could be seen from 150 miles on the return journey. All aircraft returned safely.

AUGUST 23rd, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Twenty-four aircraft were detailed to attack Berlin, twenty-three were successful and one returned early with technical trouble. One aircraft captained by Aus. 413796 F/Sgt. Richards, A.T. failed to return. The rest of the crew were Aus. 413574 F/Sgt. Gay, K. Aus. 412175 Sgt. Munro, J.G. Aus. 404749 Sgt. Collins, J.G. Sgt. Finley, W.A. Sgt. Smale, T. and Aus. 414359 F/Sgt. Marsh, J.

AUGUST 27th, 1943. RAID ON NUREMBERG. Twenty-one aircraft took part in a raid on Nuremberg - the second this month - and the town was left well ablaze. Lancaster captained by Aus. F/Sgt. McPhan, R.B. collided with another Lancaster over Le Treport. Bombs were jettisoned and aircraft returned with port aerial gone and starboard fin and elevator damaged.

AUGUST 30th, 1943. RAID ON MUNCHEN-GLADBACH. Twenty-three aircraft took part in a very successful attack on Munchen-Gladbach. Fires were left burning over a very large area. All aircraft returned safely.

AUGUST 31st, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Berlin was attacked for the second time this month. Twenty-one aircraft took part and the target was well and truly bombed. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 411910 P/O. Hocking, J.D. Aus. 415364 F/O. Symons, H.F. Aus. 413199 F/Sgt. Ingram, W.R. Aus. 415082 P/O. Haymes, L.J. Aus. 414014 F/Sgt. Fitzgerald, Aus. 411699 F/Sgt. Jones, T.J. and Sgt. Wood, J.J.

STATISTICS FROM FORMATION TO 31.8.43.

Operational miles flown 2,193,000
Number of sorties 1,7000
Enemy aircraft destroyed 1
Enemy aircraft probably destroyed 1
Weight of bombs dropped 4890 tons

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SEPTEMBER, 1943.

1st SEPTEMBER, 1943. Wing Commander R.A. Norman took over command of the Squadron from Wing Commander C.E. Martin, D.S.O., D.F.C.

2nd SEPTEMBER, 1943. MINELAYING. Two aircraft laid mines in enemy waters and returned safely to base.

3rd SEPTEMBER, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Twenty-four aircraft took part in an attack on Berlin. Fires could be seen over 100 miles away on the return journey. Three Lancasters captained by Aus. 413896 F/O. Randall, F.A. Aus. 39465 S/Ldr. Kelaher, C.R. and Aus. 413788 F/Sgt. McPhan, R.B. failed to return.

5th SEPTEMBER, 1943. RAID ON MANNHEIM. Nineteen aircraft took part in a most successful attack on Mannheim. All returned safely to base.

6th SEPTEMBER, 1943. RAID ON MUNICH. Seventeen aircraft took part in a raid on Munich and the target was left "well alight". All aircraft returned safely.

10th September, 1943. AWARDS. The award of the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal to Aus. 415193 F/Sgt. Daniel Rees, was gazetted today. Also the non-immediate awards of the D.F.C. to Aus. 402057 F/Lt. E.C. Lane, and the D.F.M. to Aus. 414249 F/Sgt. D.B. Moodie, Aus. 403678 F/Sgt. A.G. Osborn, Aus. 402619 F/Sgt. R.R. Stain and Aus. 405363 F/Sgt. J.H. Peterson.

16th SEPTEMBER, 1943. VISIT. Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur T. Harris, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, K.C.B., O.B.E., A.F.C. visited the Squadron.

21st SEPTEMBER, 1943. MINELAYING. Four aircraft laid mines in enemy waters and returned safely to base.

22nd SEPTEMBER, 1943. RAID ON HANOVER. Twenty aircraft took part in a highly successful raid on Hanover, concentrated fires being left burning over a very large area. Two Lancasters captained by Aus. 220001 F/Sgt. Hansen, R.N. and Aus. 413665 F/Sgt. Smith, C.K. failed to return.

23rd SEPTEMBER, 1943. RAID ON MANNHEIM. Nineteen aircraft set off to attack Mannheim but three returned early with technical failures. Fires were left burning furiously and the target was well lit up. Lancaster captained by Aus. 23729 F/Sgt. Plant, W.T. failed to return.

26th SEPTEMBER, 1943. A very good ENSA show headed by Leslie Henson was given on the Station. Other stars included Beatrice Lillie, Vivian Leigh, John Gielgud, Kay Young and Cyril Richard.

27th SEPTEMBER, 1943. RAID ON HANOVER. Nineteen aircraft took part in a raid on Hanover. Large explosions were seen and many fires were left burning. One aircraft captained by Aus. 413967 F/Sgt. Dargie, L.M. failed to return.

29th SEPTEMBER, 1943. RAID ON BOCHUM. Fifteen aircraft attacked Bochum and all returned safely to base. All crews thought the raid a great success.

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OCTOBER, 1943.

October 1st, 1943. RAID ON HAGEN. Seventeen aircraft took part in an attack on Hagen. Results of the raid were doubtful owing to cloud which obscured the target.

October 2nd, 1943. RAID ON MUNICH. Eighteen aircraft took part in an attack on Mannheim which they considered very successful. Large fires were left burning. Two aircraft failed to return - the crews were: - Aus. 412552 F/Sgt. Lloyd (pilot) Aus. 409567 Sgt. Mitchell, A.S. F/Sgt. Sheehan, F. Sgt. Sim, L.A. Sgt. Hurrell, R. Sgt. Woodford, R.E. and Sgt. Douglas, G. - Aus. 414113 F/Sgt. Weller, G.L. (pilot) Aus. 410155 F/Sgt. Farmer, J.S. Aus. 414919 Sgt. Edmonds, W.E. Aus. 412737 F/Sgt. Tompson, H.C. Aus. 413687 F/Sgt. Taylor, A.F. Sgt. Dunn, F.S. Sgt. Bond, J.W.

October 3rd, 1943. RAID ON KASSEL. Fourteen aircraft set off to attack Kassel, but one returned early. The raid was very successful and fires could be seen 150 miles away on the return journey. All aircraft returned safely.

October 4th, 1943. RAID ON LUDWIGSHAFEN. Fifteen aircraft took part in a rather scattered attack on Ludwigshafen. All returned safely.

October 7th, 1943. RAID ON STUTTGART. Twenty aircraft attacked Stuttgart, but the weather was not too good and the success of the raid was doubtful. All aircraft returned safely.

October 8th, 1943. RAID ON HANOVER. Eighteen aircraft took part in a highly successful attack on Hanover. The target area was left "well alight". Two aircraft - one captained by the new Commanding Officer, W/Cdr. R.A. Norman, D.F.C. failed to return. The crews were: - Aus. 400102 W/Cdr. R.A. Norman, D.F.C. (pilot) Aus. 416750 F/Sgt. Ellery, E.J. Aus. 409238 F/Sgt. Simpson, J.O. Aus. 413688 F/Sgt. Thomas, D.S. Sgt. Kille, P.F. Sgt. Cleverly, Sgt. Wells, L.E.P. and Sgt. O'Donoghue, D. - Aus. 409506 F/Sgt. Caffyn, M.C. (pilot) Aus. 413301 F/Sgt. Wulff, N.L. Aus. 414639 F/O. Brown, F.T. Sgt. Marshall, C.W.J. F/Sgt. Richardson, T.A. Sgt. Gannon, R.N. and Sgt. McGarvey, R.R.

October 9th, 1943. Aus. 402072 S/Ldr. E.A. Arthur, D.F.C. assumed command of the Squadron.

October 15th, 1943. AWARDS. The award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Aus. 411076 F/O. Thomas Edmund Osborn and Aus. 409508 F/O. Ernest Thomson Cappi, was gazetted today. Also the award of the Distinguished Flying Medal to Aus. 415100 F/Sgt. Lionel James Christensen, Aus. 405935 Sgt. Quinton, Andrew Richardson and Aus. 415096 F/Sgt. Reginald Graham White., and Aus. 414015 F/Sgt. Allan Thomas Fitzpatrick.

October 18th, 1943. RAID ON HANOVER. 'Ops' again and this time the target was Hanover. Nineteen aircraft took part. The raid was rather scattered but extensive fires were left burning. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the crew were: - Aus. 416809 P/O. J. Turnbull (pilot) Aus. 410304 F/O. L.J. Carter, Aus. 421737 F/Sgt. Lake, D.C. Aus. 410402 F/O. C.G. White, Sgt. Spencer, R.W. Sgt. Brunton, A.B. and Sgt. E. Graham.

October 20th, 1943. RAID ON LEIPZIG. Sixteen aircraft took off and fifteen attacked Leipzig. Success of the raid is doubtful as very few P.F.F. flares were seen. All aircraft returned safely.

October 22nd, 1943. RAID ON KASSEL. Nineteen aircraft took part in a very successful raid on Kassel. Fires were very concentrated in the target area. All aircraft returned safely.

The Squadron only operated on nine nights of the month owing to bad weather conditions and fog.

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Brief History file

NOVEMBER, 1943.

NOVEMBER 3rd, 1943. RAID ON DUSSELDORF. Twenty-three aircraft took part in a successful raid on Dusseldorf, and all returned safely to base. A good concentration of fires was left burning in the target area. Two of our aircraft had engagements with enemy fighters but no claims were made or damage sustained.

NOVEMBER 9th, 1943. AWARD. The non-immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Aus. 413289 P/O. H.T. Scott was gazetted today.

NOVEMBER 10th, 1943. RAID ON MODANE. Fifteen aircraft took part in a very successful attack on Modane. Large explosions and fires were seen, and very little opposition was encountered. All aircraft returned safely.

NOVEMBER 16th, 1943. AWARDS. The following non-immediate awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross were gazetted today.

Aus. 408800 P/O. C.T. Crook
Aus. 415131 P/O. J.R. Gardner
Aus. 411368 P/O. M.R. Nash

NOVEMBER 18th, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Twenty-seven aircraft took part in an attack on Berlin, but pilots were doubtful about the success of the raid, as the target was obscured by cloud. Aus. 413041 W/O. Taggart and crew collided with another Lancaster and their starboard wing tip and port outer propellor were damaged. One enemy fighter was engaged but no claim is made and no damage was sustained. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 420465 F/Sgt. Gibson, J.G. Sgt. Jones, D.O;, Aus. 410606 F/Sgt. Manning, W.P.J, Aus. 409723 F/Sgt. Malcolm, J.D., Aus. 425369 P/O. Slennett, C.G., Sgt. Negit, E.K. and P/O. Spain, H.S.

NOVEMBER 19th, 1943. AWARDS. The immediate awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Aus. 403217 F/Lt. E.R. Greenacre and F/Lt. J.H.C. Clark for bringing their damaged aircrafts back from raids last October, were gazetted today.

NOVEMBER 22nd, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Another attack on Berlin, this time twenty-five aircraft taking part. Large explosions were seen in the target area and the glow of large fires was seen through the clouds. One enemy fighter was engaged. Strikes were seen on it but no claim is made. No damage was sustained by our aircraft. All aircraft returned safely to base.

NOVEMBER 23rd, 1943. AWARD. The immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Aus. 413896 P/O. P.A. Randall for bringing his damaged aircraft back from Berlin last September after it had been attacked by fighters, was gazetted today.

23/24 RAID ON BERLIN. Berlin again and sixteen aircraft took part. Pilots report a successful raid, fires being concentrated. Two aircraft failed to return. The crews were: - Aus. 413561 F/Sgt. Freeman, M.J., Aus. 413508 F/Sgt. Ashley, A.E., Sgt. Liddle, P.A.F., Aus. 421339 F/Sgt. Kingsmill, C.E., Sgt. Jackson, D.A., Aus. 427631 Sgt. Aberle, D.B., Sgt. Elliott, T. and Aus. 412003 F/Sgt. Brown, Aus. 420013 F/Sgt. Henderson, R.M., Aus. 38780 F/Sgt. Louthean, Sgt. Camm, G.S., Sgt. White, G., Aus. 402770 P/O. Crookston, D.A. Aus. 410846 F/Sgt. Muntz, J.W.

NOVEMBER 24th, 1943. FLYING ACCIDENT. While on a cross country flight Lancaster captained by Aus. 416780 F/Sgt. Newstead crashed near Kelstern. The captain was killed and the Flight Engineer Sgt. E. Bailey and Air Bomber F/Sgt. J. Stuart died later in hospital.

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NOVEMBER 26th, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Twenty-four aircraft took part in another successful raid on Berlin. Fires were concentrated and could be seen 100 miles away. One enemy fighter was encountered but did not open fire. No claim is made by our aircraft but shots were fired. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 421097 F/Sgt. Stone, E.J., Sgt. Smith, K.C., Sgt. Jones, R.C., Sgt. McIvor, J.H., Sgt. McNair, N.W., Sgt. Arnott, C.D., and Sgt. Belton, W.

NOVEMBER 30th, 1943. VISIT. Mr. N. Stockton of the Australian Associated News Service, Capt. Nordahl Greig and Mr. Colin Bednall of the Daily Mail arrived at the Station. Mr. Stockton and Capt Greig are to fly on the next Berlin raid and Mr. Bednall the next heavy attack, not Berlin.

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DECEMBER, 1943.

DECEMBER 2nd, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. A very bad start to the month. Twenty-five aircraft took off and five failed to return. The crews were:- Aus. 405122 F/O. E.G.M. Corser, Aus. 412054 F/Sgt. Brown, A.J. Sgt. Young, W.A. Sgt. Price, L.R. F/Sgt. Harrington, W.W. Aus. 404296 W/O. Kent, L.A. Sgt. Keymer, H.G. - Aus. 409933 F/O. Mitchell, A.R. Sgt. Cooper, G.H. Aus. 410255 F/Sgt. Phelan, I.R. Aus. 408329 F/Sgt. Cole, R.O. Aus. 410830 P/O. Boyd, J.O. P/O. Ellis, L.J. Sgt. Keir, K.G.V. - Aus. 420333 F/O. T.D.H. Alford, Aus. 415236 F/Sgt. Daley, A.E. Aus. 412153 F/Sgt. Leask, L. Aus. 410783 F/Sgt. Ginn, N.L. Sgt. Folland, H.J. P/O. HOWE-Brown, F.D.K. Sgt. Mason, S.T. - Aus. 413843 P/O. English, J.H.J. Sgt. Cole, A.G. Aus. 24541 P/O. Anderson, N.J. Aus. 409716 F/Sgt. Kan, A.E. F/Sgt. Catty, A.W. Sgt. Miller, W.L. F/Sgt. Rodin, I - Aus. 24574 F/Sgt. Edwards, C.H. Sgt. Tarling, R. Sgt. Hobbs, D.J. Aus. 413645 F/Sgt. McKee, J.I. Sgt. MacDougall, Sgt. Sullivan, E. Sgt. Webber, P.R. In addition, Mr. Greig of the Daily Mail and Mr. Stockton of the Australian Associated News Service were in the missing aircraft.

DECEMBER 3rd, 1943. RAID ON LEIPZIG. Sixteen aircraft took part in a successful attack on Leip. All returned safely to base. Mr. Colin Bednall of the Daily Mail went with the Squadron on this raid.

DECEMBER 16th, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Another attack on Berlin and this time twenty aircraft took part. One returned early with technical trouble. On return Lancaster captained by Aus. 405887 W/O Stafford, M. crashed near Caister. P/O. H.H. Garment, the rear-gunner was killed and Sgt. Dixon, F.D. was severely injured. Lancaster captained byF/O. Randall crashed in an ammunition dump at Market Stanton and the entire crew was killed. They were:- Aus. 413986 F/O. F.A. Randall, D.F.M. Aus. 414549 F/Sgt. Halstead, W.K. Aus. 413890 Sgt. Petersen, H.H. Sgt. McKenzie, J. Aus. 414938 F/Sgt. Howie, C.G. and Aus. 407591 Sgt. Moynagh, R.A.

DECEMBER 20th, 1943. RAID ON FRANKFURT. Fifteen aircraft took part in a successful attack on Frankfurt and all returned safely to base.

DECEMBER 23rd, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Berlin again and this time fifteen aircraft took part. A successful attack is reported and all aircraft returned safely to base.

DECEMBER 25th, 1943. Stand down for Christmas day.

DECEMBER 29th, 1943. RAID ON BERLIN. Twenty-two aircraft took off to attack Berlin and two failed to return. The crews were:- Aus, 414721. F/O. R.K. McIntyre, Aus. 421852 F/O. J. Poole, Aus. 410483 F/O. J.P. Grant, Aus. 425263 F/O. G.P. Beattie, Aus. 422031 F/Sgt. G.H. Irvin, Sgt. R. Cartside, P/O. W.R. Read - Aus. 412010 P/O. S.J. Ireland. Sgt. Squire, W.A.F. Aus. 416114 W/O. Ambrose, E.B. Aus. 41343 F/Sgt. Seery, F.J. Sgt. C. Seddon, Sgt. Poulter, R.J. and Aus. 421518 F/Sgt. Squires, M.H.

AWARDS. The following non immediate awards were gazetted on 7.12.43.

Distinguished Service Order. - Aus. 419018 P/O. R.C. Dunstan

Distinguished Flying Cross. - Aus. 412810 F/Lt. J.R. Henderson
Aus. 409520 F/O. W.J. Cameron

Distinguished Flying Medal. - Aus. 416385 F/Sgt. G.J. Oakeshott
Aus. 412815 F/Sgt. E.V. Morgan
Aus. 409305 F/Sgt. W.T. Hollings

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AWARDS. The following Non-immediate awards were gazetted on 10.12.43.

Distinguished Flying Cross - Aus. 413986 P/O. W.C. Gordon.
Aus. 409607 F/O. F.N. Robinson.
Aus. 425083 F/O. T.V. Watts.
Aus. 401863 P/O. R.K. W. Tasker.
Aus. 414266 P/O. G.J. Sharpe.
Aus. 413266 P/O. M.D. Seale.

Distinguished Flying Medal - Aus. 425053 Sgt. L.J. Quaite.
Aus. 415095 F/Sgt. B.M. Treacy.
Aus. 21082 Sgt. T.L. Walkley.

