

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 1

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 1/2nd May, 1944	LINCOLN BE. 947.	W/O. Strenach, J. SER. P/O. McNaughton, G.S. P/O. Howes, J.D. Sgt. Sproston, H.B. P/Sgt. Temple, J. W/O. Plowman, W.T. Sgt. Barrington, A.H.	Aus. 4024-15. GENOVA. (44°24'N: 08°55'E.) Aus. 40019.	2255	0519	0135 hrs - observed bombing in the vicinity of SPEZIA (44°05'N: 09°42'E.) also 3-4 flares. 0155 hrs - observed single flare over MARGHERITA (44°18'N: 09°09'E.). Approached target area - identified the target by quays and breakwater to the West. Made attempt to bomb but all bombs hung up. Made another attempt but target could not be seen. Made two more attempts then turned on reciprocal and started bombing run again. 0225 hrs - all bombs hung up and salvaged immediately from 15,800 ft on heading 015°. Haze prevented good sighting. Own results not seen due to evasive action taken on account of accurate A.A. No other results seen. H.A.A. very accurate for height and course - predicted fire. Appeared to be more gun than on previous operation. Photograph attempted on first run but not obtained. 0242/5 hrs - 'nickels' dropped from a D.R. position 45°03'N: 09°21'E to fall over GENOVA - allowing for wind. Two large fires seen north of target area while on 'nickelling' run. Dumpy fires in the shape of an oval seen in the vicinity of SORI (44°11'N: 09°07'E.). An unidentified aircraft seen on reciprocal course - 300/400 yards away in target area. No attempt made to attack. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 8 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tail Inst.	
"	BY. 822	Lt. Hecken, J.H. Sgt. Scott, A.C. Sgt. Warner, A.G. Sgt. Exton, J.M. Sgt. Orford, W.C. P/Sgt. Batchelor, W.E. W/O. Newman, H.A.	11729 V.	2300	0450	0200 hrs, 16,000 ft - identified target by the dock areas and long breakwater to the West of harbour. A.A. in action ahead in target area. Approached for bombing run but due to accuracy of A.A. ahead turned away. Altered course and made approach for bombing run on another heading 0203 hrs, 15,800 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 285°. Bursts seen. Bombs appeared to have fallen slightly short of pinpoint 5 (target map 4-1013-NA). The first of the stick went into the water. Seemed to be an increase in the H.A.A. No actual bursts near this aircraft. On approach to target the defences appeared to be very erratic - more barrage. Photograph attempted with bombs but not obtained. Observed dummy fires approximately 10 miles due East of target in vicinity of RAPALLO ( ) Small fire seen near SORI. 0221 hrs - 'nickels' dropped from a D.R. position 50 miles, 030°r, from target area. Whilst 'nickelling' observed fires burning in the vicinity of ALESSANDRIA (44°06'N: 09°38'E.). 0420 hrs - a steady white light observed on TREMINI Island (44°08'N: 15°10'E.) Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 6 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tail Inst.	

