## AWM4

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

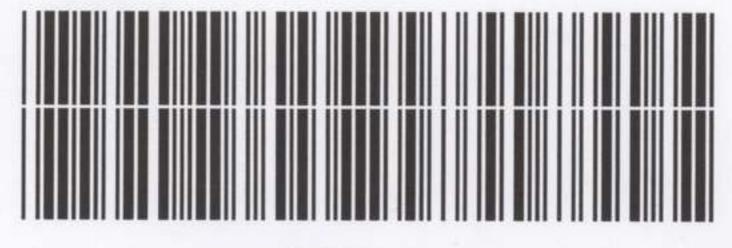
Flying Corps

Item number: 8/5/5

Title: No 2 Squadron, Australian Flying

Corps

December 1917



AWM4-8/5/5

### WAR DIALY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

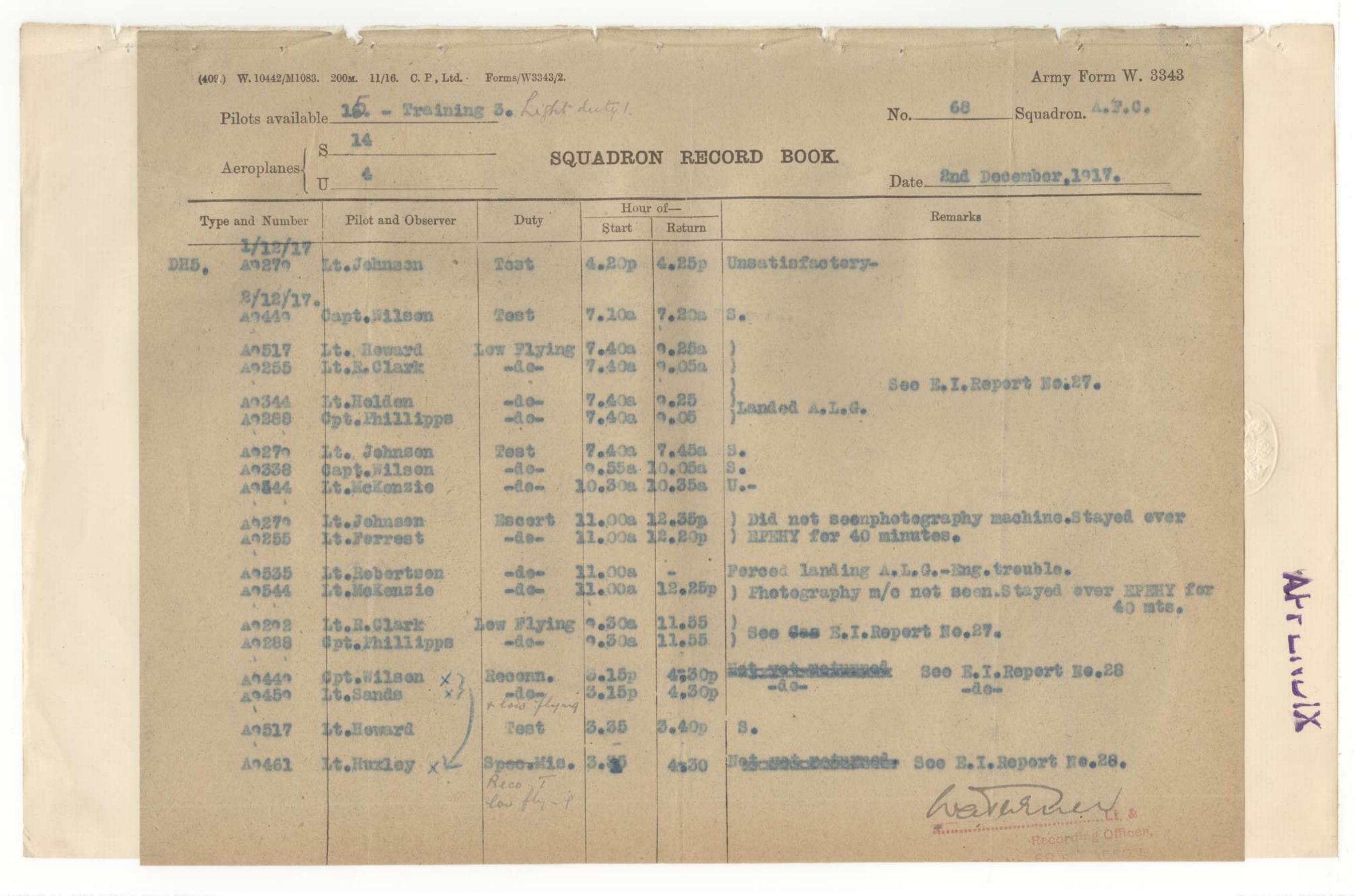
68 Squadron A. F. C.

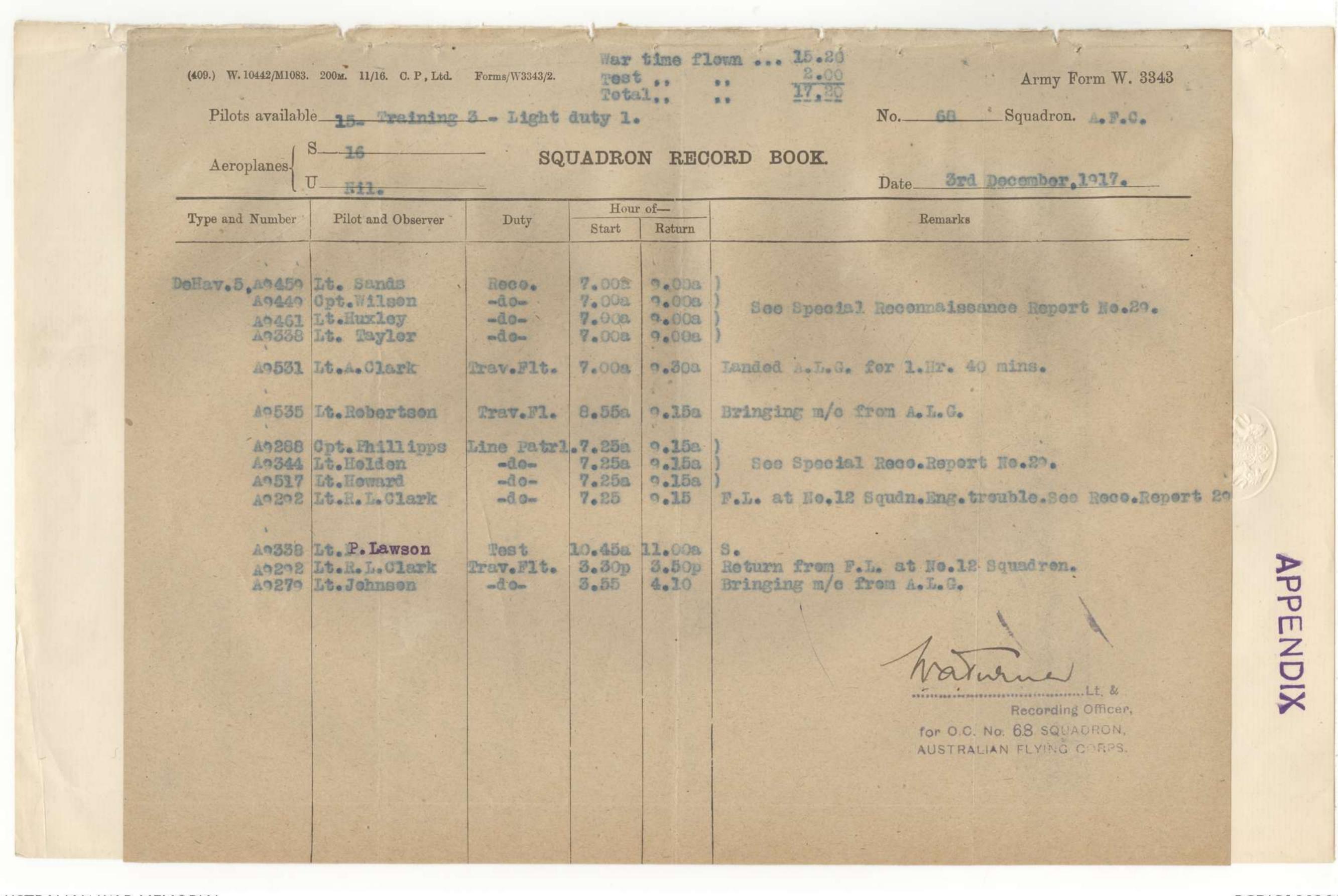
1/12/17  Lit. Benjamin in 9541 left the Aero. at Baizieux at 12.5.p.m. on a SpecialMission over Bourlon Woods.  He was shot down by E.A. at Wagholiem, 011 Tank shot through top, left Longeron shot through and split.  Pilot 0.K. To A.D. for repair.  Lit. Robertsom in 9461 left the Aerodrame Baizieux at 12 noon on a special Mission over Bourlon Wood.  Lit. Robertsom in 9461 left the Aerodrame Baizieux at 12 noon on a special Mission over Bourlon Wood and was an about down by enemy alregart. Top left Longeron shot through. No. 1 Cly. shot thret Prop. shot thret Back Flate bent. Petrol Tank shot through . Yo 2 A.D. for repair.  Lit. Taylor in 9356 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 rem down the hill, jumped a read, get jammed. between trees, 2 Bottom Longerons broken, Planes, Rudder Bar, Ce.Section and Spars broken. Prop. broken.  10 2 A.D. for repairs. Filot uninjured.  Lit. McKensie in 9544 left Aeroc. Baizieux at 10.30 a.m. on a special Mission over Bourlon Wood and came are special mission over Bourlon Wood and returned from repair.  Lit. Johnson in 9279 left the Aerodrame at 10.35 a.m. on a Special Mission over Bourlon Wood and returned to Aerodrame shot about by E.A. Damaged 3 transverse struts and fuselage shot through Pilot 0.K. Machine returned for repair.  Lit. Gornell in 9544 left the Aerodrame 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 50 fb. Machine struck off.  SR.F. Saf McMillyms Now Users by Schalanger.  Lit. Pratt left Aero at Aerial Range Berds sur Mer at 9.35 a.m. crashed in taking off. Due to rough nature of landing ground. Pilot 0.K. 2 btm. longerons, 2 engine bearers broken. Paselage & bracing member broken near tail. 4 Main Planes broken, also spar and C. Section struts. Allerons tail fin, rudder broken.  Lit. A.G.Clark in B/64 left the Aerodrame at 3.50, and came down at 4 p.m. cause Pilot ran into big snow drift afte	Place	Date Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks a references Appendic
Lt. Cornell in 9324 left the Aerodrome at 2.20 p.m. and crashed at 2.25 p.m. at balleds. Filed. killed. Cause flat turn and stall and nose dive at 500 ft. Machine struck off.  S.E. 5.42 MACHINES NOW USED BY SQUADRON.  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 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.  Lt. A.G.Clark in B/64 left the Aerodrome at 3.50, 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.		1/12/17 4/12/17	He was shot down by E.A. at Wagholien, Oil Tank shot through top, left hongeron shot through and spirit.  Pilot O.K. To A.D. for repair.  Lt. Robertsom 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 Longeron shot through. No. 1 Cly, shot thro: Prop. shot thro:  Back Plate bent. Petrol Tank shot through. Yo 2 A.D. for repair.  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.  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 Longeron shot through, Planes broken,  Engine and front of fuselage completely wrecked. Pilot uninjured. Machine returned for repair.  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	Appendic
		12/12/17	Lt. Cornell in 9324 left the Aerodrome at 2.20 p.m. and crashed at 2.25 p.m. at Balleds. Filed. Cause flat turn and stall and nose dive at 500 ft. Machine struck off.  S.E. 5.43 MACHINES NOW USED BY SCUADRON.  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 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.  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.	

Army Form C. 2118.

par time flown (409.) W. 10442/M1083. 200m. 11/16. C. P, Ltd. Forms/W3343/2. Army Form W. 3343 Tost .. 3.05 20.40 Total .. .. Squadron. F.G. Maining 3 Light Duty 68 Pilots available 15 SQUADRON RECORD BOOK. Aeroplanes-1st December, 1917. Date\_ Hour of-Type and Number Pilot and Observer Duty Remarks Raturn Start A9341 DH5. Lt. Johnson Test 7.55 8.05 U. -Rudder bar broken. bente A9535 Lt.McKenzie -do-7.20 7.25 Se A9531 Capt. Wilson Low 7.05 7.15 Returned early. Eng. trouble. A9336 Lt. Taylor Flying. 7.05 8.35 F.L.at 59 Sgdn. Undercarriage shot about. A9459 Lt.Sands Landed A.L.G. for refill. See Attack on E.I.No. 2 -Cl O-7.05 8.35 A9461 7.05 Lt.Huxley 8.35 -do--do- See Combat Report No.20. m0.0m A9461 Lt. Huxley -do-9.45 See Attack on E. I. No. 75 10.40 A9459 Lt.Sands -d.0-9.45 10.50 00.00 -do-A9531 Capt. Wilson Test 8.05 U. -Aileron controls out of order. 8.10 A9338 2/Lt.A.Clark Frav.Flt. 8.05 8.35 Delivering new m/c from 2 A.S.D. A9544 2/Lt.Benjamin 8.35 8.05 -0.0--doad.0= 2/Lt.Truscott A0324 8.05 8.35 -do--d.o--0.0-A9255 Lt.Forrest Test 11.45 11.50 See combat report No.21 acces on E. I. No 26 A9255 Lt.Forrest Low 12.00 1.05 F. L. at A. L. G. Wagonlieu. Report not available. 12.00 A9341 E/Lt.Bonjamin Flying. 12.45 Machine damaged by E.A. Petrol tank shot through. F.L. close to Bapaume. duento damage by E.fire. 12,50 A9466 12.00 Lt.Robertson 00 0m F.L. between Mayeneville & Courselles. See combat 至9535 Lt.McKenzie -d.0-12.00 1.00 Report No.22. ma . 1.20 1.35 A9535 Landed A.L.G. -0.0-Lt.McKenzie From A.L.G. to Baizioux. Prav.Flt. 2.30 2.50 A9255 Lt. Forrest 2.50 2.30 -d.0--0.0-A9535 Lt.McKensie -d.o-3.35 3.30 West A9531 Capt. Wilson 3.20 3.35 -0.D-Capt.Phillipps BBS.PA 3.50 3.45 A9449 -d.0= Capt. Wilson -00-3.45 3.50 A9531 2/Lt.A. Clark

RCDIG1003980 AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL





Aeroplanes	U_1	ng SE5)	UADRO	N REC	Date
Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Start	Return	Remarks.
Dell5. A9255 A9279	Lt. Forrest )	BINGIAL MISSION.	9.558	11.50a	
A9535 A9544	Lt.Benjamin )	-do-	9.55	11.50	) See Attack on E. I. Report No. 30.
A9449 A944 A9531 A9537	Capt. Fileon Lt. Sands 2/Lt. Truscott Lt. Holden 2/Lt. A. Clark Lt. Howard 2/Lt. Power	Trav.Fit. Practice -do- Gun test Practice C.O.P.	10.40	10.45 11.00 10.55 11.20 11.50	
A9449 A9459	Capt. Wilson )	Squeuclas).	The second of th	2.05p	) One H.A. Balloon H. of CAMBRAI and 2 opposite ) VII Corps front.
A9461 A9336	Lt.Hurley ) Lt.Taylor )	-ûo-	12.30	2.05	Machine crashed landing.
A9517	Lt.R.L.Clark ) Lt.Howard )	C.O.P. Rymerkerk Microckerk	2.05		) 10 E.A.S. (one 2 str.& 9 sets) over DATEAU WOOD ) at 4,000 feet. Not engaged
A9364 A9288	Cpt. Phillipps)	-do-	2.05	3.50	
	The state of the s	THE RESERVE TO SERVE	I ME TO THE DE	H CONTRACTOR OF THE	)Bomb dropping- (2) 14 ft. & 13 ft from targets

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

Army Form W. 3343

Squadron. A.F.C.