Statistics. Squadron statistics up to 31.12.43.

Wellingtons :- Hours 3194, Sorties 600,
640 tons of bombs dropped
1 enemy aircraft destroyed.

Lancasters:- Sorties 1735, Hours 11,275, Miles 1,804,000
3 enemy aircraft damaged.
6910 tons of bombs dropped.

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JANUARY, 1944.

January 1st, 1944. RAID ON BERLIN. Seventeen aircraft took part in a scattered attack on Berlin and all returned safely to base.

January 2nd, 1944. RAID ON BERLIN. Fifteen out of twenty aircraft took part in another rather scattered attack on Berlin. Lancaster containing Aus. 402869 F/Lt. Knyvett, B.H., Sgt. Trett, R.D., Aus. 410467 Sgt. Dobinson, J., Aus. 421260 F/Sgt. Farthing, J.W.A., Aus. 420874 F/Sgt. Gill, J.J. Aus. 407562 P/O. Ross, E.J., and Aus. 421122 P/O. Pickworth, C.B., crashed after taking off and all the crew were killed. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 409747 F/Sgt. Rowley, R.W., Sgt. Fleming, W., Aus. 420402 P/O. Robinson, E.C., Aus. 409619 F/O. Truscott, E.C., Aus. 420146 F/Sgt. Chester, L.A., Aus. 427752. Sgt. Lawn, R.M., and P/O. Bennett, N.F. Three aircraft returned early.

January 5th, 1944. RAID ON STETTIN. Eighteen aircraft took part in a concentrated and successful attack on Stettin and all returned safely. The target appeared to be saturated with incendiaries and large explosions, and the glow of fires could be seen 150 miles away.

January 14th, 1944. RAID ON BRUNSWICK. Twenty-two aircraft took off and twenty-one successfully bombed Brunswick. Fires were somewhat scattered. One aircraft returned early with technical failure. All returned safely.

January 15th, 1944. NEW COMMANDING OFFICER. Aus. 397 S/Ldr. H.D. Marsh took over command of the Squadron from Aus. 402072 W/Cdr. F.A. Arthur, D.F.C.

January 17th, 1944. AWARDS. The following awards were gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross.	Aus. 414367 F/O. E.G. Roser.
	Aus. 421089 F/O. K.L. Sheppard.
Distinguished Flying Medal.	Aus. 16356 F/Sgt. I.V. Murray.
	Aus. 414461 F/Sgt. F.G. Brown.
	Aus. 409282 F/Sgt. C.M. Manning.

January 20th, 1944. RAID ON BERLIN. Berlin again and twenty aircraft took part. Cloud over the target made observation of results difficult but the attack appeared to be concentrated and the glow of fires could be seen 60 miles away. Three aircraft returned early with technical trouble and one failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 410355 F/Sgt. Lynch, A.J., Aus. 420083 F/O. Vaughan, J.D., Sgt. Mortimer, E., Aus. 419417 F/O. Alexandratos, D., Aus. 413823 F/Sgt. Cassidy, J.A. Aus. 419318 F/O. Lawler, L.J., and Aus. 420081 F/Sgt. Trinder, H.S.

AWARDS. The following awards were gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross.	Aus. 413523 P/O. H.L. Britton
	Aus. 412914 P/O. R.C. Coveny
	Aus. 420044 P/O. N.M. Peters
	Aus. 413528 W/O. H.G. Carter
	P/O. J.D. McCorkindale
	Aus. 414019 W/O. J. Goulevitch
	Aus. 14744 P/O. C.S. Francis
	Aus. 413216 P/O. E.H. Magnus
	Aus. 403001 W/O. J. Panos
Distinguished Flying Medal.	Aus. 412288 F/Sgt. S.G. Webster

January 21st, 1944. RAID ON MAGDEBURG. Twenty-one aircraft took off to attack Magdeburg and a most successful raid is reported with concentrated fires in the target area. Two aircraft returned early,

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one failed to return and Lancaster captained by Aus. 420507 F/Sgt. Teece, P.A., crashed on landing. Sgt. Allison, J., and Sgt. Norwood, G.T. were admitted to hospital. The missing crew were: - Aus. 416830 W/O. Allan, R.N., Sgt. McCauley, W.A., Aus. 416904 F/Sgt. Trout, M.R. Aus. 403288 F/Sgt. Thomas, E.C. Aus. 421791 F/Sgt. Chadwick, W.R., Aus. 426685 Sgt. Reed, C.W., F/Sgt. Liersch, C.C.

January 27th, 1944. RAID ON BERLIN. Eighteen aircraft took part in a very concentrated and successful raid on Berlin. Three aircraft failed to return. The crews were: - Aus. 409590 W/O. Power, R.J., Sgt. McKenzie, A.W., Aus. 405904 F/Sgt. Hurley, E.W., Aus. 409632 F/Sgt. Whiteside, A., Aus. 410673 F/Sgt. Kerby, J.A., F/Sgt. Wortley, A.E., Aus. 426412 Sgt. Worley, J.F. - Aus. 414947 F/Sgt. McLachlan, W.R., Sgt. Murray, W.N., Sgt. Jones, J.M., Sgt Yates, R.C., Aus. 413142 F/Sgt. Rofe., R.J., Aus. 424189 F/Sgt. Jonas, W.A., Sgt. White, R.D., - Aus. 401542 S/Idr. Simpson, L.J., F/Sgt. Nairn, J., Aus. 403071 P/O. McLeod, C.W., Aus. 403678 P/O. Osborn, A.G. Aus. 427356 F/O. Rydings, J.A., Aus. 404589 F/O. Schrock, A.R.B. Aus. 403619 F/O. Kennedy, A.

January 28th, 1944. RAID ON BERLIN. Yet another raid on Berlin and this time twelve aircraft took part. All returned safely, one early due to technical failures. A very successful attack is reported, large explosions were seen and fires were visible 160 miles away.

January 30th, 1944. RAID ON BERLIN. Berlin again and twelve aircraft took part. All returned safely, reporting a very successful attack.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 31.1.44.

Operational Hours 15526
Operational Miles 2538120
Operational Sorties 2493
Bombs dropped - 8060 tons

Enemy aircraft destroyed 1, probably destroyed 1, damaged 12 (many)

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FEBRUARY, 1944

February 15th, 1944 RAID ON BERLIN Nineteen aircraft took off to attack Berlin and eighteen were successful. A concentrated raid was reported and the glow of fires could be seen 100 miles away. Lancaster captained by Aus. 420438 W/C. Burke, R. was attacked by two enemy fighters and a Ju.88 was destroyed and a Me.210 damaged. Lancaster returned on three engines, as starboard outer engine was hit by cannon shell. No casualties were sustained.

AWARDS. The following awards were gazetted today:

Distinguished Flying Cross.
- Aus. 408931 F/O. J.E.C. Radcliffe
- Aus. 415253 P/O. J.L. Hills
- Aus. 415211 F/O. C.E.M. Agg
- Aus. 401240 F/O. R. Mason
- Aus. 420922 P/O. L.A. Deveridge
- Aus. 405074 W/O. P. Hayton
- Aus. 412018 P/O. O.M. Moore
- W/O. D.F. Hodge

Distinguished Flying Medal. Aus. 413053 F/Sgt. R.S. Webster

February 19th, 1944. RAID ON LEIPZIG. Twenty four aircraft took off to attack Leipzig and twenty were successful. Pilots report a satisfactory raid and fires were seen over 100 miles away. Two aircraft failed to return and Aus. 415341 F/Sgt. Lynch, C.B. abandoned mission owing to failure of oxygen supply. Lancaster captained by Aus. 420054 F/O. Probert, A.H. was attacked by two enemy aircraft one of which was damaged. The missing crews were: - Aus. 410248 F/Sgt. Mackrell, S.V., Sgt. Fidler, G.A. Aus. 421771 F/Sgt. Thomson, I.A., Aus. 425012 F/Sgt. Tappenden, J.E., Aus. 421803 F/Sgt. Grovas, K.K., Sgt. Weller, L.H.G., Aus. 423323 F/Sgt. Randell, N.J. - Aus. 412945 W/O. Godwin, K.J., Sgt. Wood, C., Aus. 414542 F/Sgt. Dellitt, V.W., F/Sgt. Wiggins, M.D., Aus. 421332 F/Sgt. Hennessey, F.A., Aus. 419274 F/O. Morris, J.N. and Sgt. Clarkson, F.

February 20th, 1944. RAID ON STUTTGART. Twenty out of twenty-one aircraft attacked Stuttgart. The P.F.F. were well on time, many bomb bursts were seen and fires were taking a good hold. Lancaster captained by Aus. 416053 F/Sgt. Grant, G.A. crashed on return at North Witham and the entire crew was killed. Other members of the crew were: - Sgt. Rawdon, P.D., Aus. 417085 F/Sgt. Lawrie, E.H., Aus. 422261 F/O. Cleveland, F.A., Aus. 421426 F/Sgt. Young, A.G., Sgt. McCarthy, J.E. and Aus. 417816 F/Sgt. Dietman, J.A. Two Lancasters were attacked by enemy fighters, strikes being observed on one by gunner of Aus. 417025 F/Sgt. White's crew. No claim was made by Aus. 420371 F/O. Anderson, captain of the second Lancaster.

February 24th, 1944. RAID ON SCHWEINFURT. Seventeen aircraft took off and fourteen successfully attacked Schweinfurt. Bombing was concentrated and fires developed well, the glow being seen 100 miles away. Lancaster captained by Aus. 420428 W/O. Burke, R. returned early owing to intercomm failure. Two aircraft failed to return. The crews were:- Aus. 410033 W/O. Baxter, D.W., Sgt. Mallon, P., Aus. 422445 F/O. D'Arcey, A., Aus. 414565 F/Sgt. Hopgood, C.B., Aus. 414996 F/Sgt. Ferguson, R.C., Aus. 424319 Sgt. Martin, W.J., Sgt. Dunlop - Sgt. Yates, R., Sgt. Halke, D.J., F/O. Mark, A.R., Sgt. Lloyd, F., Sgt. Goldman, M., Sgt. Ierigo, N.H. Sgt. De Celles, L.I.

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February 25th, 1944. RAID ON AUGSBURG Seventeen aircraft took off, fifteen attacked the target, one abandoned mission owing to engine trouble, and one failed to return. Appeared to be a very successful and concentrated raid and the target was covered with fire. The missing crew was:- Aus. 420838 F/Sgt. Martin, R.C., Sgt. Willis, F.C., Aus. 421861 F/Sgt. Gurdon, P.W.B., F/Sgt. Strain, J.E., Aus. 425120 F/Sgt. Carlile, W.D., Sgt. Woodward, F., F/Sgt Howiss, W.J.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 29/2/44/

Hours 16,178
Sorties 2591
Miles 2,640,440
Tons 8591

Enemy aircraft destroyed 2, probably destroyed 1, damaged 14

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Unit History

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MARCH, 1944.

March 13th, 1944. SOCIAL. A dance was given by the ground staff for the air crew personnel of the Squadron and was attended by Group Captain H.I. Edwards, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C., and Air Commodore A.M. Wray, D.S.O., M.C., D.F.C., A.F.C.

March 15th, 1944. RAID ON STUTTGART. Twenty-four aircraft took part in a raid on Stuttgart but results were poor owing to the late arrival of the P.F.F. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the crew were: - Aus. 413416 F/Sgt. Parkinson, G.E., Sgt. Marley, G.P., Aus. 413874 F/Sgt. Krone, E., Aus. 413393 F/Sgt. King, R.J. Sgt. Mead, S.J., Aus. 434078 Sgt. Bell, J.H., and Aus. 427559 F/Sgt. Sherwood, R.C.

March 18th, 1944. RAID ON FRANKFURT. Twenty-one aircraft attacked Frankfurt and all returned safely after a successful trip, good results being obtained.

March 22nd, 1944. RAID ON FRANKFURT - RECORD. Another raid on Frankfurt, this time twenty-five aircraft taking part. All returned from a very successful attack. On this raid the Squadron carried 130 tons 17 cwts of bombs and 145 tons of petrol - a record for the Squadron and Bomber Command. Lancaster captained by Aus. 410691 P/O. R.N. Mullins was badly shot up by an enemy aircraft. The rear gunner, Sgt. Parry, W.E. was wounded and the Mid-upper gunner Sgt. Somers, H.J. bales out over the target. Mentioned in the British Press 3.4.44.

March 24th, 1944. RAID ON BERLIN. Twenty-four aircraft took part in an attack on Berlin, and pilots report good results. Lancaster captained by Aus. 421596 F/Sgt. Hargreaves, C.H. was attacked by one FW.190 and two Me.110s and the FW.190 is claimed as probably destroyed by the rear gunner Sgt. Jones, G. The Lancaster was damaged by the enemy fighters and flak. Two aircraft failed to return. The crews were: - Aus. 407531 F/Lt. McKinnon, A.F., Sgt. White, G.F., Aus. 32665 W/O. Goodwin, J.I. Aus. 410619 F/O. Bird, J.P., Sgt. Craven, A., Aus. 402602 P/O. Fitzgerald, G.D., Aus. 425392 F/Sgt. West, J.D. - Aus. 420157 P/O. Cusick, K.J., Sgt. Foster, J., Aus. 418349 Sgt. Clifton, J.W., Aus. 414313 F/Sgt. Martin, J.R. Aus, 425306 F/Sgt. Forrest, P.A. Aus. 434660 F/Sgt. Speering, G.N. and Aus. 418917 F/Sgt. Bumpstead, A.

March 25th, 1944. RAID ON AULNOYE. Seven aircraft operated against Aulnoye, but results were poor owing to cloud. All returned safely.

March 26th, 1944. RAID ON ESSEN. Twenty-four aircraft took part in a successful attack on Essen. One aircraft failed to return. The crew was: - Aus. 415757 F/O. Burnwell, B.D., Sgt. Pole, H., F/O. Bestwick, R.B., Sgt. Knight, R.H., Sgt. Taylor, R.D., Sgt. Bailey, T.W. and Sgt. Milliner, E.A.

March 28th, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards were gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross. Aus. 400470 F/O. U.D.H. Horne
Aus. 404704 P/O. L.M.H. Hadley
Aus. 413843 P/O. J.H.J. English

Distinguished Flying Medal. Aus. 412552 F/Sgt. F.L.R. Lloyd

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March 30th, 1944. RAID ON NUREMBURG. Twenty-four aircraft took part in an attack on Nuremburg and most pilots report a successful raid. Fighters were active and Lancaster captained by Aus. 413894 W/O. Proud, R.J. was damaged by a Ju.88. Three aircraft failed to return. The crews were: - Aus. 403438 S/Ldr. Utz, E.A.G., Sgt. Green, K.E., Aus. 412774 P/O. J.H. Thomson, Aus. 413641 P/O. R.J. McCleery, F/Sgt. Dawson, T., F/O. J. Howarth, Aus. 412480 P/O. Chadwick-Bates - Aus. 421596 F/Sgt. Hargreaves, C.H., Sgt. Siddall, D.F., Aus. 418489 F/Sgt. Spargo, W.H., F/O. Beaumont, J.E., F/Sgt. Moody, G.D., Sgt. Leggett, A.E., Sgt. Jones, G., - Aus. 28817 F/Sgt. Anderson, P.R., Sgt. Lax, D.G., F/O. R.L. Woods, Sgt. Johnson, G.P., Sgt. Pitfield, A.S., Sgt. Jones, R.R., Sgt. Parmenter, R.S. Altogether 95 aircraft are missing from this raid.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 31.3.44.

Hours 16,838
Miles 2,746,040
Sorties 2,714
Tons 9,301

Enemy aircraft destroyed 2, probably destroyed 2, damaged 14.

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APRIL, 1944.

April 9th, 1944. MINELAYING & RAID ON VILLENEUVE ST. GEORGE. Fourteen aircraft took off, twelve to lay mines in Danzig Bay and two to attack Villeneuve St. George. One aircraft captained by Aus. 410367 F/Sgt. McKenzie, W.D. crashed on take off and all the crew were killed. They were: - Sgt. Barber, S.B., Aus. 412200 F/Sgt. Simpson, B.J. Aus. 423957 F/Sgt. Weekes, W.D., Aus. 420225 F/Sgt. Mansfield, R., Sgt. Crough, J.L. and Sgt. Pyne, J. Three aircraft failed to return. The crews were: - Aus. 416656 F/O. P.A. Crosby, P/O. M.H. Bender, Aus. 414191 F/Sgt. Billett, C., Aus. 409280 P/O. G.E. Suffren, Aus. 410641 F/Sgt. Chapman, L.H. Aus. 426100 F/Sgt. Hodge, S.F. Aus. 418879 F/O. L.W. Robb - Aus. 420438 P/O. R. Burke, Sgt. Stedman, E.H. Aus. 426045 F/Sgt. Brooks, J.L. Aus. 420385 F/Sgt. Henry, A. Aus. 421657 F/Sgt. Fleming, P. Aus. 427454 F/Sgt. Cooper, S.W. Aus. 420388 F/Sgt. Hosier, J.S. - Aus. 413894 W/O. Proud, R.J., Sgt. McKinstry, T., Aus. 417503 F/Sgt. Martin, D.H. Aus. 422302 F/O. Ryan, L.M., Aus. 421239 F/Sgt. Boyce, W.G. Sgt. Edwards, S. Aus. 426943 F/Sgt. Oberhardt, E.

April 10th, 1944. RAID ON AULNOYE. Thirteen aircraft took off and twelve successfully attacked Aulnoye. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 420054 F/O. A.H. Probert, Aus. 425207 F/Sgt. Palfreyman, Sgt. Wiseman, B.G. Aus. 10609 F/O. McDougall, R.B. Sgt. Robbins, D.E., Aus. 429322 F/Sgt. Hogg, W.C. and Aus. 418695 F/O. Ryan, K.F.

April 11th, 1944. RAID ON AACHEN. Five aircraft successfully attacked Aachen and returned safely to base.

April 18th, 1944. MINELAYING & RAID ON ROUEN. Sixteen aircraft were detailed but only eight took off as one aircraft caught fire and blew up while taking off so the runway was unserviceable. The crew managed to escape. Five aircraft laid mines at Pmeranian Bay and three attacked targets at Rouen. All returned safely.

