

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT
By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 1.

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 1948.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
1/11/48	12 Kittyhawks II	F/L Lee K. Sgt. Brown R.S. Sgt. McClive L.P. Sgt. Curno H. F/O Aitchison E.G. Sgt. Spedding F/S Barber W.D. Sgt. Arklie A.M. F/L Davis C.G.H. Sgt. England D.W. F/O Thagard V.J. P/O Thornhill J.H.R.	Bomber Escort	08.55	10.20	Top cover to 18 Bostons bombing 300 M.T. at 868311. Normal approach to target from N. at 15,000ft and bombing from N. to S. at 900ft. Results of bombing not observed owing to cloud 6 - 7/10 at 3/10,000ft. Medium heavy A.A. experienced from neighbourhood of the target. No E/A observed or encountered during operation. Visibility - good.	OPREP.167.
12	do.	F/L Cundy W.R. Sgt. White E. Sgt. Harttung G. Sgt. Colley J.C. F/S Edwards J.F. Sgt. Hill E.G. F/O Gilboe E.E. Sgt. Thomas B.H. F/S Stewart W.K. P/O Hopkinson F/O Fallows G. Sgt. Takvor J.	Kittybombing & Kittybomber Escort	11.15	12.25	4 A/c. bombed up and flying with 8 A/c. of 4 Sqn. S.A.A.F. also bombed up. Target German H.Q. at 867207. Formation approached target from N. at 11,000ft bombing after diving to 2000ft from N.W. to S.E. One bomb was observed close to Sidi Abd el Rahman station and the remainder among well dispersed and dug-in M.T. Slight Breda A.A. was experienced from the target. No E/A. were observed or encountered. Visibility - fair; cloud 6/10 at 5/10,000ft.	do.
12	do.	F/L Lee K. F/O Thagard V.J. F/S Barber W.D. Sgt. Adams A.H. Sgt. England D.W. Sgt. Tuok Sgt. McClive L.P. P/O Thornhill J.H.R. Sgt. Sheppard L.J. Sgt. Arklie A.M. F/O Aitchison E.G. F/O Mink L.L.	Kittybombing	14.00	15.15	Target 90th Light Div. H.Q. believed to be at 86053071. Normal approach to target, our A/c. dived from 8000ft. to 1500 - 2500ft. releasing bombs from S. to N. all in target area. Direct hits and near misses obtained on rly. track and on road fork. A/c. then vectored and told to patrol El Alamein. No E/A. observed or encountered Slight Breda A.A. experienced from target. Visibility - fair to good; cloud 5/10 cum. at 3/5000ft.	do.
10	do.	F/L Cundy W.R. Sgt. Hill E.G. F/O Fallows G. Sgt. Colley J.C. F/S Edwards J.F. Sgt. Thomas B.H. F/O Gilboe E.E. F/S Stewart W.K. Sgt. Harttung G. Sgt. Takvor J.	Kittybombing & Kittybomber Escort	16.00	17.10	6 A/c. top cover to 4 of 260 Sqn. and 8 of 4 Sqn. S.A.A.F. bombing 90th Light Div. H.Q. On approaching target top cover at 14,000ft observed 6 Me.109's at 8000ft. at approx. 878305. F/S Edwards peeled off and attacked one followed by Thomas and Gilboe. The 109 dived down to ground level pouring white smoke still pursued by Edwards and Thomas who continued to fire short bursts. The chase continued for 20/30 mls. The 109/	do. 60

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

AIR27/1537

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference: -

1 2 3 4 5 6

Reference: AIR27/1537		PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2			
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION							

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
1/11/48 (ctd.)						109 then began to pour black smoke and at 862316 burst into flames. Edwards and Thomas then broke off the engagement and returned to base. The 109 was later confirmed and awarded to F/S. Edwards. Meanwhile the remainder of the A/c. proceeded to the target and located a number of dug-outs at 867308. The Kittybombers dived from 10,000ft. to 2000ft. and released their bombs. One bomb fell among the dug-outs, one near 3 rly. Trucks, one near an A/c. on its belly and the remainder in the target area. Visibility - good.	OPREP, 167.
	1 Kittyhawk II	F/S. Parlee	Test	08.25	09.20	A/c. HS G FL324.	
2/11/48	9 Kittyhawks II	F/L. Lee K. F/O. Mink L.L. Sgt. England D.W. Sgt. Sheppard L.J. F/L. Davis G.C.H. F/O. Thagard V.J. F/S. Barber W.D. F/O. Aitchison E.G. Sgt. McClive L.P.	Kittybomber Recce.	07.00	08.08	Target Panzer concentration at 867305. Recce. area W. of Sidi Abd el Rahman between Northing grids 290 and 303. Approached target at 7500ft. which comprised slit trenches, dug-outs and M.T.. Our A/c. released bombs from 3000ft. N.E. to S.W. Bombs fell well in target area but specific results not observed. Slight Breda A.A. experienced from target which was under shell fire. After bombing a recce was made at 8000ft over sqs. 8529, 8530, and 8630. Medium intense very heavy A.A. experienced all the way from 85299 to Sidi Abd el Rahman. The following ground movement and dispositions were observed: At least 30 fires along the track running S.W. from S.A. el Rahman with black oily smoke possibly tanks from 862300; 859293; large numbers of dispersed M.T. W. of track from 857287 to near S.A. el Rahman; a considerable number of M.T. proceeding towards Daba. Leaving area 3 Me. 109's and 8 other 7/8. A/c. observed at 15,000ft. approx. no contact established. Visibility - good; cloud 5/10 from 3/8000ft.	OPREP. 168.
	8 do.	F/L. Cundy W.R. F/S. McKee F/O. Gilboe G.E. Sgt. Colley J.C. F/S. Edwards J.F. Sgt. Hartung G. F/O. Fallows G. Sgt. Thomas B.H.	Bomber Escort	10.30	11.45	Top cover to 18 Boston bombing 866303. Approach to target at 14/15,000ft. Owing to cloud density and height nothing was observed of the bombing or ground movements. Leaving the target our A/c. went out to sea and at 866312 a splash was noted which seemed to indicate that an A/c had gone into the sea. Slight heavy A.A. was experienced from the target area but no opposition from E/A. Visibility - good; cloud 7-8/10 from 4/8000ft.	do.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.
For the month of November, 1942.

