

793 Wt. 38805/3593 400.000 12/39-Mec & Co-51-5658

R.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.L., para. 2349, and War Manual, Pt. II., chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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78 Squadron.
of (Unit or Formation) _____

No. of pages used for day _____

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
78 Squadron, Linton on Ouse.	APRIL.			
	1st.		no. Operations or standby.	
	2nd.		4 Aircraft detailed for Operations, ST. NAZAIRE. All aircraft successfully attacked the Target and reported large fires. All Aircraft returned safely to Base.	A. 199.
	3rd.		12 Aircraft detailed for Operations. Target ESSEN. All aircraft took off to attack the Primary, 9 aircraft successfully attacked that target area and crews reported large fires in the target area. Three aircraft are presumed as Missing since no word had been received since take off.	A. 199 A. 200.
	4th		9 Aircraft detailed for operations, Target KIEL. All aircraft reached and attacked the target, but were unable to judge results owing to prevailing cloud conditions. All Aircraft returned safely to Base.	A. 200 A. 201
	5th		No Operations or standby.	
	6th		No Operations or standby.	
	7th		No Operations or standby.	
	8th		6 Aircraft detailed for Operations, Target DUISBURG, Two aircraft returned early owing to icing conditions, being encountered whilst a third returned early owing to W/T being u/s. The remaining Three Aircraft attacked on LTA. owing to 10/10ths cloud. All Aircraft returned safely.	A. 201 A. 202
	9th		No Operations or standby.	
	10th		11 Aircraft detailed for operations, Target FRANKFURT. 10 Aircraft reached and attacked the target which was identified by PFF. flares. One Aircraft is Missing from this Raid.	A. 202 A. 203.
	11th		No Operations or standby.	
	12th		No Operations or standby.	
	13th		No Operations or standby.	
14th		11 Aircraft detailed for Operations, Target STUTTGART. 9 aircraft reached and attacked the Target Area, which was identified by PFF. flares. The town was reported to be well ablaze. One Aircraft was attacked by ME. 109	A. 203 A. 204 265	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			and badly damaged but returned safely. 1 Aircraft returned early the stb. Outer Engine being u/s. and another collided with a Halifax Aircraft of another Unit over the French coast, the rudders being damaged. The Bombs were jettisoned and the Aircraft returned safely.	
	15th		no Operations or standby.	
	16th	13	Aircraft detailed for Operations. 10 Aircraft took off to attack the Skoda Armament Works at PILSEN. 8 reached and attacked the target area, with varying results. and the remaining 2 Aircraft were reported as Missing. The remaining Three Aircraft took off to attack MANNHEIM, 1 Aircraft is Missing from this attack, 1 Aircraft reached and attacked the Target Area. whilst the third aircraft abandoned its mission owing to being damaged by Flak after being coned by searchlights.	A.205 A.206
	17th		No Operations or standby.	
	18th		no Operations or standby.	
	19th	13	Aircraft detailed for operations, Later cancelled.	
	20th	14	Aircraft detailed for operations target STETTIN. All Aircraft reached and attacked the target, which was identified by rff. flares, and visually by the Dock Area. Fires were visible for 100 miles after leaving the Target. 1 Aircraft was damaged by flak but continued to and attacked the target on three engines. All aircraft returned safely to Base.	A.206 A.207
	21st		no Operations or standby.	
	22nd		No Operations or standby.	
	23rd		no Operations or standby.	
	24th	13	Aircraft detailed for Operations - Later cancelled.	
	25th		no operations or standby.	
	26th	11	Aircraft detailed for Operations- Target DUISBURG 10 Aircraft reached and attacked the Target, which was identified by Red and Green PFF. markers. appeared to be a very concentrated attack and many fires were observed. 1 Aircraft returned early owing escape Hatch blowing open. All Aircraft returned safely to base.	A.208 A.209
	27th	6	Aircraft detailed for operations - Gardening - 4 Aircraft located the "Planting" Area and "Vegetables" were planted as ordered - All Parachutes being seen to open. 2 Aircraft unable to identify the "Planting" area brought "vegetables" Back. All Aircraft returned safely to Base.	A.209

open. 2 Aircraft unable to identify the "Planting" area brought "vegetables" Back. All Aircraft returned safely to Base. *A-207.*

