AWM 64

[1/331]

HISTORY OF No. 461 SQUADRON R.A.A.F.
25th. APRIL 1942 to NOVEMBER 31st. 1943
OPERATIONS JANUARY to DECEMBER 1943

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
AWM2020.18.349

Secret

HISTORY OF NO. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

April 25th, 1942 to March 31st, 1943

APRIL 25th, 1942. The Squadron was officially formed at MOUNT BATTEN on this date. This was an appropriate date as it was ANZAC DAY and the 27th anniversary of the landing of the Australians at Anzac Cove.

Squadron Leader Burrage took over control as Temporary Commanding Officer with Flying Officer Cartledge, No. 10 Squadron, as Acting Adjutant. F/O. R.W. Gillies, 10 Squadron, assumed duties as Flight Commander, P/O. S.J. Nichol, 10 Squadron, as Navigating Officer, and F/Sgt. A.V. Shepherd, 10 Squadron, Organising Orderly Room.

Squadron Operational Strength - 2 aircraft.

MAY 20th, 1942. The Squadron paraded as a separate unit on the Station Commanding Officer's parade for the first time.

MAY 25th, 1942. Wing Commander N.A.R. Halliday assumed Command of No. 461 Squadron.

MAY 29th, 1942. Sir Archibald Sinclair visited the squadron and inspected the aircrews.

JUNE 1st, 1942. P/O. Tinker was posted to the squadron as Adjutant.

JUNE 2nd, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. A Sunderland captained by Squadron Leader Lovelock took off at Scillies to proceed to Pembroke Dock, but was diverted to make an air/sea rescue search for a dinghy. At 2150 hrs, 2 miles north of Eddystone lighthouse a Me.109 attacked without effect.

JUNE 9th, 1942. F/O. Shears, P/O. Nicholls, and P/O. Wennholm arrived on posting.

JUNE 11th, 1942. P/O. Dent arrived on posting.

Wing Commander Halliday inspected base at Poole.

JUNE 13th, 1942. P/O. Hennessy arrived on posting as Squadron Gunnery Officer.

JUNE 17th, 1942. P/O. Evans, arrived on posting.

JUNE 20th, 1942. P/O. Kennedy and P/O. White from No. 10 Squadron, and P/O. Marrows, arrived on posting from No. 4 (C) O.T.U, Invergordon.

JUNE 21st, 1942. Squadron Leader Lovelock was mentioned in despatches.

JUNE 25th, 1942. P/O. Evans (Medical) was posted to Fighter Command from No. 461 Squadron and F/Lt. Wilson arrived from Bournemouth to take up duties as Medical Officer. P/O. Tegart arrived on posting from Bournemouth.

JUNE 28th, 1942. F/O. Switzer arrived on posting from Bournemouth, pending posting to duties as Adjutant.

JULY 1st, 1942. No. 461 Squadron became an Operational Unit from this date. Two aircraft were available for operations.

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JULY 6th, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Sunderland captained by 400297 F/O. Smith was attacked by a JU.88 whilst on anti-submarine patrol in the Bay of Biscay. After continued evasive and defensive action the JU.88 broke off the attack. The Sunderland suffered no damage and there were no casualties among the crew.

JULY 8th, 1942. AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland captained by W/Cdr. Halliday carried out an air sea rescue in the Bay of Biscay, located the dinghy in question and landed and rescued the six occupants. They were the crew of a Whitley which had been forced down due to engine trouble.

JULY 13th, 1942. P/O. Stewart joined Squadron on posting from No. 10 Squadron.

JULY 17th, 1942. Journalists representing "Australian Consolidated Press" and "Truth" visited the squadron under the direction of Squadron Leader Tart.

JULY 23rd, 1942. F/O. Barker and P/O. Jensen and Sgt. Aldridge arrived on posting.

JULY 26th, 1942. Sunderland captained by P/O. Buls, and with W/Cdr. Halliday as passenger, executed an ANTI-SHIPPING STRIKE. The merchant vessel to be attacked was escorted by five armed trawlers. Dive bombing tactics were employed but without success due to the amount of anti aircraft defence afforded by the merchant vessel and the trawlers. The Sunderland was damaged but there were no casualties to the crew.

JULY 30th, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Sunderland captained by P/O. Manger whilst on a special flight dropping leaflets to fishing vessels was attacked by three Arados. In the ensuing action one of the Arados was shot down by P/O. Evans from the rear turret, another damaged and abandoned the attack, and the third fled. The Sunderland suffered damage but there were no casualties to the crew.

AUGUST 1st, 1942. Aircraft strength was brought up to the full complement of nine.

AUGUST 5th, 1942. P/O. Simpson and P/O. Coote, observers, posted to 461 Squadron.

AUGUST 6th, 1942. AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland captained by P/O. Buls set out to locate a Whitley crew in a dinghy. While searching the Sunderland was attacked by a JU.88 and two Arados 196. Evasive action was taken and the attack broken off. Two dinghies were then sighted so Sunderland jettisoned depth charges, landed, and took the six occupants aboard.

Squadron dance was held at the Continental Hotel, Plymouth.

AUGUST 9th, 1942. SUBMARINE ATTACK. Sunderland captained by P/O. Steley attacked U-boat with depth charges. Two air bubbles and an oil bubble were observed ahead of swirl. Midships gunner fired 200 rounds at swirl during the attack.

AUGUST 12th, 1942. SUNDERLAND LOST. Sunderland captained by W/Cdr. Halliday, crashed on landing, while attempting to rescue crew of dinghy. The sole survivor of the crew Aus. 402193 F/O. J.F. Watson was picked up by a motor launch five days later. Members of the crew who lost there lives were: - W/Cdr. Halliday, Aus. 403483 F/O. Barker, AUS. 407749 P/O. Laurenti, Sgt. J. Wright, Sgt. Turner, F/Sgt. Betts, AUS. 401362 Sgt. Bentley, Aus. 405088 Sgt. Unsworth, Sgt. Fletcher, Aus. 416064 Sgt. Ramsey.

AUGUST 13th, 1942. Squadron Leader Lovelock assumed the duties of Acting Commanding Officer.

AUGUST 26th, 1942. P/O. L.G. Emrys-Jones, pilot, and P/O. A.J. Hibberd, observer were posted to No. 461 Squadron. P/O. V.H. Dyason and P/O. T.P. Fairway transferred from No. 10 Squadron.

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AUGUST 27th, 1942. Sunderland captained by P/O. Hosband while on Anti-submarine patrol was attacked by a F.W.200. Enemy aircraft fired two bursts of cannon fire without effect then attack was broken off. Sunderland sustained no damage and there were no casualties among the crew.

Advance party of the Squadron proceeded to Poole to make the necessary preparations for the Transfer of the Squadron.

AUGUST 31st, 1942. The Main Party of the Squadron proceeded to Poole by special train, arrangements being made for the aircraft crews to transfer from Mount Batten on 5.9.42.

ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by P/O. Steley was attacked by one F.W.200. The enemy aircraft attacked three times using cannon fire, then Sunderland climbed to cloud cover and attack was broken off. No damage or casualties were sustained.

SEPTEMBER 1st, 1942. SUNDERLAND LOST. While on anti-submarine patrol Sunderland captained by Aus. 404734 P/O. Hosband was attacked by two JU.88s and failed to return. Members of the crew who lost their lives were: - Aus. 404734 P/O. Hosband, Aus. 400272 F/O. Emrys-Jones, Aus. 403613 P/O. Wennholm, Aus. 401090 P/O. Stewart, Sgt. Bowd, Sgt. Hayward, F/Sgt. King, Aus. 406611 Sgt. Chinnery, Aus. 405208 Sgt. Eva, Sgt. Alecock and Sge. White.

ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on anti-shipping patrol, Sunderland captained by P/O. Winstanley was attacked by two JU.88s. After several attacks Sunderland succeeded in reaching thick cloud and contact was lost. Sunderland was damaged but there were no casualties.

SEPTEMBER 5th, 1942. Air party commenced to move from Mount Batten to Hamworthy.

SEPTEMBER 10th, 1942. While on anti-shipping sweep, Sunderland captained by P/O. Cooke, was attacked by an unidentified aircraft. Evasive action was taken and engagement broken off.

SEPTEMBER 11th, 1942. F/Lt. M.C. Raban arrived at this Unit to assume the duties of Flight Commander.

SEPTEMBER 18th, 1942. A/P.O. Higgs arrived to fill establishment vacancy of Electrical Engineer Officer.

SEPTEMBER 19th, 1942. P/O. Soderberg, observer, arrived on posting from No. 48 Squadron.

SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1942. Aus. 403648 P/O. Croft posted to No. 461 Squadron.

SEPTEMBER 23rd, 1942. Lieutenant Commander Lee, visited the Squadron to lecture aircrew on merchant shipping.

SEPTEMBER 24th, 1942. P/O. Kennedy returned to Squadron after completing an aircraft recognition course.

SEPTEMBER 30th, 1942. While on anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 403860 P/O. Cooke ATTACKED A U-BOAT. The U-boat crash dived but it only took the Sunderland 10 seconds to reach it and release the depth charges. The conning tower was still visible at the time of attack, and afterwards and large brown patch of scum was observed.

OCTOBER 3rd, 1942. P/O. J.A. Fraser arrived on posting to fill the vacancy of Secret Equipment Officer.

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OCTOBER 9th, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT While on an anti-submarine and anti-shipping patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 404944 P/O. J.G.P. Weatherlake was attacked by a JU.88. Tail and midship gunners fired 200 and 150 rounds, both gunners and fire control Officer estimating hits and the JU.88 was last seen half over on its back diving towards the sea.

OCTOBER 11th, 1942. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPPING. While on anti-shipping patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. H.G. Cooke sighted an enemy motor vessel of 3000 tons. Sunderland attacked but due to the unservicability of the distributor all bombs and depth charges had to be dropped together. These fell 50 yds away from the motor vessel.

OCTOBER 14th - 31st, 1942. Between these dates seven transit flights to Gibralter were carried out.

OCTOBER 21st, 1942. Aus. 411801 P/O. J.H. Moore was posted to No. 461 Squadron.

NOVEMBER 1st, 1942. Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

NOVEMBER 7th, 1942. Aus. 402193 F/O. O.J. Watson filled post of Squadron Navigation Officer.

ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPPING. Sunderland Captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith sighted a merchant vessel of 5000-7000 tons with no flak or national markings. The ship immediately opened fire so Sunderland attacked. Bombs were dropped and tail gunner fired 200 rounds but no hits were estimated.

NOVEMBER 8th, 1942. S/Ldr. Raban assumed duties of Acting Squadron Commander.

NOVEMBER 11th, 1942. ATTACKED BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT Sunderland captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke while on search for British submarine believed to have been bombed, was attacked by four JU.88s. Three of the aircraft came in to attack but only one fired bursts from between 400 and 800 yds. Sunderland jettisoned bombs and depth charges and made for cloud cover but was attacked by another JU.88 which fired a few short bursts. Sunderland then reached cloud cover and contact was lost.

NOVEMBER 29th, 1942. Lieutenant Commander Brooks, R.A.N. visited the Squadron to lecture on submarine tactics and warfare.

DECEMBER 5th, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on an anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 404534 F/O. Steley was attack by two JU.88s and one ME.110. The two JU.88s - which were later joined by the ME.110 - turned into attack at 1000 yds, and F/O. Steley immediately jettisoned depth charges. Several attacks were made by the enemy aircraft but violent evasive action was taken and no hits were scored. Several bursts were fires at the enemy and hits were estimated on the Me.110. Engagement was then broken off.

DECEMBER 14th, 1942. Aus. 401356 P/O. H.E. Winstanley, attended investiture at Buckingham Palace to receive the Distinguished Flying Cross.

DECEMBER 18th, 1942. P/O. A.C. Hennessy became Squadron Gunnery Leader.

DECEMBER 22nd, 1942. When the port outer engine of Sunderland captained by Aus. 400636 F/O. Marrows developed a serious oil leak which if not repaired would have caused the engine to become completely unserviceable, Sgt. W.L. Woodland, Aus. 6739, fitter, crawled along inside the port wing to the port outer engine, located the oil leak, crawled back to obtain tools, then proceeded out once more and repaired the damage, thus enabling the engine to continue functioning.

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DECEMBER 24th, 1942. Air Marshal R. Williams, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., and Group Captain Knox-Knight, O.B.E. visited the Squadron.

DECEMBER 25th, 1942. Aus. 407240 P/O. G. Viner posted to the Squadron.

DECEMBER 27th, 1942. Aus. 516 S/Ldr. S.R.C. Wood, D.F.C. assumed duties of Flight Commander which were relinquished by S/Ldr. R.C. Raban on 17.12.42.

JANUARY 5th, 1943. Aus. 401999 P/O. R. Newton, and Aus. 401956 P/O. D.P. Howe posted to the Squadron.

JANUARY 12th, 1943. Aus. 401306 P/O. H.E. Winstanley mentioned in despatches.

JANUARY 14th, 1943. Wing Commander D.L.G. Douglas took over Command of the Squadron from Wing Commander R.C.O. Lovelock.

Aus. 3120 F/O. K.S. McCaffery posted to the squadron.

JANUARY 18th, 1943. The Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Coastal Command, Air Chief Marshal Sir Philip Joubert de la Ferte, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., visited the Squadron.

JANUARY 21st, 1943. Sunderland captained by F/Lt. Buls, took off on special equipment anti-submarine flooding patrol and failed to return to base. Members of the crew who lost their lives are: - Aus. 403129 F/Lt. B.L. Buls, Aus. 411428 P/O. H.I.C. Dent, Aus. 403600 P/O. H.L. Osborne, Aus. 411801 P/O. J.H. Moore, Aus. 6241 Sgt. R. Tucker, Aus. 15186 Sgt. F.W. Gill, Aus. 403091 Sgt. O.S. Filmer, Aus. 404915 Sgt. N.H.R. Hart, Aus. 30954 ACl H.E. Elrich, F/Sgt. E. Bradley and Sgt. P. Evans.

FEBRUARY 3rd, 1943. Air Vice Marshal G.R. Bromet, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Air Officer Commanding 19 Group, R.A.F. visited the Squadron.

Aus. 4832 F/O. E.T. Long posted to 461 Squadron from 10 Squadron.

FEBRUARY 6th, 1943. Aus. 412498 P/O. C.J. Dawson posted to the Squadron.

FEBRUARY 8th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on anti-submarine and anti-shipping patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods encountered two JU.88s. One Ju. came in to attack but Sunderlands gunners opened fire and the Ju. broke away. Sunderland then succeeded in reaching cloud cover and contact was lost.

FEBRUARY 13th, 1943. The Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Coastal Command, Air Marshal J.C. Slessor, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., visited the Squadron.

ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT While on anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker was attacked by two JU.88s and two F.W.190s. Sunderland was first attacked by the two Ju.88s and hit with cannon shells and machine gun fire. The rear gunner fired 400 rounds at the enemy but no hits were estimated. Sunderland then dived into patches of cloud and remained circling for five minutes. On breaking cloud Sunderland encountered two F.W.190s and was again hit with cannon shells and machine gun fire. Midships gunner fired 200 rounds estimating hits on the enemy, then Sunderland dived once more into cloud and engagement was broken off. Sunderland was badly damaged and two members of the crew received slight superficial wounds.

FEBRUARY 15th, 1943. Aus. 2257 P/O. Mildwater posted from 460 Squadron to 461 Squadron.

SUBMARINE ATTACKED. Sunderland captained by Aus. 516 Squadron Leader Wood attacked an enemy U-boat with a salvo of depth charges. The salvo overshot but the U-boat was covered with spray. The nose, tail and midships gunners fired 100, 900 and 400 rounds and the U-boat is thought to have replied with one gun but aircraft sustained no damage. Two men were seen to fall or jump overboard and two minutes later U-boat submerged.

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FEBRUARY 16th, 1943. Aus. 3932 F/Lt. T.A. Egerton and Aus. 5906 P/O. O.C. Petherick attached to 461 Squadron from 10 Squadron.

FEBRUARY 22nd, 1943. FORCED LANDING When starboard inner engine of Sunderland captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods, cut, bombs and depth charges were jettisoned together with 800 gallons of fuel and all movable heavy equipment. Aircraft set course for base and had just sighted Eddystone light when starboard inner engine caught fire with severe vibration and pieces falling off. Captain was forced to land in the sea in darkness which he accomplished without damage to his aircraft. He was towed to Plymouth next morning.

MARCH, 1943. Operational flying during this month showed a large increase on that carried out in February but no submarines were sighted and there were no combats with enemy aircraft.

MARCH 2nd, 1943. Aus. 420692 P/O. J. Park and Aus. 414534 P/O. R.D. Lucas posted to the Squadron.

MARCH 6th, 1943. P/O. F.A. Bedward posted to No. 461 Squadron from Headquarters, Coastal Command.

MARCH 12th, 1943. Air Vice Marshal, H.W. Wrigley, C.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C., visited the Squadron.

MARCH 18th, 1943. P/O. G.S. Finch posted to No. 461 Squadron from Headquarters, Coastal Command.

MARCH 21st, 1943. SUNDERLAND LOST. Sunderland captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger crashed in Poole Harbour on take-off. The aircraft was completely destroyed and there were minor casualties among the crew.

MARCH 31st, 1943. Aus. 405119 F/O. R.D. Baird, Aus. 405404 P/O. R. De V. Gipps, and Aus. 409326 P/O. D.A. Sinclair posted to the Squadron.

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COPY

Squadron History

UNIT HISTORY

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461 (R.A.A.F.) SQUADRON

Sunderland

Formed officially on April 25th (the anniversary of Anzac Day) 1942, 461 Squadron (Sunderland) R.A.A.F. did not begin to operate until three months later. In the first year of its existence, however, this squadron carried out many notable operations and a large number of awards were made to its personnel.

461 emerged from 10 Squadron R.A.A.F., who have been on service in the United Kingdom since war began, and the coming of the younger squadron has given a healthy stimulus to both units. The younger unit had striven to equal if not outstrip the deeds of its "parents".

First Commanding Officer of 461 was Wing Commander Halliday, R.A.F., and one of the earliest achievements of the squadron was the rescue on July 8th, 1942, by a Sunderland piloted by the Wing Commander, of six occupants of a dinghy, crew of a Whitley. A few weeks later on 12th August 1942, Wing Commander Halliday endeavoured to rescue another distressed crew but on this occasion the Sunderland was lost. The only survivor was F/O (now F/Lt.) J. F. H. Watson who after a dinghy had burst swam for an hour to another dinghy in an extremely heavy sea and was picked up by a motor launch six days later. Watson kept note of his position on an envelope and on the third day sighted a dinghy in which there were the crew of a Whitley including F/O Alan Triggs and F/O Badham (both Australians) of 172 Squadron. The two dinghies were lashed together when the occupants were found by the motor launch.

S/Ldr. (Now Wing Commander) R. C. Lovelock, R.A.F., became Commanding Officer until January of 1943 when S/Ldr. Desmond L. G. Douglas, D.F.C., of Sydney was promoted Wing Commander and took over Command. Wing Commander Douglas joined the permanent R.A.A.F. seven years ago and was a Flying Officer when he arrived in the United Kingdom in November, 1939. He was actually the first Australian to land in this country on active service after the outbreak of war and he is the only pilot left of the original aircrews of No. 10 Squadron.

In September of 1942, 461 Squadron moved to Hamworthy and they remained there until April of 1943 when they moved to Pembroke Dock, which became the biggest flying-boat station in the world.

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Other incidents of the early days of the Squadron was the rescue of a Whitley crew of 502 Squadron (6.8.42) by P/O (later F/O B. Buls, who landed in the face of great danger, enemy JU.88s and Arados being in the vicinity. In the following February F/Lt. Buls and his crew disappeared leaving no trace. On September 3rd 1942 an aircraft captained by P/O F. Morgan turned over on its back in a violent storm which made it almost impossible to control the aircraft.

On September 1st three Sunderlands, two of 10 Squadron and one of 461 attacked a U-boat. After this the squadron was engaged for several weeks on convoy escorts and ferrying with no incident of outstanding interest. On December 5th F/O Steeley found and shadowed an enemy convoy despite sharp attack. For this feat he was awarded the D.F.C.

On February 13th, 1943, N. for Nuts captained by F/Lt. Colin B. Walker of Brisbane, was in action for 40 minutes against two Ju.88s and two FW.190s, seriously damaging one of the FW's. The Sunderland was repeatedly hit and there were cannon shell holes in the hull and many parts of the aircraft had been peppered with machine gun bullets. On the homeward trip the crew collected odd bits of clothing and overalls and plugged all the holes made by the cannon shells. On February 15th, S/Ldr. S. R. C. Wood, D.F.C., the Flight Commander attacked a large U-boat, which exchanged shots with the Sunderland.

In March F/Lt. W. S. E. Dods, of Brisbane, made a perfect night landing in the open sea without damaging his aircraft and without injury to any members of the crew. There was dense cloud, ten-tenths down to the water and there was inky darkness.

On April 16th an aircraft also captained by F/Lt. Dods successfully searched for a dinghy containing survivors of another Sunderland squadron. The occupants of the dinghy were rescued by a destroyer.

On April 29th, P. for Percy of 461 captained by P/O (now F/O) R. de V. Gipps of Brisbane, and F for Freddie of 10 Squadron, captained by F/O N. C. Gerrard, of Manly, Sydney, destroyed a U-boat. Air Vice Marshal Baker was a passenger on P for Percy.

The U-boat sighted first by P for Percy was attacked by both Australian Sunderlands in turn. Her forward deck was awash and she cocked her stern 10 or 15 feet in the air and disappeared.

On May 1st, an aircraft captained by F/Lt. E. C. Smith of Horsham, Victoria, attacked a U-boat and the next day, May 2nd, the same aircraft sank a U-boat,

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F/Lt. Smith being awarded an immediate D.F.C. The U-boat sank 25 minutes after she was first sighted. She went down by the stern, her bow twice cocking through the waves. The Australians photographed the Nazi crew struggling in the water. On May 3rd, F/O R. D. Baird made a good attack on a U-boat. He was on his first trip as a captain of an aircraft as were Gipps and Gerrard.

On May 14th, an aircraft captained by F/Lt. E. C. Smith was jumped by eight 88's but manoeuvered so skilfully that he got away with only a few holes in his windscreen and the front turret. About the same time an aircraft captained by F/Lt. John Weatherlake met six JU.88s and was attacked by three for 30 minutes.

On May 28th an aircraft captained by F/Lt. Dods landed in an attempt to rescue the six members of a Whitley crew who were in a dinghy. The swell was too much for the flying boat which sank almost immediately, F/Lt. Dods being killed and F/O Gipps seriously injured. Gipps was floating away from the wreckage and was almost out of sight when F/Sgt. Wallace Mackie of Hay, New South Wales, went to his rescue and brought him back to the dinghy. Next day an aircraft captained by F/O Singleton, of St. Kilda, Victoria, sighted the two dinghies and landed to rescue the occupants. He took 16 survivors on board. Later he was taken in tow by a Fighting French destroyer. A crew of seven remained in the Sunderland which F/O Singleton eventually flew off.

The Sunderland suffered severe damage just as she took off, a hole 5 feet by 3 feet being made in the hull, but F/O Singleton landed successfully on the grass at Angle, a land aerodrome a few miles from Pembroke Dock. No further damage was done to the aircraft in this landing and none of the personnel was hurt.

On June 2nd N for Nuts captained by F/Lt.C. B. Walker was attacked by eight Junkers 88s. In a 45 minute fight, four of the 88s were shot down. The Sunderland was badly shot up and set on fire. One member of the crew, Sgt. Miles R.A.F., a galley gunner, was killed, and four members of the crew wounded or burned. N for Nuts was landed on the beach at Marazion, near Penzance, and was beaten to pieces by the waves during the night.

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D.F.C.s ... Wing Commander Douglas
Squadron Leader Wood
Flight Lieutenant E. C. Smith
" " Egerton
Flying Officer Evans,
" " Galt
Flight Lieutenant Cooke
Flying Officer Steeley

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D.F.M.s ... Flight Sergeant Webb
" " Milne
" " Donnelly (All R.A.F.)

This goes to June 2nd 1943. Any decorations to crew of N. for Nuts should be added.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

JANUARY, 1943.

O.R.B. 1.1.43 **Sunderland DV968 - Anti-Submarine Convoy Escort.**

Crew: - Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, E.C.
Aus. 401346 F/O. I.A.F. Clarke
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. F.B. Gascoigne
Aus. 403778 P/O. Simpson
624907 Sgt. D.W. Butler
1379989 Sgt. Stewart
Aus. 405228 Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405144 Sgt. Wilson
Aus. 405105 Sgt. Gamble
911107 Sgt. MacDonald
Aus. 402319 P/O. Critcher

0550 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine convoy escort. Convoy was not met due to incorrect position being given and captain decided to return to base due to poor weather conditions. Weather extremely poor. 1243 Waterborne Hamworthy.

O.R.B. 1.1.43 **Sunderland T9115 - Anti-Submarine Convoy Escort.**

Crew: - Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dodds
Aus. 403760 P/O. Nicholls
Aus. 403568 P/O. Dyason
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
1161229 Sgt. Rees
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox
632851 F/Sgt. Webb
Aus. 411464 P/O. Tegart
Aus. 403455 Sgt. Donham
Aus. 17682 A/C Dhu
Aus. 411354 Sgt. Mackie

1013 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine convoy escort. 1605 JZAF 1353 convoy met and patrolled to extreme visibility. 1809 left convoy. 1828 MFBI Return to Mt. Batten. Weather: 8/10 St. Cu. cloud at 2000 feet. Vis. 3 miles; extremely hazy and bumpy. Very rough sea. 1955 Waterborne Mt. Batten.

O.R.B. 3.1.43 **Sunderland DV968 - Anti-Submarine Convoy.**

Crew: - Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. Gascoigne
Aus. 403778 P/O. Simpson
624907 Sgt. Butler
942515 F/Sgt. Smedley
1379989 Sgt. Stewart
Aus. 405228 Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405144 Sgt. Wilson
Aus. 405105 Sgt. Gamble
911107 Sgt. MacDonald
Aus. 402319 P/O. Critcher

1044 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine convoy escort. 1505 JZJY 1118 convoy met. 1540 JZJY convoy began to split up. 1837 JZQS 0310 left convoy. 2111 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. Weather 10/10 cloud nimbo St. at 500 ft. fog encountered. Slight sea.

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TO: - 19 Group.
From: - Mt. Batten.

A. 1. MB/02/1 Jan. 2. PL/G12/31 Dec 3. Sunderland K/461
6 x Torpex D/C's 2 x 250 Lb. G.P. bombs. F/Lt. Dodds,
P/O. Dyason

B. 1013/1 Airborne Hamworthy A/S and A/A Escort to C/V warrant.
1229 Scillies. S/C CKVA 3107
1256 CKVA 3107. S/C CKHY 4338 continued on course past position up convoys track.
1338 CKHY 5624 S/C back along C/V's track.
1410 Pendeen Light. S/C JZAF 0621
1555 JZAF 0621 commenced C.L.A search on mean course 122 degs T.
1605 JZAF 1354 met C/V warrant. One MV one tug one DR one trawler stationary. Patrolled at extreme visibility (2-6 miles)
1809 JZAF 1354 S/C Scillies. C/V still stationary in this position.
1828 MFB1 'BFX - 202 - BCX - 1751'
1839 Scillies
1840 MTB1 'BBM - 1920 - QFF - Batten - 1840'
1912 MFB2 'QFF - Batten - 966 - 1900'
1955 Waterborne Mt. Batten.

H. 1. 51 10 N 08 20 W 2. 1600 3. 3 miles 4. 8/10 SC 2000ft. 1000 ft. thick estimated 5. 296/47 kts. 1900 ft. 6. Very rough. 7. Poor - hazy extremely bumpy. 8. Similar - patches of drizzle (T) 2130 A/1

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/1/Jan 2. PL/G12/31/Dec. 3/ Sunderland 'M' 461 Squadron.
6 x Torpex - 2 x G.P. bombs.
Pilot F/Lt. Smith. Navigator P/O. Simpson.

B. 0550/1 Jan 1943 Airborne Hamworthy on A/A and A/S escort to C/V warrant
0824 Scillies S/C CKHY 5215
0905 CKHY 4043 C/V not met. Began search up track
0958 JZAF 1413. C/V still not met. Turned to search down track.
1057 Landfall Scillies. M.T.B. 1. "Not Met - weather report - ETA. 1215 - 1100 A".
1243/1 Jan. 1943 Waterborne Hamworthy.
S.E. used for navigational purposes and to search for C/V

H. 1. 51.14 N 08.47 W. 2. 1000 3. 300 - 400 yards. 4. 200 - 500 ft. Nimbo STR. 3500 ft. 5. 270/35 kts. 2000 ft. 6. Rough
7. Frontal conditions with precipitation and squalls.
8. Very bumpy - bad visibility and low cloud. T. TOO 1345A

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

O.R.B. 6.1.43 **Sunderland T9111 - Anti-Submarine Escort.**

Crew: - Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 401976 Sgt. Leigh
909888 Sgt. Fowler
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russel
811099 Sgt. Finney
649199 F/Sgt. Smith-Gander
Aus. 406514 Sgt. Bird
Aus. 401696 Sgt. Jones
629555 Sgt. Ede
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
122409 P/O. Evans

0922 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine escort. W/T transmitter found to be unserviceable before Bishops Rock and Captain decided to return. 1610 Waterborne Hamworthy.

O.R.B. 7.1.43 **Sunderland T9115 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.**

Crew: - Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods
Aus. 403760 P/O. Nicholls
Aus. 403568 P/O. Dyason
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
1161229 Sgt. Rees
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox
632851 F/Sgt. Webb
Aus. 411464 P/O. Regart
Aus. 403455 Sgt. Donham
Aus. 17682 A/C. Dhu
Aus. 411354 Sgt. Mackie

0945 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol. 1525 Captain decided to return due to poor weather. 1532 Group diverted aircrafts to Mt. Batten. 1610 Waterborne Mt. Batten. Weather: St. Cu. varying 300-1500 feet. Moderate sea. Visibility very poor.

O.R.B. 10.1.43 **Sunderland T9111 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.**

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 415062 Sgt. Watts
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
909888 Sgt. Fowler
881099 Sgt. Finney
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell
649199 F/Sgt. Smith-Gander
Aus. 401696 Sgt. Jones
Aus. 406514 Sgt. Bird
628555 Sgt. Ede
122409 P/O. Evans

1224 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.12. 1551 KQAF 3809 decided to return to base . 16.11 MFB1 Return to base. 1741 Waterborne Mt. Batten. Weather: Extremely poor conditions.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/6 Jan 2. PL/G12/5 Jan. 3/ Sunderland C/461
6 x 250 lb. Torpex D/C's - 2 x 100 G.P. bombs.
Pilot F/Lt. Walker. Navigator P/O. Kennedy.

B. 0922/6 Jan. Airborne Hamworthy on A/S Escort. Soon after becoming airborne found W/T transmitter had become U/S. Carried on hoping to right the trouble.
1118 Bishops Rock
1317 KQTQ 3706 decided to S/C base as transmitter still u/s and could not reach base on given ETA or originate signals stating condition. Failure serial number 6.
1410 MFB Land at base 1800
1430 Scillies
1610/6 Jan. Waterborne Hamworthy.
S/E for navigation.

H. 1. 48 degs 37 degs N - 10 ED GS 86 N 2. 13 17 (3) 6 miles.
4. 8/10 - CU and AS 2000 ft. 5. 34 knots/294 degs - 1000 ft.
6. Rough. 7 and 8. Fair but bumpy throughout scattered showers.
T.O.O. QUEP 1730

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

To: - 19 Group.
From - ~~Hamworth~~ Mt. Batten.

A. 1. MB/04/7/Jan 2. PL/G2/7/Jan 3. Sunderland K/461
6 Torpex D.C's 2 x 250 lb. G.P. bombs.
F/Lt. Dods. P/O. Dyason.

B. 0945 Airborne Hamworthy on A/S patrol BP15
1129 Bishop Rock S/C LRJW 4506 on patrol.
1215 MFB1 'BHD - 1730 - 1200
1332 PTTQ 5735 S/C Bishop Rock
1519 Bishop Rock off patrol
1525 MTB1 'BBM - 1700 - 1525'
1532 MFB2 'BFX - 202 - 1520'
1535 MTB2 'BBM - 1610 - 1535'
1610 Waterborne Mt. Batten.

H. 1. 47 57 N 09 25 W. 2. 1332 3. Nil 4. 10/10 in two layers STR CU 300 ft. to 1500 ft. 9/10 above 2500 5. 275 degs 28 m.p.h. 6. Moderate 7. Rather turbulant 8. not too good.
(T) 1710A

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Mt. Batten

A. 1. MB/02/10/Jan 2. PL/G13/9/Jan 3. Sunderland C/461
6 Torpex D.C's 2 x 250 lb. G.P. bombs.
F/Lt. Manger. P/O. Kennedy.

B. 1224/10 Jan. Airborne Hamworthy on A/S patrol BP 12
1423 Bishop Rock S/C THLN 5328 on patrol.
1551 KQAF 3809 decided to return to base owing to weather S/C for St. Marys.
1611 MFB1 'Return to Base'
1612 MTB1 'ETA Mount Batten 1730'
1654 St. Marys.
1741 Waterborne Mt. Batten.

H. 1. 49 N 08 18 W 2. 1628 3. 2/3 miles 4. 10/10 ST CU 1000 ft. thickness unknown 5. 45 MPH from 170 degs 800 ft.
6. Rough 7. Poor 8. Poor deteriorating on return.
T. 1945A

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

O.R.B. 12.1.43 Sunderland T9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404554 F/O. Steley
Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley
948532 Sgt. Williams
627999 Sgt. McDonnell
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
645414 F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 Sgt. Stevens
1441273 Sgt. Wharfe
Aus. 402914 Sgt. Bateup
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner

1034 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.115. Due to excessive patrol consumption patrol could not be fully completed. No sightings made. 2115 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Vis. 6 miles Cu. cloud 2/10 at 2000 feet. Rough sea.

O.R.B. 12.1.43 Sunderland T9115 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods
Aus. 403760 P/O. Nicholls
Aus. 403568 P/O. Dyason
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
1161229 Sgt. Rees
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox
632851 F/Sgt. Webb
Aus. 411464 P/O. Tegart
Aus. 403455 Sgt. Donham
Aus. 17682 A/C. Dhu
Aus. 411354 Sgt. Mackie

0943 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.16 An uneventful trip and one Wellington was the only sighting made. 2139 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Cu. Nb. at 1700 feet, 5 miles visibility very rough sea.

O.R.B. 14.1.43 Sunderland T9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404554 F/O. Steley
Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley
948532 Sgt. Williams
627999 Sgt. McDonnell
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
64 414 F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 Sgt. Stevens
Aus. 402914 Sgt. Bateup
1441273 Sgt. Wharfe
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner

0843 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol. B.P.8. 16.49 ZXUB 1027 sighted large unidentified aircraft which was the only sighting made. 2105 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Cu. cloud 3/10 2000 feet. Rough sea. Vis. 9 miles. Hail encountered.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To: 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/02/12/Jan 2. PL/G1o/11/Jan 3. Sunderland K/461
6 x Torpex - 2 x T GP bombs.
Pilot F/Lt. Dods. Navigator F/O. Dyason

B. 0943/12 Jan, 1943 Airborne Hamworthy on A/S patrol BP 16
1150 Bishop Rock on patrol S/C LRJY 3554
1244 KQHY 5 4826 Wellington crossed bows from port to Starboard CO 270 degs Height 1500 ft.
1610 LRQS 5611 P.L.E. S/C LRQS 4046
1623 LRQS 4046 S/C Bishop Rock
2002 XFPK 4016 S/C Lizard
2013 Lizard S/C Base
2015 MTB1 - BBM 2120 - QFF Poole - 2010A
2102 MFB1 - QFF Poole 988 - 2040A
2139/12 Jan, 1943 Waterborne Hamworthy.
S.E. in use for navigational purposes only.

H. 1. 46 degs 53' N 09 degs 11' W 2. 1400 3. 5 miles L - nil in rain 4. 1700 ft. CU NIM unknown 5. Z295/42 kts. 1700 K5 6. Very rough 7. Patches of rain and hail in CU NIM 8. Bumpy - turbulent - strong winds - poor visibility improving on homewards journey.

X-X-X-X-X-X-X

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/12/Jan 2/ PL/G10/11 Jan 3. Sunderland E/461
6 x Torpex - 2 x GP bombs.
Pilot F/O. Steley. Navigator P/O. Winstanley

B. 1034/12 Jan. 1943 Airborne Hamworthy on A/S patrol BP 15.
1242 Bishop Rock on patrol S/C LRJY 5315
1634 MWQS 2637 S/C MWWD 1015
1647 MWWD 1015 (DR) PLE - consumption 160 GPH S/C Bishop Rock
1900 MTB1 - QFF Poole - ETA 2100 - 1900A
1943 Bishop Rock off patrol.
2115/12/Jan, 1943 Waterborne Hamworthy SE in use for navigational purposes.

H. 1. 45' 12' N 10' 10' W 2. 1645 3. 6 miles 4. 2000 ft CU2/10 1000 ft. 5. 200/45 mph 1000 ft. 6. Rough 7. Fair 8. Squally and turbulent hail and heavy rain showers in CU NIM clouds over most of route.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/14/Jan 2. PL/G7/13 3. Sunderland E/461
Load carried 6 x Torpex - 2 x 250 lbs. GP's.
Pilot F/O. Steley. Navigator P/O. Winstanley

B. 0843/14/Jan, Airborne on BP8
1038 Bishop Rock S/C PTDX 4241. 9, 0-549)
1545 PTDX 4243 S/C PTHH 2234. Large CB was at PTHH 1302
1604 PTHH 2234
1649 ZXUB 1027 while at 2000 feet sighted large A/C resembling Sunderland at same height CO 230 degs T, 3 miles starboard beam.
1929 St. Mary's. Off patrol, average height 1600 feet. S/E for navigation only.
2105 Hamworthy Waterborne

H. 1. 46 42 N 1617 W 2. 1545 hrs. 3. 9 4. CU 2000 CU 3/10 7000
5. 35 mph/29 OT 2000 feet. 6. Rough. 7. Hazy showers of hail, bumpy. 8. Hazy showers of hail, bumpy. Conditions moderate.
TOO 2220A

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

O.R.B. 14.1.43 Sunderland T9109 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows
1376820 F/Sgt. Boweystock
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 401584 P/O. Rolland
Aus. 6739 Sgt. Woodland
1365064 Sgt. Milligan
755257 F/Sgt. Milne
Aus. 403592 F/O. Jenson
Aus. 10530 Sgt. Bamber
Aus. 402617 Sgt. Sidney
Aus. 404783 Sgt. Miller

0844 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.11 No sighting made. 2040 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather 5/10 Cu. cloud 2500 feet. 8 to 10 miles vis. Rough sea.

O.R.B. 14.1.43 Sunderland T9115 - Anti-Submarine Patrol and Locate Convoy.

Crew: - Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods
Aus. 403760 P/O. Nicholls
Aus. 401976 Sgt. Leigh
Aus. 403568 P/O. Dyason
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
1161229 Sgt. Rees
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox
632851 F/Sgt. Webb
Aus. 411464 P/O. Tegart
Aus. 403455 Sgt. Donham
Aus. 17682 A/C. Dhu
Aus. 411354 Sgt. Mackie
Aus. 33805 LAC. Frendenstein

0852 Airborne Hamworthy on anti submarine patrol and also to locate convoy. 12.39 JZTQ 2120 sighted convoy. 16.10 KGLN 0429 PLE reached, set course for base. 2050 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: CB clouds 8/10 at 1500 feet. Rough sea, Vis. 15 miles.

O.R.B. 16.1.43 Sunderland T9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404554 F/O. Steley
Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley
948532 Sgt. Williams
627999 Sgt. McDonnell
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
645414 F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 Sgt. Stevens
1441273 Sgt. Wharfe
Aus. 402914 Sgt. Bateup
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner

0854 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol. 1025 XFDW 5615 Set course base due to engine trouble. 1048 MTB "ETA 1125" 1122 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Vis. 3 miles. 10/10 cloud at 1000 feet. Moderate sea.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/P2/14 Jan 2. NO PL/G7/13 3. Sunderland D/461
6 x Torpex - 2 x GP' (250
Pilot F/O. Marrows. Navigator P/O. Rolland.

B. 0844/14/Jan, Airborne on BP 11
1042 Bishop Rock. On patrol.
1504 MWLN 3020S/C MWLN 0450
1519 MWLN 0450 S/C Bishop Rock.
1910 Scillies off patrol. Average height 1500 feet.
S.E. for navigation only. Nothing seen throughout
2040 Hamworthy Waterborne.

H. 1. 45 degs 05' N 14 Degs 10' W 2. 1520 hours. 3. 8 to 10 miles.
4. 5/10 2500 feet CU and CB CU 2000 ft. CB 12000 ft.
5. 298 degs T/26 kts, 1500 feet. 6. Rough 7. Very bumpy,
rain in cloud isolated patches of hail. 8. Very bumpy.
St. Elmo's fire experienced at Scillies and Lizard.

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/03/14/Jan 2. PD/G7/13 3. Sunderland K/461.
Load carried 6 x Torpex - 2 x 250 GP's.
Pilot F/L. Dods. Nav. P/O. Dyason.

B. 0852/14 Jan, Airborne to locate C/V sapper and BP6
1032 Wolff Rock S/C fastnet
1239 JZTQ 2120, sighted C/V sapper within sight of fastnet
1 cable ship and 1 Ast.
1252 Fastnet Rock. S/C KQJY 3412
1320 MTB1 '659 - 334 - 57 - 1245'
1516 KQJY 3425 S/C ZXHH 5208
1610 KQLN 0429. PLE reached S/C ZXLN 5035
1617 ZXLN 5035. S/C Bishop.
1916 Bishop S/C Base.
2050 Hamworthy waterborne. Average height on patrol 1400 feet.
S/E used for navigation only. Nothing seen throughout
other than C/U and fishing vessels trawling south of
Irish Coast.

H. 1. 48 Degs 45' N 12 Degs 25' W. 2. 1500 hours. 3. 15 miles.
4. 8/10 1500 feet CB 8000 feet. 5. 280 degs T/35Kts. 1500 feet.
6. Rough 7. Turbulent. 8. Turbulent, rough air.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To: ÷ 19 Group.
From: - Hamwo r thy.

A. 1 HWY/01/16/Jan 2. PL/G9/15/Jan 3. Air craft type Sunderland letter E. on 461 6 x Torpex ÷ 2 x 250 GP's pilot F/O. Steley Navigator P/O. Winstanley

B. 0854/16 Jan. 43 Hamworthy Airborne on A/Submari ne patro l BP16
1025 XFDW 5615 S/C Base engine trou ble.
1027 MTB1 "WJR - XFDW 5917"
1035 "Change to 314 KC'S"
1048 MTB2 "ETA 1125 - "
1122/16 Jan/1943 Hamworthy Waterborne.