SECRET

Page No. 2

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME
------	---------------------------	------	------	------

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

SECRET

PAGE No. 2

By No. 280 Squadron, R.A.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF November 1942.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
2/11/42 (ctd.)	12 Kittyhawks II.	W/Cmdr. Wells Sgt. Arklie A.M. F/O. Aitchison E.G. Sgt. Curno H. F/L. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Adams A.H. F/S. Barber W.D. Sgt. Spedding Sgt. Sheppard L.J. P/O. Thornhill J.H.R. F/O. Thagard V.J. Sgt. McClive L.P.	Bomber Escort	14.00	15.20	Close cover to 18 Bostons bombing M.T. W of Sidi Abd el Rahman track. Approach to target at 10,000ft. diving to 8000ft. for bombing. Bombs were released while turning from S. to N. along the W. side of the track between 865301-865306 approx upon a target comprising slit-trenches, dug-outs and M.T. Results of bombing not observed but at least 20 fires were burning before bombing. Slight heavy A.A. experienced from target. Visibility - good; 7-8/10 cloud at 3/5000ft.	OPREP.168.
	1 do.	Sgt. Spedding	Test Flight	09.15	10.20	A/c. HS W FL272.	
3/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II.	F/L. Cundy W.R. Sgt. White E. Sgt. Hill E.G. F/S. McKee F/S. Edwards J.F. Sgt. Colley J.G. Sgt. Thomas B.H. Sgt. Harttung G. F/S. Stewart W.K. F/O. Fallows G. F/O. Gilboe C.E. Sgt. Takvor J.	Bomber Escort	07.00	08.00	Top cover to 12 Bostons bombing "blind target" on Sidi Abd el Rahman track N. of 304. Our A/c. at 14/18,000ft. bombs were released diagonally across the coast road from S.E. to N.W. at 865310. The nature of the target was difficult to determine but all bombs seemed to fall well in area. No opposition was encountered from E/A although 3* were reported at 16000ft 15 miles N.W. Daba. Slight heavy A.A. was noted around bombers at 865313. 6 large fires noted S. of Daba at 840305.	OPREP.169.
	12 do.	F/L. Lee K. Sgt. Brown R.S. F/O. Thagard V.J. Sgt. Tuck Sgt. Sheppard L.J. P/O. Thornhill J.H.R. F/O. Aitchison E.G. Sgt. Arklie A.M. F/L. Davis C.C.H. F/S. Barber W.D. Sgt. England D.W. Sgt. McClive L.P.	do.	10.30	12.20	Top cover to 18 Baltimores bombing L.G.09 S.W. Daba. Approached target at 14/16000ft. making land fall at 820320. Slight heavy A.A. experienced from 820320 and from Galal Station. Bombs released from 9000ft over target and observed to burst right across runways and dispersal but no a/c. observed on L.G. No E/A. encountered. Visibility - good; cloud 3/10 at 3/5000ft.	do.

94

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

AIR27/1537

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

Reference -		PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
AIR27/1537		1	2	3	4	5	6
		1	2				
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION							

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
3/11/42 (ctd.)	8 Kittyhawks II.	F/L.Cundy W.R. F/S.McKee F/S.Stewart E.H. Sgt.Thomas B.H. F/O.Gilboe C.E. F/O.Perkins Sgt.Hill E.G. F/S.Parlee	Bomber Escort	13.30	15.10	Close cover to 18 Bostons bombing coast road between Galal and Fuka. Bombs were released from E. to W. along the coast road between 762323 and 10,000ft. Traffic on road was not abnormal; target comprised not more than 15/20 vehicles. Two fires observed as a result of bombing. Two pilots (Cundy and Stewart) fired short burst at a camouflaged E/A. believed to be a Me.110 which was flying W. at 7000ft. at 775330, our A/c. were unable to close to less than 400 yards and made no claim. Slight heavy A.A. experienced from L.G. 20 and two E/A. were observed to take off. On L.G. 18 (Fuka) three E/A. observed one of which took off. Visibility - good; no cloud.	OPREP.166. 762321 from
	10 do.	F/L.Lee K. Sgt.Adams A.H. Sgt.McClive L.P. F/O.Aitchison E.G. F/S.Barber W.D. Sgt.Curno H. Sgt.England D.W. Sgt.Sheppard L.J. F/O.Thagard V.J. P/O.Thornhill J.H.R.	Kittybombing	16.15	17.15	Bombs released from 1500ft. on 15* E.P.I.P. tents and dispersed M.T. at 862313. 1 fire started. After bombing our A/c. strafed road to 862313 shooting up:- 1 E.P.I.P. tent, 1 wireless tender, 1 prime mover 1 tank, 1 small camp at 859311, 1 tank at 868313 and 2/3 gunpits and some M.T. Several small fires started. Considerable M.G. fire experienced from different points during strafing. F/S.Barber was slightly wounded and his A/c. damaged (Cat.I). Visibility - good.	do.
	4 do.	Sgt.Sheppard L.J. F/O.Perkins Sgt.Hollinshead Sgt.Williams	Squadron Training	09.20	09.50	Formation flying etc.	
4/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II.	S/Ldr.Devenish P. Sgt.White E. F/O.Fallows G. F/O.Perkins F/S.Stewart W.K. Sgt.Colley J.G. Sgt.Takvor J. Sgt.Harttung G. F/S.Edwards J.F. Sgt.Hill E.G. F/O.Gilboe C.E. Sgt.Thomas B.H.	P. Bomber Escort	08.10	09.40	Top cover to 18 Bostons bombing coast road between Galal and Fuka. Bombs released from E. to W. from 9/10,000ft. from 807319 to about Fuka. Bombing appeared to be good at least two trucks on fire. Heavy A.A. experienced from Galal Station. After bombing our A/c. peeled off and ground strafed. Strafing was carried out from W. to E. along the road and the coast. 5 or 4 Me.109's were engaged at 3000ft. Sgt Harttung engaged 2 E/A. for 10 mins. firing several short bursts and observing strikes but he makes no claims. F/S. Edwards	OPREP.170.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 1942

SECRET

Page No. 3.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

SECRET

By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

Page No. 3.