April 20th, 1944. RAID ON COLOGNE.- RECORD. Nineteen aircraft attacked Cologne, taking part in the heaviest raid of the war, 4,500 tons of bombs being dropped by aircraft of the R.A.F. All aircraft returned safely.

VISIT. The Hihg Commissioner, for Australia, Mr. S. Bruce and W/Cdr. Hartnell, R.A.A.F. visited the Squadron.

April 21st, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gasetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 410691 P/O. R.N. Mullins
Aus. 421030 F/O. G. Peters
Aus. 415232 P/O. W.E.M. Bateman
W/O. W. Paterson
P/O. A.R. Hemming

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 412774 F/Sgt. T.H. Thomson
Sgt. K.W. Hewitt
F/Sgt. P.A. Moore

April 22nd, 1944. RAID ON DUSSELDORF. Nineteen aircraft took off and eighteen successfully attacked Dusseldorf. Fires were plentiful, the glow of which could be seen from the enemy coast. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 5182 F/Sgt. Allen, R. Sgt. Swinton, S. Mc., Sgt. Stewart, J.S.R. Sgt. Bond, J.G. F/Sgt. Collett, K.P., Sgt. Lord, D., Aus. 415384 F/O. Orr, W.M. Lancaster captained by Aus. 402940 S/Ldr. A.V. Willis was badly shot up by flak but landed safely.

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April 24th, 1944. RAID ON KARSRUHE. Fifteen aircraft took off and successfully attacked Karlsruhe, all returning safely to base.

April 26th, 1944. RAID ON ESSEN - RECORD. A large force tonight, twenty-five aircraft took off to attack Essen carrying a record tonnage of 133 tons. A successful and concentrated raid is reported. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 27542 F/O. Sharpe, J.W., Sgt. Robinson, G.A. Aus. 423921 F/O. Steinbeck, A.K., Aus. 423929 F/Sgt. Theyer, W.J. Aus. 413423 F/O. Pritchard, J.S. Sgt. Warren, G.B. Aus. 432114 F/O. Callahan, P.R.

April 27th, 1944. RAID ON FRIEDRICHSHAFEN. Twenty aircraft took part in a successful and concentrated attack on Frienrichshafen. Three aircraft failed to return. The crews were: - Aus. 404507 S/Ldr. Jarman, E.G.D., Sgt. Champkin, D.G., Aus. 404503 F/O. Jackson, F.G. Aus. 408034 F/O. M.W. Carroll, Aus. 404467 F/O. H.R. Harrison, Aus. 411227 F/O. R.L. Neal, Aus. 414807 P/O. T.J. Lynch - F/Sgt. Brown, G.H., Sgt. Jones, G., Sgt. Forshaw, B., Sgt. Cranston, G., Sgt. Sneyd, E.G., Sgt. Rennie, S., Sgt. Milner, W., - Aus. 415259 W/O. Leary, J., Sgt. Jones, T.E., Aus. 422684 F/Sgt. Patterson, A.R., Aus. 420928 W/O. A.J. Farrar, Aus. 21660 F/Sgt. McAllister, H.G., Sgt. Pountney, R.S., Aus. 406094 F/O. L.W. Bown.

April 30th, 1944. RAID ON MAINTENON. Fourteen aircraft took part in a highly successful raid on an important ammunition dump at Maintenon, all returning safely to base.

"G for George" the famous Squadron aircraft has finally been screened, having completed her 90th operation, on Cologne on 20.4.44.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 30.4.44.

Hours 17,650
Miles 2,875,960
Sorties 2,866
Tons 10,011

Enemy aircraft destroyed 2, probably destroyed 2, damaged 1/4.

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MAY, 1944.

May 1st, 1944. RAID ON LYONS. Eight aircraft successfully bombed the Berliet Motor Vehicles Works at Lyons and returned safely to base.

May 3rd, 1944. RAID ON MAILLY-EN-CAMP. Seventeen aircraft took off and the military depot at Mailly-en-Camp was successfully attacked. Unfortunately five aircraft failed to return. The missing crews were: - Aus. 416945 F/Sgt. Fry, H.J., Sgt. Holloway, J.H., Aus. 426563 Sgt. Elgar, W.R., F/O. L. Sumner, Sgt. Applegarth, K., Sgt. Winstanley, T.S. Sgt. Graham, G. - Aus. 409760 W/O. J.W. Smart, Sgt. Oulton, T., F/Sgt. Warnock, G.R.P., Aus. 422100 F/Sgt. Barber, G.C., Sgt. Naismith, F.F., Sgt. Moore, A.B., F/Sgt. Stannett, E.F., - P/O. F.W. Baker, Sgt. Ranger, J.W., Sgt. Martin, W.B., Sgt. Thompson, W.H., Sgt. O'Neill, G.E., Sgt. Maxwell, W.C., Sgt. Black, H.P., - F/Sgt. Gritty, G.K., Sgt. Vale, L.R., Sgt. Williams, L.H., Sgt. Orbin, J., Sgt. Russell, S.R., Sgt. Morgan, B., Sgt. Chandler, J., - Aus. 414050 P/O. N.D.L. Lloyd, Sgt. Turnbull, J.G., Sgt. Wootton-Woolley, B.T., Aus. 424297 F/Sgt. Hobbs, R.H., Aus. 418910 F/Sgt. Barr, D.R., Sgt. Johnson, R.A., & Sgt. Fry, P.D.

May 6th, 1944. RAID ON AUBIGNE RACAN. Five aircraft successfully attacked an ammunition dump at Aubigne Racan, near Le Mans and returned safely to base.

May 7th, 1944. RAID ON BRUZ. Twelve aircraft attacked an ammunition dump at Bruz and all returned safely.

May 9th, 1944. RAID ON MERVILLE. Ten aircraft successfully attacked a gun emplacement at Merville and returned safely to base.

May 11th, 1944. Eleven aircraft took off to bomb Hasselt but were unable to identify their target. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 415585 P/O. J. McCleery, Sgt. Law, W.A., Aus. 417091 F/Sgt. Long, H.J., Aus. 410209 F/O. W.H. Betts, Aus. 415596 F/Sgt. Widdup, V., Sgt. Hamilton, A.F., and Aus. 427309 F/Sgt. Dyson, D.J.

May 12th, 1944. MINELAYING. Nine aircraft laid their mines successfully at Heligoland Bight and returned safely from a quiet and uneventful trip.

May 15th, 1944. NEW COMMANDING OFFICER. W/Cdr. J.K. Douglas took over command of the Squadron from W/Cdr. H.D. Marsh. Mentioned in British Press 24.5.44.

May 19th, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to W/O. W.F. Throburn and Aus. 412480 P/O. A.G. Chadwick-Bates was gazetted today.

May 20th, 1944. VISIT. Mr. Curtin, the Prime Minister of Australia visited the Squadron.

May 21st, 1944. RAID ON DUISBURG. Twenty-one aircraft took off and Duisburg was successfully attacked. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - P/O. R.E. McDougall, Sgt. Leaney, W.H. F/O. O'Donoghue, E., Sgt. Bunker, R.R., Sgt. Herkes, J. Sgt. O'Neill, W.F., and Sgt. Elsbury, H.R.

May 22nd, 1944. RAID ON DORTMUND. Twenty-two aircraft took part in a very successful raid on Dortmund, all returning safely to base.

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May 23rd, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards were gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 416423 F/Lt. C.G. Gardner
Aus. 420256 F/O. O.A.S. Patterson
Aus. 397 W/Cdr. H.D. Marsh

Distinguished Flying Medal: - P/O. R.C. Gordon
P/O. E. Brooks

May 24th, 1944. RAID ON LE CLIPON. - RECORD. Twenty-four aircraft successfully attacked a gun emplacement at Le Clipon and all returned safely having dropped a record tonnage of bombs - 133½ tons.

May 27th, 1944. RAID ON MERVILLE/FRANCEVILLE. Twenty aircraft took off to attack a Coastal defence Battery at Merville/Franceville. One aircraft failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 420961 F/Sgt. Kirkland, R.N., Sgt. Allen, A.P., Sgt. O'Bree H., F/O. Hardman, J., Sgt. Gott, F.V., Aus. 434094 Sgt. Wilson, B., and Sgt. Puiu, A.G.

May 28th, 1944. RAID ON EU. Twenty-two aircraft took part in a successful and concentrated attack on a Field Battery at Eu. All returned safely.

May 29th, 1944. "G for George" was flown to Waddington prior to despatch to Australia.

May 31st, 1944. RAID ON TERGNIER. Twenty-three aircraft attacked the Marshalling yards at Tergnier and returned safely to base.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 31.5.44.

Miles 3,005,240
Sorties 3,090
Hours 18,458
Tons 11,170

Enemy aircraft destroyed 2, probably destroyed 2, damaged 14.

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JUNE, 1944.

2/3rd June, 1944. RAID ON BERNEVAL LE GRAND. Twenty-three aircraft successfully attacked Berneval Le Grand and all returned safely to base.

5/6th June, 1944. RAIDS ON CRISBECQ & ST. MARTIN DE VARREVILLE. During the night, when the A.E.A.F. landed in France, twenty-six aircraft took off, thirteen attacking Crisbecq and the other thirteen St. Martin de Varreville. All returned safely.

6th June, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 401711 F/O. J.W. Moore, D.F.M.
Aus. 407933 F/O. A.M. Sanders, D.F.M
Aus. 415226 P/O. F. Burbidge
Aus. 10991 F/Lt. A.W. Wales, D.F.M.
Aus. 401246 F/O. I.R. Richardson, D.F.M.
Aus. 415239 P/O. R.A.N. Douglas

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 422127 F/Sgt. R.A. Carr
Aus. 413451 F/Sgt. C.H. Tindale

6/7th June, 1944. RAID ON VIRE. Twenty-five aircraft took off to attack railway bridges at Vire. One aircraft failed to return. A Ju.88 was damaged by Aus. 425686 P/O. G. Lewis and crew and a F.W.190 was damaged by Aus. 414581 F/Sgt. Lutton, C.W. and crew. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 422801 P/O. F.J. Knight, Sgt. Croom, L.P., F/O. Lynam, W., P/O. J.J. Read, Sgt. Harrison, F., Sgt. Elcombe, R. and Sgt. Hillman, L.W.

7/8th June, 1944. RAID ON FORET DE CERISY. Twenty-four aircraft attacked fuel depots and tank harbours at Foret de Cerisy. All returned safely.

10/11th June, 1944. RAID ON ACHERES. Twenty-five aircraft took off to attack the railway junction at Acheres. Aus. 414328 P/O. R. Tomlinson and crew claim to have damaged a Me.110 and Aus. 8018 P/O. H.J. Whittick and crew claim a damaged Ju.88. One aircraft failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 421453 F/Sgt. Pearson, L.R., Sgt. Jillings, J.A., Aus. 424140 Sgt. Flynn, W.J., Aus. 422304 F/Sgt. Schwilk, C.W., Sgt. Keenan, S.D., Sgt. Mason, K.G., and Sgt. Worthington, W.

11/12th June, 1944. RAID ON EVREUX. Nineteen aircraft took off to attack the railway centre at Evreux. Three enemy fighters were claimed as damaged. A Ju.88 and Me.109 by Aus. 423269 P/O. N.E. Twyford and crew and a Me.109 by Aus. 413580 P/O. C.P. Gundelach and crew.

12/13th June, 1944. RAID ON GELSENKIRCHEN. Fourteen aircraft took off to attack the synthetic oil plant at Gelsenkirchen and one failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 5137 P/O. J.W. Roche, Sgt. Ross, J.B., Aus. 20076 F/Sgt. Hill, R.T. Aus. 422165 F/O. J.R. Fry, Sgt. Sage, T.E. Sgt. Barker, G.G. and Aus. 417920 F/Sgt. Whittenbury, M.T. Aus. 412241 P/O. E.R. Fordham and crew claim to have damaged a Me.110.

14/15th June, 1944. RAID ON LE HAVRE. Twenty aircraft took off to attack docks and harbour facilities at Le Havre and all returned safely. The bombers had Spitfire fighter cover.

15/16th June, 1944. RAID ON BOULOGNE. Twenty-two aircraft took off and successfully attacked the dock area at Boulogne, all returning safely to base.

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16/17th June, 1944. RAID ON DOMLEGER. Twenty aircraft attacked constructional works at Domleger. Hits were claimed on a Me.210 by Aus. 425686 P/O. G. Lewis and crew.

22/23rd June, 1944. RAID ON RHEIMS. Twenty-one aircraft took off to attack the railway centre at Rheims. Two failed to return. The missing crews were: - Aus. 421453 F/Sgt. Pearson, L.R. Sgt. Jillings, J.A. Aus. 424140 Sgt. Flynn, W.J. Aus. 422304 F/Sgt. Schwilk, C.W., Sgt. Keenan, S.D., Sgt. Mason, K.G., Sgt. Worthington, N. - Aus. 400388 P/O. F.S. Lamble, Sgt. Foddering, G.E., Aus. 419017 F/Sgt. Tomkins, K.J., Aus. 409298 W/O. English, W.N., Aus. 424224 F/Sgt. Shelton, K.H. Sgt. Spiers, K.H. and Aus. 423035 P/O. S.J. Allsep. An unidentified enemy fighter was destroyed by Aus. 421340 P/O. H.P. Korsman and crewand a Me.107 was damaged by Aus. 425686 P/O. G. Lewis and crew.

24th June, 1944. RAID ON LES HAYONS. In daylight nineteen aircraft attacked a flying bomb launching site at Les Hayons. All returned safely.

25th June, 1944. RAID ON LIGESCOURT. Eighteen aircraft successfully attacked the flying bomb launching site at Ligescourt and all returned safely to base.

27th June, 1944. AWARD. Notification of the award of the Distinguished Flying Medal to Aus. 422122 F/Sgt. L.J. Burrows was gazetted today.

27/28th June, 1944. RAID ON VAIRES. Nineteen aircraft took off to attack the railway centre at Vaires. One aircraft failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 423752 P/O. J.L. Israel, Sgt. White, L.G. Aus. 419387 F/Sgt. Hunkin, G.H. Sgt. Pester, L.E.G. Sgt. Beckwith, F.W.W. Sgt. Rouse, A.E.J. and Sgt. Krynski, T.

29th June, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the award of the Distinguished Flying Medal to ~~Aus.xx422122xx/Sgt.xLxJx~~ Sgt. W. G. Shaw and Sgt. J. Eley was gazetted today.

RAID ON SIRACOURT. Nineteen aircraft successfully attacked constructional works at Siracourt and all returned safely to base.

30th June, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: -
Aus. 413916 P/O. R.N.T. Wade
Aus. 408334 P/O. J.R.E. Howell
Aus. 410077 P/O. S.A. Moorhouse
Aus. 420884 P/O. A.R. Hoyle
Aus. 34031 P/O. C.S. Fulloon

30/1st July, 1944. RAID ON VIERZON. Twenty aircraft successfully attacked the railway centre at Vierzon and all returned safely to base.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 30.6.44.

Sorties 3,424
Hours 19,804
Miles 3,220,600
Tons 12,732

Enemy aircraft destroyed 3, probably destroyed 2, damaged 23.

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JULY, 1944.

2nd July, 1944. RAID ON OISEMONT NEUVILLE AU BOIS. Nineteen aircraft attacked the supply depot at Oisemont Neuville Au Bois.

4/5th July, 1944. RAID ON ORLEANS. Fourteen aircraft took off and the rail centre at Orleans was successfully attacked. One aircraft failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 417528 P/O. J.A. Solomon, Sgt. Micklefield, G., Aus. 417873 F/Sgt. Mollett, O.K., Sgt. Joy, D.V., Aus. 421347 W/O. I.H. Clark, Sgt. Wills, F.D. and Sgt. McLean, L.

5th July, 1944. SOCIAL. A dance was held in the Airmen's dining hall and the proceeds are to go the the "Salute the Soldier" week campaign.

5/6th July, 1944. RAID ON DIJON. Fourteen aircraft attacked the railway centre at Dijon.

6th July, 1944. RAID ON FORET DU CROC. Nine aircraft successfully attacked the flying bomb installations at Foret Du Croc.

7th July, 1944. RAID ON CAEN. Twenty aircraft took off to attack enemy troop and tank concentrations in the Caen area. Bombing was very concentrated. One Lancaster which was hit by flak and had three engines unserviceable failed to return to base. Three members of the crew: - Sgt. Smith, G.H., Aus. 419250 F/Sgt. Bertuch, F.L., and Sgt. Lemmon, R.E. baled out over the target but the captain, Aus. 414707 W/O. G.E.M. Lindeman managed to belly land the Lancaster in Allied territory and the and the remaining members of the crew - F/Sgt. Henderson, G.J., Sgt. Woodcraft, M.J., and Sgt. Carney, G.W, escaped injury.

8th July, 1944. The Squadron collected £1,650 for "Salute the Soldier" week.

12/13th July, 1944. RAID ON TOURS. Nineteen aircraft attacked the railway junction at Tours.

14/15th July, 1944. RAID ON REVIGNY. Fifteen aircraft took off to attack Revigny but the mission was abandoned. One aircraft failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 421774 P/O. W.A.H. Vaughan, Sgt. Allan, A., Aus. 421578 F/Sgt, Dickerson, K.L.T., Sgt. Jeffries, F.V. Aus. 422460 F/Sgt. Raftery, B.F., Sgt. Wade, D., and Sgt. Kilsby, H.S.

18th July, 1944. RAID ON CAEN AREA. Prior to the offensive by Allied land forces eighteen aircraft took part in a heavy attack by Bomber Command on targets E. and S.E. of Caen. Altogether 5,000 tons of bombs were dropped.

18/19th July, 1944. RAID ON GELSENKIRCHEN. Eighteen aircraft took off to attack the synthetic oil plant at Scholven-Buer near Gelsenkirchen. Aus. 413580 P/O. C.P. Gundelach did not attack as his escape hatch blew off and bombs were jettisoned. One aircraft failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 400318 P/O. R.L. Carr, Sgt. Cambridge, W.J., Sgt. Utne, R., Aus. 417087 F/Sgt. Leak, L.C., Aus. 414757 F/Sgt. Brown, E.B., Sgt. Glenn, W.D., and Sgt. Ward, F. One enemy aircraft was damaged by Aus. 405922 P/O. H.J. Mills and crew and another by Aus. 405792 F/O. J.C. Holmes and crew.