H. 1. 49' 56'N 94' 45'W
2. 1025
3. 3 miles
4. 10/10 1000 ft. and 9000 ST and AL ST ST 1000 ft. AL ST unknown
5. 196' T/23 kts. 1000 ft.
6. Mod
7. Mod
8. Showery

T. 1254

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

O.R.B. 16.1.43 Sunderland T.9109 - Anti-submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 4006565 F/O. Marrows
1376820 F/Sgt. Boweystock
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 401584 P/O. Rolland
Aus. 6739 Sgt. Woodland
1365064 Sgt. Milligan
Aus. 403592 F/O. Jenson
755257 F/Sgt. Milne
Aus. 10530 Sgt. Bamber
Aus. 402617 Sgt. Sidney
Aus. 404783 Sgt. Miller

0842 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.14, 14.05 PTWD 3120. Decided to shorten patrol due to excessive oil consumption. 1414 MTB1 "Returning to base - engine trouble". 1540 MFB1 "Land Mt. Batten". 1720 Waterborne Mt. Batten. Weather: 10/10 St. at 600 Feet. Practically no visibility. Tough sea. Continuous rain almost throughout trip.

O.R.B. 26.1.43 Sunderland T.9111 - Anti-submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 415062 Sgt. Watts
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
909888 Sgt. Fowler
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell
649199 F/Sgt. Smith-Gander
Aus. 406514 Sgt. Bird
Aus. 401696 Sgt. Jones
Aus. 33805 LAC. Frendenstein
122409 P/O. Evans

0742 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP 12. 0950 Trouble developed in starboard outer engine. 0957 XFVA 4020 Engine trouble persisted so decided to return to base. 11.45 Waterborne Hamworthy.

O.R.B. 20.1.43 Sunderland T.9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404554 F/O. Steley
Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
627999 Sgt. McDonnell
Aus. 6612 Sgt. Hammond
645414 F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 Sgt. Stevens
1441273 Sgt. Wharfe
Aus. 402914 Sgt. Bateup
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner

0654 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.10. An uneventful trip. 1816 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. Weather; Vis. 9 miles. 6/10 cloud 2500 feet. Rough sea, hail and heavy rain encountered.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To: 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. MB/02/16/Jan 2. PL/G9/15/Jan 3. Sunderland D/461
6 x Torpex D/C's 2 x 250 lb. GP bombs
F/O. Marrow - P/O. Rolland

B. 0849/16 Airborne Hamworthy on A/S patrol BP14
1052 Bishop Rock on Patrol
1405 PTWD 3120 S/C PTWD 1842 patrol shortened owing to excess oil consumption in starboard inner and port outer engines
1418 PTWD 1842 S/C Bishops Rock
1418 MTB1 returning to base engine trouble - PTWD 1842 - May we land at Mount Batten - 1418
1540 MFB1 'Land at Mount Batten - 1515
1625 Bishops Rock off patrol.
1720 Waterborne Mount Batten. Average patrol height 1200 ft.

H. 1. 46 50 N 10 20 W 2. 1350 hrs. 3. Nil 4. 10/10 ST 600 ft. 1500 ft. thick. 5. 160/35 kts 1500 ft. 6. Rough.
7. Continuous rain. 8. 10/10 cloud base average 1200 ft. throughout - intermittent rain in lower cloud

T. 1810A/16

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

From: - Hamworthy.
To: - 19 Group.

A. 1. HWY/01/20/Jan 2. PL/G12/19 3. Sunderland C/461
6 Torpex D/Cs - 2 x 250 lb. GP bombs.
F/Lt. Manger P/O. Kennedy.

B. 0742/20 Jan A/B Hamworthy on BP 12
0945 Bishop Rock
0950 Trouble developed starboard inner motor
0957 XFVA 4020 decided to return to base on account of trouble persisting
0959 MTB engine trouble returning to base ETA 1145
1145 Waterborne Hamworthy
A/E for navigation.

H. 1. Scillies. 2. 0950 3. 3-4 miles. 4. 10/10 - SC - 1500 ft.
5. 30 knots 180 degs - 1200 ft. 6. Rough
7 plus 8. Frequent showers.
T. 1250A

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. PD/05/20/Jan. 2. PL/G12/19/Jan 3. Sunderland MK 2A E/461
Captain P/O. Steley Navigator P/O. Winstanley
6 Torpex - 2 x 250 G.P.

B. 0654 Airborne Hamworthy on BP 10
0855 Bishop Rock on Patrol.
1354 PTLN 1018
1410 MWLN 4644
1654 MFB1 Land At P.D.
1727 XFVA 5741 off patrol
1816 Waterborne Pembroke Dock.
S.E. used for navigation only nothing sighted

H. 1. 41 10 N 14 42 W. 2. 1354 3. 9 Mls. 4.6/10 CB
Base 2500 deg Tops 14000. 5. 231/19 mph at 3000 ft.
6. Rough. 7. Hail and heavy rain. 8. Showery, continuous rain from 100 mls. S.W. of Scillies.

T. 2025A

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

O.R.B. 21.1.43 Sunderland T.9111 - Special Equipment Anti-Submarine Flooding Trip.

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 415062 Sgt. Watts
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
909888 Sgt. Fowles
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell
649199 F/Sgt. Smith-Gander
Aus. 406514 Sgt. Bird
Aus. 401696 Sgt. Jones
Aus. 33805 LAC. Frendenstein
122409 P/O. Evans

1048 Airborne Hamworthy on special equipment anti-submarine flooding trip. On reaching datum point aircraft flew through positions as detailed. 1824 MFB1 Return base immediately. 1940 MFB2 land at Pembroke Dock. 2134 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. Weather: Vis. 10 miles. 5/10 Cu. Nb. cloud. Rough sea.

O.R.B. 21.1.43 Sunderland T.9085 - Special Equipment Anti-Submarine Flooding Trip.

Crew: - Aus. 403129 F/Lt. Buls
Aus. 403600 P/O. Osborne
Aus. 411801 P/O. Moore
Aus. 411428 P/O. Dent
Aus. 6241 Sgt. Tucker
Aus. 15186 Sgt. Gill
Aus. 403091 Sgt. Filmer
Aus. 404915 Sgt. Hart
942553 F/Sgt. Bradley
Aus. 30954 ACI. Elrick
1201919 Sgt. Evans

1208 Airborne Hamworthy on special equipment anti-submarine flooding flight. 1500 S.O.S. received from aircraft. Very poor bearing obtained by Pembroke Dock giving estimated position of UTA T.9085 as KQHY 2505. Nothing further received from aircraft which did not return to base

On the afternoon of the 21/1/43 Hudson aircraft F & Q of 279 Squadron carried out a search in the estimated area. Aircraft F. was airborne at 1721 and returned at 2053. Aircraft Q was airborne at 1727 but failed to land at base due to weather conditions. The crew were forced to bale out.

Nothing was seen by either aircraft.

The following morning, the 22nd January, 1943, aircraft Q and P of 279 Squadron continued the search in addition to five Whitleys and two Sunderlands which passed over the area on their normal patrols.

Aircraft Q was airborne at 0821 from St. Eval and landed at Chivenor at 1445. Aircraft P was airborne at St. Eval at 0836 and on return the crew were forced to bale out due to weather conditions.

Neither aircraft found any trace of T.9085. The visibility in the area was reported to be very poor and the condition of the sea to be rough.

No further trace of the aircraft or crew has been found.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. PD/03/21 Jan/43 2. PL/G10/20 Jan/43
3. Sunderland MK 11 C/461 Camouflage white.
4. Captain F/Lt. Manger Navigator P/O. Kennedy.

B. 1048 Airborne Hamworthy 21/Jan/43 on A/S Flood.
1247 Bishop Rock S/C MWTQ 4523
1544 MWTQ 4523 on patrol S/E on A/C flew through following posns MWTQ 4030 MWTQ 4537. MWTQ 5030
1600 MWTQ 4523 S/C MWTQ 1523
1624 MWTQ 1523 A/C flew through following posns MWTQ 1030, MWTQ 1537 MWTQ 2030
1640 MWTQ 1523, S/C MWTQ 4523
1653 MWTQ 4523 A/C then flew through posns given at 1544
1709 MWTQ 4523 S/C MWTQ 1523
1743 MWTQ 1523 A/Cthen flew through posn given at 1624
1800 MWTQ 1523, S/C for MWTQ 4523
1811 MWTQ 4523, A/C flew through posns given at 1544
1824 M.F. B.1. - return to base immediately.
1826 MWTQ 4624 S/E off
1840 PTTQ 2224, S/C Bishop Rock.
1940 M.F.B. 2 ÷ Land at P.D.
2026 Bishop Rock.
2134 Waterborne Pembroke dock 21/Jan/43
S/E used in patrol area and for navigation.

H. 1. 4515N - 0937W 2. 1624 3. 10 miles.
4. 5/10 CN below A/C base 1500 3/10 SC above A/C
5. 194 degs/45 mph at 4500 ft.
6. Rough 7. -. 8. Fair south of 47N continuous rain N of 47 N.

T. 2315A

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/22/Jan. 2. PL/G10/20 Jan 3. Sunderland A/461 Nil.
F/Lt. Buls. P/O. Dent.

B. 1208/21 Jan 1943 airborne Hamworthy on A/S Flood
1500 S.O.S received from A/461. estimated D.R.
position KQHY 2505
Aircraft failed to return.

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O.R.B. 28.1.43 Sunderland T.9111 - Anti-submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 415062 Sgt. Watts
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
909888 Sgt. Fowles
Aus. 401696 Sgt. Jones
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell
Aus. 416005 Sgt. Pfeiffer
Aus. 411354 Sgt. Mackie
649199 F/Sgt. Smith-Gander
628555 Sgt. Ede
122409 P/O. Evans

0842 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.19. 1130 MFB.1 Return to base not later than 17.00 1505 MFB.2 Land Pembroke Dock. 16.10 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. No sightings were made. Weather: 10/10 St. Cu. base 3000 feet. Vis. 3 miles. Rough sea. Bumpy conditions throughout.

O.R.B. 29.1.43 Sunderland DV.968 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 403850 F/Lt. Cooke
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 401233 P/O. Fairway
Aus. 405228 Sgt. Lewis
627999 Sgt. McDonnell
Aus. 406535 Sgt. Ovens
Aus. 411014 Sgt. Eaton
Aus. 23074 Sgt. Hughes
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner
755257 F/Sgt. Milne

0824 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.22. 1412 THHY 4007 flying at 2000 feet S/E indication on port bow 4 miles. Homing attempted but unsuccessful, circled position but nothing seen. 1443 LRHY 4703 set course along north Spanish coast. 1701 KQAF 0056 set course Scillies. 1937 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Vis. 3 miles 10/10 Cu. cloud 500 feet. Smooth sea. Heavy rain encountered.

O.R.B. 29.1.43 Sunderland DV.961 - Anti-submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404944 F/O. Weatherlake
Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 405264 Sgt. Sullivan
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
921970 Sgt. Ferrett
403805 Sgt. Forsythe
Aus. 411160 Sgt. MacKellar
Aus. 405228 Sgt. Lewis
A 1336569 Sgt. Sherrard

0956 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.23. 1616 LRVA 4515 Sighted Spanish vessel Monte Inchorta 3350 tons. Course 300/8 Kts. 1620 MFB reporting same. 1935 sighted three large flashes in direction of Lands End. 2110 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: 10/10 cloud 2000 feet St. Cu. Rough sea. Poor visibility.

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To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. PD/02/28/Jan 2. PL/G9/27/Jan 3. Sunderland MK2 C/461
Captain F/Lt. Manger. Navigator P/O. Kennedy.
6 Tor pex 2 x 250 GP

B. A/S patrol BP 19 1000 feet.
0842/28 Airborne Hamworthy.
1106 Bishop Rock
1130 MFB1 Return to base not later than 1700
1256 KQHY 0000
1350 ZXAF 0137 S/C KQHY 0000
1414 KQHY 0000
1500 Scillies.
1505 MFB2 Land at Pembroke Dock.
1515 MTB ETA PD 1606
1610 Waterborne Pembroke Dock.
S/E used for navigation only. no sightings.

H. 1. 4701 N. 0812 W. 2. 1350 3. 3 miles. 4. 10/10 ST CU base 3000
5. 206/42 kts. at 1000 feet. 6. Rough. 7. Fair but bumpy.
8. Very poor throughout. Rain and frontal conditions generally.

T. 1917A.

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/29 Jan. 2. PL/G7/28 3. Sunderland M/461
6 x Torpex D/C's - 2 x 250 lbs. GP's.
Pilot F/Lt. Cooke. Navigator P/O. Fairway.

B. 0824/29 Jan A/B Hamworthy on BP 22.
1029 Bishop Rock S/C KQHY 0000
1155 KQHY 0202 S/C LRHY 4812 on patrol.
1412 THHY 4007 flying at 2000 feet. S/E indication on port bow
4 miles. Homing attempted but failed. Circled. Nothing seen.
1443 LRHY 4703 S/C Coastwise eastwards.
1459 LRHY 3852 S/C KQHY 0000
1701 KQAF 0056 S/C Scillies off patrol.
average height on patrol 2000 feet S/E used only near Spanish
coast during nil visibility for navigation.
1721 MTB 'E 20 ZXZ 1930 Base '.
1754 Scillies.
1837 MFB Landing forecast TOO 1815
1937 Hamworthy Waterborne

H. 1. 45 degs. N 08 Degs 00 W. 2. 1400 hrs. 3. 3 miles.
4. 10/10 500 feet CU unknown. 5. 225 degs T/28 kts 2000 feet.
6. Smooth 7. Heavy Rain. 8. Fair down to 48 degs N, strong
front from 48 degs N to 44 degs N.

T. 1945A/29

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To: - 19 Group.
From: - Hamworthy.

A. 1. HQY/02/29 Jan. 2. PL/G7/29 3. Sunderland 1/461
6 x Torpex - 2 x 250 lbs. P.G's
F/O. Weatherlake. Sgt. Sullivan.

B. 0956/29 Jan A/B Hamworthy on BP23
1155 Bishop Rock S/C KQHY 0000
1337 ZXHY 5401 S/C LRHY 3952 on patrol.
1616 LRVA 4515 from 500 feet sighted Spanish vessel Norte Inchorta 3350 tons CO 300/8 kts. Photofolder Page 1 (j)
1620 MTB reporting vessel
1647 LRVA 5948 S/C KQHY 0000
1900 KQHY 0410 S/C St Mary's
1935 Scillies from 1500 feet sighted three large flashes in direction Lands End, thought to be on land.
1939 St. Mary's S/C base.
2110 Hamworthy Waterborne
Average height on patrol 3000 feet. S/E used for navigation only.

H. 1. 46 degs 30' N 07 degs 40'W 2. 1430 hrs. 3. 2 miles.
4. 10/10/2000 feet ST CU 2000 ft. 5. 210 degs T/10 kts 2000 feet.
6. Rough. 7. Rain. 8. Intermittent rain.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

FEBRUARY, 1943.

O.R.B. 4.2.43 **Sunderland T.9111 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.**

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
909888 Sgt. Fowles
Aus. 415062 Sgt. Watts.
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell
649199 F/Sgt. Smith-Gander
Aus. 406514 Sgt. Bird
Aus. 401696 Sgt. Jones
628555 Sgt. Ede
122409 P/O. Evans

0630 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol BP.10. 1220 PTLN 1734 sighted aircraft on port quarter 2 - 3 miles distant thought to be Ju.88. This aircraft turned towards and upward to T.9111 but did not attack. No other sightings made. 1806 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: - 4/10 cloud 2000 feet; Excellent visibility; Calm sea.

O.R.B. 6.2.43 **Sunderland DV.961 - Anti-Submarine and Anti-Shipping Patrol.**

Crew: - Aus. 404944 F/O. Weatherlake
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 401584 P/O. Rolland
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
1161229 Sgt. Rees
Aus. 403805 Sgt. Forsythe
Aus. 411160 Sgt. MacKellar
942515 F/Sgt. Smedley
Aus. 15250 Sgt. Bracey
Aus. 405228 Sgt. Lewis
112688 ~~E/Eg~~. Hennessy

0926 airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine and anti-shipping patrol. 1625 LRTQ 1807 investigated vessel "Albareda Espana" 3925 tons Co. 270/8 kts. Reported same to base. 2156 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Very poor visibility - 10/10 cloud and continuous rain throughout. Rough sea.

O.R.B. 8.2.43 **Sunderland DV.961 - Anti-Submarine and Anti-Shipping Patrol.**

Crew: - Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 403568 P/O. Dyason
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
921970 Sgt. Ferrett
632851 Sgt. Webb
Aus. 403805 Sgt. Forsythe
Aus. 411160 Sgt. MacKellar
Aus. 15250 Sgt. Bracey
138814 P/O. Sherrard

0350 Airborne Hamworthy on Anti-sub and anti-shipping patrol. 1042 LRTQ 1033 investigated Spanish fishing vessels and trawler. 1228 PRAF 3140 flying at 3000 ft. tail gunner reported 2 Ju.88's near

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sea on starboard side. One Ju.88 came in as though to attack but gunners of DV.961 opened fire and enemy aircraft broke off the attack. Second Ju.88 did not approach, DV.961 then reached cloud cover. No hits estimated on enemy. 1228 reported enemy aircraft to base. 1244 contact lost, message to base. 1244 contact lost, message to base. 1540 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Excellent visibility 3/10 cloud at 3000 feet. Calm sea.

O.R.B. 11.2.43 Sunderland DV.968

Crew: - Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke
Aus. 412498 P/O. Dawson
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. Gascoigne
624907 Sgt. Butler
1379989 Sgt. Stewart
Aus. 405144 F/Sgt. Wilson
942515 F/Sgt. Smedley
Aus. 405105 Sgt. Gamble
911107 Sgt. MacDonald
Aus. 402319 P/O. Critcher

0218 Airborne Hamworthy. A few minutes after take off an exhaust ring blew out and aircraft was forced to jettison petrol and land again. 0237 Waterborne Hamworthy.

Representative of Raynolds newspaper also accompanied crew.

O.R.B. 11.2.43 Sunderland EJ.134 - Anti-Submarine Convoy Escort.

Crew: - Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker
Aus. 400788 F/O. Dowling
Aus. 403568 P/O. Dyason
530285 Sgt. Miles
570571 Sgt. White
Aus. 26697 Sgt. Turner
576061 Sgt. Fuller
Aus. 401562 Sgt. Hattam
Aus. 405083 Sgt. Miller
Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson
Aus. 407499 Sgt. Goode

Airborne Hamworthy 0354 on anti-sub convoy escort. 0953 ZXVB 4212 made contact with convoy of far greater size than convoy mentioned in form White. Corvette requested EJ.134 by visual signalling to locate escorts to north and west of convoy. Escorts could not be located. 1124 Rejoined convoy. 1145 forced to leave convoy due to excessive petrol consumption. 1612 Waterborne Hamworthy. Vis. 2 miles 10/10 cloud at 800 feet. Moderate to rough sea.

O.R.B. 12.2.43 Sunderland T.9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods
Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 415195 Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Aus. 6612 Sgt. Hammond
645414 F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens
1067499 Sgt. Burton
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup.

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O.R.B. 12.2.43

1127 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine patrol. No sighting of any description were made. 2252 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: 10/10 cloud 3000 feet; Vis. 14 miles; Smooth sea.

O.R.B. 13.2.43

Sunderland EJ.134 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: -
Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker
Aus. 400788 W/O. Dowling
Aus. 403778 P/O. Simpson
530285 Sgt. Miles
570571 Sgt. White
Aus. 16697 Sgt. Turner
576061 Sgt. Fuller
Aus. 401562 Sgt. Hattam
Aus. 404783 Sgt. Miller
Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson
Aus. 407499 Sgt. Goode

0824 Airborne Hamworthy on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1050 XFVA 1010 attacked by 2 Ju.88 and 2 F.W. 190's Aircraft EJ.134 was on course of 230° T at 2,500 feet flying in broken cloud. The rear gunner sighted 2 Ju.88's diving down sun one from port quarter, the other from stbd quarter, from approx. 500ø feet above EJ.134. EJ.134 was simultaneously hit by cannon shells and machine gun bullets. The rear gunner fired 400 rounds at enemy aircraft but did not estimate any hits. Both the enemy aircraft broke away at 250 yards on each side of EJ.134 The tail turret was hit and subsequently would not turn as the hydraulics were damaged. EJ.134 dived to port into patches of cloud and remained circling for about five minutes. On breaking cloud 2 F.W. 190's were sighted, one approaching from below 7-800 yards on the stbd bow (A) and the other from above 600 yds on the port quarter (B). Enemy attacked together and both scored machine gun and possible cannon shell hits on EJ.134. EJ.134's midships gunner fired 200 rounds estimating hits on aircraft (A) which broke away to stbd at 400 yds. The other 190 aircraft (B) approached to within 200 yds. and broke away to port over EJ.134's tail, in doing so crossing tail gunners sights, tail gunner fires 200 rounds estimating hits. EJ.134 again dived to port into cloud and remained in cloud turning and altering height heading generally in an easterly and later northerly direction, using S.E. for navigation. 1055 bombs, depth charges and 800 gallons of fuel were jettisoned. One depth charge hung up. 1110 one F.W. 190 was sighted 1,000 yds. on the stbd beam. The enemy aircraft crossed EJ.134's tail on to port quarter then EJ.134 entered cloud. At 1115 one F.W. 190 was sighted at 1200 yards on the port beam coming in. EJ.134 immediately entered cloud. EJ.134 then continued in cloud until landfall was made at the Lizard. 1130 contact with the enemy was lost. 1152 Landfall at the Lizard. 1220 Message stating ETA 1300 Hamworthy, aircraft badly damaged, beech 2, no casualties. 1245 a signal was sent to land at Mount Batten. 1250 ETA Mount Batten 1320. 1345 Waterborne Mount Batten. The damage to EJ.134 consisted of: Port outer airscrew chipped, numerous machine gun holes all over aircraft, hull and stbd. floats. Cannon shell holes in port leading edge of mainplane, hull beneath midships turret, and aft of step. Damaged tail unit. Two members of the crew received slight superficial wounds. Weather: Visibility good 10-15 miles; 4/10 cloud 2500 feet; sea calm.

C.C.I.S. No. 189

No. 461 Squadron, Sunderland N, Captain F/Lt. Walker, was flying at 2,500 feet in and out of broken cloud when rear-gunner sighted two Ju.88's diving to attack from 500 feet above, one on the starboard quarter, and one on the port quarter, at 1050 hours on the 13th February, 1943, N.W. of Ushant.

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C.C.I.S. No. 189

Simultaneously machine gun and cannon fire was experienced and damage was sustained to tail turret and hydraulics. Tail gunner replied with 400 rounds, but estimates no hits on E/A. Aircraft then dived into cloud and remained circling for five minutes but upon emerging, two F.W. 190's were seen approaching, one from below, 7/800 yards on starboard bow and the other from above, 600 yards on port quarter. Both E/A attacked, scoring hits on aircraft N with machine gun fire and possible cannon fire, and N replied with 200 rounds each from midships and tail guns, hits being estimated on E/A. Aircraft N then again dived into cloud, and although E/A were twice seen again in cloud breaks, no further combats took place, and aircraft returned safely to base. No claim.

A.M.B. 9338

Sunderland Fights Its Way Home.

After forty minutes action over the Atlantic, first against two Ju.88s and then against two F.W. 190s (one of which was reported seriously damaged), the crew of a Sunderland from a squadron predominantly Australian brought their aircraft home safely and landed without mishap, although there were cannon-shell holes in the hull, and the aircraft had been sprayed with machine-gun bullets.

"On the journey home we collected odd bits of clothing and overalls to block up the holes" said the navigator, Pilot Officer Kenneth Simpson, who comes from Sydney. The Sunderland's Captain, F/Lt. Colin Braidwoo Walker of Brisbane, pointed out the bullet holes in the hull.

The Sunderland was first attacked by the two Ju.88's, which suddenly dived out of the sun. The Australian tail-gunner Sgt. Ray Goode of Henley Beach, Adelaide, saw them in time to get in numerous bursts. Diving for cloud, the Sunderland played hide and seek with the two F.W's for nearly half an hour, always spotting them at once whenever the aircraft emerged from the wispy patches of cover.

Both Sgt. Goode and Sgt. Miles, the midships-gunner, claimed hits on one of the F.Ws.

"The German was definitely hit and broke away, disappearing in the cloud ", said the captain. "Our tail gunner had the German in his sights at 200 yards and fires 200 rounds. We consider the German was damaged, probably seriously.

The box containing one of the Sunderlands two pigeons was drilled by machine-gun fire, but the pigeon was unhurt and undismayed.

"The bridge filled with smoke when one of the cannon-shells exploded in the bomb room" said F/Lt. Walker, "and our tail-gunner Ray Goode, was very lucky to escape, for there were cannon-shell strikes on either side of him, and the marks of machine-gun bullets all round. The starboard float was shot up pretty badly, and the port outer airscrew was holed in two places."

Whenever the Sunderland came out of the clouds, the captain took violent evasive action by steep turns and dived for whatever fresh patches of cloud cover were available. All things considered it was a fine feat on the part of the crew to bring their aircraft home safely.

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O.R.B. 15.2.43 Sunderland T.9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404554 F/O. Steley
Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 415195 Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Aus. 6612 Sgt. Hammond
645414 F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens
1067499 Sgt. Burton
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup
Aus. 400297 F/O. Smith

1112 Airborne Hamworthy on BP.19. 1351 XFHY 0055 four Beaufighters on a course of 010° ¼ mile to starboard beam at 100 feet were seen. 1558 THTQ 5340. Two Spanish trawlers 150 tons on course 315°, 8 knots, were investigated. 1712 LRAF 3411. One Spanish trawler 150 tons, course 270°, 2 hits seen. 0005 waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Visibility good 10 miles, cloud 6/10 at 2000 feet, sea moderate to rough.

O.R.B. 15.2.43 Sunderland DV.961 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 516 S/Ldr. Wood
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
1161229 Sgt. Rees
Aus. 403805 F/Sgt. Forsythe
1368267 Sgt. Speedie
Aus. 411160 F/Sgt. MacKellar
Aus. 15250 Sgt. Bracey
138814 P/O. Sherrard
Aus. 416005 Sgt. Pfeiffer

1112 Airborne Hamworthy on BP.17. 1640 LRQS 4546. Petrol consumption excessive decided to cut petrol short. 1758 THTQ 4917 from a ehight of 2,500 feet beneath 9/10 cloud a submarine was visually sighted by Captain on starboard bow 50° 7 miles away on course of 100° T, speed 6-8 knots. DV.961 climbed to 4000 feet in cloud and turned towards U-boat, diving from cloud 2-3 miles distant. U-boat fired six star red cartridge and remained on the surface. DV.961 executed diving turn losing height and attacked U/boat from 100/150 feet using a salvo of depth charges. The salvo was used because the distributor was found to be U/S on testing previously. The Depth Charges overshot but U-boat was covered with spray. It did not appear to be damaged and continued on way altering course to port and starboard. The nose gunner of DV.961 fired 100 rounds and tail 900 and midships 400 rounds. The U-boat is thought to have replied with one gun but DV.961 sustained no damage. Whilst circling after the attack two men were seen to fall or jump overboard from U-boat. Two minutes later U-boat submerged. The U-boat was of a large type estimated at 1200 tons and possibly Italian. 1808 Resumed course. 2334 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: - Visibility 12 miles, cloud 8/10 at 3500 feet. Sea rough.

C.C.I.S. No. 190 No. 461 Squadron, Sunderland 'I' Captain S/Ldr. Wood, while flying at 2,500 feet, just under 9/10 cloud, sighted a 'U' boat fully surfaced, seven miles distant on starboard bow, at 1758 hours on the 15th February, 1943, Bay of Biscay. Aircraft at once altered course and climbed to 4,000 feet in cloud. When two to three miles distant, aircraft dived on 'U' boat, which remained on the surface, and attacked, dropping six 250 lbs. Torpex depth charges in salvo (distributor found

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C.C.I.S. No. 190 to be u/s), from 100-150 feet. Depth charges overshot, exploding about 70 feet to port, forward of conning tower. 'U' Boat appeared undamaged and continued on course. Aircraft fired several hundred rounds of machine gun fire from all guns during run-up; after attack 'U'boat thought to have replied with one gun, but aircraft undamaged. While circling after attack at least two men were seen to jump or fall from 'U' boat. After two minutes 'U' Boat submerged. Nothing further was observed.

O.R.B. 18.2.43 Sunderland DV.968 - Convoy Escort.

Crew: - Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke
Aus. 412498 P/O. Dawson
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. Gascoigne
Aus. 6739 Sgt. Woodland
Aus. 14455 Sgt. Pearce
942515 F/Sgt. Smedley
Aus. 405144 F/Sgt. Wilson
Aus. 405105 F/Sgt. Gamble
911107 Sgt. MacDonald
Aus. 402319 P/O. Critcher

0822 Airborne at Hamworthy on Convoy Escort. 1115 KQTQ 5403 an oil streak about 1 mile long shaped like a horse shoe was seen. 1136 message from base stating that W/T silence was to be kept except in emergency. 1409 convoy met in position ZXJY 0658 after one and three quarter hour search. A fortress aircraft was also in attendance. The visibility did not permit an accurate count or inspection of the convoy whose course was 180° T 8-10 knots. 1510 Message from convoy (Cobra 15) "Patrol round convoy at distance of 15 miles. 1605 Sunderland T.9114 joined escort. 1615 Message from convoy (x 259 x 363c. in cwa position course and speed 2000 hours on 18th 45 deg. 50' N 12° 50' W 188° T 10 knots. 1630 signal convoy that Sunderland DV.968 must leave convoy in position PTJY 4356. 2100 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. Weather: Visibility 10/12 miles to 1/2 miles in fog. Cloud 8/10 Streto Cumulus. 1200 feet. Fog down to 200 feet. Sea calm.

O.R.B. 18.2.43 Sunderland T.9114 - Convoy Escort.

Crew: - Aus. 404554 F/O. Steley
Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 415195 Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Aus. 6612 Sgt. Hammond
645414 F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens
1067499 Sgt. Burton
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner

1117 Airborne Hamworthy on Convoy Escort. 1322 XFHY 3437 Wellington aircraft R. on course of 062° at 500 feet. 1442 KQWD 2014 Aircraft believed to be Liberator on a course of 070° at 2500 feet approx. six miles on port beam. 1534 Sighted convoy in position PTJY 5617 after short search. Convoy appeared to be short of escort and its course was 185° 8/10 knots. 1550 Message to Convoy (Hungry) "Have you any orders for me? 1605 Message from Convoy (Cobra 15) "Patrol around convoy at distance of 15 miles. 1820 left convoy in position PTJY 2714 course 185° speed 10/12 knots for Bishops Rock. 2030 Intercepted landing forecast for DV.961. 2219 CKPK 5520 Green Verylight about 5 miles away on starboard quarter. 2251 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. Weather: Visibility 30 miles; Cloud: 9/10 cloud at 1000 feet; Sea, slight swell.

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O.R.B. 19.2.43 **Sunderland DV.961 - Anti-Submarine Escort.**

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
921970 Sgt. Ferrett
1379989 Sgt. Stewart
Aus. 403805 F/Sgt. Forsythe
Aus. 411160 F/Sgt. MacKellar
1368267 Sgt. Speedie
Aus. 15250 Sgt. Bracey
138814 P/O. Sherrard
Aus. 416005 Sgt. Pfeiffer

1155 Airborne Hamworthy on A/S Escort. 1615 Message from base stating return to Scillies not later than 2100 hours. 1639 on PTUB 4943 set course PTUB 5816 in order to go through large area of low cloud and investigate other side. 1712 searched for convoy in good visibility but nothing seen so returned Scillies. 1841 in KQWD 2709 saw Spanish trawlers in line astern. Course being 360/6 knots. 1845 Message to return to Mount Batten. Weather: Visibility 20/30 miles. Cloud 4/10 at 1000 feet. Sea calm. 2132 Waterborne Mount Batten.

O.R.B. 21.2.43 **Sunderland T.9109 - Anti-Shipping Square Search.**

Crew: - Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 401584 P/O. Rolland
Aus. 6739 Sgt. Woodland
Aus. 14455 Sgt. Pearce
618288 F/Sgt. Donelly
Aus. 403592 F/O. Jenson
Aus. 404783 F/Sgt. Miller
Aus. 10530 Sgt. Bamber
Aus. 402617 Sgt. Sydney

0435 Airborne Hamworthy on Anti-Shipping Square search. 0816 commenced Square search in position ZXTQ 0000 using visibility 4 miles. 1223 Square search completed in position ZXWD 2919. 1328 KQAF 4550, sighted raft about 20 feet long, boat shaped with 2 yellow tarpaulins spread in bow. Raft yellow in colour. No sign of life was seen from 150 feet. 1642 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Visibility 4-6 miles; cloud 10/10 at 2,000 feet: sea, slight.

O.R.B. 22.2.43 **Sunderland T.9115 - Sea Rescue Search**

Crew: - Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods
Aus. 403760 P/O. Nicholls
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 403568 P/O. Dyason
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
1161229 Sgt. Rees
Aus. 403455 F/Sgt. Druhan
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. Ovens
1441273 Sgt. Wharge
Aus. 411354 F/Sgt. Mackie
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner

0317 Airborne Hamworthy on Air Sea Rescue search. 0440 message from base - Dinghy again sighted in position PTQS 1641 at 0350 hrs. 0505 Port inner fuel pressure falling. 0537 Explosion from starboard inner engine which was cut immediately. 0544 bombs

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and depth charges jettisoned together with 800 gallons of fuel. Message to base. Returning base, engine trouble position at 0537 XFHY 0825. 0552 Message to base, starboard inner engine u/s. 0556 aircraft flying erratic course and uncontrollable. Height reduced from 3,500 feet to 800 feet. All movable heavy equipment jettisoned. 0613 XFUS 2936 maintaining height, position sent to base. Severe jamming on W/T at this time, aircraft unable to obtain fixes. 0628 Message from base. You may land at Batten. 0630 Position XFPK 5105. 0644 BCB Batten 0710 hrs. 0708 Eddystone light sighted. 0709 starboard inner engine on fire with severe vibration and pieces falling off. S.E. unserviceable due to vibration. 0710 several S.O.S. sent saying landing. 0715 Waterborne in position CKDW 0550. 0720 message saying landed safely off Plymouth. 0805 all engines went u/s. 0810 drifting at 2 knots on course of 300° T. 0830 motor Launch sighted vistially and asked to take us in tow. 0850 taken in tow by motor launch 1009. 0900 joined by 3 motor launches and 2 R.A.F. pinnaces. 1059 entered Plymouth Sound. 1127 Moored up. Weather: - unobserved.

O.R.B. 23.2.43 Sunderland DV.961 - Anti-Submarine Escort to Convoy.

Crew: - Aus. 516 S/Ldr. Wood
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Sgt. Toplin
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
Sgt. Ferrett
Sgt. Stewart

1151 Airborne Hamworthy on anti-submarine escort to convoy. 1520 Two Spanish steam trawlers fishing. 1620 KQJY 5624 met convoy on course of 340° and commenced to patrol 20 miles from convoy. 1648 KQUB 2526 Two tugs flying British flags sighted. 1915 XFJY 1904 indistinct message from convoy. It began "Pass" and ended "14 knots". 1953 left convoy in position XFJy 3006. 2138 message from base to land at Pembroke Dock. 2304 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. Weather: Visibility 3 miles; Cloud 8/10 at 4,000 feet; Sea slight.

O.R.B. 24.2.43 Sunderland DV.968 - Convoy Escort.

Crew: - Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke
Aus. 412498 P/O. Dawson
Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Gascoigne
624907 Sgt. Butler
1379989 Sgt. Stewart
942515 F/Sgt. Smedley
Aus. 405105 Sgt. Gamble
Aus. 405144 F/Sgt. Wilson
911107 Sgt. MacDonald
Aus. 402319 P/O. Critcher
Aus. 416005 Sgt. Pfeiffer

0440 Airborne Hamworthy on Convoy escort. 0820 CKTQ 5224 convoy met consisting of 1 merchant convoy in tow of 2 escorts. 0830 unable to contact base with met signal. 0856 CKTQ 5813 investigated 2 trawlers 100 tons no markings. 1300 message from convoy asking bearing and distance of Galley Head. 1310 Galley Head 223° T 17 miles. 1357 Relieved by Sunderland T.9109 and left convoy in position JZTQ 2254. 1700 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Visibility 10 miles down to 1/2 mile in fog. Cloud: 10/10 at 900 feet. Sea, calm.

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O.R.B. 24.2.43 Sunderland T.9109 - Convoy Escort.

Crew: - Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 401976 Sgt. Leigh
Aus. 401584 P/O. Rolland
Aus. 6739 Sgt. Woodland
Aus. 14455 Sgt. Pearce
618288 F/Sgt. Donnelly
Aus. 403592 F/O. Jenson
Aus. 404783 F/Sgt. Miller
Aus. 10530 Sgt. Bamber
Aus. 401617 Sgt. Sidney
Aus. 3932 F/Lt. Egerton

1028 Airborne Hamworthy on Convoy Escort. 1220 Message to base, 12 volt system u/s remaining until 1730 landing at Pembroke Dock 1830 hours. 1347 over convoy in position JZTQ 2456. 1416 message from base, slow convoy close patrol. 1525 set course 20 miles from convoy to acknowledge signal. 1730 left convoy in position JZAF 3327. 2033 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. Weather: Visibility 1-2 miles. Cloud 10/10 at 500 feet. Sea: slight.

O.R.B. 25.2.43 Sunderland DV.960 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke
Aus. 415062 Sgt. Watts
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 401233 P/O. Fairway
948532 Sgt. Williams
Aus. 5594 Sgt. Lewis
755257 F/Sgt. Milne
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. Ovens
628555 Sgt. Ede
Aus. 6615 Sgt. Moore
Aus. 411014 Sgt. Eaton

0858 Airborne Hamworthy on Anti-Submarine Patrol. (BP.17). 1202 KQHY 1408 sighted two steam trawlers. 1600 MWTQ 0528 sighted two steam trawlers. 1637 PTTQ 1357 investigated ships lifeboat submerged to gunwhales painted black outside, white inside, Name on bow thought to begin with letter "C". 2110 Waterborne Hamworthy. Weather: Position 43° 20' N 11° 10' W. Visibility 30 miles. Cloud 9/10 at 3000 feet. Sea slight.

O.R.B. 26.2.43 Sunderland DV.968 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke
Aus. 412498 P/O. Dawson
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. Gascoigne
624907 Sgt. Butler
1379989 Sgt. Stewart
942515 F/Sgt. Smedley
Aus. 405144 F/Sgt. Wilson
Aus. 405105 Sgt. Gamble
911107 Sgt. MacDonald
Aus. 402319 P/O. Critcher
Aus. 416005 Sgt. Pfeiffer

0754 Airborne Hamworthy on Anti-Submarine Patrol (BP.14). 1109 Two Spanish fishing vessels in position ZXTQ 1842. 1314 in position THJY 3603 one hospital ship 5000 tons, white hull, green band round hull, red crosses, yellow funnel, raked bow, cruiser stern. Visual message from ship GKFE - FGKW - GKJU - which Sunderland DV968

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was unable to decypher. 1815 message from base saying to land at Pembroke Dock. 1927 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. Weather: In position 46° 39 N 10° 30 W. Visibility 2 miles. Cloud 10/10 at 2000 feet. Sea slight.

O.R.B. 27.2.43 Sunderland DV.960 - Convoy Escort.

Crew: - Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke
Aus. 415062 Sgt. Watts
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 401233 P/O. Fairway
Aus. 5594 Sgt. Lewis
948532 Sgt. Williams
Aus. 6615 Sgt. Moore
755257 F/Sgt. Milne
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. Ovens
628555 Sgt. Ede
Aus. 3932 F/Lt. Egerton

0758 Airborne Hamworthy on Convoy Escort to KMF 10A. 1150 Position XFLN 1530 saw convoy of approximately 48 vessels presumed to be convoy. 1206 position KQUB 372 met convoy KMF 10A. The composition of the convoy was as indicated in briefing. 1229 saw Sunderland ~~xxx~~ R/119 approach and leave shortly afterwards. 1230 message from S.N.O. search 30 miles to port which was done without sighting anything. 1435 aircraft rejoined convoy and commenced close escort. 1554 ZXUB 5528 left convoy. Course speed unchanged. 1725 Message from base asking for E.T.A. 1847 Message from base saying land at Mount Batten. 2015 Waterborne Mount Batten. Weather. In position 48° 10 N 13° W. Visibility 30 miles. Cloud 5/10 at 1000'. Sea, slight.

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Sv. S 6

HISTORY OF NO. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

April 25th, 1942 to March 31st, 1943

APRIL 25th, 1942. The Squadron was officially formed at MOUNT BATTEN on this date. This was an appropriate date as it was ANZAC DAY and the 27th anniversary of the landing of the Australians at Anzac Cove.

Squadron Leader Burrage took over control as Temporary Commanding Officer with Flying Officer Cartledge, No. 10 Squadron, as Acting Adjutant. F/O. R.W. Gillies, 10 Squadron, assumed duties as Flight Commander, P/O. S.J. Nichol, 10 Squadron, as Navigating Officer, and F/Sgt. A.V. Shepherd, 10 Squadron, Organising Orderly Room.

Squadron Operational Strength - 2 aircraft.

MAY 20th, 1942. The Squadron paraded as a separate unit on the Station Commanding Officer's parade for the first time.

MAY 25th, 1942. Wing Commander N.A.R. Halliday assumed Command of No. 461 Squadron.

MAY 29th, 1942. Sir Archibald Sinclair visited the squadron and inspected the aircrews.

JUNE 1st, 1942. P/O. Tinker was posted to the squadron as Adjutant.

JUNE 2nd, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. A Sunderland captained by Squadron Leader Lovelock took off at Scillies to proceed to Pembroke Dock, but was diverted to make an air/sea rescue search for a dinghy. At 2150 hrs, 2 miles north of Eddystone lighthouse a Me.109 attacked without effect.

JUNE 9th, 1942. F/O. Shears, P/O. Nicholls, and P/O. Wennholm arrived on posting.

JUNE 11th, 1942. P/O. Dent arrived on posting.

Wing Commander Halliday inspected base at Poole.

JUNE 13th, 1942. P/O. Hennessy arrived on posting as Squadron Gunnery Officer.

JUNE 17th, 1942. P/O. Evans, arrived on posting.

JUNE 20th, 1942. P/O. Kennedy and P/O. White from No. 10 Squadron, and P/O. Marrows, arrived on posting from No. 4 (C) O.T.U, Invergordon.

JUNE 21st, 1942. Squadron Leader Lovelock was mentioned in despatches.

JUNE 25th, 1942. P/O. Evans (Medical) was posted to Fighter Command from No. 461 Squadron and F/Lt. Wilson arrived from Bournemouth to take up duties as Medical Officer. P/O. Tegart arrived on posting from Bournemouth.

JUNE 28th, 1942. F/O. Switzer arrived on posting from Bournemouth, pending posting to duties as Adjutant.

JULY 1st, 1942. No. 461 Squadron became an Operational Unit from this date. Two aircraft were available for operations.

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JULY 6th, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Sunderland captained by 400297 F/O. Smith was attacked by a JU.88 whilst on anti-submarine patrol in the Bay of Biscay. After continued evasive and defensive action the JU.88 broke off the attack. The Sunderland suffered no damage and there were no casualties among the crew.

JULY 8th, 1942. AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland captained by W/Cdr. Halliday carried out an air sea rescue in the Bay of Biscay, located the dinghy in question and landed and rescued the six occupants. They were the crew of a Whitley which had been forced down due to engine trouble.

JULY 13th, 1942. P/O. Stewart joined Squadron on posting from No. 10 Squadron.

JULY 17th, 1942. Journalists representing "Australian Consolidated Press" and "Truth" visited the squadron under the direction of Squadron Leader Tart.