For the Month of November, 1942

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
4/11/42 (ctd.)						Edwards was attacked by a Me.109 which in turn was attacked by F/O Gilboe who collided with the 109. Both A/c. went down but one parachute was seen to open at 797319. Enemy units strafed comprised 16 M.T.; 1 Ju.88 on L.G.20; a m.g. post; tents; trailer and 1 store. Ground movements were noted as follows:- Heavy traffic proceeding W. covering the whole distance from Fuka to 822317; a camp with dug-in tents at 836318; and around L.G.'s 104 and 20 200/300 M.T. dispersed.	OPREP.170.
	10 Kittyhawks II.	F/L Lee K. Sgt. Brown R.S. F/O Aitchison E.G. F/L Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Spedding Sgt. Hollinshead Sgt. Sheppard L.J. F/O Thagard V.J. Sgt. England D.W. P/O Thornhill J.H.R.	Kittybombing	12.00	13.10	Free-lance bombing along the coast road. Bombs were released after diving from 9 - 5000ft. from the S.W. upon approx. 30 M.T. Bombs fell well among M.T.; some direct hits were obtained on on road. Intense Bredas, medium intense Bofors and heavy A.A. from vicinity of L.G.104. On approach to target in sq.8232 when flying due W. at 9/10,000 ft., on formation passed 3 E/A. flying due E. at 12,000ft. another 109 was observed at 5000ft to peel away and dive to 2000ft without however making any attacks. Ground movement and dispositions were noted as follows:- Tents and M.T. on both sides of the road between 815318 and 817317; at 835318 20/30 M.T. dispersed; 20/30 M.T. dispersed in N. corner of L.G.104; several fires at 860313. Visibility - good; no cloud.	do.
	8 do.	F/L Cundy W.R. F/S McKee Sgt. Takvor J. Sgt. White E. F/S Stewart W.K. Sgt. Harttung G. F/O Fallows G. Sgt. Hill E.G.	Bomber Escort	14.15	15.38	Top cover to 12 Kittybombers free-lance bombing on coast road. Approached target at 10,000ft. results of bombing not observed. After leaving target area and flying E. at 10,000ft a Ju.88 was observed at 1500ft. flying W. Cundy peeled off followed by the remainder of his section and closed made a quarter attack putting the rear gunner out of action, overshot, turned and made a further quarter attack, pieces flew off the starboard engine cowling which went on fire. The Ju.88 went into the sea at 815330 witnessed by 2 Sqdn. S.A.A.F. Visibility - good; no cloud.	do.
	1 do.	Sgt. England D.W.	Air Test	08.45	09.20	A/c. HS T FL238	
	1 do.	F/O Perkins	do.	12.25	12.40	A/c. HS E FL325	
	1 do.	F/O Mink L.L.	do.	14.15	14.45	A/c. HS E FL325	
	1 do.	Sgt. Spedding	do.	15.40	15.50	A/c. HS M FL287	
	1 do.	Sgt. Colley J.C.	do.	17.15	17.45	A/c. HS ? FL299	95

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

AIR27/1537

Reference

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference -		PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
AIR27/1537		1	2	3	4	5	6
		1	2				
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION							

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
5/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II.	F/L. Lee K. Sgt. Arklie A.M. F/O. Thagard V.J. Sgt. Brown R.S. F/O. Aitchison E.G. P/O. Thornhill J.H.R. F/S. Barber W.D. Sgt. Adams A.H. Sgt. Sheppard L.J. Sgt. McClive I.P. Sgt. England D.W. F/O. Mink L.L.	Bomber Escort	08.00	09.50	Top cover to 18 Bostons detailed to bombe cross roads at Fuka. Our A/c. at 10/15000ft. 9/10 cloud at 10000ft. made it impossible to see the bombers. Our A/c. appeared to lose the bombers just after crossing the coast near Sidi Haneish and consequently turned out to see to await their return. The bomber formation was located at 851320. 3 E/A. were observed at 12000ft. but these did not engage. Ground observations included: 6 smoke flares at 453897; 3 fires at 840300; 5 fires with black smoke in N.E. corner of sq. 8729 and 2 stationary columns at 840285. 9/10 cloud at 10000ft.	OPREP.171.
8	do.	F/L. Cundy W.R. F/S. McKee Sgt. Harttung G. Sgt. Colley J.C. F/S. Edwards J.F. F/O. Fallows G. F/S. Stewart W.K. Sgt. Takvor J.	Bomber Escort	14.00	16.25	Top cover to 18 Bostons bombing coast road from Maaten Bagush to grids 73 or 74 E. Height of our formation 12500ft. Bombs released from E. to W. between E. grids 735-745 upon a target of M.T. on either side of the road; results of bombing not observed. After the bombing F/L. Cundy saw 2 Me.109's travelling W. and apparently attacking the middle cover. He peeled off followed by McKee and Harttung and attacked one of the E/A. but without success. The other E/A. made of as if to land in sq. 7333. Sgt. Harttung is missing from this operation. Cundy then broke off the engagement and failing to locate either the bombers or our formation headed for base followed by McKee. When at 4000ft. over the escarpment at Sidi Haneish these A/c. experienced intense Bofors A.A. from badly dispersed concentrations of M.T. etc. in a rectangle 780306-798306-790300-798300. The remaining A/c. had continued with the bombers and had nothing to report beyond the following ground observations:- 12 heavy A.A. guns at 783321 and 12 A/c. (Me.109's?) on L.G.16. Visibility - good; 8/10 cloud at 4000ft.	do.
1	do.	Sgt. Curno H.	Communication	11.00	11.30	From L.G.222 to L.G.97.	
1	do.	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V.	Local flying	09.25	10.25	A/c. HS Z	
1	do.	do.	Gun test	14.50	15.40	A/c. HS Z	
1	do.	Sgt. Colley J.C.	Air Test	16.15	16.35	A/c. HS W FL272.	
1	do.	Sgt. Thomas B.E.	do.	17.00	17.30	A/c. HS E FL325.	

