

AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Flying Corps

Item number: 8/5/5

**Title: No 2 Squadron, Australian Flying
Corps**

December 1917



AWM4-8/5/5

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

(Erase heading not required.)

68 Squadron A. F. C.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1/12/17		Lt. Benjamin in 9341 left the Aero. at Baizieux at 12.5.p.m. on a Special Mission over Bourlon Woods. He was shot down by E.A. at Wagholien, Oil Tank shot through top, left Longerons shot through and split. Pilot O.K. To A.D. for repair.	
	1/12/17		Lt. Robertson in 9461 left the Aerodrome Baizieux at 12 noon on a special Mission over Bourlon Wood. He was shot down by enemy aircraft. Top left Longerons shot through. No. 1 Cly. shot thro' Prop. shot thro' Back Plate bent. Petrol Tank shot through. To 2 A.D. for repair.	
	4/12/17		Lt. Taylor in 9336 left the Aero. Baizieux at 12.40 p.m. on a special Mission over Bourlon Wood and was returning at 2.25 p.m. crashed through a bad landing. Machine ran down the hill, jumped a road, got jammed between trees, 2 Bottom Longerons broken, Planes, Rudder Bar, Ce. Section and Spars broken. Prop, broken. To 2 A.D. for repairs. Pilot uninjured.	
	6/12/17		Lt. McKenzie in 9544 left Aero. Baizieux at 10.30 a.m. on a special Mission over Bourlon Wood and came down at Fremicourt damaged by E.A. Aileron shot away, btm. R & L Longerons shot through, Planes broken, Engine and front of fuselage completely wrecked. Pilot uninjured. Machine returned for repair.	
	6/12/17		Lt. Johnson in 9279 left the Aerodrome at 10.35 a.m. on a Special Mission over Bourlon Wood and returned to Aerodrome shot about by E.A. Damaged 3 transverse struts and fuselage shot through Pilot O.K. Machine returned for repair.	
	11/12/17		Lt. Cornell in 9324 left the Aerodrome at 2.20 p.m. and crashed at 2.25 p.m. at Baizieux. Pilot killed. Cause flat turn and stall and nose dive at 500 ft. Machine struck off.	
	12/12/17		<u>S.E. 5.A. MACHINES NOW USED BY SQUADRON.</u> Lt. Pratt left Aero at Aerial Range Berck sur Mer at 9.35 a.m. crashed in taking off. Due to rough nature of landing ground. Pilot O.K. 2 Btm. longerons, 2 engine bearers broken. Fuselage & bracing member broken near tail. 4 Main Planes broken, also spar and C. Section struts. Ailerons tail fin, rudder broken. Prop. broken. Returned for repair.	
	27/12/17		Lt. A.G. Clark in B/64 left the Aerodrome at 3.30. and came down at 4 p.m. cause Pilot ran into big snow drift after landing. Pilot O.K. 4 rear Longerons broken machine badly smashed. Written off.	

War time flown 10.35
Test 3.05
Total 13.40

Pilots available 15 *Training 3 Light Duty 1*

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 12
U 6

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 1st December, 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DH5. A9341	Lt. Johnson	Test	7.55	8.05	U. -Rudder bar broken . bent
.. A9535	Lt. McKenzie	-do-	7.20	7.25	S.
A9531	Capt. Wilson	) Low	7.05	7.15	Returned early. Eng. trouble.
A9336	Lt. Taylor	) Flying.	7.05	8.35	F.L. at 59 Sqn. Undercarriage shot about.
A9459	Lt. Sands	) -do-	7.05	8.35	Landed A.L.G. for refill. See Attack on E.I. No. 25
A9461	Lt. Huxley	) -do-	7.05	8.35	-do- -do- See Combat Report No. 20.
A9461	Lt. Huxley	-do-	9.45	10.40	See Attack on E.I. No. 25
A9459	Lt. Sands	-do-	9.45	10.50	-do- -do- -do-
A9531	Capt. Wilson	Test	8.05	8.10	U. -Aileron controls out of order.
A9338	2/Lt. A. Clark	Trav. Flt.	8.05	8.35	Delivering new m/c from 2 A.S.D.
A9544	2/Lt. Benjamin	-do-	8.05	8.35	-do- -do-
A9324	2/Lt. Truscott	-do-	8.05	8.35	-do- -do-
A9255	Lt. Forrest	Test	11.45	11.50	S.
A9255	Lt. Forrest	Low	12.00	1.05	See combat report No. 21 <i>attack on E.I. no 26</i>
A9341	2/Lt. Benjamin	Flying.	12.00	12.45	F.L. at A.L.G. Wagonlieu. Report not available.
A9466	Lt. Robertson	-do-	12.00	12.50	Machine damaged by E.A. Petrol tank shot through.
A9535	Lt. McKenzie	-do-	12.00	1.00	F.L. close to Bapaume. <i>duetto</i> damage by E. fire.
A9535	Lt. McKenzie	-do-	1.20	1.35	F.L. between Mayeneville & Courselles. See combat Report No. 22.
A9255	Lt. Forrest	Trav. Flt.	2.30	2.50	Landed A.L.G.
A9535	Lt. McKenzie	-do-	2.30	2.50	From A.L.G. to Baizieux.
A9531	Capt. Wilson	Test	3.35	3.30	-do- -do-
A9288	Capt. Phillipps	-do-	3.20	3.35	S.
A9449	Capt. Wilson	-do-	3.45	3.50	S.
A9531	2/Lt. A. Clark	-do-	3.45	3.50	U. <i>Engine unsatisfactory</i> U. <i>Engine unsatisfactory</i>

W. H. R. O.

APPENDIX

Pilots available 15 - Training 3. Light duty 1.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 14
U 4

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 2nd December, 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DH5, <u>1/12/17</u> A9279	Lt. Johnson	Test	4.20p	4.25p	Unsatisfactory-
<u>2/12/17.</u> A9449	Capt. Wilson	Test	7.10a	7.20a	S.
A9517	Lt. Howard	Low Flying	7.40a	9.25a	) See E.I. Report No. 27. } Landed A.L.G.
A9255	Lt. R. Clark	-de-	7.40a	9.05a	
A9344	Lt. Holden	-de-	7.40a	9.25	
A9288	Cpt. Phillipps	-de-	7.40a	9.05	
A9279	Lt. Johnson	Test	7.40a	7.45a	S.
A9338	Capt. Wilson	-de-	9.55a	10.05a	S.
A9544	Lt. McKenzie	-de-	10.30a	10.35a	U.-
A9279	Lt. Johnson	Escort	11.00a	12.35p	) Did not see photography machine. Stayed over) EPEHY for 40 minutes.
A9255	Lt. Forrest	-de-	11.00a	12.20p	
A9535	Lt. Robertsen	-de-	11.00a	-	Perced landing A.L.G.-Eng. trouble.
A9544	Lt. McKenzie	-de-	11.00a	12.25p	) Photography m/c not seen. Stayed over EPEHY for 40 mts.
A9292	Lt. R. Clark	Low Flying	9.30a	11.55	) See See E.I. Report No. 27.
A9288	Cpt. Phillipps	-de-	9.30a	11.55	
A9449	Cpt. Wilson	Reconn.	3.15p	4.30p	Not yet returned See E.I. Report No. 28 -de- -de-
A9459	Lt. Sands	-de- + low flying	3.15p	4.30p	
A9517	Lt. Howard	Test	3.35	3.40p	S.
A9461	Lt. Huxley	Spec. Mis. Recon. T low fly - 7	3.35	4.30	Not yet returned See E.I. Report No. 28.