JULY 23rd, 1942. F/O. Barker and P/O. Jensen and Sgt. Aldridge arrived on posting.

JULY 26th, 1942. Sunderland captained by P/O. Buls, and with W/Cdr. Halliday as passenger, executed an ANTI-SHIPPING STRIKE. The merchant vessel to be attacked was escorted by five armed trawlers. Dive bombing tactics were employed but without success due to the amount of anti aircraft defence afforded by the merchant vessel and the trawlers. The Sunderland was damaged but there were no casualties to the crew.

JULY 30th, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Sunderland captained by P/O. Manger whilst on a special flight dropping leaflets to fishing vessels was attacked by three Arados. In the ensuing action one of the Arados was shot down by P/O. Evans from the rear turret, another damaged and abandoned the attack, and the third fled. The Sunderland suffered damage but there were no casualties to the crew.

AUGUST 1st, 1942. Aircraft strength was brought up to the full complement of nine.

AUGUST 5th, 1942. P/O. Simpson and P/O. Coote, observers, posted to 461 Squadron.

AUGUST 6th, 1942. AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland captained by P/O. Buls set out to locate a Whitley crew in a dinghy. While searching the Sunderland was attacked by a JU.88 and two Arados 196. Evasive action was taken and the attack broken off. Two dinghies were then sighted so Sunderland jettisoned depth charges, landed, and took the six occupants aboard.

Squadron dance was held at the Continental Hotel, Plymouth.

AUGUST 9th, 1942. SUBMARINE ATTACK. Sunderland captained by P/O. Steley attacked U-boat with depth charges. Two air bubbles and an oil bubble were observed ahead of swirl. Midships gunner fired 200 rounds at swirl during the attack.

AUGUST 12th, 1942. SUNDERLAND LOST. Sunderland captained by W/Cdr. Halliday, crashed on landing, while attempting to rescue crew of dinghy. The sole survivor of the crew Aus. 402193 F/O. J.F. Watson was picked up by a motor launch five days later. Members of the crew who lost there lives were: - W/Cdr. Halliday, Aus. 403483 F/O. Barker, AUS. 407749 P/O. Laurenti, Sgt. J. Wright, Sgt. Turner, F/Sgt. Betts, AUS. 401362 Sgt. Bentley, Aus. 405088 Sgt. Unsworth, Sgt. Fletcher, Aus. 416064 Sgt. Ramsey.

AUGUST 13th, 1942. Squadron Leader Lovelock assumed the duties of Acting Commanding Officer.

AUGUST 26th, 1942. P/O. L.G. Emrys-Jones, pilot, and P/O. A.J. Hibberd, observer were posted to No. 461 Squadron. P/O. V.H. Dyason and P/O. T.P. Fairway transferred from No. 10 Squadron.

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AUGUST 27th, 1942. Sunderland captained by P/O. Hosband while on Anti-submarine patrol was attacked by a F.W.200. Enemy aircraft fired two bursts of cannon fire without effect then attack was broken off. Sunderland sustained no damage and there were no casualties among the crew.

Advance party of the Squadron proceeded to Poole to make the necessary preparations for the Transfer of the Squadron.

AUGUST 31st, 1942. The Main Party of the Squadron proceeded to Poole by special train, arrangements being made for the aircraft crews to transfer from Mount Batten on 5.9.42.

ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by P/O. Steley was attacked by one F.W.200. The enemy aircraft attacked three times using cannon fire, then Sunderland climbed to cloud cover and attack was broken off. No damage or casualties were sustained.

SEPTEMBER 1st, 1942. SUNDERLAND LOST. While on anti-submarine patrol Sunderland captained by Aus. 404734 P/O. Hosband was attacked by two JU.88s and failed to return. Members of the crew who lost their lives were: - Aus. 404734 P/O. Hosband, Aus. 400272 F/O. Emrys-Jones, Aus. 403613 P/O. Wennholm, Aus. 401090 P/O. Stewart, Sgt. Bowd, Sgt. Hayward, F/Sgt. King, Aus. 406611 Sgt. Chinnery, Aus. 405208 Sgt. Eva, Sgt. Alecook and Sge. White.

ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on anti-shipping patrol, Sunderland captained by P/O. Winstanley was attacked by two JU.88s. After several attacks Sunderland succeeded in reaching thick cloud and contact was lost. Sunderland was damaged but there were no casualties.

SEPTEMBER 5th, 1942. Air party commenced to move from Mount Batten to Hamworthy.

SEPTEMBER 10th, 1942. While on anti-shipping sweep, Sunderland captained by P/O. Cooke, was attacked by an unidentified aircraft. Evasive action was taken and engagement broken off.

SEPTEMBER 11th, 1942. F/Lt. M.C. Raban arrived at this Unit to assume the duties of Flight Commander.

SEPTEMBER 18th, 1942. A/P.O. Higgs arrived to fill establishment vacancy of Electrical Engineer Officer.

SEPTEMBER 19th, 1942. P/O. Soderberg, observer, arrived on posting from No. 48 Squadron.

SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1942. Aus. 403648 P/O. Croft posted to No. 461 Squadron.

SEPTEMBER 23rd, 1942. Lieutenant Commander Lee, visited the Squadron to lecture aircrew on merchant shipping.

SEPTEMBER 24th, 1942. P/O. Kennedy returned to Squadron after completing an aircraft recognition course.

SEPTEMBER 30th, 1942. While on anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 403860 P/O. Cooke ATTACKED A U-BOAT. The U-boat crash dived but it only took the Sunderland 10 seconds to reach it and release the depth charges. The conning tower was still visible at the time of attack, and afterwards and large brown patch of scum was observed.

OCTOBER 3rd, 1942. P/O. J.A. Fraser arrived on posting to fill the vacancy of Secret Equipment Officer.

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OCTOBER 9th, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT While on an anti-submarine and anti-shipping patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 404944 P/O. J.G.P. Weatherlake was attacked by a JU.88. Tail and midship gunners fired 200 and 150 rounds, both gunners and fire control Officer estimating hits and the JU.88 was last seen half over on its back diving towards the sea.

OCTOBER 11th, 1942. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPPING. While on anti-shipping patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. H.G. Cooke sighted an enemy motor vessel of 3000 tons. Sunderland attacked but due to the unservicability of the distributor all bombs and depth charges had to be dropped together. These fell 50 yds away from the motor vessel.

OCTOBER 14th - 31st, 1942. Between these dates seven transit flights to Gibralter were carried out.

OCTOBER 21st, 1942. Aus. 411801 P/O. J.H. Moore was posted to No. 461 Squadron.

NOVEMBER 1st, 1942. Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

NOVEMBER 7th, 1942. Aus. 402193 F/O. O.J. Watson filled post of Squadron Navigation Officer.

ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPPING. Sunderland Captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith sighted a merchant vessel of 5000-7000 tons with no flak or national markings. The ship immediately opened fire so Sunderland attacked. Bombs were dropped and tail gunner fired 200 rounds but no hits were estimated.

NOVEMBER 8th, 1942. S/Ldr. Raban assumed duties of Acting Squadron Commander.

NOVEMBER 11th, 1942. ATTACKED BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT Sunderland captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke while on search for British submarine believed to have been bombed, was attacked by four JU.88s. Three of the aircraft came in to attack but only one fired bursts from between 400 and 800 yds. Sunderland jettisoned bombs and depth charges and made for cloud cover but was attacked by another JU.88 which fired a few short bursts. Sunderland then reached cloud cover and contact was lost.

NOVEMBER 29th, 1942. Lieutenant Commander Brooks, R.A.N. visited the Squadron to lecture on submarine tactics and warfare.

DECEMBER 5th, 1942. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on an anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 404534 F/O. Steley was attack by two JU.88s and one ME.110. The two JU.88s - which were later joined by the ME.110 - turned into attack at 1000 yds, and F/O. Steley immediately jettisoned depth charges. Several attacks were made by the enemy aircraft but violent evasive action was taken and no hits were scored. Several bursts were fires at the enemy and hits were estimated on the Me.110. Engagement was then broken off.

DECEMBER 14th, 1942. Aus. 401356 P/O. H.E. Winstanley, attended investiture at Buckingham Palace to receive the Distinguished Flying Cross.

DECEMBER 18th, 1942. P/O. A.C. Hennessy became Squadron Gunnery Leader.

DECEMBER 22nd, 1942. When the port outer engine of Sunderland captained by Aus. 400636 F/O. Marrows developed a serious oil leak which if not repaired would have caused the engine to become completely unserviceable, Sgt. W.L. Woodland, Aus. 6739, fitter, crawled along inside the port wing to the port outer engine, located the oil leak, crawled back to obtain tools, then proceeded out once more and repaired the damage, thus enabling the engine to continue functioning.

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DECEMBER 24th, 1942. Air Marshal R. Williams, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., and Group Captain Knox-Knight, O.B.E. visited the Squadron.

DECEMBER 25th, 1942. Aus. 407240 P/O. C. Viner posted to the Squadron.

DECEMBER 27th, 1942. Aus. 516 S/Ldr. S.R.C. Wood, D.F.C. assumed duties of Flight Commander which were relinquished by S/Ldr. R.C. Raban on 17.12.42.

JANUARY 5th, 1943. Aus. 401999 P/O. R. Newton, and Aus. 401956 P/O. D.P. Howe posted to the Squadron.

JANUARY 12th, 1943. Aus. 401306 P/O. H.E. Winstanley mentioned in despatches.

JANUARY 14th, 1943. Wing Commander D.L.G. Douglas took over Command of the Squadron from Wing Commander R.C.C. Lovelock.

Aus. 3120 F/O. K.S. McCaffery posted to the squadron.

JANUARY 18th, 1943. The Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Coastal Command, Air Chief Marshal Sir Philip Joubert de la Ferte, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., visited the Squadron.

JANUARY 21st, 1943. Sunderland captained by F/Lt. Buls, took off on special equipment anti-submarine flooding patrol and failed to return to base. Members of the crew who lost their lives are: - Aus. 403129 F/Lt. B.L. Buls, Aus. 411428 P/O. H.I.C. Dent, Aus. 403600 P/O. H.L. Osborne, Aus. 411801 P/O. J.H. Moore, Aus. 6241 Sgt. R. Tucker, Aus. 15186 Sgt. F.W. Gill, Aus. 403091 Sgt. O.S. Filmer, Aus. 404915 Sgt. N.H.R. Hart, Aus. 30954 ACl H.E. Elrich, F/Sgt. E. Bradley and Sgt. P. Evans.

FEBRUARY 3rd, 1943. Air Vice Marshal G.R. Bromet, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Air Officer Commanding 19 Group, R.A.F. visited the Squadron.

Aus. 4832 F/O. E.T. Long posted to 461 Squadron from 10 Squadron.

FEBRUARY 6th, 1943. Aus. 412498 P/O. C.J. Dawson posted to the Squadron.

FEBRUARY 8th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on anti-submarine and anti-shipping patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods encountered two JU.88s. One Ju. came in to attack but Sunderlands gunners opened fire and the Ju. broke away. Sunderland then succeeded in reaching cloud cover and contact was lost.

FEBRUARY 13th, 1943. The Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Coastal Command, Air Marshal J.C. Slessor, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., visited the Squadron.

ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT While on anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker was attacked by two JU.88s and two F.W.190s. Sunderland was first attacked by the two Ju.88s and hit with cannon shells and machine gun fire. The rear gunner fired 400 rounds at the enemy but no hits were estimated. Sunderland then dived into patches of cloud and remained circling for five minutes. On breaking cloud Sunderland encountered two F.W.190s and was again hit with cannon shells and machine gun fire. Midships gunner fired 200 rounds estimating hits on the enemy, then Sunderland dived once more into cloud and engagement was broken off. Sunderland was badly damaged and two members of the crew received slight superficial wounds.

FEBRUARY 15th, 1943. Aus. 2257 P/O. Mildwater posted from 460 Squadron to 461 Squadron.

SUBMARINE ATTACKED. Sunderland captained by Aus. 516 Squadron Leader Wood attacked an enemy U-boat with a salvo of depth charges. The salvo overshot but the U-boat was covered with spray. The nose, tail and midships gunners fired 100, 900 and 400 rounds and the U-boat is thought to have replied with one gun but aircraft sustained no damage. Two men were seen to fall or jump overboard and two minutes later U-boat submerged.

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FEBRUARY 16th, 1943. Aus. 3932 F/Lt. T.A. Egerton and Aus. 5906 P/O. O.C. Petherick attached to 461 Squadron from 10 Squadron.

FEBRUARY 22nd, 1943. FORCED LANDING When starboard inner engine of Sunderland captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods, cut, bombs and depth charges were jettisoned together with 800 gallons of fuel and all movable heavy equipment. Aircraft set course for base and had just sighted Eddystone light when starboard inner engine caught fire with severe vibration and pieces falling off. Captain was forced to land in the sea in darkness which he accomplished without damage to his aircraft. He was towed to Plymouth next morning.

MARCH, 1943. Operational flying during this month showed a large increase on that carried out in February but no submarines were sighted and there were no combats with enemy aircraft.

MARCH 2nd, 1943. Aus. 420692 P/O. J. Park and Aus. 414534 P/O. R.D. Lucas posted to the Squadron.

MARCH 6th, 1943. P/O. F.A. Bedward posted to No. 461 Squadron from Headquarters, Coastal Command.

MARCH 12th, 1943. Air Vice Marshal, H.W. Wrigley, C.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C., visited the Squadron.

MARCH 18th, 1943. P/O. G.S. Finch posted to No. 461 Squadron from Headquarters, Coastal Command.

MARCH 21st, 1943. SUNDERLAND LOST. Sunderland captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger crashed in Poole Harbour on take-off. The aircraft was completely destroyed and there were minor casualties among the crew.

MARCH 31st, 1943. Aus. 405119 F/O. R.D. Baird, Aus. 405404 P/O. R. De V. Gipps, and Aus. 409326 P/O. D.A. Sinclair posted to the Squadron.

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VERY SECRET

Operations No. 461 Squadron, R.A.A.F.

1st March, 1943.

O.R.B. 1.3.43 Sunderland DV.960 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 403860 F/Lt. H.G. Cooke
Aus. 415062 F/Sgt. R.S. Watts
Aus. 401999 P/O. R. Newton
Aus. 401233 P/O. T.P. Fairway
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. J. Lewis
Sgt. T.P. Williams
F/Sgt. W. Milne, D.F.M.
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. N.R. Ovens
Aus. 411014 F/Sgt. L.G. Eaton
Aus. 26588 Sgt. L.S. Watson
Aus. 6615 Sgt. J.A. Moore

Form Orange.

To 19 Group.
From Pembroke Dock.

A. 1. PD/01/2/March. 2. PL/G10/28/Feb. 3. Sunderland MKlll H/461
Camouflage white.
Captain - F/Lt. Cook, Navigator - P/O. Fairway.
6 Torpex - 2 x 250 G.P.

B. 1223 A/B Hamworthy on BR15 - 2000 ft.
1357 Bishop on Patrol, S/C THJY 0220
1540 ZXTQ 1032 2 small MVs - 200 tons approx - Spanish markings and flags - black funnel with white band, black hull - black dagger on white band in hull - photos taken - Co 130 degs/6KB
1550 PTTQ 5416, 2 steam trawlers, Spanish markings - Co 000 degs 6 kts, photos taken.
1735 THJY 0318, S/C LRJY 4458
1759 LRJY 4557, S/C Scillies.
2203 MFB 1. Land at P.D.
2227 MTB 1. ETA P.D. 0005
2255 Scillies, off patrol
0010 Waterborne, Pembroke Dock, 2 March.
S.E. used for navigation and for patrol during darkness.

H. 1. 4350N - 1200W. 2. 1800 3. 15 miles. 4. Eight tenths CU - 2000 ft - 1000 ft. 5. 090 degs/40 mph at 2000 ft. 6. Rough 7. - 8. Fine with good visibility throughout.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

2nd March, 1943.

O.R.B. 2.3.43 Sunderland T.9115 - Cross-over Search.

Crew: - Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods
Aus. 403760 P/O. Nichols
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 403568 P/O. Dyason
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
Sgt. Rees
F/Sgt. Webb, D.F.M.
Aus. 403455 F/Sgt. Druhan
F/Sgt. Church
Sgt. Wharfe
Aus. 411354 F/Sgt. Mackie

Form Orange.

To 19 Group.
From Pembroke Dock.

A. 1. PD/02/3/March. 2. -. 3. Sunderland Mrak 11 K/461 camouflage white.
Captain - F/Lt. Dodds, Navigator - P/O/ Dyadon
8 x 250 lb. G.P.

B. 1841/2 Airborne Hamworthy on Cross-Over Anti-U/Boat patrol.
1907 CKRN 1244 began Cross-over patrol through PSNS XFRN 5752 XFYG 5744 XFYG 4352.
0310 MFB 1. 'BFX Pembroke Dock - 0630' TOO 0300
0445 XFRN 4716 completed patrol - no visual or S.E. contacts S/C Pembroke Dock.
0550 MTB 1 'BCB Pembroke Dock 0645' TOO 0545
0748 Waternorne Pembroke Dock. S.E. used as instructed.

H. 1. Off French coast. 5. 075/10 7. Thick haze at 500 ft.
8. Rain in English Channel and south of Scillies - top of low cloud 3500 ft. - medium cloud above.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

3rd March, 1943.

O.R.B. 3.3.43 Sunderland T.9111 - Bay Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 415195 Sgt. Taiplin
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell
Sgt. Finney
F/Sgt. Smith-Gander
Aus. 406514 F/Sgt. Bird
Aus. 401696 F/Sgt. Jones
Sgt. Ede
P/O. Evans

Form Orange.

To 19 Group.
From Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/3/March. 2. PL/G12/2/3. 3. Sunderland MK 11 C/461
6 x Torpex - 2 x 250 lbs. GPs
F/Lt. Manger, P/O. Kennedy.

B. 0953/3/March/43 Hamworthy airborne on BP 15 at 2000 feet.
1120 Bishop Rock S/C THJY 0220 on patrol.
1525 THJY 0220 S/C LRHY 4458
1543 LRJY 4458 S/C Scillies
1930 Scillies. Off patrol.
2137 Hamworthy Waterborne
Nothing seen throughout. S.E. used for navigation only.

H. 1. 44 degs 02' N 12 degs 40' W. 2. 1525 hrs. 3. 6 miles.
4. 5/10 unknown base 5. 160 degs T/7 kts. 2000 feet. 6. Calm
7. Good with haze. 8. Excellent but some haze.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

Operations No. 461 Squadron, R.A.A.F.

4th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 4.3.43

Sunderland DV.968 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke
Aus. 412498 P/O. Dawson
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. Gascoigne
Sgt. Butler
Sgt. Stewart
F/Sgt. Smedley
Aus. 405144 F/Sgt. Wilson
Aus. 405105 Sgt. Gamble
Sgt. MacDonald
P/O. Critcher

Sunderland T.9115 - Convoy Escort.

Crew: - Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods
Aus. 403760 P/O. Nichols
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 403568 P/O. Dyason
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
Sgt. Rees
F/Sgt. Webb, D.F.M.
Aus. 403455 F/Sgt. Druhan
F/Sgt. Church
Sgt. Wharfe
Aus. 411354 F/Sgt. MacKie

Sunderland T.9111 - Anti 'E' Boat Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 32515 F/O. Davenport
Aus. 420692 P/O. Lucas
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell
Sgt. Finney
F/Sgt. Smith-Gander
Aus. 406514 F/Sgt. Bird
Aus. 401696 F/Sgt. Jones
Sgt. Ede
P/O. Evans

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

Form Orange.

To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/02/4/March. 2. PL/G11/3/Mar 3. Sunderland K/461
6 Torpex DCs and 2 x 250 lbs. G.P. bombs.
F/Lt. Dodds. P/O/ Dyason.

0630/4 Airborne Pembroke Dock on A/S Escort to KMF 10A 1000 ft.
0742 Bishop Rock, S/C KQHH 4027
1047 in KQHH 3220 S/C along track of Convoy.
1131 In ZXDX 1550 met KMF 10A composition course and speed as briefed. Convoy first located on S.E. at 27 miles 10 degrees on port bow. A/C at 1000 ft. Exchanged recognition signals by V/S with S.N.O.
1137 Sunderland R/119 passed on patrol and left convoy.
1140 Commenced patrol 'B'
1250 S.N.O. requested patrol adder
1304 a/c to S.N.O. 'I go' in PTDX 5549 left KMF 10B composition course and speed unchanged and S/C Bishop Rock.
1555 MTB 1 Expect to arrive Poole 1945
1603 In KQWD 5455 saw two Spanish coal-burning trawlers in line astern course 190/5 kts.
1723 MFB 1 Land at Mount Batten.
1752 Bishop Rock.
1847/4 Waterborne Mount Batten.
S.E. used for navigation and to find convoy.

H. 1. 47 degrees 30' N 14 degrees 15' W. 2. 1400 3. 2 miles.
4. 10.10ths 1200 - ST. and ST. CU - 2000 ft.
5. 18/054 - 1000 6. Slight 7. Poor and hazy but no rain.
8. Similar.

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

Form Orange.

To 19 Group.
From Pembroke Dock.

A. 1. PD/01/5/Mar 2. PL/G2/4/Mar 3. Sunderland MK111 M/461
camouflage white.
F/Lt. Smith. F/Lt. Gascoigne.
6 Torpex 2 x 250 GP.

B. 1118/4/Mar Airborne Hamworthy on BP17 - A/S Patrol 1000 ft.
1251 Bishop Rock.
1357 KQHY 0000 on patrol.
1507 PTTA 0233 investigated 1 - Pareja Co - 6 160/7 kts.
1508 MFB 1 - Observe SBR between 44 N and 45 N.
1654 LRQ S 3235
1713 LRWD 1718
2000 KQHY 0100 off patrol
2105 MTB 1 - BCB - Poole - 2325 - QFF
2129 St. Marys.
2206 MTB 2 - BFX - 256
2220 MTB 3 - BCB - PD - 2340 - ZXZ
2239 St. Marys
2315 MFB 3 - ZY 1
0010 Waterborne Pembroke Dock.

H. 1. 4330 N 1125 W. 2. 1654 3. 1 - 3 miles in rain.
4. 10/10 SC 1000 ft. base 1800 ft. tops.
5. 140/5 kts at 1000 ft. 6. Calm.
7. Much low cloud patches down to 500 ft. heavy rain.
8. Poor - low cloud - bad visibility but excellent south of the front.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

To 19 Group.
From Pembroke Dock.

A. PL/G5/4 March PD/03/5 Sunderland Mark II C/461
Camouflage White.
Captain F/Lt. Manger Navigator P/O. Kennedy.
8 x 250 G.P.

B. 1905/4 March Airborne Hamworthy - anti-E-boat patrol (cross over patrol (Cross over 1A) 800 ft.
1931 St. Albans Head.
1945 CKRN 1244 on patrol.
1952 XFRN 5752
2013 XFYG 5744
2021 XFYG 4352
2048 CKRN 1244 repeated X over as above
2154 CKRN 1244 repeated X over as above
2258 CKRB 1244 repeated X over as above
2310 MFB 1 'Drop flares 248/Portland/8'
2331 MFB 2 'Report estimated time ready to illuminate enemy'
2340 XFRN 5206 S/C 248/Portland/8
2343 MTB 1 ' ETA 0001'
2359 CKRN 2828 dropped flares from 8000 ft on S.E. contact shot at from surface craft - red and green tracer - cannon shell or pom-pom. Bursts at 9000 ft. fairly near a/c which took evasive action. Fire was then directed against flare.
0004/5 MFB 3 'illuminate enemy 237/Portland/16
0006 MFB 4 'Stop dropping flares immediately'
0017 MTB 2 'Request instructions'
0022 MFB 5 'Resume patrol
0025 CKRN 2326 12 flares seen dropping 10 miles astern in position CKRN 2212
0054 CKRN 1244 resumed patrol.
0155 CKRN 1244 repeated X over as above
0223 MFB 6 'Do not illuminate'
0247 MTB 3 'Repeat 0154/5 - use SYKO/4'
0258 CKRN 1244 repeated X over
0340 MFB 7 'Cancel my signals 0154 - 0223 - 0247
0359 CKRN 1244 repeated x over
0459 CKRN 1244 repeated X over
0507 MFB 8 ' BFX Pembroke Dock by 0730'
0529 ZFYG 5744 off patrol
0616 Lands End.
0629 MFB 9 'QFF 1029'
0747 Waterborne Pembroke Dock.

H. 1. 5000 N 0220 W. 2. During whole patrol. 3. 400 yds average 4. Nil but haze on surface. 5. 030 - 070/15 kts. at 800 ft. 6. - 7. Good but no downwards vis. 8. Similar.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

7th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 7.3.43 Sunderland DV.961 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404944 F/O. Weatherlake
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 414594 P/O. Park
Aus. 403778 P/O. Simpson
Sgt. Ferrett
Sgt. Stewart
Aus. 403805 F/Sgt. Forsythe
Sgt. Speedie
Aus. 411160 F/Sgt. MacKellar
Aus. 152500 Sgt. Bracey
P/O. Sherrard
Sgt. Dibble

Sunderland DV.960 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke
Aus. 415062 F/Sgt. Watts
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 401233 P/O. Fairway
Sgt. Williams
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
F/Sgt. Milne, D.F.M.
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. Ovens
Aus. 411014 F/Sgt. Eaton
Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson
Aus. 407499 F/Sgt. Goode
Aus. 416005 Sgt. Pfeiffer

To 19 Group.
From Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/7/March. PL/G13/6/March. 3. Sunderland MKIII 1/461. 6 x 250 lbs. Torpex D.C. and 2 x 250 G.P. bombs. F/O. Weatherlake. F/O. Croft.

B. 0700/7 March Airborne on B/P/10 7/3/43 4000 feet.
0858 Scillies on patrol.
1038 ZXWD 4922 2 Spanish fishing vessels 260 degs/7 knots about 200 tons names on side El Vero and Barasso. Whitish hull maltese cross in black on funnel. Visual sighting directly below from 6000 ft.
1210 PTUB 3317 C/V 2 Drs. 1 M/V 9 miles 180/Degs/8 knots. visual sighting 4 miles on starboard bow from 2000 ft.
1256 MWHH 5236
1316 MWLN 2605
1705 MTB 1 E10
1730 Bishop Rock off patrol
1835 MFB 1 Proceed coastwise enemy a/c heading in your direction
1847 MFB 11 Cancel message 1824
1905 MFB 111 When do you expect to arrive
1907 MTB 11 1920
1929/7 March Waterborne Hamworthy.
S.E. for navigation.

H. 1. 46 degs N - 15 degs W. 2. 1240. 3. 1 - 2 miles.
4. 10/10 SC 2200 ft. 1000 ft. 5. 120 degs 16 knots.
6. Smooth 7 and 8. Fine and cloudy throughout.

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Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Pembroke Dock.

A. 1. PD/02/7 March 2. PL/G13/6/March 3. Sunderland Mark III
H/461. Camouflage White.
F/Lt. Cook. P/O. Fairway.
6 Torpex DCs 2 x 250 lbs. G.P. bombs.

B. 1101/7 March. Airborne Hamworthy on B/P 12 - 2000 ft.
1228 St. Marys on Patrol
1614 MWLN 0335 S/C THUB 4110
1632 THUB 3906 S/C St. Marys
2100 MFB 1 - Land Pembroke Dock
2105 MTB 1 - BCB 256 - 2210
2110 St. Marys S/C Pembroke Dock.
2215 Waterborne Pembroke Dock.

H. 1. 1630. 2. 44 Degs 40' N 13 Degs 55' N. 3. 12 miles.
4. St. CU 4/10 300 top 2000 base. 5. 050 degs 12 mph 2000 ft.
6. Slight 7. Fine with haze. 8. Fine with haze.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

9th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 9.3.43 **Sunderland DV.960 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.**

Crew: - Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke
Aus. 415062 F/Sgt. Watts
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 401233 P/O. Fairway
Sgt. Williams
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
F/Sgt. Milne, D.F.M.
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. Ovens
Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson
Aus. 407499 F/Sgt. Goode
Aus. 411014 F/Sgt. Eaton

Form Orange.
From Pembroke Dock.
To 19 Group.

A. 1. PD/01/10 March. 2. PL/G1/9/March 3. Sunderland Mk III H/461
Camouflage white. 6 x torpex DCs 2 x 250 lb. GP bombs.
F/Lt. Cook P/O. Fairway.

B. 1201 9 March A/B Hamworthy on B.P 21 2000 ft.
1339 Bishops Rock S/C KQHY 0000
1443 ZXHY 5602 S/C LRAF 4835 on patrol
1503 ZXAF 1258 2 trawlers Spanish markings Co 315 degs. 8 kts.
photos taken.
1655 LRAF 3025 S/C coastwise
1731 LRHY 3812 S/C KQHY 0000
1836 MWHY 3010
1848 MWHY 3836
1859 MWHY 5524
1905 MWHY 5109
1905 MFB 1 SVBR
1923 MWHY 1831
1928 MWHY 1417 S/C KQHY 0000
2113 KQHY 0202 S/C Hishops Rock off patrol.
2130 MFB 2 BFX 256 BCX
2205 MTB 1 BCB 256 2350
2233 Bishops Rock
2348 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. Constructional work in progress
on coast between cape prior and Ferrol. A new road
leading to three concrete trenches approx 15 ft. wide
in fan shape.

H. 1. 43 degs 39'N 08 degs 13' W. 2. 1700. 3. 15 miles.
4. 8/10 ST CU 2000 ft. 5. 030 degs 30 mph 2000 ft.
6. Moderate 7. Showery 8. Fair with scattered showers.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

11th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 11.3.43 **Sunderland T.9111 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.**

Crew: 8 Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley, D.F.C.
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner
F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup
Sgt. Burton
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Aus. 6612 Sgt. Hammond
Aus. 416005 Sgt. Pfeiffer

Sunderland DV.960 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke
Aus. 415062 F/Sgt. Watts
Aus. 401999 P/O. Newton
Aus. 401233 P/O. Fairway
Sgt. Williams
Aus. 5594 Sgt. Lewis
F/Sgt. Milne, D.F.M.
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. Ovens
Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson
Aus. 407499 F/Sgt. Goode
Aus. 411014 F/Sgt. Eaton

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/02/11 march. PL/G10/March. 3. Sunderland Mk II H/461
White blue top Mk II.
F/Lt. Cook P/O Fairway.
6 x 250 lbs Torpex DC and 2 x 250 lbs GP bombs

B. 0852/11/March/43. Pembroke dock A/B on B/P 16 2000 feet.
0953 Bishop Rock S/C LRJY 0023 on patrol.
1342 MTB 1 Special weather report
1401 FPJY 5925 S/C HPQS 4804
1419 FPQS 4707
1506 LRQS 4445 sighted 1 F.W.200
1508 Lost contact with E/A
1510 MTB 2 '409 - F.W.200'
1935 MTB 3 'L30'
1951 Bishop Rock off patrol.
2148 W/B Hamworthy 11 March. S.E. used as instructed.
H. 1. 4300 N 1230 N. 2. 1400 3. 12 miles.
4. 10.10 THS S/C 2500 ft. thickness 1000 feet.
5. 24 mph 040 T 2000 ft. 6. Moderate 7. Fine.
8. Fair with Scattered showers.

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Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/11/March. 2. PL/G11/10/March 3. Sunderland Mk II
E/461. Camouflaged white - blue top.
6 x 250 lbs. Torpex DC and 2 x 250 lbs. G.P. bombs.
P/O. Singleton P/O. Winstanley D.F.C.

B. 0659/11/March Hamworthy Airborne on B.P 5 1500 ft.
0858 MTB 1 'BHF/Scillies/0930/Engine trouble'
0917 W/B Scillies. Oil temperature in starboard engines excessively high so landed to open Louvres.
0927 A/B Scillies.
0930 360 Bishop Rock 1 mile S/C on patrol.
0935 MTB 2 'BBZ 0927'
1007 MFB 1 'Are you continuing patrol?'
1018 MTB 3 'Yes'
1107 DR XFWD 1324 sighted 1 MV unescorted co 215 T SP 8 kts approx 500 T. Markings 'Eire' hull and hatch covers with Irish national colours.
1210 MTB 4 'V/S 500 markings Eire XFWD 1324 - 215 - 8 - 1107
1223 KQUB 3401 sighted C/V 52 vessels including escort, co 180, SP 9 kts, escorted by Sunderland.
1258 KQLN 2003 S/C KQLN 0413
1310 KQLN 0413 S/C Bishop Rock.
1318 MTB 5 - Weather report
1324 KQLN 0712 passed Sunderland 400 yds port beam 1000 ft Co 260
1340 KQUB 1800 sighted former C/V of 52 vessels approx same course and SP.
1508 KQWD 4618 sighted 2 Parejas co 340 T SP 7 kts.
1532 XFTQ 0320 sighted further 2 Parejas co 300 T one stationary other 8 kts.
1534 XFTQ 0002 sighted oil streak, 1400 yds long 60 yds wide, pointing 050 T.
1703 XFVA 5433 off patrol
1853 W/B Hamworthy. S.E. used as instructed.

H. 1. 4804 N 1447 W. 2. 1310 3. 6 Miles.
4. 5/10ths CU, 1200 ft, thickness 800 ft. C.S.4/10ths.
5. 16 mph 034 T 6. Slight to moderate 7. Fair 8. Fair

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

13th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 13.3.43 Sunderland T.9111 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 420692 P/O. Lucas
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
P/O. Evans
Aus. 406514 F/Sgt. Bird
Aus. 401696 F/Sgt. Jones
Sgt. Fuller
Sgt. Fowles
Sgt. Finney
Sgt. Ede

Sunderland T.9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley, D.F.C.
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner
F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup
Sgt. Burton
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Aus. 6612 Sgt. Hammond
Aus. 416005 Sgt. Pfeiffer

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/02/13/Mar. 2. GB/G13/13/Mar 3. Sunderland C/461
6 x Torpex DCs - 2 x 250 lb. Gp bombs.
F/Lt. Manger P/O. Kenway.

B. 0756/13 Airborne Hamworthy on A/S Patrol BP 14 1600 ft.
0924 Bishop Rock S/C THUB 2040
0930 S/M on surface V/S 'Where is Bishop Rock'
reply 'course 040 degs T - 12 miles'
1228 MWJY 1343 Irish MV ' City of Dublin' - 360 degs - 6 kts.
1243 MWJY 0340 Irish MV 'Edenvale' - 360 degs - 6 kts.
1325 THUB 2040 S/C THJY 0117
1345 THJY 0117 S/C Bishop Rock MTB 1 'Weather report - 1330
1407 MTB 2 '1 MV - MWJY 0348 - 360 degs - 6 kts - 1500 tons
- Eire Edenvale - 1243'
1810 MFB 1 'Land at Mount Batten - What ETA - 1753'
1820 MTB 3 'ETA 4920 - 1820'
1823 Bishop Rock.
1916 Waterborne Mount Batten.

H. 1. 44 degs 24' N 13 degs 07' W. 2. 1320 hrs. 3. 4 miles.
4. 3/10 CU 2000 ft. 1000 ft. thick. 5. 042 degs/16 kts 1400 ft.
6. Moderate. 7. Fair - Hazy. 8. Fair - haze and occasional
showers.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Pembroke Dock.

A. 1. PD/03/13/Mar. 2. PL/G13/12/Mar 3. Sunderland Mark IIA E/461
camouflage white.
P/O. Singleton P/O. Winstanley.
6 Torpex 2 x 250 GPs.

B. 0854 Airborne Hamworthy on BP 16 A/S Patrol 2500 ft.
1023 Bishop Rock on patrol.
1359 LRJY 4057
1418 LRQS 2435
1420 LRQS 2836 - 1 M/V Marking Eire - 400 tons engine aft
2 holes. (Estimated Kerlogue) co 190 speed 6-8 kts.
1839 XFVA 1704 off patrol.
1850 MTB 1 BBM - HWY 2050 - ZPY QFF - TOO 1850
1910 MFB 1 BFX - 256 - TOO 1900
1925 MTB 2 ETA - PD - 2030 - TOO 1924
2032 Waterborne P.D.

H. 1. 4340 N 1203 W. 2. 1359 3. 8 miles.
4. 4/10 CU 2000 feet base 2000 ft. thick 1/10 Cirrus above.
5. 064/19 mph 6. Moderate. 7. Fair, hazey. 8. Fair & cloudy.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

17th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 17.3.43

Sunderland T.9111 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Aus.	401072	F/Lt. Manger
Aus.	403216	P/O. Davenport
Aus.	420692	P/O. Lucas
Aus.	403417	P/O. Kennedy
		Sgt. Fowles
		Sgt. Finney
Aus.	26618	Sgt. Russell
		Sgt. Ede
		F/Sgt. Donnelly
Aus.	406514	F/Sgt. Bird
Aus.	401696	F/Sgt. Jones
		P/O. Evans

Sunderland T.9115 - Anti-Submarine Convoy Escort.

Aus.	403725	F/Lt. Dods
Aus.	403760	P/O. Nichols
Aus.	403568	P/O. Dyason
Aus.	5942	Sgt. Taylor
		Sgt. Rees
		F/Sgt. Webb, D.F.M.
Aus.	403455	F/Sgt. Durhan
Aus.	405144	F/Sgt. Wilson
		Sgt. Wharfe
Aus.	411354	F/Sgt. Mackie
		Lt. Bader (as passenger)

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/02/17/Mar. 2. PL/G9/16/Mar 3. Sunderland C/461
6 x Torpex DCs 2 x 250 lb. G.P. bombs. White camouflage S.E.
F/Lt. Manger F/O. Kennedy

B. 0443/17 Airborne Hamworthy on A/S Patrol B.P.27 400 ft.
0626 St. Marys S/C KQHY 0000
0755 KQHY 0000 S/C LRYG 3302
0856 PTVA 3516 2 Spanish steam trawlers - 345 degs - 5 kts fitted wireless aerials.
1026 THDW 3613 3 Spanish steam trawlers - 135 degs - 6 kts.
1108 LRDW 3057 S/C East along coast.
1118 LRYG 3511 Spanish MV 'ROFE' - 090 degs - 8 kts - 6000 tons single black funnel amidships - red band - straight stem large superstructure 4 hatches.
1128 LRYG 3713 Spanish MV 'Ruda' 2500 tons - 090 degs - 8 kts thin black funnel amidships - well deck forward - fully laden.
1130 LRYG 3815 Spanish MV - 800 tons no name seen - 090 degs - 6 kts Deck cargo of bales.
1131 LRYG 4415 one unidentified A/C thought to be Ju.88 on W course - 6 miles distant.
1135 LRYG 3720 Spanish MV 'Eaviota(1000 tons - 090 degs - 6 kts single funnel aft.
1143 LRYG 3233 - Spanish MV 'Habana - Espana' 8000 tons - heading west - stationary straight stem - cruiser stern -

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single black squat funnel amidships grey hull - white raised superstructure unladen.
1148 LRYG 3036 Spanish MV - no name seen - 2000 tons - 090 degs - 6 kts red single funnel aft of amidships - white foremast - 2 hatches.
1158 LRYG 3041 S/C KQHY 0000
1212 KRYG 5335 A/C identified as JU.88 8 miles S.E. low on water on easterly course.
1315 MWPK 3544 3 Spanish steam trawlers - 070 degs - 6 kts.
1407 MTB 1 ' 5 MVs between LRYG 3511 - LRYG 3041 - 090 degs - 8 - Spanish - Rofe - Ruda - Eaviota - Un - 1 MV - LRYG 3233 stationary - Spanish ✈ Habana Espana - 12 00
1505 KQHY 0000
1700 Lands End.
1705 MTB 2 'BCB - Mt. Batten - 1740 - Petrol - 1705.
1720 MTB 3 'Can we land Batten - urgent - 1720'
1727 MFB 1 'Land at Mt. Batten'.
1745/17 Waterborne Mount Batten.

H. 1. 43 degs 35' N 03 Degs 35' W. 2. 1107 3. 10 miles.
4. Nil. 5. 100 degs/13 kts. 500 ft. 6. Slight swell.
7. Fine - slight haze. 8. Fine.

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Pembroke Dock.

A. 1. PD/08/18/March. 2. PL/G10/17/Mar. 3. Sunderland Mk II K/461 Camouflage white S.E.
F/Lt. Dods. P/O. Dyadon.
6 Torpex 2 x 250 GP.

B. 0908 Airborne Hamworthy Escort to KMF11 1000 ft.
1045 Bishop Rock S/C XFUB 3003.
1219 XFQS 3958 8 Spanish Parejas fishing.
1315 XFUB 3403 a/c on to C/V track.
1347 XFUB 0526 1 CR 2 DRS course 180/15 kts.
1406 KQUB 4513 2 TRLs 10 LCIs course 180/7 kts.
1420 KQLN 3746 met KMF11 - 25 MVs, 2 DRs 2 Sloops, course 180/13 kts.
1440 Commenced cobra 35 on instructions from SNO
1516 MFB 1 - BHD 1900.
1548 KQLN 1946 V/S to SNO 'I go' not acknowledged.
1552 Left C/V composition course and speed as before.
1612 KQUB 2935 1 CR 2 DRs course 180/15 kts.
1625 MTB 1 'BBM 2030 T00 1623'
1705 MFB 2 BCX Scillies
1723 MTB 2 BCB Scillies 1910 T00 1720
1735 MFB 3 BFX 256 T00 1734
1757 MTB 3 Int BFX Scillies oil leak. S.I. engine. T00 1755
1825 MFB 4 Make P.D. if possible 1903 Bishop Rock.
1912 MTB 4 BCB P.D. 2008 QFF T00 1910
1945 MFB 5 QFF 1016 P.D.
2021 Waterborne Pembroke Dock. S.E. used as navigational aid.

H. 1. 4835 N - 1335 W. 2. 1440 3. 1 mile. 4. 10/10 ST CU base 1500
5. 145/30 kts. 6. Rough 7. Very poor much Sea haze.
8. Similar except for varying cloud amounts cloud clearing towards England wind dropping, sea becoming smooth. Haze remaining.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

19th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 19.3.43 Sunderland T.9111 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger
Aus. 403216 P/O. Davenport
Aus. 171 W/Cdr. Douglas, D.F.C.
Aus. 403417 P/O. Kennedy
Sgt. Finney
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell
Sgt. Ede
F/Sgt. Donnelly
Aus. 401696 F/Sgt. Jones
Aus. 406514 F/Sgt. Bird
P/O. Evans

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/19/Mar. 2. PL/G16/18 3. Sunderland C/461 camouflage white. S.E.
6 x Torpex DCs. 2 x 250 lb. G.P. bombs.
F/Lt. Manger F/O. Kennedy.

B. 0658/19 March A/B on BP5 - 1500 ft.
0830 Bishop Rockon Patrol.
1108 KQUB 4227 one floating flare parachute
1130 KQLN 3041 owing to port inner engine trouble decided to terminate patrol at KQDX 1453
1208 KQDX 1453 S/C ZXHH 4803
1223 ZXDX 4856 S/C Bishop Rock
1242 MTB 1 Returning to base - engine trouble - My position is ZXDX 4856 - expect to arrive 1800 TOO 1223
1250 MTB 2 coded weather report.
1253 KQ LN 0600 position of small vessel about 150-200 tons course 360 degs/10 kts 120 ft. funnel aft of midships number on bow 178 diesel engine, cruiser stern stump mast on bridge, mast aft. Midships superstructure, well deck forward built up by bulwarks platform aft. Flying red ensign. Visual sighting 5 miles on starboard bow from 2000 ft.
1300 Vessel signalled visually message to be transmitted to Plymouth.
1315 Vessel signalled visually what is your position.
1320 A/C replied with position as at 1253
1327 KQLN 1200 left vessel and resumed course.
1354 MTB 3 Giving message to Plymouth as requested.
1625 MTB 4 ETA 1830 - TOO 1622
1641 Bishop Rock off patrol.
1826/19 Mar Waterborne Hamworthy. S.E. for navigation.