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See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I., para. 2349, and War Manual, Pt. II., chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) *78 SQUADRON*

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices		
	28th		7 aircraft detained detailed for operations, gardening, 6 Aircraft identified the planting area, and "vegetables" were planted as ordered. 1 aircraft unable to locate the area, brought "vegetables" back. All aircraft returned safely to base.	<i>A-210.</i>		
	29th		no operations or standby.			
	30th		12 aircraft detailed for operations. target SSSA . 8 Aircraft reached and attacked the target, which was identified by green and red FF Marker flares. Glow of fires were observed through 10/10ths cloud. 1 Aircraft returned early owing to stb. inner engine oil pressure failing. Another returned early owing to severe icing conditions being encountered at 17,000 feet. A Third Aircraft returned early owing to oxygen supply to one of the gunners failing. one aircraft crashed at landing on return after attempting to land on two engines. 5 of the crew were killed and the remaining 2 injured.	<i>A-210 A-211</i>		
<p><i>G.B. Wamer</i> wing commander, commanding, <u>no. 78 Squadron, R.A.F.</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>APPENDIX F. 32.</u></p> <p><u>Flying Hours.</u> Flying Hours Day : Operational - Nil. Non-Operational : 140:35 hrs. Flying Hours Night: Operational - 707 hours. Non-Operational : 31:50 hrs.</p> <p><u>POSTINGS.</u></p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>IN.</u></p> <p>P/O J.E. Kelt. Bombardier. P/O G.A. Bells. Pilot. P/O J. Anderson Bomb Aimer.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>OUT.</u></p> <p>P/O V.C. Reynolds. W/Op. AG. P/O D.W. Fyfe. Air Gunner. P/O K.T. Watson. Pilot.</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Over....</p>					<p><u>IN.</u></p> <p>P/O J.E. Kelt. Bombardier. P/O G.A. Bells. Pilot. P/O J. Anderson Bomb Aimer.</p>	<p><u>OUT.</u></p> <p>P/O V.C. Reynolds. W/Op. AG. P/O D.W. Fyfe. Air Gunner. P/O K.T. Watson. Pilot.</p>
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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			<p>IN Continued.....</p> <p>P/O W.L. Breckell. Bombardier. P/O J.H. Bear. Navigator. P/O R. Donnan. Bombardier. P/O A.B. Orme. Bombardier. P/O J.B. Thompson. Bombardier.</p> <p>5 Airman Pilots. 6 Navigators. 4 Bombardiers. 6 Wireless Operators. 12 Air Gunners. 6 Flight Engineers.</p> <p><u>PROMOTIONS.</u></p> <p>P/O G.A. Sells. Pilot. Promoted to the rank of Acting F/Lt. Deputy Flight Commander. P/O D.N. Bradford. W/Op. " " Acting F/Lt. Squadron Sigs. Ldr. The following were promoted to the War Substantive rank of Flying Officer wef. dates stated.</p> <p>P/O E.W. Barnes A/G. wef. 6/12/42. P/O B.A. Campbell Nav. " 28/2/43. P/O W.H. Ramsay. W/Op. " 27/1/43. P/O N.S. Reid. B/A. " 7/2/43.</p> <p><u>DECORATIONS.</u></p> <p>Flying Officer W.H. Ramsay awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. AUS/416238 Sgt. Rudd, Pilot :The Immediate award of the DFM.</p>	<p>OUT.</p> <p>S/Ldr. K.J. McDonald. Pilot. P/O S. Stewart. Bombardier. P/O A.T. Spencer. Navigator. P/O H.D. Coverley. Pilot. P/L W.D. Arthur. Medical Officer. P/O J.M. Bissett. Pilot. P/O G.H. Coleman. Navigator. P/O J.L. Goldby. Bombardier. P/O J.D. Johnston. W/Op.AG. P/O A.T. Covacevitch. W/Op.AG. P/O B.A. Riggs. Pilot. P/O K.N. Fry. Navigator. P/O S.A. Coles. Navigator.</p> <p>4 Airman Pilots. 7 Navigators. 8 Bombardiers. 3 Wireless Operators. 18 Air Gunners. 10 Flight Engineers.</p> <p><i>See p. 3</i></p>