Pilots available 17-Training 2.LD.1

S 19 (1 SE5) Aeroplanes

SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date	5	th	De	gom	ber.	19	17.
Dalo_	-		-			_	

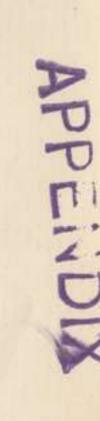
		U				Date_ 5th December, 1917.
Type a	and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour	r of— Return	Remarks
DH5.	49537 49537 49517 49898	Lt.Holden ) Lt.Howard ) Lt.R.Clark )	Low flying -do-	7.20	11.10	) Landed A.L.G. Bapaume-Broken aule.  ) Several E.A.S. in distance.  ) Landed A.L.G. Bapaume.
	A9445 A4938	2/Lt.Lawson Lt.Robertson	Trav. Flt.	20.10	0.50	Delivering new m/e from 2 A.S.D.
	An255 An270	Lt.Forrest ) Lt.Johnson )	Special	1.30p	3.35p 1.35	See Combat Report No.23  Returned with eng. trouble.
	A9544	Lt.Robertson ) Lt.McKenzie )	-do-	1.30	3.35	See Combat Report No.23.
	An44n An338	Capt.Wilson )	-d.o-	1.35	3.40	See Combat Report No. 23.
	An45n An461	Lt.Sands ) Lt.Huxley )	-do-	1.35	3.45	
	An535	Lt.Johnson	-do-	1.50	2.50	Unable to find patrol.
						Watured Lt. 2.  Recording Concer,  Recording Concerns

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Aeroplanes S\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

Date Oth December, 1917.

			Hou	r of—	
Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Start	Raturn	Remarks
DH5. An338	Lt. Fratt ) Capt. Wilson )	how Tlying.	7.100	7.25	) 1 Head. Over Hancold-too distint to encare.
A-461	Lt. Eucloy )	-0.0-	7.10	9.85	) See Report of Attack on E.I. Do.39
An445	2/Lt.Bonjamin	Cost	8.05	8.30	U Tyre burut.
30544 B4038	Lt. Robertson )	-C. No le	10.30		Sunded D. C. wehine dimegod by Combut 24.
49279 49535	Lt.Forrost )	-00- -00-	20.30	18.35	See Combut Report No.24.
And507 An507 An507	Lt. Sands Lt. A. G. Clark Lt. R. Glark 2/Lt. Power	Prostice Prostice	12.45	11.25	U. S. Fighting. -do-
And88 And81 And81 And87	Lt. Power	G. O. R. -0.0- -0.0- C. O. R.	2.30	3.35 4.25 4.25 4.25	) See Attack on E.I.Ropert Ho.33 ) and Combut Report Ho.25
Anges Anges Anges	Lt.R.L.Glark ) Lt.Rouned 1	-0.0- -0.0-	2.30	4.20	Soc Attack on E.D. Report De.36.
A1535	S/Lt.Truscott	Proctico	3.45	4.00	bomb dropping- 2 dropped- 5 yds. 5 16 yds.
					Waturned
					for O.C. No. CB SQUACRON, AUSTRALIAIS FLYING CORPS:

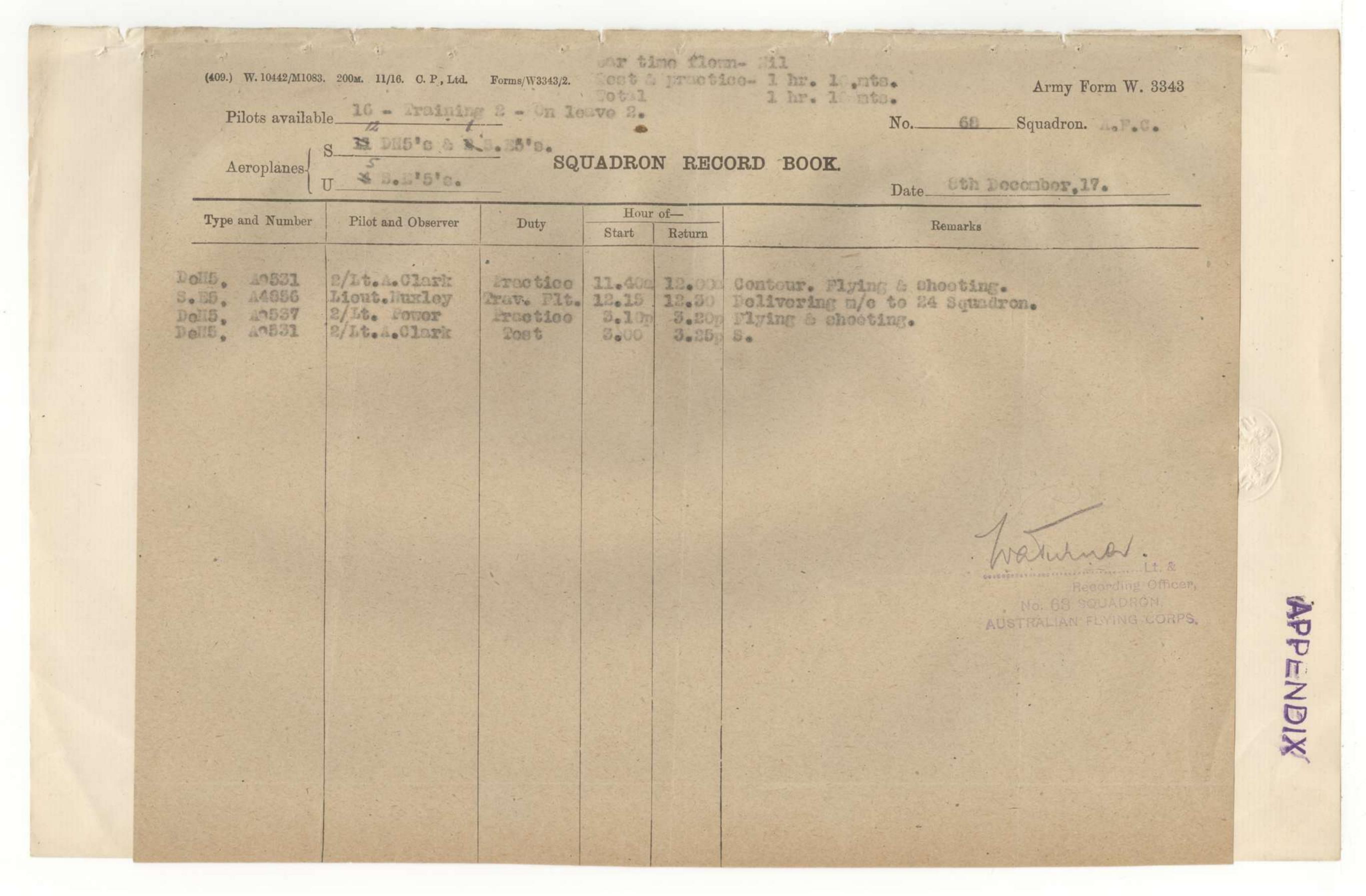


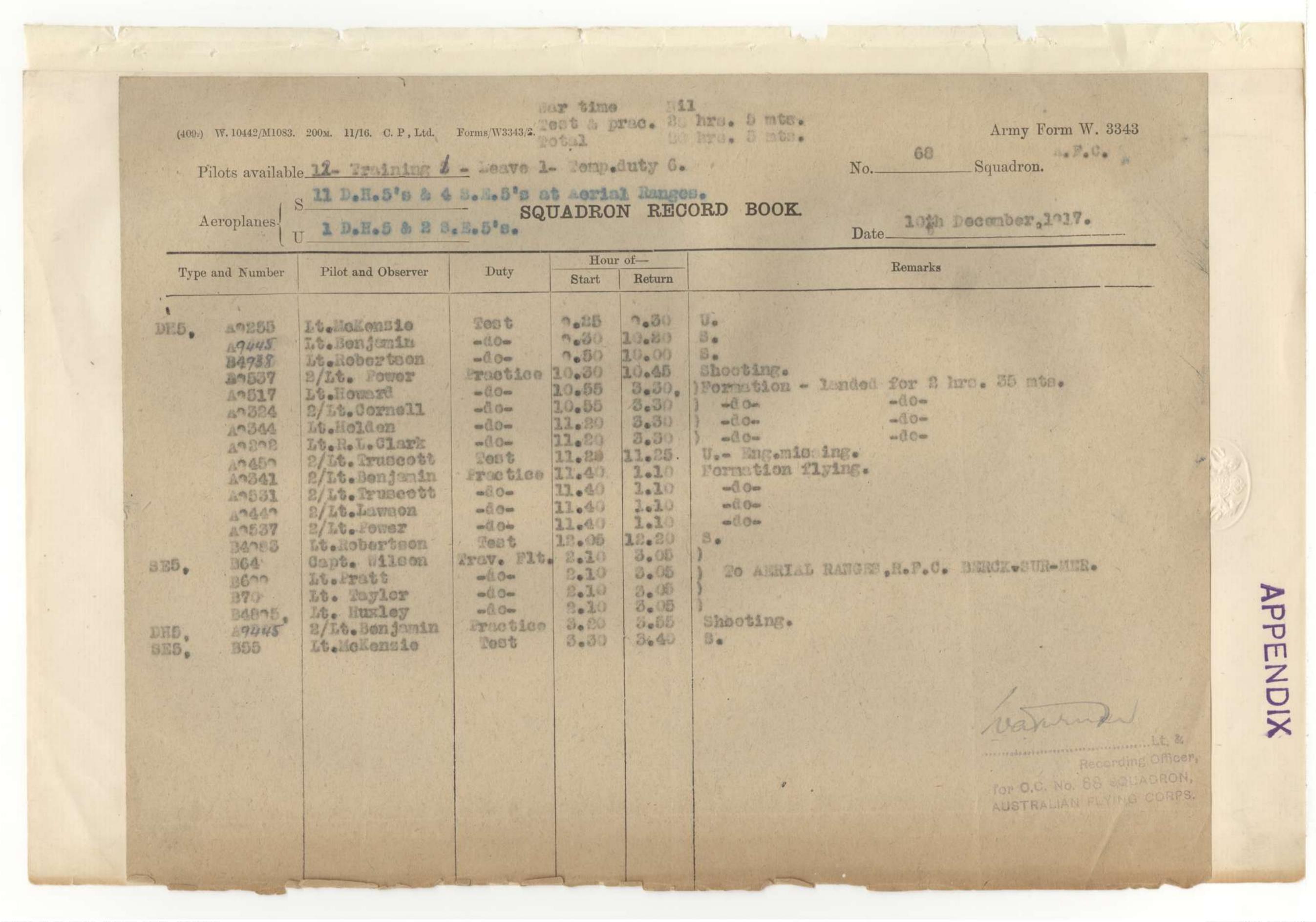
Tost prec. - h (409.) W. 10442/M1083. 200m. 11/16. C. P, Ltd. Forms/W3343/2. Army Form W. 3343 Pilots available 16 No.\_\_\_\_ Squadron.