H. 1.48 degs 06 N - 15 degs 00W 2. 1300 3. 8 miles.
4. 10/10 - CU and SC - 2000 ft - about 4000 ft.
5. 110 degs/20 knots. 1000 ft. 6. Heavy smooth swell.
7. Good except for brief showers. 8. Good haze from Scillies to 11 degs W.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

20th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 20.3.43 Sunderland DV.961 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404944 F/O. Weatherlake
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 414594 P/O. Park
Aus. 405264 P/O. Sullivan
Sgt. Ferrett
Sgt. Stewart
Aus. 403805 F/Sgt. Forsythe
Aus. 411160 F/Sgt. MacKellar
Sgt. Speedie
Aus. 15250 Sgt. Bracey
P/O. Sherrard
Sgt. Dibble

Sunderland T.9114 - Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley, D.F.C.
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox
F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
Sgt. Burton
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner

Form Orange.
To No. 19 Group.
From Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/20/March. 2. PL/G9/19/March. 3. Sunderland M.III
I/461 camouflage white
F/O. Weatherlake Sgt. Sullivan.
6 x 250 lbs. torpex D.C(s and 2 x 250 lbs. G.P. bombs.

B. 0657 Airborne 20 March Hamworthy on BP 14 2000 feet.
0830 Bishops Rock S/C THUB 0432
1002 ZXTQ 5756 sighted 2 British TLC CO 090 SP unknown
1025 ZXTQ 2920 sighted 2 Parajas CO 310 SP 5 knots.
1034 ZXTQ 2508 sighted 1 Spanish M/V about 800 T. Co. 030 SP 6kts
1312 THUB 0530 S/C LRJY 4309
1336 LRJY 4309 S/C Bishops Rock
1600 ZXAF 4517 sighted 4 beaufighters
1705 MRB 1 'Have you sighted landing craft, give position'
1712 St. Marys.
1725 MTB 1 Giving position and time of sighting landing craft.
1735 MTB 2 'E20'
1753 MFB 2 'Give CO and SP of landing craft'
1800 MTB 3 answered MFB 2.
1853 Waterborne Hamworthy 20 March.
S.E. used navigationally and when visibility dropped below 3 miles.
H. 1. 4400 N, 1330 W. 2. 1312 3. 4 miles. 4. 3/10ths to 4/10ths S.C. 2000 ft. 5. 34 mph 144 T 1000 ft. 6. Moderate
7. Fine 8. Fine.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/01/21/Mar. 2. PL/G9/20/Mar. 3. Sunderland Mk.II E/461
camouflage white Mk.II
P/O/ Singleton. P/O/ Winstanley.
4. 6 x 250 lbs. torpex D.C(s and 2 x 250 lbs. G.P. bombs.

B. 1915/20 Mar Hamworthy airborne on enclose 172 patrol 4 2200 ft.
2049 XFVA 5129 on patrol
2137 KQHY 3030
2332 MWHY 4530
0014 THAF 3753 sighted 2 small trawlers approx. 200 T hove to.
0039 THAF 0030
0101 THHY 3800
0117 MWHY 0515
0135 THHY 3312
0143 THHY 2122
0145 THHY 2717 sighted one sailing vessel, approx. 120 T hove to
0148 THHY 3218 sighted 2 trawlers, 200 T, hove to.
0353 KQAF 3554
0502 St. Marys off patrol.
0640 MFB 1 'Base unfit land at Batten 0700'
(Note. Captain wishes to state that he could not carry out this instruction as he then had insufficient fuel)
0733 Waterborne Hamworthy 21/Mar S.E. used as instructed.

H. 1. 4400 N 0830 W. 2. 0038 3. 10 miles. 4. 7/10ths CI S
10000 ft. 5. 16 mph 160 deg T 2200 ft. 6. Slight to moderate.
7. Fair and clear. 8. Fair and clear.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

21st March, 1943.

O.R.B. 213.43 Sunderland EJ. 134 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: -	Aus. 404610	F/Lt. Walker
	Aus. 400788	P/O. Dowling
	Aus. 403778	P/O. Simpson
		Sgt. Miles
		Sgt. White
	Aus. 26697	Sgt. Turner
		Sgt. Fuller
	Aus. 405083	F/Sgt. Miller
	Aus. 401562	F/Sgt. Hattam
		Sgt. Watson
	Aus. 407499	F/Sgt. Goode

Sunderland T.9111 -

Crew: -	Aus. 401072	F/Lt. Manger
	Aus. 403216	P/O. Davenport
	Aus. 420692	P/O. Lucas
	Aus. 403417	P/O. Kennedy
		Sgt. Fowles
		Sgt. Finney
		F/Sgt. Smedley
	Aus. 406514	F/Sgt. Bird
	Aus. 401696	F/Sgt. Jones
		Sgt. Ede
		F/O. Evans

Aircraft crashed on take-off. Minor casualties to crew but aircraft completely destroyed.

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Hamworthy.

A. 1. HWY/02/21/Mar 2. PL/G5/21/Mar. 3. Sunderland MK.II C/461 Camouflage white.
F/Lt. Manger. P/O. Kennedy. 4. Nil.

B. 2058A/B Hamworthy 21/Mar on Flooding operation.
2059 crashed on local mud flat, no casualties but considerable damage to aircraft.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/01/22/Mar. 2. PL/G11/20/Mar 3. Sunderland N/461
camouflage white. S.E. mark 2.
F/Lt. Walker P/O. Simpson
6 x Torpex DCs. 2 x 250 lb. G.P. bombs.

B. 1125/21 Airborne Hamworthy on A/S patrol enclose 10 - 1 900 ft.
1306 Bishop Rock S/C PTHY 3045
1512 PTHY 3045
1610 PTWD 3045
1611 PTWD 2945 2 Spanish Parejas 180 degs - 6 kts.
1620 PTWD 2347 2 Spanish Parejas 010 degs X1 - 8 kts.
Black and white funnels, white hulls.
1638 PTWD 5856
1746 PTHY 5545
1757 ZXHY 2045
1903 ZXWD 1940
1915 ZXWD 4640
2014 MFB 1 'BFX - 202 - 2010'
2027 ZXHY 5545
2033 KQHY 1045 S/C Scillies.
2043 Scillies
2305 MTB 1 'BBM - 2327 - QFF - 2250'
2325 MFB 2 'QFF - 1918 - 2315'
2335/21 Waterborne Mount Batten.

H. 1. 46 Degs 30 N 10 degs 15 W. 2. 1610 hrs. 3. 20-30 miles.
4. 2/10 S.C. 4000 ft. 5. 138 degs 24 kts 900 feet.
6. Moderate 7. Fine 8. Fine.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

22nd March, 1943.

O.R.B. 22.3.43

Sunderland T.9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley, D.F.C.
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Sgt. Burton
F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup
Aus. 407218 P/O. Viner

Sunderland T.9109 - Convoy Escort.

Crew: - Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke
Aus. 401976 Sgt. Leigh
Aus. 401584 P/O. Rolland
Aus. 6739 Sgt. Woodland
Aus. 14455 Sgt. Pearce
F/Sgt. Donnelly
Aus. 404783 F/Sgt. Miller
Sgt. Jeffery
Aus. 402617 Sgt. Sidney
Aus. 405144 F/Sgt. Wilson

Sunderland EJ.134 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker
Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling
Aus. 403778 P/O. Simpson
Sgt. Miles
Sgt. White
Aus. 26697 Sgt. Turner
Sgt. Fuller
Aus. 405083 F/Sgt. Miller
Aus. 401562 F/Sgt. Hattam
Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson
Aus. 407499 F/Sgt. Goode

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/02/23/Mar. 2. PL/G6/22/Mar 3. Sunderland 3 N/461
Camouflage white. S.E. Mk. 2.
6 Torpex 2 x 250 lb. G.P.
F/Lt. Walker. P/O. Simpson.

B. 1952/ Airborne A/S Patrol enclose 10-2 average height of a/c
2043 Bishop Rock. 3000 ft.
2345 THHY 5818
0050/23 THWD 5545
0103 MWWD 2645
0140 MFB 1 BHD Batten 0645 TOO 0121
0200 MWAF 0253 circled 2 vessels dropped twl flares unidentified.
0254 MWHY 2242
0345 MTB 1 2 Vessels suspicious position MWAF 0247 flares dropped
0510 St. Marys Scillies TOO 0230
0515 MTB 2 BBM - 0610 - QFF TOO 0510
0550 MFB 2 QFF MB 1008 TOO 0535
0601 MFB 3 await balloons TOO 0555
0622 MFB 4 52 at 4500 ft. others down 0620
0702/23 Waterborne Mount Batten.

H. 1. 44 N 8 W. 2. 2345 3. 1 mile. 4. 4/10 at 5000 tops unknown
ST CU 5. 172/30 kts - 3000 ft. 6. Moderate 7. Good
8. Patches of cloud and rain.

X-X-X-X-X-X-X

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/05/22/Mar 2. PL/G6/21/Mar 3. Sunderland E/461
Camouflage white. S.E. mark.2.
6 x Torpex DCs. 2 x 250 lb. G.P. bombs.
P/O. Singleton. P/O. Winstanley.

B. 0937/22 Air Borne on A/S Escort to XK3
1104 Bishop Rock S/C PTDX 5652
1157 MFB '658 264 Dayum 80-014-0800
1424 ZXHH 1235 S/C on track 194
1456 MTHH 4309 met convoy CO 014/8 kts escorted by Halifax.
1500 Message to convoy 'Hungry' (V/S)
1505 Message fron convoy. Message as sent on scrambler phone
1510-1530 Message to convoy 'Hungry'
1525 Message fron convoy. Noon position 1554 (presumed longtitude)
1530 S/C on patrol.
1609 Investigated oil streak position. 140 ZZ6 oil streak
traced to corvette on zigzag patrol.
1623 Message to convoy 'I go'
1633 Message from C/V 'Seen any subs'
1635 Message to convoy 'No. I go'
1636 Off patrol. Convoy at position PTHH 5513 CO 014/7 kts.
2015 MTB No. 1. ETA Batten 2140 QFF
2040 XFVA 5543
2047 MFB No. 2 QFF 1013
2129 MFB . No. 3. ZYA - 2 - 190 - 3 - 15 - 8 - 40 - 9 - 3 - 11 -1013
2200/22 Waterborne Mount Batten.

H. 1. 46 40 N 16 06 W. 2. 1600 3. 20 miles. 4. 4/10 CU base 2000
4000 thick. 5. 13 mph 147 degs height of a/c 1000 feet.
6. Moderate 7. Fair. 8. Fair.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

Form Orange
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/06/22/Mar 2. PL/G6/21/Mar 3. Sunderland D/461
camouflage white. S.E. mark 2.
6 x Torpex DCs 2 x 250 lb. G.P. bombs.
F/O. Marrows P/O. Rolland.

B. 1125/22 Airborne Hamworthy on A/S Escort to XK3 1000 ft.
1248 Bishop Rock S/C ZXDX 2854
1623 ZXHH 2225 S/C along convoys track.
1707 PTHH 4835 over convoy CO 012T/7-8 kts. Exchanged signals carried out patrol at visibility distance.
1748 PTHH 5637 S/C Scillies.
2136 Scillies
2245/22 Waterborne Mount Batten.

H. 1. 46 55 N 15 W 2. 1700 3. 20-30 miles. 4. 2/10 Altstratus at 8000 ft. 5. 175T at 15 kts. 6. Slight. 7. Fine in patrol area. 8. Frontal conditions over most of route with fine patrol area.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

23rd March, 1943

O.R.B. 23.3.43 Sunderland T.9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley, D.F.C.
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox
F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens
Sgt. Burton
Aus. 407210 P/O. Viner
Aus. 407098 F/Sgt. Bateup

Sunderland T.9109 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke
Aus. 401976 Sgt. Leigh
Aus. 401584 P/O. Rolland
F/Sgt. Donnelly
Aus. 403455 F/Sgt. Druhan
Aus. 405144 F/Sgt. Wilson
Aus. 6739 Sgt. Woodland
Aus. 14455 Sgt. Pearce
Sgt. Jeffrey
Aus. 402617 Sgt. Sidney
Aus. 5906 P/O. Petherick

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/01/24/Mar 2. PL/G3/23/3. 3. E/461 Camouflage white
S.E. mark 2. 6 Torpex DCs 2 x 250 lb G.P. bombs.
P/O. Wingleton. P/O. Winstanley.

B. 2003 Airborne Mount Batten on A/S Patrol enclosee10 - 1 600 ft.
2051 XFVA 5226 on patrol S/C PTHY 3045
2309 PTHY 2744 proceeding then through the following positions
PTWD 3253, PTWD 5955, ZXVA 0827, ZXVA 3332 ZXTQ 3820,
ZXTQ 5420, ZXHY 4152, KQHY 0655, KQAF 0227.
2354 PTTQ 2932 sighted two flame floats.
0038 ZXTQ 0237 S/E indication of A/C crossing ahead from port
to staboard. Flame float seen at same time.
0233 ZXHY 2815 two lighted fishing vessels seen.
0328 KQTQ 0040 Two lighted trawlers sighted
0510 KQAF 0227 S/C Bishop Rock PLE 2 1/2 hours
0530 KQHY 3305 S/E indication ahead at constant distance of
5 miles.
0635 CKVA 4720 off patrol.
0703 MFB 1 'BFX 211 if fuel permits'
0720 MTB 1 'WQX - 1 BAC - 202 - BBM - 0835'
0819 Waterborne Mount Batten.

H. 1. 47 degs 54 N 09 degs 40 W. 2. 0320 3. 1 mile.
4. 10/10 N ST base 500 ft. thickness unknown.
5. 178 degs true 18 mph. 6. Rough. 7. Continuous rain.
8. Poor conditions with low cloud.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Hamworthy.

A. 1.HWY/0/1/24 march. 2. PL/G3/23/March. 3. Sunderland MK.II D/461 Camouflage white. Mark of ASV carried - 11.
P/O/ Rolland. F/O/ Marrows.
6 x Torpex D.C's - 2 x 250 lb. G.P. bombs.

B. 2224/23 March Airborne on enclose 10 NO. 2 reversed - 2000 ft.
2351 St. Marys.
0236/24 PTHY 1045
0345 PTWD 1745
0407 MWWD 4545
0530 MWHY 4545
0547 MWHY 2145
0610 MWAF 2250
0823 Scillies.
1036 ~~Skittlexx~~ Waterborne Hamworthy. S.E. for navigation.

H. 1. 45 degs 45 N - 10 degs 15 W. 2. 0400 3. 2-4 miles.
4. 5/10 - CU - 2000 ft. -2000 ft. 5. 160 degs/30 knots -2000 ft.
6. Rough. 7. Bumpy. 8. Frontal conditions about 47 degs N.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

25th March, 1943

O.R.B. 25.3.43 Sunderland T.9109 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 15781 F/Sgt. Watts
Aus. 401233 P/O. Fairway
Sgt. Williams
Sgt. Ferrett
F/Sgt. Milne, D.F.M.
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. Ovens,
Sgt. Speedie
Sgt. Ede
Aus. 412167 F/Sgt. Mayne

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/01/25/Mar. 2. PL/G6/24/Mar 3. Sunderland D/461.
6 x Torpex DCs. 2.x 250 lb. GP bombs.
White camouflage S.E. mark 2.
F/Lt. Cooke, P/O/ Fairway.

B. 2020/25 Airborne Hamworthy on patrol enclose 10 - 1. 2000 ft.
2158 St. Marys on patrol. S.C. PTHY 3045
0004/25 PTHY 3130 S/C PTWD 3045. Patrolled through PTWD 2548 - PTWD 5651 - PTHY 5245 - ZXHY 2045 - ZXWD 1845 - ZXWD 4543 - ZXAF 4558.
0015 PTAF 3153 2 fighing vessels - lit - 330 degs - 6 kts.
0145 PTAF 5710 2 small fishing vessels - Lit - 090 degs - 4 kts.
0500 ZXAF 4558 S/C Scillies.
0633 MFB 1 'BFX - 202 - BCX - 0630'
0642 MTB 1 'BBM + 0745 - 0645'
0725 MTB 2 'BBM - 0735 - 0725
0736 Waterborne Mount Batten.

H. 1. 46 30 N 10 15 W. 2. 0100 3. 20 miles. 4. 10/10 SC 4000 ft.
5. 090 degs 20 kts. 2000 ft. 6. Moderate 7. Fine below cloud.
8. Fine on patrol deteriorating from Scillies east on return.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

26th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 26.3.43 **Sunderland T.9114 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.**

Crew: - Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 P/O. Winstanley, D.F.C.
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox
F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup
Sgt. Burton
Aus. 407218 P/O. Viner

Sunderland EJ.134 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Crew: - Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker
Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling
Aus. 403778 P/O. Simpson
Sgt. Miles
Sgt. White
Aus. 26697 Sgt. Turner
Sgt. Fuller
Aus. 405083 F/Sgt. Miller
Aus. 401562 F/Sgt. Hattam
Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/01/27/Mar. 2. PL/G4/26/Mar. 3. Sunderland 2 E/461.
Camouflage white S.E. Mk.2. 6 Torpex D.C's 250 lb. G.P. bombs.
Captain P/O/ Singleton P/O/ Winstanley.

B. 1651/26 Airborne Mount Batten on A/S Patrol enclose 10 - 2 1200 ft.
1752 Bishops Rock - on patrol S/C THHY 5545
1915 In ZXVA 0307 saw two steam trawlers of about 100 tons course 120/ 2 kts. Trawlers in line astern.
2020 In THHY 5642 S/C THWD5545
2055 MFB 1 Proceed to Pembroke Dock immediately TOO 2048
2105 In THTQ 5649 S/C Bishops Rock.
2125 In MWTQ 3009 saw the lights of two vessels apparently fishing.
2220 MFB 2 When do you expect to arrive at Scillies TOO 2206
2250 MTB 1. Expect to arrive Scillies 2350. TOO 2250
2316 MTB 3. Land at Mount Batten TOO 2307
2341 In XFVA 5245 off patrol - S/C Lizard.
0017/27 Eddystone.
0150/27 Waterborne Mount Batten. S.E. used in accordance with instructions and for navigation.

H. 1. 44 degs 56 N 06 degs 08 W. 2. 2040 3. 1 1/2 miles
4. 8/10ths 2500 - CU - 1000 5. 8/346 - 1000 6. Slight.
7. Misty but otherwise fair. 8. Fair throughout but very low c base in vicinity of Mount Batten on return.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Mount Batten.

A. 1. MB/02/27 mar. 2. PL/G4/26/Mar 3. Sunderland 3 N/461
Camouflage white. S.E. Mk 2 6 Torpex DCs 2 x 250 lb. GP bombs.
F/Lt. Walker P/O. Simpson.

B. 1720/26 Airborne Mount Batten on A/S Patrol. Enclose 10 - 1 4000 ft.
1818 Bishops Rock on patrol S/C PTHY 3045
2013 In PTHY 3045 S/C PTWD 3045
2105 MFB 1 Proceed to Pembroke Dock immediately TOO 2206
2110 In PTTQ 2308 S/C Bishop Rock.
2230 MFB 2 'When do you expect to arrive Scillies'TOO 2206
2252 MTB 1 'Expect to arrive Scillies 2325' TOO 2250
2317 Scillies S/C Pembroke Dock.
2324 MFB 3. 'Land at Mount Batten ' TOO 2307. A/C S/C Wolf Rock accordingly.
2345 Wolf Rock S/C Eddystone
2355 MTB 2 ETA Mount Batten 0028
0023/27 Eddystone
0218/27 Waterborne Mount Batten. S.E. used in accordance with instructions and for navigation.

H. 1. 46 degs 30 N 07 degs 15 W. 2. 2013 3. 1 - 2 miles.
4. 10/10th 1200 - ST CU - 3000 ft. 5. 10/315 - 1000 ft.
6. Slight. 7. Warm Frontal conditions. 8. Similar conditions throughout patrol. Very low cloud at Mount Batten on return.

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VERY SECRET

Operations No. 461 Squadron, R.A.A.F.

29th March, 1943.

O.R.B. 29.3.43 **Sunderland DV.961 - Anti-Submarine Patrol.**

Crew: - Aus. 404944 F/O. Weatherlake
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 414594 P/O. Park
Aus. 403778 P/O. Simpson
Sgt. Ferrett
Sgt. Stewart
Aus. 403805 F/Sgt. Forsythe
Sgt. Speedie
Aus. 411160 F/Sgt. MacKellar
Aus. 15250 Sgt. Bracey
P/O. Sherrard
Sgt. Dibble

Form Orange.
To 19 Group.
From Pembroke Dock.

A. 1. PD/01/30/Mar. 2. PL/G6/28/Mar 3. Sunderland Mk. III I/461 Camouflage white S.E. Mk. II. F/O. Weatherlake P/O. Sullivan 6 - Torpex 2 x 250 GPS.

B. 1048/29 Airborne Hamworthy on BP6 A/S Patrol 800 ft.
1255 Bishop Rock on patrol.
1840 ZXDX 3303
1850 MTB 1 Weather report TOO 1845
1853 ZXDX 0722
2053 KQWD 4323 2 Fishing vessels, with lights CO 170 SP unknown
2056 MFB 1 - Can you make stranraer - TOO 2044
2109 MTB 2 - Heading for Stranraer - TOO 2105
2113 KQTQ 5925 - 2 fishing vessels - with lights Co 310 sp unknown
2130 MFB 2 - When do you expect to arrive P.D.
2145 MTB 3 - ETA - PD - 2300 TOO 2140
2220 MTB 4 - Requesting fix.
2226 MFB 3 - Fix 2nd class 5037 N 0634 W.
2245 MFB 4 - Land P.D. if weather unfit land Stranraer.
2248 MFB 5 - Fix 5126 N 0558 W.
2316 Waterborne P.D. S.E. used for navigation.

H. 1. 4730 N 1658 W. 2. 1840 3. 5 miles. 4. 10/10 ST CU base 900 tops 1500. 5. 280/27 kts at 800 ft. 6. Rough. 7. Fair 8. Fair.

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APRIL, 1943.

APRIL 10th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY SHIPPING. Sunderland captained by Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows located enemy convoy of one merchant vessel and four escorts which opened fire at extreme range. Two Ju.88's approached from over convoy but Sunderland gained cloud cover. There was no engagement with the Ju.88's and the Sunderland returned safely to base.

APRIL 11th, 1943. W/Cdr. D.L.G. Douglas, D.F.C. assumed temporary command of the Station while Group Captain Wigglesworth, A.F.C. was on leave.

APRIL 15th, 1943. Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods and crew located dinghy with eight occupants. Supplies were dropped and Sunderland orbitted over dinghy until relieved by a Catalina.

APRIL 21st, 1943. MOVE TO PEMBROKE DOCK. The advanced party of the Squadron, together with heavy equipment, proceeded to Pembroke Dock.

APRIL 29th, 1943. U-BOAT SUNK. While on anti-submarine patrol Sunderland captained by Aus. 405404 F/O. Gipps sighted a U-Boat on the surface five miles on the starboard bow. U-boat was attacked with six depth charges, sank horizontally, then stern emerged and disappeared vertically. Several sailors were seen in the water.

This was F/O. Gipps first operational sortie as captain of a Sunderland and will probably be credited as a definite kill to the Squadron.

NOTE. Flying hours for anti-submarine patrols this month almost doubled those of March and other flying showed an increase.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

VERY SECRET.

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

April, 1943.

O.R.B. 1.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ESCORT TO CONVOY.

Sunderland T.9114, captained by Aus. 400841 P/O. G.O. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Escort. Airborne Hamworthy 0852 - waterborne Mount Batten 2100.

O.R.B. 2.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ESCORT TO CONVOY.

Sunderland DV.960, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Escort to Convoy. Airborne Hamworthy 1220 - waterborne Mount Batten 0047.

O.R.B. 4.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ESCORT TO CONVOY.

Sunderland DV.960, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, airborne Hamworthy 1138 to escort convoy. 1634 base recalled aircraft and convoy was not met. Waterborne Mount Batten 2023.

O.R.B. 5.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675, captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 2255 - waterborne Hamworthy 1110.

O.R.B. 6.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.960, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. Airborne Mount Batten 2054 - waterborne Hamworthy 0919

ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9114, captained by Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 2107 - waterborne Hamworthy 0827.

O.R.B. 7.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9109, captained by Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows carried out an Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. At 1145 an indication was received on the S.E. Flare was dropped and aircraft circled the position. Tail and mid-upper gunner reported large wash with object in the centre. On completion of turn, object had disappeared and no further S.E. indications were obtained. Airborne Hamworthy 2045 - waterborne Hamworthy 0836.

ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675, captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 2100 - waterborne Hamworthy 0846.

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O.R.B. 8.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9114, captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. Airborne Hamworhty 2052 - waterborne Hamworthy 0855.

O.R.B. 9.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134, captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 2252 - waterborne Hamworthy 1018.

O.R.B. 10.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675, carried out an Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 1201. 1630 MFBl. "Locate enemy, 3 Destroyers, 1 Motor vessel, last heard of position TLYH 2520 course 090°- speed 10 knots." 1632 ZNHY 0304 altered course to locate enemy. 1938 new position of enemy given by Group. 2005 TLJT 5720 located enemy force. 1 M/V, 4 escorts, course 090° - speed 8 knots. Escorts opened fire at extreme range. Two Ju.88s approached from over convoy and were closing rapidly as aircraft made for cloud cover. Aircraft remained in cloud cover till message had been sent to base but cloud was broken again. Ju.88s reappeared and our aircraft regained cover. 2013 MTB 2 "Returning to base P.L.E' 2035 ZNJT 2400 sighted 2 Spanish trawlers. Three Ju.88s approached and inspected these trawlers and 'O' of 461 Squadron made for cloud cover. Waterborne Hamworthy 0010.

Crew: - Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows Captain
Aus. 401976 Sgt. Leigh
Aus. 412751 F/Sgt. Tamsett
Aus. 401584 P/O. Rolland
Aus. 921970 Sgt. Ferrett
Aus. 1084296 Sgt. Watson
Aus. 10530 Sgt. Bamber
Aus. 402617 Sgt. Sidney
Sgt. Field
F/Sgt. Donnelly, D.F.M.
Aus. 405144 F/Sgt. Wilson

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9109, captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Enclose Patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 2145 - Waterborne Hamworthy 0915.

ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.960, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 2220 - waterborne Hamworthy 1032.

O.R.B. 11.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.960, captained by Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 2304 - Waterborne Hamworthy 1123.

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O.R.B. 11.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ENCLOSE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134, captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker carried out an Anti-Submarine Enclose patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 2251. 0321 sighted a submerging U-boat with decks awash half a mine distant on Port Bow. Aircraft circled to have U-boat up moon. Aircraft lost height to 400 feet and came in to attack but by the time the position was reached 48 seconds had passed so no attack was made. Aircraft circled the position then resumed patrol. Waterborne Hamworthy 1155.

O.R.B. 13.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.960, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 0535 - waterborne Hamworthy 1753.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134, captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 1148 - waterborne Hamworthy 2359.

O.R.B. 14.4.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.960, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, carried out an uneventful Derange patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 1209 - waterborne Hamworthy 0003.

O.R.B. 15.4.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675, carried out a Derange patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 0455. 0752 message from base 1. "Look out for dinghy with crew in position 48° 30'N 09° 30'W." 0830 M.T.B. 1. "In position 48° 54'N. 09° 04'W. Am over dinghy - number of crew, eight, may I land?" 0956 M.T.B. 2. "Unable to land, supplies dropped, awaiting orders. 1028 M.T.B. 3. "Eight Allies unable identify further." 1225 releived by Catalina. 1624 Waterborne Hamworthy.

CREW: -	Aus. 403725	F/Lt. Dods	Captain
	Aus. 403760	P/O. Nicholls	
	Aus. 409326	P/O. Sinclair	
	Aus. 403568	F/O. Dyason	
	Aus. 416005	Sgt. Pfeiffer	
	Aus. 5942	Sgt. Taylor	
		Sgt. Rees	
		Sgt. Field	
	Aus. 403455	F/Sgt. Druhan	
	Aus. 411464	F/O. Tegart	
		Sgt. Wharfe	
	Aus. 411354	F/Sgt. MacKie	

Air Ministry Bulletin No. 9985.

SUNDERLAND IN SEA RESCUE DRAMA.

Nine survivors of a missing Sunderland of Coastal Command have been rescued from a dinghy in the Atlantic by a British destroyer, after another Sunderland had twice attempted to alight alongside them in a rough sea. The destroyer was directed to the survivors by a Coastal Command Catalina which relieved the

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Sunderland on its patrol and gave air protection while the ship was rescuing the men.

A search was being made for the dinghy, and when the Sunderland first sighted it, about 120 miles from land, food and water were dropped by the aircraft.

The captain of the Sunderland which found the dinghy was F/Lt. W.S.E. 'Bill' Dods, a Brisbane accountant, and his aircraft belongs to an Australian squadron which was formed last year and will celebrate its first anniversary on Anzac Day (April 25th).

"In trying to alight and pick up the occupants of the dinghy," said P/O. J.V. Nicholls, first pilot of the Sunderland, "we ran along a calm patch of sea, but soon found outselves in deep waves. If we had touched down we should have been engulfed.

"On our second attempt at rescue we were again surrounded by waves which were so high that the sky seemed to have disappeared. We were forced to abandon the attempt, otherwise we should have been in the 'drink' outselves."

The Sunderland, however, kept in touch with the dinghy until it was relieved by the Catalina. The survivors were taken aboard the destroyer after being adrift for approximately 16 hours.

F/Lt. Joseph Gibson, of St. Andrews, New Brunswick, captain of the "ditched" Sunderland, and who was among the survivors, afterwards said: "This was a magnificent example of Air/Sea Rescue work. Our wireless operator, F/O. Ralph Tierney, of Guelph, Ontario, managed to get an S.O.S. off before we went in, and within two or three hours the navy had sent out a destroyer to pick us up."

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

O.R.B. 16.4.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675, captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods, carried out an uneventful Derange patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 1300 - waterborne Hamworthy 0045.

O.R.B. 17.4.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134, captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker, carried out an uneventful Derange patrol. Airborne Hamworthy 0456 - waterborne Hamworthy 1624.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9109, captained by Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows airborne Hamworthy 1253 on a Derange patrol. 1447 set course for Bishop Rock with serious leak in S.O. engine. 1506 landed at Scillies to investigate. 1603 airborne Scillies. Waterborne Hamworthy 1749.

O.R.B. 18.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ESCORT TO CONVOY.

Sunderland JM.675, captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Escort. Airborne Hamworthy 0153 - waterborne Hamworthy 1426.

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O.R.B. 19.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE ESCORT TO CONVOY.

Sunderland T.9109, captained by Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows, airborne Hamworthy 1400 on Anti-Submarine Escort to Convoy. 1600 waterborne Scillies to investigate oil leak. 1759 airborne Scillies. 2104 position 50°09'N - 12°58'W met one section of convoy of 29 vessels. A second section of 24 vessels bearing 114°T at 22 miles from 1st section on same course 005°T. Speed 7 knots. 2151 position 49°55' N - 12°55'W. Eire vessel 'Irish Flame' sighted. 2322 left 1st section and passed 2nd section. Waterborne Hamworthy 0330.

O.R.B. 21.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134, captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker, carried out an Anti-Submarine patrol. At 1556 Iron Buoy, conical shape, rusty and appeared stationary, was sighted. 3410 mine sighted on surface. Airborne Hamworthy 0917 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2033.

O.R.B. 24.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134, captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0518 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1640.

O.R.B. 28.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9109, captained by Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0505 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1648.

O.R.B. 29.4.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Crew: -	Aus. 405404	F/O. Gipps	Captain
	Aus. 403725	F/Lt. Dods	
	Aus. 403216	F/O. Davenport	
	Aus. 403417	F/O. Kennedy	
		Sgt. Fowles	
	Aus. 26618	Sgt. Russell	
		Sgt. Ede	
		F/Sgt. Smith-Gander	
	Aus. 406514	F/Sgt. Bird	
	Aus. 401696	F/Sgt. Jones	
		Sgt. Hobbs	
	Passenger -	Air Vice Marshal Baker	

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 405404 F/O. Gipps airborne Pembroke Dock 0514 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1035 S.E. contact made at 12 miles straight ahead. 1038 contact lost. 1040 in position TLKU 1629 sighted conning tower and portion of deck of U-Boat. Dropped flame float, aluminium sea-marker and marine marker. 1051 continued patrol. 1124 U-boat sighted on surface 5 miles on starboard bow. 1126 attacked U-boat straddling it with 6 Torpex D.Cs. U-boat sank horizontally then stern emerged and disappeared vertically. One or more sailors seen in water by crew. 1211 S/C Scillies. 1600 message from base to land at Hamworthy. 1723 Waterborne Hamworthy.

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Coastal Command Intelligence Summary, No. 200.

Sunderland P/461 - Captain F/O. Gipps.
1124 - 29th April, 1943, 42.12 N. - 11.30 W. Bay of Biscay.

Aircraft on A/S patrol, sighted conning tower and part of deck of U-boat and dropped sea marker at 1040 hours. Aircraft continued on patrol and at 1109 intercepted message from F/10 returned to position and sighted a U-boat on surface with aircraft "F" circling. U-boat appeared to be down by bow and opened fire on 'P'. Aircraft went in to attack dropping six 250 lb. depth charges set at 25 feet, spacing 100 feet, from 100/150 feet, while U-boat was still on surface. Depth charges straddled U-boat, which was seen to sink horizontally, then the stern emerged and disappeared vertically. Large air bubbled seen 2 to 3 minutes after attack, but not a large amount of oil. One or more sailors observed by several members of the crew struggling in the water.

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MAY, 1943.

The month of May was the most outstanding month for the Squadron since its formation.

MAY 1st, 1943. U-BOAT ATTACKED. Aus. 400297 F/Lt. E.C. Smith and crew attacked a submerging U-boat with depth charges but no results were observed.

MAY 2nd, 1943. U-BOAT SUNK. F/Lt. E.C. Smith and crew attacked and sank an enemy U-boat in the Bay of Biscay.

MAY 3rd, 1943. U-BOAT ATTACKED. Another attack on an enemy U-boat was made by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird and crew. Depth charges were dropped but no results were observed. Sunderland was then attacked by a Ju.88 but managed to gain cloud cover.

MAY 14th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on patrol F/Lt. Smith and crew were attacked by four Ju.88s. Hits were scored on the Sunderland and Sgt. Barrow suffered a flesh wound in his thigh.

MAY 15th, 1943. A "Wings for Victory" parade was held. Station and Squadron personnel led by the Station W.A.A.F. band marched from Pembroke Dock to Pembroke where the salute was taken by S/Ldr. S.R.C. Wood, D.F.C.

MAY 16th, 1943. AWARD. F/Lt. E.C. Smith received the immediate award of the D.F.C.

MAY 17th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Aircraft captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. J.G.P. Weatherlake was attacked by 6 Ju.88s for 30 minutes. Sunderland was extensively damaged by machine gun fire and cannon shells but none of the crew were injured. Two Ju's had black smoke pouring from them.

MAY 24th, 1943. EMPIRE DAY. Station and Squadron personnel attended a Church parade.

MAY 25th, 1943. AWARDS. Aus. 403860 F/Lt. H.G. Cooke, Aus. 3932 F/Lt. T.A. Egerton and F/O. H. Evans have been awarded the D.F.C.

MAY 28th, 1943. ATTEMPTED RESCUE. When Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods and crew attempted to land and pick up six survivors of a Whitley in a dinghy, the Sunderland broke up and F/Lt. Dods was killed instantly. The rest of the crew got into a dinghy - including F/O. R. de V. Gipps who was seriously injured. They spent nearly fourteen hours in the dinghy before they were picked up.

MAY 29th, 1943. RESCUE. Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton and crew landed and picked up the crew of the Sunderland which crashed yesterday. Survivors were taken on board where they remained until picked up by a Destroyer, together with dispensible members of F/O. Singleton's crew.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

MAY, 1943.

O.R.B. 1.5.43 **ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.**

Sunderland T.9109 captained by Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1350 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0210.

ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968 captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith Airborne Pembroke Dock 0515 on an Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. 0844 at 3000 feet sighted 1 Ju 88. Sunderland climbed into cloud. Ju.88 not seen again. 1136 sighted U-boat on starboard bow 5-6 miles distant. Speed 6 knots. Attacked U-boat dropping 4 Torpex D.C's as it disappeared. Nothing further observed owing to rough sea. 1228 S/C Scillies. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1752.

O.R.B. 2.5.43 **ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.**

Sunderland DV 968 captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith airborne Pembroke Dock 1354 on an Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. 1803 at 2500 feet sighted a destroyer and a M/V. 1915 sighted U-boat 10 miles distant. Speed 10-12 knots. Sunderland approached through cloud at 4 miles distant. U-boat opened fire when a/c 1 mile away. 1919 a/c attacked twice each time dropping 4 Torpex D.C's. Both sticks straddled the U-boat. After the first attack brown vapour blew out of near stern and whitish vapour blew out upwards 3' from Port Quarter. Heavy flow of oil appeared from Port side. After second attack crew was seen to jump overboard just before U-boat sank stern first. When ship had disappeared at least 15 men were counted in the sea. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0213. Weather: - In position 44°50'N - 09°00'W. Vis. 10 - 12 miles. 6/10 cloud at 2500 feet. Sea - rough. Slight haze.

Crew: - Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith
Aus. 412498 F/O. Dawson
Aus. 400411 P/O. Grainger
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. Gascoigne
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox
Sgt. Stewart
F/Sgt. Smedley
Aus. 405105 F/Sgt. Gamble
Sgt. Barrow
Sgt. McDonald
Aus. 402319 P/O. Critcher

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary, No. 201.

Sunderland M/461, R.A.A.F. - Captain F/Lt. Smith, E.C.
1915 - 2nd May, 1943 - 44.48 N. - 08.58 W. Bay of Biscay.

Aircraft on A/S Patrol while flying in broken cloud at 2,500 feet, sighted a fully surfaced U-boat 10 miles distant, 45 degrees on port bow. Aircraft turned and climbed into cloud cover, emerging 4 miles from U-boat. Dived to attack along track of U-boat from stern to bow. When 1 mile distant U-boat fired at "M", which replied and pressed home attack, dropping four 250 lb.

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Torpex depth charges set at 25 feet spacing 100 feet from 50 - 75 feet, while U-boat still on surface. Depth charges straddled U-Boat slightly aft of conning tower. U-boat circled to port apparently out of control for about 2 minutes then gradually stopped and it appeared to have bad list to port. Brown vapour from stern and white vapour from port quarter were seen and a heavy flow of oil appeared on port side. Aircraft climbed and made second attack from 15 degrees on starboard bow releasing the remaining four depth charges set at 25 feet, spacing 80 feet from 75 feet, which straddled across conning tower from starboard bow to port quarter. U-boat settled by its stern still listing to port. Oil patch grew to 300 yards diameter, the vapour subsiding as U-boat settled. Stern then settled further down and crew seen to jump overboard and at 1940 hours U-boat sank stern first. During each attack aircraft machine-gunned conning tower and gun positions, firing in all 3,000 rounds. 3 men seen on dock during first attack and 2 men during the second attack. After U-boat sank, at least 15 men counted in sea and air bubbles and wreckage were observed.

Air Ministry Bulletin No. 10427

Coastal Command Aircraft Sink Five U-Boats.

The fifth attack took place in the approaches to the Bay of Biscay when an Australian Sunderland sighted a U-boat ten miles away. The Nazis opened light ack-ack and machine-gun fire but the flying-boat was not hit and dropped its first stick of depth-charges across the U-boat aft of the conning tower.

"That stick apparently put her out of control" said Flight Lieutenant E.C. Smith, the captain of the aircraft. "She circled and then gradually stopped, listing badly to port."

As the Australians attacked again they saw brown and white vapour rising from the U-boat and oil flowing freely from her port side. The second stick of depth-charges straddled the submarine, which began to settle by the stern, still listing.

The U-boat's crew started to jump into the water. "We counted at least 15 of them and there were air bubbles and wreckage on the sea" said the navigator. "The submarine sank stern first, with her bow re-appearing twice at a sharp angle before finally submerging.

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

O.R.B. 3.5.43 Anti-Submarine Patrol.

Sunderland JM.676 captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 2033 - Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0807.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.960 captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1220 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0051.

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O.R.B. 5.5.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 airborne Pembroke Dock 0507 on an Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. 0060 Bishop Rock. S/C FBLJ 0030. 0777 on patrol. 0922 at 2000 feet sighted U-boat 2 miles distant on Port Bow. No attack as U-boat submerged. 0932 began baiting tactics. 0945 RGVV 0015 two Spanish trawlers sighted. 1005 MFBl "Discontinue patrol". 1020 disregarded message on account of fuel. 1042 sighted U-boat from 1000 feet, 2 miles distant. A/C attacked dropping 4 D.C's which exploded ahead of swirl 22 secs after U-boat had submerged. 1045 dropped two sea markers. 1100 lost both sea markers in heavy sea. 1109 GWFZ 5542 began second baiting tactics. 1110 MTB 1 "Unable to carry out duty ordered. 1131 over same trawlers. Co. 090/8. 1151 sighted 1 Ju.88 which opened fire at 1000 yards. Contact was then lost in cloud. E/A did not come within range of guns of Sunderland. 1152 S/C Bishop Rock. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1725. Weather: - In position 47°N - 10°W. Vis. 2 miles. 2/10 cloud at 1200 feet. Generally fine. Sea - very rough. Haze.

Crew: - Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird
Aus. 405119 F/Sgt. Watts
Aus. 411298 P/O. Dobson
Aus. 420200 R/O. Hughes
Sgt. Williams
Sgt. Watson
Sgt. Field
Aus. 411160 Sgt. MacKellar
Aus. 414608 Sgt. Temple
Aus. 420365 Sgt. Weeks
Sgt. Salisbury
Aus. 5906 P/O. Petherick

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary.

Sunderland S/461, R.A.A.F. - Captain F/O. Baird, R.D.J. 1042 - 3rd May, 1943 - 45.58N - 09.05W. Bay of Biscay.

Aircraft on A/S Patrol while flying at 1,000 feet through layer of stratus cloud, sighted a fully surfaces U-Boat 2 miles distant, 30 degrees on starboard bow. Aircraft attacked from 060 degrees, on starboard side of U-Boat, dropping four 250 lb. Torpex depth charges set at 25 feet, spaced at 100 feet from 50 - 70 feet. They straddled the course of the U-Boat 180 feet ahead of swirl, 22 seconds after U-Boat had submerged. A large black oily patch was seen after the attack. The aircraft remained in vicinity for 27 minutes but nothing of interest was seen.

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

O.R.B. 4.5.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968 captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith airborne Pembroke Dock 1345 on an Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. 1506 aircraft turned for base owing to engine trouble. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1646.

SPECIAL A/S PATROL.

Sunderland DV.960 captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke airborne Pembroke Dock 1808 in a Special A/S Patrol. No sightings were made. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0455.

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O.R.B. 5.5.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676 captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0532 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1712.