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 260 Squadron R.A.F.

SECRET

PAGE No. 4.

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 19 42

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME	DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
------	---------------------------	------	------	------	-----------------------------	------------

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT
 By No. 260 Squadron R.A.F.
 FOR THE MONTH OF November, 19 42

SECRET

Page No. 4

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
6/11/42	11 Kittyhawks II.	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. Sgt. Brown R.S. F/O. Aitchison E.B. F/S. Parlee Sgt. England D.W. Sgt. Spedding F. Sgt. Tuck Sgt. Sheppard L.J. Sgt. McGlive L.P. F/O. Thagard V.J. F/O. Mink L.L.	Recce	07.35	09.35	Area detailed for recce between 68 and 71 grids and 31 and 32 grids to locate stationary concentrations of our own and enemy forces. Recce carried out at an average height of 5000ft. Landfall was made at 706353 and then a course S.S.E. to cross roads in sq. 6932 continuing E. and crossing coast at Fuka. Ground dispositions and movements were noted as follows:- Shelling around Mersa Matruh; considerable traffic travelling W along main road from Charing Cross; slight heavy A.A. from 2 camps at 702329 and 702325; L.G.'s 405 and 106 (Daba) appeared to be bogged; a 3 masted schooner observed 10/12 mis. N.N.W. of Matruh on a course N.W.; a motor boat course E. off Fuka; considerable transport travelling towards Fuka. No E/A. either observed or reported. Visibility - good; rain; cloud 9/10 at 2/8000ft.	OPREP.172.
	1 do.	F/L. Cundy W.R.	Air test	10.00	10.30	A/c. HS V FL274.	
7/11/42	1 Kittyhawk II	F/S. Harvey	Training	08.30	09.05	Familiarization with type.	
	do.	P/O. Kent	do.	09.30	10.10	do.	
	do.	Sgt. Nichol	do.	10.30	11.10	do.	
	do.	Sgt. Tuck	Communication	10.00	10.30	From L.G.90 to R.S.U.	
10/11/42	1 Kittyhawk II	F/L. Cundy W.R.	Communication	1 hr. 40 mns.		From L.G.97 to L.G.13 and return.	
	1 do.	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V.	do.	4 hrs. 30mns.			
		F/L. Lee K.	do.				

96

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

Reference: AIR27/1537

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference - **AIR27/1537**

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
10/11/42	21 Kittyhawks II.	W/Cdr. Wells S/Lt. Hanbury G.V. Sgt. England D.W. F/Lt. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Sheppard L.J. F/Lt. Cundy W.R. Sgt. McClive L.P. F/O. Mink L.L. Sgt. Colley J.C. F/S. Stewart W.K. F/S. Edwards J.F. F/O. Fallows G. F/Lt. Lee K. F/O. Aitchison E.G. F/O. Thagard V.J. Sgt. Brown R.S. Sgt. Takvor J. P/O. Kent Sgt. Hill E.G. Sgt. Tuck Ferry Pilot	Communication	10.20	11.45	From L.G.97 to L.G.75. ALL OPERATIONS INCLUDING AND AFTER THIS DATE CONDUCTED FROM L.G.75 UNTIL FURTHER CHANGE.	
5	do.	Sgt. Sheppard L.J. Sgt. McClive L.P. P/O. Kent	Interception	14.00	14.15	Scrambled over base without incident.	OPREP.176.
12	do.	S/Lt. Hanbury G.V. Sgt. England D.W. F/S. Stewart W.K. Sgt. Hill E.G. F/S. Edwards J.F. F/O. Fallows G. F/Lt. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Takvor J. F/Lt. Lee K. F/O. Aitchison E.G. F/O. Thagard V.J. Sgt. McClive L.P.	Interception Recce	15.00	16.40	Detailed area Tobruk. Our A/c. flew N.W. from L.G.75 at 10,000ft. passing over Sidi Azziz noting 50 shapes on and around L.G. either A/c or M.T. continued over Gambut Main where 6 A/c. taxiing as if just landed; proceeded to 6 mls. S. of Tobruk no E/A. observed on L.G.'s and nothing in harbour. Straffed M.T. travelling W. on coast road from Road House shot up 200 M.T.. Returned over Gambut where 2 single engined were landing. Crossed coast near Ras Venna and contd. S.S.E. 3 or 4 barges at Bardia nothing at Salum and no movement. Slight A.A. from 540368. Visibility - good.	do.
11/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II.	F/Lt. Lee K. Sgt. Tuck F/O. Mink L.L. Sgt. Arklie A.M. Sgt. England D.W. P/O. Thornhill J.H.R. F/O. Aitchison E.G. Sgt. Adams A.H.	Bomber Escort & Kittybombing	15.30	15.15	Top cover (each A/c. carrying 1 x 5000lb. bomb) to 6 A/c. of 8 Sqn. S.A.A.F. Kittybombers. 2 Sqn. to straff after bombing. Formation flew W. then N. towards target area at 14000ft. 2 Sqn. bombed the El Duda area then our A/c dived to 8000ft bombing the coast Road N.E. of 428410 obtaining two direct hits on road and several near misses. The road was crowded with traffic	OPREP.177.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT
By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.
FOR THE MONTH OF November, 1942

SECRET Page No. 5.

F/O. Aitchison E.S.
Sgt. Adams A.H.

obtaining two direct hits on road and several near misses. The road was crowded with traffic

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

SECRET

Page No. 5.