72

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 1/2nd May, 1944	LINKRATORS. BE. 932	Lt. Schuurman, J. G. 207161. Sgt. Bisset, P. W/O. Grier, A.A. R. 114986. P/Sgt. Phillips, J.A. Sgt. Brown, K. P/Sgt. Parsons, W. Lt. McGee, J.P. 205175.V.	GENOA.	2258	0435	0140 hrs, D.R. 44°22'N; 09°52'E a row of lights on land. "L" shaped, white (probably dummy runway). Identified target in slight haze and jetties south of SAMPIERDANESI (44°24'N; 09°55'E). 0206 hrs, 16,000 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 300°. 0151 hrs - one flare dropped for pinpoint S. MARCHETTA (44°18'N; 09°09'E). 0200 hrs - first run - A.A. bursting in front of aircraft - bombed on second run. Bomb bursts pinpoint at M.7 (target map 4-101B-NA). H.A.A. (10-12 guns) fairly accurate at 15/16,000 ft. Evasive action - gaining height. Photograph attempted but not obtained. 0346 hrs, estimated position 43°05'N; 13°52'E - lighted ship anchored. Bombs carried 8 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tail Inst.	
"	BE. 929	P/O. Anyon, R.S. Sgt. Naylor, N.V. P/O. Chapman, J.E. W/O. Lamarr, G.J.J. R. 107461. W/O. Phillips, A.W. Sgt. Carter, G. W/O. Foley, P.	"	2013	0301	2330 hrs - in target area. Identified target clearly in moonlight. No flares used. 2332 hrs, 15,400 ft - slight dive attack on heading 235°. Aimed at G.14 (target map 4-101B-NA). Bursts not seen. 2335 hrs, 14,500 ft - 7 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 045°. Aimed at L.8 - jetties. 6 bombs in marshalling yards West of harbour. 8-12 H.A.A. guns, accurate for height and course on first run. A.A. from BOLOGNA. Photograph attempted but not obtained. Window used. 'Nickels' dropped 70 miles North - 45°17'N; 08°41'E (wind 350°, 35 mph). Dummy fires seen 10 miles East of GENOA. 0005 hrs - fires, incendiaries seen at ALEXANDRIA. Dummy fires seen North of ALEXANDRIA. Bombs carried 8 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tail Inst.	
"	EV. 839	P/Sgt. Steele, A.A. Sgt. Holmes, A.N.L. P/Sgt. Dimond, J. Sgt. Richardson, E.J. Sgt. Perryer, L.S. Sgt. Cobb, F.J.T. P/Sgt. Davies, E.	"	2015	0215	2120 hrs, 43°06'N; 14°45'E - light flashing in sea. 2134 hrs, 43°16'N; 14°06'E - ship seen all light. 2202 hrs, 43°34'N; 13°20'E - ship seen - light destroyer, heading 130°. 2316 hrs - at MARCHETTA. Target identified by jetty then harbour. 4 flares went down behind aircraft on bombing. Target identified first by A.A. guns. 2329 hrs, 15,500 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 010°. Aimed at jetty South West of harbour. Bursts seen. 2335 hrs - one stick seen on leaving. 15-20 H.A.A. guns accurate for height and course. Hole in bomb floor with A.A. Photograph attempted with bombs but not obtained. 0001/0010 hrs - about 200 flares and a fire seen near ALEXANDRIA. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Window used. Bombs carried 6 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tail Inst.	
"	EV. 341.	P/Sgt. Kalyneus, W.A. Sgt. White, K.M.A. P/Sgt. Langley, H.S. P/Sgt. Rhodes, C.C. Sgt. Velsian, J.A. P/O. Whitely, S. Sgt. Tucker, H.J.	"	2017	0225	2318 hrs - target identified by harbour. 2320 hrs, 15,000 ft - slight dive attack on heading 000°. Aimed at deck area. Bursts seen on jetties in harbour. Fire seen in deck area. 10 H.A.A. guns, quite accurate, in target area. Accurate for height but did not fire for long. Photograph attempted but not obtained. Window used. 0010 hrs - 50 flares seen dropped at position 44°11'N; 11°10'E - followed by fire. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 6 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tail Inst.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Appendix A

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

R.A.F. Form 541

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F. **SECRET** Page No. 1

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Date	Aircraft	Crew	Duty	Time
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F/Sgt. Langley, H.S.  
 F/Sgt. Rhodes, C.G.  
 Sgt. Veislan, J.A.  
 P/O. Whitely, S.  
 Sgt. Tucker, H.J.

Slight dive attack on heading 000°. Aimed at deck area.  
 Bursts seen on jetties in harbour. Fire seen in deck  
 area. 10 H.A.A. guns, quite accurate, in target area.  
 Accurate for height but did not fire for long. Photograph  
 attempted but not obtained. Window used. 0010 hrs - 50  
 flares seen dropped at position 44°11'N; 11°10'E - followed  
 by fire. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried  
 6 x 1000lbs G.P. Tail Inst.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK  
 DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT  
 By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.  
 For the Month of MAY, 1944.  
 Appendix "A"  
 R.A.F. Form 541  
 SECRET  
 Page No. 1