A/S DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird carried out an uneventful A/S Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1927 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0734.

O.R.B. 6.5.43 A/S DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077 captained by Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows carried out an uneventful A/S Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0730 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1635.

O.R.B. 7.5.43 A/S DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134 captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker airborne Pembroke Dock 0430 on an A/S Derange Patrol. 1043 MRLJ 1409 flying at 2500' sighted visually Spanish vessel 12 miles distant on starboard bow. "Antonio de Satrustegue". A/C circled to investigate. 1100 TULJ 5010 2 enemy a/c, a Ju.88 and Me.110 approached from rear and port quarter, height 500'. Sunderland climbed into cloud. Both e/a followed. On entering cloud Sunderland observed Ju.88 to be signalling by lamp to M/V. E/A thought to be escorting M/V. Notified bases 1 and 2. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1639.

A/S PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676 captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger carried out an uneventful A/S Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1405 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2040.

O.R.B. 11.5.43 CONVOY ESCORT PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird Airborne Pembroke Dock 0945 on a Convoy Escort Patrol. 1352 sighted 2 Spanish Trawlers 'Bleaseme' and 'Hermene'. 1547 sighted 10,000 ton Cruiser. 1855 met large convoy. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2225.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676 captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger carried out an uneventful Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0505 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0605.

ANTI-SUBMARINE ESCORT.

Sunderland W.6077 captained by Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Escort. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1047 - waterborne Mount Batten 1908.

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O.R.B. 14.5.43

A/S PATROL TO CONVOYS.

Sunderland JM.676 Captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger airborne Pembroke Dock 1433 on an A/S Patrol to Convoys XK6A and XK6B. 1716 sighted 8 Spanish fishing vessels. 1857 at 2400 feet sighted aircraft on Starboard quarter 10 miles distant flying at 2000 feet. Thought to be Wellington. 1940 at convoy S/E on patrol flying round XK6A at approximately 12 miles distance. 2002 S/C to find XK6B. 2022 abandoned attempt to find XK6B no S/E indication. Visibility nil at 400 feet. S/C to return to XK6A. 2105 at XK6a commenced patrol at 12 miles. 2345 green Very light sighted astern - 6 small lighted vessels in vicinity. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0259.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird took off on a Derange Patrol but returned early owing to cloud base being 10/10 at 100 feet. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0407 waterborne Hamworthy 1023.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968 captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith airborne Pembroke Dock 1357 on a Derange Patrol. Captain decided to shorten patrol owing to weather 10/10 cloud at 200 feet, vis. nil 1052 GWLJ 4200 height 1000 feet when 4 Ju.88's were seen 2000 yards distant, crossing from starboard beam to ahead. Simultaneously 2 more Ju.88's were sighted astern of a range of about 1500 yards by the rear turret. Sunderland entered cloud cover as a further one or two E/A attacked out of the sun Sunderland having turned to evade first E/A sighted. E/A opened fire at approx. 1000 yards scoring hit on windscreen port wing, bow starboard tail plane, port elevator, and on hull near astrodrome. Nost gunner suffered wound in right thigh. Sunderland remained in cloud cover - nothing further seen. M/461 was unable to open fire as attacking E/A in the rear were out of range and one or two E/A which attacked from the starboard bow were not seen in time to return fire before the Sunderland entered cloud. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1540. Weather: - In position 45°20'N - 10°W0'W. Vis. Nil. 10/10 cloud at 200 feet. Sea - calm. Heavy showers.

Crew: - Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith
Aus. 412498 F/O. Dawson
Aus. 414594 P/O. Park
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. Gascoigne
Aus. 402319 F/O. Critcher
P/O. Finch
F/Sgt. Saedley
Aus. 405105 F/Sgt. Gamble
Sgt. Barrow
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox.
F/Sgt. Stewart

Air Ministry Bulletin No. 10282

Sunderland's Battel with Ju.88's.

A Sunderland of an Australian squadron of Coastal Command, manned by a crew who have a good record against U-boats, survived attacks by seven or eight Ju.88s over the Bay of Biscay.

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By Skilful manoeuvring the captain F/Lt. E.C. Smith - who is a fox hunter and farmer in Victoria - gained cloud cover and arrived back at his base with very little damage to his aircraft and with only one of his crew slightly wounded.

F/Lt. Smith had to duck his head as bullets went through the windscreen of the aircraft. One of the crew said: "We first saw half a dozen 88s. They manoeuvred to attack and started to come in. We dived for cloud cover and when we reached it said 'goodbye' to the first six 88s. Then, just as we entered the cloud, one or two more 88s attacked out of the sun, but the firing they did was only at long range with their cannon. They would not come close so that we could have a 'go' at them with our machine guns."

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

O.R.B. 15.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134 captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker airborne Pembroke Dock 1244 on a Derange Patrol. Two fishing vessels sighted. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0042.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077 captained by Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke airborne Pembroke Dock 1403 on a Derange Patrol. 1737 altered course to investigate object 11-12 miles away. Found U-boat at RCFZ 0013. A/C at 2000 feet approached down sun. 2 miles away U-boat started to submerge. No D.C's dropped. 1743 carried out baiting tactics. 1840 again over U-boat position, turned on S/E. 1845 RCFZ 0022 investigated object like smoke marker. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0130.

O.R.B. 16.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird carried out a Derange Patrol. Four Spanish trawlers sighted. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0426 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1650.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676 captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger airborne Pembroke Dock 0505 on a Derange Patrol. 0525 aircraft developed engine trouble so returned to base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0605.

O.R.B. 17.5.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675 captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods airborne Pembroke Dock 1255 on an Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. 1631 RCLJ 1501 at 400 feet sighted 3 Spanish fishing vessels in area Co. 180° T/5 kts. 1644 sighted U-boat on port bow. Aircraft height 3500 feet. Approached up sun but when 4 miles distant U-boat submerged. A marine marker was dropped on the swirl. 1727 MRVV 4959 square search for dinghy. Vis. 5 miles used. 1749 MRVV 5949 at 1000 feet sighted 2 Spanish fishing vessels. 2001 MRLJ 2633 search concluded. S/C GWFZ 5650 50 miles ahead along U-boat's track. 2120 at 2500 feet sighted 1 Ju.88 flying at 3000 feet which began to circle O/461. 2121 at 2000 feet sighted more Ju.88's flying at 1000 feet. These a/c passed around Sunderland and joined first astern. After circling astern for a while they departed. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0131.

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O.R.B. 17.5.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.960 captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, airborne Pembroke Dock 1331 on an Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. 1626 FBVV 0000 at 300 feet investigated 2 Spanish fishing vessels - named "Marquez" and "Veiga". 1728 RGVV 2330 A/C sighted 6 Ju.88's flying at 500 feet. Attacked by 3 of them for 30 minutes. General tactics were to make full use of the sun and to attack one from bow, then next from opposite bow and then third head on. Sunderland turned to meet them when possible and dived. D.C's jettisoned. After 15" one E/A passed very close to the tail and the tail gunner got in five seconds burst from 150 yards. No deflection. Immediately after another E/A passed 50 yards over the nose and the nose gunner got in a 3 secs burst. No deflection. E/A pulled away to starboard climbing slightly. Black smoke came from its Port engine and the E/A was not seen again. Remaining 2 E/A's resumed attack after short interval but did not press their attacks home so much. 2 E/A followed H/461 at a distance for the next 10 minutes. Extensive damage by machine-gun bullets and cannon-shells to H/461. No injury to personnel. 1759 while Ju.88's still circling A/C 2 Spanish fishing vessels believed to be the same as at 1626 hours. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2159.

Crew: - Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 414594 P/O. Park
Aus. 405264 F/O. Sullivan
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor
Sgt. Ferrett
Sgt. Speedie
Aus. 5594 F/Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 414619 Sgt. Wyeth
Aus. 15250 Sgt. Bracey
P/O. Sherrard

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary No. 203.

Sunderland H/461 - Captain F/O. Weatherlake.
1728 - 17th May, 1943. 46.23N - 09.30W. Bay of Biscay.

Aircraft on A/S patrol while flying at 500 feet sighted six Ju.88's, three of which attacked our aircraft for 30 minutes. Rear gunner of 'H' got in a burst of 150 yards range and the enemy aircraft broke away, diving to starboard and then levelling out with black smoke coming from its port engine, this enemy aircraft was not seen again. The remaining 2 enemy aircraft ~~was~~ did not press home their attack though contact was not lost until 1805 hours. 'H' sustained much damage, but crew was uninjured.

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

O.R.B. 18.5.43 RUSH PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird carried out an uneventful Rush Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0411 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1632

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O.R.B. 19.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland Jm.676 captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger carried out a Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1255 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0035. 1808 sighted one twi engine unidentified a/c thought to be a Ju.88. 1825 yellow coloured object sighted in water resembling small boat in shape. Circled and searched but unable to locate again. 2100 sighted one Irish M/V of Edenvale class.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077 captained by Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke carried out an uneventful Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1215 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0017.

O.R.B. 20.5.43 A/S DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968 captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith carried out an uneventful A/S Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1250 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2151.

ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675 captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1215 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2112.

O.R.B. 21.5.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676 captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger airborne Pembroke Dock 0908 on an Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1546 decided to return to base owing to engine trouble. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1003.

ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077 captained by Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0903 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2045.

O.R.B. 22.5.43 CONVOY ESCORT.

Sunderland DV.968 captained by Aus. 400297 carried out an uneventful Convoy Escort. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0543 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1720.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675 captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods airborne Pembroke Dock on a Derange Patrol, at 1250.1846 FBFZ 0259 2 Spanish Parejas Co. 1801 about 3 - 4. Leaflets dropped - shots fired across bows. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2145.

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O.R.B. 22.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9114 captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton airborne Pembroke Dock 1331 on a Derange Patrol. Average height 3000 feet. 1654 MFBI 'Return to base by 2200' 1714 FBFZ 2943 - 2 Spanish fishing vessels. Co. 260° T 6 knots. Nickels dropped. Vessels turned 90° to starboard after bullet splashes. 1731 FBFZ 1528 2 fishing vessels Co. 360°T 6 kts. Nickels dropped. 1912 RCVV 4824 2 Spanish fishing vessels, Co.200°T 6 kts. Nickels dropped. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2149.

O.R.B. 23.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077 captained by Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke airborne Pembroke Dock 0458 on a Derange Patrol. Average height 5000 feet. 0737 WPFZ 0752 two Spanish vessels. 0800 ZGFZ 2443 Two Spanish Trawlers. 0840 FBFZ 1625 sighted 2 a/c flying low on reciprocal course, 15 miles distant. Thought to be Beaufighters. 1407 WPFZ 2836 circled 2 Spanish fishing vessels - dropped nickels. Fired burst across bows. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1634.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock 0430 on a Derange Patrol. Average height 0725 WPVV 0025 circling an oil streak. Zig-zag track about one mile in length and ten yards wide. Fresh oil. Did not appear to be moving 0750 ZGVV 5209 2 Spanish trawlers. Nickels dropped. Burst fired across bows. 0902 ZGEP 0545 2 more Spanish trawlers. 0910 FBEP 5830 engine trouble. Decided to return to base. 1242 waterborne Pembroke Dock 1242.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968 captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith airborne Pembroke Dock 1323 on an Anti-Submarine Patrol. Average height 1200 feet. 1630 WPFZ 0303 6 Spanish fishing vessels Co. 160° - 1 bundle nickels dropped. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2325.

O.R.B. 24.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675 captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods airborne Pembroke Dock 1250 on a Derange Patrol. Average height 3500 feet. 1928 MRLJ 1700 from 4000 feet sighted visually one fully surfaced U-boat 30° on starboard bow. Co. 135 - speed 15 kts. 8 miles distant. A/C dived to attack. U-boat submerged approximately one minute before a/c reached position. No attack made. 1932 over U-boat swirl in position MRLJ 2405 dropped marine marker and carried out baiting procedure flying up sun for 25 miles. 2005 Sunderland a/c sighted in position MRLJ 2405. 2010 O/461 circling marker. No further sign of U-boat. 2214 FBVV 5011 1 Spanish fishing vessel Co. 180° T. Speed 4 kts. Nickels dropped. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0115.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9114 captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton airborne Pembroke Dock 1320 on a Derange Patrol. Average height 3500 feet. 1718 RCFZ 1750 2 Spanish fishing vessels Co. 180° 6 kts. Nickels dropped. 2004 MRVV 2241 over marine marker. Nothing else seen. 2009 sighted a Sunderland aircraft which appeared to be circling marine marker. 2320 WPCW 1654 sighted Wellington a/c ½ nautical mile on port beam. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0050.

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O.R.B. 25.5.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0500 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1700.

ANTI-SUBMARINE ESCORT TO CONVOYS.

Sunderland DV.968 captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith airborne Pembroke Dock 0104 on an Anti-Submarine Escort to Convoys KMS15 and OS48. A/C made several attempts to contact C/V visually but owing to bad weather conditions was unable to do so. 0753 patrol abandoned. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1149

O.R.B. 27.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134 captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker airborne Pembroke Dock 1113 on a Derange Patrol. Average height 900 feet. 1452 RCVV 1600 1 Spanish fishing vessel. 180° T/4 kts. Dropped 3 bundles nickels. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2111.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9114 captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton airborne Pembroke Dock 1311 on a Derange Patrol. Average height 400 feet. 1636 RCVV 4202 from 500 feet sighted white package 3 feet square in sea, rectangular shape. 1920 FBVV 2629 2 Spanish fishing vessels. Dropped 2 bundles nickels. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2207.

O.R.B. 28.5.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.675 captained by Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods airborne Pembroke Dock 1334 on an Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. 1630 FBVV 5022 over dinghy containing 6 survivors from Whitley P/10 O.T.U. MTB "Over dinghy May I land". 1730 MFB "Land at discretion." 1733 attempted to land into wind across main swell. a/c bounced three times on cross swell, then stalled and dived into fourth cross swell. A/C broke and front of a/c from cockpit forward carried away. Captain instantly killed. First pilot seriously injured and later rescued from sea by F/Sgt. Mackie, W.A.G. Automatic Type J dinghy in starboard mainplane released on impact. Both other dinghies damaged and u/s. Survivors got into dinghy. 1930 joined up with other dinghy. During night Wellington a/c with searchlights sighted dinghy's distress signal and remained overhead 1 hour. 0640/29 E/461 overhead. Very low sea stratus cloud. Patches of fog and drizzle at sea level. Conditions quickly deteriorating. 0704 E/461 alighted and took survivors from dinghies on board. Wellington, 2 Sunderlands, and Hudson a/c overhead suring following 2 hours. 0950 Dr. (L19) arrived and took survivors and some of crew of E/461 aboard. Skeleton crew left on E/461. Dr. towed E/461 short distance until line broke. 1800 E/461 airborne. 0600/30 Dr. docked at Davenport. Crew of 0/461 all safe. The only casualty was F/Lt. Dods - Captain.

Crew: -	Aus. 403725	F/Lt. Dods	Aus. 409326	P/O.	Sinclair
	Aus. 405404	F/O. Gipps	Aus. 403568	F/O.	Dyason
	Aus. 5942	Sgt. Taylor		F/Sgt.	Rees
		F/Sgt. Webb,DFM	Aus. 403455	F/Sgt.	Druhan
	Aus. 411354	F/Sgt. Mackie	Aus. 17682	Sgt.	Dhu
	Aus. 411464	F/O. Tegart			

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O.R.B. 28.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock 0352 on a Derange Patrol. 0853 FBFZ 3104 circling dinghy- capsized and half-submerged. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1600.

O.R.B. 29.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.134 captained by Aus. 404614 F/Lt. Walker airborne Pembroke Dock 1003 on a Derange Patrol. Average height 1000 feet. 1540 GWVV 5729 circling 2 Spanish vessels. Co. 180/6. 2 bundles nickels dropped. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2230.

DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland T.9114 captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton airborne Pembroke Dock 0341 on a Derange Patrol. 0443 Intercepted message to base "Lost contact in sea fog - returning to base". 0633 FBVV 5526 sighted dinghies. Flame float dropped followed by marine marker. 0704 FBVV 5526 waterborne. 0730 alongside 2 dinghies. 6 survivors of P/10 O.T.U. and 10 survivors of O/461. 0732 R/T to Wellington which was circling - "We have picked up survivors and have some casualties, is Dr. near". Reply from Wellington - "Will look". 0804 R/T to O/228 which was circling "Stand by for 30 minutes while D.C. detonators removed" 0808 R/T from Wellington "Leaving now will find and send Dr". 0838 V/S to U/228 "Impossible to take-off. Dr. urgent". V/S from U/228 "Doing our best." 0857 V/S from U/228 - "Dr. near" 0945 Dr. L19 sighted. Rescued survivors and dispensible crew of E/461 transferred to Dr. D.C. pistols removed. 1255 in tow of Dr. 1725 severed tow-line as bollard broke. Engines started. D.C.s jettisoned. 1810 estimated position ZGLJ 0500 airborne. Dr. standing by. 1951 MTB 2 - "Land, drome, hull gone." 2007 300/St. Anns Head/7 commenced to jettison. 2040 landed at Angle Aerodrome. All safe. Weather: - In position 47°55'N - 09°34'W. Vis. ½ mile. 10/10 base 100 feet - tops 400 feet. Sea - apparently calm - found on landing to be slight to moderate with oblique swell.

Crew : - Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton
Aus. 401956 F/O. Howe
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401356 F/O. Winstanley, D.F.C.
Aus. 405705 F/Sgt. Wolfe
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
Aus. 6612 Sgt. Hammond
F/Sgt. Church
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens
Aus. 414321 Sgt. Royal
Aus. 407210 F/O. Viner

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

O.R.B. 30.5.43 DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock 1010 on a Derange Patrol. Height 1800 ft. 1900 RCLJ 4021 at 2000 feet sighted surfaced U-boat 10 miles distant. No cloud. A/C dived to attack. When 4 miles distant U-boat submerged. No attack was made because submersion had taken place too long before reaching position. Smoke float

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dropped. While attacking I/461 was sighted. I/461 also came down to attack but only a sea-marker was dropped I/461 known to have more endurance than S/461 so patrol was completed.
Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2203.

45

JUNE, 1943.

JUNE 2nd, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Sunderland captained by F/Lt. Walker was attacked by eight Ju.88s for 45 minutes. Three of the Ju.88s were definitely destroyed, two were probably destroyed and the remaining three were damaged. F/Sgt. E.C.E. Miles, the flight engineer was killed, Aus. 403778 F/Lt. K.M. Simpson, the navigator, was founded and Aus. 407499 F/Sgt. Goode, R, the rear gunner, was rendered temporarily unconscious. F/Lt. Walker flew the Sunderland back on three engines.

This action was described by the Secretary of State of Air as "Outstandingly gallant and successful."

Congratulations were also received from the Air Officer Commanding, Coastal Command and the Chief of Air Staff.

AWARDS. Immediate awards of the D.S.O. to F/Lt. Walker, captain, D.F.C. to F/O. Simpson, navigator, and D.F.M. to rear and midship gunners, F/Sgt. Goode and F/Sgt. Fuller.

JUNE 3rd, 1943. AIR SEA RESCUE. While on Anti-submarine patrol F/Lt. Weatherlake sighted a dinghy with three survivors of a glider which had come down in the sea. He brought a corvette to the scene to pick them up.

JUNE 4th, 1943. ROYAL VISIT. The Duke of Gloucester visited the squadron and spoke to the crews and personnel, being particularly interested in F/Lt. Walker.

JUNE 7th, 1943. BURIAL. Sgt. Miles was buried with full military honours.

VISIT. The Air Officer Commanding, Coastal Command, Air Marshal J.C. Slessor, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C. visited the Squadron.

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1st June, 1943.

NOMINAL ROLL 461 SQUADRON.

Aus. 171 W/Cdr. Douglas, D.L.G. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 516 S/Ldr. Wood, S.R.C., D.F.C., of Toorak, Victoria
Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cook, H.G., D.F.C., of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger, F.V. of Echuca, Victoria
Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, E.C., D.F.C., of Thorpedale, Victoria
Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker, C.B. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke, I.A.F. of Footscray, Victoria
Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows, D. of Parkdale, Victoria
Aus. 404944 F/O. Wetherlake, J.G.P. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 411112 P/O. Amiss, J.C. of Hawthorn, Victoria
Aus. 403216 F/O. Davenport, P.R. Blakehurst, N.S.W.
Aus. 412498 F/O. Dawson, C.J. of Glen Innes, N.S.W.
Aus. 411298 P/O. Dobson, J.S.B. of Dee Why, N.S.W.
Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling, W.T.J. of Caulfield, Victoria
Aus. 401956 P/O. Howe, D.S.P. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 420692 P/O. Lucas, R.D. of Bondi, N.S.W.
Aus. 401999 F/O. Newton, R. of Elwood, Victoria
Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls, J.B. of Lane Cove, N.S.W.
Aus. 414594 P/O. Park, J. of Bundaberg, Queensland
Aus. 400841 P/O. Singleton, G.O. of St. Kilda, Victoria
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. Gascoigne, F.B. of East Malvern, Victoria
Aus. 402193 F/Lt. Watson, J.H.F. Surrey, England
Aus. 403568 F/O. Dyason, V.H. of Lindfield, N.S.W.
Aus. 401233 F/O. Fairway, T.P. of Elwood, Victoria
Aus. 403417 F/O. Kennedy, D.H. of Manilla, N.S.W.
Aus. 401584 F/O. Rolland, J.S. of Sale, Victoria
Aus. 403778 F/O. Simpson, K.M. of Manby, N.S.W.
Aus. 405264 P/O. Sullivan, J.F. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 401356 F/O. Winstanley, H.E., D.F.C., of Geelong, Victoria
Aus. 403592 F/O. Jensen, P.T. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 402319 P/O. Critcher, E.R.
Aus. 411464 F/O. Tegart, A.R. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 407210 F/O. Viner, G. of Worley, S.A.
Aus. 412751 F/Sgt. Tamsett, J.A. of Double Bay, N.S.W.
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin, P.E. of Midland Junction, W.A.
Aus. 401976 Sgt. Leigh, P.C. of Surrey Hills, Victoria
Aus. 415062 Sgt. Watts, R.S. of Subiaco, W.A.
Aus. 416005 F/Sgt. Pfeiffer, P.G. of Point Pass, S.A.
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup, R.J. of Yass, N.S.W.
Aus. 406514 P/O. Bird, P.C. Bunbury, W.A.
Aus. 403455 F/Sgt. Druhan, T.P. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 403805 P/O. Forsythe, A. of Redhead, N.S.W.
Aus. 405105 F/Sgt. Gamble, J. of Gympie, Queensland
Aus. 401696 F/Sgt. Jones, I.C. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis, J. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 411160 F/Sgt. Mackellar, R.C. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 411534 F/Sgt. Mackie, W. of Hay, N.S.W.
Aus. 405083 F/Sgt. Miller, H.A. of Lismore, N.S.W.
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. Ovens, H.R. of York, W.A.
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens, J.R. of Kingaroy, Queensland
Aus. 3932 F/Lt. Egerton, T.A. of Williamston, Victoria
Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird, R.D.J. of Lismore, N.S.W.
Aus. 405144 P/O. Wilson, L.W. of Crabbes Creek, N.S.W.
Aus. 411014 F/Sgt. Eaton, L.G. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 401562 F/Sgt. Hattam, R. of Mentone, Victoria
Aus. 412167 F/Sgt. Mayne, A.O. of Chullora, N.S.W.
Aus. 407499 Sgt. Goode, R.M. Henley Beach, S.A.
Aus. 402617 Sgt. Sidney, D.C. of Coogee, N.S.W.
Aus. 400411 P/O. Grainger, J.C. of Elwood, Victoria
Aus. 409326 P/O. Sinclair, D.A. Rosanna, Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 412385 F/O. Bushell, G.T. of Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.
Aus. 406929 F/O. Eastwood, G.R. Lower Chittering, W.A.
Aus. 420200 F/O. Hughes, D.Q. of Newcastle, N.S.W.
Aus. 412999 P/O. Moffatt, D.W. of Sydney, N.S.W.

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Aus. 3845 P/O. Petherick, A.C.H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 402547 F/Sgt. See, T.F. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 405705 F/Sgt. Wolfe, U.J. Pittsworth, Queensland
Aus. 413954 Sgt. Brodie, L.F. Charleville, Queensland
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox, L.W. of Wagga, N.S.W.
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall, H. of Moonee Ponds, Victoria
Aus. 5594 Sgt. Lewis, O.H. of Willunga, S.A.
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell, J. of Croydon, S.A.
Aus. 5942 Sgt. Taylor, A.J. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 26697 Sgt. Turner, P.K. of Cowell, S.A.
Aus. 6739 Sgt. Woodland, W.L. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 6612 A/Sgt. Hammond, R. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 6615 A/Sgt. Moore, J.A. of Kingaroy, Queensland
Aus. 14455 A/Sgt. Pearce, A.N. of Seven Hills, N.S.W.
Aus. 10530 A/Sgt. Bamber, F. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 15250 A/Sgt. Blacey, V.H. of Summer Hill, N.S.W.
Aus. 23074 A/Sgt. Hughes, F.E. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 26588 A/Sgt. Watson, L.S. of Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft, C.R. Newcastle, N.S.W.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

JUNE, 1943.

O.R.B. 1.6.43 **ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.**

Sunderland DV.961 captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0425 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1610.

O.R.B. 1.6.43 **ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.**

Sunderland EJ.142 captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock 1033 on Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. 1852 GZLU 0803 sighted 2 Spanish Trawlers Co 135 8 kts. Dropped 2 bombs from 1000 ft; 1 aimed at each trawler. First undershot by 400 yds, second undershot by 150 yds; decks machine-gunned from 800 ft. 1 bundle leaflets dropped. 1 trawler altered course slightly. 1902 resumed course. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2243. Weather: - In position 46.10 N - 10.30 W. Visibility 3 miles. 10/10 cloud at 3500 ft, 1500 ft. thick. Fine. Sea - rough.

Crew: - Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird
Aus. 415062 F/Sgt. Watts
Aus. 411298 P/O. Dawson
Aus. 420200 F/O. Hughes
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall
F/Sgt. Stewart
Sgt. Field
Aus. 411160 F/Sgt. Mackellar
Aus. 414608 Sgt. Temple
Sgt. Salisbury
Aus. 420365 Sgt. Weeks

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

O.R.B. 2.6.43 **ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.**

Sunderland EJ.134, captained by Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker airborne Pembroke Dock 1331 on Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. 1900 GZPL 5440 sighted and attacked by 8 Ju.88s 6 miles distant on Port quarter flying in three formations, 4 together and 2 formations of 2 immediately behind; Course approximately 180 T, height 3000 ft. Captain of N/461, hoping they had not been seen by the E/A, made for cloud cover (about 3/10 stratus at 2000 ft). Jus immediately gave chase forming for attack 3 on each beam 1500 yds distant and 1500 ft. above, and 1 on each quarter at same height and distance. N/461 jettisoned bombs and D.Cs (safe). Jus on Port and Starboard beam attacked in pairs, 1 from each side diving towards N/461's bow. E/A from Port bow got direct hit on Port Outer Engine of N/461 setting it on fire. Captain extinguished fire with Graviner switch, but dense white smoke came from the engine which became u/s. The P4 Compass was also hit, the alcohol being set alight and igniting the Captain's clothing. The First Pilot took over while the fire was put out. Evasive action was taken subsequently, the E/A making at least 20 attacks in the same manner as the first. One JU after attacking from the Starboard beam passed over the midships gunner who fired a long burst at point-blank range, scoring hits on Engine and Cockpit and causing the E/A to burst into flames and crash into the sea. Later the nose and mid-gunners destroyed second Ju.88 which attacked from the Port side, the E/A

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being seen to dive into the sea and break up. A third Ju.88 after being hit by mid and tail gunners was seen to crash into the sea on N/461's Port quarter. The remaining five E/A continued their attacks, one being hit by the nose gunner, causing the Port Engine to take fire and smoke to pour from the Cockpit. It is estimated that every E/A received hits. During the combat innumerable hits were sustained by N/461, damaging the Tail-turret Hydraulics, Rudder and Elevator trimming wires, Radio, Inter-communication, as well as holing the hull in many places. In addition the P.S engine later seized up and its propellor fell off. During a climbing attack from below the Starboard quarter one of the E/A shot the Starboard Galler gunner in stomach and leg, his wounds proving fatal 20 mins later. This was 540285 Sgt. Miles, E. C.E. F/Engineer. The Navigator, Aus. 403778 F/O. Simpson was wounded by shrapnel in the leg, and the rear-gunner, F/Sgt. Goode, R. Aus. 407499 was rendered temporarily unconscious by being thrown against the turret during the very violent evasive action being taken. The action finally ended at 1945 hours when the 2 E/A which were still in the vicinity broke away heading Eastwards, having presumably reached their P.L.E. Nearly all N/461's ammunition was expended. 1955 position unknown, set course 030 degs. calling base on dinghy radio as W/T was u/s. In view of damage N/461 was beached at Marazion. 2248 Weather: - Noted, but particulars not available.

Crew: - Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker
Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling
Aus. 411112 P/O. Amiss
Aus. 403778 P/O. Simpson
Sgt. Miles
Aus. 26697 Sgt. Turner
E/Sgt. Fuller
Aus. 405083 F/Sgt. Miller
Aus. 414701 Sgt. Lane
Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson
Aus. 407499 F/Sgt. Goode

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary No. 205

Sunderland N/461 - Captain F/Lt. Walker
1900 - 2nd June, 1943. 45.54 N. - 10.20 W. Bay of Biscay.

Aircraft on A/S Patrol flying at 2,000 feet, was attacked by 8 Ju.88s which had formed up, three on either beam at 1500 yards distant and 1500 feet above 'N' and one on each quarter at the same distance and height. "N" jettisoned bombs and D.C.s safe. The Ju.88s on both beams turned in to attack in pairs, one from either side diving towards "N" bows. The first enemy aircraft to attack from port bow hit and set on fire "N"s port outer engine. The fire was extinguished but engine became u/s. Another shot from some burst started a fire forward which ignited the Captain's clothing. This fir was also got under control. At this point the first pilot took control and carried out evasive action. Enemy aircraft continued to attack using same tactis and making at least 20 attacks. During the first midships gunner fired a long burst point blank at an enemy aircraft breaking away from its attack. The Ju.88 burst into flames, crashed into the sea and broke up. During the next two attacks on "N" the rudder and elevator trimming wires were shot away; the tail turret was damaged and the rear gunner rendered temporarily unconscious. The Captain had now reassumed control. The 'midships and nose gunner now accounted for another Ju.88 which dived into the sea in flames and disintegrated. Durint the same attack the starboard galley gunner was fatally wounded by shots from a Ju.88 making a climbing attack from starboard quarter. Simultaneously the port galley gunner

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warded off a climbing attack from an enemy aircraft on port quarter. A third Ju.88 was shot down into the sea by the 'midships and tail gunner. The intercommunication now became U/S; evasive action was controlled by hand signals and the gunners fires independently. The navigator got a shrapnel wound in the leg and the radio and air speed indicator became U/S. The remaining 5 Ju.88s continued to press their attacks and one coming in from starboard received a burst of fire from the nose gunner and was last seen with port engine ablaze and smoke coming from the cockpit. Enemy aircraft continued attacking until 1945, when only two Ju.88s were seen near "N". Shortly after, these two broke away and flew off east. It is estimated that all the enemy aircraft received hits.

Claim. 3 Ju.88 Destroyed
1 Ju.88 Damaged.

Air Ministry Bulletin No. 10486

Sunderland Destroys 3 Ju.88s: Fights off 8.

Attacked by eight Ju.88s in the Bay of Biscay a Royal Australian Air Force Sunderland flying boat operating under Coastal Command scored hits on all the enemy, shooting down three and probably destroying a fourth. The Sunderland was set on fire in the encounter but with one member of his crew dead and four, including himself, injured, the captain brought his aircraft back over nearly 300 miles of sea to land in the west of England about midnight last night.

The Sunderland was on anti-submarine patrol in the Bay approaches when it was sighted by the enemy aircraft which immediately gave chase and took up attack formation - three on either side and two on the tail.

"The Jus. then attacked in pairs from the beam" said the captain of the Sunderland, F/Lt. Colin Walker. "The leading aircraft on the port and starboard beam 'peeling off' and diving on us.

"The first shells from the port attacker set our port outer engine on fire. We extinguished that but another shell from the same aircraft broke the compass in front of me and set the alcohol ablaze. It ran all over the bridge and set fire to my trousers. My first pilot's clothes also caught fire but we managed to put the flames out with a fire extinguisher. We were both slightly burned.

"The Ju.88s made about 20 attacks in this manner. One of them on the starboard side was the first to be hit by us. The midship's gunner caught him at point blank range. His cockpit and one of the engines burst into flames and he dived steeply into the sea."

The Sunderland's rear turret hydraulics were shot away by the second pair of the enemy to attack.

They also peppered the rudder and elevators and there were dozens of holes in the helm. The co-pilot who had taken over the controls when the fire started on the bridge, was taking such violent evasive action that the sudden jamming of the tail turret when the hydraulic system was shattered, threw the gunner heavily against one of the guns and almost knocked him out. He is still suffering from concussion and shock.

"Then", said the captain "we got our second enemy aircraft.

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As he was breaking away after attacking, one of the midship's gunners put a long burst into him and he dived straight into the sea."

Another Ju. which had dived on the Sunderland made a climbing turn to attack and one of his shell bursts exploded in the galley. A galley gunner was hit and died 20 minutes later.

The tail gunner regained consciousness and both he and one of the Midships gunners opened heavy fire on one of the enemy, which broke away and crashed into the sea. Meanwhile the port galley gunner drove off another enemy aircraft.

"There seemed Jus. all around" commented the captain. "Their shells seemed to be spattering all over the place. Our wireless was hit by a shell and the navigator was wounded in the leg by shrapnel.

"The five remaining aircraft continued to attack. One of them cut in from the starboard bow and the nose gunner got in a good burst. His port engine burst into flames and smoke billowed out of his cockpit. We didn't see what happened to him. The other Junkers then stood off for a few minutes and finally turned away. I'M sure we scored hits on all of them during the action."

Air Ministry Bulletin No. 10499

Air Minister Congratulates Sunderland Crew.

The Secretary of State for Air, Sir Archibald Sinclair, has sent congratulations to the R.A.A.F. crew of a Coastal Command Sunderland which shot down three Ju.88s and probably destroyed a fourth when the flying boat was attacked by eight enemy aircraft over the Bay of Biscay on June 2nd, 1943.

The message, which was sent through the A.O.C. in C. Coastal Command (Air Marshal Sir John Slessor) was as follows: -

"Please convey my congratulations to the crew of the Sunderland of a R.A.A.F. Squadron for their outstandingly gallant and successful action with a formation of Ju.88s over the Bay of Biscay - signed, Archibald Sinclair.

The A.O.C. in C., in forwarding this message to the squadron, added: -

"Congratulations were never better earned."

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

O.R.B. 2.6.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077 captained by Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1325 - waterborne Mount Batten 0249.

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O.R.B. 3.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, airborne Pembroke Dock 1458 on Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. At 1610 MFB 1 "Abandon patrol. Slider down in position DKPE 4910. Search area. Corvette C3 co-operating. Call sign XHF". Altered course. 1815 MFB 2 "Change frequency to 385 Kcs ETA Corvette 2130" 2016 DKPE 4910 covered square search 2 miles visibility. 2031 DKPE 4305 sighted Glider wreckage and dinghy with 3 survivors. 2050 MTB 1 "Over dinghy with 3 men, position 210 degs / 7 miles from datum" 2053 MFB 3 "I - ETA in position at 2130 B" 2120 MFB 4 "Arrive in 25 mins" 2125 MF Corvette "Send call sign and dashes". This done. 2123 MF Corvette 2 "Bear 340 Ds. position you can see me". 2130 MT Corvette "Will look for you" 2132 MF Corvette "We can see you" Corvette seen by aircraft 15 miles distant. Visibility had increased. 2140 MF Corvette 4 "Change to 2410 Kcs". Made R/T contact but nothing passed. Dropped track of flame floats from dinghy to corvette. Flashed visually to follow flame floats. 2209 Corvette reached dinghy and picked up survivors. Exchanged V/S with Corvette - names of survivors Major T.J. Cooper 42601. Lieut. D.A. Hall 1779297 Sgt. Anton Apoulin 1608391. All well. 2234 MFB 5 "Have you anything for me" 2243 MTB 3 "Survivors safe". Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0250. Weather: - In position 44.50 N - 11.00 W. Visibility 2 miles. 10/10 cloud at 200 ft. Thickness unknown. Poor. Sea - calm.

Crew: - Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 414594 P/O. Park
Aus. 405264 P/O. Sullivan
F/Sgt. Taylor
Sgt. Ferrett
Aus. 15250 Sgt. Bracey
Sgt. Speedie
Aus. 403805 P/O. Forsythe
Aus. 414619 Sgt. Wyeth
P/O. Sherrard

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

O.R.B. 4.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0330 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1100.

O.R.B. 5.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077 captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0410 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1714.

ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1420 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0150.

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O.R.B. 6.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0334 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1544.

ANTI-SUBMARINE DERANGE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Derange Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1423 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0200.

O.R.B. 7.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows airborne Pembroke Dock 0815 on Anti-SUBMARINE PATROL. 1549 sighted ships raft, wooden, with nothing on it. Attempted to sink it by M/G fire. 1737 MFB "Land at Batten - if unsuitable, land at Hamworthy". Waterborne Mount Batten 1835.

O.R.B. 10.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird Airborne Pembroke Dock on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0842 MRBF 3030 starboard outer engine u/s. MTB 1 "WVR - 4 MRBF 3010 - 0842B" D.Cs jettisoned safe. 800 gallons fuel jettisoned. S/C Scillies. 1002 starboard outer propellor fell off. 1030 YXUH 3209 port outer engine becoming u/s. MTB 2 "S.O.S. - YXUH 3209 - 1030B". 1035 YXUH 3712 MTB 3 "Starboard outer propellor gone - port outer dropping revs 1035B" 1046 MFB 1 "49.56 N - 07.05 W" 1048 MFB 2 "MF/DF fix 50.00 N - 06.55W" MTB 4 "BBM - Batten - 1145 - 1048B" Waterborne Mount Batten 1202.

O.R.B. 11.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. CARRIEd out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0817 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2030.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, D.F.C. airborne Pembroke Dock on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1631 5924 sighted C/V 2 miles on starboard beam, course South; unable to investigate owing to low visibility. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2136.

O.R.B. 12.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows airborne Pembroke Dock 0312 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0315 port inner engine u/s. Jettisoned fuel. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0328.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1840 MRBF 3916 sighted 4 a/c believed to be Mosquitos, flying very low. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1559 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0310.

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O.R.B. 13.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger airborne Pembroke Dock 1026 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1814 GXUT 1212 sighted large patch of fresh green flueresecence. Changed to 500 Kcs and circled. Saw and heard nothing. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2220.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.686 captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1557 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0435.

O.R.B. 14.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton airborne Pembroke Dock 0233 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0935 GXBF 4041 sighted 3 500-tons U-boats on surface 6 miles ahead. Aircraft commenced circling within 3 miles radius of U-boats - height 1200 ft. 0936 GXBF 4041 MTB "Have reached objective TOO 0934". 0950 still circling - Sighted V/226 which commenced to attack, causing U-boats to submerg. T/10 followed. V/228 over position 45 seconds after attack and W/461 followed 3 mins later. W/461 failed to locate D.C. scum and did not see marine marker dropped by V/228. Contact was thus lost but aircraft remained in vicinity. 1007 GXBF 4041 sighted 1 Ju.88 on starboard quarter - distance 1 mile at 1000 ft, our aircraft being at 1500 ft. W/461 gained cloud cover and E/A broke away. W/461 then carried out baiting tactics making full use of cloud cover. 1021 GXBF 4041 returned to scene of U-boats submergine - nothing seen. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1435. Weather: - In position 43.30 N - 10.00 W; Vis: 15 miles 8/10 cloud, base 2000 ft, top 6000 to 7000 ft. Showery. Sea - moderate.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows airborne Pembroke Dock 0213 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0915 GXPE 2820 a/c for position GXBF 4531 on receipt of sighting report from T/10. 0955 GCBF s/c along estimated track of U-boats. 1005 GXBF 4507 s/c on creeping line search. 1032 GXBF 5818 passed two Sunderlands (including T/10) on Northerly course. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1345.

O.R.B. 15.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1613 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0345.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.685, captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1622 - Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0250.

O.R.B. 16.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077, captained by Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne

Pembroke Dock 1415 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2120.

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O.R.B. 16.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1415 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2105.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0237 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1332.

O.R.B. 17.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Four unidentified aircraft, one Whitley and one Wellington were sighted. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0930 - waterborne 2039.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0938 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2030.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL

Sunderland JM.685, captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger airborne Pembroke Dock 1359 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1922 WMPE MFB "Land base not later 2230" 2022 MTB "Unable land 2230 BBM 0015 position WMPE 3616 - 1925" 2225 MFB "Land at Poole" Waterborne Hamworthy 0110.

O.R.B. 19.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.686, captainedby Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1327 - waterborne Mount Batten 2353.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Mount Batten 1325 - waterborne Mount Batten 2329.

O.R.B. 20.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, D.F.C. airborne Pembroke Dock 1547 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 2220 DKBF 1222 sighted unidentified a/c 10 miles ahead. Took avoiding action. Waterborne Hamworthy 0335.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1554 - waterborne Hamworthy 0417.

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O.R.B. 21.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL

Sunderland JM.686 captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1333 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0041.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.685 captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1343 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2359.

O.R.B. 23.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1432 - waterborne 0129.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland P.0683, captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1447 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0229.

O.R.B. 24.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1555 - waterborne Mount Batten 0304.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1540 - waterborne Mount Batten 0326.

O.R.B. 25.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1520 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0400.

O.R.B. 26.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0226 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1428.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.685, captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger, airborne Pembroke Dock 0250 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0732 WMLU 1700 sighted what appeared to be wake and swirl of U-boat 5/6 miles dead ahead. Owing to rough sea nothing further was seen. Baiting tactics commenced but abandoned owing to developement of engine trouble. 0856 ZGPE 2323 sighted 1 Ju.88 at 800 ft. Co. 057 closing to 1 mile from 3 miles on Port quarter. Entered could, took evasive action, and lost contact. 1025 MRPE 5432 engine trouble cleared,

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continuing patrol. TOO 1015 sighted from 1800 ft. Co. 038 2 Ju.88s new type - white camouflage - low on water 6 miles on starboard bow on Co. 110-120 E/A continued course for 2/3 mins, turned and approached till 4 miles distant where they took up parallel course at 1500 ft. X/461 entered cloud and took evasive action. 1055 PCPE 4818 sighted large barrel and numerous pieces of timber floating on water. 1432 waterborne Pembroke Dock. Weather: - In position 43.50 N - 10.10 W, Visibility 6 miles. 10/10 cloud over patrol area varying from 800 to 1000 ft. Very hazy. Sea, rough.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke, airborne Pembroke Dock 1500 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0043 YXLU 4719 sighted one-star green Pyrotechnic, estimated fired from surface of sea. Aircraft was at 1500 ft. and pyrotechnic reached same height. Aircraft did not investigate owing to it being very dark at the time and also the aircraft was approaching PLE. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0257.

O.R.B. 27.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1521 - waterborne 0332.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 403868 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. AirbornePembroke Dock 1453 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0238.