By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 1942

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				UP	DOWN		
11/11/42 (ctd.)		Sgt. Sheppard L.J. Sgt. McClive L.P. F/O. Thagard V.J. F/S. Barber W.D.				moving slowly W. Three of our A/c. jettisoned their bombs S. of Gambut. In the course of the operation our A/c. lost 2 Sqdn. so proceeded N.E. towards the coast reforming at 7000ft. and flew slowly E. along the coast to cover withdrawal of 2 Sqdn. 2 Me.109's flew above formation all the way from Gambut to Bardia but no attacks were made. The following ground dispositions were noted:- On Gambut Sat. 3 large oil fires and several abandoned A/c; several large fires presumably trucks S. of the road W. of Bardia. No A.A. was experienced. Visibility - good. A/c. HS O FL273.	OPREP, 177.
	1 Kittyhawk II.	Sgt. Arklie A.M.	Air test	09.00	10.00		
12/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. F/O. Perkins Sgt. Takvor J. Sgt. Hollinshead F/L. Cundy W.R. Sgt. White E. F/L. Davis C.C.H. F/S. McKee F/S. Edwards J.F. F/S. Stewart W.K. F/O. Fallows G. Sgt. Thomas B.H.	Bomber Escort	08.55	11.05	Top cover to 10 Kittybombers of 4 Sqdn. detailed to bomb Tobruck or alternatively roads leading W. thereof.; top cover to straff after bombing. Our A/c. flew along coast to W. of Tobruck at 13/15000ft. and came round to the S.W. of Tobruck. After 4 Sqdn. had released bombs the results of which were not observed, our A/c. dived to ground level and straffed road in sq. 4043 W. of Tobruck 1 tank, 9 M.T., 1 staff car and 1 E.P.I.P. tent were shot up. After straffing our A/c. headed out to sea and sighted off coast between Tobruck and Gazala 6 or 7 barges heading W. about 5 mls. off coast which they straffed setting one on fire. These barges appeared to be carrying troops. The barges opened fire with Breda and one A/c. was damaged Cat. I. A flak ship or corvette was observed off Tobruck heading W. which appeared to be following up barges this vessel opened fire. A steamer of 8/10000 tons was sighted off coast 5 mls. E. of Bomba heading W. No A.A. from ground or E/A. encountered during course of operation. Visibility - good; no cloud.	OPREP, 178

97

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

AIR27/1537

Reference: PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference - **AIR27/1537**

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
12/11/42	14 Kittyhawks II	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. F/L. Cundy W.R. F/O. Perkins M. F/L. Davis C.C.H. F/L. Lee K. F/S. Barber W.D. F/O. Fallows G. Sgt. White E. F/S. Stewart W.K. Sgt. Arklie A.M. Sgt. Hollinshead E.M. Sgt. Thomas B.H. F/S. Edwards J.F. F/S. McKee	Communi- cation	16.20	17.00	From L.G. 75 to L.G. 148 Sidi Azeiz. ALL OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED FROM L.G. 148 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.	
* Take in on page & overleaf.							
11/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II.	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. Sgt. Williams Sgt. Hill E.G. F/O. Perkins M. F/L. Cundy W.R. F/S. McKee F/L. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Colley J.G. F/S. Edwards J.F. Sgt. Takvor J. F/S. Stewart W.K. Sgt. Thomas B.H.	V. Kitty- bombing	09.15	11.00	Detailed targets L.G. 145 or 146 near Tobruk. Formation flew N.W. gaining height to 10000ft. Slightly S. of Capuzze the top cover was attacked by 10 Me.109's. Our a/c. proceeded and S/Ldr. Hanbury decided to bomb Gambut No.1 Sat. on which there were about 15 A/c. Bombing was accurate 1 bomb fell between 2 Ju.88's and at least two fires with black smoke were started. Immediately after bombing S/Ldr. Hanbury was jumped by 2 Me.109's, he took evasive action and succeeded in getting in a burst at one without observed result. Two others of his section Williams and Hill turned away from the E/A. The A/c. piloted by Sgt. Williams was damaged (Cat. II) and he force-landed at L.G. 08 Mersah Matruh. Sgt. Hill is missing from this operation. During this incident F/L. Cundy delivered a head- on attack at a Feisler Storch at 500ft the E/A. was seen to land on its wheels on Gambut No1 a fire was seen and Cundy claimed a "Probably Destroyed" later awarded as a "Destroyed". Just after leaving Gambut No.1 a Ju.88 was seen flying W. Cundy, Stewart, Davis, Colley, Thomas and McKee attacked and pursued the E/A. to near Tobruk where it crashed with the port engine on fire. Visibility - good.	OPREP.177.

*Cundy's
report*

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 6.

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 19 42

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

PAGE No. 6.

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 19 48

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				UP	DOWN		
13/11/48	2 Kittyhawks	W/Comdr. Wells	Communication	09.00	09.40	From L.G. 75 to L.G. 148.	
	12 do.	Sgt. McClive L.P. S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. F/O. Perkins M. F/S. Barber W.D. Sgt. Hollinshead E.H. F/L. Cundy W.R. Sgt. Arklie A.M. F/L. Davis C.C.H. F/S. McKee F/S. Edwards J.F. F/O. Fallows G. F/S. Stewart W.H. F/O. Gilboe C.E.	Recce & Straffing	10.15	11.50	Recce area Gazala - Timimi and to straff any suitable target. Our A/c approached area at 10000ft passing over El Adem and dived and straffed the coast road in sq. 99. Very little traffic observed on road W. of Gazala 5 M.T. and some Italians were successfully straffed. There were no ships in Gazala harbour. Our A/c then turned out to sea at 9595 climbing to 7000ft recrossing the coast at 405440 and passing 7 mls. S, of Tobruch. In sq. 4042 3 Me. 109's attacked top cover and later scouted round our A/c. S/Ldr. Hanbury got in a burst at one E/A. without success and the 109's broke off the engagement and made off E. 12 vessels, mostly sunk, were observed in Tobruch harbour. One fairly large vessel appeared serviceable Slight M.G. fire experienced from target area. Visibility - good; no cloud.	OPREP. 179.
	7 do.	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. F/Stewart W.K. F/S. Thomas B.H. Sgt. Brown R.S. Sgt. Hollinshead E.M. F/L. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Arklie A.M.	Escort to Formation straffing	14.15	15.55	Top cover to 4 Sqdn. S.A.A.F. detailed to straff any suitable target located in area Gazala - Timimi. Our A/c at 14/15000ft. Results of straffing not observed. Some shapes (M.T. or A/c.) on TIMIMI L.G.; little movement in Timimi area. Visibility - good.	do.
	9 do.	F/L. Cundy W.R. F/O. Perkins M. F/S. Barber D.W. W/Comdr. Wells Sgt. White E. F/L. Lee K. F/O. Fallows G. F/S. Edwards J.F. F/S. McKee	Communication	15.00	15.20	Our A/c. landed at Gambut Main. From L.G. 148 to Gambut Main. ALL FUTURE OPERATIONS CONDUCTED FROM GAMBUT MAIN UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.	