AUS/416288 Sgt. Rudd, Pilot :The Immediate award of the DFM.

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of (Unit or Formation) 78 SQUADRON.

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
<u>Details of Postings (Continued).</u>				
<u>Airmen Aircrew Personnel.</u>				
<u>In.</u>				
			Sgt. Spooner, R. Pilot. 7/4/43.	
			Sgt. Tinniswood, G.R. 12/4/43.	
			Sgt. Clay, G. E. 10/4/43.	
			Sgt. Schbart, G.E. 22/4/43.	
			Sgt. K.S. Gaze. 29/4/43.	
<u>Out.</u>				
			Sgt. T.H. Wright Pilot. 20/4/43.	
			Sgt. J.A. Cobb. Pilot. 22/4/43.	
			Sgt. N.J. Adams, Pilot. 11/4/43.	
			Sgt. W.W. Illingsworth, Pilot. 17/4/43.	
<u>Navigators.</u>				
			Sgt. D.R. Rogers. 7/4/43.	
			Sgt. J.F. Spencer. 8/4/43.	
			Sgt. D. C. Oliver. 22/4/43.	
			Sgt. E.J. Wilson. 15/4/43.	
			Sgt. V.C. Moody. 15/4/43.	
			Sgt. J.F. O'Reilly. 10/4/43.	
			Sgt. K.J. Kershaw. 22/4/43.	
			Sgt. C.G. West. 17/4/43.	
			Sgt. N.S. McGinn. 3/4/43.	
			Sgt. G.E. Sendall. 4/4/43.	
			Sgt. S.C. Mackie. 20/4/43.	
			Sgt. R.H. Anderson. 3/4/43.	
			Sgt. R. White. 9/4/43.	
<u>Air Bombers.</u>				
			Sgt. D.E. Marriott. 10/4/43.	
			Sgt. R. Boydell. 15/4/43.	
			Sgt. R.J. Pike. 15/4/43.	
			Sgt. C.J. Emmis. 29/4/43.	
			Sgt. G. Mattinson. 3/4/43.	
			Sgt. E. Tingley. 9/4/43.	
			F/Sgt. F. Zulauf. 9/4/43.	
			Sgt. S. Hurrell. 11/4/43.	
			Sgt. R. Simendinger. 19/4/43.	
			Sgt. H. Matthews. 20/4/43.	
			Sgt. T. Adamson. 20/4/43.	
			F/Sgt. L.A. Trevors. 19/4/43.	
<u>Wireless Operators.</u>				
			Sgt. J. Spence. 7/4/43.	
			Sgt. G. Simpson. 7/4/43.	
			Sgt. G.J. Wallace. 12/4/43.	
			Sgt. P.J. Wood. 22/4/43.	
			Sgt. C.T. Welch. 29/4/43.	
			Sgt. H. Mason.	
			Sgt. D.H. Howard. 4/4/43.	
			Sgt. E. Drury. 4/4/43.	
			F/Sgt. F. Sturgess. 9/4/43.	
			Sgt. R. Rogers. 2/4/43.	
			Sgt. P. Langford. 17/4/43.	
			Sgt. W.R. Dingle. 20/4/43.	
			Sgt. T.D. Collinge. 22/4/43.	
			Sgt. A. Steven. 17/4/43.	

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