O.R.B. 28.6.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton, airborne Pembroke Dock 0257 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0330 Port inner engine became u/s. 0337 altered course for base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0420.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland W.6077, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1455 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0315.

O.R.B. 29½6½43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0148 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1220.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.685, captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0233 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1247.

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O.R.B. 30.6.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1543 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0250.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airboen Pembroke Dock 1500 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0310.

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26-8-43.

History of No. 461 Squadron (contd).

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JULY, 1943.

For the first fortnight of this month Wing Commander D.L.G. Douglas, D.F.C. was on leave and Squadron Leader T.A. Egerton was temporarily in Command of the Squadron.

JULY 9th, 1943. AWARD. The award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Aus. 402071 F/Lt. F.B. Gascoigne, was announced in the 'London Gazette' today.

JULY 10th, 1943. VISIT. Air Chief Marshal Sir. E.R. Ludlow-Hewitt, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C., Inspector General of the Royal Air Force, together with Air Marshal J.C. Slessor, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Coastal Command visited the Squadron.

JULY 13th, 1943. ATTACK ON ENEMY SUBMARINE. While on anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird attacked a U-boat with six depth charges, which were reported by rear gunner to straddle the U-boat. Air bubbles and green oil were seen immediately after the attack and an hour later, but no bodies or wreckage were seen. Birds were seen at the spot for 2 - 3 hours afterwards.

JULY 19th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Sunderland, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird was attacked by an enemy aircraft thought to be an Me.210 or Me.410. The Sunderland evaded and no hits were scored by the enemy.

JULY 20th, 1943. While on anti-submarine patrol, Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke and crew sighted two fully surfaced U-boats which opened fire but no hits were scored. Both U-boats then submerged and no attack was made by the Sunderland.

JULY 24th, 1943. AIR SEA RESCUE. While on anti-submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 403216 F/O. Davenport sighted a dinghy with four live survivors and one dead body. Sunderland dropped marine marker and set off for assistance. Sighted three destroyers, which were directed to the dinghy, the Sunderland flying between them until the rescue was completed.

JULY 30th, 1943. ENEMY SUBMARINE SUNK. Sunderland captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows sighted three U-boats with a Halifax and U.S. Liberator circling overhead. Both the Halifax and the Liberator attacked, and while the heavy barrage of flak put up by the U-boats was concentrated on them, the Sunderland attacked, straddling one of the U-boats with seven depth charges. Froth and scum were seen as the U-boat disappeared. The depth charges were dropped from 50 feet, and the U-boat was also machine gunned by the nose and tail gunners, hits being scored. A dinghy was dropped to the 25-30 survivors in the water, after which an escort group arrived to pick them up.

Another U-boat was sighted which was attacked by the nose and tail gunners, hits being scored. The Sunderland was also hit, fire breaking out in the bomb traversing gear, but this was put but by the extinguisher. Sunderland then returned to base landing at Scillies to refuel on the way.

AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland captained by Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls sighted a patch of oil several square miles in area with concentrated patches of debris, and seven dinghies with about 50 survivors. Sunderland then directed surface forces to the scene.

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Copy of Signal from A.O.C.-C.

Please convey my sincere congratulations to all ranks on a splendid month's work against the U-boat. The British and American Anti-Sub squadrons in the U.K. during July have between them beaten all previous records and have shewn that the enemy cannot hope to get away with it by passing through the Bay in packs and fighting back on the surface. Outstanding achievements were the killing of two U-boats out of a pack of three by 228 and 58 Squadrons on 13th July, the destruction of two U-boats ~~by~~ in company by 19 U.S.A.A.F. Squadron on 20th July and the destruction of two separate U-boats by Wellingtons of 172 Squadron by day. The Chief of the Air Staff in particular sends his congratulations on the notable victory on 30th July when a whole pack of three U-boats was destroyed in a brilliant combined action by 502 461 210 228 53 Squadrons and the Second Escort Group of the Royal Navy. It is difficult to exaggerate the importance of these operations to the whole issue of the war. Keep it up.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

JULY, 1943.

O.R.B. 1.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3.

Sunderland W.6077 captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0330 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1501.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.685 captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1439 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0122.

O.R.B. 2.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3R.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0250 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1425.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3 REVERSED.

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860, F/Lt. Cooke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1525 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0247.

O.R.B. 3.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - C.L.A.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400297 S/Ldr. Smith, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0235 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1537.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - C.L.A.

Sunderland W.6077, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0239 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1531.

O.R.B. 4.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3 REVERSED.

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0325 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1508.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1445 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0208.

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O.R.B. 5.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2.

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0326. 0915 LDYE 0313 intercepted sighting report by H/10 and set course for position given. 0932 KBMA 3743 sighted H/10 circling Smoke Float marking D.C. scum left after H/10's attack. 0950 KBMA 3743 dropped Marine Marker and set course for baiting. 1032 over own Marker - nothing seen of Sub. or of H/10. 1438 FNAK 0119 searched for raft following interception of signal - nothing sighted. Weather fine with haze. Visibility - 5 miles. Sea - moderate. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1600.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3R.

Sunderland JM.685, captained by Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1445 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0202.

O.R.B. 6.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1R.

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake airborne Pembroke Dock 0226 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0230 Starboard Inner Engine on fire. 0236 Jettisoned D.C's (safe). 0237 Extinguished fire. 0248 Landed Pembroke Dock 0248.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1 R.

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0156 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1311.

O.R.B. 7.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2R.

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1526 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0330.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3R.

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1447 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0315.

O.R.B. 8.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3R.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400297 S/Ldr. Smith, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0327 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1540

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2 REVERSED.

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1450 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0210.

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O.R.B. 9.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - SEARCH FOR DAMAGED SUBMARINE.

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock 1500 to search for damaged submarine. 1825 set course for base owing to oil leak in port outer engine giving very high oil consumption. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2217.

O.R.B. 12.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Rembroke Dock 0653 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1913.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3.

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0709 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1905.

O.R.B. 13.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1.

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock 1547 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0747 STDX 4747 MFB 1 "Hunt U-boat in position SGYE 0246 - surface vessels there". 1945 EKYE 4022 attacked U-boat with 6 D.Cs. U-boat, which appeared to be of 740-ton type, was first sighted from 500 ft. at a distance of 1500-2000 yards, and was apparently taken by surprise. Aircraft attacked from Port bow of U-boat, dropping six D.Cs which were reported by Rear Gunner to straddle U-boat. Air-bubbles and green oil were seen both immediately after attack and about an hour later, and also a large number of birds was seen at the spot for 2-3 hours afterwards. No bodies or wreckage were seen. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0358.

Crew: - Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird
Aus. 415062 F/Sgt. Watts
Aus. 411298 P/O. Dobson
Aus. 420200 F/O. Hughes
F/Sgt. Williams
F/Sgt. Stewart
Sgt. Field
Aus. 411160 F/Sgt. MacKellar
Aus. 414608 F/Sgt. Temple
Aus. 426386 Sgt. Perry
Aus. 420365 F/Sgt. Weeks

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary No. 211.

Sunderland S/461 - Captain F/Lt. Baird
1945 - 13th July, 1943. 46.40N - 09.38W. Bay of Biscay.

Aircraft on A/S patrol attacked U-Boat which had been submerged for 17 seconds. Aircraft attacked from 50 degrees on port bow of U-Boat's track, releasing from 25 feet six 250 lb. Torpex depth charges, set at 25 feet, spaced 60 feet. Depth charges straddled U-Boat's track about 80 yards ahead of the swirl. Five to ten minutes later, air bubbles and green oil were seen in the centre of the depth charge scum and down the track of the U-Boat. Further inspection about an hour later showed oil patches at intervals of 200 to 300 yards down the U-Boat's track. No bodies or wreckage seen, but large number of seagulls and other birds remained over the spot for 2 to 3 hours.

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O.R.B. 13.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3.

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. airborne Pembroke Dock 1526 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 2235 EKYE 4214 over Marine Markers dropped by Aircraft "S" of 461 Squadron in attack on U-boat. Commenced search for U-boat but nothing seen. Weather fine. Visibility 30 miles. Sea - calm. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0305.

O.R.B. 14.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3.

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling, airborne Pembroke Dock On Anti-Submarine Patrol, 0404. Patrol cut short owing to bad weather - no sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1410.

O.R.B. 15.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3.

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, airborne Pembroke Dock 1224 on Anti-Submarine patrol but returned to base owing to engine trouble. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1330.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1215 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0005.

O.R.B. 16.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0245 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1407.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1.

Sunderland W.6050, captained by Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls, airborne Pembroke Dock 0910 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1130 ZZAA 5212 sighted two ship's rafts and numerous bits of wreckage - no sign of life. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1919.

O.R.B. 17.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2.

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0257 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1456.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3.

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0225 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1536.

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O.R.B. 19.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird,, airborne Pembroke Dock 0300 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0652 FKTZ 5413 sighted an aircraft identified later as Me.210 or Me.410. This a/c attacked but was evaded with the aid of CLOUD cover. No hits were sustained by "S"/461 nor did the E/A come within range of "S" guns. "S"/ resumed patrol after five minutes. Weather fine. Visibility 15 miles. Sea - calm. waterborne Pembroke Dock 1527.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti- Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1453 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0225.

O.R.B. 20.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2.

Sunderland W.6050 , captained by Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls, airborne Pembroke Dock 0304 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0930 FKJE 5830 intercepted sighting report from P/461 but unable to proceed to position given owing to shortage of petrol. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1440.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1.

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, airborne Pembroke Dock 0324 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0920 FKTZ 3508 sighted two U-boats on surface four miles distant - circled and shadowed at 3/4 miles range. 0930 both U-boats opened fire with heavy fairly accurate flak from fore and aft positions. No hits. 1004 commenced homing. 1032 joined by Liberator and at 1040 by a second Liberator, neither replied to V/S. Both U-boats submerged. Dropped sea-marker. U-boats were very large type with large conning tower and high bow, mounting a large gun fore and aft and at least one group of four 40-mm light AA guns aft of conning tower. Weather showery. Visibility 5-8 miles.

O.R.B. 21.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2.

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1515 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0312

O.R.B. 22.7.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3.

Sunderland EJ.133, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0259 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1455.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2.

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0216 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1346.

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O.R.B. 24.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2R.

Sunderland JM.685, captained by Aus. 403216 F/O. Davenport, airborne Pembroke Dock 1018 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1631 KHTZ 3024 circled by U.S. Liberator which fired two Star red cartridges. Followed Liberator and at 1645 KHTZ 0742 found Dinghy with four live survivors and one dead body in water nearby. Dropped Marine Marker and proceeded for assistance. 1726 KHFZ 3623 over three destroyers which followed a/c in accordance with signalled instructions. a/c then flew between dinghy and Drs until 1900 when Drs commenced rescue, completed at 1920, when a/c set course for base. Weather good with haze. Visibility 5 miles. Sea - calm.

Crew: -
Aus. 403216 F/O. Davenport
Aus. 420692 P/O. Lucas
Aus. 411298 P/O. Dobson
Aus. 403417 F/O. Kennedy
F/Sgt. Fowles
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell
P/O. Gander-Smith
Aus. 406514 P/O. Bird
Aus. 401696 F/Sgt. Jones
Aus. 415748 Sgt. Woolhouse
Aus. 420639 Sgt. Craig

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3R.

Sunderland W.6050, captained by Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0942 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2225.

O.R.B. 26.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3R.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 411841 F/O. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0202 - waterborne 1345 Pembroke Dock.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1R.

Sunderland W.6077, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0259 - diverted to Mount Batten owing to weather, and waterborne Mount Batten 1419.

O.R.B. 27.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1R.

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0620 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1320.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2R.

Sunderland W.6050, captained by Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0615 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1308.

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O.R.B. 28.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2R.

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, airborne Pembroke Dock 1517 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1520 Starboard Inner Engine failed and after picking up for a time failed again at 1602 when a/c S/C for base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1625.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1R.

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1553 - diverted to Lough Erne. Waterborne Lough Erne 0530.

O.R.B. 29.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3R.

Sunderland EJ.133, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0254 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1452.

O.R.B. 30.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3R.

Sunderland W.6077, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows airborne Pembroke Dock 0248 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 1148 FKJE 4200 three U-boats estimated to be of 740 tons type, with a Halifax and a U.S. Liberator circling overhead. Halifax attacked, appearing to score a hit on stern, brown smoke issuing. "U" attempted to attack same U-boat but was twice prevented by heavy barrage from all three U-boats. The Liberator then made an unsuccessful attack with D.Cs and while the flak from the U-boats was concentrated on the Liberator "U" succeeded in straddling the U-boat with 7 D.Cs producing quantities of froth and scum as U-boat disappeared. The D.Cs were dropped from 50 feet, and the U-boat was also machine-gunner by nose and tail gunners, hits being scored. Heavy flak from the other two U-boats was experienced and at first prevented photographs being taken, but later the 25-30 survivors in the water were photographed, and also a dinghy was dropped to them, into which a number were seen to get. "U" then attempted to attack the U-boat which seemed to be the leader of the pack, but had to break off owing to heavy fire from an escort group which had arrived, and to which was made a V/S reporting the U-boat survivors in the water. 1245 SPJE 1527 another U-boat of 570 tons type, was sighted fully surfaced and attacked by both nose and tail gunners, hits being scored, and also sustained by the aircraft. The remaining D.C. could not be dropped owing to the leads having been shot away. At this time, fire broke out in the bomb traversing gear, being put out by extinguisher. The aircraft S/C for the Scillies owing to shortage of petrol, jettisoning the D.C. on the way. A landing was made at the Scillies, and after re-fuelling, "U" took off and proceeded to base, finally landing at 1827. Weather fine but hazy. Visibility 2-4 miles. Sea - slight.

Crew: - Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Marrows
Aus. 401976 P/O. Leigh
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin
Aus. 401584 F/O. Rolland
Sgt. Watson
Aus. 14455 Sgt. Pearce
Aus. 403592 F/O. Jenson
Aus. 414314 F/Sgt. Morgan
Aus. 10530 Sgt. Bamber

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Coastal Command Intelligence Summary, No. 213.

Sunderland U/461, R.A.A.F. - Captain F/Lt. Marrows. 1205 - 30th July, 1943. 45.42 N. - 11.00 W. N.W. of Cape Ortegal.

Aircraft on A/S Patrol attacked one of 3 U-boats from a height of 50 feet , releasing five 250 lb. Torpex depth charges setting 25 feet spacing 60 feet. Aircraft attacked from port and stick of depth charges straddled forward of conning tower. 25 Survivors were seen in the debris. Aircraft dropped dinghy and reported position to surface craft in the vicinity.

Remarks: - This attack occurred during the biggest pitched battle that has yet been staged in the Bay. During the course of the melee, 'U'/461 seized an opportunity to deliver this kill by brilliant manoeuvring.

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary, No. 213.

Sunderland U/461, R.A.A.F. - Captain F/Lt. Marrows. 1245 - 30th July, 1943. 46.01 N. -10.08 W. N.W. of Cape Ortegal.

Aircraft on A/S Patrol sighted surfaced U-boat and attempted to attack with one remaining depth charge which, however, hung up owing to damage to aircraft. Hits were registered with machine gun fire.

Air Ministry Bulletin No. 11407.

U-BOAT FORMATION ANNIHILATED.

In the greatest single victory of the war against U-boats operating in the Bay of Biscay, a formation of three was annihilated by aircraft of Coastal Command and the U.S.A.A.F., and by sloops of the Royal Navy, in an engagement which lasted less than six hours.

A R.A.A.F. Sunderland and a Halifax of Coastal Command "killed" two of the U-boats while the Navy destroyed the third. Survivors from two of the U-boats were taken prisoner and brought back to England. Together seven aircraft and a group of sloops were involved in the battle.

The U-boat formation was moving in close order at full speed on the surface when it was first sighted by Liberator "O" at 0945 in the morning. An immediate wireless signal was sent out, and within an hour and a half six more aircraft had reached the scene while a group of naval sloops were steaming full speed towards the formation.

First a Catalina and a Sunderland appeared, followed closely by a Liberator of the U.S.A.A.F., operating in the command. The Catalina flew off to guide the naval sloops to the target, and soon afterwards a R.A.A.F. Sunderland and two Halifaxes joined the aircraft already in action.

The U-boats made no attempt to submerge but, maintaining close order and manoeuvring in tight "S" turns and twists, kept up an extremely heavy and accurate barrage of anti-aircraft fire.

Halifax "B " was the first aircraft to attack. On the run-up it was holed in the starboard elevator and its anti-U-boat bombs overshot the target, but the front-gunner saw his bullets straddle the enemy's decks.

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A few minutes later, the second Halifax, "S" for Sugar" attacked. The captain, a Dutchman known to his squadron a "The Flying Dutchman" picked out the starboard U-boat and made his run from dead astern, coming out of the sun. He dropped one anti-submarine bomb which exploded close to the stern of the U-boat. Dark smoke was seen streaming from its conning-tower as it broke out of the explosion plume and began circling slowly to starboard. Almost at the same time the R.A.A.F. Sunderland "U" attempted to attack the same U-boat, but was forced to turn away by the heavy curtain of fire from all three submarines.

Circling rapidly, the captain of the Sunderland, Flight Lieutenant D. Marrows, saw that the U-boats were now concentrating on the R.A.F. Liberator, which was attacking the port U-boat. The Liberator was so seriously damaged by flak fire that the pilot had to break off the action and head for land, which he reached successfully.

Taking swift advantage of this distraction, F/Lt. Marrows headed for the same U-boat and ran straight in. At 1,000 yards the U-boat swivelled its guns on to the Sunderland, but the flying-boat's nose-gunner opened fire and swept the German gunners off the deck.

The aircraft dropped its depth charges just forward of the conning-tower, and as the plumes subsided the navigator saw the U-boat surge forward and disappear.

"Our stick of depth charges fell right across the U-boat, which began to glide under at once, seemingly out of control" F/Lt. Marrows said. "By this time we were getting over the other U-boats, both of which gave us some very heavy fire. I had to take violent evasive action. Only one cannon shell hit us - in the starboard wing.

"When we came around again we could see 25 to 30 of the Germans swimming in the water and a great deal of debris floating about. We were being fired on heavily all the time, but we took photographs and dropped a dinghy to the survivors."

The first U-boat had been destroyed.

Meanwhile, the U.S.A.A.F. Liberator attacked the U-boat which had been damaged by Halifax "S". This U-boat replied with cannon and machine-gun fire and a shell hit the aircraft's bomb bay, severing the bomb control cable. The depth charges hung up as a result of this damage, but the Liberator's gunners raked the U-boat's deck so effectively that when Halifax "S" made another attack a few minutes later, no flak fire was experienced.

"It was a marvellous show both by the Halifax and the Sunderland" Lieutenant A.L. Leal, the captain of the American Liberator said. "When we saw the Sunderland making an attack we followed him in but were badly shot up, and the cable in the bomb bay cut. This was our first attack despite many patrols, and it gave us a tremendous thrill, although we were disappointed that we could not drop our load."

"Our gunner did some very good work" Lieutenant L.D. Butler, second pilot of the aircraft said, "there was smoke coming from the conning-tower as we passed over. Both the Sunderland and ourselves were taking a great deal of flak. We were close to the sub. and he was firing at us, but when the Sunderland closed in the other Nazis switched their fire to him. He put up a grand show."

Halifax "S" then circled for a third attack. "Before we attacked our U-boat we saw the German putting up a protective cone of greyish-white and red tracer fire. It was good shooting, but we pressed through" said the "Flying Dutchman". "After our third attack smoke continued to stream from the U-boat, and it came to a standstill.

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"We were right over it as it began to go down slowly. As she sank lower and lower more and more men came running along the deck and jumping into the water. We saw a lot of one-man dinghies and one or two larger ones. When only the conning-tower was left above water we saw shell splashes off to one side. The Navy had arrived and the sloops were shelling our U-boat. They were too late for this one though, and all the men had jumped overboard."

Taking advantage of the momentary preoccupation of the aircraft with the second U-boat, the third crash-dived. But one of the aircraft reached the spot a few seconds later and dropped a marker. In a few minutes the naval sloops were over the exact spot and were seeking their prey.

For more than three hours the sloops patterned the area with depth charges. Then wreckage and oil floated to the surface. Scientific tests showed that the third U-boat had been destroyed.

Crew of R.A.A.F. Sunderland U/461: -

Captain: - F/Lt. D. Marrows, 27 Steward Avenue, Parkdall, Victoria
1st Pilot: - P/O. Leigh, 10 Windsor Crescent, Surrey Hills, Victoria
2nd Pilot: - P/O. Taplin, Midland Junction, Western Australia
Navigator: - F/O. Rolland, Salem, Victoria
Ft./Eng: - Sgt. Warson, 38 Holly Bank Avenue, Ranelegh, Dublin.
F.M.E.: - Sgt. A.N. Pearce, Orange Grove, Seven Hills, N.S.W.
WOP/AG: - F/O. Jenson, 42, Western Crescent, Gladesville, Sydney
WOP/AG: - F/Sgt. H.H. Morgan, Horseshoe Creek, Kyogle, N.S.W.
WOP/AG: - F/Sgt. Webster, High Street, St. Kilda, Melbourne.
Rigger: - Sgt. Bamber, 4 Avoca Street, Camberwell, Melbourne
Rear Gunner: - Sgt. Sidney, 32 Section Avenue, Coogee, N.S.W.
Air Gunner: - F/Sgt. J. Tainer, West Derby, Liberpool.

Photographs of the attack may be found in the Operations Records Book of 461 Squadron.

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

O.R.B. 30.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1R.

Sunderland W.6050, captained by Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls, airborne Pembroke Dock 0844 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. Searched as instructed for U-boat. 1544 GBBE 3542 found school of large whales. 1658 FKJE 2226 sighted large patch of oil several miles in area with concentrated patches of debris, and later about 7 dinghies with about 50 survivors. 1717 a/c directed a nearby escort group to the scene and at 1719 proceeded for base owing to shortage of fuel. Weather fine but hazy. Visibility 12-14 miles. Sea - moderate to heavy swell. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2144.

Crew: - Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls
Aus. 412498 F/O. Dawson
Aus. 416342 Sgt. Jorgensen
F/Sgt. Rees
Aus. 412999 F/O. Moffat
Sgt. Taylor
Aus. 403455 W/O. Druhan
W/O. Webb, S.F.M.
Aus. 411354 W/O. Mackie
Aus. 40745 F/Sgt. Pollock-Russell
Aus. 411464 F/O. Tegart

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

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O[redacted].B. 31.7.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3R.

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 411841 F/O. Singleton, airborne Pembroke Dock 0230 on Anti-Submarine Patrol. 0325 PLUN 0652/ S/C for Base owing to engine trouble.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2R.

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0244 - Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1335.

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1st August, 1943.

NOMINAL ROLL 461 SQUADRON.

Aus. 171 W/Cdr. Douglas, D.L.G. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 403860 F/Lt. Cooke, H.G., D.F.C. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 401072 F/Lt. Manger, F.V. of Echuca, Victoria
Aus. 400297 F/Lt. Smith, E.C., D.F.C., of Thorpedale, Victoria
Aus. 404610 F/Lt. Walker, C.B. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke, I.A.F. of Footscray, Victoria
Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows, D. of Parkdale, Victoria
Aus. 404944 F/O. Wetherlake, J.G.P. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 411112 P/O. Amiss, J.C. of Hawthron, Victoria
Aus. 403216 F/O. Davenport, P.R. of Blakehurst, N.S.W.
Aus. 412498 F/O. Dawson, C.J. of GlenInnis, N.S.W.
Aus. 411298 P/O. Dobson, J.S.B. of Dee Why, N.S.W.
Aus. 400788 P/O. Dowling, W.T.J. of Caulfield, Victoria
Aus. 401956 F/O. Howe, B.S.P. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 420692 P/O. Lucas, R.D. of Bondi, N.S.W.
Aus. 401999 F/O. Newton, R. of Elwood, Victoria
Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls, J.B. of Lane Cove, N.S.W.
Aus. 414594 P/O. Park, J. of Bundaberg, Queensland
Aus. 400841 F/O. Singleton, G.O. of St. Kilda, Victoria
Aus. 402071 F/Lt. Gascoigne, F.B. of East Malvern, Victoria, D.F.C.
Aus. 402193 F/Lt. Watson, J.H.F. Surrey, England
Aus. 403568 F/O. Dyason, V.H. of Lindfield, N.S.W.
Aus. 401233 F/O. Fairway, T.P. of Elwood, Victoria
Aus. 403417 F/O. Kennedy, D.H. of Manilla, N.S.W.
Aus. 401584 F/O. Rolland, J.S. of Sale, Victoria
Aus. 403778 F/O. Simpson, K.M. of Manby, N.S.W.
Aus. 405284 P/O. Sullivan, J.F. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 401356 F/O. Winstanley, H.E., D.F.C., of Geelong, Victoria
Aus. 403592 F/O. Jensen, P.T. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 403319 F/O. Critcher, E.R.
Aus. 411464 F/O. Tegart, A.R. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 407210 F/O. Viner, G. of ~~Kirkby~~ Unley, S.A.
Aus. 412751 F/Sgt. Tamsett, J.A. of Double Bay, N.S.W.
Aus. 415195 F/Sgt. Taplin, P.E. of Midland Junction, W.A.
Aus. 401976 F/Sgt. Leigh, P.C. of Surrey Hills, Victoria
Aus. 415062 F/Sgt. Watts, R.S. of Subiaco, W.A.
Aus. 416005 F/Sgt. Pfeiffer, P. G. of Point Pass, S.A.
Aus. 402914 F/Sgt. Bateup, R.J. of Yass, N.S.W.
Aus. 406514 P/O. Bird, P.C. of Bunbury, W.A.
Aus. 403455 F/Sgt. Druhan, T.P. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 403805 P/O. Forsythe, A. of Redhead, N.S.W.
Aus. 405105 F/Sgt. Gamble, J. of Gympie, Queensland
Aus. 401696 F/Sgt. Jones, I.C. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 405228 F/Sgt. Lewis, J. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 411160 F/Sgt. Mackellar, R.C. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 411534 F/Sgt. Mackie, W. of Hay, N.S.W.
Aus. 405083 F/Sgt. Miller, H.A. of Lismore, N.S.W.
Aus. 406535 F/Sgt. Ovens, H.R. of York, W.A.
Aus. 405098 F/Sgt. Stevens, J.R. of Kingaroy, Queensland
Aus. 3932 F/Lt. Egerton, T.A. of Williamston, Victoria
Aus. 405119 F/O. Baird, R.D.J. of Lismore, N.S.W.
Aus. 405144 P/O. Wilson, L.W. of Crabbe s Creek, N.S.W.
Aus. 411014 F/Sgt. Eaton, L.G. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 401562 F/Sgt. Hattam, R. of Mentone, Victoria
Aus. 412167 F/Sgt. Mayne, A.O. of Chullora, N.S.W.
Aus. 407449 F/Sgt. Goode, R.M. of Henley Beach, S.A.
Aus. 402617 F/Sgt. Sidney, D.C. of Coogee, N.S.W.
Aus. 400411 P/O. Grainger, J.C. of Elwood, Victoria
Aus. 409326 P/O. Sinclair, D.A. of Rosanna, Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 412385 F/O. Bushell, G.J. of Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.
Aus. 406929 F/O. Eastwood, G.R. of Lower Chittering, W.A.

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Aus. 420200 F/O. Hughes, D.Q. of Newcastle, N.S.W.
Aus. 412999 F/O. Moffatt, D.W. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 5906 P/O. Petherick, A.C.H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 402547 F/Sgt. See, T.F. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 405705 F/Sgt. Wolfe, U.J. of Pittsworth, Queensland
Aus. 413954 F/Sgt. Brodie, L.F. of Charleville, Queensland
Aus. 5761 Sgt. Cox, L.W. of Wagga, N.S.W.
Aus. 9429 Sgt. Hall, H. of Moonee Ponds, Victoria
Aus. 3594 Sgt. Lewis, O.H. of Willunga, S.A.
Aus. 26618 Sgt. Russell, J. of Croydon, S.A.
Aus. 3942 Sgt. Taylor, A.J. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 26697 Sgt. Turner, P.K. of Cowell, S.A.
Aus. 6739 P/O. Woodland, W.A. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 6612 A/Sgt. Hammond, R. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 6615 A/Sgt. Moore, J.A. of Kingaroy, Queensland
Aus. 14455 A/Sgt. Pearce, A.N. of Seven Hills, N.S.W.
Aus. 10530 A/Sgt. Bamber, P. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 15250 A/Sgt. Bracey, V.H. of Summer Hill, N.S.W.
Aus. 23074 A/Sgt. Hughes, P.B. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 26588 A/Sgt. Watson, L.S. of Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft, C.R. of Newcastle, N.S.W.
Aus. 420138 F/O. Carmody, D.K. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 400976 F/O. Galt, D.T. of Middle Brighton, Victoria
Aus. 405404 F/O. Gipps, R De V. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 400133 F/O. Luxton, W.H. of Dandenong, Victoria
Aus. 402809 F/O. Peatty, L.V.R. of Granville, N.S.W.
Aus. 420265 F/O. Prentice, R.H. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 416330 P/O. Fischer, R.J. of Berri, S.A.
Aus. 421266 P/O. Gloor, A.V. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 425023 P/O. Kennedy, J. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 420803 P/O. McDermott, J.D. of Hurlstone, Park, N.S.W.
Aus. 10780 P/O. Dunn, W.V. of Kaniva, Victoria
Aus. 410217 P/O. Crighton, J.W. of Thornbury, Victoria
Aus. 410219 P/O. Davidson, G.H. of South Gippsland, Victoria
Aus. 425290 P/O. Evers, A.E. Ipswich, Queensland
Aus. 416130 P/O. Roberts, H.D. of St. Kilda, Victoria
Aus. 424324 P/O. Morse, S.R. of Bellevue Hill, N.S.W.
Aus. 414701 F/Sgt. Lane, A. of Upper Coomera, Queensland
Aus. 414314 F/Sgt. Morgan, H.H. of Kyogle, N.S.W.
Aus. 414321 F/Sgt. Royal, J.H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 420365 F/Sgt. Weeks, H.V. of Orange
Aus. 414619 F/Sgt. Wyeth, N.A. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 420639 Sgt. Craig, A.H. of Greenwich, N.S.W.
Aus. 415790 Sgt. Hawthorne, R.O. of Kalgoorlie, W.A.
Aus. 415661 Sgt. Hunter, R.J. of Maylands, W.A.
Aus. 415338 Sgt. Longson, C.D. of Guildford, W.A.
Aus. 421542 Sgt. Norris, R.W. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 20745 Sgt. Pollock, R.E.H. of Tamworth, N.S.W.
Aus. 420051 Sgt. Poulton, J.H. of Roseville, N.S.W.
Aus. 412700 Sgt. Ritchie, G.F. of Parkes, N.S.W.
Aus. 414837 Sgt. Royal, M.A. of Townsville, Queensland
Aus. 415745 Sgt. Studman, L.G. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 414608 Sgt. Temple, J.D. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 410585 Sgt. Thompson, R.N. of Bunnaloo, N.S.W.
Aus. 410797 Sgt. Webster, R.L. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 415748 Sgt. Woolhouse, R.V. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 415749 Sgt. Yeomans, W. of Maremboen, W.A.
Aus. 418247 Sgt. Brewin, P.H. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 417479 Sgt. Gryst, A.B. of Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 425495 Sgt. Edge, J.R. of Malanda, Queensland
Aus. 427096 Sgt. Jaffey, F.L. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 426386 Sgt. Perry, H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 415695 Sgt. Stopher, R.D. of Kalgoorlie, W.A.

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AUGUST, 1943.

AUGUST 2nd, 1943. ENEMY SUBMARINE SUNK. While on Anti-Submarine Patrol Sunderland captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke in conjunction with aircraft of No. 228 Squadron, attacked an enemy U-boat. The U-boat was seen to blow up and thirty or more of the crew to jump overboard.

The following message was received from the Air Officer Commanding No. 19 Group. "Todays operations have been a smashing success. Co-operation between all units have been beyond reproach. Well done and keep it up. They can't keep this pace up for long."

AUGUST 6th, 1943. A dance, which was attended by Group Captain A.M. Carey, Station Commander, and Wing Commander D.L.G. Douglas, D.F.C. Commanding Officer of the Squadron, was held in the Officer's Mess.

AUGUST 8th, 1943. VISIT. Air Commodor Lloyd, Deputy Air Officer Commanding, Coastal Command, visited the Station.

Mr. Norman Wilkinson, R.A. an official War Artist in 1914-1918 is at the Station painting a series of pictures of Coastal Command work.

AUGUST 13th, 1943. SUNDERLAND LOST. Sunderland captained by Aus. 400788 F/O. Dowling took off on Anti-Submarine patrol and failed to return. Last message received was that she was being attacked by six Ju.88s. The crew were: - Aus. 400788 F/O. Dowling, Aus. 400976 F/O. Galt, Aus. 400411 F/O. Grainger, Aus. 403778 F/O. Simpson, D.F.C., Aus. 26697 F/Sgt. Turner, Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson, Aus. 405083 W/O. Miller, F/Sgt. Fuller, D.F.M., Aus. 414701 F/Sgt. Lane, Aus. 415338 F/Sgt. Longson, Aus. 407499 W/O. Goode, D.F.M.

AUGUST 15th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on Anti-Submarine patrol Sunderland captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. Davenport was attacked by six Ju.88s and considerably damaged. Aus. 415748 F/Sgt. Woolhouse, R.V. was killed and Aus. 401696 W/O. Jones, I. was wounded.

AUGUST 16th, 1943. General Arnold, Commanding General of the United States Army Air Force sent the following message to 19 Group.

"Let me add my own congratulations to the men you have already commended on their extraordinary July record against submarines. Their performance has earned them a high place on the roll of victories in our world wide offensive. The United States Army Air Force is proud to have shared with you in this achievement. The effective collaborations between our forces may well be symbolic of our ultimate purpose; complete and unconditional defeat of the common enemy."

AUGUST 24th, 1943. BROADCAST. Aus. 407210 F/O. G. Viner, a member of the Squadron, broadcast in the B.B.C. "Kitchen Front" a talk on "Cooking in a Sunderland."

AUGUST 30th, 1943. SUNDERLAND LOST. Sunderland captained by Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft took off on Anti-Submarine patrol and failed to return, being shot down during an attack by three enemy aircraft. It was seen by a Liberator to crash into the sea. Members of the crew were: - Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft, Aus. 412751 F/O. Tamsett, Aus. 418945 F/Sgt. Harris, Aus. 412385 F/O. Bushell, Sgt. Ferrett, Sgt. Stewart, F/Sgt. Smedley, Aus. 405105 W/O. Gamble, Aus. 415749 F/Sgt. Yeomans, Aus. 412700 F/Sgt. Ritchie, and Aus. 415661 F/Sgt. Hunter.

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STATISTICS FROM FORMATION TO 31.8.43

Operational miles flown 640,000
Number of sorties 475
Enemy Ships & U-boats destroyed 4
Enemy Ships & U-boats probably destroyed 5
Enemy Ships & U-boats damaged 2
Enemy aircraft destroyed 10
Enemy aircraft probably destroyed 7
Enemy aircraft damaged 3

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

AUGUST, 1943

O.R.B. 1.8.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1.

Sunderland EJ.133 captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, airborne Pembroke Dock 0257 on Anti-Submarine patrol. At 0132 an unidentified aircraft, probably an Me.110, was sighted and avoided in the cloud. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1402.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 411841 F/O. Singleton, airborne Pembroke Dock 0522 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1403 JKCA 0351 sighted large oil streak 100 by 880 yards. No bodies or debris seen. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1745.

O.R.B. 2.8.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, airborne Pembroke Dock 1242 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1644 JKAH 5050 sighted three 2-funnelled Destroyers 5 miles distant. Both light and heavy flak was fired at the aircraft. No hits. Whilst shadowing the destroyers, aircraft was joined by Sunderland N/228 and later by a Halifax, the latter also being fires at by the destroyers. 1743 JKUG 3700 over Escort Group, two destroyers and 3 Sloops. Shadowed enemy destroyers for two hours. 2005 JKCA 3530 circling U-boat at 3 miles and at 2012 aircraft attacked towards U-boat's port-bow at 80° to its axis from a height of 50 feet. Seven depth charges straddled the U-boat aft of the conning tower, and after N/228 also had attacked, M/461 dropped the remaining depth charge Oil was seen 'welling' out of the U-boat, which settled by the stern with dark smoke issuing from the starboard side. N/228 saw U-boat finally blow up, after M/461 had been forced by P.L.E. to leave for base. Thirty or more of the crew of the U-boat were seen to jump overboard, many of them coming up from below. The Depth charges were dropped in the face of flak from the U-boat's guns, which, however were silenced by accurate fire from the front turret of the aircraft, the gunner spraying the crews and several bodies being seen to fall into the water. This fire also prevented relief crews being sent to the U-boat's guns. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0045

Crew: - Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke
Aus. 411112 F/O. Amiss
Aus. 416342 Sgt. Jorgensen
Aus. 416005 F/Sgt. Pfeiffer
F/Sgt. White
Sgt. Jeffreys
Aus. 401562 W/O. Hattam
Aus. 414321 F/Sgt. Royal
Aus. 415745 F/Sgt. Studman
Aus. 402319 F/O. Critcher
Aus. 420051 F/Sgt. Poulton

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary No. 214.

Sunderland M/461 - Captain F/Lt. Clarke
2012 - 2nd August, 1943. 46.35 N - 11.30 W. Bay of Biscay

Aircraft on A/S patrol sighted and attacked a U/Boat on the surface, fire being exchanged and bodies were seen to fall into

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the sea. Seven 250 lb. Torpex depth charges, setting 25 feet, spacing 50 feet, were released from 50 feet, straddling the U/boat aft of conning tower. At least thirty of crew jumped overboard. A further attack was made by N/228 and afterwards 'M' dropped remaining depth charges. Oil was seen welling out of U/boat which was settling by the stern, and smoke was seen issuing from starboard side.

Remarks: - A very good example of two aircraft making certain of it by an almost simultaneous attack. M/461 made an excellent attack with very effective use of front armament.

Sunderland N/228 - Captain P/O. Hanbury.
2020 - 2nd August, 1943. 46.42N - 12.18W. Bay of Biscay.

Aircraft on A/S patrol sighted U/Boat on surface being attacked by M/461. 'N' went in and attacked from 50 feet with eight 250 lb. Torpex depth charges, setting 5 feet, spacing 60 feet. First depth charges entered slightly astern and to starboard of U/boat, the third close to side of U/boat forward of conning tower. U/boat then stopped and began settling by the stern. Some of crew abandoned, others attempted to man the guns, being shot down by aircraft's fire. Steam and smoke billowed out of U/boat, which finally blew up.

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

O.R.B. 3.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL-MUSKETRY 2

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 403216 F/O. Davenport, carried out an uneventful Ahti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0306 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1335.

O.R.B. 3.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE MUSKETRY - 1 PATROL

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0740 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1820

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 400788 F/O. Dowling, airborne Pembroke Dock 1008 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1215 KHUG 5740 sighted a raft with what appeared to be a man, but was later found to be a turtle. 1534 JKCA 3349 sighted large oil patch, 600 yards diameter - no wreckage. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2229.

O.R.B. 4.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0310 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1610.

O.R.B. 5.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1455 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0310.

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O.R.B. 5.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1221 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2358.

O.R.B. 6.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.133, captained by Aus. 403216 F/O. Davenport, airborne Pembroke Dock 0856 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0910 NLXF 3021 port inner engine oil pressure dropped suddenly and Captain decided to return to base. Petrol was jettisoned. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0944.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3.

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 400788 F/O. Dowling, airborne Pembroke Dock 0656 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1110 MFC 1 "Report present state of tanker aground in position 43.08N - 09.13W. Is Spanish flag flying. Do you consider her a total loss. Do not attack. 1235 carried out recco of harbour. Sighted tanker flying Spanish flag. About 7-8000 tons. 3/4 submerged. Port side under water. Funnel rust brown. Surrounded by numerous small craft. Large patch of oil all round tanker. Took photographs. 1240 Sighted a Spanigh destroyer and a shell explosion seen in water the origin being unknown. 1255 MFC 1 'Tanker flying Spanish flag - total loss. (Tanker aground near Cape Villano) Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1950.

O.R.B. 7.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1.

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0249 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1505.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1.

Sunderland EJ.133, captained by Aus. 404944, F/Lt. Weatherlake, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1239 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2229.

O.R.B. 8.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1.

Sunderland W.6050, captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0328 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1435.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0524 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1834.

O.R.B. 9.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland JM.685, captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. Davenport, airborne Pembroke Dock 1257 on Anti-Submarine patrol but was recalled owing to the weather. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1926.

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O.R.B. 9.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 400788 F/O. Dowling airborne Pembroke Dock 1450 on Anti-Submarine patrol but was recalled owing to the weather. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2205.

O.R.B. 11.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland JM.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0250 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1458.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland W.6050, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0454 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1639.

O.R.B. 12. 8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland EJ.133, captained by Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft airborne Pembroke Dock 1228 on Anti-Submarine patrol. A sighting report was intercepted but later was cancelled after the aircraft had flown towards the position given for nearly two hours. 1958 sighted an empty raft. Aircraft diverted to Mount Batten owing to weather at base. Waterborne Mount Batten 0055

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland JM.685, captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. Davenport, airborne Pembroke Dock 1453 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Diverted to search for dinghy. Unsuccessful. Aircraft was directed to land at Mount Batten. Waterborne Mount Batten 0202.

O.R.B. 13.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland DV.968, captained by Aus. 400788 F/O. Dowling, airborne Pembroke Dock 0700 on Anti-Submarine patrol and did not return. Last message was at 1449 'O-A6' (Attacked by 6 Ju.88s.)

Crew: - Aus. 400788 F/O. Dowling
Aus. 400976 F/O. Galt, D.F.C.
Aus. 400411 F/O. Grainger
Aus. 403778 F/O. Simpson, D.F.C.
Aus. 26697 F/Sgt. Turner
Aus. 26588 Sgt. Watson
Aus. 405083 W/O. Miller
F/Sgt. Fuller, D.F.M.
Aus. 415333 F/Sgt. Longson
Aus. 414701 F/Sgt. Lane
Aus. 407499 W/O. Goode, D.F.M.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, carried out an unevantful Anti-Submarine Patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0914 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2005.

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O.R.B. 14.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. Singleton, airborne Pembroke Dock 1014 on Anti-Submarine patrol. The patrol included a search for dinghies or survivors of aircraft 'M' (F/O. Dowling) in co-operation with surface forces, but was unsuccessful. 1600 Captain decided to return to base owing to starboard inner engine trouble, but the trouble cleared and the aircraft continued on patrol. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2243.

O.R.B. 15.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland JM.685, captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. Davenport, airborne Pembroke Dock 0752 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1517 SMUG 0747 photographsed the beached enemy Tankers 'Nord Atlantic' between which and a merchant ship with Spanish markings a number of small craft was plying, and on the shore considerable activity was going on. 1800 KHUG 0000 aircraft was attacked by six Ju.88s and very considerable damage done to Controls, Instruments, and Airframe. The Midships turret gunner. Aus. 415748 F/Sgt. Woolhouse, R.V. W/AG was killed by cannon shell-fire which severely damaged the turret, and the WOP/AG Aus. 401696 W/O. Jones, I. was later wounded by shell splinters during a second attack which was made by two of the JUs. This latter attack was made when 'X' was forced to leave cloud cover temporarily, and it caused further damage before cloud cover was again reached and the enemy finally evaded after 30 minutes continually changing course. A number of bursts were fired from 'X', chiefly by the Nose-gunner, but no hits are claimed. Aircraft landed at the Scillies 2040. Weather good with continuous low cloud. Visibility 10 miles. Sea - rough.