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 3/21 May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 839	F/Sgt. Blanchenberg, J.P. Sgt. Garner, N.F.C. W/O. Latimer, J.T. W/O. Webster, J.B. Sgt. Cobb, F.J.T. W/O. Foley, P. W/O. Phillips, A.W.	Marshalling Yards at BUCHAREST. (44°26'N; 26°06'E)	2135	2356	Returned early due to compass trouble which caused this aircraft to be considerably off track thus losing too much time to hope to reach the target in time for bombing. All bombs jettisoned 15 miles off coast of ROMANIA. Bombs carried 7 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tail Inst.	
"	BE. 928	Lt. Hayman, N.E. Sgt. Rutherford, G.H. P/O. Lord, S.E. Sgt. Moller, W.F. Sgt. Webster, T.A. P/Sgt. Berkeley, V.L. Sgt. Smith, G.W.E.	"	2135	0458	2324 hrs, 12,000 ft, 42°56'N; 20°30'E - Me. 109 passed 100 yards below aircraft on reciprocal. No attack made. 0017 hrs, 13,000 ft - approached target. Observed quite a fair amount of A.A. Bomb flashes seen in own area through gaps in cloud. Identified the Southern town area only - could not see the actual target for attack. Flares reflecting back from base. A line of flares had been dropped on the same heading as the estimated position of marshalling yards so took this as the bearing for bombing. Observed green markers on run in. 0125 hrs, 12,000 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 300 ft on heading 305°. Own results not seen. Only one other stick seen - bombing did not appear to be concentrated. 0136 hrs, 12,000 ft - D.R. 44°38'N; 25°48'E - dropped 'nickels' to fall over target area - <del>BUCHAREST</del> . Observed a Me. 109 over target area - passed immediately over aircraft slightly to port, approximately 30 feet away. Observed L.A.A. on the South shores of the Danube from GIURGIU to LAKE BALTA (44°06'N; 26°25'E). Photograph not taken due cloud cover. Fired on by A.A. from HISH, fairly accurate for height. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 8 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tail Inst.	
"	BE. 932	F/Lt. Hardley, J.A. Sgt. Dalrymple, H.M. P/O. White, L.K. Sgt. Rosebaum, H. Sgt. Farquhar, C.D. P/Sgt. Sutcliffe, W.C. Sgt. Budgen, S.W.	"	2127	0448	Identified town but not target. Saw South part of town and ran up on that. 0120 hrs, 15,500 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick spacing mixed on heading 265°. Aiming point - flares seen under cloud. Own bursts not seen. Other bursts seen in target area. 0124 hrs - left target. 'Nickels' dropped 45 miles North West of target to blow over town. Considerable H.A.A. bursting at 18-20,000 ft, and L.A.A. but all inaccurate. 6 H.A.A. guns at GIURGIU on Danube. Photograph attempted but not obtained. Window used. Ships seen in Danube appeared to be moving. Two were large and several small. Bombs carried 8 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tail Inst.	

73

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		1	2				
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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 3/4th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. BE. 947	W/Cdr. Smythe, D.C. F/O. Wright, W.D. F/Lt. Wells, M.L. F/Lt. Day, V.F. Sgt. Baston, R.J. W/O. Plowman, W.T. W/O. Boby, R.C.	Marshalling Yards at BUCHAREST.  J. 25748.	2130	0450	2338 hrs - aircraft circling over "J" lights at NISH 0045 hrs - A.A. from KUSCHUK. 0117 hrs - town identified. Illumination seemed to be to the South East of the marshalling yards over the town area. 0121 hrs, 14,200 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick with one second intervals on heading 295°. Aimed at estimated position of goods yards - not seen under cloud. Bursts seen under cloud. 12-15 H.A.A. guns and L.A.A. seen on running into target - inaccurate. Photograph attempted but not obtained. Window used. 0131 hrs, 44°50'N: 25°43'E - 'nickels' dropped to blow over town. Weather poor with clouds building up over YUGO SLAVIAN mountains on return. Bombs carried 8 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tall Inst.	
"	BE. 930	F/Lt. Lewis, J.H.C. F/O. Melton, H.A. F/O. Bygrave, G.D. F/O. Anselme, A.G. W/O. Griffin, R.C. W/O. Fedorovsk, M. F/O. Allingham, W.J.	" J. 25806. J. 13073. J. 14911. R. 114827. R. 114939. J. 27959.	2125	0510	0120 hrs - town seen and marshalling yards which were not illuminated. Flares being dropped South and East illuminating town area. Two dummy runs before bombing. 0128 hrs, 11,000 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 300 ft on heading 090°. Saw marshalling yards on second dummy run and bombed estimated same position. Smoke seen after bombing but bursts not seen. Probably over-shoot to North East of marshalling yards. 15-25 H.A.A. guns in target area - inaccurate. Considerable L.A.A. inaccurate. H.A.A. from GIURGIU and along river. Photograph attempted but not obtained. Window used. 'Nickels' dropped 25 miles North of target at 10,000 ft to blow over target. Bombs dropped 8 x 1000 lbs G.P. Tall Inst.	
5/6th May.	BE. 929	S/Ldr. Brown, R.A. F/O. Bleasfield, R.E. F/O. Ohrs, W.C. F/O. Rasmussen, N.E.J. F/Sgt. Symes, G.H. F/O. Ingleton, W.T. W/O. Rae, G.	Mining the river DANUBE. J. 19448. AUS. 406310. AUS. 406130.	2010	0150	2239 hrs - target area. Had a look round from 6/7,000ft and decided to mine North-South up when owing to haze and poor light down moon. Moon was behind clouds. Encountered L.A.A. from bridge at position 46°48'N: 18°56'E - appeared to be from two guns on either side of bridge. Another lot of A.A. seen to North of target area. Decided to mine elsewhere and flew South to find clear spot. 2250 1/2 hrs, 100/150 ft - mined on heading 210°. IAS 200 mph. Mined East channel starting from island. Six splashes seen but no parachutes seen to open. Position of first mine in area 570600 (map YUGO SLAVIA, 1:100,000) with 300 yards spacing. No opposition on run, but could see some more A.A. ahead to South. 2318 hrs, 45°48'N: 18°52'E - A.A. from two light guns. Eight shells fired - very accurate aim. One set of four right under aircraft. Two sets of four under portmain plane. Used self destroying fuses. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs type A, Mark V.	