20/21st July, 1944. RAID ON COURTRAI. Twenty-two aircraft took off to attack the railway junction at Courtrai. Three aircraft did not attack and one failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 410065 P/Ø. R.H. Jopling, Sgt. Butler, K.G., Aus. 419198 F/Sgt. Moffitt, R.B., Sgt. Cawley, J.G., Aus. 426279 F/Sgt. Annt, D.J., Sgt. Mills, R., and Aus. 419057 F/Sgt. Rossely, L.G. A Ju.88 was damaged by Aus. 425909 P/O. G.T. Jarratt and cret.

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23/24th July, 1944. RAID ON KIEL. Ten aircraft attacked the German naval base at Kiel.

25th July, 1944. RAIDS ON COQUEREAUX & ARDOUVAL. Eleven aircraft attacked the launching site at Ardouval and eleven out of twelve starters attacked the launching site at Coquereaux. One landed immediately after hatch blew off over base on take off.

25/26th July, 1944. RAID ON BOIS DES JARDINS. Fifteen aircraft attacked the launching site at Bois Des Jardins.

28/29th July, 1944. RAID ON STUTTGART. Sixteen aircraft attacked Stuttgart. Aus. 414581 P/O. C.W. Lutton was injured in the hand by flak over the target but made a successful one hand landing on return. P/O. C.W. Lutton and crew claim 1 F.W.190 probably destroyed and Aus. 418136 P/O. P.L. Lester and crew claim one Me.109 damaged. Aus. 410976 P/O. A.A. Hannahan returned on three engines after his Lancaster was hit by flak.

31/1st August, 1944. RAID ON FORET DE NIEPPE. Fifteen aircraft attacked the flying bomb supply depot at the Foret De Nieppe.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 31.7.44.

Hours 20,773
Sorties 3,672
Miles 3,325,640
Tons 14,034

Enemy aircraft destroyed 3, probably destroyed 3, damaged 27.

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AUGUST, 1944.

2nd August, 1944. RAID ON CHATEAU BERNAPRE Ten aircraft attacked the launching site at Chateau Bernapre.

3rd August, 1944. RAID ON TROSSY ST MAXIMIN. Twenty-five aircraft took off to attack the supply depot at Trossy St. Maximin. One aircraft returned with full bomb load as bomb doors failed to open, several aircraft were hit by flak and one aircraft failed to return. It was shot down north of Rouen on outward journey. One, or possible two parachutes were seen. The missing crew were: - Aus. 417296 F/O. R.C. Fidock, Sgt. Stock, D.C., Aus. 427320 F/Sgt. W.R. Hullett, Aus. 464205 Sgt. Jones, R.H., Aus. 423729 F/Sgt. Heidtmann, K.F., Sgt. Burke, J., and Sgt. Trollope, J.E.

4th August, 1944. RAID ON PAUILLAC. 20 aircraft attacked the Oil Storage Depot at Pauillac.

5th August, 1944. RAID ON PAUILLAC Another attack on Pauillac and this time 25 aircraft took part.

7/8th August, 1944. RAID ON SOUTH CAEN. In support of the Canadian Army thirty-two aircraft took off to attack aiming points in the Fontenay Le Marmion area, south of Caen. Seventeen aircraft bombed, the remainder returning with their bombs on instructions from master bomber.

8/9th August, 1944. RAID ON AIRE SUR LA LYS. Twenty-five aircraft attacked the oil storage depot at Aire Sur La Lys.

10th August, 1944. RAID ON FERFAY. Fifteen aircraft took off to attack the launching site at Ferfay but did not bomb owing to weather conditions. Lancaster captained by Aus. 412241 F/O. E.R. Fordham was shot up by flak and the Mid-Upper gunner was wounded in the left arm.

11th August, 1944. RAID ON DOUAI. Fourteen aircraft attacked the railway centre at Douai.

12th August, 1944. RAID ON LA PALLICE, Twelve aircraft attacked the U-boat pens at La Pallice.

12/13th August, 1944. RAIDS ON BRUNSWICK & FALAISE. Eleven out of twelve starters attacked Brunswick, one returning early with engine trouble. A Me.110 was shot down by Aus. 425909 F/O. G.T. Jarratt and crew.

Seven aircraft attacked troop concentrations in the Falaise area.

14th August, 1944. RAID ON FALAISE. Twenty aircraft again attacked troop concentrations in the Falaise area.

15th August, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 24541 P/O. N.J. Anderson
Aus. 402602 P/O. G.D. Fitzgerald
Aus. 409280 P/O. C.E. Suffren

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 426100 F/Sgt. F.S. Hodge
F/Sgt S.T. Mason
F/Sgt D.T. Baldwin

RAID ON VOLKEL AIRFIELD. Bomber Command despatched 1004 aircraft to attack airfields in Belgium and Holland. Twenty-seven aircraft from 460 attacked Volkel airfield.

16/17th August, 1944. RAID ON STETTIN. Twenty-four aircraft attacked Stettin.

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18th August, 1944. RAID ON FROMENTAL. Four aircraft took off to attack the flying bomb site at Fromental, but only two bombed owing to bad weather conditions.

AWARDS. Notification of the following awards were gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 415380 P/O. A.G. King.
Aus. 405887 W/O. M. Stafford.
Aus. 405223 W/O. H.E.A. Knox, D.F.M.
Aus. 423225 F/O. A.L. Cohen.
Aus. 416609 P/O. L. Petney.

18/19th August, 1944. RAID ON RIEME: Twenty aircraft took off and eighteen attacked the oil storage depot at Reime, by the Ghent-Terneuzen Canal. Two aircraft returned early with engine trouble.

25/26th August, 1944. RAID ON RUSSELSHEIM. Eighteen aircraft took off and sixteen attacked Russelsheim. One aircraft did not attack as bombs hung up, and Lancaster captained by Aus. 423269 F/O. N.E. Twyford had to make a forde landing in Normandy after his petrol tank was holed by an enemy aircraft.

26/27th August, 1944. RAID ON KIEL. Twenty-six aircraft attacked the naval base at Kiel.

28th August, 1944. RAID ON VINCLY. Seven aircraft bombed the flying bomb site at Vincly.

29/30th August, 1944. RAID ON STETTIN. Twenty-four aircraft took off to attack Stettin. A Me. 110 was destroyed by Aus. 405922 F/O. H.J. Mills and crew. Two aircraft failed to return. The missing crews were: - Aus. 401959 F/O. K.W. Humphris, Sgt. Walsh, G.D., Sgt. Wild, S.R., F/O. J.B. Macneill, P/O. R.K. Stratford, Sgt. Fallon, D., Sgt. Aviet, P.B., - Aus. 415600 P/O. P.N. Aldred, Sgt. Troth, P.L. Aus. 427369 F/Sgt. Allcot, R.J., Aus. 429592 F/Sgt. MacNab, D., Sgt. Whaling, R., Aus. 437445 F/O. D.A. Rice, Aus. 8245 F/Sgt. Jackson, A.J.R.

30th August, 1944. VISIT. Air Commodore H.I. Couzens, A.F.C., Senior Air Staff Officer of No.1 Group visited the squadron.

31st August, 1944. RAID ON RAIMBERT. Seventeen aircraft took part in an attack on the rocket storage depot at Raimbert. One failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 418394 P/O. L.J. Grey Sgt. Tomkinson, R., Aus. 417699 F/Sgt. Coates, R., Aus. 432167 F/Sgt. Hathaway, W.E., Aus. 427833 F/Sgt. Ion, J.P., Sgt. Morris, R.R.C. and Aus. 412546 W/O. R. Brereton.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 31.8.44.

Hours 22,781
Sorties, 4,055
Miles 3,431,560
Tons 15,994

Enemy aircraft destroyed 5, probably destroyed 3, damaged 27.

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SEPTEMBER, 1944.

3rd September, 1944. RAID ON GILZE RIJEN. Sixteen aircraft attacked the airfield at Gilze Rijen leaving it heavily cratered.

VISIT. Sir Archibald Sinclair, Under Secretary of State for Air, visited the Squadron.

5th September, 1944. RAID ON LE HAVRE. Nineteen aircraft took part in a very successful attack on troop concentrations and German Headquarters at Le Havre.

6th September, 1944. RAID ON LE HAVRE. Another attack on Le Havre and this time twenty-four aircraft from the Squadron took part. Seven aircraft returned with bombs - recalled by Master Bomber.

8th September, 1944. RAID ON LE HAVRE. Twenty-one aircraft took off to attack Le Havre but the mission was abandoned owing to adverse weather conditions. Three aircraft however, bombed before cancellation.

10th September, 1944. RAID ON LE HAVRE. Twenty-six aircraft took off to attack Le Havre again - one returned with engine trouble, but the remainder successfully bombed the target.

12th September, 1944. RAID ON FRANKFURT. Twenty-eight aircraft took part in a highly successful attack on Frankburt. Good visibility. A F.W.190 is claimed as damaged by Aus. 415675 F/O. W.C.M. Maxton and crew.

14th September, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - F/O. I.J. Bowen
Distinguished Flying Medal: - F/Sgt. J.R. Espley

16/17th September, 1944. RAID ON RHEINE-SALZBERGEN. Twenty-nine aircraft took off and twenty-eight attacked the Rheine-Slazbergen airfield. Two aircraft collided with each other and Aus. 421340 F/O. H.P. Korsman had to return without bombing.

19th September, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 410008 P/O. V.H. Neal
Aus. 405825 W/O. R.J. Brummel
Aus. 408370 W/O. W.A. Gourlay
Aus. 415341 W/O. C.B. Lynch
Aus. 417025 W/O. R.H. White

Distinguished Flying Medal: - F/Sgt. H. Symmonds
Sgt. D.H. Cochrane
Sgt. H. Goulden
Sgt. W. Hendry

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20th September, 1944. RAID ON CALAIS. Twenty-seven aircraft attacked another Channel port - this time Calais.

23/24th September, 1944. RAID ON NEUSS. Twenty-eight aircraft took off to attack Neuss. Twenty-four aircraft attacked the primary and four bombed Dusseldorf.

25th September, 1944. Twenty-nine aircraft took off to attack Calais but the mission was abandoned.

26th September, 1944. RAID ON CAP GRIS NEZ. Twenty-nine aircraft successfully attacked gun batteries and coastal defences at Cap Gris Nez.

27th September, 1944. RAID ON CALAIS. Calais again and this time twenty-seven aircraft successfully attacked the target.

28th September, 1944. Once more sixteen aircraft took off to bomb Calais but the mission had to be abandoned owing to cloud conditions over the target.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 30.9.44.

Miles 3,629,960
Hours 24,021
Sorties 4,368
Tons 17,459

Enemy aircraft destroyed 5, probably destroyed 3, damaged 28.

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OCTOBER, 1944

3rd October, 1944. RAID ON WALCHEREN. Twelve aircraft attacked the sea wall at Westkapelle on the island of Walcheren.

4/5th October, 1944. MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in the Kattegat area.

5/6th October, 1944. RAID ON SAARBRUCKEN. Thirty aircraft took part in a very successful attack on the town of Saarbrucken. Possible damage to one enemy aircraft by Aus. 409435 F/O. E.C. Owen and crew.

6th October, 1944. "G FOR GEORGE". The Veteran Lancaster "G for George" which is flying home to Australia, left the Squadron today for Prestwick. - Before leaving Prestwick on 11.10.44 the captain, Aus. 404506 F/Lt. E.H. Hudson, received a message of goodwill from H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester. "George" arrived in Australia on 19.10.44.

7th October, 1944 RAID ON EMMERICH. Thirty-one aircraft took part in an attack on the German town of Emmerich. One aircraft was badly damaged by flak and three members of the crew Aus. 408286 W/O. N.E. Newton, Aus. 417313 F/Sgt. Potter, K.G. and Sgt. Amos, D.L. baled out, the rest of the crew landing at Hawkinge. Another aircraft failed to return. Was seen to crash eight miles from the target - 7 parachutes seen. The missing crew were: - Aus. 403217 F/Lt. E.R. Greenacre, P/O. G. Cairns, Aus. 420189 F/O. K.E. Harris, Aus. 415211 F/O. C.E. Agg, Aus. 412913 F/O. R.C. Coveny, F/Sgt. Marchant, H.W. and Aus. 413881 P/O. J. McKean.

11th October, 1944. Fifteen aircraft took off to attack Fort Fredrick Hendrik but the mission was abandoned.

12th October, 1944. RAID ON FORT FREDRICK HENDRIK. Fifteen aircraft took part in a very successful attack on the gun positions at Fort Fredrick Hendrik.

13th October, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards will be gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 401614 F/Lt. J.A. Critchley
F/O. J.A. Duckworth

Distinguished Flying Medal: - F/Sgt. A.W. Knapp

14th October, 1944. RAID ON DUISBURG. Twenty-six aircraft took part in a very heavy attack on Duisburg. This was the largest effort so far taken by Bomber Command in daylight over Germany.

14/15th October, 1944. RAID ON DUISBURG. Another heavy attack on Duisburg was carried out at night. Twenty-five aircraft from the Squadron took part.

15/16th October, 1944. MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in the Kattegat area.

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RAID ON WILHELMSHAVEN. Five aircraft took part in an attack on Wilhelmshaven.

16th October, 1944. SOCIAL. A dance was held by 460 Squadron aircrew and was attended by G/Cpt. H.I. Edwards, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C.

17th October, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 417136 W/O. K.C. Tweedie
Aus. 421179 F/O. D.J. Cullen
Aus. 422805 P/O. J.A. O'Connor
Aus. 8018 P/O. H.J. Whittick
Aus. 414708 W/O. G.E.M. Lindenburg

19/20th October, 1944. RAID ON STUTTGART. Twenty-eight aircraft attacked Stuttgart but no results were observed owing to cloud conditions over the target.

22/23rd October, 1944. MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mined in the Kattegat area.

23/24th October, 1944. RAID ON ESSEN. Twenty-six aircraft took off to attack Essen. Two returned early and Lancaster captained by P/O. D.R.G. Richins crashed at Bircham on the return, journey and 6 of the crew were killed. Those killed were Aus. 422298 P/O. D.R.G. Richins, Sgt. Sunderland, E.A., Aus. 421764 F/Sgt. Stobo, W., Aus. 427818 F/Sgt. Frankish, K.T., Aus. 421524 F/Sgt. Treloar, J.R. and Aus. 428900 F/Sgt. Bergelin, R.W. The mid-upper gunner Aus. 431006 F/Sgt. Cannon, J.G. was slightly injured.

25th October, 1944. RAID ON ESSEN. Another attack on Essen and this time twenty-three out of twenty-four starters attacked. One aircraft returned early with engine trouble.

27th October, 1944. AWARD. Notification of the Award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Aus. 413137 F/O. N.H. Hudson was gazetted today.

28th October, 1944. RAID ON COLOGNE. Twenty-four aircraft took part in an attack on Cologne but bombing was rather scattered.

29th October, 1944. RAID ON WALCHEREN. Nine aircraft took off to attack Domberg and the island of Walcheren but four returned without bombing on M.Bs instructions.

30/31st October, 1944. RAID ON COLOGNE. Twenty-six aircraft took part in another attack on Cologne.

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31/1st November, 1944. RAID ON COLOGNE. Cologne again and this time twenty-three aircraft from the Squadron operated. One returned early with engine trouble. Lancaster captained by Aus. 427190 P/O. A.W. Finlay was hit by incendiaries - the M/U gunner Sgt. Duff, R. was killed and the W/Op. Aus. 16193 F/Sgt. D'Alton, F.A. was injured. One aircraft failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 427044 F/O. E.F. Reid, Sgt. Haley, J., Aus. 422943 F/O. M.A. Flory, Aus. 424203 F/Sgt. Emery, A.F., Aus. 434018 F/Sgt. Royes, R.H., Sgt. Coley, R.C., Aus. 427527 F/Sgt. M. Marshall.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 31.10.44

Miles 3,869,800
Hours 25,645
Sorties 4,702
Tons 19,071

Enemy aircraft destroyed 5, probably destroyed 3, damaged 29.

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NOVEMBER, 1944.

2/3rd November, 1944. RAID ON DUSSELDORF. Twenty-three aircraft took part in an attack on Dusseldorf. One aircraft was damaged by a cannon shell from an unseen fighter.

4/5th November, 1944. RAID ON BOCHUM. Fifteen aircraft took off and fourteen attacked Bochum. One returned early with enging trouble.

6th November, 1944. RAID ON GELSENKIRCHEN. Thirteen out of fourteen starters bombed Gelsenkirchen. Attack was rather scattered. One aircraft returned early with engine trouble.

6/7th November, 1944. MINELAYING. Six aircraft laid mines in Heligoland Bight.

9th November, 1944. RAID ON WANNE EICKEL. Twenty-three aircraft attacked Wanne Eickel. Aus. 409435 F/O. E.C. Owen, pilot, was hit in the face by a H/F splinter over the target. The bomb aimer Aus. 408463 P/O. L. Woods flew the aircraft back to Manston and the wounded pilot landed it.

11/12th November, 1944. RAID ON DORTMUND. Nineteen aircraft attacked the Hosch-Benzin synthetic oil plant at Dortmund.

14th November, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 411216 F/O. A.W. Delohery
Aus. 425774 F/O. R. Tardent
F/O. S. Cartwright

16th November, 1944. RAID ON DUREN. Twenty-three aircraft bombed the German town of Duren only five miles ahead of the American army.