88

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

AIR27/1537

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference -		PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE					
AIR27/1537		1	2	3	4	5	6
		1	2				
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION							

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
14/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. F/O. Perkins M. Sgt. Colley J.C. P/O. Kent R.S. F/L. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Tuck F/O. Fallows G. Sgt. Curno H. F/S. Edwards J.F. F/S. Barber D.W. F/O. Thagard V.J. Sgt. Takvor J.	V. Kitty bombing & strafing	14.25	16.10	Detailed target - track from El Mechili to Rotunda Afrag attack from W. to E. Approach was made from Rotunda Afrag at 8000ft. then along track to Mechili. No movement was noted on the track. Formation then turned N.E. slightly W. of Mechili dropping to 5000ft. Bombs were released on the track running N.W. from (S) P 2918 to (S) P2526 upon about 6 M.T. 3 Bombs fell among the trucks which were also strafed. Slight Breda A.A. was experienced from the target. Formation then proceeded over Martuba L.G. upon which there appeared to be nothing and passed 11 mls. S. of Tobruch. Visibility - good; 5/10 cloud over target.	OPREP.180
15/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. P/O. Kent R.S. Sgt. Takvor J. Sgt. Williams F/L. Cundy W.R. F/O. Perkins M. F/S. Edwards J.F. F/S. McKee F/S. Stewart W.K. Sgt. Thomas B.H. F/O. Fallows G. Sgt. Colley J.C.	Recce	06.30	09.00	Area detailed for recce Maraua-Derna-Martuba. Our A/c. flew along the coast at 7000ft making landfall at (S) 01552 then S. to Maraua then out to sea crossing coast at Ras el Aslab to Derna Martuba, Timimi and returned to base without incident. The following ground dispositions were noted:- Derna aerodrome which was crossed at 50ft seemed unoccupied although there were many u/s. A/c. lying about; the Martuba L.G.s were unoccupied except for u/s. A/c.; between Derna and Timimi Free French column was observed heading W. Visibility - fair along coast; 9/10 cumulus at 5/9000ft. clear over recce area.	OPREP.181
8	do.	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. P/O. Thornhill J.H.R. F/O. Mink L.L. F/S. Parlee W.M. F/L. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Spedding F. Sgt. Sheppard L.J. Sgt. Adams A.H.	V. Strafing Recce	11.35	14.25	Strafing track Maraua to De Mertino and Recce Carmusa to Mechili. Our a/c. flew along the coast until they reached (S) 01552 then S. to approx. 5 mls W. of Maraua; then N.E. along track flying at ground level. Nothing observed until 6 mls. E. of Maraua when stretching from Slonta were odd groups of M.T. travelling W. Our A/c. strafed 15 trucks; 1 88 m.m. gun; 2 staff cars and a small carrier. Formation proceeded to Derna flying over the L.G.s and then S. to Carmusa. About 100 tanks and M.T. were noted moving W. (these were our forces) on the track running S.W. to Mechili. 6 Tanks heading N. were observed at Got el Dhghigh and at Bir Azzagh 6 M.F. travelling N. but between here and Mechili there was no movement and our A/c. returned to base without incident. Low cloud over strafing area.	do.
1	do.	F/L. Cundy W.R.	Air test	11.40	12.00	A/c. HS E.	

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 7.

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 19 42.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		

1	do.	F/L.Cundy W.R.	Air test	11.40	12.00	A/c. HS E.
---	-----	----------------	----------	-------	-------	------------

DETAILS OF WORK CARRIED OUT
By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 7.

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 19 42.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
16/11/42	1 Kittyhawk II	W/Cmdr. Wells	Communication	60 mins.		To Gazala No.3 and return.	
	1 do.	F/S.Edwards J.F.	Air test	06.45	07.45	A/c. HS B FL305.	
17/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. F/O.Perkins M. Sgt. Takvor J. Sgt. Williams F/L.Cundy W.R. P/O.Kent R.S. F/O.Fallows G. F/S.McKee F/S.Edwards J.F. Sgt. Colley J.C. F/S.Stewart W.K. Sgt. Thomas B.H.	Communication	09.20	09.40	From Gambut Main to Gazala No.2 (S/Ldr. Hanbury returned after 10 mins. flying with under-carriage u/s.).	
	1 do.	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V.	do.	09.40	10.10	From Gambut Main to Gazala No.2.	
	12 Kittyhawks II	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. F/O.Perkins M. Sgt. Takvor J. Sgt. Williams F/L.Cundy W.R. P/O.Kent R.S. F/O.Fallows G. F/S.Edwards J.F. Sgt. Colley J.C. F/S.Stewart W.K. Sgt. Thomas B.H.	Interception Patrol for Ju.52's.	11.55	15.00	Our A/c. airborne from Gazala No.2 one A/c. (Sgt. Colley) was late in taking off, missed the rest and returned to Gambut Main. Our A/c. flew over land crossing the coast at Agedabia at 8000ft. then patrolled to 10 miles S, of Bengasi and S, to Magrun where M.T. on the road were strafed with the following results:- 6 M.T.; 1 tank; 1 M.T. with trailer and 12 personnel Our A/c. returned over M'Sus.	OPREP.185.
					12.05	Cloud 5/10 to 10/10 from 2/5000ft and up to 12000ft.	
	11 do.	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. F/O.Perkins M. Sgt. Takvor J. Sgt. Williams F/L.Cundy W.R. P/O.Kent R.S. F/O.Fallows G. F/S.Edwards J.F. F/S.Stewart W.K. Sgt. Thomas B.H.	Communication	15.30	16.00	From Gazala No.2 to Gambut Main. One A/c. (Sgt. Williams) force-landed at Bir Ahmud with glycol trouble. Pilot returned to Sqdn. 18/11/42.	