Waterhouse
Lt. &
Recording Officer,
A.F.C.

APPENDIX

War time flown ... 15.20
Test 2.00
Total.. .. 17.20

Pilots available 15 Training 3 - Light duty 1.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 16
U Nil.

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 3rd December, 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DeHav. 5, A9459	Lt. Sands	Rece.	7.00a	9.00a	) See Special Reconnaissance Report No. 29.
A9449	Cpt. Wilson	-do-	7.00a	9.00a	
A9461	Lt. Huxley	-do-	7.00a	9.00a	
A9338	Lt. Taylor	-do-	7.00a	9.00a	
A9531	Lt. A. Clark	Trav. Flt.	7.00a	9.30a	Landed A.L.G. for 1.Hr. 40 mins.
A9535	Lt. Robertson	Trav. Fl.	8.55a	9.15a	Bringing m/c from A.L.G.
A9288	Cpt. Phillipps	Line Patrol	7.25a	9.15a	) See Special Recon. Report No. 29.
A9344	Lt. Helden	-do-	7.25a	9.15a	
A9517	Lt. Howard	-do-	7.25a	9.15a	
A9292	Lt. R. L. Clark	-do-	7.25	9.15	
A9338	Lt. P. Lawson	Test	10.45a	11.00a	S.
A9292	Lt. R. L. Clark	Trav. Flt.	3.30p	3.50p	Return from F.L. at No. 12 Squadron.
A9279	Lt. Johnson	-do-	3.55	4.10	Bringing m/c from A.L.G.

Watmore
..... Lt. &
Recording Officer,
for O.C. No. 68 SQUADRON,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

War time flown --- 24.30 hrs.
 Test time flown -- 3.00
 Total --- 27.30

Pilots available 15-Training 3. Light duty 1

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 17 (Including SE5)
 U 1

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 4. 12. 17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DoH5, A9255	Lt. Forrest	SPECIAL	9.55a	11.50a	) See Attack on E. I. Report No. 30.
A9270	Lt. Johnson	MISSION.	9.55	11.50	
A9535	Lt. Benjamin	-do-	9.55	11.50	
A9544	Lt. McKenzie	-do-	9.55	12.00	
A9440	Capt. Wilson	Gun test	10.30	10.45	S.
A9450	Lt. Sands	Test	10.40	10.45	S.
A9338	2/Lt. Truscott	Trav. Flt.	10.10	11.00	Delivering new m/c from 2 A.D.
A9344	Lt. Holden	Practice	10.30	10.55	Fighting.
A9531	2/Lt. A. Clark	-do-	10.35	11.20	-do-
A9517	Lt. Howard	Gun test	11.30	11.50	S.
A9537	2/Lt. Power	Practice	11.55	12.00	Flying. (low)
A9440	Capt. Wilson	SPECIAL	12.30p	2.05p	) H.E.A.S. One E.A. Balloon N. of CAMBRAI and 2 opposite VII Corps front.
A9450	Lt. Sands	MISSION	12.30	2.10	
A9461	Lt. Huxley	-do-	12.30	2.10	) Machine crashed landing.
A9336	Lt. Taylor	-do-	12.30	2.05	
A9272	Lt. R. L. Clark	SPECIAL	2.05	3.50	) 10 E.A.S. (one 2 str. & 9 sets) over LAPEAU WOOD at 4,000 feet. Not engaged
A9517	Lt. Howard	MISSION	2.05	3.50	
A9344	Lt. Holden	-do-	2.05	3.50	) Bomb dropping - (2) 14 ft. & 13 ft from target.) Formation & Line patrol
A9288	Cpt. Phillipps	-do-	2.05	3.50	
A9537	2/Lt. Power	Practice	2.30	2.45	-do-
A9338	Lt. Sands	-do-	2.55	3.40	-do-
A9531	2/Lt. A. G. Clark	-do-	2.55	3.45	-do-
A9537	2/Lt. Power	-do-	2.55	3.45	-do-
A9535	2/Lt. Truscott	-do-	2.55	3.40	-do-

W. W. A. S. MAJOR,
 Commanding No. 68 Squadron
 FLYING CORPS

APPENDIX

Total War time 24. 00
Total Test .. - 50
Total time 24 50

Pilots available 17-Training 2.LD.1

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 13 (1 SE5)
U -

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 5th December, 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DH5, A9537 A9344 A9517 A9292	Lt. Power)	Low flying	7.20	11.10) Landed A.L.G. Bapaume—Broken axle.) Several E.A.S. in distance.) Landed A.L.G. Bapaume.
	Lt. Holden)	-do-	7.20	9.35	
	Lt. Howard)	-do-	7.20	9.35	
	Lt. R. Clark)	-do-	7.20	10.25	
A9445 A4938	2/Lt. Lawson)	Trav. Flt.	9.10	9.50) Delivering new m/c from 2 A.S.D.) S.
	Lt. Robertson)	Test	10.10	10.20	
A9255 A9279	Lt. Forrest)	Special	1.30p	3.35p) See Combat Report No. 23) Returned with eng. trouble.
	Lt. Johnson)	Mission	1.30	1.35	
B4938 A9544	Lt. Robertson)	-do-	1.30	3.35) See Combat Report No. 23.
	Lt. McKenzie)	-do-	1.30	3.40	
A9449 A9338	Capt. Wilson)	-do-	1.35	3.40) See Combat Report No. 23.
	Lt. Pratt)	-do-	1.35	3.40	
A9459 A9461	Lt. Sands)	-do-	1.35	3.45)
	Lt. Huxley)	-do-	1.35	3.45	
A9535	Lt. Johnson	-do-	1.50	2.50	Unable to find patrol.