17th November, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 421275 F/O. R.W. Hofstetter
Aus. 422104 P/O. H.H. Beattie
Aus. 400567 P/O. T.F. Perrignon
Aus. 422468 P/O. J.J. Egan
Aus. 409957 P/O. R.S. Stott
Aus. 405535 W/O. C.R. Anderson
Aus. 422788 P/O. J. Venn
Aus. 421240 W/O. J.B. Brown

18/19th November, 1944. RAID ON WANNE EICKEL. Twenty-three aircraft took part in an attack on the synthetic oil plant at Wanne Eickel. One aircraft failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 419556 F/O. A.G. Carter, Sgt. Evans, N.S., Aus. 437333 F/Sgt. Byrne, G.D.,

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Aus. 429655 F/O. A.H. Francis, Aus. 424355 F/O. J.H. Beeston, Aus. 422133 F/Sgt. Charlesworth, D., and Aus. 437685 F/Sgt. Payne, R.J.

21/22nd November, 1944. RAID ON ASCHAFFENBURG. Twenty-three aircraft took part in an attack on the marshalling yards at Aschaffenburg. A Ju.88 is claimed as probably damaged by Aus. 411959 S/Ldr. W.E. Roberts and crew. Two aircraft failed to return. The missing crews were: - Aus. 434470 F/O. R.F. McMaster, Sgt. Day, H.H., Aus. 424101 F/O. K.R. Stewart, Aus. 436274 F/O. F.J. Pettiford, Aus. 424555 F/Sgt. Herbertson, W., Aus. 433334 F/Sgt. Jones, M.A. Aus. 435535 F/Sgt. R.S. Chandler - Aus. 38181 F/O. W.G. Ottaway, Sgt. Metcalfe, H.S., Aus. 427760 F/Sgt. L.W. Flohm, Sgt. Norman, V.E., Aus. 430137 F/Sgt. Bull, W.F., Sgt. Brigg, G.H.J. and Sgt. Shilstone, A.N.

27/28th November, 1944. RAID ON FREIBURG. Sixteen aircraft took part in an attack on Freiburg.

MINELAYING. Eight aircraft laid mines in the Skagerrak.

29th November, 1944. RAID ON DORTMUND. Twenty-three aircraft attacked Dortmund. One aircraft was slightly damaged by flak and one failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 428772 F/O. M.C. Gray, Sgt. Smith, R.A., Aus. 426447 Sgt. Armstrong, H.B., Aus. 14734 F/O. N.E. Butler, Aus. 436658 F/Sgt. Parry, E.A., Aus. 405511 W/O. W.J.L. Whale, and Aus. 412983 W/O. R.W. Lett.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 30.11.44.

Sorties 4,919
Hours 26,788
Miles 4,048,682
Tons 20,116

Enemy aircraft destroyed 5, probably destroyed 5, damaged 34.

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1st November, 1944.

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NOMINAL ROLL 460 SQUADRON

Aus. 415211.	F/O.	Agg, C.M. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 419283.	P/O.	Adams, A.W. of Melbourne, Victoria.
Aus. 425578.	F/Sgt.	Armstrong, F. of Yeronga, Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 426001.	F/Sgt.	Anderson, A.A.L. of Mackay, Queensland.
Aus. 418732.	W/O.	Anderson, A.D. of Bentleigh, Melbourne.
Aus. 405535.	W/O.	Anderson, C.R. of Clarence River, N.S.W.
Aus. 420371.	F/Lt.	Anderson, R. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 413944.	F/O.	Beaumont, B.H.of Sydney.
Aus. 6564.	A/F/L.	Barlow, A.L. of Queensland.
Aus. 424959.	F/Sgt.	Brown, A.G. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 417709.	F/Sgt.	Boulgrove, P.W.
Aus. 424353.	F/Sgt.	Barrington, J.W. of Yagoona, N.S.W.
Aus. 428900.	F/Sgt.	Bergelin, R. of Bondi, N.S.W.
Aus. 411987.	F/O.	Bethel, S.J. of Sans Souci, N.S.W.
Aus. 422830.	W/O.	Bailey, G.J. of Five Dock, N.S.W.
Aus. 412879.	W/O.	Bain, R.G. of Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.
Aus. 417616.	F/O.	Barrington, R.G. of Prospect, S.A.
Aus. 426281.	P/O.	Baskerville, A.H. of Wavell Heights, Queensland.
Aus. 424355.	F/O.	Beeston, J.M. of Tamworth, N.S.W.
Aus. 424728.	F/Sgt.	Bowden, W.J. of Five Dock, N.S.W.
Aus. 437333.	F/Sgt.	Byrne, G.B. of Norwood, S.A.
Aus. 432085.	F/Sgt.	Baker, K.G. of Gordon, Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 426824.	F/Sgt.	Boyle, R.P. of Townsville, Queensland.
Aus. 425918.	P/O.	Bates, R.G. of Roma, Queensland.
Aus. 418249.	F/Sgt.	Bush, J.W.P. of Noble Park, Victoria.
Aus. 417742.	F/Sgt.	Badgson, G.K.
Aus. 431006.	F/Sgt.	Cannon, J. of E.Malvern, Victoria.
Aus. 435461.	Sgt.	Cronk, L.C. of Pechey, Queensland.
Aus. 437637.	F/Sgt.	Corner, F. of Granville, N.S.W.
Aus. 428567.	P/O.	Curran, W.V. ofWyandra, Upper Murray, N.S.W.
Aus. 427293.	W/O.	Clapp, R.E. of Elgin, W.A.
Aus. 426043.	F/Sgt.	Carpenter, W.J. of Prospect, S.A.
Aus. 422427.	F/Sgt.	Comins, F. of Yass, N.S.W.
Aus. 412914.	F/O.	Coveny, R.C. of Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.
Aus. 419177.	P/O.	Carruth, H.M. of Manly, N.S.W.
Aus. 402439.	F/Lt.	Clark, J. of Furstville, N.S.W.
Aus. 425571.	F/O.	Charlton, D. of Norbank Estate, Lakes Creek, Qld.
Aus. 419159.	F/O.	Cassie, R. of Brunswick, Victoria.
Aus. 419556.	F/O.	Carter, A.G. of Casterton, Victoria.
Aus. 417802.	F/Sgt.	Chapman, V.R. of North Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 434447.	F/Sgt.	Carseldine, N.A. of North Ward, Townsville, Qld.
Aus. 425122.	F/Sgt.	Cole, J. of Gladstone, Queensland.
Aus. 429278.	F/Sgt.	Clough, A.W. of Inverell, N.S.W.
Aus. 424650.	F/Sgt.	Charles, E.P. of Kensington, Sydney, N.S.W.

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Aus. 419955. F/Sgt. Cherry, R.J. of Croydon, Victoria.
Aus. 410046. F/O. Campbell, A.N. of Yarraville, Victoria.
Aus. 401907. A/F/Lt. Coffey, P.J. of Victoria.
Aus. 413174. W/O. Crowe, K.F. of N.S.W.
Aus. 426314. F/~~Sgt.~~ Lt. Clark, G.K.L. of c/o G.P.O. Bak, Queensland.
Aus. 411216. F/O. Delhoery, A.W. of Neutral Bay, N.S.W.
Aus. 403564. S/Idr. Douglas, K.J. of Tamworth, N.S.W.
Aus. 415725. F/Lt. Davey, S.J. of Quairading, W.A.
Aus. 425614. F/Sgt. Deere, J.A. of Queensland.
Aus. 419840. F/Sgt. Denniston, R.B. of Queenscliffe, Victoria.
Aus. 422539. F/Sgt. Davies, D.J. of Kiama, N.S.W.
Aus. 425837. F/Sgt. Duncan, R.N. of Auchenflower, Queensland.
Aus. 426553. F/O. Dawson, O.W. of Kingaroy, Queensland.
Aus. 408639. F/O. Douglas, F.C. of Blackburn, Victoria.
Aus. 423196. W/O. Dowe, R.A. of Canterbury, N.S.W.
Aus. 427376. F/Sgt. Darcey, T. of Boddington, W.A.
Aus. 411772. P/O. Edwards, P.E. of Cowra, N.S.W.
Aus. 422152. F/Sgt. Errey, T.V. of East Kempsey, N.S.W.
Aus. 434454. F/Sgt. Everett, N.W. of Kyogle, N.S.W.
Aus. 424263. F/Sgt. Emery, A.F. of Auckland, N.Zealand.
Aus. 421197. P/O. Ellis, H. of Burlstone, Park, N.S.W.
Aus. 425142. F/Sgt. Englart, J. of Kingsthorpe, Queensland.
Aus. 422468. P/O. Egan, J.J. of Bankstown, Sydney.
Aus. 414781. F/O. Finemore, G.P. of Bundaberg, Queensland.
Aus. 425501. F/O. Fuller, T.G. of Stanthorpe, Queensland.
Aus. 415940. P/O. Fontaine, P.O. of East Fremantle, W.A.
Aus. 429655. F/O. Francis, A.H. of Ormond, Victoria.
Aus. 419464. F/Sgt. Fagg, F.C. of Geelong, Victoria.
Aus. 427818. F/Sgt. Frankish, K.T. of Mt.Lawley, W.A.
Aus. 422943. F/O. Flory, M.A. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 427655. F/Sgt. Fang Yuen, L. of Cairns, Queensland.
Aus. 426335. F/Sgt. Frail, R.A. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 423511. F/Sgt. Fleming, A.L. of Central McDonald, N.S.W.
Aus. 434500. F/Sgt. Flitcroft, K.W. of Passcherdaele, Queensland.
Aus. 413580. F/O. Gundelach, C.P. of Rosebay, Sydney.
Aus. 12033. F/Sgt. Geoffrey, G.L. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 437128. F/Sgt. Gubbins, F.S.W. of Prospect, S.A.
Aus. 422499. F/O. Gratton, V.K. of Canberra, F.C.T.
Aus. 429947. F/O. Grimmett, V.C. of Firle, S.A.
Aus. 403217. F/L. Greenacre, E.H. of Marrickville, N.S.W.
Aus. 427825. F/O. Gutteridge, K.F. of Toodyay, W.A.
Aus. 422053. F/O. Grey, H.J.
Aus. 423199. F/Sgt. Golsby, J.
Aus. 423104. F/Sgt. Grieve, R.D. of Auburn, N.S.W.
Aus. 422401. W/O. Gibson, H.H. of Mullumbimby, N.S.W.
Aus. 410228. F/Sgt. Groves, L.J. of Chettenham, Victoria.
Aus. 423459. P/O. Griffin, J.M. of Neutral Bay, N.S.W.
Aus. 435167. F/Sgt. Goudding, J.D. of Murwillumbah, N.S.W.

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Aus. 418268. Sgt. Halsall, C.W. of Euroa, Victoria.
Aus. 423722. F/O. Hamilton, D.B. of Leeton, N.S.W.
Aus. 405792. F/Lt. Holmes, J.C. of Albany Creek, Queensland.
Aus. 417371. F/O. Hendrick, H. of Renmark, S.A.
Aus. 408440. F/O. Hudspeth, D. of Hobart, Tasmania.
Aus. 428976. F/Sgt. Hulroney, R.E.
Aus. 417185. W/O. Hewitt, J.V. of Mayfair Moyston, Victoria.
Aus. 427091. W/O. Hawkins, R.N. of Bald Hills, Pambula, N.S.W.
Aus. 422554. F/Sgt. Hart, V.F. of Sawtell, N.S.W.
Aus. 427832. F/Sgt. Hogan, A.F. of North Perth, W.A.
Aus. 424036. F/O. Holst, A of Sydney., N.S.W.
Aus. 405074. W/O. Hayton, P. of Horucastle, Luca, England.
Aus. 410976. F/O. Hanrahan, A.A. of Cobram, Victoria.
Aus. 413137. F/O. Hudson, N.H. of Crowther, N.S.W.
Aus. 427506. F/Sgt. Hansen, S.F. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 418421. P/O. James, J.H. of Armadale, Victoria.
Aus. 416766. W/O. Jackson, G.N. of Cadina, S.A.
Aus. 421909. F/O. Jarratt, G.T. of Rose Bay, N.S.W.
Aus. 424763. Sgt. Jago, J.L. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 430890. F/Sgt. Kenealy, E.J. of Alphington, Victoria.
Aus. 421870. W/O. Krutli, R.A. of Fairfield, Victoria.
Aus. 433728. F/Sgt. Keir, C. of Quandialla, N.S.W.
Aus. 39538. F/Sgt. Knott, F.F. of Broadview, S.A.
Aus. 436199. F/Sgt. King, L.J. of Strathfield, N.S.W.
Aus. 405223. W/O. Knox, H.E.A. of Gladesville, Sydney.
Aus. 421340. F/O. Korsman, H.P. of N.S.W.
Aus. 416439. F/O. Loader, R.H. of Cabra, S.A.
Aus. 414581. F/O. Lutton, C.W. of Queensland.
Aus. 418136. F/O. Lester, L.P. of Thornbury, Victoria.
Aus. 419322. F/O. Lording, H.B. of Nth.Essendon, Victoria.
Aus. 42751. P/O. Lerter, J.A.G.
Aus. 410501. F/Sgt. Lawson, J.C. of Ascot Vale, Victoria.
Aus. 414944. W/O. Lucas, V.H. of Blackall, Queensland.
Aus. 417585. F/Sgt. Leeder, J.E. of Malvern, S.A.
Aus. 427337. F/Sgt. Leighton, R.S. of Glen Forrest, W.A.
Aus. 419879. F/Sgt. Low, R.T. of Nth. Melbourne, Victoria.
Aus. 428142. F/Sgt. Low, P.M. of Bagdad, Tasmania.
Aus. 429820. F/Sgt. May, D.B. of Nungihumpita, S.A.
Aus. 426754. F/Sgt. McElrea, C.W.J. of Nth. Rockhampton, Queensland.
Aus. 429727. P/O. Morrow, W.J. of Geelong, Victoria.
Aus. 422053. F/O. Matthews, A.W. of Trangie, N.S.W.
Aus. 412815. F/Lt. Morgan, T.V. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 419193. P/O. Maguire, J. of Red Cliffs, Victoria.
Aus. 415675. F/O. Maxton, W.C. of Upper Kalgan, W.A.
Aus. 405922. F/O. Mills, H.J. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 410005. F/O. McCoy, C.P. of Noorinbee, Victoria.
Aus. 415586. F/O. Maynard, F.E. of --
Aus. 426960. P/O. McGrory, H.C, of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 421665. F/Sgt. McIntosh, C.A. of Lower Boro, N.S.W.

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Aus. 427655. F/Sgt. Maxton, E.J. of Upper Kalgan, W.A.
Aus. 413881. P/O. McKean, J. of Kogarah, N.S.W.
Aus. 434469. P/O. Millar, M.
Aus. 419735. F/Sgt. Muir, K.S. of Mildura, Victoria.
Aus. 428985. F/Sgt. McIlrath, A.W. of Enfield, N.S.W.
Aus. 422974. F/Sgt. McNaught, L.C.G. of Inverell, N.S.W.
Aus. 427537. F/Sgt. Marshall, M. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 434182. F/Sgt. McQueen, E.J. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 434514. F/Sgt. McKane, E.V. of Cobroy, N.S.W.
Aus. 413401. F/Sgt. Mills, F.J. of Culcairns, N.S.W.
Aus. 16912. F/O. Murray, J.K. of Albany, W.A.
Aus. 417933. F/O. McCarthy, M.J. of Jamestown, S.A.
Aus. 419194. F/Sgt. Mander, K.C. of Glen Iris, Melbourne.
Aus. 421027. F/O. Notley, L.J. of Gladstone, N.S.W.
Aus. 426376. W/O. Norman, E.A. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 430696. F/Sgt. Norris, J.E. of Armadale, Melbourne, Victoria.
Aus. 408286. W/O. Newton, N.E. of Bothwell, Tasmania.
Aus. 427929. F/Sgt. Newman, C.H. of Kalamunda, W.A.
Aus. 410787. F/Sgt. Oliver, W.G. of Carlton, Victoria.
Aus. 436341. F/Sgt. O'Dea, J.H. of Nedlands, W.A.
Aus. 409435. F/O. Owen, E.C. of Warnanbool, Victoria.
Aus. 423177. P/O. Olley, W.J. of Lismore, N.S.W.
Aus. 422671. F/Sgt. Oliver, D.J. of Brewarinna, N.S.W.
Aus. 429824. F/Sgt. O'Leary, B.E.J. of Belhannah, S.A.
Aus. 426004. F/Sgt. Porrill, V.J. of Mackay, Queensland.
Aus. 437695. F/Sgt. Payne, R.J. of Tempe, N.S.W.
Aus. 432657. F/Sgt. Pruss, J.A. of Nth.Bondi, N.S.W.
Aus. 416281. P/O. Petherick, K.B. of Naracoorte, S.A.
Aus. 409440. F/Sgt. Phillips, L.J. of Hawksburn, Victoria.
Aus. 422286. F/Sgt. Palmer, C.A. of Strathfield, N.S.W.
Aus. 415178. F/O. Pender, H.A. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 426907. F/Sgt. Pearson, A.V. of Rockhampton, Queensland.
Aus. 415178. F/O. Pender, H.A. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 400567. P/O. Perrignon, T.F. of N.S.W.
Aus. 402606. F/O. Ratten, N. of Bellevue Hill, Sydney.
Aus. 426159. F/Sgt. Roberts, C.W.J. of Grantham, Queensland.
Aus. 411959. S/Idr. Roberts, W.R. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 427044. F/O. Reid, E.F. of Leederville, W.A.
Aus. 434026. P/O. Robinson, B.B. of Toowomba, Queensland.
Aus. 409224. F/O. Reid, B.C. of Wodonga, Victoria.
Aus. 418979. F/Sgt. Reynolds, J.B. of Blackburn, Victoria.
Aus. 418177. W/O. Richardson, H.L. of Belgrave, Victoria.
Aus. 423212. F/Sgt. Rowlands, E.A. of Herberton, Queensland.
Aus. 417893. F/Sgt. Roberts, C.L. of Salisbury, S.A.
Aus. 419220. F/Sgt. Robb, A.S. of Box Hill, Victoria.
Aus. 434018. F/Sgt. Royes, E. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 422884. F/O. Rawlings, S.K. of Nth.Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 419505. F/Sgt. Roberts, C.A. of Nullawarre, Victoria.