66

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

Reference: AIR27/1537

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE		1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference	AIR27/1537						
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION							

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
18/11/42	12 Kittyhawks II	S/Ldr. Hanbury O. P/O. Thornhill J.E. Sgt. Sheppard L.J. Sgt. Tuck F/Lt. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Adams A.H. F/O. Mink L.L. F/S. Parlee W.H. F/S. Barber W.D. Sgt. Spedding F. Sgt. England D.W. Sgt. Curno H.	Communicat- ion	08.00	08.30	From Gambut Main to Gazala No.3. ALL OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED FROM GAZALA No.3 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.	
	3 do.	P/O. Kent R.S. Sgt. Nichol Sgt. Spedding F.	do.	10.00	E.T.A. 11.45	From Gazala No.3 to Garawla.	
	5 do.	S/Ldr. Hanbury O.V. P/O. Thornhill G.H. F/S. Parlee W.H. Sgt. Sheppard L.J. Sgt. England D.W.	Interception Patrol for Ju.52's.	10.45	13.25	Our A/c. passed over the coast at Apollonia and made landfall at Tolmetta then flying S. over Barce at 7000ft where 3 burnt out A/c. were observed on the ground. They then proceeded S.W. along rly. track to Benina where many A/c. seen on ground and 3 fires near a hanger which looked like burning A/c. Our A/c. circled the L.G. three times came down to ground level and strafed the E. side obtaining strikes on a serviceable Ju.52, a 3 engined A/c. under repair and 2 single engined A/c. further results were not observed. No E/A. were airborne from the L.G. and no A.A. was encountered. Our A/c. then proceeded S.W. and strafed a stationary tank some miles from the L.G. then passed N. of M'Sus and returned to base without further incident. Visibility - fair; Cloud at all levels from 8/10000ft, rain at ground level.	OPREP.184
	6 do.	F/Lt. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Tuck Sgt. Curno H. F/S. Barber W.D. F/O. Mink L.L. Sgt. Adams A.H.	do.	11.30	14.30	Our A/c. proceeded overland W. to Barce at 4000ft. where 3 burnt out A/c were observed on the L.G. They then headed S. towards Benina, on the L.G. there 15 A/c. were seen on the ground some of which were crashed and one was noted to be on fire. They continued on to Berca, two fires were observed in Bengasi Harbour, 6 or 7 Ju.52's were observed on Berca L.G.. Our A/c. carried on to Magrun where 30/40 Ju.52's on the W. side of the drome. Our A/c. dived from 5000ft to strafe the E/A. and strikes were observed on these. As our A/c.	OPREP.184

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 280 Squadron, R.A.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF November 19 42

SECRET

PAGE No. 8

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		

and strikes were observed on these. As our 2/01

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 8

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 19 42

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
18/11/42 (ctd.)						were strafing 2 Ju.52's took off and our A/c. turned to attack. The leading E/A. was attacked by F/L.Davis's section and he fired bursts at it until his guns jammed, Sgt.Curno also fired at it and both pilots observed strikes on the fuselage. F/S.Barber saw the E/A. land some distance from the drome. Meanwhile the section led by F/S. Barber attacked the second Ju.52. F/S.Barber fired short bursts at the E/A. until he saw it begin to emit smoke finally bursting into flames before hitting the ground. During this action the A/c. piloted by Sgt.Tuck was damaged (Cat.I) by return fire from one of the Ju.52's. While pulling away after this incident the formation was attacked by 2 Me.109's. The whole formation made a turnabout and the E/A. attacked Barber & Adams who took evasive action. Barber made two head-on attacks on first one E/A. and then on the other but made no claim. The formation then split up and the section led by F/L.Davis returned to base alone while Barber and Adams returned later. F/O.Mink failed to return from this operation and was last seen by Sgt Adams heading E. 25 mls. E. of Magrun, he did not appear to be in trouble. The results of this operation confirmed were 1 Ju.52 destroyed (F/S.Barber) and 1 Ju.52 damaged (F/L.Davis). Ground movement observed included 15 stationary well dispersed tanks on the track running N. to Soluch, normal traffic on the road from Bengasi to Magrun. Cloud 5 - 8/10 from 1500'; clear over target area.	OPREP.184.
19/11/42	7 Kittyhawk II	S/Ldr.Hanbury O.V. F/S.Stewart W.K. F/S.McKee Sgt.Takvor J. F/L.Cundy W.R. F/O.Fallows G. F/S.Edwards J.F.	Strafing	06.30	08.40	Target detailed L.G. at El Magrun. A/c. left Gazala III and landed at Martuba I. Our A/c. flew S. of Lake Ecltet el Romba to Msus and Antelat. Bad weather made observation impossible. Top cover lost leader and returned alone. Visibility-very poor, rainstorms and 7-10/10 cloud.	OPREP.185.
2 do.		F/L.Davis G.C.H. P/O.Thornhill J.H.R.	Communication	14.30	15.00	From Gazala III to Martuba I. ALL FUTURE OPERATIONS CONDUCTED FROM MARTUBA No.1 L.G. UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.	100

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

AIR27/1537

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference

Reference: AIR27/1537		1	2	3	4	5	6
		1	2				
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION							