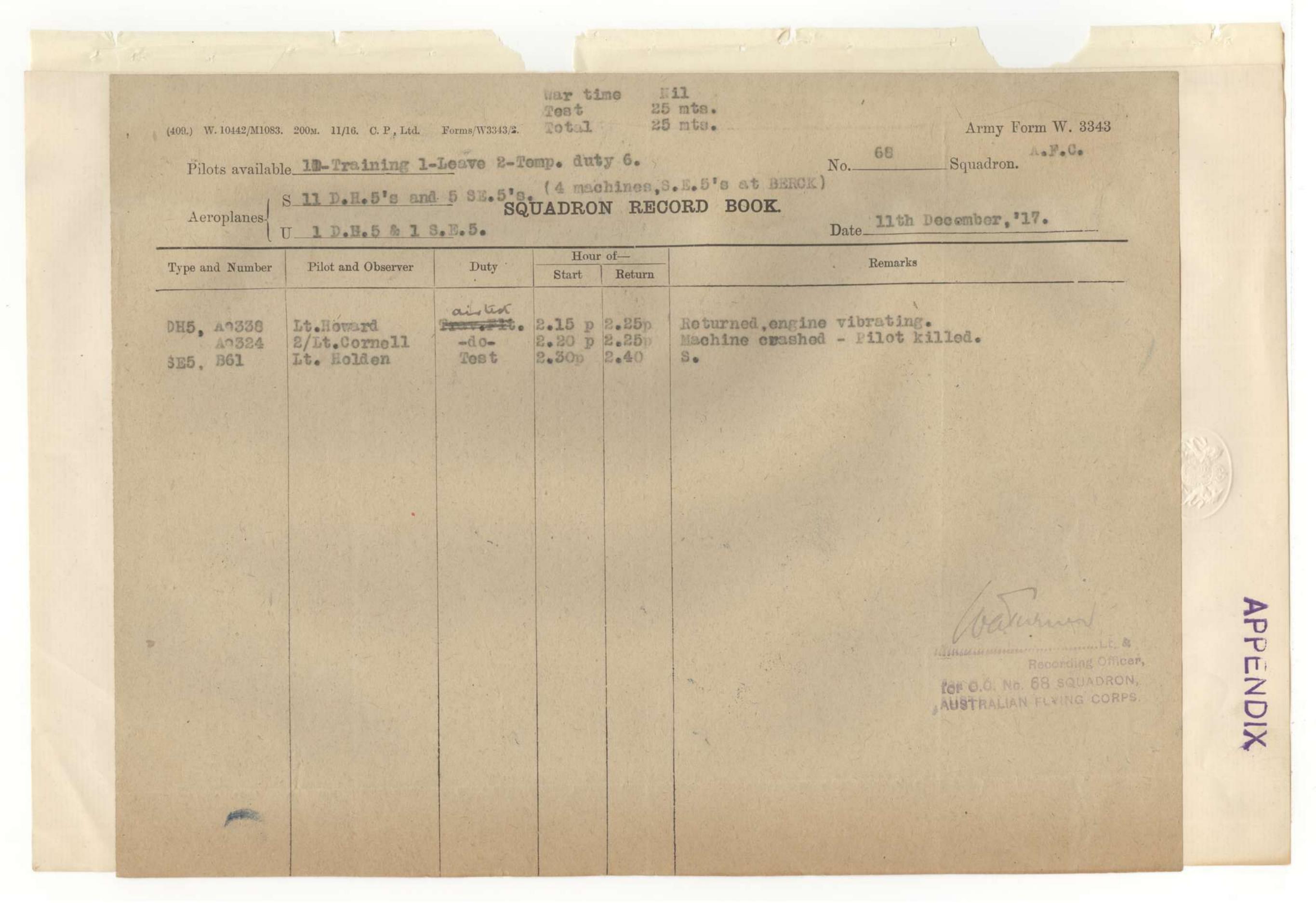
SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

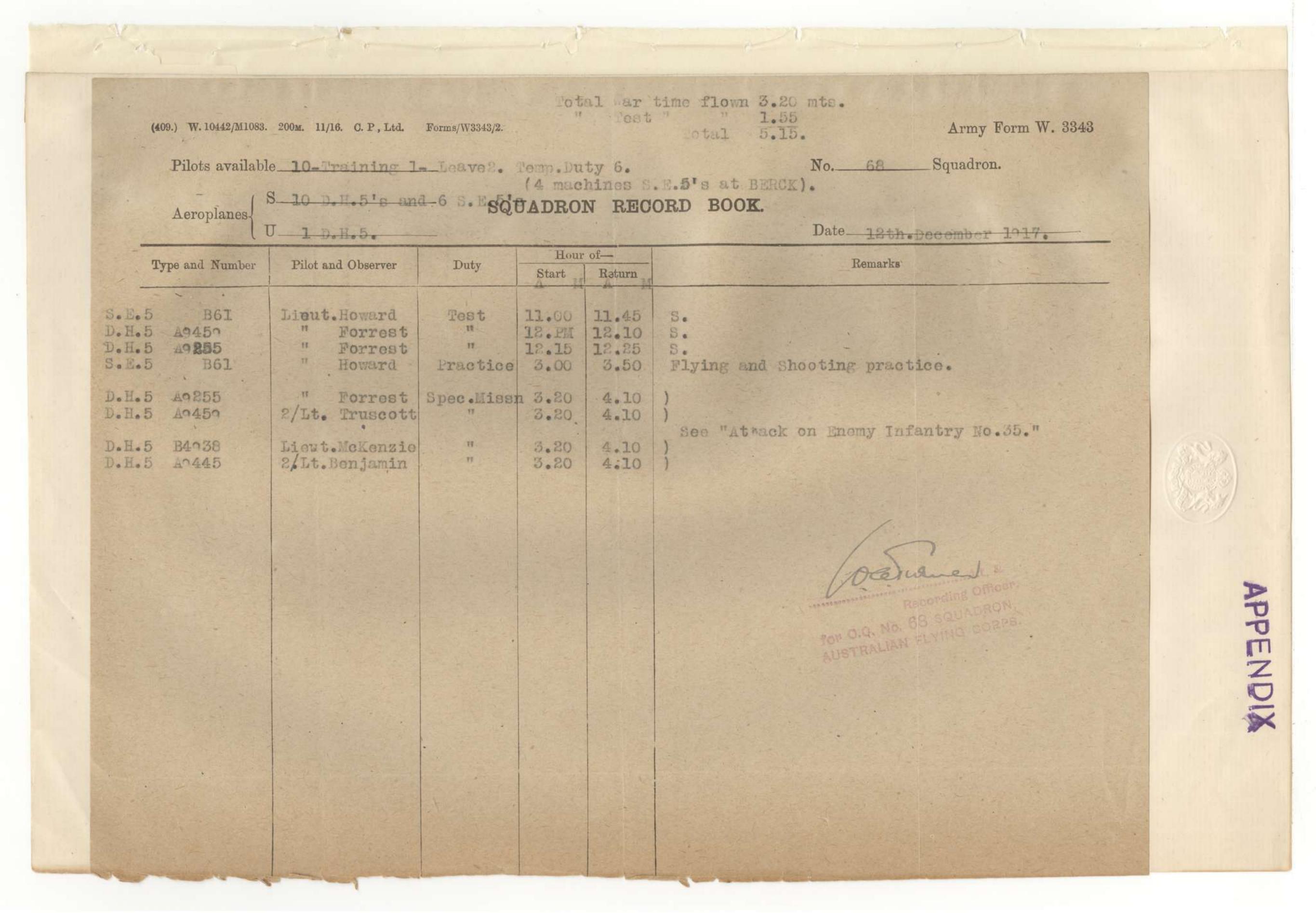
Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Hour of— Start Return	Remarks
.B.5. B70 B64 B61 .B.5. A0445 .B.5. A0845	Copt. Wilson Lt. Holden Lt. Rebertson Lt. Raylor Lt. Holden Lt. Roylor Lt. Holden Lt. Roylor Lt. Holden Lt. Roylor Lt. Roylor Lt. Holden Lt. Roylor Lt. Roylor Lt. Sande	-00- -00- -00- -00- 3 -00- 1	8.45 9.05 9.25 9.30 9.35 9.35 10.00 1.25 1.25 1.25 1.25 1.25	Dolivering m/c to 2 a.s.D.  Roturned owing-to-Eng. trouble.  Dolivering m/c to 2 a.s.D.  -dododododododod
				Recording Officer for O.C. No. 68 SQUADRON, AUSTRALIAN FLY NG CORPS.

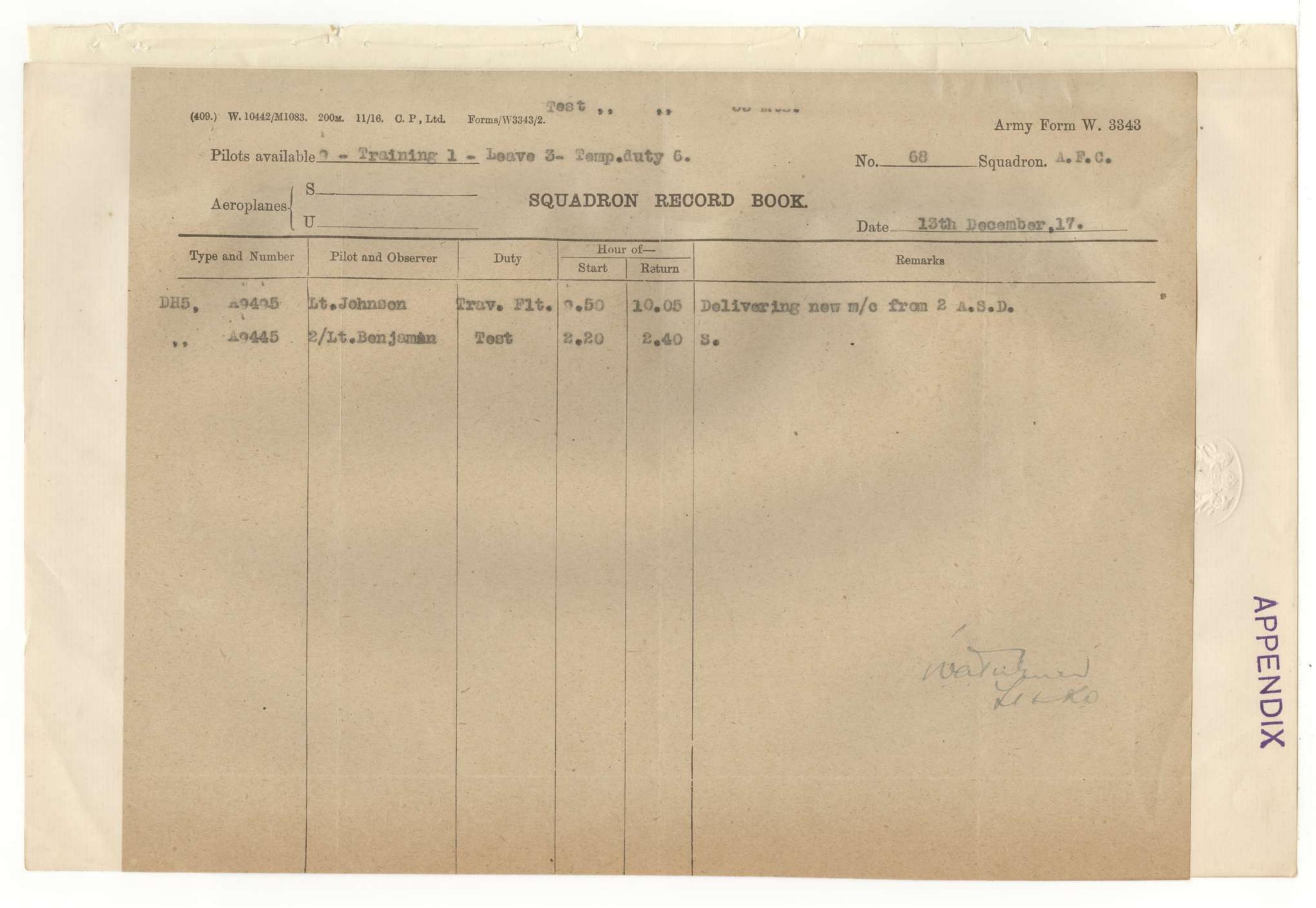
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL











(409.) W. 10442/M1083. 200m. 11/16. C. P, Ltd. Forms/W3343/2. Pilots available. Training 1. Leave 3.