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Aus. 418021. F/O. Stone, G.T. of Wangaratta, Victoria.
Aus. 418725. P/O. Selleck, K.G. of Malvern, Victoria.
Aus. 426175. F/Sgt. Smith, A.C. of Warwick, Queensland.
Aus. 424679. F/Sgt. Smith, F.S. of Paddington, N.S.W.
Aus. 423919. F/Sgt. Stearman, R.C. of Brookvale, N.S.W.
Aus. 404043. F/O. Scott, J.M. of Toowoomba, Queensland.
Aus. 424513. F/Sgt. Smith, J.C. of Five Dock, N.S.W.
Aus. 437358. F/Sgt. Shennan, R.E. of Nth. Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 417540. F/Sgt. Smith, S.M. of Cawler, S.A.
Aus. 413266. F/O. Seale, M.D. of Mosman, N.S.W.
Aus. 410197. W/O. Simpson, G.B. of Rosedale, Victoria.
Aus. 404488. F/Lt. Tait, L.A. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 423269. F/O. Twyford, N.E. of Earlwood, N.S.W.
Aus. 434065. F/Sgt. Turner, S.J. of Singleton, N.S.W.
Aus. 429293. F/Sgt. Trist, J.W. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 423431. F/Sgt. Trimmey, J. of Maroubra Junction, N.S.W.
Aus. 417246. W/O. Thorpe, C.B. of Queensbury, S.A.
Aus. 424312. F/O. Terpening, R.B. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 433141. F/Sgt. Towell, K. of Rockdale, N.S.W.
Aus. 423949. F/Sgt. Uren, H.L. of Cairns, Queensland.
Aus. 427961. P/O. Utting, W.R. of Midland Junction, W.A.
Aus. 416729. P/O. Varley, J.W. of Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 437189. F/Sgt. Wiltshire, W.E. of East Moonta, S.A.
Aus. 408463. F/Sgt. Woods, L.W. of W. Hobart, Tasmania.
Aus. 426725. F/Sgt. Wilson, E.G.
Aus. 36572. F/O. Wheldon, F. of Coogee, N.S.W.
Aus. 418993. W/O. Ward, A.K. of South Ballarat, Victoria.
Aus. 426405. W/O. Webster, A.K. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 418475. P/O. Williams, J.L. of Benolla, Victoria.
Aus. 423375. F/O. Woods, B. of Five Dock, N.S.W.
Aus. 426721. F/Sgt. Walsh, R.S. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 417734. F/Sgt. Williamson, A.E. of Tranmere, S.A.
Aus. 424725. F/O. Willis, K.N. of Yass, N.S.W.
Aus. 424485. F/Sgt. Watson, J. of --
Aus. 402940. S/Idr. Willis, A.V. of Inverell, N.S.W.
Aus. 27178. F/O. Watts, R.C. of Mitcham, S.A.
Aus. 36012. F/O. Wiseman, J.L. of Gladesville, Sydney.
Aus. 415096. A/F/L. White, R. of Albany, W.A.
Aus. 426410. W/O. White, K.H. of Alderley, Brisbane.
Aus. 421857. F/Sgt. Wills, V.J. of Blakehurst, Sydney.
Aus. 422086. F/O. Yeates, P.B. of Potts Point, Sydney.

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DECEMBER, 1944.

1st December, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 422499 F/O. V.K. Gratton
Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 426907 F/Sgt. A.V. Pearson

3rd December, 1944. Fourteen aircraft took off to attack the Urft Dam but the mission was abandoned owing to bad visibility.

4/5th December, 1944. RAID ON KARLSRUHE. Twenty-two aircraft took part in an attack on Karlsruhe.

6/7th December, 1944. RAID ON MERSEBURG. Twenty-four aircraft attacked the Leuna oil plant at Merseburg but the attack probably failed - no smoke or fire glow being observed. Aus. 428279 F/O. B.S. Mulcahy and crew had a combat with an unidentified aircraft which is claimed as probably damaged. One aircraft failed to return. The missing crew were: - Aus. 427273 P/O. P.O. Walter, Sgt. Sadler, J.R., Sgt. Moule, D.H., F/O. Andrews, J.H., Aus. 435361 F/Sgt. Olsen, G.G., Sgt. Jury, J.K. and Sgt. Charlesworth, H.W.

8th December, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. in RAF S/Ldr. J.H.C. Clark, D.F.C.
Aus. 413266 F/O. M.D. Seale, D.F.C.

Disginguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 417553 F/O. J.F.O. Young
Aus. 402940 S/Ldr. A.W. Willis
Aus. 63097 P/O. G.J. Henderson

Distinguished Flying Medal: - F/Sgt. D.A. Gray

12th December, 1944. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 421966 F/O. S.O. Daley
Aus. 418725 F/O. KG. Selleck
Aus. 413069 W/O. G.T. Anderson

12/13th December, 1944. RAID ON ESSEN. Eighteen aircraft took part in an attack on Essen. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 402439 S/Ldr. J. Clark, F/O. Milner, L., Aus. 411987 F/O. S.J. Bethel, Aus. 409224 F/O. B.C. Reid, F/O. C. Sanders, Aus. 411772 F/O. Edwards and Aus. 404043 F/O. J.M. Scott.

14/15th December, 1944. MINELAYING. Four aircraft laid mines in the Skagerrak.

15/16th December, 1944. RAID ON LUDWIGSHAFEN. Thirteen aircraft attacked the chemical works at Ludwigshafen.

17/18th December, 1944. RAID ON ULM. Nineteen aircraft attacked the town of Ulm.

21/22nd December, 1944. RAID ON BONN. Seventeen aircraft took off and sixteen took part in a rather scattered attack on road and rail targets at Bonn. One aircraft did not attack as bombs hung up.

MINELAYING. Six aircraft laid mines in Pomeranium Bay.

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22nd December, 1944. AWARD. Notification of the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Aus. 407406 F/Lt. R.H. Burden was gazetted today.

24/25th December, 1944. RAID ON COLOGNE. Eleven aircraft took part in an attack on the Cologne/Nippes marshalling yards. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 420763 F/O. M.C. Skarratt, Sgt. Newman, T.C., Aus. 427237 F/O. J.M. Ward, Aus. 430773 F/Sgt. Dickie, R.J., Aus. 434335 F/Sgt. Stewart, R.I., Aus. 30953 F/Sgt. Deed, C.K., and Aus. 433717 F/Sgt. Day, G.F.

26th December, 1944. RAID ON ST. VITH. Ten aircraft took part in an attack on St. Vith.

27th December, 1944. RAID ON RHEYDT. Seven aircraft bombed the marshalling yards at Rheydt.

28/29th December, 1944. RAID ON MUNCHEN-GLADBACH. Twenty-one aircraft attacked the railway marshalling yard at Munchen-Gladbach.

29th December, 1944. RAID ON GELSENKIRCHEN. Eighteen aircraft took part in an attack on the synthetic Scholven-Buer oil plant at Gelsenkirchen.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 31.12.44.

Miles 4,266,842
Hours 28,000
Sorties 5,123
Tons 21,047

Enemy aircraft destroyed 5 probably destroyed 5 damaged 34.

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JANUARY, 1945

2/3rd January, 1945. RAID ON NURNBERG. Twenty-six aircraft attacked Nurnberg - a target of the highest priority because of the great importance of its war industries.

5/6th January, 1945. RAID ON HANOVER. Two and a half hours after a force of Halifaxes had attacked the town, a force of Lancasters including twenty-two from the Squadron made a follow up attack on Hanover. One aircraft returned early with inter-comm failure.

6/7th January, 1945. RAID ON HANAU. Eighteen aircraft took part in an attack on the marshalling yards at Hanau.

MINELAYING. Six aircraft laid mines in Pomeranium Bay.

7/8th January, 1945. RAID ON MUNICH. Eighteen aircraft took off and sixteen bombed in the second attack of the night on Munich. One aircraft returned early with engine trouble and Lancaster captained by Aus. 422995 F/O. A.S. Whitmarsh abandoned mission after colliding with another Lancaster which was seen to crash. F/O. Whitmarsh succeeded in bringing his damaged aircraft back after jettisoning bombs. Aus. 427961 F/O. W.R. Utting and crew claim a Ju.88 probably damaged.

12th January, 1945. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 409435 F/O. E.C. Owen
Aus. 408463 W/O. L.W. Woods

14/15th January, 1945 RAID ON MERSEBURG. Two attacks were carried out on the Leuna synthetic oil plant at Merseburg. Sixteen aircraft from the Squadron were on the second attack but only thirteen bombed. Two aircraft returned early and Lancaster captained by F/O. G.D. Walker returned early on three engines and crashed at Ludford, six members of the crew being killed and the rear gunner died later of burns. Members of the crew were: - Aus. 423014 F/O. G.D. Walker, Sgt. Forrest, J.G., Aus. 428774 F/Sgt. Hutchings, K., Aus. 433507 F/Sgt. Hamilton, R.W., Aus. 432928 F/Sgt. Winton, E.R., Aus. 437207 F/Sgt. Barnden, L.R. and Aus.432920 F/Sgt. Peterson, B.B.

MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in the Kattegat.

16th January, 1945. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 6564 F/Lt. A.L. Barlow
Aus. 410046 F/O. A.W. Campbell
F/O. E. Brooks

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 426314 F/Sgt. G.K.L. Clark
Aus. 424959 F/Sgt. A.G. Brown
F/Sgt. A.A. Farr

16/17th January, 1945. RAID ON ZEITZ. Nineteen out of twenty starters attacked the synthetic oil plant at Zeitz. One aircraft returned without dropping bombs.

19th January, 1945. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 421027 F/O. L.J. Nottey
Aus. 416281 F/O. K.B. Petherick
Aus. 27178 F/O. R.G. Watts
Aus. 419283 P/O. A.W. Adams

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Distinguished Flying Cross (contd): - Aus. 411443 F/O. N.L.D. Dalby
Aus. 426443 P/O. L.V. Tardent
Aus. 414328 P/O. R. Tomlinson
Aus. 402606 F/O. N. Ratten D.F.M.
Aus. 423269 F/O. N.E. Twyford

28/29th January, 1945. RAID ON STUTTGART. Twelve aircrafttook off and ten attacked the Zuffenhausen area of Stuttgart which contains an aero-jet engine factory. One aircraft did not bomb and one failed to return. A Ju.88 is claimed as probably damaged by Aus. 422995 F/O. A.S. Whitmarsh and crew. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 427892 F/O. P.N. Birt, Sgt. Field, A. Aus. 418318 F/Sgt. Truman, E.G., Aus. 410394 F/Sgt. Symes, E.S., Aus. 437488 F/Sgt. Benbow, D.R., Aus. 433473 F/Sgt. O'Hara, D.G. and Aus. 433749 F/Sgt. Wilson, S.G.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 31.1.45

Miles, 4,451,882
Hours 29,028
Sorties 5,266
Tons 21,716

Enemy aircraft destroyed 5, probably destroyed 5, damaged 34

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FEBRUARY, 1945.

1/2nd February, 1945. RAID ON LUDWIGSHAFEN. Twenty aircraft took part in an attack on railway targets ~~at~~ Ludwigshafen.

2/3rd February, 1945. RAID ON WIESBADEN. Twenty-four aircraft took off and twenty attacked the town of Wiesbaden where enemy troops are billetted for rest or re-fitting. One aircraft returned early with engine trouble. One Lancaster failed to return. Members of the crew were: - Aus. 419194 F/O. J. Maguire, Sgt. R.B. Newton, F/Sgt. R.H. Whitlear, Aus. 434454 F/Sgt. N.W. Everett, Aus. 429820 W/O. D.B. May, Sgt. E.G. Potter and Sgt. D.G. Russell. Lancaster captained by the Station Commander, Aus. 109 G/Cpt. K.R.J. Parsons collided with another Lancaster and crashed S.W. of Abbeville. G/Cpt. Parsons, the bomb aimer and rear gunner baled out. G/Cpt. Parsons landed safely but the bomb aimer was killed and the rear gunner died later. Other members of the crew were still in the aircraft when it crashed and were killed. Members of the crew were: - Sgt. W.T. Jeffries, Sgt. H.J. Bull, F/Sgt. F.J. Flattery, Aus. 433250 F/Sgt. W.H. Cunningham, Sgt. W.A. George and Sgt. F. Human.

3/4th February, 1945. RAID ON BOTTROP. Seventeen aircraft took part in an attack on the Prosper benzol plant at Bottrop. One aircraft returned early with technical trouble and one failed to return. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 400365 F/Lt. G.A.T. Davies, Sgt. R.F. Winstanley, Aus. 431546 P/O. J.D. Avery, Aus. 429652 F/O. V. Dunn, Aus. 437490 F/O. G.S. Brown, Aus. 431012 F/Sgt. N.B. Bird, and Aus. 429034 F/Sgt. F.H. Wilkins.

4/5th February, 1945. MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in the Heligoland Bight.

6th February, 1945. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 415600 F/O. P.N. Aldred

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 427369 F/Sgt. R.J. Allcott

7/8th February, 1945. RAID ON KLEVE. Twenty-one aircraft took off and nineteen attacked the German town of Kleve. This raid was in direct support of the Canadian Army. Two aircraft did not bomb.

8/9th February, 1945. RAID ON POLITZ. Twenty aircraft bombed the synthetic oil plant at Politz, near Stettin.

13/14th February, 1945. RAID ON DRESDEN. In support of the Russian Army twenty-four aircraft took part in the second phase of a double attack on the German town of Dresden.

14/15th February, 1945. MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in Mecklenburg Bay.

RAID ON CHEMNITZ. Again in support of the Russians, eighteen aircraft took off and seventeen bombed Chemnitz . This was another double attack - 460 operating in the second. One aircraft returned early with rear turret unserviceable.

15/16th February, 1945. MINELAYING. Six aircraft laid mines in Mecklenburg Bay.

16th February, 1945. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 420371 F/Lt. R.R. Anderson
Aus. 413944 F/O. B.H. Beaumont
Aus. 415725 F/O. S.J. Davey
Aus. 401907 F/Lt. P.J. Coffey, D.F.M.

Distinguished Flying Medal: - F/Sgt. R.K. Gant

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18/19th February, 1945. MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in the Heligoland Bight.

20th February, 1945. AWARDS! Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 410005 F/O. C.P. McCoy
Aus. 427518 P/O. J.A.G. Larter
Aus. 429824 P/O. B.E.J. O'Leary
Aus. 426376 P/O. E.A. Norman
F/O. E. Noble
F/O. D.S. Wilkinson
F/O. L.D. Williams

20/21st February, 1945. RAID ON DORTMUND. Twenty-six aircraft were despatched to attack railway targets at Dortmund. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the crew were: - Aus. 430033 F/Lt. A.E. Jenkins, P/O. F.S. Stone, Aus. 429070 F/O. H.T. Campbell, Aus. 430403 F/O. S.C. Swift, Aus. 434620 F/O. B.M. Clegg, Aus. 435276 F/Sgt. B. Braddock and Sgt. A. Graham. News later received stated aircraft crashed in Belgium, all members of the crew being killed except F/Lt. Jenkins.

21/22nd February, 1945. RAID ON DUISBURG. Twenty-four aircraft took part in an attack on railway targets at Duisburg. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the crew were: - Aus. 422952 F/O. B. Heffer, Sgt. G.F. Rudge, Aus. 432146 F/O. A. Flynn, Aus. 436559 F/Sgt. A.R. Main, Aus. 430440 F/Sgt. C.C. Cooper, Aus. 441367 F/Sgt. R.C. Styles, and Aus. 441296 F/Sgt. F.J. Sheridan

23/24th February, 1945. RAID ON PFORZHEIM. Twenty-four aircraft took part in an attack on the industrial and transport centre of Pforsheim. Two enemy jet fighters were destroyed by Aus. 419380 F/O. J.M. Cox and crew. The gunners were Aus. 430547 F/Sgt. G.W.D. Crosby and Aus. 433009 F/O. A.M. Curren.

25th February, 1945. NEW COMMANDING OFFICER. Aus. 556 W/Cdr. M.G. Cowan took over Command of the Squadron.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 28.2.45

Miles 4,713,962
Hours 30,484
Sorties 5,503
Tons 22,712

Enemy aircraft destroyed 7, probably destroyed 5, damaged 34.