Watkinson

..... Lt. E.
Recording Officer,
Form D.C. No. 68 SQUADRON,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

War time 28.25
Test ,, 1.20
Total 29.45

16- Training 2- Leave 3. Total

Pilots available _____

No. 68 Squadron. R.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 15
U 2

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 6th December, 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DHS, A2338	Lt. Pratt)	Low	7.10a	7.20a	) 1 E.A.S. over MARCOING too distant to engage.) See Report of Attack on E.I. No. 32.
A2440	Capt. Wilson)	Flying.	7.10	7.15	
A2461	Lt. Hurley)	-do-	7.10	7.25	
A2445	2/Lt. Benjamin	Post	8.05	8.10	U.- Tyre burst.
A2544	Lt. McKensie)	C.O.P.	10.30	12.15	) Landed ... E.A.S. machine damaged by ... Combat 24.) Gun trouble (No. 3 stoppage) see Combat Report 24.
A2438	Lt. Robertson)	-do-	10.30	12.35	
A2270	Lt. Johnson)	-do-	10.30	12.35	) See Combat Report No. 24.) -do- -do-
A2535	Lt. Forrest)	-do-	10.30	12.35	
A2450	Lt. Sands	Post	11.10	11.15	U.
A2537	Lt. A.G. Clark	-do-	11.00	11.25	S.
A2202	Lt. R. Clark	Practice	12.45	1.00	Fighting.
A2537	2/Lt. Power	-do-	12.45	1.00	-do-
A2388	Lt. Pratt)	C.O.P.	2.30	4.35	) See Attack on E.I. Report No. 33) and Combat Report No. 25
A2440	Capt. Wilson)	-do-	2.30	4.25	
A2531	2/Lt. A. Clark)	-do-	2.30	4.10	
A2461	Lt. Hurley)	-do-	2.30	4.25	) See Attack on E.I. Report No. 34.
A2537	Lt. Power)	C.O.P.	2.30	4.15	
A2344	Lt. Holden)	-do-	2.30	4.20	) See Attack on E.I. Report No. 34.
A2202	Lt. R. L. Clark)	-do-	2.30	4.25	
A2517	Lt. Howard)	-do-	2.30	4.20	
A2535	2/Lt. Pruscott	Practice	3.45	4.00	Bomb dropping- 2 dropped- 5 yds. & 15 yds.

Watman

..... Lt. &
Recording Officer,
For Q.O. No. 68 SQUADRON,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

War time flown - 111
Test & prac. -
Total -

Pilots available 16

No. 68 Squadron.

Aeroplanes { S 12
U 8/6 Ses's (20H5s)

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 7th December, 17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
S.E.5, A4856	Capt. Wilson		8.00	8.10	U.
D.H.5, A2200	Lt. Holden	Trav. Flt.	8.45	9.15	Delivering m/c to 2 A.S.D.
.. A2450	Lt. Robertson	-do-	8.45	8.50	Returned owing-to-Eng. trouble.
.. A2535	Lt. Robertson	-do-	9.05	9.25	Delivering m/c to 2 A.S.D.
.. A2461	Lt. Huxley	-do-	8.50	9.10	-do- -do-
S.E.5, B70	Lt. Taylor	-do-	9.10	9.25	Delivering S.E.5 from 2 A.S.D.
.. B677	Lt. Holden	-do-	9.45	10.00	-do- -do-
.. B64	Lt. Robertson	-do-	10.30	10.45	-do- -do- (King post skid broken)
.. B61	Lt. Howard	-do-	10.45	11.00	-do- -do-
D.H.5, A2445	S/Lt. Benjamin	Test	11.25	12.00	U.
.. A2255	Lt. Forrest	-do-	11.25	11.35	S.
S.E.5, A4805	Lt. Huxley	Trav. Flt.	11.15	11.30	Delivering new m/c from 2 A.S.D.
.. B55	Lt. Sands	-do-	2.40	2.55	-do- -do-

W. H. ...
..... Lt. &
Recording Officer,
for O.C. No. 68 SQUADRON,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

ear time flown- Nil
Test & practice- 1 hr. 10 mts.
Total 1 hr. 10 mts.

Pilots available 10 - Training 2 - On leave 2.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 2 DH5's & 2 S.E.5's.
U 5 S.E.5's.

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 8th December, 17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DoHS, A9531	2/Lt. A. Clark	Practice	11.40a	12.00a	Contour. Flying & shooting.
S.E.5, A4956	Lieut. Muxley	Trav. Flt.	12.15	12.30	Delivering m/c to 24 Squadron.
DoHS, A9537	2/Lt. Power	Practice	3.10p	3.20p	Flying & shooting.
DoHS, A9531	2/Lt. A. Clark	Test	3.00	3.25p	S.

Watkins
..... Lt. &
Recording Officer,
No. 68 SQUADRON,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

War time flown --- Nil
Test time flown --- Nil
Total --- --- Nil

Pilots available 16-Training 2-Leave 2.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 12 DNS 5 SES
U 1 SES

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 9th December, 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
-- N I L --					

*Returned
to HQ*



APPENDIX

War time Nil
Test & prac. 30 hrs. 5 mts.
Total 30 hrs. 5 mts.

Pilots available 12- Training 1 - Leave 1- Temp.duty 6.

No. 68 Squadron. R.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 11 D.H.5's & 4 S.E.5's at Aerial Ranges.
U 1 D.H.5 & 2 S.E.5's. SQUADRON RECORD BOOK

Date 10th December, 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks		
			Start	Return			
DE5.	A2255	Lt. McKenzie	Test	9.25	9.30	U.	
	A9445	Lt. Benjamin	-do-	9.30	10.20	S.	
	B4738	Lt. Robertson	-do-	9.50	10.00	S.	
	B2537	2/Lt. Power	Practice	10.30	10.45	Shooting.	
	A2517	Lt. Howard	-do-	10.55	3.30.	Formation - landed for 3 hrs. 35 mts.	
	A2324	2/Lt. Cornell	-do-	10.55	3.30	-do-	
	A2344	Lt. Holden	-do-	11.20	3.30	-do-	
	A2302	Lt. R. L. Clark	-do-	11.20	3.30	-do-	
	A2450	2/Lt. Truscott	Test	11.20	11.25	U.- Eng. missing.	
	A2341	2/Lt. Benjamin	Practice	11.40	1.10	Formation flying.	
	A2331	2/Lt. Truscott	-do-	11.40	1.10	-do-	
	A2440	2/Lt. Lawson	-do-	11.40	1.10	-do-	
	A2537	2/Lt. Power	-do-	11.40	1.10	-do-	
	B4783	Lt. Robertson	Test	12.05	12.20	S.	
	SE5.	B64	Capt. Wilson	Trav. Flt.	2.10	3.05) To AERIAL RANGES, R.F.C. BERCK-SUR-MER.
		B600	Lt. Pratt	-do-	2.10	3.05	
B70		Lt. Taylor	-do-	2.10	3.05		
B4875		Lt. Huxley	-do-	2.10	3.05		
DH5.	A9445	2/Lt. Benjamin	Practice	3.20	3.55	Shooting.	
	SE5.	B55	Lt. McKenzie	Test	3.30	3.40	S.

W. J. ...
..... Lt. &
Recording Officer,
for O.C. No. 68 SQUADRON,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

War time Nil
Test 25 mts.
Total 25 mts.

Pilots available 1B-Training 1-Leave 2-Temp. duty 6.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 11 D.H.5's and 5 SE.5's. (4 machines, S.E.5's at BERCK)
U 1 D.H.5 & 1 S.E.5.