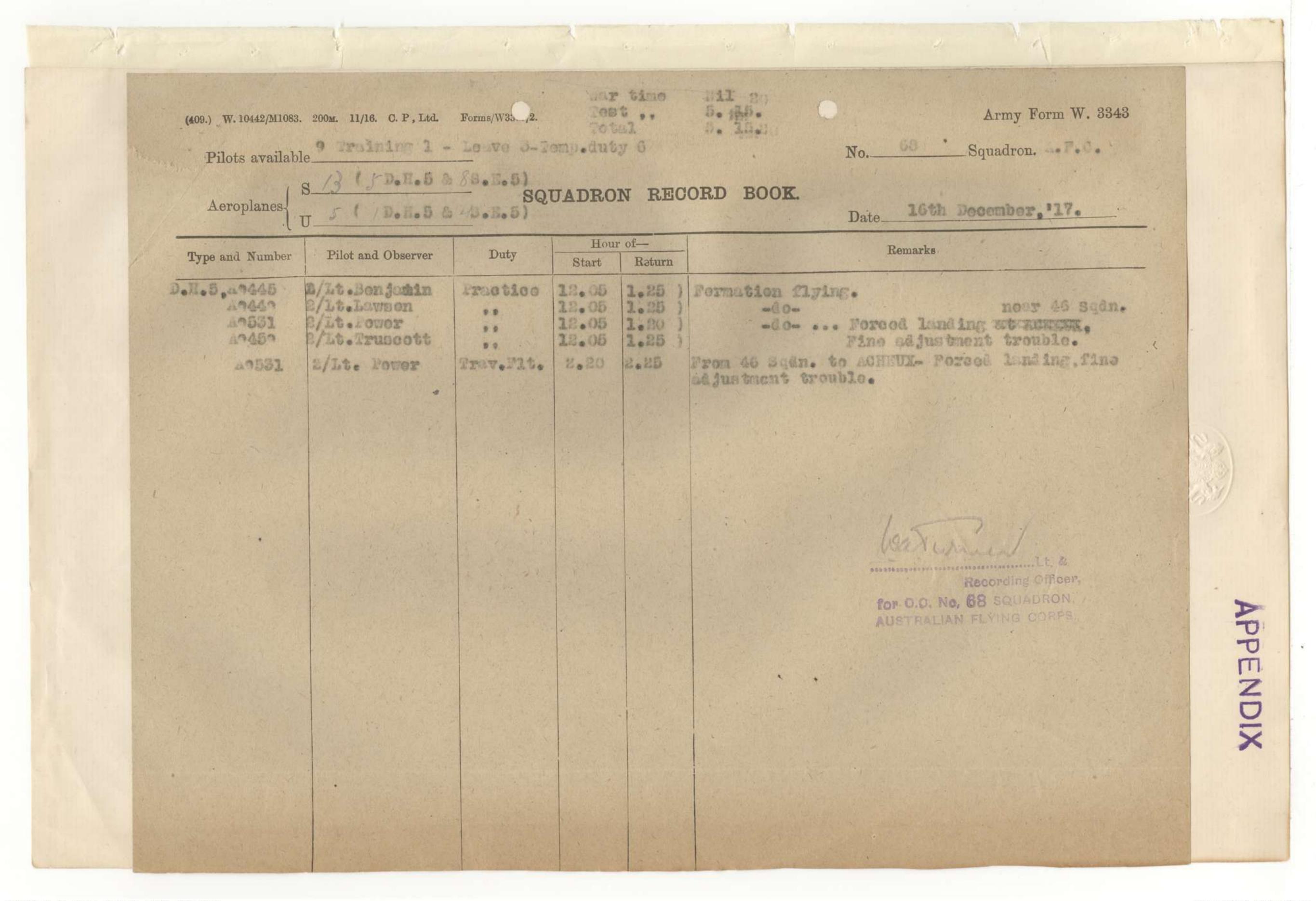
Test time Tootal time flown

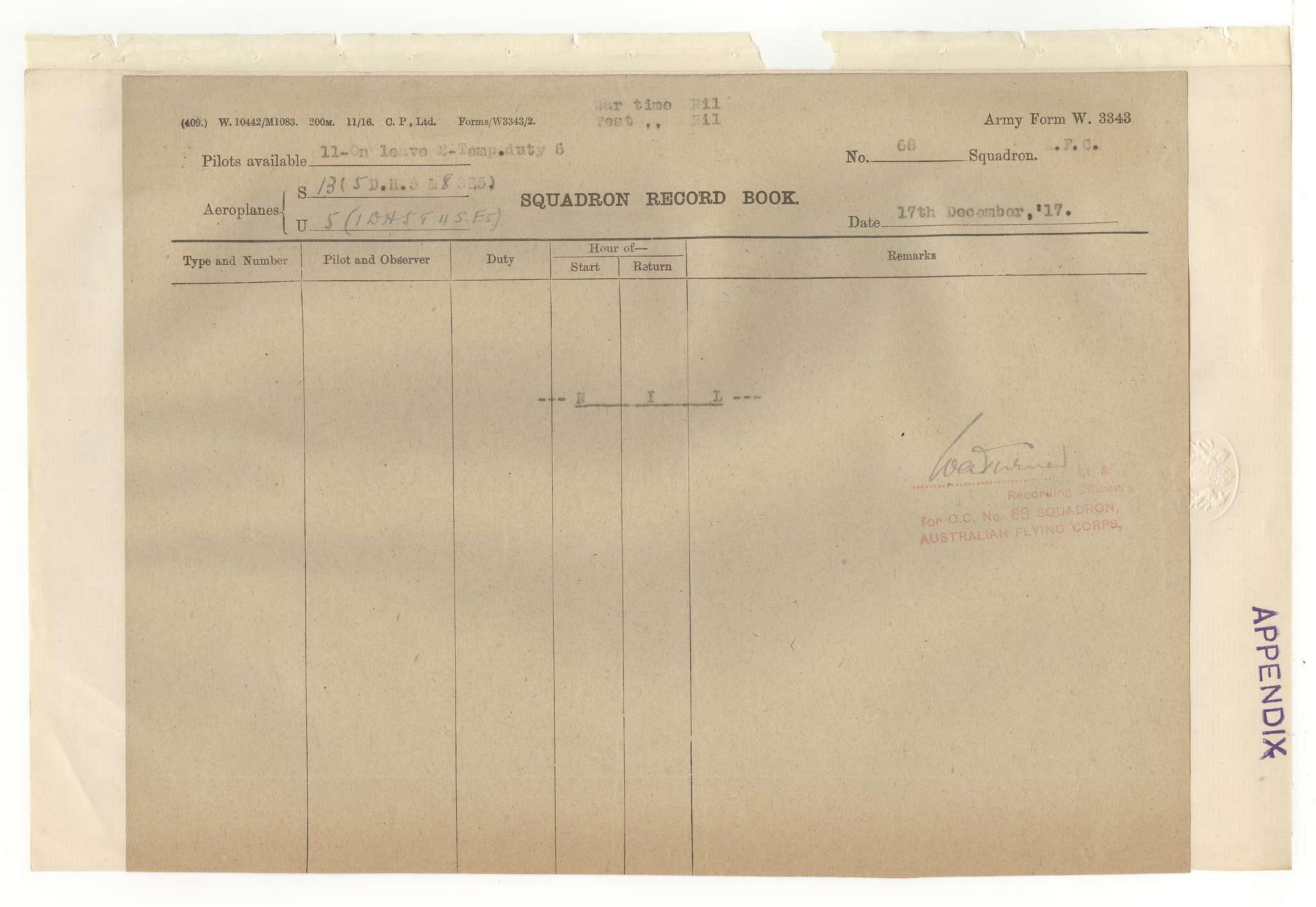
Army Form W. 3343 Squadron. A.F.C.

Tempy duty 6. SQUADRON RECORD BOOK. Aeroplanes

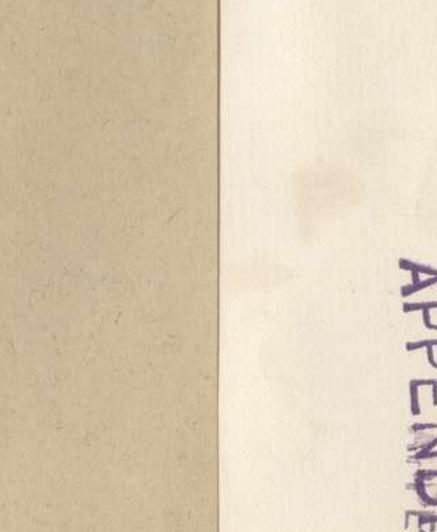
		U.S.						Date_1	5th.December	1017.
	Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	The second second	r of—			Ren	oarks	
				Start	Return	I MAN TO STATE OF THE PARTY OF				
).H.D	A0202 A0344	Lt. R.L.Clark	Trav.Flt.		09.50	Deliveri	ing Machi	ne to	No.2 A.S.D.	
	A0537	Lt. Holden Lt. Forrest	п		09.45	11	n	n	"	
	A9338	Lt. Johnson	11		10.00	"	17	- 17	. 11	
. M. 5	A8936	Lt. Holden	n	30 55	77 05	"			11	
	B4850	Lt. R.L.Clark	31	10.55	11.05	11	, 11	from	11	
	05312	Lt. Forrest		The second second	11.50	11	n	11	it	
	B74	Lt. Howard	11	11.35	11.50	· u	n .		"	
.н.5	A0517	Lt. Hovird	"	12.10	12.30	"	"	to	11	
10 5	B4858	I.t Johnson		20.70	70 00			-		
	05320	Lt. Johnson Lt. Howard	п	12.10	12.20 1.PM	11	- 11	from	"f Engine	unsatifiacto
. Н. 5	40405	Lt. Howard	11	1.45	2.05	"		to		
	A9449 A9459	2/Lt.Lawson "Truscott	Practice	2.30	3.25	) s. )	Formatio	on and	Line Patrol	(Well back)
	A9445 A9531	Lt. Benjamin 2/Lt.Power	11	2.30	3.25	s.     s.				
E. 5	B504	Lt. Howard	Truv.Fligh	t 3.20	3.40	Deliverin	ng Machin	e from	No.2 A.S.b.	waring unsatis
					The state of the s	-factory.	. Palbon	eportia e	nendfilm ropel	der in oir.
									1.1	7
									warm	ne S
						100				
						- 76				

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL





(409.) W. 10442/M1083. 200m. 11/16. C. P., Ltd. Forms/W3343/2. Army Form W. 3343 Cout ... 3 hro. 1 mts. Pilots available 27 - 17 - 17 Squadron. SQUADRON RECORD BOOK. Aeroplanes-Date 10th December, 17. Hour of-Type and Number Pilot and Observer Remarks Duty Raturn Start S. L. 5 BG4 Recording Officer, for O.C. No. 68 SQUADRON. AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.



(409.) W. 10442/M1083. 200m. 11/16. C. P, Ltd. Forms/W3340/2.

nil war time Test .. 2 . 50 Army Form W. 3343

Squadron. A.F.C.

Pilots available 17- On loave 2.

Aeroplanes

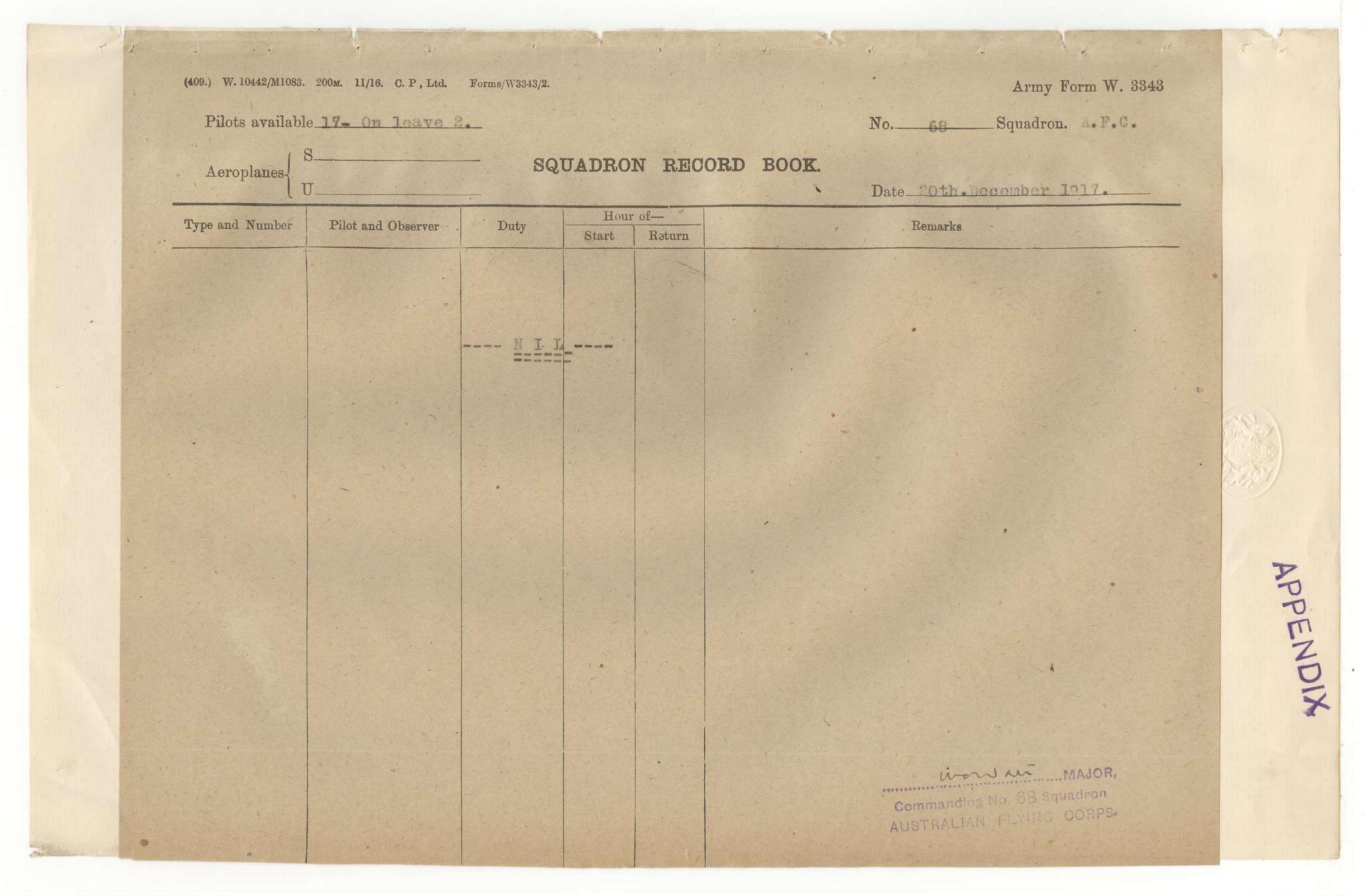
SQUADRON RECORD BOOK.

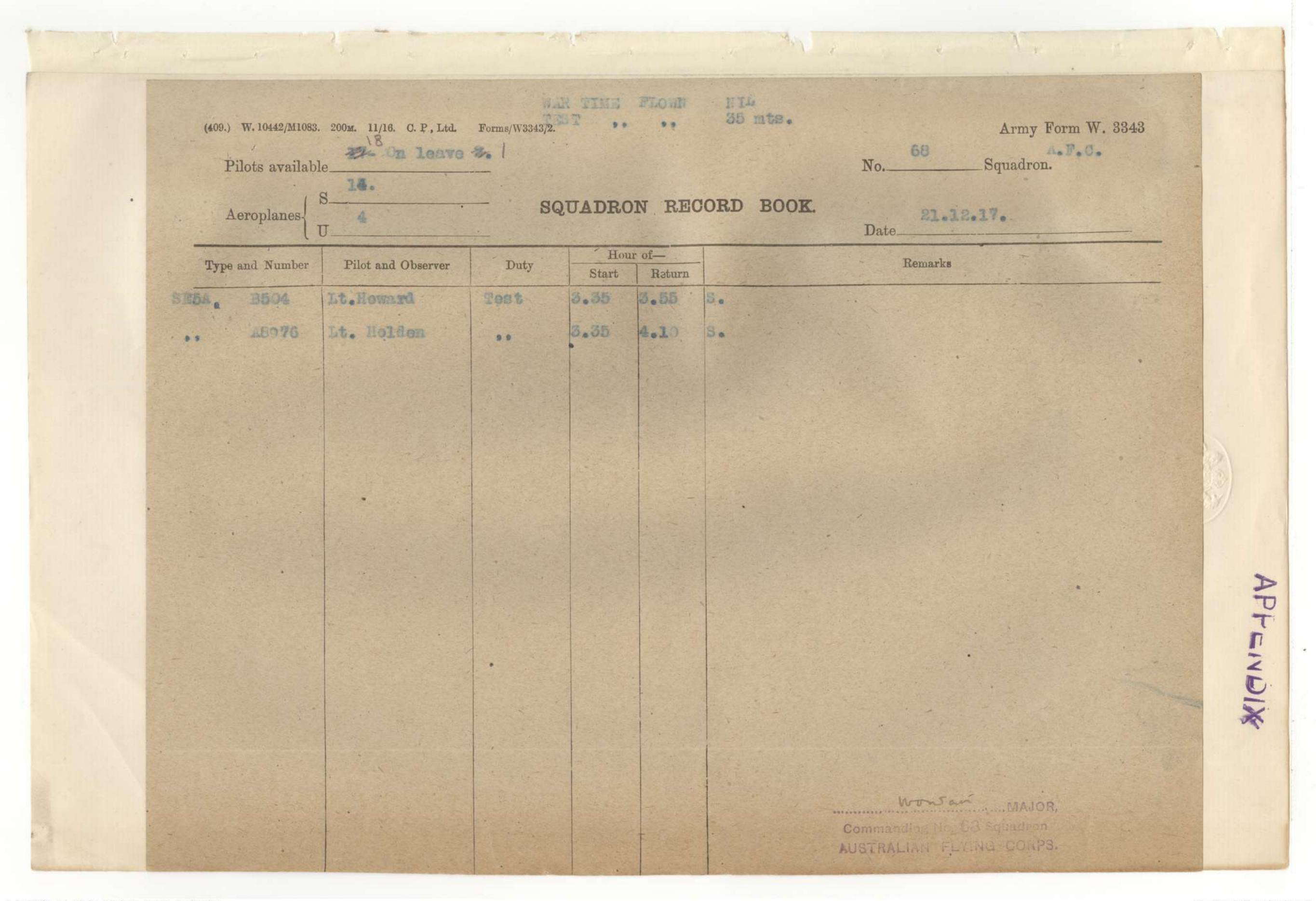
Date_	19th	Decer	mber,	*17.
-------	------	-------	-------	------