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1st February, 1945

NOMINAL ROLL 460 SQUADRON

Aus. 435433	Sgt.	Allen H. of Marrickville, N.S.W.
Aus. 436818	F/S.	Allman, L.C. of Drummoyne, N.S.W.
Aus. 439696	F/S.	Andrews, J.R. of Mount George, N.S.W.
Aus. 435029	F/S.	Archer, K.R. of Coburg, Victoria.
Aus. 427789	F/L.	Arrowsmith, D.H. of Minlaton, S.A.
Aus. 431546	P/O.	Avery, J.D. of Prahran, Victoria.
Aus. 6564	A/F/L.	Barlow, A.L. of Queensland.
Aus. 432085	F/S.	Baker, K.G. of Gordon, N.S.W.
Aus. 409653	F/O.	Baudinette, I.S. of Coleraine, Victoria.
Aus. 425823	F/L.	Bayliss, H.M. of Coorparoo, Queensland.
Aus. 426023	W/O.	Bayntun, F.H. of Grayndohline, Queensland.
Aus. 432472	F/O.	Bennet, K.W. of Lane Cover, N.S.W.
Aus. 436311	F/O.	Bennet, L. M. of Kalamund, W.A.
Aus. 433887	F/S.	Bennington, R.H. of Botany, N.S.W.
Aus. 432094	F/S.	Beresford, C.M.T.D. of Binnaway, N.S.W.
Aus. 431012	F/S.	Bird, N.B. of Corowa, N.S.W.
Aus. 435276	F/S.	Braddock, B. of Mossman, N.S.W.
Aus. 433462	F/S.	Brown, B.C. of Junee, N.S.W.
Aus. 437490	F/O.	Brown, G.S. of Alma, S.A.
Aus. 439974	F/S.	Brown, H.M. of Condobolin, N.S.W.
Aus. 421673	F/S.	Brown, A.J. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 429791	F/O.	Buzacott, D.L. of Kalgoorlie, W.A.
Aus. 435461	Sgt.	Cronk, L.C. of Pechey, Queensland.
Aus. 428567	P/O.	Curran, W.V. of Wyandra, Upper Murray, N.S.W.
Aus. 427293	W/O.	Clapp, R.E. of Elgin, W.A.
Aus. 419159	F/O.	Cassie, R. of Brunswick, Victoria.
Aus. 425122	F/S.	Cole, J. of Gladstone, Queensland.
Aus. 429278	F/S.	Clough, A.W. of Inverell, N.S.W.
Aus. 424650	F/S.	Charles, E.H. of Kensington, Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 429070	F/O.	Campbell, H.T. of Mudgee, N.S.W.
Aus. 415507	F/S.	Carr, N.R. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 430200	F/S.	Chamberlain, K.A. of Essendon, Victoria.
Aus. 427678	F/S.	Chopping, R.A. of Albany, W.A.
Aus. 434620	F/O.	F/O. Clegg, B.M. of Southport, Queensland.
Aus. 431611	F/S.	Clery, L. of Geelong, Victoria.
Aus. 423225	F/O.	Cohen, A.L. of Mosman, N.S.W.
Aus. 430440	F/S.	Cooper C.G. Logan, Victoria.
Aus. 426219	F/O.	Courage, D.R. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 556	S/L.	Cowan, M.G.
Aus. 33868	F/S.	Cawley, C.C. of Forest Lodge, N.S.W.
Aus. 419380	F/O.	Cox, J.M. Mooney Valley, Victoria.
Aus. 427805	F/O.	Creeper, D.J. of Albany, W.A.
Aus. 437903	F/S.	Crispin, E.L. of Wollongong, N.S.W.
Aus. 408800	F/O.	Crook, C.T. of Bairnsdale, Victoria.
Aus. 430547	F/S.	Crosby, G.W.D. of Bondi, N.S.W.
Aus. 435019	F/S.	Cumings, J.D. of Innisfait, Queensland.
Aus. 433250	F/S.	Cunningham, W.A. of Herris Creek, N.S.W.
Aus. 433009	F/O.	Curran, A.M. of Brighton-le-Sands, N.S.W.
Aus. 422539	F/S.	Davies, D.J. of Kiama, N.S.W.
Aus. 408639	F/O.	Douglas, F.C. of Blackburn, Victoria.
Aus. 437505	F/S.	Daley, F.W. of Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 16193	F/S.	D'Alton, F.H. of Fremantle, W.A.
Aus. 400365	F/L.	Davies, G.A.T. of Toorak, Victoria
Aus. 415786	F/L.	Denton, L.W. of Cottesloe, W.A.
Aus. 432133	F/S.	Dewhurst, B.E. of Kings Cross, N.S.W.
Aus. 434765	F/S.	Donnelly, K.A. of Flemington, Victoria.
Aus. 430304	P/O.	Douglass I.C. of Bairnsdale, Victoria.
Aus. 419983	F/L.	Dowling, A. of Ballarat, Victoria.
Aus. 429652	F/O.	Dunn, V. of St. Kilda, Victoria.
Aus. 434454	F/S.	Everett, N.W. of Kyogle, N.S.W.
Aus. 421197	P/O.	Ellis, H. of Hurlstone Park, N.S.W.
Aus. 417743	F/S.	Eaton, L.J. of Norwood, S.A.
Aus. 427639	F/S.	Eggleston, F.J. of Victoria Park, W.A.
Aus. 425838	F/S.	Elsden, G.M. of Pittsworth, Queensland.
Aus. 419986	F/O.	Emerson, T.L.W. of Douglas, Victoria.

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Aus. 434500 F/S. Flitcroft, K.W. of Passcherdale, Queensland.
Aus. 427190 F/L. Finlay, K.W. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 441386 F/S. Firkins, P.C. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 4301 F/S. Flanagan, G.P. of Hobart, Tas.
Aus. 437785 F/S. Fleetwood, D.J. of Henley Beach, S.A.
Aus. 432146 F/O. Flynn, A. of N.S.W.
Aus. 436642 F/S. Ford, H.V. of Dittern, Victoria.
Aus. 427819 F/O. Frearson, K.S. of Tammin, W.A.
Aus. 430980 F/S. Freezer, A. of Salt River, W.A.
Aus. 12033 F/Sgt. Geoffrey, G.L. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 427825 F/O. Gutteridge, K.F. of Toodyay, W.A.
Aus. 422053 F/O. Gray H.J.
Aus. 435167 F/S. Goulding, J.D. of Murwillumbah, N.S.W.
Aus. 430085 F/S. Gallgher, M.T. of Burwood, Victoria.
Aus. 416423 F/L. Gardner, C.G. of Streaky Bay, S.A.
Aus. 434180 F/S. Gerrard, J.M. of Rainworth, Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 403734 F/O. Glasziou, K.T. of Belmore, N.S.W.
Aus. 405307 F/S. Gordon, H.V. of Maryborough, Queensland.
Aus. 428428 F/L. Goudie, D.A. of Drouin, Victoria.
Aus. 432171 F/S. Gray, V.R. of Merrylands, N.S.W.
Aus. 433346 F/O. Green, P.S. of Mount George, N.S.W.
Aus. 405792 F/Lt. Holmes, J.C. of Albany Creek, Queensland.
Aus. 417371 F/O. Hendrick H. of Renmark, S.A.
Aus. 408440 F/O. Hudspeth, D. of Hobart, Tasmania.
Aus. 422554 F/S. Hart, V.P. of Sawtell, N.S.W.
Aus. 427832 F/S. Hogan, A.F. of North Perth, W.A.
Aus. 429151 F/S. Halls, A.W. of Tempe, N.S.W.
Aus. 431175 F/S. Hammond, T.G. of Caulfield, Vic.
Aus. 434117 P/O. Hands, G.L. of Gladstone, Queensland.
Aus. 431200 F/S. Hanna, A.F. of Walwa, Victoria.
Aus. 427091 F/O. Hawking, R.N. of Homerville, N.S.W.
Aus. 428310 F/O. Harrison, S.J. of Surrey Hills, Vic.
Aus. 429012 F/S. Hatfield, G.D. of Wollongong, N.S.W.
Aus. 436911 F/S. Heal, R.J. of Katanning, W.A.
Aus. 419524 F/S. Hearn, J.M. of Fallangatta, Vic.
Aus. 422952 F/O. Heffer, B. of Warrawe, N.S.W.
Aus. 424865 F/L. Heggie, D.H. of Bontany, N.S.W.
Aus. 412810 F/L. Henderson, J.R. of Mosman, N.S.W.
Aus. 428709 F/O. Holloway, J.R. of Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.
Aus. 429054 F/O. Holmes, J.H. of Mudgee, N.S.W.
Aus. 442425 F/S. Hosking, A.J.M. of Broken Hill, N.S.W.
Aus. 432185 F/S. Howlett, R.H. of Lane Cove, N.S.W.
Aus. 420884 F/O. Hoyle, A.R. of Lane Cove, N.S.W.
Aus. 418421 P/O. James, J.H. of Armadale, Victoria.
Aus. 430033 F/S. Jenkins, B.E. of Toorak, Vic.
Aus. 412011 F/S. Johnson, H.G. of Ashbury, N. S.W.
Aus. 433171 F/L. Johnson, C.E. of Randwick, N.S.W.
Aus. 432198 F/O. Jolly, D.A. of Wollstonecroft, N.S.W.
Aus. 439605 F/S. Jones, K.T. of West Ryde, N.S.W.
Aus. 434160 F/S. Joyce, H.T. of Randwick N.S.W.
Aus. 433728 F/S. Keir, C. of Quandialla, N.S.W.
Aus. 436129 F/S. Kay, C.L. of Melbourne, Vic.
Aus. 414944 W/O. Lucas, V.H. of Blackall, Queensland.
Aus. 427337 F/Sgt. Leighton, R.S. of Glen Forrest, W.A.
Aus. 436114 F/O. Ladner, S.F. of Mosman Park, W.A.
Aus. 415998 F/S. Lamberton, K.F. of Claremont, W.A.
Aus. 425947 F/S. Lamberton, R.B. of Rockhampton, Queensland.
Aus. 429973 F/L. Langcake, W. of Northwood, S.A.
Aus. 417585 F/O. Leeder, J.E. of Malvern, S.A.
Aus. 436201 F/S. Lillis, J.P. of Baulkham Hills, N.S.W.
Aus. 434745, F/S. Lovett, P.M. of Melbourne, Queensland.
Aus. 415874 F/O. Low, G.
Aus. 429978 F/S. Luhrs, L.O. of Tintinarra, S.A.
Aus. 429820 F/S. May, D.B. of Nungilampita, S.A.
Aus. 429727 P/O. Morrow, W.J. of Geelong, Victoria.
Aus. 422053 F/O. Matthews, A.W. of Trangie, N.S.W.
Aus. 412815 F/L. Morgan, T.V. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 419193 P/O. Maguire, J. of Red Cliffs, Victoria.
Aus. 415586 F/O. Maynard, F.E. of
Aus. 426960 P/O. McCrory, H.C. of Brisbane, Queensland.

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Aus. 419735 F/Sgt. Muir, K.S.of Mildura, Victoria.
Aus. 434182 F/Sgt. McQueen, E.J. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 430663 F/S. MacDonald, D.H. of Toorak, Victoria.
Aus. 436559 F/S. Main, A.R. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 432837 F/S. Major, W.K. of Elizabeth Bay, N.S.W.
Aus. 404283 F/O. Marks, R. of Taringa, Queensland.
Aus. 428952 F/S. Martin, B.F. of Adelong, N.S.W.
Aus. 408446 F/O. Martin, G.J. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 417591 F/O. Marshall, R.D. of Colonel Light Gardens, S.A.
Aus. 434419 F/O. Marshall, W.E. of Southport, Queensland.
Aus. 432530 F/O. Mattingley, B.J. of Launceston, Tas.
Aus. 433282 F/S. Matthews, J.R. Arncliffe, N.S.W.
Aus. 412167 W/O. Mayne, E.Y.T.of Chullora, N.S.W.
Aus. 437429 Sgt. McBean, M.W. of Hyde Park, S.A.
Aus. 414253 W/O. McCracken, R.T. of Kangaroo Point, Queensland.
Aus. 420582 F/O. McDade, J.J. of Casino, N.S.W.
Aus. 434514 F/O. McKane, E.V. of Cobroy, Queensland.
Aus. 413407 F/O. McKay, D.J. of Cowra, N.S.W.
Aus. 433511 F/O. Mettershead, L.G. of Mosman, N.S.W.
Aus. 428279 F/O. Mulcahy, B.S. of Caulfield, Vic.
Aus. 425872 F/O. Mullins, B. of Graceville, Queensland.
Aus. 428976 F/O. Mulroney, R.E. of Bexley, N.S.W.
Aus. 434421 F/S. Murray, J.A. of West Maitland, N.S.W.
Aus. 433666 F/S. Nicholson, K.F. of Chatswood, N.S.W.
Aus. 409432 F/O. Niven, B.A. of Armadale, N.S.W.
Aus. 436208 F/S. Noble, G.E. of Casino, N.S.W.
Aus. 436360 F/O. Nottle, M.C. of York, W.A.
Aus. 415178 F/O. Pender, H.A. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 15519 F/O. Page, F.I.J. of Collaroy, N.S.W.
Aus. 439662 F/S. Page, J. of Monteagle, N.S.W.
Aus. 420256 F/L. Patterson,O.A.S.
Aus. 428351 F/L. Paull, I.G. of ~~Xxxxxxx~~ Moe Vic.
Aus. 433822 F/S. Phelps, N.V. of Wee Waa, N.S.W.
Aus. 426004 F/O. Perrill, V.J. of Mount Martin, Queensland.
Aus. 441256 F/S. Porteous, E.M. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 442432 F/S. Prance, L.R. of Renmark, S.A.
Aus. 413893 F/O. Pritchett, M.C. of Newcastle, N.S.W.
Aus. 430318 F/S. Quinn, K.B. of South Yarra, Victoria.
Aus. 411959 S/L. Roberts, W.R. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 404877 F/O. Rail, W.A. of Innisfail, Queensland.
Aus. 427742 F/S. Rankin, G.W. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 6607 F/S. Ray, H.F.N. of Cunnamulla, Queehsland.
Aus. 437545 F/S. Richards J.A. of Laura, S.A.
Aus. 432874 F/O. Ritchie, A.H. of Roseville, N.S.W.
Aus. 419972 F/S. Ritchie, J.E. of Maryborough, Vic.
Aus. 55854 F/S. Rogers, R.J. of Coburg, Vic.
Aus. 427552 F/L. Rose, A.J. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 417121 F/S. Rosman, G.D. of Burra, S.A.
Aus. 424679 F/S. Smith, F.S. of Paddington, N.S.W.
Aus. 423919 F/S. Stearman, R.C. of Brookvale, N.S.W.
Aus. 429788 F/O. Sear, D.H. of Pinjarra, W.A.
Aus. 428287 F/S. Sillcock, K.M. of Yinnar, Vic.
Aus. 435546 F/S. Small, K.N. of Kyneton, Vic.
Aus. 436411 F/O. Smith, A.M. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 434843 F/O. Smith, C.J. of Fairfield, Vic.
Aus. 437632 F/S. Smith, R. of Armidale, N.S.W.
Aus. 437564 F/S. Spence, M.A. of Montmorency, Vic.
Aus. 434036 F/S. Stack, L.J. of Innisfail, Queensland.
Aus. 410178 F/O. Stett, E.D. of Canterbury, Vic.
Aus. 420409 W/O. Stribley, A.J. of Lindfield, N.S.W.
Aus. 428030 F/O. Stringer, R.K. of Ensoy, Vic.
Aus. 437017 F/O. Sullivan, A.R. of Cooks Plains, S.A.
Aus. 430403 F/O. Swift, S.C. of Newport, Vic.
Aus. 441367 F/S. Styles, R.C. of Fremantle, W.A.
Aus. 429293 F/S. Trist, J.W. of Brisbane, Queensland.
Aus. 418585 Sgt. Taylor, J.W. of Camberwell, Vic.
Aus. 418490 F/O. Taylor, W.J. of Leongatha, Vic.
Aus. 436777 F/S. Thomson, T.A. of Croydon, S.A.
Aus. 433079 F/S. Tibbits, D.J. of Hurstville, N.S.W.
Aus. 432910 F/S. Tinsley, K.J. of Chatswood, N.S.W.

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Aus. 430106 F/S. Tod, A.J. of Tumut, N.S.W.
Aus. 419007 F/S. Tovey, J.A. of Carnegie, N.S.W.
Aus. 430292 F/S. Tremewen, J.L. of Maryborough, Queensland.
Aus. 427961 P/O. Utting, W.R. of Midland Junction, W.A.
Aus. 416729 P/O. Varley, J.W. of Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 418475 P/O. Williams, J.L. of Benolla, Victoria.
Aus. 417734 F/S. Williamson, A.E. of Tranmere, S.A.
Aus. 415096 A/F/L. White, R. of Albany, W.A.
Aus. 433144 F/S. Walker, R.C. of Hurstville, N.S.W.
Aus. 432438 F/S. Walsh, V.M. of Paddington, N.S.W.
Aus. 425083 F/L. Watts, N.T. of Albion, Queensland.
Aus. 429034 F/S. Wilkins, F.H. of Vaucluse, N.S.W.
Aus. 48093 F/S. Williams, D.F. of Jamestown, S.A.
Aus. 10564 F/O. Wilson, P.R. of Eastken, Vic.
Aus. 429252 F/S. Wilson, J.C. of Westmead, N.S.W.
Aus. 434143 F/S. Wingett, A.L. of Cooroy, Queensland.
Aus. 442407 Sgt. Witcomb, P.J.
Aus. 429185 F/O. Woodward, R.H. of Armidale, N.S.W.
Aus. 413066 F/O. Worsley, C.F. of Penshurst, N.S.W.
Aus. 63289 F/S. Young, H.M. of Sawtell, N.S.W.

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MARCH, 1945.

1st March, 1945. RAID ON MANNHEIM. Twenty-five aircraft took part in an attack on Mannheim.

2nd March, 1945. RAID ON COLOGNE. Twenty-two aircraft took part in an attack on Cologne, the object being to block the retreat of the enemy towards the bridges and ferries of the Rhine. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 429054 F/Lt. J.H. Holmes, Sgt. J. Devlin, F/Sgt. E. Parkinson, Aus. 405307 W/O. A.V. Gordon, Aus. 434180 F/Sgt. J.M. Gerrard, Aus. 436777 F/Sgt. T.A. Thomson, and Aus. 427742 F/Sgt. G.W. Rankin.

3rd March, 1945. MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in the Silverthorne area.

3/4th March, 1945. Enemy aircraft operated over this countey and a 460 aircraft on a cross country flight ~~xhxk~~ was shot down. Two members of the crew Sgt. Streatfield and Aus. 437403 F/Sgt. R.E. Davey were killed.

5/6th March, 1945. RAID ON CHEMNITZ. Twenty-one aircraft took part in an attack on Chemnitz, a large industrial town in Central Germany. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 405792 F/Lt. J.C. Holmes, Aus. 430159 F/Sgt. T.T. Clarke, Sgt. J. Young, Sgt. R.E. Hayward, Aus. 408440 F/O. Hudspeth, D.G., Aus. 409653 F/O. I.S. Baudinette, Aus. 412815 F/Lt. T.E.V. Morgan and Aus. 412167 W/O. A.O. Mayne.

7/8th March, 1945. RAID ON DESSAU. Twenty aircraft from the Squadron took ~~in~~ part in an attack by over 1,250 aircraft on Dessau an important base for the Eastern front.

8/9th March, 1945. RAID ON KASSEL. Twenty aircraft attacked the industrial town of Kassel.

11th March, 1945. RAID ON ESSEN. Nineteen aircraft took part in an attack by over 1,000 aircraft on Essen.

MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in the Silverthorne area.

12th March, 1945. RAID ON DORTMUND. More than 1,100 bombers attacked Dortmund. Twenty aircraft operated from the Squadron. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 423053 P/O. G.L. Burgess F/Sgt. P.C. Sweetman, Aus. 418625 F/Sgt. J.D. Bryant, Sgt. D.A. Little, Sgt. K. Grundy, Sgt. P.J. Brown and Sgt. E.D. Grant.