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 11th December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DH5, A9338	Lt. Howard	<i>aided</i> Test	2.15 p	2.25p	Returned, engine vibrating.
A9324	2/Lt. Cornell	-do-	2.20 p	2.25p	Machine crashed - Pilot killed.
SE5, B61	Lt. Holden	Test	2.30p	2.40	S.

W. J. ...
Lt. &
Recording Officer,
for G.O. No. 68 SQUADRON,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

Total war time flown 3.20 mts.
" Test " " 1.55
Total 5.15.

Pilots available 10-Training 1-Leave 2. Temp. Duty 6. No. 68 Squadron.
(4 machines S.E.5's at BERCK).

Aeroplanes { S 10 D.H.5's and 6 S.E.5's
U 1 D.H.5. SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 12th. December 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
S.E.5 B61	Lieut. Howard	Test	11.00	11.45	S.
D.H.5 A945	" Forrest	"	12.00	12.10	S.
D.H.5 A9255	" Forrest	"	12.15	12.25	S.
S.E.5 B61	" Howard	Practice	3.00	3.50	Flying and Shooting practice.
D.H.5 A9255	" Forrest	Spec. Missn	3.20	4.10	) See "Attack on Enemy Infantry No. 35."
D.H.5 A945	2/Lt. Truscott	"	3.20	4.10	
D.H.5 B4938	Lieut. McKenzie	"	3.20	4.10	
D.H.5 A9445	2/Lt. Benjamin	"	3.20	4.10	

W. J. ...
Recording Officer,
For O.Q. No. 68 SQUADRON,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.



APPENDIX

Pilots available 7 - Training 1 - Leave 3 - Temp. duty 6.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S _____
U _____

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 13th December, 17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DH5, A9435	Lt. Johnson	Trav. Flt.	9.50	10.05	Delivering new m/c from 2 A.S.D.
.. A9445	2/Lt. Benjamin	Test	2.20	2.40	S.

*Watkinson
Licko*

APPENDIX

(409.) W. 10442/M1083. 200M. 11/16. C. P., Ltd. Forms/W3343/2.

WAR TIME Test .. Nil 10 mts.

Army Form W. 3343

Pilots available 2 - Training 1 - Leave 3 - Temp. duty 6.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 17 (12 D.H.5's & 5 S.E.5's)

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

U 1 allotted but not collected.

Date 14th December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
DH5, A9344	Lt. Holden	Air test	3.20 p	3.30 p	U.- bumpy.

Watson

APPENDIX

Total war time flown. 11
" Test time " 6.35
Total time flown 6.35

Pilots available Training 1. Leave 3.

Temp duty 6.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Squadron Record Book

Aeroplanes

S 10 (3335's 36015's)
U 8.

Date 15th December 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
D.H.5 A0202	Lt. R.L.Clark	Trav. Flt.	09.35	09.50	Delivering Machine to No.2 A.S.D.
A0344	Lt. Holden	"	09.30	09.45	" " " "
A0537	Lt. Forrest	"	09.30	09.45	" " " "
A0338	Lt. Johnson	"	09.45	10.00	" " " "
S.E.5 A8036	Lt. Holden	"	10.55	11.05	" " from "
B4850	Lt. R.L.Clark	"	11.25	11.40	" " " "
C5312	Lt. Forrest	"	11.35	11.50	" " " "
B74	Lt. Howard	"	11.35	11.50	" " " "
D.H.5 A0517	Lt. Howard	"	12.10	12.30	" " to "
S.E.5 B4858	Lt. Johnson	"	12.10	12.20	" " from "
C5320	Lt. Howard	"	12.45	1.PM	" " " " Engine unsatisfacto
D.H.5 A0405	Lt. Howard	"	1.45	2.05	" " to "
A0440	2/Lt. Lawson	Practice	2.30	3.25	) S.)) S.) Formation and Line Patrol (well back).) S.)) S.)
A0450	" Truscott	"	2.30	3.20	
A0445	Lt. Benjamin	"	2.30	3.25	
A0531	2/Lt. Power	"	2.30	3.25	
S2E.5 B504	Lt. Howard	Trav. Flight	3.20	3.40	Delivering Machine from No.2 A.S.D. machine unsatis- -factory. fall back on and in propeller in air.

W. Howard
Lt. Howard



APPENDIX

War time Nil 20
Test .. 5. 15.
Total 5. 15.

Pilots available 9 Training 1 - Leave 3 - Temp. duty 6

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 13 (5 D.H.5 & 8 S.E.5)
U 5 (1 D.H.5 & 4 S.E.5)

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 16th December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
D.H.5, A9445	2/Lt. Benjamin	Practice	12.05	1.25	Formation flying.
A9447	2/Lt. Lawson	::	12.05	1.25	-do- near 46 Sqn.
A9531	2/Lt. Power	::	12.05	1.30	-do- ... Forced landing at ACHNUL, Fine adjustment trouble.
A9457	2/Lt. Truscott	::	12.05	1.25	
A9531	2/Lt. Power	Trav. Flt.	2.20	2.25	From 46 Sqn. to ACHNUL - Forced landing, fine adjustment trouble.

W. J. ...
..... Lt. &
Recording Officer,
for O.C. No. 68 SQUADRON,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

air time flown 11
lost ... 3 hrs. 1 mts.

Pilots available 27 - on leave 2.

No. 68 Squadron R.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 15 - (D.H.5 49) S.E.5
U 3 - (S.E.5 3) S.E.5

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 10th December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
S.E.5 364	2/Lt. G. Clark	Travel-	11.20	12.15) From R.F.C. Aerial Range, R.F.C. to BATHURST.
B4808	Lt. Huxley, MC.	) line	11.20	12.15
B70	Lt. Taylor, MC.	) Flight.	11.20	12.40

W. H. ...
Lt. &
 Recording Officer,
 for O.C. No. 68 SQUADRON,
 AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.



APPENDIX

Pilots available 17- On leave 2.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 14
U 3

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 19th December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
D.H5, A0445	Lt. Johnson	Trav.Flt.	10.40	10.55) Delivering D.H.5's to 2 A.S.D.
.. B4038	Lt. McKenzie	-do-	10.40	11.00	
.. A0531	Lt. Taylor, MC	-do-	10.40	11.00	
.. A0440	2/Lt.A.Clark	-do-	10.40	10.55	
.. A0450	Lt. Huxley, MC	-do-	10.40	10.55	
.. A0255	Lt. Forrest	-do-	10.40	10.55	
S.E5A, C0530	Lt. Taylor, MC	Trav.Flt.	1.35	1.45) Delivering S.E.5's from 2 A.S.D.
B12	2/Lt.A.Clark	-do-	2.35	2.40	
B579	Lt. Huxley, MC	-do-	2.35	2.50	
C0480	Lt. Johnson	-do-	3.20	3.35	
B505	Lt. McKenzie	-do-	4.05	4.20	

APPENDIX
DIX

Pilots available 17- On leave 2.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S _____
U _____

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 20th. December 1917.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
		----- <u>N I L</u> -----			



APPENDIX

W. J. M. MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

(409.) W. 10442/M1083. 200m. 11/16. C. P., Ltd. Forms/W3343/2.