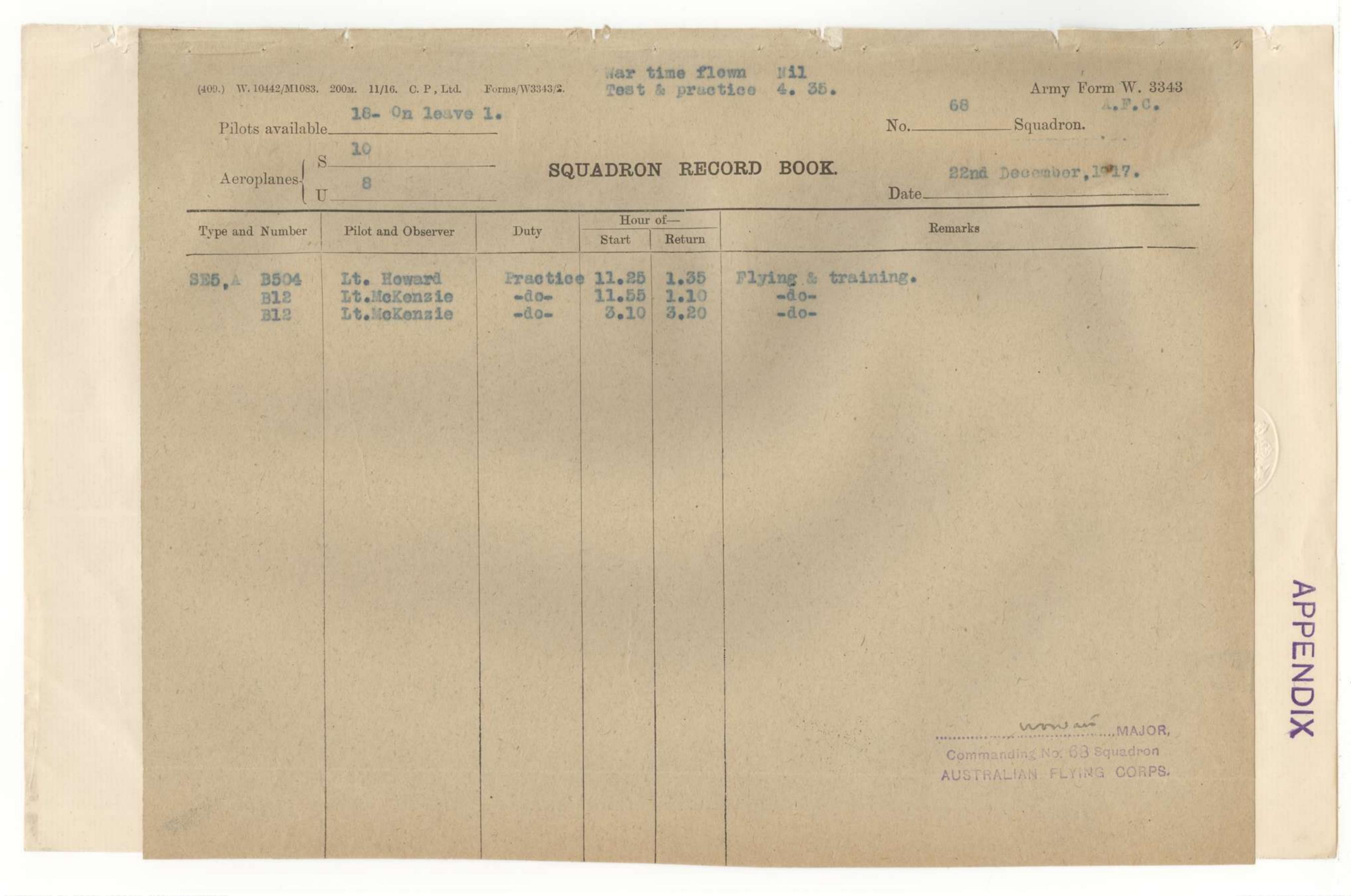
No. 68

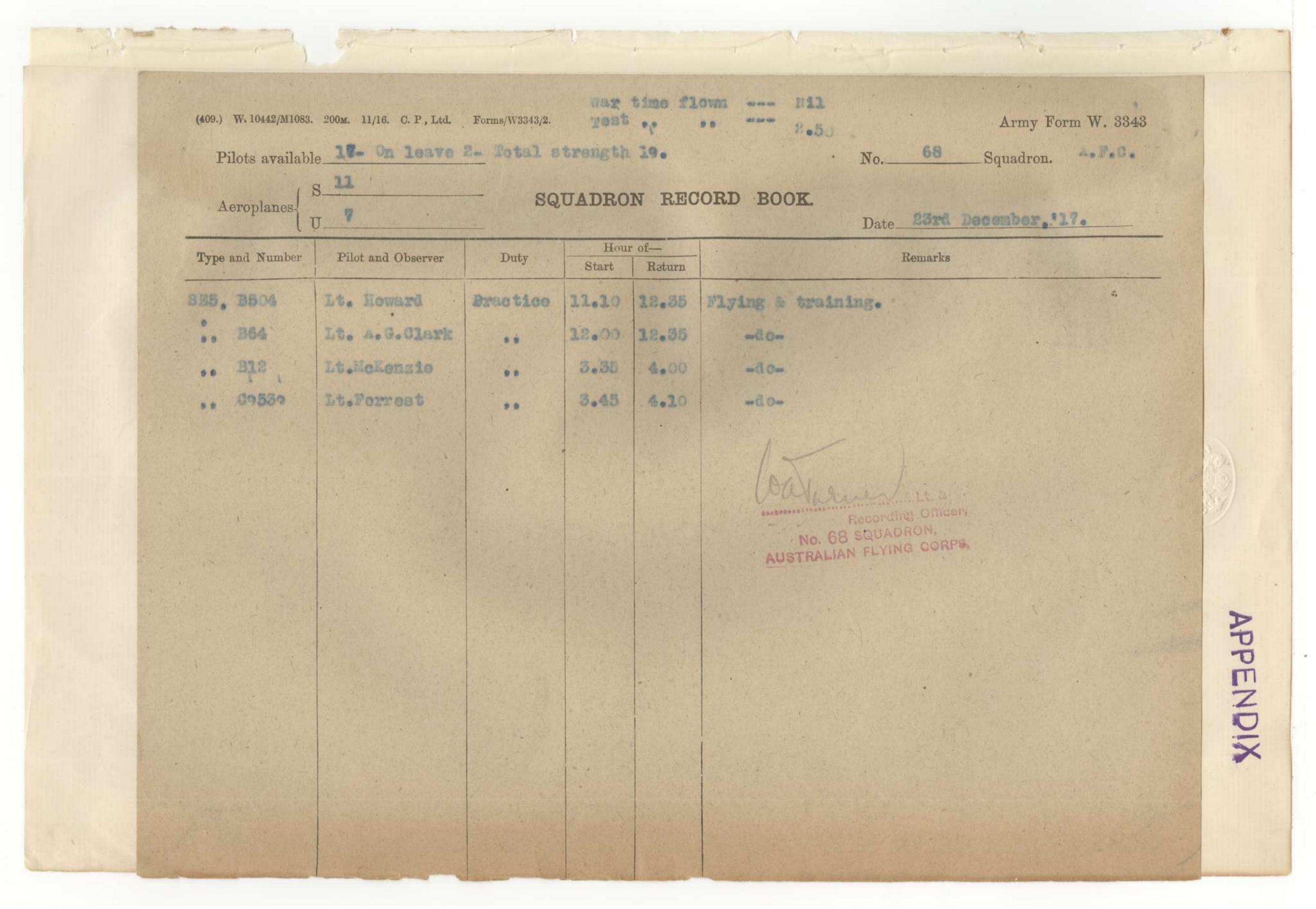
	U_3				Date 19th December, 17.
m 1 37 3	Dila		Hour	of—	Parada
Type and Number	Pilot and Observer	Duty	Start	Raturn	Remarks
.H5, A9445 B4938 A9531 A9449 A9255	Lt. Johnson Lt. McKenzie Lt. Taylor, MC 2/Lt.a.Clark Lt. Humley, MC Lt. Forrest	Trav.Fltdodododo-	10.40	10.55 11.00 11.00 10.55 10.55	Delivering D.H.5's to S A.S.D.
B579 B579 C0480 B505	Lt. Taylory MC. 2/Lt.A. Clark Lt. Huxley, MC Lt. Johnson Lt. McKenzie	Prav.Fltdododo-	1.35 2.25 2.35 3.20 4.05	1.45 2.40 2.50 3.35 4.20	) Delivering S.E.5's from 2 A.S.D.

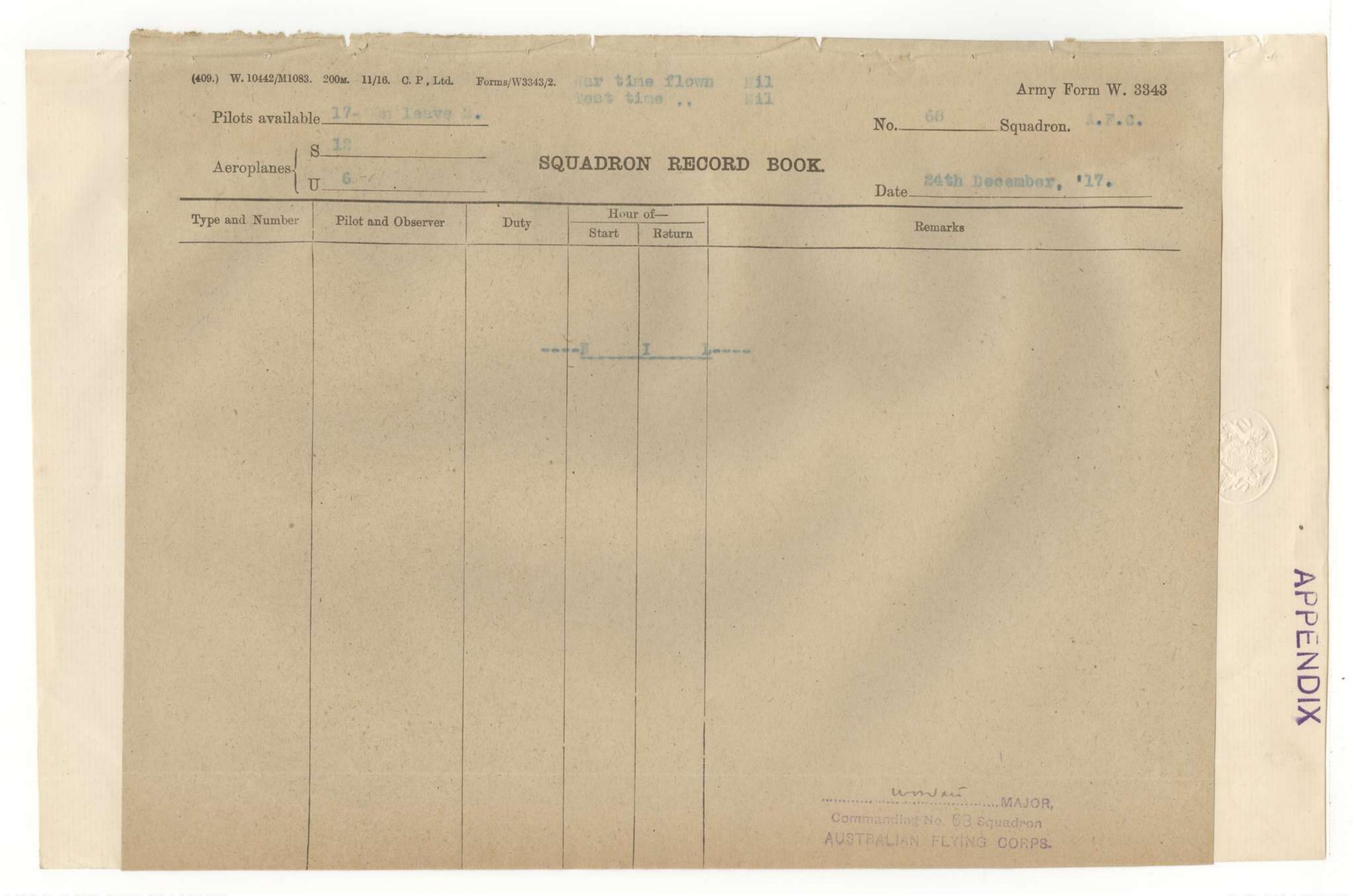
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