Crew: - Aus. 403216 F/Lt. Davenport
Aus. 420692 F/O. Lucas
Aus. 403417 F/O. Kennedy
Aus. 418211 P/O. Turnbull
F/Sgt. Fowles
Aus. 26618 F/Sgt. Russell
P/O. Smith-Gander
Aus. 406514 P/O. Bird
Aus. 401696 W/O. Jones
Aus. 415748 F/Sgt. Woolhouse
Aus. 425495 Sgt. Edge
Aus. 420639 F/Sgt. Craig

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary No. 216

Sunderland X/461 - Captain F/Lt. Davenport
1800 - 15th August, 1943. 48.00N - 10.00W. W. of Ushant

Aircraft on A/S Patrol while flying at 3,000 feet, sighted 6 Ju.88s on starboard bow in staggered echelon formation preparing to attack. 'X' immediately dived for cloud cover, but enemy aircraft opened fire, putting rear turret out of action, killing midships gunner and causing other damage before nose gunner could reply. Many attacks were then made by all enemy aircraft and further damage was sustained by 'X'. Nose gunner replied with several bursts but no hits were seen. Enemy aircraft broke off attacks when 'X' reached cloud cover, but upon emerging 2 Ju.88s were seen. Further considerable damage wassustained, during which the W/OP was wounded, but continued to transmit. Cloud was then again entered and contact with enemy aircraft was lost. Despite all the damage sustained, the aircraft made a successful forces landing.

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O.R.B. 15.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird, airborne Pembroke Dock 0957 on Anti-Submarine patrol but returned to base after 17 minutes with engine trouble. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1027.

O.R.B. 16.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft airborne Pembroke Dock on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1418 owing to excessive fuel consumption - 190 galls per hour - decided to S/C by shortest route to base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2044.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0955 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2311.

O.R.B. 18.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland EJ.142, captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. Baird, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0955 - waterborne Mount Batten 2230.

O.R.B. 19.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. Singleton, airborne Pembroke Dock 0642 on Anti-Submarine patrol but on instruction, returned to base six hours early owing to bad weather conditions. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1238.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. Newton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1134 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2310.

O.R.B. 21.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0308 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1514.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 2

Sunderland EJ.133, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0435 - Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1617.

O.R.B. 22.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 3

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0503 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1732.

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O.R.B. 22.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland W.6050, captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. Nicholls, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. An unidentified aircraft, possibly a Ju.88, was sighted. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0509 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1727.

O.R.B. 23.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY 1

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0700 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1915.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - MUSKETRY

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. During an unsuccessful search for a dinghy, 6 Mosquitoes and 4 unidentified but assumed Beaufighters were sighted. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0849 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2135.

O.R.B. 24.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A3

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. Singleton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0708 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2032.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2

Sunderland W.6050, captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. Nicholls, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0847 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2111.

O.R.B. 25.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft airborne Pembroke Dock 0658 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1954 jettisoned D.Cs owing to aircraft being at extreme P.L.E. Uneventful patrol. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2107.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0853 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2159.

O.R.B. 26.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0706 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1954.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2

Sunderland DD.866, captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. Married, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0841 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2050.

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O.R.B. 27.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A3

Sunderland W.6050, captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. Nicholls, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0654 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1920.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1

Sunderland JM.686, captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. Newton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0853 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2010.

O.R.B. 29.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1

Sunderland JM.683, captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. Singleton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0247 - diverted to Hamworthy owing to bad weather at base. Waterborne Hamworthy 1638.

O.R.B. 30.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1

Sunderland JM.707, captained by Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft, airborne Pembroke Dock 0303 on Anti-Submarine patrol and failed to return. 0953 signal from a/c 'Being attacked by 3 E/A DBDS 2503'. 1020 signal from a/c 'Safe', 1105 signal from a/c 'Being attacked by 3 E/A MLEX 2125'. Nothing further was heard of the aircraft, which did not return. At 1355 hours following signal was sent by (GLD) Lands End to GLWS from Admiralty. A/C Z/461 crashed in 46.21N. 11.35W. at 1106 today. Request you will keep a look out for survivors.

Crew: - Aus. 403648 F/O. Croft
Aus. 412751 P/O. Tamsett
Aus. 418945 F/Sgt. Harris
Aus. 412385 F/O. Bushell
Sgt. Ferrett
Sgt. Stewart
F/Sgt. Smedley
Aus. 405749 F/Sgt. Yeomans
Aus. 405105 W/O. Gamble
Aus. 412700 F/Sgt. Ritchie
Aus. 415661 F/Sgt. Hunter

O.R.B. 30.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2

Sunderland JM.676, captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. Clarke, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0258 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1450.

O.R.B. 31.8.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2

Sunderland DV.961, captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake, airborne Pembroke Dock 0249 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0537 ZKDS 5357 port inner engine failed so returned to base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0741.

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SEPTEMBER, 1943.

SEPTEMBER 1st, 1943. COINCIDENCE. The squadron was presented with a piece of the wreckage of the U-boat sunk by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. D. Marrows on 30.7.43. The number of the U-boat sunk and the Sunderland which destroyed it was "U/461". The presentation was made by Captain Walker of H.M.S. Woodpecker - leader of the Escort Group which co-operated with U/461 in the attack.

SEPTEMBER 3rd, 1943. The squadron took part in a Station parade to commemorate the fourth anniversary of the war. W/Cdr. D.L. Douglas, D.F.C. commanded the parade.

SEPTEMBER 7th, 1943. AWARD. The award of the British Empire Medal (Military Division) to Aus. 411354 F/Sgt. Wallace Mackie was gazetted today. Mackie was in Aus. 403725 F/Lt. Dods crew when they crashed attempting to land to pick up survivors on May 28th, 1943. He supported F/O. Gipps who was seriously injured, for thirty minutes in the water.

ATTACK ON TRAWLERS. Sunderland captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.D.J. Baird attacked and stopped two Spanish trawlers with machine gun fire.

SEPTEMBER 8th, 1943. While on Anti-Submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. R.O. Singleton sighted a dinghy with 3 survivors. An emergency pack was dropped by parachute. F/Lt. Singleton was airborne for 14 hours 36 minutes, the longest sortie by the squadron.

SEPTEMBER 10th, 1943. AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. R.O. Singleton again sighted a dinghy and surface vessels were directed to the area.

SEPTEMBER 15th, 1943. The Squadron took part in a Station parade to commemorate the Battle of Britain.

SEPTEMBER 16th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on Anti-Submarine patrol Sunderland captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. D. Marrows was attacked by six Ju.88s. The Sunderland put up a gallant fight for nearly an hour and then was forced to land on the sea with three engines out of action. The crew managed to get into a dinghy from which they were rescued by a sloop 17 hours later. They were later transferred to H.M.S. Woodpecker - the ship which had rescued the survivors of the German U-boat sunk by F/Lt. Marrows and crew on 30.7.43. As a momento Captain Walker presented F/Lt. Marrows with the "Mae West" and escape aparatus used by the U-boat commander, and these were later forwarded to R.A.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, London, for exhibition.

SEPTEMBER 26th, 1943. The Squadron took part in a local parade of all services to commemorate the Battle of Britain.

SEPTEMBER 27th, 1943. Aus. 6161 F/Sgt. Mabo, W.W. in charge of the Maintence of the Squadron, broadcast in the "Travel Talks" series over the B.B.C. giving an account of his experiences with the Australian aborigines.

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VERY SECRET.

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

SEPTEMBER, 1943.

O.R.B. 1.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.J.D. Baird carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1208 - Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2340.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton airborne Pembroke Dock 1236 on Anti-Submarine patrol but returned owing to the failure of the starboard outer engine. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1608.

O.R.B. 2.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. J.G.P. Weatherlake airborne Pembroke Dock 0217 and carried out an unsuccessful search for a dinghy. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1525.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. I.A.F. Clarke airborne Pembroke Dock 1208 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0540 PQAV 4525 Group Broadcast 465 VDAV 4834 - 472 - 1 - 270 - 14. 0703 VDAV 4814 dropped Marine Marker, commenced Square Search 3 miles visibility. 0720 VDAV 4220 MFC 1 Hunt U-boat in position 44.49 N - 10.40 W. 0730 VDAV 4814 S/C for position of 2nd U-boat as instructed. 0821 FXAV 5020 Over marker. Circled and commenced C.L.A. along reported track of U-boat. This action taken owing to aircraft having only 3/4 hour to P.L.E. Vis used 3 miles. area effectively searched extending 36 miles E-W and 20 miles N-S. 0937 KFGN 0515 abandoned search due PLE. Nothing seen. Marker not dropped as a/c too far from original Marker. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2340.

O.R.B. 3.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A3.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton airborne Pembroke Dock 0306 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0910 Hydraulics u/s so S/C base. Sortie curtailed by 1½ hours. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1324.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A9.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. D. Marrows airborne Pembroke Dock 0553 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0745 W/T u/s so S/C base. Sortie curtailed by 8½ hours. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0934.

O.R.B. 4.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A9.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0616 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1908.

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O.R.B. 4.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. I.A.F. Clarke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0303 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1410.

O.R.B. 5.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.J.D. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock 0605 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1024 XQAV 5004 Over French Tunneyman LGX 2840 togetherh with 1 Liberator and 1 Halifax Co 340/5 Kts. 1431 FKAV 2605 MFC 1 'A/C approaching you'. 1505 KFJV 2850 S/C Base, extreme PLE. 1602 XQJV 1250 MTC 1 'D - A7JU - XQJV 4550'. Having sighted 7 unidentified a/c on starboard quarter flying across tail range 6 miles (Co 225 Degs) a/c turned to Port and climbed intoocloud, no further contact being made. MTC 2 'Attack broken.' Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1908.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A9.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton airborne Pembroke Dock 0555 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1003 XQGN 4528 V/S French Tunneyman Co 10 dgs with 1 Liberator circling. 1247 V/S unidentified object which disappeared in direction of 080 degs. Circled for 8 mins saw nothing further. 1430 KFGN 3045 MFC 1 'E/A nearing you' Remained on course. 1515 VDGN 4940 MFC 2 'E/A nearing you' Altered course to 300 dgs for 45 mins. 1607 XQJV 4038 Intercepted O-A from T/461, altered Co to 300 degs. 1620 XQJV 5205 S/C Base PLE. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1901.

O.R.B. 6.9.43 SPECIAL SEARCH FOR TUNNEYMAN.

Sunderland EK.578 'E' captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. G.O. Singleton airborne Pembroke Dock 0310. 0655 SLJV 1050 began Square search for Tunneyman. 0729 SLGN 1512 over tunneyman escorted by Escort Group 3 Sloops. 0740 V/S from SNO 'Have Tunneyman 2840 here'. 0755 V/S from SNO 'SNO bears 080 degs from me'. 0810 V/S from SNO 'No. airmen on board: No. LGX 2840'. 0835 MTC 2 'No airmen on board; request instructions'. 0909 a/c signalled Tunneyman's No. and requested permission to continue patrol. 0951 MFC 2 'Return to Base immediately'. 1013 SLGN 1735 V/S from SNO 'Pass to C in C Plymouth where we are. Force William proceeding to position of S/C SOS 4852 N-0914 W unless otherwise ordered. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1245. (Note: - A/C soon after locating Tunneyman saw SNO launch boat and go aboard Tunneyman).

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A9.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0557 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1935.

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O.R.B. 7.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL. - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland EK.575 'G' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 1106 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1313 SLYT 4540 MFC 1 'Proceed to position 45 degs 42 N - 10.35 W to search for Dinghy'. 1325 SYLT 3010 MFC 2 'Change to Loop 385 Kcs and home on shadowing a/c to Dinghy'. 1344 SLYK 2040 sighted 5 Sloops Co 200/15 Kts. 1441 PQAV 2530 MFC 3 'Resume Patrol'. 1600 VDGN 4050 sighted 2 unidentified a/c on Port quarter. 1645 KFAV 2000 sighted 5 a/c 3 believed Ju.88s, 2 Mosquitoes. 2 E/A turned in to attack, 1 intercepted by Mosquito, other made off. A/C sent MFC 1 -'O-A KFGN 0559' & MFC 2 'Safe' at 1655 hours. 1748 VDGN 1205 sighted 2 unidentified a/c on Port quarter, no contact. A/C returned 1 hour early owing unexpected decrease in wind. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2210.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.D.J. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock 1058 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1600 MFC 1 '2 Spanish Trawlers position given' 1619 2nd MFC 'Continuing patrol, will attack on return'. 1628 VDGN 5214 MFC 1 'Return and attack with gunfire'. 1646 XQGN 0919 began attack with trawlers stationary on Co 0330 Ds. After 1st run, to which Trawlers made no reply, they took evasive action on Co 200 Ds Speed 10 Kts. After 3 runs in which 1000 rounds fired, white shirt appeared on 2nd Trawler and on next run no action taken against Trawler with white shirt but further rounds fired at leading Trawler until white canvas sheet hoisted. Before leaving both ships practically still, decks & bridges deserted. 2011 PQAV 4538 Over 5 Sloops on Co 140 ds then 200 ds speed 15 Kts. Fired 4 shells which burst 1 mile behind a/c. A/C recognition signals not acknowledged. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2302.

Crew: - Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.D.J. Baird
Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts
Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson
Aus. 420200 F/O. D.Q. Hughes
F/Sgt. T.P. Williams
F/Sgt. R.V. Stewart
Sgt. K.C.B. Field
Aus. 411140 P/O. R.G.H. Mackellar
Aus. 414608 F/Sgt. J.D. Temple
Aus. 420365 F/Sgt. H.V. Weeks
Aus. 406535 W/O. H.R. Ovens

O.R.B. 8.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton, carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1050 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0022.

BPF 11

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 403860 S/Ldr. H.G. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1155 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0007.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10

Sunderland EK.578 'E' captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. G.O. Singleton airborne Pembroke Dock 1055 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1220 FWYT 0633 MFC 1 'A/C reported nearing you' 1625 FXAV 3301 'A/C reported nearing you'. 1630 altered Co to AOXX to avoid E/A. 1645 FXGN 1737 over Dinghy with 3 survivors. MFC 1 informing them 'Over Dinghy with 3 survivors. Have fuel for 10 hrs. Swell 8 ft. Request instructions. 1730 joined by Halifax T. 1750 MTC 2 'Wing 7 Kts, longswell; May we drop D.C's. 1750 R/T to Halifax T 'Will you pass our message to Group (MTC 1)'. 1755 Halifax dropped 2 packages alongside Dinghy. 1820 MFC 3 Do not land - Drop supplies - Remain to PLE' 1850 MTC 3 Remaining in position until 2100 - Request instructions 1910 MTC 4 Request permit to drop dinghy radio. 1914 dropped emergency pack by parachute. 1925 MFC 4 'Stay on patrol until PLE then return to base'. 1935 dropped emergency pack by parachute, 2025 MFC 5 'Drop Dinghy Radio' 2049 Dropped Marine Marker and Dinghy Radio. S/C for base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0131.

Crew: - Aus. 411841 F/Lt. G.O. Singleton
Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin
Aus. 401630 F/O. F.N. Syme
Aus. 406929 F/O. G.R. Eastwood
Aus. 9429 F/Sgt. H.Hall
Aus. 6612 Sgt. R. Hammond
W/O. R.H. Church
Aus. 405098 W/O. J.R. Stevens
Aus. 414837 F/Sgt. N.A. Royal
Aus. 410585 F/Sgt. R.N. Thompson
Aus. 402914 W/O. R.J. Bateup

O.R.B. 9.9.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1100 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0044.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1110 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2350.

O.R.B. 10.9.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 1100 on Anti-Submarine patrol but was recalled to base and became waterborne 1944.

AIR SEA RESCUE.

Sunderland EK.578 'E' captained by Aus. 411841 F/Lt. G.O. Singleton airborne Pembroke Dock 1151. 1455 SLGN 0526 MFC 1 'Land at base not later than 1930.' 1539 PQBM 3953 over dinghy. 1604 dropped Thornaby bag. 1620 dropped second Thornaby bag. 1630 MTC 2 'Sloop 75 miles N.E. Request permission remain'. 1645 joined by Liberator C. 1655 MFC 1 'Remain till surface vessel in

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contact'. 1657 MFC 2 'Report when rescue effected'. 1745 Liberator dropped two Marine Markers. S/C to contact Sloop. 1825 MTC 3 'How long will surface vessel be - Visibility decreasing'. 2030 MTC 4 'Remaining in position 3829N 1307W till 2130'. 2100 Check bearings sent to Sloop. 2145 Sighted parachute-flare estimated from Dinghy. MFC 5 'Surface vessel near - Will arrive 2215'. 2150 'have ships contacted Dinghy'. 2200 R/T to RQC "We have left Dinghy position and you are within 15 miles of that position'. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0120.

Crew: - Aus. 411841 F/Lt. G.O. Singleton
Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin
Aus. 424550 P/O. F.H. Bunce
Aus. 406929 F/O. G.R. Eastwood
Aus. 9429 F/Sgt. H. Hall
Aus. 6612 Sgt. R. Hammond
W/O. H.H. Church
Aus. 405098 W/O. J.R. Stevens
F/Sgt. R.A. Reid
Aus. 425955 Sgt. D.R. Molan
Aus. 414837 F/Sgt. N.A. Royal
Aus. 410585 F/Sgt. R.N. Thompson
Aus. 406929 F/O.E.R. Eastwood

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. D. Marrows carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1101 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2001.

O.R.B. 11.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.D.J. Baird carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1054 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2345.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1100 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2235.

O.R.B. 13.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL. - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls airborne Pembroke Dock 0842 on Anti-Submarine patrol but was recalled owing to bad weather. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1321.

O.R.B. 14.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. J.G.P. Weatherlake carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0511 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1711.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0522 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1727.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0580 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1740.

O.R.B. 16.9.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A9.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.D.J. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock 0648 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1605 LXJP 3522 saw Sunderland 10 miles on Starboard Beam at 500 ft. attacked by 2 unidenfified a/c, the Sunderland coming down to 20 ft. and then apparently landing as large white streak seen. 'W' entered cloud, PLE making search impossible. Aircraft diverted to Mount Batten as weather bad at base. Weather fine South of 48 degs; poor to North. Waterborne Mount Batten 2026.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland EK.578 'E' captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. D. Marrows airborne Pembroke Dock 0655 on Anti-Submarine patrol and failed to return. A/C was seen by the crew of 'W' to land in sea. Crew subsequently sighted and picked up.

1537 LXLB 2910 Flying on Co 280 at 4000 ft. Tail reported 5 unidentified a/c at 17 miles range, later seen to be 6 (not 5) Ju. 88s. 'E' made for the nearest cloud, 30 miles off, jettisoning D.Cs. The e/a formed for attack 4 in stepped-up echelon on Starboard bow and 2 in echelon on Port quarter, the nearest about 1000 yards range, and the nearest to starboard, acting as Leader and controlling combat, but taking little part. First attack was from Starboard bow, and this was followed by similar attacks by the next E/A to starboard and Port, with the 3rd Starboard E/A following the 2nd Port side. E/461 was taking violent evasive measures during this attack and the following one which the E/A carried out in the same manner. The 2nd Pilot's gun seemed to give the E/A a surprise and trouble, as the next attacks were from the Port bow and the Starboard quarter. The Galley guns, however, apparently affected the enemy in these attacks as they again changed their tactics and made several attacks from the beam, first 3 from Starboard and then as 'E' turned into the attack, the other 3 from Port, being careful to avoid the galley-guns by coming in from slightly above the main-plane. The Tail-turret hydraulics and one of the Upper-turret guns were out of action, whilst ability to manoeuvre was very restricted owing to hits on both Port Engines. Seeing this the enemy concentrated on attacks from fine on each quarter, with a few from the beam, and in spite of 'E' descending to 500 ft, they disabled the starboard outer engine and it was necessary to 'ditch' this being done successfully and the crew taking to the Dinghies. The whole crew had shortly to make the best of one 'H' type dinghy as the other two burst, having probably been damaged by splinters. The aircraft remained afloat until sunk by the rescuing naval sloops after approx 17 hours, this in spite of numerous holes in the hull and the loss of a float. The dinghy was first sighted at 0300 on the 17th, by a 'Catalina' of 210 Squadron, which was relieved when at PLE by a Liberator of 53 Squadron at 0845, at which time were also sighted the naval

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Escort Group. Sloop U66 - "Starling" picked up the Sunderland's crew and later transferred them to H.M.S. Woodpecker, which landed them at Milford Haven at 1430 on September 20.
Damage to Sunderland 'E'. Both Port and Outer Starboard Engines out of action; Hydraulic line to Nose & Tail turrets shot through; Port float Stays shot away; Hull and Starboard Float and wing cannon-shell & bullet holes; W/T out of action; 300 Front gun shot off mounting.

Casualties. 1 (severe Leg wound) Aus. 10530 Sgt. Bamber, F. (Front Gunner); 4 of the crew suffered slight splinter wounds and one was slightly scalded.

Damage to Enemy aircraft. 1 e/a made off with continuous black smoke from one Engine, other 3 are claimed as being hit.

Enemy Tactics. appeared to have been thought out beforehand and controlled by the "Leader", and were capable of variation during the action. No attacks were made from below, and e/a broke away above 'E/461' in opposite direction about 300 yards distant. This enabled 'E's nose gunner to score hits.

Sunderland Armament. The 2nd Pilot's gun and the additional nose gun, as well as the galley-guns, obviously worried the enemy, causing them to alter their tactics considerably during the action. Rounds fired were: - Tail 200, Upper 1300 (400 from gun which jammed), Nose 600, Nose 300 600, Galley (Starboard) 150 (Port) 450, 2nd Pilot 200. Total - 3500. Weather not reported.

Crew: - Aus. 400656 F/Lt. D. Marrows
Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh
Aus. 402805 F/O. I.V.R. Peatty
Aus. 425619 P/O. W.G. Done
Sgt. Eshelby
Aus. 14455 Sgt. A.N. Pearce
Aus. 403592 P/O. P.T. Jensen
Aus. 410791 F/Sgt. R.L. Webster
Aus. 417621 Sgt. P.R. Criddle
Aus. 402617 F/Sgt. D.C. Sidney
Aus. 10530 Sgt. F. Bamber

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary No. 221.

Sunderland E/461. Captain - F/Lt. Marrows.
1542 - 16th September, 1943. 45.30 N. - 10.55 W. Bay of Biscay.

Aircraft on A/S patrol, while flying at 4,000 feet, sighted six Ju.88s which rapidly overhauled out aircraft. During first attack by enemy aircraft much damage was caused to 'E' which took violent evasive action; further attacks were made by the enemy aircraft, in the course of which one enemy aircraft was hit and retired from the scene, with black smoke pouring in a continuous stream from the starboard engine; strikes were seen on at least three other enemy aircraft; our aircraft sustained further damage and with only one engine working it became necessary to ditch, the combat having lasted 45 minutes. Our casualties were one seriously wounded and 5 slightly wounded. The entire crew were picked up by a surface vessel at 0930 hours the next day.

Claim: - Enemy aircraft damaged.

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Air Ministry Bulletin No. 11601

Sunderland's Gallant Fight Against 6 Ju.88s.

For 45 minutes a Coastal Command Sunderland of a R.A.A.F. squadron fought off six Ju.88s until, with three of his engines shot to pieces, his nose and tail turret out of action, and a very large number of cannon shell holes in the aircraft's hull and mainplane, the pilot was forced to 'ditch' in the Bay of Biscay.

The entire crew, who were forced to huddle in one dinghy, after the other two, damaged by cannon fire, had burst opene and sunk under them, were picked up by a naval vessel under the command of Captain F.J. Walker, C.B., D.S.O., and were landed at a British port a few days later.

F/Lt. Dudley Marrows, of Victoria, who sometime previously, 'killed' a U-boat in the Bay of Biscay was captain of the Sunderland on anti-submarine patrol in the approaches to the bay. Shortly after three o'clock in the afternoon, the tail gunner reported five unidentified aircraft approaching on the starboard quarter. They were a cluster of dots when first seen at a distance estimated at 17 miles.

"They rapidly overhauled our aircraft", said the gunner, F/O. Jenson, "and then I could see they were six Ju.88s and not five."

The pilot headed for the nearest cloud cover 30 miles distant, but the enemy aircraft came up too fast. As they formed up for the attack, four of them in a stepped-up echelon on the starboard bow and two in echoelon on the port quarter, the Sunderland jettisoned its depth charges and prepared to fight. The leading Ju.88 took little part in the combat, which its pilot apparently directed.

The second Ju.88 on the starboard bow opened the fight. Sunderland 'E' commenced corkscrewing as the other aircraft attacked simultaneously from port and starboard.

"During this attack" said F/Lt. Marrows, "The tail turret hydraulics were severed and as a result of further fire only one gun in the mid-upper turret was left in action.

"The enemy reformed and made his second combined attack. A third attack was then delivered from a different direction - the port bow mainly, and the beam, half the formation attacking from one beam and breaking away as we returned the fire while the other half attacked from the other beam.

"During this action both our port engines were hit and I was unable to manoeuvre properly" continued F/Lt. Marrows. "I attempted to gain maximum manoeuvrability by coming down to 500 feet, but when the enemy realised my tail turret was out of action, although the rear gunner was very courageously trying to operate it manually in the face of intense fire - he concentrated in attacks from astern and from the quarters.

"We hit one Junkers and he retired from the scene with black smoke pouring from the starboard motor. My gunners also saw our bullets hit at least three other enemy aircraft.

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O.R.B. 16.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. J.G.P. Weatherlake carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0658 - waterborne Mount Batten 2010.

O.R.B. 17.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A7.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 2255 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1141.

O.R.B. 18.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A9.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0324 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1607.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION AE.

Sunderland DD.366 'B' captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. J.G.P. Weatherlake carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 2116 - waterborne Mount Batten 1007.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. 5 unidentified aircraft were sighted. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0340 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1545.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A7.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.D.J. Baird carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 2254 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1130.

O.R.B. 20.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B.B. Nicholls carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0736 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1937.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A9.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0753 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1951.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0756 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1953.

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O.R.B. 21.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A3.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0056 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1310.

O.R.B. 22.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0344 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1648.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A9.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 F/O. R.S. Watts airborne Pembroke Dock 0358 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0710 ZZJP 1032 Front Turret U/S owing to break in Hydraulics; also 1 Generator U/S through over-charging and H.T. Receiver Switch on S.E. U/S. Decided to return to base. Diverted to 1042 BMMU 1553 to search for Dinghy; not seen. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1341.

O.R.B. 23.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A5.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 0227 and carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. 0926 LXLB 5802 MFC 1 'E/A nearing you' - not seen. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1436.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A3.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. I.A.F. Clarke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0052 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1410.

O.R.B. 24.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z1.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 409760 F/O. J.B. Nicholls carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0141 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1403.

O.R.B. 25.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z2.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0335 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1700.

O.R.B. 26.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z1.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0327 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1602.

O.R.B. 27.9.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z1.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0327 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1532.

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OCTOBER, 1943.

October 1st, 1943. AWARD. The non-immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Aus. 400656 F/Lt. D. Marrows was gazetted today.

October 15th, 1943. AWARDS. The immediate awards of the Distinguished Service Order to F/Lt. D. Marrows and the Distinguished Flying Medal to Aus. 14455 Sgt. A.N. Pearce and Aus. 10530 Sgt. F. Bamber was gazetted today. They were pilot and gunners respectively when their aircraft was attacked by six Ju.88s on September 16th, 1943.

VISIT. F/Lt. C.B. Andrew, Public Relations officer from R.A.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, and F/O. Collins, R.A.F. Film Unit, visited the Squadron.

October 18th, 1943. The Squadron attended an entertainment given on the Station by the American Red Cross.

Uneventful patrols were carried out during the month. No- U-boats were sighted.

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1st October, 1943

NOMINAL ROLL 461 SQUADRON.

Aus. 171 W/Cdr. Douglas, D.L.G. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 403860 A/S/Ldr. Cooke, H.G., D.F.C. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 401346 F/O. Clarke, I.A.F. of Footscray, Victoria
Aus. 400656 F/O. Marrows, D. of Parkdale, Victoria
Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Wetherlake, J.G.P. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 411112 F/O. Amiss, J.C. of Hawthorne, Victoria
Aus. 403216 A/F/Lt. Davenport, P.R. of Blakehurst, N.S.W.
Aus. 412498 F/O. Dawson, C.J. of Glen Innis, N.S.W.
Aus. 411298 F/O. Dobson, J.S.B. of Dee Why, N.S.W.
Aus. 401956 F/O. Howe, D.S.P. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 420692 F/O. Lucas, R.D. of Bondi, N.S.W.
Aus. 401999 F/O. Newton, R. of Elwood, Victoria
Aus. 403760 F/O. Nicholls, J.B. of Lane Cove, N.S.W.
Aus. 402193 F/Lt. Watson, J.H.F. of Surrey, England
Aus. 403417 F/Lt. Kennedy, D.H. of Manilla, N.S.W.
Aus. 405264 F/Lt. Sullivan, J.F. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 401356 F/O. Winstanley, H.E., D.F.C., of Geelong, Victoria
Aus. 403319 F/O. Critcher, E.R.
Aus. 411464 F/O. Tegart, A.R. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 407210 F/O. Viner, G. of Unley, S.A.
Aus. 415195 F/O. Taplin, P.E. of Midland Junction, W.A.
Aus. 415062 F/O. Watts, R.S. of Subiaco, W.A.
Aus. 416005 F/Sgt. Pfeiffer, P.G. of Point Pass, S.A.
Aus. 402914 W/O. Bateup, R.J. of Yass, N.S.W.
Aus. 406514 F/O. Bird, P.C. of Bunbury, W.A.
Aus. 403455 W/O. Druhan, T.P. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 403805 F/O. Forsythe, A. of Redhead, N.S.W.
Aus. 401696 W/O. Jones, I.C. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 411160 F/O. Mackellar, R.C. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 411534 W/O. Mackie, W. of Hay, N.S.W.
Aus. 406535 W/O. Ovens, H.R. of York, W.A.
Aus. 405098 W/O. Stevens, J.R. of Kingaroy, Queensland
Aus. 3932 A/S/Ldr. Egerton, T.A. of Williamston, Victoria
Aus. 405119 A/W/Lt. Baird, R.D.J. of Lismore, N.S.W.
Aus. 411014 F/O. Eaton, L.G. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 401562 W/O. Hattam, R. of Mentone, Victoria
Aus. 412167 W/O. Mayne, A.O. of Chullora, N.S.W.
Aus. 402617 F/Sgt. Sidney, D.C. of Coogee, N.S.W.
Aus. 409326 F/O. Sinclair, D.A. of Rosanna, Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 406929 F/O. Eastwood, G.R. of Lower Chittering, W.A.
Aus. 420200 F/O. Hughes, D.O. of Newcastle, N.S.W.
Aus. 412999 F/O. Moffatt, D.W. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 5906 F/O. Petherick, A.C.H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 5761 F/Sgt. Cox, L.W. of Wagga, N.S.W.
Aus. 9429 F/Sgt. Hall, H. of Moonee Ponds, Victoria
Aus. 5594 F/O. Lewis, O.H. of Willunga, S.A.
Aus. 26618 F/Sgt. Russell, J. of Croydon, S.A.
Aus. 5942 F/Sgt. Taylor, A.J. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 6739 F/O. Woodland, W.L. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 6612 A/Sgt. Hammond, R. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 6615 A/Sgt. Moore, J.A. of Kingaroy, Queensland
Aus. 14455 A/Sgt. Pearce, A.N. of Seven Hills, N.S.W.
Aus. 10530 A/Sgt. Bamber, F. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 15250 A/Sgt. Bracey, V.H. of Summerhill, N.S.W.
Aus. 23074 A/Sgt. Hughes, F.E. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 402803 F/O. Peatty, I.V.R. of Granville, N.S.W.
Aus. 416330 F/O. Fisher, R.J. of Berri, S.A.
Aus. 420903 F/O. McDermott, J.D. of Hurlstone Park, N.S.W.
Aus. 414314 F/Sgt. Morgan, H.H. of Kyogle, N.S.W.
Aus. 414321 F/Sgt. Royal, J.H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 420365 F/Sgt. Weeks, H.V. of Orange
Aus. 414619 F/Sgt. Wyeth, N.A. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 415790 F/Sgt. Hawthorne, R.O. of Kalgoorlie, W.A.
Aus. 421542 F/Sgt. Norris, R.W. of Sydney, N.S.W.

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Aus. 20745 F/Sgt. Pollock, R.E.H. of Tamworth, N.S.W.
Aus. 420051 F/Sgt. Poulton, J.H. of Roseville, N.S.W.
Aus. 414837 F/Sgt. Royal, N.A. of Townsville, Queensland
Aus. 415745 F/Sgt. Studman, L.C. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 414608 F/Sgt. Temple, J.D. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 410585 F/Sgt. Thompson, R.N. of Bunnaloo, N.S.W.
Aus. 410797 Sgt. Webster, R.L. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 418247 F/Sgt. Brewin, P.H. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 417479 F/Sgt. Cryst, A.E. of Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 425495 F/Sgt. Edge, J.E. of Malanda, Queensland
Aus. 427096 F/Sgt. Jaffey, F.L. of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 426386 F/Sgt. Perry, H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 415695 F/Sgt. Stepher, R.D. of Kalgoorlie, W.A.
Aus. 401630 F/O. Syme, F.M. of Kew, Melbourne
Aus. 424550 P/O. F.M. Bunts.
Aus. 429427 P/O. Godsill, N.M. of Toowoomba, Queensland

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

OCTOBER, 1943.

O.R.B. 3.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1904 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0736.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 airborne Pembroke Dock 1630 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1824 HKQU 5653 sighted 6 unidentified aircraft on Starboard quarter, Ht. 2000 ft, Co. 130T. Sent 'O-A6 Multi Engined HKQU 1825 A Org 1' 1840 MTC 2 'Safe' 2104 TVFW 4325 circled; on two occasions a bright light appeared for 5/10 secs. colour dark red, distant 3/4 miles. Estimated above surface, possibly Very cartridge. Several flame floats in vicinity. 2115 TVFW 4325 dropped flare; nothing sighted, but flare may not have been dropped immediately above source of light, flame float being only reference point. Listened on 500 Kcs whole period aircraft in vicinity; nothing heard. 0212 ZWFW 4420 a/c sighted astern estimated 2 miles distant, approached rapidly and circled 'W', then disappeared when 'W' entered cloud. A/C not identified. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0511.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained bu Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1613 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0435.

O.R.B. 4.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1i.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1551 - waterborne Hamworthy 0602.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. I.A.F. Clarke airborne Pembroke Dock 1540 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1715 JUAD 3523 sighted 6 unidentified a/c (2-Eng) 5 miles Port beam 1000 ft., which headed towards 'P'. Latter climbed to 2000 ft. and entered cloud. 2150 JHFW 2831 MFB 1 'Weather closing in. Followizone Control'. Landed Hamworthy 0515.

O.R.B. 6.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1907 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0822.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1910 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0830.

O.R.B. 7.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. J.G.P. Weatherlake airborne Pembroke Dock 2038 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 2350 ZWQU 1610 homed on S.E. contact and passed over boat. S.E. indication disappeared after 3 miles and after 16 minutes search resumed patrol, contact not having been regained. 0414 TVQU 0001 sighted distress signals 15 miles on Port beam; 3 Mk.III IFF indications from same position. Did not investigate. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0829.

O.R.B. 8.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 401999 F/O. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dick 1550 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0029.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401346 F/Lt. I.A.F. Clarke carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1551 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2359.

O.R.B. 11.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe airborne Pembroke Dock 1543 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1738 HKQU sighted (3735) Escort Group Wheel. 1810 QKQU 4819 sighted 4 Mosquito a/c. Diverted to Lough Erne and ordered to proceed there immediately. Waterborne Lough Erne 0307.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 1602 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Returned after 1 hour as Artificial Horizon and Rate/Climb Indicator were inoperative. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1716.

O.R.B. 12.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z1.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 400656 F/Lt. R.J.D. Baird airborne Pembroke Dock on Anti-Submarine patrol at 0850. 0857 Petrol leak; circled and jettisoned 200 gals, when leak stopped. Control informed and patrol resumed. Ordered to return by 1845. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1945.

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O.R.B. 12.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 1550 on Anti-Submarine patrol but returned early owing to engine trouble. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1741.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 401999 F/Lt. R. Newton airborne Pembroke Dock 1550 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Diverted and waterborne Mount Batten 0407.

O.R.B. 13.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - (SPECIAL).

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. J.G.P. Weatherlake carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1201 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0008.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland EK.577 'X' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1905 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0716.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL. - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland JM.683 'J' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1902 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0730.

O.R.B. 14.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe airborne Pembroke Dock 1555 but airborne again 1619 owing to engine trouble. Crew transferred to Sunderland DD.866 'B'. Airborne again 1748 and an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol was carried out. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0608.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.D.J. Baird carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1854 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0717.

O.R.B. 15.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls airborne Pembroke Dock 1530 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 2215 1/2 JBFW 3233 obtained unmistakeable U-boat contact on S.E. at 2½ miles on Starboard beam. A/c turned 90 Degs. and homed but lost contact. A/c proceeded past, then conducted search 10 miles from position till 2305 hours. 2305 JBFW 2021 MFC 1 "Return to base by 0300'. Patrol curtailed by 1¾ hours owing to weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0230.

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O.R.B. 15.10.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 1852 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Instructed to land at base by 0300. Uneventful patrol, curtailed by 4½ hours owing to weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0223.

O.R.B. 16.10.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 405119 F/Lt. R.D. Baird carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1623 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0400.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. J.G.P. Weatherlake airborne Pembroke Dock 1635 on Anti-Submarine patrol but returned somewhat early owing to favourable winds. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0407.

O.R.B. 17.10.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z4.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0710 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1905.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1842 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0727.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 1900 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 2056 KDES 5039 sighted unidentified searchlight Beam at 45 degrees from vertical from surface of sea or just above. 2400 BPJS 3406 Tail reported wake about ½ mils astern - no S.E. contact. A/c flew to spot but nothing further was seen and no S.E. contact made. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0740.

O.R.B. 18.10.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. J.G.P. Weatherlake carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1852 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0732.

O.R.B. 21.10.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z2.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe airborne Pembroke Dock 0825 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled before 1800 owing to weather. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1820.

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O.R.B. 22.10.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z4.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 0734 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1549 LTSA 3755 photographed A/A Cruiser Co.210/20 Kts. No other sightings.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z5.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0814 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2120.

O.R.B. 23.10.43 CONVOY ESCORT.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 404944 F/Lt. Weatherlake airborne Pembroke Dock 1237 to Escort Convoy. 1816 DLWD 4520 Met Convoy MKS 27 Co. 020/7 Kts. Vis. 4 miles R/T Contact established. SNO to a/c 'Patrol round convoy at 15 miles' SNO to a/c 'Adjust R/T'; A/c to SNO 'R/T adjusted, remaining 3½ hours'. 1949 Returned to Convoy. A/c to SNO 'Cannot contact you on R/T over 6 miles. Await instructions' SNO to A/c 'Patrol on parallel line of advance 10 miles to Port, for distance of 20 miles - 10 miles ahead; 10 miles astern'. 2130 A/c to SNO 'I go'. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0310.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z4.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403860 S/Ldr. H.G. Cooke, D.F.C. carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0015 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1225.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z6.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 2338 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1225.

O.R.B. 24.10.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z6.

Sunderland DV.960 'H' captained by Aus. 420692 F/O. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 1019 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1135 RJFT 1714 sighted C/V. presumed Polecat 090 Degs 4 Nautical miles. 2153 RJVA 4040 a/c picked up S.E. Beacon 'AH' 70 miles on Port Bow. A/C turned to Port when indication faded out and reappeared 50 miles on Port beam. A/c attempted to home and after 4 minutes picked up Land returns dead ahead which subsequently turned out to be S.E. corner of Ireland. A/c then asked for QDMs which were 3rd class but accepted; then got true Co. A/C exceeded patrol 1 hour owing to unreliable S.E. indications. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2312.

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O.R.B. 24.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 1618 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1650 SPBM 2040 Mosquito crossed from starboard to port then on reciprocal Course with IFF at Distress position. 1933 DLJS 0308 MFC 1 'R/B immediately' S/C Base. 2138 RJFD 2000 sighted what appeared to be 4 or 5 searching searchlight beams on horizon to Port beam. Experienced considerable W/T jamming when messages being received. Returned 5 hours early - weather. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2320.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock on Anti-Submarine patrol at 1622. 1932 recalled. 2143 RJES 0040 sighted on port bow what appeared to be a single searchlight which spread to an elongated glow. 2150 RJES 0854 sighted further white glow on Port bow. Aircraft returned 4¾ hours early - weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2337.

O.R.B. 26.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - BP.15.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 412498 F/O. C.J. Dawson airborne Pembroke Dock 1918 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0325 FPEL 2132 MFC 'Look out for T/228 between Scillies and Base - not sighted. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0808.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - BP.19

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe airborne Pembroke Dock 2023 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0310 JDJS 2415 MFC 'T/228 down between Scillies and Base. Give help'. Not sighted. Aircraft returned early owing to favourable winds. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0829.

O.R.B. 28.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1620 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0520.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403760 F/Lt. J.B. Nicholls airborne Pembroke Dock 1620 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1720 CRES 3432 Port Outer engine failed, so aircraft returned to base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2132.

O.R.B. 29.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z3.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 0809 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1010 RJJS 0343 S.E. contact 5 miles to starboard. altered course. Sighted one landing craft course 070/7 kts. Exchanged recognition signals. Vessel asked for position - given. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2149.

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O.R.B. 29.10.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z2.

Sunderland DV.960 'H' captained by Aus. 420692 F/O. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 0755 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1050 KDXU 2426 sighted Eire M/V course 230/6 Kts. 1429 DLXH 3501 sighted Eire M/V course 090/8 Kts. Sent weather report to base. 1440 DLXH 5040 S.E. contact 12 miles port bow. Altered course. 1445 DLXH 4433 sighted Eire M/V course 060/10 Kts. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2105.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - BP.16.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 412498 F/O. C.J. Dawson carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 2236 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1210.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.18.349

NOVEMBER, 1943.

NOVEMBER 9th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on Anti-Submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson was attacked by four Ju.88s. Hits were sustained but no casualties. One enemy aircraft is claimed as severely damaged.

NOVEMBER 16th, 1943. INVESTITURE. Aus. 400114 F/O. J.J. Dupont went to Buckingham Palace to receive the D.F.M. from H.M. the King. F/O. Dupont was awarded the D.F.M. while serving with another unit.

NOVEMBER 25th, 1943. Aus. 403860 S/Ldr. H.G. Cooke, D.F.C. took over the duties of Flight Commander from Aus. 3932 S/Ldr. T.A. Egerton, D.F.C. who is returning to Australia.