13/14th March, 1945. RAID ON ERIN. Fourteen aircraft took off and thirteen attacked the benzol plant at Erin. One aircraft did not bomb - unable to identify the target. Lancaster captained by Aus. 437017 F/O. A.R. Sullivan was hit by heavy flak in the target area and the bomb aimer F/Sgt. M.A. O'Sullivan and engineer Sgt. H.J. Rusted, were slightly injured.

15/16th March, 1945. RAID ON MISBURG. Eighteen aircraft attacked the oil refinery at Misburg.

16/17th March, 1945. RAID ON NURNBERG. Nineteen aircraft took part in an attack on rail facilities and industries in Nurnberg. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 409303 F/O. V.J. Hedley, Sgt. A.J. Macdonald, Aus. 431468 F/Sgt. J.W. Prouse, Aus. 429151 F/Sgt. A.W. Halls, Aus. 428877 F/Sgt. M.J. Parry, Aus. 435564 F/Sgt. M.K. Jurd and Aus. 431194 F/Sgt. K.W. Binder.

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18/19th March, 1945. RAID ON HANAU. Twenty-two aircraft took off to attack the communications centre of Hanau. One aircraft returned early with inter-com unserviceable. Lancaster captained by P/O. Browne crashed at Kelstern on return and all the crew was killed. Members of the crew were: - Aus. 430436 P/O. G.S. Browne, Sgt. J.N. David, Aus. 429475 W/O. G.T. McBryde, Aus. 431562 F/Sgt. L.W. Grant, Aus. 432893 F/Sgt. J. Stacey, Aus. 415265 W/O. A.E. Moss and Aus. 436950 F/Sgt. R.C. Schodde. An Me.262 is claimed probably destroyed by Aus. 413066 F/O. C.F. Worsley and crew.

20/21st March, 1945. MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in Heligoland Bight.

21/22nd March, 1945. RAID ON BRUCHSTRASSE. Nineteen aircraft took part in an attack on the benzol plant at Bruchstrasse. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the missing crew were: - Aus. 424865 F/Lt. D.H. Heggie, Sgt. H.J. Brooke, F/Sgt. K.E. Ambler, Sgt. W.T. Dean, P/O. A.O. Trotter, Sgt. D. Robinson and Sgt. H.H. Dunkerley.

22/23rd March, 1945. MINELAYING. Eleven aircraft laid mines in the Onions area.

23rd March, 1945. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today.

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 429177 F/O. H.M. Carruth
Aus. 408639 F/O. P.C. Douglas
Aus. 422053 F/O. A.W. Matthews
Aus. 405922 F/O. H.J. Mills
F/Lt. T.J. McArthur

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 424353 F/Sgt. J.W. Barrington

RAID ON BREMEN Nine aircraft attacked one of the Bremen bridges over the Weser.

25th March, 1945. RAID ON HANOVER. Seventeen aircraft took off and sixteen attacked the marshalling yards at Hanover. One aircraft returned early with engine trouble.

27th March, 1945. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 418021 F/O. G.T. Stone
Aus. 423375 F/O. B.A. Woods
Aus. 419840 P/O. R.B. Denniston
Aus. 414581 P/O. C.W. Lutton
F/O. G.U. Evans

Distinguished Flying Medal: - Aus. 425212 F/Sgt. E.A. Rowlands
Aus. 434065 F/Sgt. S.J. Turner
F/Sgt. J. Robinson

27th March, 1945. RAID ON PADERBORN. Nineteen aircraft attacked road and rail communications at Paderborn.

31st March, 1945. RAID ON HAMBURG. Thirteen aircraft attacked the Blohm & Voss U-boat building yards at Hamburg.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 31.3.45

Hours 32,576
Miles 5,090,522
Sorties 5,826
Tons 24,329

Enemy aircraft destroyed 7, probably destroyed 6, damaged 34.

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APRIL, 1945.

3rd April, 1945. RAID ON NORDHAUSEN. Eight aircraft took part in an attack on the enemy barracks at Nordhausen.

4/5th April, 1945. RAID ON LUTZKENDORF. Fourteen aircraft attacked the synthetic oil plant at Lutzkendorf. Lancaster captained by Aus. 429973 F/Lt. W. Langcake, crashed at Rothwell Top on return. The only casualty was the Wop/Air gunner Aus. 436201 F/Sgt. J.P. Lillis who received a broken nose.

MINELAYING. Five aircraft laid mines in the Silverthorn area.

9/10th April, 1945. RAID ON KIEL. Twelve aircraft took part in an attack on the shipyards at Kiel. One aircraft returned early owing to engine trouble.

MINELAYING. Ten aircraft laid their mines in the Forget-Me-Nots, Young-Forget-Me-Nots and Young Melons areas.

10th April, 1945. 5,000 OPERATIONS. A Squadron party was held to celebrate the completion of 5,000 operations since convertion to Lancaster aircraft.

13th April, 1945. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 411959 W/Cdr. W.E. Roberts,DFC

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 417616 F/O. R.G. Barrington
Aus. 426281 F/O. A.H. Baskerville
Aus. 426553 F/O. O.W. Dawson
F/Lt. V.F.J. Torrisi

13/14th April, 1945. MINELAYING. Seven aircraft operated and six laid their mines in the Forget-Me-Nots and Young Forget-Me-Nots area. One aircraft was unable to identify as H2S was unserviceable.

14/15th April, 1945. RAID ON POTSDAM. Fifteen aircraft took off and fourteen attacked the German town of Potsdam. One aircraft returned early owing to engine failure. Lancaster captained by Aus. 413066 F/O. C.F. Worsley was attacked and damaged by an unidentified enemy aircraft. The flight engineer,F/Sgt. W.G. Warden, was killed. This aircraft bombed on one engine and returned to base on three engines.

17th April, 1945. AWARDS. Notification of the following awards was gazetted today: -

Distinguished Flying Cross: - Aus. 423177 F/O. W.J. Olley
Aus. 434026 F/O. B.B. Robinson
Aus. 437128 P/O. F.S.W. GUbbins
Aus. 424679 P/O. F.S. Smith
Aus. 428976 P/O. R.E. Mulroney
Aus. 426892 F/O. J.H. Moran
F/O. D.J. Davies
F/O. F.A. Tuck

18th April, 1945. RAID ON HELIGOLAND. Twenty-five aircraft took part in an attack on the naval base and fortress island of Heligoland.

22nd April, 1945. Twenty-three aircraft took off to attack Bremen but the mission was abandoned owing to cloud obscuring the aiming points.

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25th April, 1945. RAID ON BERCHTESGADEN. Twenty aircraft took part in an attack on the S.S. Barracks at Berchtesgaden. One aircraft failed to return. Members of the crew were: - Aus. 436344 F/O. H.G. Payne, Sgt. D.P. Thorpe, Aus. 428121 F/Sgt. D.D. Lynch, Aus. 439111 F/Sgt. C.N. Fraser, Aus. 436168 F/Sgt. W.A. Stanley, Aus. 433973 F/Sgt. J.R. Bennett and Aus. 439871 F/Sgt. H.R. Connochie.

28th April, 1945. PRISONERS OF WAR. Sixteen aircraft operated, one returned early with engine trouble and eight of the remaining fifteen aircraft brought back a total of 181 prisoners of war from Melsbroek, near Brussels.

30th April, 1945. FOOD DROPPING. Twenty-one aircraft dropped food supplies at Ypenburg airfield in Holland. The streets were lined with Dutch people waving flags.

STATISTICS. Statistics from formation up to 30.4.45

Miles 5,264,042
Hours 33,540
Sorties 5,965
Tons 24,872

Enemy aircraft destroyed 7, probably destroyed 6, damaged 34.

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SQUADRON HIST. RECORDS FILE

ENCLOSURE 9A.

Brief Report of visit to 460 Squadron on 20/21st July, 1943.

by Officer in charge Historical Records, P/O. W.H. Newnham.

TO S.O.P.R.

Leaving No. 466 Squadron at 1300 hrs. I travelled to No. 460 via train to Hull, ferry to New Holland, train to Grimsby and bus to Binbrook. Once again, because there was a bus from Grimsby, transport was frowned on by 460 and I had almost an hour's wait in a queue for a journey under 12 miles.

Arriving at 1700 hours I met the adjutant and then, after tea, talked over the squadron history with F/O. Cliff O'Riordan till 1945 hours. Once again, I discovered that the unit historian had the wrong idea about the personal history. Pointing out to him that we had covered the operational side very fully, I eventurally got him to agree to write it from the personal angle. One of his difficulties is the lack of a typist who, although promised by the Station, has not been made available. The only concession has been an offer by two W.A.A.F.s to do some of the typing in their spare time.

It might be as well to emphasise here that, at every station I visited, a great howl went up when the question of a typist arose. Without exception the cry was 'We are already short. We have been granted an increased establishment but it has not been filled.' [redacted].'

Before leaving for No. 467, I suggested to Corporal D.D. Stokes who compiles the Form 540, that he should cover the personal side of the squadron more fully. Himself a journalist, Stokes explained that he had not been writing up this Form but would see to it that not only was the Form 540 written up fully but that any stories of exceptional interest would be forwarded by him to us instead of to the R.A.F. P.R.O. who, from all accounts, has received several articles illustrated by photos and also names of men in the bombing raids. I expect we indirectly receive any Australian names so obtained, from P.R.2. Stokes is quite willing to supply us with names and any other 'gen' concerning raids made by the squadron.

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One point which was here reiterated was that the men would appreciate any news of broadcasts about the R.A.A.F. and particularly anything appertaining to 460. When the weekly Australian newsletter from the B.B.C. was spoken of many of the men asked why there was never any news about the various Australian squadrons here. I cannot help but think that, if it is possible, much good would come of some notification to squadrons of broadcasts that might interest them.

On the other side of the picture, it was admitted that men of both 466 and 460 had received a number of telegrams from home advising them that the papers had contain news of them, directly due to Public Relations here.

I left No. 460 Squadron at 1045 on 22.7.43 for Grimsby en route for Bottesford, Squadron No. 467.

23.7.43.

16/1/12/AIR

THEY WORK ON LANCASTERS

By Allan Kerby

Can you recognise this chap?

He is one of the hundred and more Australians who service Lancasters on one of our most famous squadrons in England. Every morning, in the days when the Squadron was located "somewhere up North," he paraded with his pals before a certain Flight Sergeant. Now this Flight Sergeant was not popular, and for a very good reason. He had a bad habit of coming to a halt before a succession of men, looking each one slowly up and down, jutting out his chin and assuming an expression that said more plainly than words, " Thank God for the Navy!"

Our fellow-countryman, our good cobber, didn't like this performance a bit - and one morning he had the thought to do something about it. He waited until the Flight Sergeant approached him and went through the usual pantomime; then he stepped out of the ranks, prodded his man weightily in the chest and announced for all the Air Force to hear:

"One of these days you'll push out that dash-dash chin too much, and then I'll knock your blankity-blank head off!"

Think you know him now? He might be Corporal "Happy" Doirian, of Bondi; Lin Parslow of Colac, Victoria; Corporal Frank ("Nuts") Duggan, hailing from Canterbury, New South Wales - or Ted White, of Fremantle.

Every one of these chaps works on the Squadron, and in between keeping tyrannical Flights Sergeants in orderthey, and all their pals, do their jobs to the complete satisfaction of the Engineering Leader, Flight Lieutenant George Champion, of Sydney. Conscientious, intelligent and blessed with the famous Australian initiative, they

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keep their Lancs running so sweetly it's a pleasure to listen to them. On many occasions the Squadron has hit the gong for serviceability. During one memorable month, in which planes took off on eleven ops., records were broken not only in maintenance, but in weight of bombs dropped. The Squadron also achieved the proud distinction of sending off kites on the record number of sorties without loss. In its early days, when hangars were only seen in blue prints and news pictures, the boys did all their work in the open air, wet or fine.

Many of the Australians in charge of Lancasters are devoted to their aircraft, and to the crews which regularly fly in them. The most outstanding example is Flight Sergeant Harry Tickle, of Parkside, Adelaide. Harry has been father, brother, boy-friend and husband to the immortal Lancaster, "G George", from the day it first arived on the Squadron. He has already nursed it through nearly eighty operations, and has seen it decorated with the D.F.M. and C.G.M. When "G George" goes on an operation Harry stays up into the early, and sometimes the late hours of the morning, waiting for her to come back. Harry is an even-tempered chap, but at the time when a "sprog" Pilot told him that "G George's" engines were no good he saw red!

As was mentioned before, Harry shows the brightest light - but every Australian on the Squadron has a definite interest in his work. Chaps like Sergeant "Stewy" Woodroffe, of Sandgate, Queensland, and Jimmy Hugill, of Kalgoorlie, do a good job. So do Tasmanian Corporal Bluey Russell, and Flight Sergeant Phil Derrick, who hails from the same town as Harry Tickle. So do scores of others - to the benefit of

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the air crews- predominently Australian - who go up in their planes.

The high fliers are not slow in expressing their appreciation, either. There's a great comradeship between the air and ground crews, which is illustrated in diverse ways. A Group Captain, who was C.O. of the Squadron during its growing pains, discovered this when he visited the Sergeants' Mess at Christmas to renew old friendships. Talking to a Warrant Officer with a half wing he asked casually, "And what kite do you fly in?" "Oh I don't fly," came back the unconcerned answer. "In fact I'm not even a Warrant Officer. A pal of mine lent me this coat so that I could come in and have a drink."

Air Vice Marshal H. N. Wrigley, C.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C., Chief of the R.A.A.F. in England, thinks a lot of these boys. He admires their spirit, and does all he can to help them. There's a story going about that two of them went up to London to air a grievance at Overseas Headquarters. They saw a Squadron Leader first, but he gave them no joy so they tried a Wing Commander. Still unsatisfied, they went in to see the Air Vice Marshal himself. He listened carefully, agreed that they had a reasonable complaint and went to work on it without delay.

Now this isn't saying they were, but the determined and triumphant pair could easily have been Sgt. Jock Thompson and Flight Sergeant "Topper" Topley, both of Adelaide- or Len Patience, of Victoria, and Sergeant Murray Wilson, who is a wanderer of the first order, but has a preference for Adelaide.

As well as hard work on planes, and against red tape, the boys sometimes have a little excitement. You can expect almost anything to happen when 4,000 pound "block-busters" are about, and on one occasion

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it did.

Take-off was at ten o'clock, and it was late afternoon when an electrician climbed into Lancaster "T Tommy", and switched in the electrical circuit. Before he could flick an eye a short in the system caused premature release of the incendiaries and photographic flash. An instant later the incendiaries flared, the flash exploded, and the blast scattered many fire sticks far and wide. The remainder settled down to make Tommy's nose red, and generate inter heat under thousands of pounds weight in high explosives. The electrician made an exit that did him credit, and joined the stretched-out line of fleeing "erks", who learnt without wonder that it was easy to clip seconds off the quarter-mile record.

Of course somebody had to put out the fire, and Flight Sergeant Dave Shire, of Sydney, dashed for the danger spot in a transport. But it was unfortunate that a bomb should explode just as he was making his approach, turning the transport completely around. Or maybe it was Dave's hands on the steering wheel. In any case he correctly decided that discretion was preferable to an air test, and beat a hasty retreat.

Far ahead of him ground and air crews, possessed of the same urgency, were running for shelter. It was said admiringly afterwards that Caesar Dunstan, one-legged rear gunner of Tobruk fame, outpaced them all. Corporal Johnny Brennan, of Kogarah, New South Wales, was unfortunate in that he didn't have the same chance, but there was a trench nearby and he dived into that. He was there when the 4000 pound "cookie" blew up. The light of day was outshone by candles of

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dazzling brilliance - the ground rumbled and shook - whislets of shrapnel flying overhead kept noses in the dirt. A nearby Lancaster had its back broken by the tremendous force of the explosion. Others became ready-made sieves. Fires flamed in this one and that one. The nose of one aircraft dissolved in a melting pot of incendiaries. Harry Tickle's pride and joy, "G George", last in the line, lost half her tail. Lancasters on the opposite side of the drome were severely damaged by flying fragments.

Altogether nine Lancasters were put out of action, several for keeps, before the situation could be controlled. There were bits and pieces of burning aircraft scattered all over the drome and its runways. Every window in the hangars was blown out. But nobody was hurt, and the Squadron showed the quality of its temper when the majority of its aircraft took off at ten o'clock for a big operation...

And now to conclude, here's something of an answer to your question of how your brothers and friends, sweethearts and husbands, feel on the subject of helping to win the war 12,000 miles from home. Sergeant Bert Hebron, of Sydney, and Sergeant Donald ("Duck" type") Head, of Melbourne, assisted me in making up my mind.

You could say that some of the chaps are resigned to remaining in England for the duration, realising without false modesty that they are doing an indispensable job- so important, indeed, that the frequent applications for remuster to air crew meet with little success. The majority, however, even while admitting their usefulness, would take the first chance of returning home. To them there's only one Australia, and it's the best country in the world!

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7/2/42 460

460 Squadron, R.A.A.F., BREIGHTON

The above squadron was formed from No. 458 Squadron and was transferred from the Molesworth station to the Holme Satellite Aerodrome at Breighton, Selby, Yorkshire, to which all aircraft, personnel and equipment were transferred without incident on January 4.

The Commanding Officer is Wing Commander A.L.G.Hubbard, D.F.C. an Australian who joined the R.A.F. under the R.A.A.F. trained cadet scheme in 1937 and received his award for keenness and high standard of courage on 18/10/40 after operations in the Middle East, Greece and the United Kingdom.

(See biographical sheet and that of S/Ldr C.L.Gilbert)

The strength of the squadron is four officers, thirteen sergeants and 105 other ranks.

On January 15, the first local flying was carried out with the Wellington Mark IV bombers of the squadron, but the uncompleted buildings and heavy snow falls up to the time of writing had minimised the amount of work that could be done. Snow ploughs and working parties were clearing runways and enabling flying to be carried out daily nevertheless; but the unfinished state of the camp is a considerable handicap during such inclement weather.

All ranks were showing great enthusiasm in their work and were anxious to begin operations at the earliest possible moment.

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