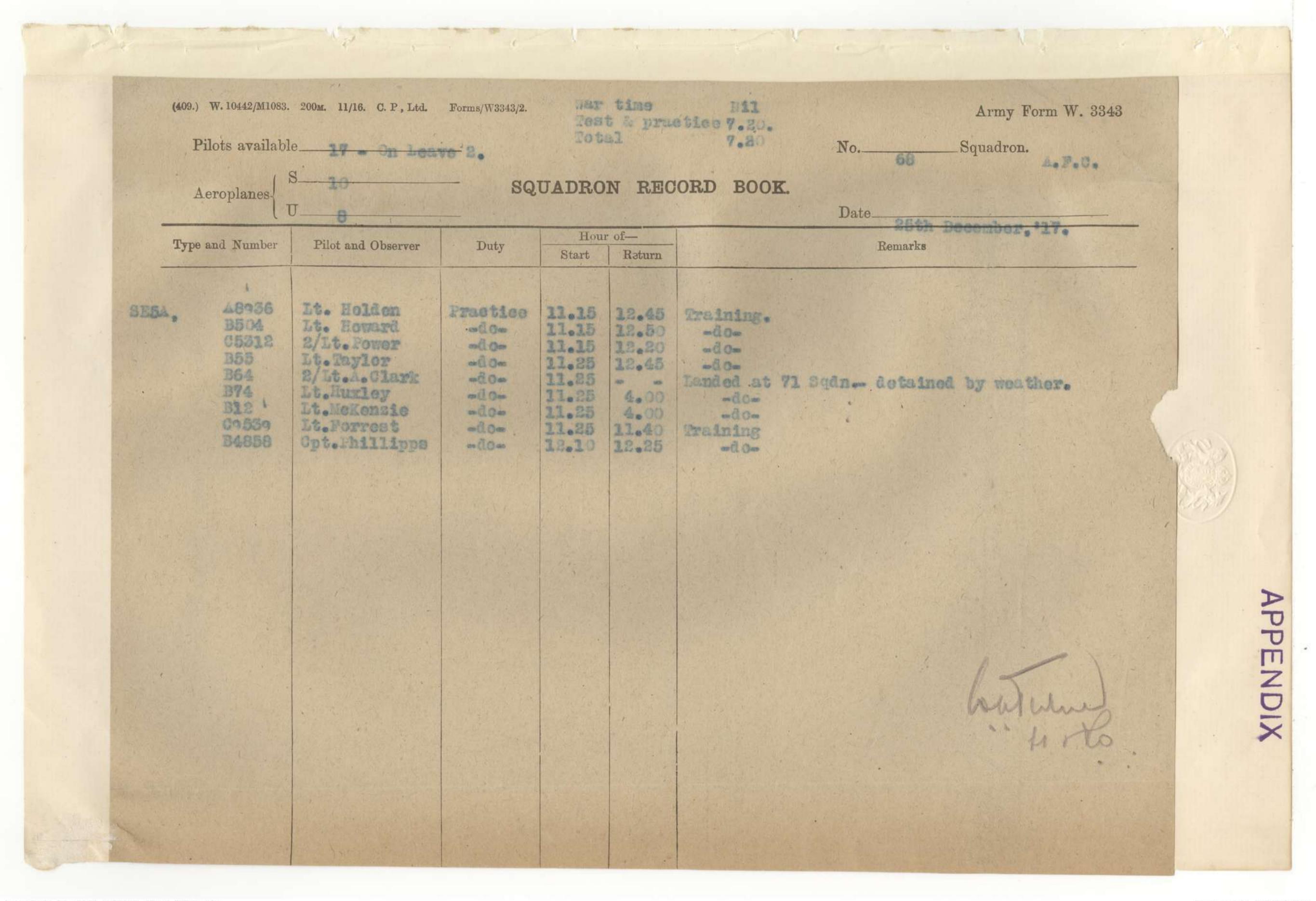


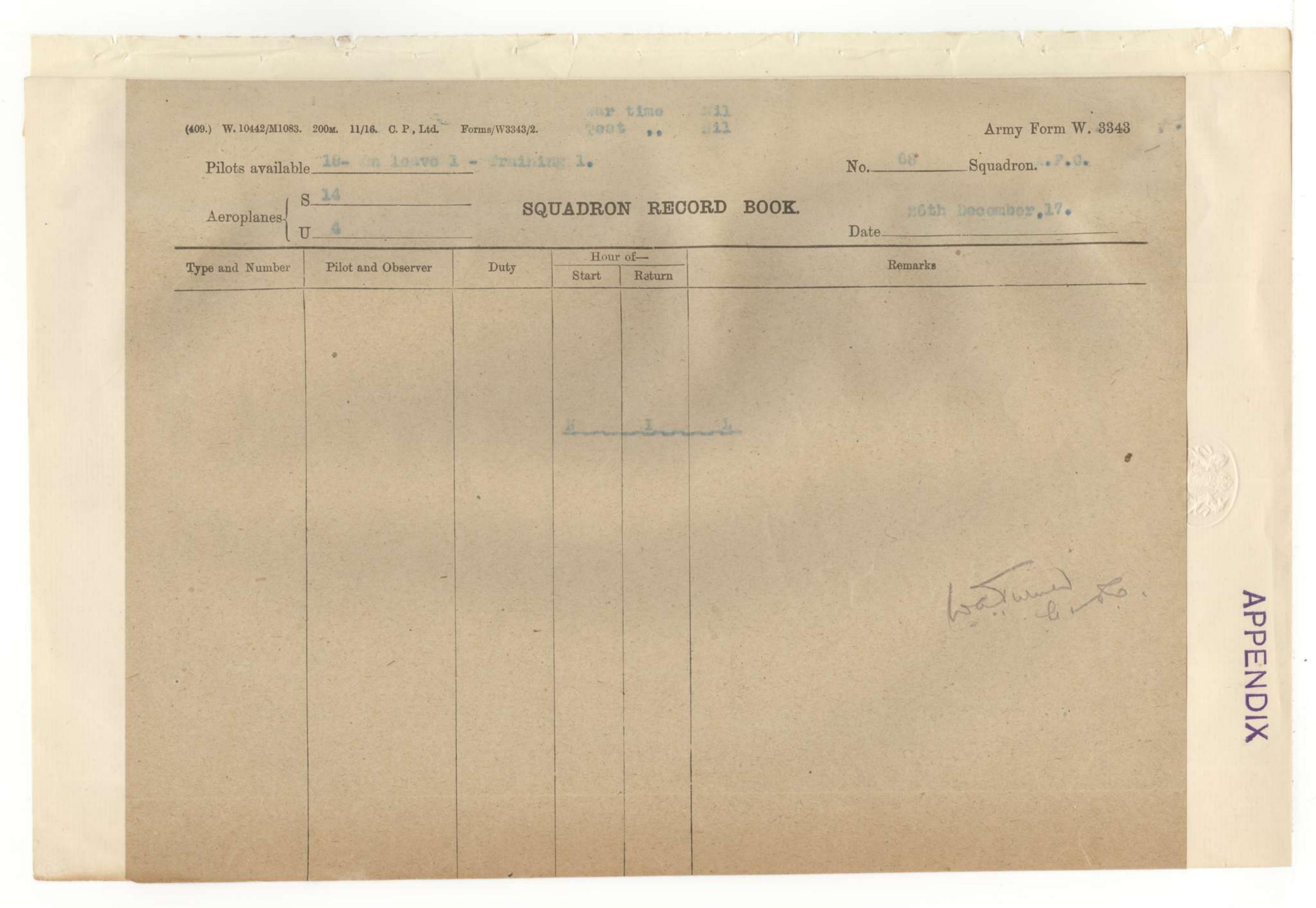




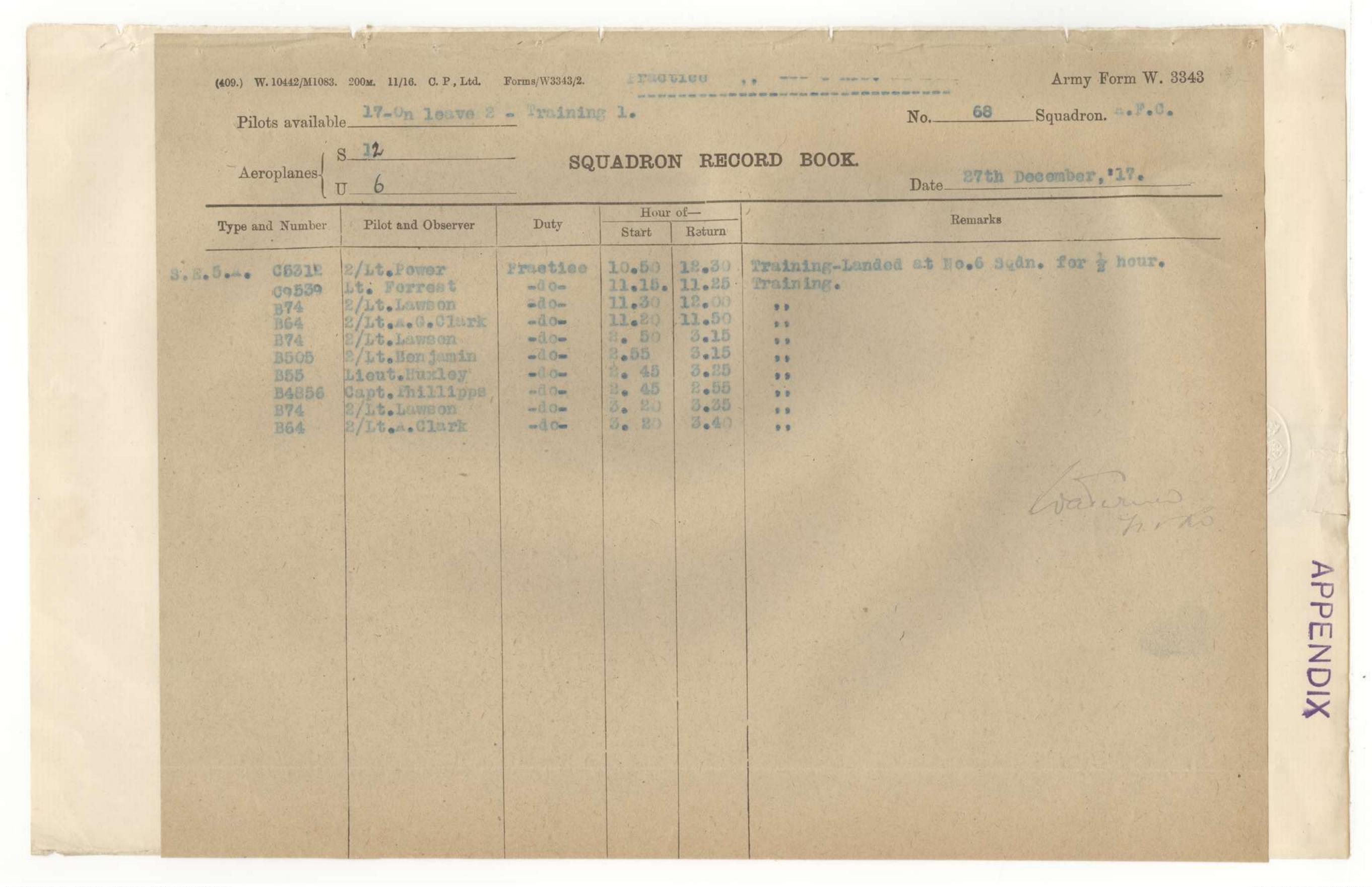


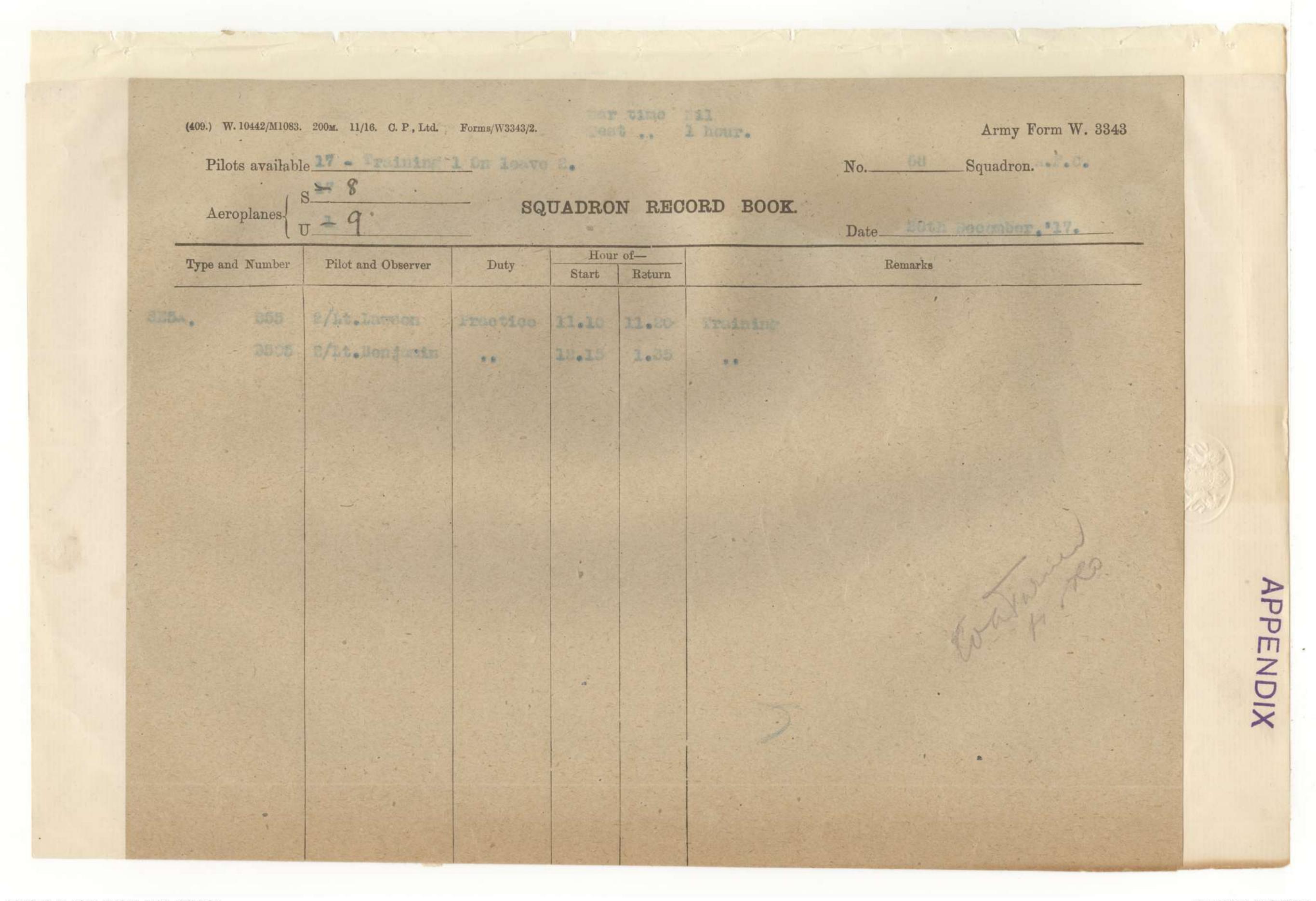


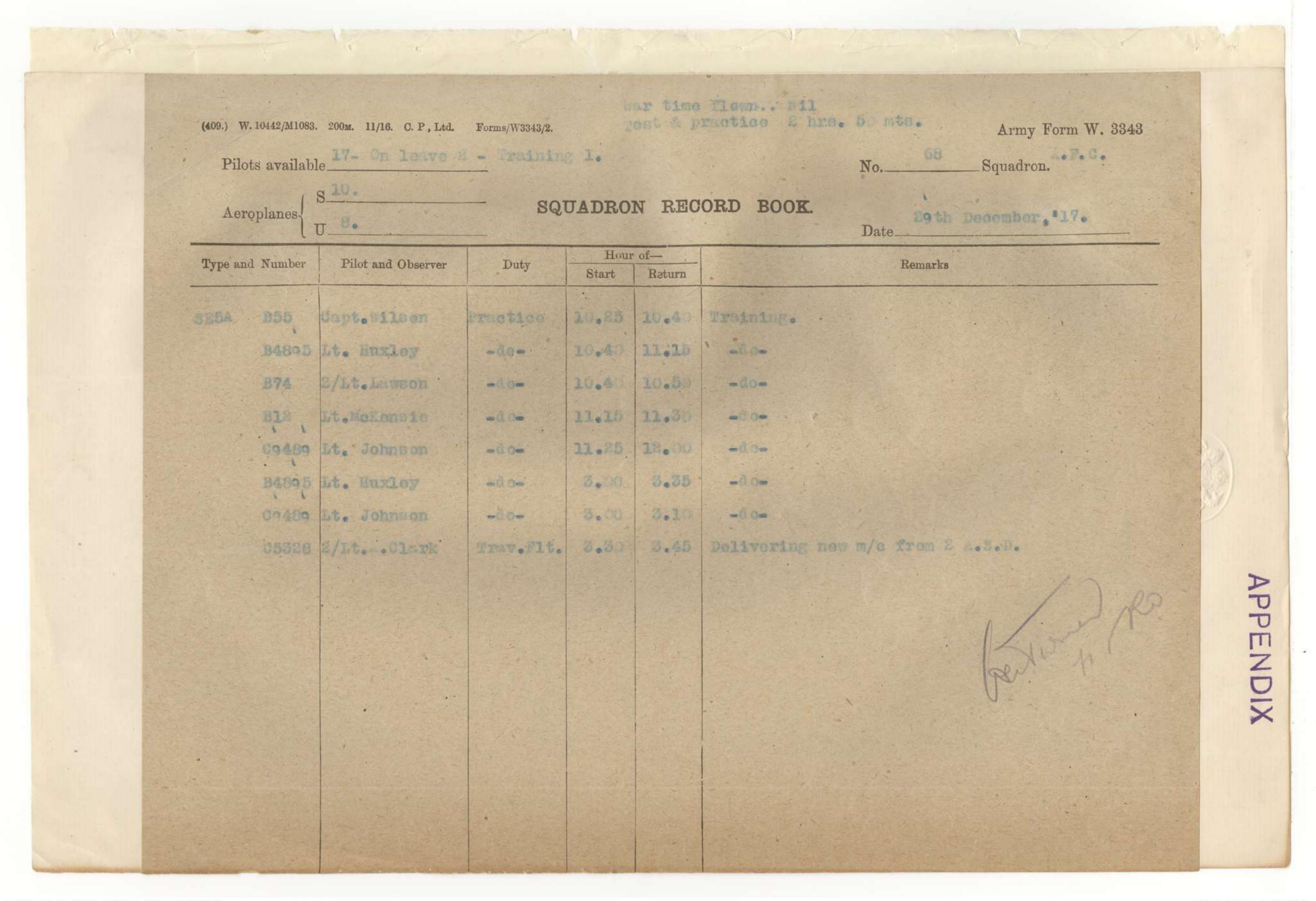


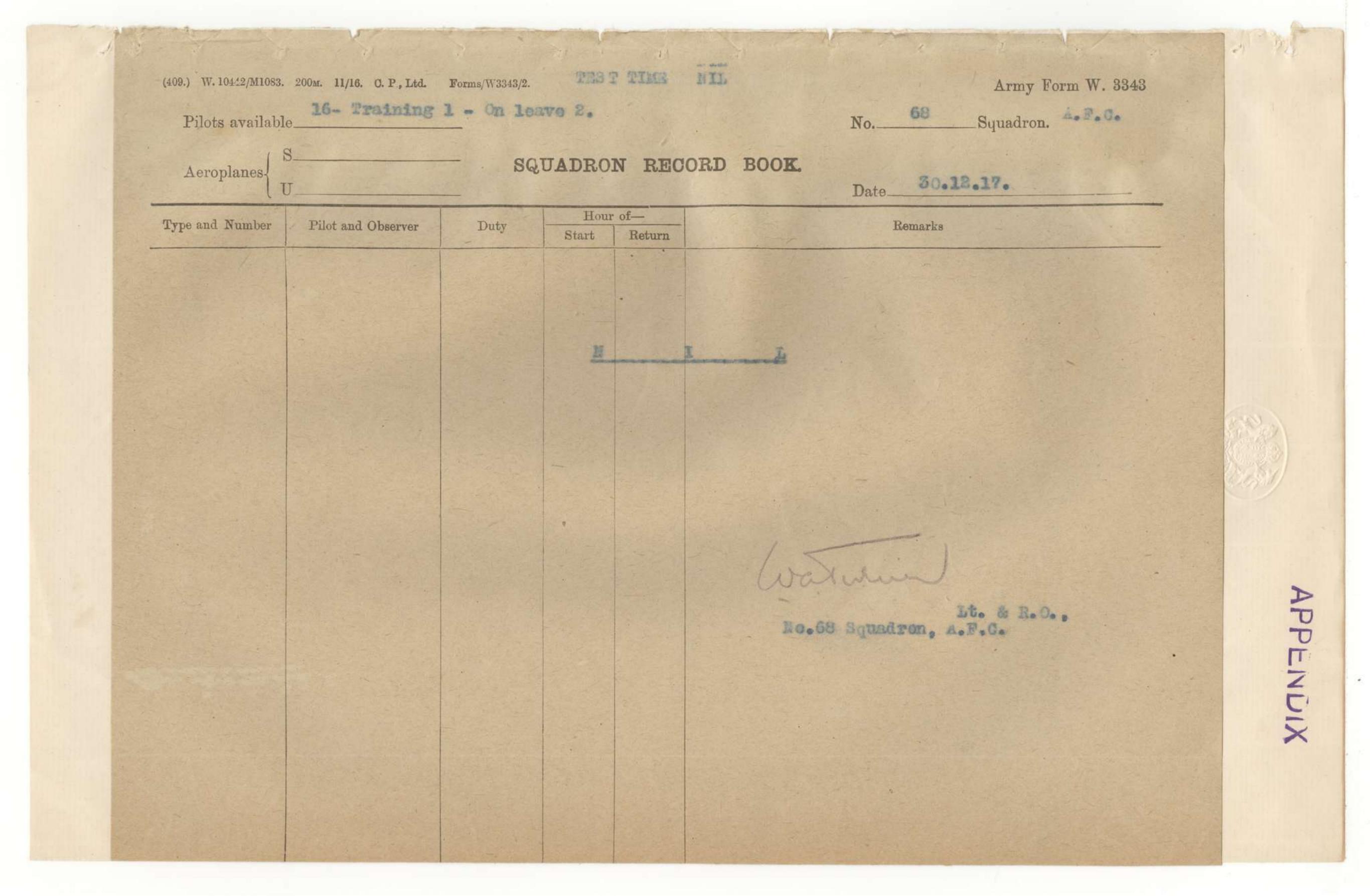


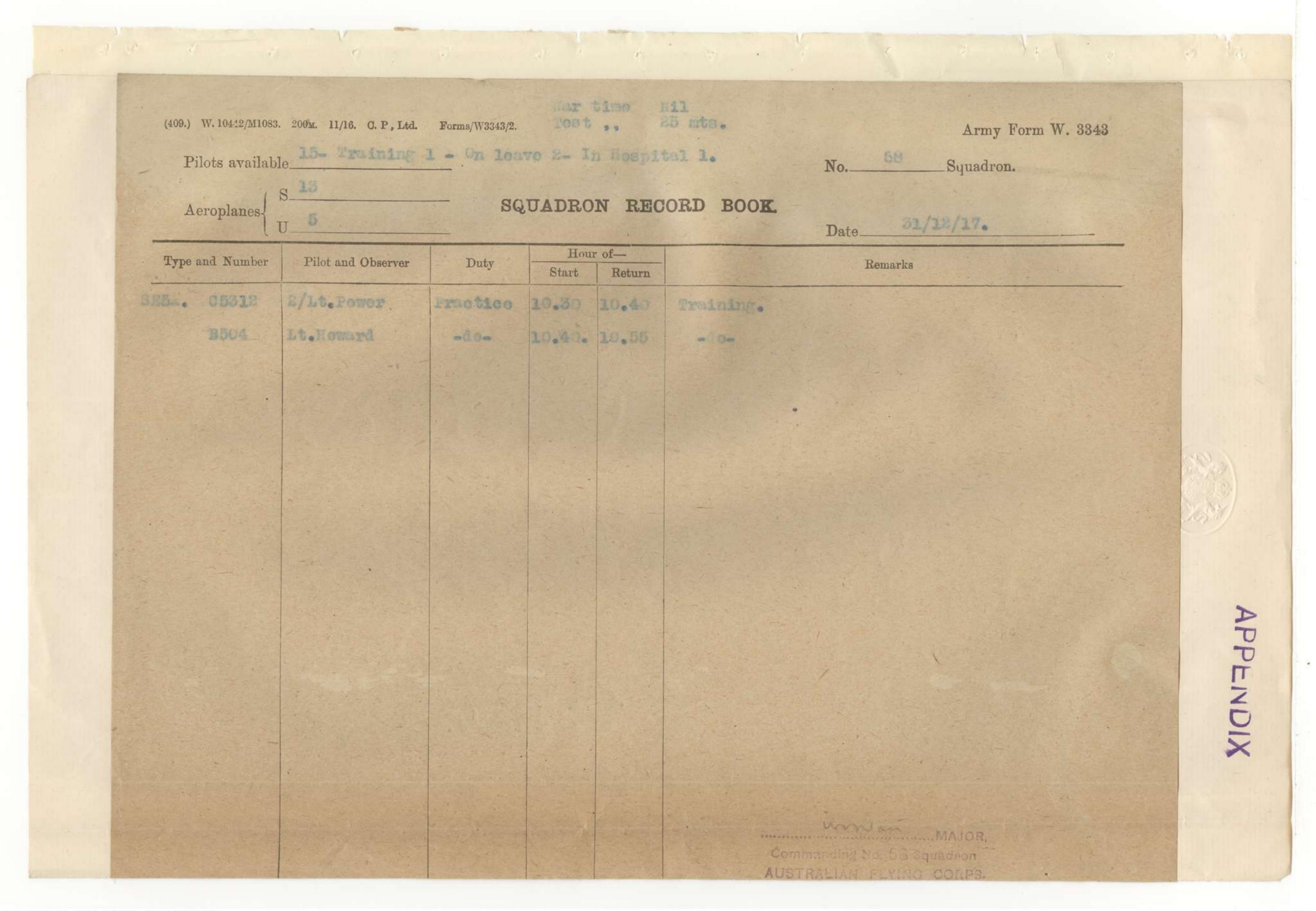
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL











# Combats in the Air. No.20.

Squadron:

68mA.F.C.

Date:

1.12.17.

Type and No. of Aeroplane:

A ananlana .

Time:

7.45.am.

Ammarant.

DH5, A9461

Locality:

57 C/X.9.D-about 20 yds.

Armament:

1 Vickers.

S.W. of Cross roads. '

Pilot :

Duty:

Low Flying.

Lt.F.G. HUXLEY.

Height:

800 feet.

Observer:

Result DECISIVE.

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 greenand 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 feel amongst them and knocked the tail of the machine over.

(Sgd) F.G. HUXLEY, LIEUT.

COMBAT DECISIVE.

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:

Time: 12.25.pm.

Armament:

. D.H.5, A9255

Locality: N.E. by E. of VILLERS GUISLAIN.

1 Vickers.

Duty: Low flying.

Pilot :

Lt.H.G. FORREST.

Height: 800 feet.

Observer:

Result Indecsive.

Destroyed ..... Driven down out of control..... Driven down.....

#### Romarks on Hostile Aircraft: Type, armament, speed, etc.

- (a) 1 "V" strutter alluminium scout, painted resembling Albatross scout No.2 with clipped tail. Front gun, faster than D.H.5.