WAR TIME FLOWN NIL
TEST 35 mts.

Army Form W. 3343

Pilots available ¹⁸ ~~22~~ On leave 3. |

No. ⁶⁸ Squadron. ^{A.F.C.}

Aeroplanes { S ^{14.}
U ⁴

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date ^{21.12.17.}

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
SE5A, B504	Lt. Howard	Test	3.35	3.55	S.
.. AB976	Lt. Holden	..	3.35	4.10	S.

Wonsan MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

War time flown Nil
Test & practice 4. 35.

68

A.F.C.

Pilots available 18- On leave 1.

No. _____ Squadron.

Aeroplanes { S 10
U 8

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

22nd December, 1917.

Date _____

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
SE5, A B504	Lt. Howard	Practice	11.25	1.35	Flying & training.
B12	Lt. McKenzie	-do-	11.55	1.10	-do-
B12	Lt. McKenzie	-do-	3.10	3.20	-do-

Howard MAJOR,
Commanding No. 63 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

war time flown --- 111
rest --- 2.50

Pilots available 17- On leave 2- Total strength 19.

No. 68 Squadron. A.P.C.

Aeroplanes { S 11
U 7

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 23rd December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
SBS, B504	Lt. Howard	Practice	11.10	12.35	Flying & training.
.. B64	Lt. A.G. Clark	..	12.00	12.35	-do-
.. B12	Lt. McKenzie	..	3.35	4.00	-do-
.. G9539	Lt. Forrest	..	3.45	4.10	-do-

[Signature]
 Recording Officer,
 No. 68 SQUADRON,
 AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

War time Bill
Test & practice 7.20.
Total 7.80

Pilots available 17 - On leave 2.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 10
U 8

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 26th December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
SESA, 48936	Lt. Holden	Practice	11.15	12.45	Training.
B504	Lt. Howard	-do-	11.15	12.50	-do-
C5312	2/Lt. Power	-do-	11.15	12.20	-do-
B55	Lt. Taylor	-do-	11.25	12.45	-do-
B64	2/Lt. A. Clark	-do-	11.25	-	Landed at 71 Sqn. - detained by weather.
B74	Lt. Huxley	-do-	11.25	4.00	-do-
B12	Lt. McKensie	-do-	11.25	4.00	-do-
C539	Lt. Forrest	-do-	11.25	11.40	Training
B4858	Cpt. Phillipps	-do-	12.10	12.25	-do-

*Returned
to HQ*



APPENDIX

Pilots available 17-On leave 2 - Training 1.

No. 68 Squadron. A.P.C.

Aeroplanes { S 12
U 6

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 27th December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
S.E.S.A. C6312	2/Lt. Power	Practice	10.50	12.30	Training-Landed at No.6 Sqn. for ½ hour. Training.
C9539	Lt. Forrest	-do-	11.15.	11.25	
B74	2/Lt. Lawson	-do-	11.30	12.00	..
B64	2/Lt. A.G. Clark	-do-	11.20	11.50	..
B74	2/Lt. Lawson	-do-	3. 50	3.15	..
B505	2/Lt. Benjamin	-do-	3.55	3.15	..
B55	Lieut. Huxley	-do-	3. 45	3.25	..
B4856	Capt. Phillippe	-do-	3. 45	3.55	..
B74	2/Lt. Lawson	-do-	3. 20	3.35	..
B64	2/Lt. A. Clark	-do-	3. 20	3.40	..

*Watkins
H. H.*

APPENDIX

Day time 11
Test .. 1 hour.

Pilots available 17 - Training 1 On leave 2.

No. 68 Squadron. R.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 8
U 9

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 20th December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
3835	2/Lt. Lawson	Practice	11.10	11.20	Training
3835	2/Lt. Benjamin	..	11.15	1.35	..

Continued on p. 10

APPENDIX

Pilots available 17- On leave 2 - Training 1.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S 10.
U 8.

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date 29th December, '17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
325A B55	Capt. Wilson	Practice	10.25	10.40	Training.
B4895	Lt. Huxley	-do-	10.40	11.15	-do-
B74	2/Lt. Lawson	-do-	10.40	10.50	-do-
B12	Lt. McKensie	-do-	11.15	11.30	-do-
C9489	Lt. Johnson	-do-	11.25	12.00	-do-
B4895	Lt. Huxley	-do-	3.00	3.35	-do-
C9489	Lt. Johnson	-do-	3.00	3.10	-do-
B5328	2/Lt. Clark	Trav. Flt.	3.30	3.45	Delivering new m/c from 2 A.S.D.

Returned to Ro

APPENDIX

TEST TIME NIL

Pilots available 16- Training 1 - On leave 2.

No. 68 Squadron. A.F.C.

Aeroplanes { S _____
U _____

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK

Date 30.12.17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
			<u>NIL</u>		

Watson

Lt. & R.O.,
No. 68 Squadron, A.F.C.



APPENDIX

Pilots available 15- Training 1 - On leave 2- In Hospital 1.

No. 68 Squadron.

Aeroplanes { S 13
U 5

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK

Date 31/12/17.

Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of—		Remarks
			Start	Return	
S.E.S. C5312	2/Lt. Power	Practice	10.30	10.40	Training.
B504	Lt. Howard	-do-	10.40.	10.55	-do-

W. W. ... MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

Combats in the Air. No. 20.

Squadron :	68 th A.F.C.	Date :	1.12.17.
Type and No. of Aeroplane :	DH5, A9461	Time :	7.45, am.
Armament :	1 Vickers.	Locality :	57 C/X.9.D-about 20 yds. S.W. of Cross roads.
Pilot :	Lt.F.G.HUXLEY.	Duty :	Low Flying.
Observer :	-	Height :	800 feet.
		Result	}
		DECISIVE.	

Destroyed.....	1
Driven down out of control.....	-
Driven down.....	-

Remarks on Hostile Aircraft :—Type, armament, speed, etc.

Aviatik and rear gun only in action. Not much faster than D.H.5, all out.— camouflaged green and blue— underside light khaki.

Narrative.

Whilst on low flying duty, on emerging from the mist, I saw an E.A. (2 seater) on my right about 100 feet below and 100 yds. away. I did a diving turn onto him and his observer opened fire. I passed over him and did an "Immelmann" turn to the left, and opened fire at 50 yds. before the observer had time to swing his gun to right, almost at once, the Observer dropped and his gun remained still pointing to his left. I then swung my machine to right and after about 100 rounds, the E.A. nose-dived, striking the ground and turning on it's back. On coming out again about 10, am. after refilling at A.L.G. I saw a machine in same position surrounded by about 30 men and I dropped 1 bomb from about 30 feet which fell amongst them and knocked the tail of the machine over.

(Sgd) F.G.HUXLEY, LIEUT.