NOVEMBER 29th, 1943. SUNDERLAND LOST. Sunderland captained by Aus. 401956 F/Lt. D.S.P. Howe took off on Anti-Submarine patrol and failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 401956 F/Lt. D.S.P. Howe, Aus. 400114 F/O. J.J. Dupont, D.F.M., Aus. 5364 P/O. G.Y. Temple, Aus. 422071 P/O. W.J. Withers, Aus. 423628 F/O. G.W.B. Bye, Aus. 414321 F/Sgt. J.H. Royal, F/Sgt. L. White, Aus. 415745 F/Sgt. L.G. Studman, Aus. 419325 F/Sgt. W.K. Motitz, Aus. 412533 F/O. K.V. Hore, Aus. 402319 F/O. E.R. Critcher, Sgt. R. Jeffreys, and Aus. 420051 F/Sgt. J.H. Poulton.

NOVEMBER 30th, 1943s. GARDEN PARTY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE. Aus. 171 W/Cdr. D.L.G. Douglas, D.F.C., as one of six Dominion and Allied officers, attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and met their Majesties.

STATISTICS.

Tltal number of sorties and hours completed by the Squadron up to 30.11.43

Sorties	630
Hours	7101

Enemy Submarines destroyed 4, probably destroyed 5, damaged 2.
Enemy aircraft destroyed 10, probably destroyed 8, damaged 7.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

NOVEMBER, 1943.

O.R.B. 2.11.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z6.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B. Dobson airborne Pembroke Dock 0759 on Anti-Submarine patrol but was recalled owing to weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1705.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z5.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair airborne Pembroke Dock 0800 on Anti-Submarine patrol but was recalled owing to weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1605.

O.R.B. 3.11.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z4.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled owing to weather at base. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0941 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1746.

O.R.B. 4.11.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock0355 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1705.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0341 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1708.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair airborne Pembroke Dock 2030 on Anti-Submarine patrol but was recalled owing to weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2230.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland DV.960 'H' captained by Aus. 420692 F/O. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 1934 on Anti-Submarine patrol but was recalled to base owing to the weather. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2307.

O.R.B. 6.11.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A9.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 420692 F/O. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 1122 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Aircraft returned early owing to favourable winds. Uneventful patrol. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2333.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0724 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2011.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0730 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2126.

O.R.B. 7.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A8.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. The Hospital ship 'Lady Nelson' was sighted. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0050 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1335.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 412498 F/O. C.J. Dawson carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0125 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1440.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 2105 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0905.

O.R.B. 8.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L2.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 1555 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1940 WFEN 0550 MTC 1 'ASV U/S Request Instructions' 2103 XZYA 4852 MFC 1 'F/B immediately and give ETA'. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0054.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION L1.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts airborne Pembroke Dock 1550 on Anti-Submarine patro. 1636 FPJB 0320 MTC 1 'ASV U/S What are your instructions' 1737 ZFTC 4830 MFC 1 'R/B immediately' No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1928.

O.R.B. 9.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson airborne Pembroke Dock 0831 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1430 NGTC 3806 A/c's Co. 242 sighted ship 15 miles on port bow; Did not investigate as next leg of patrol would have brought a/c over position. No details obtained as at same time 4 unidentified a/c were reported on Port beam. MTC 1 'O-A' A/C later identified as Ju.88s, and carried out attack on 'S/461' whilst latter on course 242T at 200 feet.

E/A 2 on Port beam and 2 on Port quarter on parallel course

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at 1500 feet. 'S' climbed and jettisoned DCs and Parachute flares from 500 ft. At 1432 'S' at 800 ft, the 2 E/A on Port beam turned in, the 2 on quarter crossing to starboard and attacking from that position from 1200 to 700 yards, their fire falling very short. The E/A on beam attacked from 800 to 300 yards. These attacks were repeated. E/A then formed in echelon on Port quarter and made successive attacks the last one breaking off with black smoke pouring from the starboard engine. This E/A made off to S.E., and others followed. 'S' turned into attacks and dived with all guns firing except starboard Galley. Crew of 'S' considered E/A concentrated on preventing 'S' from investigating the Ship previously reported. Heavy fuel consumption during attack forced 'S' to starboard immediately after. 12 hits sustained by 'S' - no casualties. 1 e/a severely damaged. Rounds fires: - 800 tail, 150 Mid-upper, 100 Port Galley, 120 nose, Total 1170. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2005.

Coastal Command Intelligence Summary No. 228.

Sunderland W/461 Captain F/O Dobson.
1432 - 9th November, 1943. 43,38 N. 09.00 W.
S.W. Approaches,

Aircraft on A/S patrol sighted 4 Ju.88s; two enemy aircraft attacked from port beam and two from port quarter, combat lasted 28 minutes during which time one of the enemy aircraft was severely damaged. 'S' suffered only slight damage and no casualties.

Crew of Sunderland: -

Aus.	411298	F/O. J.B.B. Dobson
Aus.	412394	F/Sgt. R.G. Catts
Aus.	418900	Sgt. I.F. Southall
Aus.	420200	F/O. D.Q. Hughes
		F/Sgt. R.V. Stewart
		Sgt. L. Peach
Aus.	426386	F/Sgt. H. Perry
		Sgt. K.C.B. Field
Aus.	411160	P/O. R.C.H. MacKellar
Aus.	414608	F/Sgt. J.D. Temple
		Sgt. E. Stephen

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1.

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 420692 F/O. R.D. Lucas witborne Pembroke Dock 0800 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1345 MGYA 4508 intercepted 'O-A' from Liberator within 20 miles; set course due west. 1435 NGMF 5140 starboard outer engine faulty and fuel consumption high. Set course for base. 1610 WFMF 5850 sighted empty ship's raft. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2025.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A3.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.SP. Howe carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0910 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2136.

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O.R.B. 10.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z1.

Sunderland EX.577 'D' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0938 - waterborne Hamworthy 2225.

O.R.B. 11.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A6.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0925 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2217.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A3.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1024 - waterborne Hamworthy 0102.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe airborne Pembroke Dock 1055 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Sighted and photographed 2 merchant vessels. Waterborne Hamworthy 0020.

O.R.B. 12.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 0922 on Anti-Submarine patrol and carried out an unsuccessful search for a suspected dinghy. Recalled owing to weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1736.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A5.

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson airborne Pembroke Dock 0839 and carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled owing to weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1650.

O.R.B. 13.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A4.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke 0940 and diverted to Hamworthy owing to shortage of fuel. Waterborne Hamworthy 2320.

O.R.B. 14.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A5.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0938 - waterborne Hamworthy 2225.

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O.R.B. 15.11.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A3.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair airborne Pembroke Dock 1029. 1140 DSTC 1258 sighted Coastal craft circled by Z/228. 1203 SFTC 5702 1 destroyer and Auxiliary vessel course 090/15. V/S from destroyer 'Have you seen any surface craft' - Replied '1 craft bears 056/40 miles from you. I go' 1257 ZFEN 5330 1 destroyer and 1 Sloop course 070/15 Kts. 1311 DMFJ 1850 Hospital ship 'Atlantis'. A/c returned early owing to favourable winds and abnormal fuel consumption caused by squalls. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2247.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A1.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401999 F/Lt. K. Newton airborne Pembroke Dock 1041 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1702 NGYX 4802 Spanish M/V, 1500 tons, course 250/5 Kts. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2353.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A6.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 0945 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1100 DSYX 3511 1 Coastal craft with Sunderland circling, 11 miles on Port beam. 1122 DSTC 0810 1 destroyer (L 18); 1 Tug (W 98) course 066/10 Kts - Photographed. 1147 ZFEN 4337 1 destroyer, 1 Sloop course 066/10 Kts; gave position to Sloop. 1343 DMRG 5044 MFC 1 'ASV U/S, weather unfit night flying; may we shorten patrol'. MFC 1 'Yes' 1732 ZFYA 3228 Eire M/V course 005/4 Kts. 1755 ZEEN 4500 1 AMC course 090/12 Kts. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2102.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A10.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1044 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2300.

O.R.B. 17.11.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A4.

Sunderland JM.685 'X' captained by Aus. 420692 F/O. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 0836 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1132 BWZK 3210 Intercepted report from Group to 5 Beaufighters 'A/C reported 49 N 10W' Altered course 270 degs, no cloud cover. 1224 ZWXU 3340 resumed original course. 1406 NGMB 5802 unidentified twin-engined A/c 12 miles astern 'X' made cloud cover. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2130.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A6.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson airborne Pembroke Dock 0805 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Returned early owing to favourable winds. Uneventful patrol. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2105.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A5.

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair airborne Pembroke Dock 0921 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1220 BWTA 0036 MTC 1 'Artificial Horizon U/S, returning 1730'. Uneventful patrol. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1733.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401999 F/Lt. R. Newton airborne Pembroke Dock 0846 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1511 GVFR 4432 altered course to investigate Spanish M/V INDAUCHAU course 050/7 Kts. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2234.

O.R.B. 18.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A3.

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 412498 F/O. C.J. Dawson airborne Pembroke Dock 1018 on Anti-Submarine patrol 1200 FNGE 4652 port outer engine cut. Pilot decided to S/C base. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1418.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1105 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0024.

O.R.B. 19.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A2.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson airborne Pembroke Dock 0420 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0924 GVZK 2322 sighted a/c, possibly Do.217, course 315 3000 ft; approached 'S' on port bow, then turned onto starboard quarter for 15 minutes at about 3 miles then made off on course 180T. A/c was never less than 3 miles from 'S'. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1620

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION A6.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair airborne Pembroke Dock 0454 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1140 TQTA 0830 intercepted 'O-A' from W/228: S/C West. 1300 ZNXU 0636 S/C return to track. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1812.

O.R.B. 20.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T3.

Sunderland JM.685 'X' captained by Aus. 420692 F/O. R.D. Lucas carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0410 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1642.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401999 F/Lt. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0420 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1710.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z4.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 412498 F/O. G.J. Dawson carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0433 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1713.

O.R.B. 21.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z2.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 0323 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0822 XWBZ 5032 broadcast MFC 'S/M at ZNPA 1248. 1009 BWEX 1840 Auxiliary Cruiser course 220/15 Kts. At this position R/T from convoy clearly audible, and for half-an-hour afterwards. 1420 DWFR 4510 1 Eire trawler and 2 drifters fishing. A/c returned somewhat early owing to favourable winds. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1553.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z4.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 0400 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1325 FNZK 1145 empty A/c dinghy. 1524 DWBC 3832 floating mine. 1543 GBQC 0606 floating mine. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1623.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z3.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0827 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1721.

O.R.B. 22.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z3.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe airborne Pembroke Dock on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0859. 1138 BWTA 4520 Hospital ship course 360/9 Kts. 1143 BWTA 3500 Hospital ship course 180/14 Kts. 1835 BWMB 3825 1 (presumed Eire M/V course 200/10 Kts, 2-3000 tons, illuminated name not decyphered. No other sighting. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2201.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z5.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401999 F/Lt. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0948 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2315.

O.R.B. 23.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z3

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0323 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1541.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0340 - waterborne Mount Batten 1542.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z6.

Sunderland JM.685 'X' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 0836 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1032 instructed to land at Hamworthy on completion of patrol. 1520 TQXU 0000 MFC 2 'R/B immediately' Uneventful patrol. Waterborne Hamworthy 1949.

O.R.B. 24.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL -

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1037, 1630 GVGE 1535 Spanish M/V 'Rio de Corme' course 090/6 Kts. Diverted to Mount Batten. Waterborne Mount Batten 2324.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 1030 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1637 GVZK 3136 patrol cut short due to weather and fuel consumption. 1830 TQZK 3856 MTC 1 'Starboard outer u/s' 1851 ZNGE 1456 MFC 1 'Land at Mount Batten on completion of sortie'. Waterborne Mount Batten 2242.

O.R.B. 25.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 0833 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1655 ZNZK 2136 S/C East to use up PLE - A/c did not turn at 4600 N owing to very bad weather conditions. 1705 ZNGE 2211 limit of diversion. 1906 FNZK 1257 ship showing red light on same or reciprocal course - direction not observed due bad visibility. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2129.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 401999 F/Lt. R. Newton carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0817 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2031.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T3.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/O. D.S.P. Howe airborne Pembroke Dock 0830. 1510 GVGE 0022 Spanish M/V 'Simancas' 3000 tons course 340/12 Kts. high out of water; photographed. 1530 GVGE 0430 Spanish M/V ' Ria de Aria' course 320/10 Kts 2500 tons; fairly heavily laden; photographed. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2214.

O.R.B. 26.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T3.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts airborne Pembroke Dock 0614 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1145 GVGE 5635 1 Spanish M/V 'Monte Galera' Course 360/8 Kts. Instructed to land at base before 1700.1610 BWFR 4615 21 L.C. course 190/unknown Kts. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1803.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0530. 1620 GBQG 0410 1 mine floating on surface. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1645.

O.R.B. 27.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 0830 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1220 recalled immediately owing to weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1524.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland JM.685 'X' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 0845 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1220 recalled immediately owing to weather at base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1458.

O.R.B. 28.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z3.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 1114 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 2236 DWFR 1503 over vessel, type unknown, dimly visible, showing navigation lights. Course 135. No details due to darkness. Waterborne Mount Batten 0141.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z5.

Sunderland DV.989 'F' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1100 - waterborne Mount Batten 2343.

O.R.B. 29.11.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z5.

Sunderland JM.676 'P' captained by Aus. 401956 F/Lt. D.S.P. Howe airborne Pembroke Dock 1005 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1410 XWMB 4957 MTC 1 'O-A'. Nothing further heard from this aircraft. The crew were: -

Aus. 401956	F/Lt.	D.S.P. Howe
Aus. 400114	F/O.	J.J. Dupont, D.F.M.
Aus. 5364	P/O.	G.Y. Temple
Aus. 422071	P/O.	W.J. Withers
Aus. 423628	F/O.	G.W.B. Bye
	F/Sgt.	L. White
Aus. 414321	F/Sgt.	J.H. Royal
Aus. 415745	F/Sgt.	L.G. Studman
Aus. 419325	F/Sgt.	W.K. Motite
Aus. 412533	F/O.	K.V. Hore
Aus. 402319	F/O.	R.R. Critcher
	Sgt.	R. Jeffreys
Aus. 420051	F/Sgt.	J.H. Poulton

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1st December, 1943

NOMINAL ROLL OF No. 461 SQUADRON

Aus. 418577	Sgt.	Allardice, R.C.	of Canterbury, Victoria
Aus. 428288	P/O.	Alexander, R.R.	of St. Arnaud, Victoria
Aus. 411112	P/O.	Amiss, J.C.	of Hawthorn, Victoria
Aus. 402914	W/O.	Bateup R.J.	of Yass, N.S.W.
Aus. 406514	P/O.	Bird, P.C.	of Bunbury, W.A.
Aus. 405119	A/F/Lt.	Baird, R.D.J.	of Lismore, N.S.W.
Aus. 10530	A/Sgt.	Bamber, F.	of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 424550	P/O.	Bunce, F.H.	of Vaucluse, Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 418247	F/Sgt.	Brewin, P.H.	of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 410448	F/Sgt.	Bunnett, S.T.G.	of Lower Purntree Gully, Victoria
Aus. 410444	F/Sgt.	Bremner, C.D.	of Burwood, Victoria
Aus. 423654	Sgt.	Cottier, J.C.	of Kingsford, N.S.W.
Aus. 420444	F/Sgt.	Cochrane, J.W.B.	of Manly, N.S.W.
Aus. 417621	Sgt.	Criddle, P.R.	of Kingston, S.A.
Aus. 412394	F/Sgt.	Catts, R.G.	of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 410217	F/O.	Creighton, J.W.	of Thornbury, Victoria
Aus. 403860	A/S/Ldr.	Cooke, H.G. D.F.C.	of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 5761	F/Sgt.	Cox, L.W.	of Wagga, N.S.W.
Aus. 420138	P/O.	Carmody, D.K.	of Mosman, Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 415859	P/O.	Crooks, J.B.	of East Victoria Park, W.A.
Aus. 410455	P/O.	Conning, G.S.	of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 171	W/Cdr.	Douglas, D.L.G.	of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 403216	A/F/Lt.	Davenport, P.R.	of Blakehurst, N.S.W.
Aus. 412498	P/O.	Dawson, C.J.	of Glen Innes, N.S.W.
Aus. 411298	P/O.	Dobson, J.S.B.	of Dee Why, N.S.W.
Aus. 425619	P/O.	Done, W.G.	of Kingaroy, Queensland
Aus. 10780	F/O.	Dunn, W.V.	of Kaunia, Victoria
Aus. 413547	F/Sgt.	Davenport, K.N.	of Blakehurst, N.S.W.
Aus. 415724	F/Sgt.	Darcey, W.J.	of Leaderville, W.A.
Aus. 3932	A/S/Ldr.	Egerton, T.A.	of Williamston, Victoria
Aus. 411014	F/O.	Eaton, L.G.	of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 406929	F/O.	Eastwood, G.R.	of Lower Chittering, W.A.
Aus. 425495	F/Sgt.	Edge, J.R.	of Malanda, Queensland
Aus. 403805	P/O.	Forsythe, A.	of Redhead, N.S.W.
Aus. 427642	P/O.	Goode, D.	of Subiaco, W.A.
Aus. 417479	F/Sgt.	Gryst, A.B.	of Adelaide, S.A.
Aus. 429427	P/O.	Godsall, H.M.	of Toowoomba, Queensland
Aus. 418945	F/Sgt.	Harris, E.A.	of Glenhuntley, Victoria
Aus. 401562	W/O.	Hattam, R.	of Kantone, Victoria
Aus. 420200	F/O.	Hughes, D.Q.	of Newcastle, N.S.W.
Aus. 9429	F/Sgt.	Hall, H.	of Moonee Ponds, Victoria
Aus. 419314	F/Sgt.	Hyland, F.G.	of Ascot Vale, Melbourne
Aus. 6612	A/Sgt.	Hammond, R.	of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 23074	A/Sgt.	Hughes, F.E.	of Melbourne Victoria
Aus. 415790	F/Sgt.	Hawthorne, R.C.	of Kalgoorlie, W.A.
Aus. 401696	W/O.	Jones, I.C.	of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 427096	F/Sgt.	Jaffey, F.L.	of Perth, W.A.
Aus. 403592	F/Lt.	Jensen, P.T.	of Gladsville, Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 403030	W/O.	Kent, J.W.	of Stratfield, N.S.W.
Aus. 403417	F/Lt.	Kennedy, D.H.	of Manilla, N.S.W.
Aus. 425023	F/O.	Kennedy, J.	of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 428253	P/O.	Larnach, R.H.	of Pascoe Vale, Victoria
Aus. 420692	P/O.	Lucas, R.D.	of Bondi, N.S.W.
Aus. 5594	P/O.	Lewis, O.H.	of Willunga, S.A.
Aus. 409418	F/O.	Livermore, J.B.R.	of Vermont, Victoria
Aus. 401976	P/O.	Leigh, P.C.	of Surry Hills, Victoria
Aus. 400656	F/O.	Marrows, D.	of Park Dale, Victoria
Aus. 411160	P/O.	Mackellar, R.C.H.	of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 412999	F/O.	Moffatt, D.W.	of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 414314	F/Sgt.	Morgan, H.H.	of Kyogle, N.S.W.
Aus. 424324	P/O.	Morse, S.R.	of Bellevue Hill, N.S.W.
Aus. 420903	F/O.	McDermott, J.D.	of Hurlstone Park, N.S.W.
Aus. 403465	F/O.	McKeough, N.N.	of Krambach, via Taree, N.S.W.
Aus. 401999	F/O	Newton, R.	of Elwood, Victoria

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Aus. 426364 Sgt. Martin, O.E. of Warwick, Queensland
Aus. 425955 Sgt. Molan, D.F. of Newtown, Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 421542 F/Sgt. Norris, R.W. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 406535 W/O. Ovens, H.R. of York, W.A.
Aus. 420265 F/O. Prentice, R.H. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 416005 F/Sgt. Pfeiffer, P.G. of Point Pass, S.A.
Aus. 5906 P/O. Petherick, A.C.H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 14455 A/Sgt. Pearce, A.N. of Seven Hills, N.S.W.
Aus. 402805 F/O. Peatty, I.V.R. of Granville, N.S.W.
Aus. 20745 F/Sgt. Pollock, R.E.H. of Tamworth, N.S.W.
Aus. 426386 F/Sgt. Perry, H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 427350 F/O. Ramsay, J. of Leaderville, W.A.
Aus. 26618 F/Sgt. Russell, J. of Croydon, S.A.
Aus. 414321 F/Sgt. Royal, J.H. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 414837 F/Sgt. Royal, N.A. of Townsville, Queensland
Aus. 404057 F/O. Richmond, A.G.G. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 416130 F/O. Roberts, H.D. of ST. KILDA, VICTORIA
Aus. 415695 F/Sgt. Stopher, R.D. of Kalgoorlie, W.A.
Aus. 423348 F/Sgt. Stephenson, K.W. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 405264 F/Lt. Sullivan, J.F. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 402617 F/Sgt. Sidney, D.C. of Coogee, N.S.W.
Aus. 409326 F/O. Sinclair, D.A. of Rosanna, Melbourne
Aus. 410747 F/O. Sharp, J.E. of Hampden, Victoria
Aus. 428853 F/O. Sheenan, N.G.G. of Narrabean, N.S.W.
Aus. 418900 Sgt. Southall, I.F. of Surrey Hills, Victoria
Aus. 402547 F/Sgt. See, T.F.W. of Vaucluse, N.S.W.
Aus. 411464 F/O. Tegart, A.R. of Sydney, N.S.W.
Aus. 415195 F/O. Taplin, E.W. of Midland Junction, W.A.
Aus. 5942 F/Sgt. Taylor, A.J. of Melbourne, Victoria
Aus. 414608 F/Sgt. Temple, J.D. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 410585 F/Sgt. Thompson, R.N. of Bunnaloo, N.S.W.
Aus. 418211 Turnbull, H.R. of Toorak, Victoria
Aus. 423267 Sgt. Toose, C.L. of Boree Creek, N.S.W.
Aus. 407210 F/O. Viner, G. of Unley, S.A.
Aus. 402193 F/Lt. Watson, J.H.E. of Surrey, England
Aus. 401356 F/O. Winstanley, H.E. D.F.C. of Geelong, Victoria
Aus. 415062 F/O. Watts, R.S. of Subiaco, W.A.
Aus. 6739 P/O. Woodland, W.L. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 420365 F/Sgt. Weekes, H.V. of Orange
Aus. 414619 F/Sgt. Wyeth, H.A. of Brisbane, Queensland
Aus. 410797 Sgt. Webster, R.L. of Melbourne,
Aus. 422340 Sgt. Wilson, A.H. of Bondi, N.S.W.
Aus. 410767 F/Sgt. Wright, G.S. of Victoria
Aus. 424254 Sgt. Woolley, R.H. of Mudgee, N.S.W.

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DECEMBER, 1943.

DECEMBER 5th, 1943. INVESTITURE. Aus. 3932 S/Ldr. T.A. Egerton D.F.C. and Aus. 403860 S/Ldr. H.G. Cooke, D.F.C. went to Buckingham Palace to an investiture held by H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester, in the absence, through illness, of H.M. the King.

DECEMBER 9th, 1943. VISIT. Air Vice Marshal H.N. Wrigley, Air Officer Commanding, R.A.A.F. Overseas Headquarters, accompanied by Wing Commander Hartnell, visited the Squadron.

DECEMBER 21st, 1943. VISIT. Squadron Leader J. Trascy, Reverend Father, from R.A.A.F. Overseas Headquarters visited the Squadron.

DECEMBER 24th, 1943. ENEMY NAVAL FORCE. Sunderland captained by Aus. 412498 F/O. C.J. Dawson, acting on orders, found and shadowed an enemy naval force of ten ships. Flak from the destroyers and a Ju.88 were evaded in cloud. Sunderland captained by Aus. 420692 F/Lt. R.D. Lucas sighted an enemy surface force in action with Halifaxes and three unidentified aircraft.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES. A Christmas Eve 'Smoke Social' was held for all ranks, at which the Commanding Officer, Wing Commander D.L.G. Douglas, D.F.C. made a short speech, thanking the maintencance staff for their good work.

DECEMBER 27th, 1943. As part of the Christmas entertainment the pantomime, "Cinderella" was performed by personnel of the Station.

DECEMBER 28th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Sunderland captained by Aus. 401999 F/Lt. R. Newton was attacked by a FW.200 but managed to reach cloud cover. No casualties were sustained.

DECEMBER 30th, 1943. LIFEBOAT SIGHTED. Sunderland captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh sighted and reported a lifeboat with 35 survivors.

The following are copies of messages received from the Air Officer Commanding No. 19 Group.

(1) Please convey my appreciation of the excellent results obtained during the past three months by the Maintenance personnel of R.A.F. Station, Pembroke Dock. In spite of increase in tasks and length of operational sorties, all ranks have consistently made the grade. Well done.

(2) As a result of operations during the past few days, one valuable enemy blockade runner was sunk by H/311 and 3 enemy Destroyers were sunk and others damaged by H.M. Ships who only suffered superficial damage and eight casualties. This highly successful operation was largely made possible by the consistent accuracy of positions given in sightings reports and the excellent procedure in shadowing and homing. Well done all aircrews and maintenance personnel.

STATISTICS. Squadron statistics up to 31.12.43

Sorties 687
Hours 764
Miles 917280

Submarines sunk 4, damaged 2,
Enemy aircraft destroyed 4, probably destroyed 6, damaged 8.

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NOVEMBER, 1943.

NOVEMBER 9th, 1943. ATTACK BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT. While on Anti-Submarine patrol, Sunderland captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson was attacked by four Ju.88s. Hits were sustained but no casualties. One enemy aircraft is claimed as severely damaged.

NOVEMBER 16th, 1943. INVESTITURE. Aus. 400114 F/O. J.J. Dupont went to Buckingham Palace to receive the D.F.M. from H.M. the King. F/O. Dupont was awarded the D.F.M. while serving with another unit.

NOVEMBER 25th, 1943. Aus. 403860 S/Ldr. H.G. Cooke, D.F.C. took over the duties of Flight Commander from Aus. 3932 S/Ldr. T.A. Egerton, D.F.C. who is returning to Australia.

NOVEMBER 29th, 1943. SUNDERLAND LOST. Sunderland captained by Aus. 401956 F/Lt. D.S.P. Howe took off on Anti-Submarine patrol and failed to return. The crew were: - Aus. 401956 F/Lt. D.S.P. Howe, Aus. 400114 F/O. J.J. Dupont, D.F.M., Aus. 5364 P/O. G.Y. Temple, Aus. 422071 P/O. W.J. Withers, Aus. 423628 F/O. G.W.B. Bye, Aus. 414321 F/Sgt. J.H. Royal, F/Sgt. L. White, Aus. 415745 F/Sgt. L.G. Studman, Aus. 419325 F/Sgt. W.K. Motitt, Aus. 412533 F/O. K.V. Hore, Aus. 402319 F/O. E.R. Critcher, Sgt. R. Jeffreys, and Aus. 420051

NOVEMBER 30th, 1943. GARDEN PARTY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE. Aus. 171 W/Cdr. D.L.G. Douglas, D.F.C., as one of six Dominion and Allied officers, attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and met their Majesties.

STATISTICS.

Total number of sorties and hours completed by the Squadron up to 30.11.43

Sorties	630
Hours	7101

Enemy Submarines destroyed 4, probably destroyed 5, damaged 2.
Enemy aircraft destroyed 10, probably destroyed 8, damaged 7.

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VERY SECRET

OPERATIONS No. 461 SQUADRON, R.A.A.F.

DECEMBER, 1943.

O.R.B. 1.12.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0958 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1700.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T4.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair airborne Pembroke Dock 0958 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Instructed to look-out for dinghy in position 48.30 N 09.07 W - not seen. 1225 LXBF 3455 MFC "Move patrol bodily direction 000 - 30 miles" 1425 QKBF 4310 2 unidentified aircraft 090 degs green, 3 miles, 1000 feet, course 170 - no contact. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1723.

O.R.B. 2.12.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION R2.

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 2140 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0115 QKHY 2505 MTC 1 "Returning to base - engine trouble. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0410.

O.R.B. 3.12.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson airborne Pembroke Dock 0715 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1031 QKVY 0651 MFC 1 "Hunt Sub between Spanish Coast and 44.30N between 07 and 09 W. 1538 JBVY 2830 jettisoned 2 D.Cs 'safe' to lighten a/c owing to shortage of fuel. 1540 JBVY 3031 MFC 2 "R/B immediately". 1608 QKVT 1036 jettisoned remaining 3 D.Cs 'safe'. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2100.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION S1.

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 2137 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 0910.

O.R.B. 4.12.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T4.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair airborne Pembroke Dock 0426 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1014 VZBF 0024 proceeded coastwise to investigate Spanish shipping. 1026 MFBF 3837 Spanish M.V. "Castillo Coca" in territorial waters course 030 practically stationary. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1735.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. 1810 GQHY 5750 1 M.V. 1500 tons, course 080 8 knots. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0849 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1923.

O.R.B. 6.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0850 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2138.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0947 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2210.

O.R.B. 9.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z2.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0940 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1710.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z4.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts airborne Pembroke Dock 0957 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1113 GQJN 2335 photographed 5 fishing vessels. 1130 GQJN 2335 MFC 1 "Patrol 180 degs to PLE from 48N - 12.40W. Return to base 1730". No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1713.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z6.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 0946 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1007 MLFF 3111 1 Baloon similar Mk VI almost submerged. 1200 PSBF 1340 MFC 1 "Patrol 180 degs to PLE from 49N - 1220W. Return at 1730". No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1653.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z1.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson airborne Pembroke Dock 0955 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1205 GQVY 0537 MFC 1 "Patrol 180 degs to PLE from 49N 12W. Return base by 1730" No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1715.

O.R.B. 10.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - BPT 10.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 0953 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1437 LMFK 1006 Eire M.V. "Irish Cedar" course 055/8 kts photographed. 1628 QKHE 2235 1 Tug and 2 E/Vs (J338, J339); V/S from J339 "Report my speed, 11 kts course 035" - photographed. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2330.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T4.

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 420692 F/Lt. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 0946 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1136 PSHY 4555 Aux, Cr course 310/17 kts. 1947 LXJN 0902 A/C on course 033 T at 1000 ft, V/S and by S.E, U-boat fully surfaced 3 miles starboard beam, course and speed unknown. (MTC 1 "U-Sight report) 2000 dropped sea marker and commenced patrol to keep U-boat up moon; 4 contacts obtained which faded when investigated - nothing seen. 2022 LXJN 1409 MTC 2 "U-boat previously reported course/speed unknown - position 48.09N 0858W - submerged - marker dropped - R/B fuel". No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2303.

O.R.B. 11.12.43

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair airborne Pembroke Dock 0840 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1110 LXBF 3802 MFC 1 "Hunt U-Boat 46.40N 08.40 W course west, speed 2 kts at 2056. 1146 QKVY 4045 suspicious object 70 Ds red 15 miles. 1159 QKBF 3610 dropped marker in estimated position of object at 1207; commenced search 1 from CCTI 42 - 1½ circuits completed. 1330 commenced CLA search westwards. 1650 JBBF 4846 commenced search CCTI 42 until PLE. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2220.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts airborne Pembroke Dock 0858 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1000 GQHY 2532 MFC 1 "Hunt U-boat 45.32N 07.00W course West/2 Kts at 2304, fighter escort proceeding". 1454 DDHY 3253 commenced square search, visibility 3 miles until 1712 - PLE. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2250.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson airborne Pembroke Dock 0900 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1015 GQHY 0625 MFC 1 "Hunt U-boat 45.32N 07.00W course West/2 kts at 2304; fighter escort proceeding to position" 1205 QKBF 2803 sighted marine marker with Liberator and Sunderland in vicinity. 1447 DDHY 3213 commenced square search. 1517 2nd Pilot sighted object throught to be Sub. investigated, nothing found. 1533 DDJN 0733 sighted Barrage Balloon half-deflated on sea - resumed search. 1630 DDHY 2321 PLE. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2210.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T3.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0855 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2255. 1157 QKBF 2104 R/T message from U.S. Liberator (Titan Leader). "No contact, am continuing search".

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O.R.B. 12.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION S2.

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 420692 F/Lt. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 0935 on Anti-Submarine patrol but returned to base owing to engine trouble. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1030.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION S3.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 0929 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1015 GQQL 2846 M.V., tug and E/V sighted course 090/ 8 kts. 1150 QKJN 5208 MFC 1 "Hunt U-boat 44.29 N 08.11 W course 220/4 Kts" Recalled by 1700. 1728 MLFF 2330 M.V. 8000 tons course 000/10 kts; V/S from MV "Compass out of order, what is bearing of Milford Haven" - given. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1759.

O.R.B. 13.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION S2.

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 420692 F/Lt. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 0940 on Anti-Submarine patrol but returned early owing to engine trouble. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1126.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION S2.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 0622 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1051 VZJN 3304 Spanish M.V. of 500 tons, course 215/8 kts "Riadepontavia" sighted and photographed. No other sightings. Recalled by 1700. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1650.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION S2.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts airborne Pembroke Dock 0904 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1018 PSQL 5000 MFC 1 "Consol unreliable" 1051 MFC 2 "Consol to be used' No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1651.

O.R.B. 14.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T3.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 0901 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled from an uneventful patrol by 1700. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1642.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T3.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0558 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1727.

O.R.B. 15.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0938 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1715.

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O.R.B. 16.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0501 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1641.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T4.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 0931 on Anti-Submarine patrol 1359 CLML 1255 sighted Balloon nearly submerged, probably Mk.VI; photographed and sunk by gunfire. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1701.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0935 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1630.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T4.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 409326 F/O. D.A. Sinclair airborne Pembroke Dock 0517 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled by 1700. 1002 TZML 3654 two Spanish Fishing vessels course 160/2 Kts. 1014 TZML 2859 one 1500 ton Spanish MV "Castello Gaudelest" course 115/8 kts. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1640.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.- PER

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 411298 F/O. J.B.B. Dobson carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled by 1700. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0510 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1631.

O.R.B. 17.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T4.

Sunderland EJ.138 'J' captained by Aus. 420692 F/Lt. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 0921 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0945 RZJY 1414 MTC 1 "R/B engine trouble - ETA 1005". No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1008.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 0912 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Recalled by 1700, later recalled immediately. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1230.

O.R.B. 18.12.43 RECONNAISSANCE (C.L.A. SEARCH).

Sunderland DV.961 'A' captained by Aus. 403860 S/Ldr. H.G. Cooke, D.F.C. airborne Pembroke Dock 1259. 1509 LSZB 0101 small brown Balloon diameter 6/8 ft, on water; seemed to be attached to submerged object - conditions too bad to close. 1533 MMNC 5730 1 LCT course 090/Kts 8 - photographed. Ordered to base immediately. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1655.

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O.R.B. 20.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0854. - waterborne Mount Batten 2332.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts airborne Pembroke Dock 0854 on Anti-Submarine patrol but returned early owing to engine trouble. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1105.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 0853 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Returned to base with W/T unserviceable. No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1107.

O.R.B. 21.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T4.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 420692 F/Lt. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 1002 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1610 TZML 0538 Captain decided to return to base owing to Oil Pressure Gauge reading low. Diverted to Hamworthy. Waterborne Hamworthy 2241.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION S4.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts airborne Pembroke Dock 1004 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Diverted to Hamworthy. A/C returned early owing to suspected lack of oil owing to leak. No sightings. Waterborne Hamworthy 2001.

O.R.B. 22.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland JM.683 'W' captained by Aus. 415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin airborne Pembroke Dock 0945 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1220 MWML 5230 one MV 2000 tons course 090/15 kts. Ship photographed on instructions from Control. 1235 MTC 'ETA 2210 IFF may show distress'. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2220.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T3.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 0945 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1218 MTC 1 "MV course 090/15 knots MWML 4324" (Ship had not acknowledged Recco signals or request for name) 1239 MTC 1 "Send full sighting report" 1300 MTC 3522 "Funnell and Mast amidships, 1 Island, Funnel average, profile composite, length 360 ft, 4000 tons gross". 1326 MTC 4 "Shadowing MV with Sunderland" 1435 MTC 5 "Ship position 49.50 N 09.05 W, Bow raked, Stern square" 1506 MTC 2 "Confirm if ship is BYMS 376" 1526 MTC 6 "Ship is 376" 1526 V/S from Ship "What is my position" - given; 49.50 N 08.41 W. (Ship photographed) 1715 MTC 8 "Five Minesweepers 49.25 N 10.05 W course 065 15 kts. with Liberator" 1715 Excessive Fuel consumption - S/C Scillies. 1737 MWUC 4523 Fuel consumption became normal. S/C MWML 3008. 1946 MWML 3017 S/C base. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2137.

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O.R.B. 23.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 1008 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 2390.

O.R.B. 24.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T4.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0655 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1940.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROLS - PERCUSSION T1 & T2.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 412498 F/Lt. C.J. Dawson airborne Pembroke Dock 0710 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0910 MWML 5000 Mid-upper turret electrical connections, previously found unserviceable, now determined non-repairable. 1015 CLTA 4206 MFC 1 "Shadow force reported at 0800 position 4505 N 1005 W etc. 1053 DXGK 2552 a/c VJTA 1108 MFC 2 "Speed of enemy force may be 15 kts" 1100 MFC 2 corrected 0800 position 45.30N 1006W. 1114 VJTA 3802 sighted 10 ships 5 - 8 miles on starboard bow, identified 2 destroyers certain, remainder unidentified; course 270/unknown kts. A/c altered course to avoid flak from destroyer, bursting 200 yards distant, OK for height. 1125 VJTA 5015 MTC 1 "Contact gained with enemy force position 45.38 N 10.58 W course 270/15 kts. 1159 VJTA 3802 regained contact with enemy force, shadowed from 15 miles. 12151VJGK 2005 1 Ju.88 closed to 1200 yards - 'G' gained cloud; no shots exchanged. MTC 2 O-A. 1235 DXGK 1838 hydraulic system u/s - Mid-upper turret. 1250 DXGK 4045 MTC 3 "Safe, R/B, Mid-upper hydraulics u/s" No further sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1648.

Crew: - Aus. 412498 F/Lt. C.J. Dawson
Aus. 409418 F/O. J.B.B. Livermore
Aus. 417079 F/Sgt. T.B. Goode
Aus. 412999 F/O. D.W. Moffat
W/O. W.R. Hiscock
W/O. J. Rhyder
F/Sgt. Brooks
Aus. 10780 F/O. W.V. Dunn
Aus. 410217 F/O. J.W. Creighton
Sgt. F.W. Salisbury
Sgt. F.W. Clements

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 420692 F/Lt. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 0840 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1230 CLTA 1010 two twin-engined a/c on reciprocal course on port quarter 2 miles distant; A/c entered clour and lost contact. 1556 VJTA 0030 in view of action between Halifaxes and enemy surface craft ahead of a/c, and also an unidentified twin-engined a/c having been sighted 5 miles on starboard quarter, Captain decided that no useful purpose would be served by flying further on course; therefore S/C due West through cloud. 1715 VJJS 1000 S/C base owing strong head winds PLE. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2210.

Crew: - Aus. 420692 F/Lt. R.D. Lucas
Aus. 420265 F/O. R.H. Prentice
Aus. 427642 P/O. D. Goode
Aus. 410444 F/Sgt. C.D. Bremner
Sgt. D. Musson
F/Sgt. G.H. Simmonds
P/O. R.G.D. Smith-Gander. Sgt. D.M. Walker
Aus. 415724 F/Sgt. W.J. Darcey Aus. 410448 F/Sgt. S.T.G. Bunnet
Aus. 416130 F/O. H.D. Roberts Aus. 414111 F/Sgt. R.D. Warfield
Sgt. J.R. Brannen

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O.R.B. 25.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T4.

Sunderland JM.686 'Y' captained by Aus.415195 P/O. P.E. Taplin carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0955 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1557.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leighairborne Pembroke Dock 1006 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Starboard inner engine cut out in take-off. R/T from Control to R/moorings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1131.

O.R.B. 28.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z6.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 0437 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 0610 MWUC 4659 (a/c above cloud) at 3000 feet saw 1 green light similar to Verey slightly above. Unable to estimate distance. 1220 DXYV 4555 1 unidentified a/c - estimated FW.200 - approached as if to attack but did not get closer than three miles; both a/c at 1500 feet. Took evasive action into sun. 1225 MTC 1 "O-A 487 1" 1251 MTC 2 "Safe" No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1720.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z3.

Sunderland EK.577 'D' captained by Aus. 401999 F/Lt. R. Newton airborne Pembroke Dock 0702 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1040 CLBY 5059 FW.200 sighted 1 mile distant. 600 feet, course 090, came straight into attack. MTC 1 "O-A 457 1 FW.200" E/A fired one burst 'D' gained cloud cover. 1100 MTC 2 "Safe: A/c previously reported last seen CLBY 5049 course 090 500 feet" No other sightings.

Crew: - Aus. 401999 F/Lt. R. Newton
Aus. 428853 P/O. N.O.G. Sheehan
Aus. 428253 P/O. R.H. Larnach
Aus. 414514 F/Sgt. M.G. McClure
F/Sgt. J.A. Higgins
Aus. 6615 Sgt. J.A. Moore
Aus. 415790 F/Sgt. R.O. Hawthorne
Aus. 20745 F/Sgt. E.H.Pollock
Aus. 425064 F/Sgt. R.J. Seeley
Aus. 427096 F/Sgt. F.L. Jaffey
Aus. 420193 F/Sgt. R.J. Brown

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION Z5.

Sunderland JM.678 'G' captained by Aus. 412498 F/Lt. C.J. Dawson airborne Pembroke Dock 0705 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1310 DXDE 1049 MFC 1 "Eleven ships 47.05 N 12.40 W course 140/14 Kts". No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1945.

O.R.B. 29.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T2.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 0355 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Returned early owing to engine trouble. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 0524.

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ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T3.

Sunderland EJ.133 - 'T' captained by Aus. 420692 F/Lt. E.D. Lucas carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0406 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1600.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION T1.

Sunderland EJ.142 'S' captained by Aus. 415062 P/O. R.S. Watts carried out an uneventful Anti-Submarine patrol. Airborne Pembroke Dock 0348 - waterborne Pembroke Dock 1703.

O.R.B. 30.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION S1.

Sunderland DD.866 'B' captained by Aus. 401976 P/O. P.C. Leigh airborne Pembroke Dock 0951 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1002 RZZB 4340 MTC 1 "Search for U-boat position 46.30 N 12.25 W" 1325 DXJS 3035 reached position MTC 1 "No contact. Commenced square search using 3 miles visibility" 1353 DXJS 2621 Ship's lifeboat with survivors; dropped marine marker. 1405 MTC 2 "Lifeboat with 35 survivors 46.25 N 12.40 W" Circled until 1425 MFC 3 "Resume patrol" A/c S/C for original patrol. 1625 JLML 5802 patrol limit; S.O. Engine u/s. Aircraft returned 1 hour early owing to engine trouble. No other sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2148.

ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - PERCUSSION S4.

Sunderland EK.575 'C' captained by Aus. 403216 F/Lt. P.R. Davenport airborne Pembroke Dock 1042 on Anti-Submarine patrol. 1042 RZYJ 0017 MFC 1 "Search for U-boat in position 46.30 N 12.25 W" 1135 MWNC 2247 as patrol was 200 miles East of position given in Control signal, Captain decided to ask for instructions. MFC 2 "Ignore my 0949" No sightings. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 2319.

O.R.B. 31.12.43 ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL - CLA PATROL.

Sunderland EJ.133 'T' captained by Aus. 420692 F/Lt. R.D. Lucas airborne Pembroke Dock 1040 on Anti-Submarine patrol. Port inner engine failed during take-off. Waterborne Pembroke Dock 1055.

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