- (b) 3 saater, 3 passengers distinctly seen, 2 gunners standing up and firing fore and aft of pilot. Very fast, believed to have 2 propellors, 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 meon 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.

(Syd) H. G. FORREST

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

> 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.

DF

DH5, A9451.

Locality: N.E. of VILLERS GUISLAIN.

Armament:

1 Vickers.

Duty: Low Flying.

Height: 800 feet.

Pilot :

Lt.R. W. McKenzie.

y . How I Ly Ling

Observer:

( Des

Destroyed......

Result 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 alimbing 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.

(Skd) R.W.McKenzie.

COMBAT DECISIVE.

Commanding No. 68 Squadron

AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

Commanding......Squadron.

### Combats in the Air.

No.23.

Squadron:

No.68, A.F.C.

Date:

Time:

5.12.17.

Type and No. of Aeroplane:

2.pm.

A9461,B4938,A9544 A9449, A9338, A9459.

Locality:

Over CAMBRAI

Pilot:

Armament: 1 Vickers each.

Special Mission to AWOIGNT.

Duty:

Aerodrome.

Lt. H. FORREST LT. F. G. HUXLEY

LT.W.ROBERTSON

Height:

6.500 feet.

LT.R.MCKENZIE

Result

Destroyed .....

Observer:

CAPT. WILSON (LEADER) LT. A. PRATT

Driven down out of control ..... Indecisive Driven down......

LT.C. SANDS.