COMBAT DECISIVE.

now in
..... MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

Commanding..... Squadron.

Combats in the Air.No. 21.

Squadron :	No. 68, A.F.C.	Date :	1.12.17.
Type and No. of Aeroplane :	D.H. 5, A9255	Time :	12.25, pm.
Armament :	1 Vickers.	Locality :	N.E. by E. of VILLERS GUISLAIN.
Pilot :	Lt. H. G. FORREST.	Duty :	Low flying.
Observer :	-	Height :	800 feet.
		Result	{ Destroyed.....-..... { Driven down out of control.....-..... { Driven down.....-.....
		Indecisive.	

Remarks on Hostile Aircraft:—Type, armament, speed, etc.

(a) 1 "V" strutter aluminium scout, painted resembling Albatross scout No. 2 with clipped tail. Front gun, faster than D.H. 5.

(b) 3 seater, 3 passengers distinctly seen, 2 gunners standing up and firing fore and aft of pilot. Very fast, believed to have 2 propellers, if not 2 engines. Very like photo of Gotha seen by Lieuts. FORREST & MCKENZIE.

Narrative.

I was flying with Lieut. McKenzie, and on coming out of a dive after dropping bomb, I found 5 scouts above me, apparently escorting 3 seater. I attacked 1 scout who turned and fired a few rounds and then climbed up into clouds. I fired about 30 rounds without apparent effect till I lost him. I then dived on trenches to machine gun Infantry, and on coming out of dive, I saw the 3 seater about 400 feet above me on my left with the 2 gunners standing up and firing at me. I zoomed up under him and fired 20 rounds at him and he turned East climbing.

(Sgd) H. G. FORREST
LT

COMBAT INDECISIVE, BUT 1 SCOUT AND ONE 3 SEATER
DRIVEN EAST.

..... MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

Commanding..... Squadron.

Combats in the Air.

No. 22

Squadron : No. 68, A.F.C.	Date : 1.12.17.
Type and No. of Aeroplane :	Time : 12.25, pm. - 12.30, pm.
Armament : DH5, A9451. 1 Vickers.	Locality : N.E. of VILLERS GUISLAIN.
Pilot : Lt. R. W. McKenzie.	Duty : Low Flying.
	Height : 800 feet.
Observer : -	Result { Destroyed 1 Driven down out of control - Driven down -
	Decisive.

Remarks on Hostile Aircraft :—Type, armament, speed, etc.

"V" strutter alluminium painted scout, resembling Albatross scout No. 2 but with clipped tail, front gun, faster than D.H.5.

Narrative.

I was flying with Lt. FORREST and saw him dive on enemy trenches and drop 1 bomb "OK". He had just pulled out of his dive and was climbing up when I saw 5 E.A. coming towards and 400 feet above me, 1 was lagging slightly and I zoomed up and got in a stalling burst at 50 yds. range, when he immediately turned East and started a steep glide and I was unable to follow him on account of the other 4 E.A., but I saw him try to land in most unfavourable country and go nose first into a shell hole where he remained with his tail in the air. I then had to return owing to No. 3 stoppage.

(Sgd) R. W. McKenzie.

COMBAT DECISIVE.

W. W. M.
..... MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.
Commanding..... Squadron.

Combats in the Air.

No. 24.

Squadron : No. 68, A.F.C.

Date : 6.12.17.

Type and No. of Aeroplane :
4 DeH.5's.

Time : 11.30, am. - 12 noon.

Locality : MARCOING.

Armament : 1 Vickers each.

Duty : C.O.P. with bombs.

Pilot s Lt. Forrest (Leader) A9535
Lt. Robertson ... A4938
Lt. Johnson ... A9279
Lt. McKenzie ... A9544

Height : 7,000 feet.

Observer : -

Result { Destroyed
Driven down out of control
Indecisive. { Driven down**Remarks on Hostile Aircraft :—Type, armament, speed, etc.**

12 Albatross scouts in small formations.

Narrative.

Left BAIZIEUX 10.30, am.

I led the formation across the line N. of CAMBRAI-BAPAUME road to drop our bombs (see A.E.I. No. 32) We then climbed to carry out a C.O.P., and when at 7,000 feet over MARCOING, we engaged 3 Albatross scouts who were flying at the same height and who turned to dive steeply I followed 1 for 1,000 feet, sitting right on his tail; but after firing 3 rounds, got a No. 3 stoppage which I managed to rectify later on. Meanwhile the other 3 pilots dived on the other 3 scouts and drove them well East. After this, we shot at long range at sundry other scouts whom we could not close with. Ten minutes later, we engaged the same 3 scouts, but were unable to approach to close range. 15 minutes later, we climbed to 8,000 feet and engaged a group of 8 scouts. I again had a No. 3 stoppage and fell out to adjust it, while the remainder of the patrol engaged the E.A. During the fighting which ensued, an Albatross got onto Lieut. McKenzie's tail, being eventually driven off by Lt. Robertson, but in the meantime, he had shot the former's Aileron control away and Lt. McKenzie was forced to retire, the general engagement then being broken off. I rejoined my formation about this time and gave the signal to break off. Lt. McKenzie was unable to reach the A.L.G. and had to land at FREMICOURT where he crashed owing to his machine being unmanageable. He himself being unhurt.

(Sgd) H.G. FORREST LIEUT
Leader of Patrol.

C O M B A T S I N D E C I S I V E.

..... MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
Commanding..... Squadron.
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

Combats in the Air.

No. 25.

Squadron : **No. 68 A.F.C.**

Date : **6.12.17.**

Type and No. of Aeroplane :
DH5.A9461

Time : **3.45 pm.**

Locality : **S of Honnecourt**

Armament :
1 Vickers

Duty : **Low flying**

Pilot :
Lt. R. G. HUXLEY

Height : **1000 ft.**

Observer : **nil.**

Result	}	Destroyed 1
Decisive		Driven down out of control
		Driven down

Remarks on Hostile Aircraft :—Type, armament, speed, etc.

2 seater D.F.W. top plane light blue very distinct black crosses

Narrative.

I was flying at about 3000 ft. when I saw through the haze ~~two~~ 2 seaters about 1000 ft. below me one of which I took to be an A.W. attacked by an E.A. I immediately dived on to the E.A. As soon as I opened fire the enemy Observer opened fire also but after I had fired 30 rounds at 50 ft. range he dived steeply and on striking the ground burst into flames. Meanwhile the other 2 seater had turned left and was attacking me from behind. I did a right hand zooming turn to get away and he continued his course East.

(Sgd) F.G. HUXLEY Lieut.

COMBAT DECISIVE ONE 2-SEATER BURNT.

W. W. W. W. MAJOR,
Commanding No. 63 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.
Commanding.....Squadron.

APPENDIX

REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

-----O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-----

No. 68 Squadron, A.F.C.

No. 25 Page 1

No. & type of machines

Date 1.12.17.

employed 4 D.H.5's.

Locality VILLERS GUISLAIN.