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
19/11/42	1 Kittyhawk II	F/O. Aitchison E.G.	Test	10.30	11.00	A/c. HS V FL341.	
	1 do.	do.	do.	13.00	14.00	A/c. HS H FL302.	
	2 do.	F/O. Thagard V.J. F/O. Aitchison E.G.	Interception	15.20 15.20	15.35 16.30	A/c. scrambled from base with instructions to gain height on a course of 320 degs. F/O. Thagard returned early with u/s. prop. pitch. F/O. Aitchison continued alone and when at 18000ft was vectored to Apollonia. A bandit was reported at 2/2500ft. F/O. Aitchison lost height and patrolled a 20 mile radius of Apollonia at heights varying from 1800 to 3000ft. He observed six s/e. fighter A/c. flying W. at 7000ft. in British formation, but no E/A. and returned to base without incident. Visibility - poor; 7/10 cloud at 2000ft.	OPREP.185
	4 do.	F/L. Davis C.C.H. Sgt. Brown R.S. F/O. Thagard V.J. Sgt. Arklie A.M.	do.	16.30	16.55	A/c. scrambled by R/T. and instructed to orbit Derna at 8000ft. On reaching Derna A/c. instructed to pancake and returned to base without incident. Visibility - good; 1/10 cloud at 7000ft.	OPREP.185
20/11/42	4 Kittyhawks II.	F/L. Davis C.C.H. F/S. Barber W.D. Sgt. England D.W. Sgt. McClive L.P.	Convoy Patrol	09.30	11.25	A/c. detailed to escort 9 H.M. Ships travelling E. to be located 8 miles N.W. of Derna. Our A/c. proceeded N. when about 8 mls. N. of Derna the A/c. piloted by F/L. Davis caught fire when at 2000ft. F/L. Davis baled out when at 1000ft. and his parachute was seen to open, but he was not seen to go into the sea, although Sgt. England thought he saw a head bobbing in the water a few times. His dinghy was not seen. The A/c. hit the sea and burst into flames. Sgt. England orbited the spot for a few minutes and then returned to base. F/S. Barber and Sgt. McClive continued and located the convoy at (S)P 7070 and provided protection until relieved at 11.00 hrs. when they returned to base. The convoy was left at 355518 still travelling E. Two bandits were reported by Commander but were not seen. 4 Kittyhawks passed over the convoy and continued the escort at 10.40. Visibility - poor; considerable rain; 7/10 cloud at 4/5000ft.	OPREP.186
	2 do.	F/O. Perkins M. Sgt. Arklie A.M.	do.	10.40	11.55	Detailed as convoy escort as in foregoing operation. A/c. patrolled over sea N.E. and W. of Derna but failed to locate convoy and returned.	

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT
 By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.
 FOR THE MONTH OF November, 1942

SECRET

Page No. 9

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

SECRET

PAGE No. 8

By No. 260 Squadron, R.A.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF November, 1942

DATE	AIRCRAFT Type & Number	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
20/11/42	1 Kittyhawk II.	Sgt. England D.W.	Search for F/L. Davis	10.30	12.30) The whole area N./S. and E./W. was patrolled without incident and without result. F/L. Aitchison reported a patch of oil near rocks just N. of Derna.	OPREP.186.
	2 do.	W/Cmdr. Wells F/O. Perkins M.	do.	12.00	13.10		
	2 do.	F/L. Thagard V.J. F/L. Aitchison E.G.	do.	12.25	14.35		
22/11/42	2 Kittyhawks II	Sgt. Spedding F. P/O. Kent R.S.	Communication	160 mins.		From Base to Martuba I.	
	1 do.	F/L. Thagard V.J.	Air Test.	14.00	14.20		
	1 do.	Sgt. Nichol N.R.	Communication	140 mins.		From R.S.U. Garawla.	
	1 do.	F/Sgt. Harvey L.S.	do.	165 mins.		To Mersa Matruh and return.	
	1 do.	W/Cmdr. Morris	Air test	11.00	11.50		
	2 do.	Sgt. Takvor J. F/Sgt. Stewart W.K.	do.	08.15	09.15		
23/11/42	2 Kittyhawks II	F/L. Thagard V.J. Sgt. Nichol N.R.	Interception Patrol	10.45	12.55	Detailed to patrol base at 15,000ft. Patrol was maintained from 15500ft. to 1300ft. just below cloud base. Nothing was either observed or reported and A/c. received order to pancake. Visibility - good; 7/10 cloud.	OPREP.186.
25/11/42	10 Kittyhawks II	F/O. Fallows G. Sgt. Tuck F/S. McKee Sgt. Adams A.H. F/S. Edwards J.F. Sgt. Takvor J. F/S. Stewart W.K. Sgt. Arklie A.M. Sgt. Sheppard L.J. F/S. Thomas B.H. F/S. Stewart W.K.	Communication	14.00	14.20	From Martuba I to Martuba IV.	
	1 do.			16.00	16.20	do. do.	
						ALL OPERATIONS CONDUCTED FROM MARTUBA IV UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE	

101

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

AIR27/1537

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference: **AIR27/1537**

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				Up	Down		
25/11/42	4 Kittyhawks II	Sgt. Nichol N.H.R. F/O. Fallows G. F/S. McKee Sgt. Curno H.	Squadron Training	15.40	16.40		
26/11/42	3 Kittyhawks II	Sgt. Sheppard L.J. Sgt. Adams A.H. F/S. Thomas B.H.	Gun Test	11.25	12.05		
	3 do.	Sgt. Takvor J. Sgt. Arklie A.M. Sgt. Tuck	do.	13.50	14.30	A convoy of about 10 ships observed 15/20 mls. N.N.E. of Derna proceeding W. towards Benghazi.	
	2 do.	F/O. Fallows G. F/S. Stewart W.K.	Protective Escort	15.00	16.05	Detailed to escort He.111 from Derna Aerodrome to Martuba IV. He.111 contacted our A/c. by R/T and instructed them to return to base as it could not take off.	
27/11/42	2 Kittyhawks II	F/S. Edwards J.F.	Protective Escort	14.05	15.00	Do. do. do.	
28/11/42	1 Kittyhawk II	Sgt. Tuck	Gun Test	14.15	15.05		
	2 do.	F/O. Fallows G. F/S. Stewart W.K.	do.	15.30	16.00		
	1 do.	F/S. Thomas B.H.	Air Test	16.35	17.15		
29/11/42	2 Kittyhawks II	P/O. Kent R.S.	Gun Test	15.25	16.10		
30/11/42	2 Kittyhawks II	Sgt. Tuck P/O. Kent R.S.	Gun Test	11.10	12.00		

21793 WL 38805/3893 400,000 12/39-McC & Co-51-5658

SECRET
ROYAL AIR FORCE
REF. 428
7 MAR 1943
HEADQUARTERS R.A.F.
SECRET