Remarks on Hostile Aircraft: Type, armament, speed, etc. 12 Albatross scouts "V" strutter and 4 two seaters.

#### Narrative.

Left BAIZIEUX 1.30, pm.

7 machines crossed the line at BOURLON WOOD at 6,500 feet, and followed main road to CAMBRAI where we attacked 12 E.A. (Scouts) I attacked the nearest scout who turned East and I followed him till I got a No.3 stoppage and had to break off engagement and made for BOURLON followed by It SANDS (my partner) Over BOURLON, the stoppage remedied itself, and, observing 4 two seaters working between BOURLON and MOEUVRES at 1,500 feet we engaged them each time they attempted to cross the line and they eventually returned and we climbed and rejoined formation over MARCOING. At same time, the remainder of the patrol engaged E.A. at ranges averaging 200 yds. E.A. then turned East and as none of our patrols were seen in the vicinity, engagement was broken off. Just as we were recorssing the line a large patrol of S.E.5's appeared over us at 9,000 feet heading East. 2 more of our machines (Lt.McKenzie & Lt.Robertson), being forced to fall out on account of gun and engine trouble respectively, the 3 remaining machines went across to CAMBRAI below the S.E.5 formation, but the E.A. were then well East of CAMBRAI and too distant to engage. Over MARCOING, where I rejoined the formation together with Lt. SANDS and Lt. McKenzie, who had meanwhile remedied gun trouble. The 5 of us observed a barrage on enemy trenches West of BOURLON and dived on them, firing about 400 rounds from 800 feet.

> (Sgd) G.C. WILSON, CAPT., Leader of Patrol

COMBATS - ALL INDECSSIVE. MANY

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:

11.30 am .- 12 noon. Time:

4 DeH.5's.

Locality : MARCOING.

Armament: L Vickers each.

C.O.P. with bombs. Duty:

Lt.Forrest (Leader)A9535 Pilot 8 A4938

Lt.Robertson Lt. Johnson

Height: 7.000 feet.

A9279 A9544 Lt.McKenzie

Observer:

Destroyed .....

Result

Driven down out of control..... Indecsite. | 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 drome them well East. After this, we shot at long range at sundry other scouts whom we could no close with. Ten minuted later, we engaged the same 3 scouts. but were unable to appraoch to close range. 15 minuted 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, whilr the remained 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 meabtime, 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 andgave the signal to break mi off. Lt. McKenzie wasunable to reach the A. L. G. and had to land at FREMICOURI where he crashed owing to his machine being ummanageable.he himself being unhurt.

> (Sgd) H.G.FORREST LIEUTL Leader of Patrol.

OMBATS INDECISIVE.

www an MAJOR, Commanding No. 68 Squadron

### Combats in the Air.

No.25.

Squadron: No.68 A.F.C.

Type and No. of Aeroplane:

DH5.A9461

Armament:

1 Vickers

Pilet :

Lt.R.g. HUXLEY

Observer: nil.

Date: 6.12.17.

Time: 3.45 pm.

Locality : S of Honnecourt

Duty : Low flying

Height: 1000 ft.

( Destroyed .... 1.....

Result

Driven down out of control.....

Deeisive D

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 atwo
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. HWXLEY Lieut.

COMBAT DECISIVE ONE 2. SEATER BURNT.

Commanding No. 68 Squadron

AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

Commanding......Squadron.

No. 25 Page 1

# REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

No.68 Bauadron, A.F.C.

Date 1.12.17. No. & typo of machines empleyed 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. Sort-: ies. Left BAIZIEUX 7, am. and A.L.G. later. PILOT Engine trouble and had to return. CAPT. G.C. WILSON ( A9445 2 . 3 bombs "OK" from 50 feet on troops. 1 "OK" from LT.F.G. HUXLEY 50 feet on a crowd round crashed E.A. and 650 A9461 rds. in all on troops and 100 on E.A. (See Combat Report No.20) 2 bombs "OK" from 300 feet and 1 wide. 300 rds. on LT. C.C. SANDS enemy troops. A9459 1 · 2 bombs "OK" from 500 feet on Beet Factory 57C/X.14 LT. H. TAYLOR from where I received very keavy M.G. fire and A9336 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. out troops advancing from E. of GOUZECOURT and E. of EPEHY about. 15 tanks seen advancing in good formation through BOIS GAUCHE, I tank on fire about & a mile N. of HENDECOURT approx. 10.10, am. everything was qu quiet. Our trenches packed with them, as also were ehemy trnehes where machines were met with heavy M.G. fire. Approx. 6 tanks seen retiring. several others were stationary and troosp were taking cover behind them. January (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

wow an ... MAJOR

Commanding No. 63 Squadron

AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

AF. L. DIX

# RIPORT OF APPACK ON DNEMY INPANTRY

o. an impadron. A. F.C.

De. & typo of machines

employed 4 D.H.5's.

No. 26 Page 1

Date 1.12.17.

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

LT.H.G.FORREST A9255

LT.R.W.MCKENZIE

LT. W. A. ROBERTSON A9466.

LT. L. BENJAMIN A9341 . Left BAIZIEUX 12 noon.

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

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

2 bombs "OK" 100 rds. at Inafntry.

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

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

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

THEMALY To include general points of interest) by Sauadren Commander.

No. 27 Page

#### REPORT OF ATTACK ON DNEMY INPANTRY

No.68 Bauadron. 4.	F.C.	No. 27 Page 1				
Nc. & type of mack	aines	Date 2.12.17.				
employed 4 D.H	Locality INCHY - MOEUVRES BOURLON.					
N.B. Time of commer fired and height in each account.	comen From w	t of attack by each machine, number of rounds thich attacks were delivered should be included				
PILOT.	Sort	Left BAIZIEUX at 7.40, am.				
CAPT. R.C. PHILLIPPS A9288	2	4 bombs from 800 feet. 2 on a crowded twench N. of Lock 5(seen by Lt. HOLDEN) 2 im long trenches E. outskirts of MOEUVRES. 100 rds. on troops in trenches. Infilading same from 800 feet. Wind too strong to work in Sthrn area.				
LT.R.L.CLARK A9255	2	4 bombs from 800 feet . All "MOK" on tranches S. of MOEUVRES. 200 rds. on same trenches.				
LT.L.H.HOLDEN A9344	) 2	No bombs. Returned with same report as Capt. Phillipps which was telephoned to B.I.O.				
LT.R.W. HOWARD A9517						
		"I" TELEPHONED TO BDE.MAJOR, 3RD BDE. FROM A.L.G. BY CAPT. PHILLIPPS.:-				
		"Ehemy in strength and colosely packed in trenches running through MOEUVRES.				
JUMMARY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.						

un m. MAJOR,

# REPORT OF LETACK ON DNEMY INPANTRY

10.86 Smuadron, A.F.C.

No. 28 Page 1

Nc. & typo 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 af rounds fired and height from which attacks were delivered should be included in each account.

PILOT

Left BAIZIEUX at 3.15,pm.

CAPT. G.C.WILSON

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

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

LT.C.C.SANDS.
A9459

No targets observed.

LT.F.G. HUXLEY

2 bombs on enemy troops.

#### INTELLIGENCE.

"No enemy activity observed owing to failing light. A new shell observed, but nby no meansbarrage.

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

REPORT OF LETTLOK ON ENEMY INFAMERY No.68 Bauadron, A.F.C. No. 29 Page 1 Nc. & type of machines Date 3.28.17. employed 8 D.H.5's. Locality BOURLON, GONNELIEW. 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. 17 A 17 PILOT Left BAIZIEUX 10, am. to reconnoitre VII Corps front. Crossed line 57 C/R/16 at about, 1,200 and flew due E. CAPT. G. C. WILSON to canal which was followed S. to 62B/M/5 recrossing A9449 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. LT. H. TAYLOR No abnormal activity or concentration was observed A9336 either in trenches, roads, or back area. N.E.A.S. "B" LT. F.G. HUXLEY Left AERODROME at 7, am. to reconnoitre BOURLON WOOD A9461 district. Crossed line at 7.25 AM and discovered the line to be about the same. No movements of troops and LT.C.C.SANDS no shelling. Everything very quiet. 1 E.A.S. well N. A9459 of BOURLON- too, distant to attempt amy engagement. IIC II CEPT. PHILLIPPS . R. C. ( A9288 Left A.L.G. at 7.25, am. on Line Patrol. Following observed :-LT. L. H. HOLDEN At 8.45, am. barrage opened on German trenches and on A9344 BON AVIS Ridge. Flares went up from out positions E. LT.R.W. HOWARD of GONNELIEU. No infahtry movement was observed. 1 E.A. A9517. 2 seater seen. He made E. on approach. LT.R. L. CLARK A9292

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

# REPORT OF ATTACK ON DWEMY INFANTRY

Mc. 68 Bauadron, A.F.C.

No. & typo of machines

employed 4 DeHav.5's.

No. 30 Page 1

Date 4.12.17.

Locality BOURLON DISTRICT.

N.D. 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
A9255.
LT. JOHNSON
A9279
LT. MCKENZIE
A9544
LT. BENJAMIN

A9341

Left BAIZIEUX 9.55,am.

Crossed line S. of BOURLON WOOD 10.10, am. Mist very bad down to 1,000 ft. No movement behind enemy lines. Enemy front line W. of BOURLON WOOD and in vicinity of MASNIERE. 7 bombs dropped on enemy troops with good effect. 1 pilot (Lt.McKenzie) was fired on by an A.W. No E.A.S.

Landed 11.50 am.

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

Lt.McKenzie reports A.W. very small, and he was suspicious of the machine before he was attacked.

Lt. Ferrest was suspicious of the way A.W. dived on Lt.McKenzie and came down to see. The A.W. was not fired on.

AFFLINUIS

## REPORT OF ATTACK ON ENEMY INFANTRY

No.68 Squadron. A.F.C. No. 31 Page No. & typo 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. : Left BAIZIEUX 7.10, am. PILOT

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.

(A9338). LT. PRATT

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 troublesome. Left with others, forced to return

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

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

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

## REPORT OF ATTACK ON DNEMY INFANTRY

No.68 Sauadren, A.F.C.			32	Page_	1	
Nc. & typo of machines			6.	12.17.		
employed 4 DeHav.5's.			ity	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 bembs close to trench	h W. of	BOU	RLON.		
LT. ROBERTSON (B4938)	2 bombs. ,, ,,	,,	,	, 1	"OK" =	
LT. JOHNSON (A9279)	2 bo, bs near enemy trench at NOYELLES.					
LT. MCKENZIE (A9544)	Bomb release refused to	work.				
	All bombs dropped	from 8	00 f	eet.		
				V.		

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

## REPORT OF LETHOK ON DNEMY INPANTRY

No.68 Banadren, A.	F.C. No. 33 Page 1					
No. & type of mack	Date 6.12.17.					
employed 4 DH5	Locality III Corps Front.					
	coment of attack by each machine, number of rounds from which attacks were delivered should be included					
PILOT	Left BAIZIEUX 2.30,pm.					
CAPT.WILSON (A9449)	l bemb in bleak quarry S. of LATEAU WOOD, l"OK" behind embankment N. of quarry from 1,000 feet. At 3130,pm in fromt of FLESQUIRES fired 300 rds. from 300 feet at enemy infantry in the open. 100 of whom broke & ran E. tewards 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)	l bemb "OK" en read S. ef LATEAU WOOD. Ferced to retire on account of Engine trouble.					
LT.F.G.HUXLEY(A9461)	l 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 quies 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 go	eneral points of interest) by Squadron Commander.					

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

wowar MAJOR,

Commanding No. 68 Squadron

AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

# REPORT OF ATTACK ON DNEMY INFANTRY

.0.68 Bau	adron, A.	F.C.	No. 34 Page 1				
Nc. & typo of machines		ines	Date 6.12.17.				
emplcyed_	4 D.H.	5'8.	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.							
PILO!	P :	Left aerodrome 2.30,	pm.				
LT. HOWARD	(A9517)	was congested with 2 new plugs. On :	s roads E. of BANTOUZELLE which h trafficé Returned to A.L.G. for return 100 rds. on enemy infantry close to FLESQUIERES, then too				
2/LT. POWER	(A9537)	l bomb on toad full of personnel close to use Machine gui	of traffic and 1 bomb on enemy a dump. Too uncertain of position				
LT. HOLDEN	(A9344)	2 bombs "OK" on road 100 rds. on traff:	full of traffic E. of BANTOUZELLE ic and trenches.				
LT.R. L. CLARK	(A9292)	No bombs released ow: BANTOUZELLE.	ing to mist. 100 rds. on road E. of				
		All pilots noticed 3.30,pm.	barrage close to FLESQUIERES at				
SUMMARY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander.							

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

wowdan MAJOR,

Commanding No. 68 Squadron

AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

REPORT OF ATTACK ON DMEMY INPANTRY -------No. \_\_\_\_ Page\_ Angadron, ... F.C. Uc. & type of machines Date 12th.December 1917. Locality emplcyed 4 D. R. D'S. 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 BAINTHEE at 3.20pm. 2 Bombs dropped "C.K. "on Enemy trenches, 150 Rounds Lieut.H.G.FORREST (A9255) on trenches. Lieut.R. ... McKEREIR. 2 Bombs on Enemy trenches, and 200 rounds on same. (B4938) . 2/Lieut. L. BENJAMIN, : No bombs. 250 rounds on trenches. (A9445) 2/Lieut.L.S. TRUECOTT 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 activet No troops seen in the open-3 E.A.S. well hast at 4000 feet, amongst clouds not engaged. THEY (To include general points of interest) by Squadron Commander. uman MAJOR, Commanding No. 68 Squadron AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

ALTONOMIC TO CONTRACT OF THE PARTY OF THE PA

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.G., A.I.F.

> Royal Flying Corps. 22.12.17.

Dear General.

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 magnificient 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 Hun. 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.

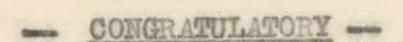
I hope to be able to come and see you after I have been home, but I have to go home as soon as I can get away.

General Sir R.W.Birdwood,

K.C.B., K.S.S.I. etc.otc.

Headquarters, Ansac Orps.

Yours sincerely, -Signed- H. Trenchard.



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

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

My Dear Watt,

Squadron.

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 magnificient 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

Yours sincerely,

-sgd- W.R. Birdwood.