N.B. Time of commencement of attack by each machine, number of rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

<u>P I L O T</u>	<u>Sort-</u>	
	<u>ies.</u>	Left BAIZIEUX 7, am. and A.L.G. later,
CAPT. G.C. WILSON (	:	Engine trouble and had to return.
A9445 (:	
LT. F.G. HUXLEY (	2	3 bombs "OK" from 50 feet on troops. 1 "OK" from
A9461 (	:	50 feet on a crowd round crashed E.A. and 650
	:	rds. in all on troops and 100 on E.A.
	:	(See Combat Report No.20)
LT. C.C. SANDS	2	2 bombs "OK" from 300 feet and 1 wide. 300 rds. on
A9459	:	enemy troops.
LT. H. TAYLOR	1	2 bombs "OK" from 500 feet on Beet Factory 57C/X.14 ^B
A9336	:	from where I received very heavy M.G. fire and
	:	250 rds. on infantry at short and indecisive
	:	engagements with 2 E.A. (2 seaters)

INTELLIGENCE TELEPHONED TO "B.I.O":-

"Portion handed to "I.O" A.L.G. by Lts. HUXLEY and SANDS. Approx. 7.30, am. our troops advancing from E. of GOUZECOURT and E. of EPEHY about 15 tanks seen advancing in good formation through BOIS GAUCHE, 1 tank on fire about 1/2 a mile N. of HENDECOURT approx. 10.10, am. everything was quiet. Our trenches packed with them, as also were enemy trenches where machines were met with heavy M.G. fire. Approx. 6 tanks seen retiring, several others were stationary and troops were taking cover behind them.

REMARKS (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.

W. W. W. W. MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

-----0:0:0:0:0:0:0-----

No. 68 Squadron, A.F.C.

No. 26 Page 1

No. & type of machines

Date 1.12.17.

employed 4 D.H.5's.

Locality VILLERS GUISLIAN.

N.B. Time of commencement of attack by each machine, number of rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

PILOT

Left BAIZIEUX 12 noon.

LT. H. G. FORREST
A9255

2 bombs "OK" from 600 feet on troops. 150 rds. on troops and on 2 E.A. 1 being a 3 seater (See Combat report No. 21.

LT. R. W. MCKENZIE
A9544

1 bomb wide, then attacked by E.A. (See Combat Report No. 22 - 150 rds.

LT. W. A. ROBERTSON
A9466.

Immediately on crossing lines, machine was badly hit from the ground and had to return having to land close to BAPAUME.

LT. L. BENJAMIN
A9341

2 bombs "OK" 100 rds. at Infantry.

INTELLIGENCE HANDED TO "I.O" A.L.G.

"Information re situation of enemy and British troops at 1, pm.

British and enemy trenches packed with troops; the latter especially. Line running from 57C/R.29 to X.17 approx.

SUMMARY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.

..... *W. W. W.* MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

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No. 68 Squadron, A.F.C.

No. 28 Page 1

No. & type of machines

Date 2.12.17.

employed 3 D.H.5's.

Locality GONNELIEU.

N.B. Time of commencement of attack by each machine, number of rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

PILOT

CAPT. G.C. WILSON
A9449

Left BAIZIEUX at 3.15, pm.

Reconnoitred line and reported "Low flying possible to Officer Commanding, 13th Wing.

LT. C.C. SANDS.
A9459

Left A.L.G. 3.30, pm. Dropped 1 bomb on Cross roads at 57B.M. 13B and 1 on enemy troops.

LT. F.G. HUXLEY
A9461

No targets observed.

2 bombs on enemy troops.

INTELLIGENCE.

"No enemy activity observed owing to failing light. A few shells observed, but nby no means barrage."

SUMMARY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.

..... *W. W. A. I.* MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

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No. 68 Squadron, A.F.C.

No. 29 Page 1

No. & type of machines

Date 3.28.17.

employed 8 D.H.5's.

Locality BOURLON, GONNELIEU.

N.B. Time of commencement of attack by each machine, number of rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

P I L O T

	: "A"
	: Left BAIZIEUX 10, am. to reconnoitre VII Corps front.
CAPT. G.C. WILSON A9449	(: Crossed line 57 C/R/16 at about 1,200 and flew due E. (: to canal which was followed S. to 62B/M/5 recrossing (: line S. of PONTRUET. Return flight was made at 800 ft (: along the line in N. direction as far as GONNELIEU (: whence machines returned directly to A.L.G. and (: report was telephoned as below to B.M. 3rd Bde. R.F.C. (: No abnormal activity or concentration was observed (: either in trenches, roads, or back area. N.E.A.S.
LT. H. TAYLOR A9336	
	: "B"
LT. F.G. HUXLEY A9461	(: Left AERODROME at 7, am. to reconnoitre BOURLON WOOD (: district. Crossed line at 7.25 AM and discovered the (: line to be about the same. No movement of troops and (: no shelling. Everything very quiet. 1 E.A.S. well N. (: of BOURLON- too, distant to attempt any engagement.
LT. C.C. SANDS A9459	
	: "C"
CAPT. PHILLIPPS, R.C. A9288	(: Left A.L.G. at 7.25, am. on Line Patrol. Following (: observed :- (: At 8.45, am. barrage opened on German trenches and on (: BON AVIS Ridge. Flares went up from our positions E. (: of GONNELIEU. No infantry movement was observed. 1 E.A. (: 2 seater seen. He made E. on approach.
LT. L.H. HOLDEN A9344	
LT. R.W. HOWARD A9517.	
LT. R.L. CLARK A9292	

SUMMARY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander,

..... W. W. A. J. MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

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No. 68 Squadron, A.F.C.

No. 31 Page 1

No. & type of machines

Date 6.12.17.

employed 3 D.H.5's

Locality BOURLON DISTRICT.

N.B. Time of commencement of attack by each machine, number of rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| <u>P I L O T</u> | : | Left BAIZIEUX 7.10, am. |
| CAPT. WILSON (A9449) | : | 2 bombs from 700 feet on troops on sunken road between GRAINCOURT and ANNEUX at 57C/E.3.O.C. (7.30am) 1 "OK" and 1 wide. Also fired 250 rds. from 500 ft. at same troops. |
| LT. PRATT (A9338) | : | 2 bombs among troops in FONTAINE, both "OK" and 100 rds. from 800 feet on troops E. of ANNEUX. |
| LT. HUXLEY (A9461) | : | 2 bombs same targets as Capt. Wilson. 1 "OK" and 1 wide from 800 feet. 200 rds. at Infantry. |
| LT. SANDS (A9459) | : | Engine trouble some. Left with others, forced to return. |

Intelligence: telephoned to Bde. Major 3rd Bde, :-

"Concentration of 2/300 troops on southern bank of sunken road mentioned above. Also observed parties of enemy in streets of FONTAINE.

SUMMARY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.

Wron an
 MAJOR,
 Commanding No. 68 Squadron
 AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

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No. 68 Squadron, A.F.C.

No. 32 Page 1

No. & type of machines

Date 6.12.17.

employed 4 DeHav.5's.

Locality BOURLON

N.B. Time of commencement of attack by each machine, number of rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

PILOT

LT. FORREST (A9535) : 2 bombs close to trench W. of BOURLON.
LT. ROBERTSON (B4938) : 2 bombs 1 "OK"
LT. JOHNSON (A9279) : 2 bombs near enemy trench at NOYELLES.
LT. MCKENZIE (A9544) : Bomb release refused to work.

All bombs dropped from 800 feet.

SUMMARY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.

W. W. M. MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

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No. 68 Squadron, A.F.C.

No. 33 Page 1

No. & type of machines

Date 6.12.17.

employed 4 DH5's.

Locality III Corps Front.

N.B. Time of commencement of attack by each machine, number of rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

P I L O T

Left BAIZIEUX 2.30, pm.

CAPT. WILSON (A9449)

1 bomb in bleak quarry S. of LATEAU WOOD, 1 "OK" behind embankment N. of quarry from 1,000 feet. At 3.130, pm in front of FLESQUIRES fired 300 rds. from 300 feet at enemy infantry in the open. 100 of whom broke & ran E. towards CANTAING. N.E.A.S.

2/LT. A. CLARK (A9541)

Too uncertain of locality to drop bombs. 60 rds. on troops close to bleak quarry.

LT. A. PRATT (A9338)

1 bomb "OK" on road S. of LATEAU WOOD. Forced to retire on account of Engine trouble.

LT. F. G. HUXLEY (A9461)

1 bomb from 1,000 feet on Quarry and 1 on cross roads at LATEAU WOOD. Result not observed. 1 E.A. (2 seater shot down (See Combat Report No. 25) Fired 150 rds. on troops in the open from 600 feet.

Patrol dropped bombs and ~~fired-in-all~~ finding all quiet started C.O.P. when barrage was seen about 3.30, pm. close to FLESQUIRES and 2 machines having fallen out, the remaining 2 dived and fired on enemy.

Intelligence telephoned to B.M. 3rd Bde. :-

"Many enemy troops in open round FLESQUIRES, probably attacking. Too dark and hazy to see much.

SUMMARY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.

..... *W. W. Wain* MAJOR,
 Commanding No. 68 Squadron
 AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

APPENDIX

REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

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No. 68 Squadron, A.F.C.

No. 34 Page 1

No. & type of machines

Date 6.12.17.

employed 4 D.H.5's.

Locality FLESQUIERES.

N.B. Time of commencement of attack by each machine, number of rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

P I L O T

: Left aerodrome 2.30, pm.

- LT. HOWARD (A9517) : 2 bombs "OK" on cross roads E. of BANTOUZELLE which was congested with traffic. Returned to A.L.G. for 2 new plugs. On return 100 rds. on enemy infantry in small parties close to FLESQUIERES, then too dark to fire.
- 2/LT. POWER (A9537) : 1 bomb on road full of traffic and 1 bomb on enemy personnel close to a dump. Too uncertain of position to use Machine gun.
- LT. HOLDEN (A9344) : 2 bombs "OK" on road full of traffic E. of BANTOUZELLE 100 rds. on traffic and trenches.
- LT. R. L. CLARK (A9292) : No bombs released owing to mist. 100 rds. on road E. of BANTOUZELLE.

: All pilots noticed barrage close to FLESQUIERES at 3.30, pm.

SUMMARY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.

W. W. W. W. MAJOR,
 Commanding No. 68 Squadron
 AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

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Squadron, A.F.C.

No. 68 Page _____

Co. & type of machines

Date _____

employed _____

Locality 12th. December 1917.

4 D.R.S's.

Bullecourt.

N.B. Time of commencement of attack by each machine, number of rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

P I L O T

Left BAINBRIDGE at 3.20pm.

Lieut. H. G. FORREST (A9255) 2 Bombs dropped "O.K." on Enemy trenches, 150 Rounds on trenches.

Lieut. R. W. MCKENZIE (B4938) 2 Bombs on Enemy trenches, and 200 rounds on same.

2/Lieut. L. BENJAMIN (A9445) No bombs. 250 rounds on trenches.

2/Lieut. L. S. TRUSCOTT (A9450) 1 Bomb on Enemy trenches and 100 rounds on same.

-All bombs dropped from 800 - 1000 feet.

Enemy trenches East of BULLECOURT were being very heavily shelled. German guns not very active. No troops seen in the open - 3 E.A.S. well East at 4000 feet, amongst clouds not engaged.

REMARKS (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.

..... W. W. Wain MAJOR,
Commanding No. 68 Squadron
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

Headquarters, A.I.F.,
Attd. 1st Anzac,
5th December, '17.

Attached herewith for your information is a copy of a letter received by General Birdwood from the G.O.C., R.F.C., in the field. General Birdwood desires to add his personal congratulations to you and your officers in their recent successes.

-Signed- T.H. Dodds, Colonel,
D.A.C., A.I.F.

Advanced Headquarters,
Royal Flying Corps,
22.12.17.

Dear General,

I have just been to see the Australian Flying Squadron No. 68 for the second time in the last week, and I have talked to some of the pilots who carried out that great work on the 20th, 21st and to-day. Their work was really magnificent and their machines, I am afraid, were very much shot about, but they only lost one officer and machine "Missing", though more were wounded.

These pilots came down low and fairly strafed the Run. They bombed him and attacked him with machine gun fire from 50 feet, flying amongst the tree tops; they apparently revelled in this work which was of great value.

You might to let some of your people know that I think them really great men, and I am certain, in the Summer next year they will all give a very fine account of themselves.

They are splendid.

I hope to be able to come and see you after I have been home, but I have to go home as soon as I can get away.

Yours sincerely,

-Signed- H. Trenchard.

General Sir R.W. Birdwood,
K.C.B., K.S.S.I. etc. etc.
Headquarters, Anzac Corps.



-- CONGRATULATORY --

Copy of letter received from General Sir W.R. Birdwood.

1st Anzac Corps.,
B.E.F., France.,
16th December, '17.

My Dear Watt,

This is just a line to tell you with what pride I have just heard that Captains Wilson and Phillipps and Lieuts. Huxley, Howard, Holden and Taylor have all been awarded the high distinction of the Military Cross. This is indeed a magnificent record for your Squadron, and one of which, I am sure every one of you must rightly be extremely proud; I doubt if it has been beaten anywhere. Would you kindly convey my congratulations to the recipients, while you know how very heartily I wish you and all ranks of the squadron the best of good fortune in all that may be before you. I only wish that you were not so far off, and that we could see something of you.

As a matter of fact I have been looking forward to seeing you and your squadron shortly on the occasion of a visit I had proposed paying to your part of the world, but I have since been obliged to cancel my arrangements. As you will realise, it is difficult for me to get away such a long distance from my quarters.

Again my heartiest congratulations to the Squadron.

Yours sincerely,

-sgd- W.R. Birdwood.