2178/14 OHOP 1-43

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Appendix "A"

R.A.F. Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 3

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT	LIBERATORS.						

One set of four light under aircraft. Two sets of four under portmain plane. Used self destroying fuses. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs type A, Mark V.

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

Form 541

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 3.

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
5/6th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. BE. 930	F/Lt. Lewis, J.H.C. P/O. Melton, H.A. P/O. Bygrave, G.D. P/O. Anselme, A.G. W/O. Griffin, R.L. W/O. Federhake, M. P/O. Allingham, W.J.	Mining the river DANUBE. J. 2586. J. 13072. J. 14811. R. 114827. R. 134289. J. 27969.	1957	0125	2111 hrs - road convey seen heading South position 43°30'N: 17°00'E (about 2-3 miles long). Lights seen flashing on and off along river. Identified river bed at 2237 hrs. Dummy run before mining. 2242 hrs, 175 ft - mined on heading 020°. IAS 170 mph. All splashes seen. First mine fell in area 360584, three second intervals between rest. L.A.A. battery, very accurate, from opposite side of river slightly further North of DUPAVERE. L.A.A. fire from DUPAVERE. Three direct hits on aircraft - two on port aileron and one on port rudder fin. Shrapnel through rear turret and fuselage. After mining rear gunner reported A.A. from DUPAVERE so continued North and turned left. Battery opened fire and aircraft went out of control. After control regained beam gunner called rear gunner. There was no reply and beam gunner examined rear turret and found rear gunner badly wounded. W/O. went to rear to help. Had to cut rear gunner's shoe off to get him out. Second pilot went to help but as aircraft difficult to control he returned to own position. W/O. and beam gunner removed rear gunner from turret and discovered severe wound in head. Administered oxygen, bandaged head and put all clothes over him from members of crew. He was breathing slightly for about half an hour but finally died about 2320 hrs. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs type A, Mark V.	
	BE. 932	Lt. Schuurman, J.G. 207086.V. P/Sgt. Bisset, P. W/O. Grier, A.A. R. 114986. P/Sgt. Phillips, J.A. Sgt. Brown, K. P/Sgt. Parsons, W. Lt. McGee, D.P. 225875.V.		2005	0135	2240 hrs 2,000 ft - approached area for mining. Clearly identified the bends in river slightly South of bed to be mined. 2243 hrs, 180 ft - mined on heading starting at approximately 030°. IAS 180 mph. Parachutes seen to open. First mine fell in area 344330, rest at two second intervals. On running light red tracer seen coming from P/ES (46°55'N/18°52'E) - not directed at this aircraft. Turned slightly to port after mining and attacked several ships anchored along banks of river. Rear gunner and mid-upper fired on them. Tracers seen to strike ships. 2259 hrs - turned away to port, altered course to miss A.A. ahead at estimated position 46°20'N: 18°53'E. 2312 hrs - picked up river again and observed three barges. Captain told rear gunner to attack these but before he could the barges opened up with L.A.A. Aircraft was at 5,000 ft. Turned away and dived. Position 46°02'N: 18°41'E. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs type A, Mark V.	
	BE. 946	P/Sgt. Blankenberg, J.P. Sgt. Garner, W.G.C. W/O. Latimer, J.T.		2005	0200	2050 hrs - aircraft seen at CAZZA Island (43°50'N: 16°30'E) steering 150°, height 5,000 ft - unidentified. 2122 hrs, 43° 58'N: 17°10'E - position of what was believed to be a.....	7A

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1	2	3	4	5	6

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 5/6th May 1944	LIBERATORS. BE 946	(continued)..... W/O. Webster. J.S. Sgt. Cobb. F.J.T. W/O. Foley. P. W/O. Phillips. A.W.	Mining the river DANUBE.			...flarepath. 2220 hrs - river Danube - 45°00'N; 18°50'E. Proceeded upriver to target area at 2,500 ft. 2235hrs, - target area. Made a dummy run; turned starboard and back again. Turned in too tight and therefore made another complete orbit. 2254 hrs - turned starboard again and covered same run flying North-South. 2230 hrs - rear GUNNER saw barges in river flying what appeared to be a balloon and another seen flying from possible barges against East bank. Approximate position 38/36 on target map YUGO SLAVIA 1:100,000. 2255 hrs, 400/500 ft - mined on heading 170/180°. IAS 190 mph. Splashes seen but parachutes not seen to open. First mine at 357500 in channel to East of island. Last mine at 360475 on sheet 8D. 98 yards between first two then 150 yards and 98 yards spacing for rest. All in centre of river. During orbit after dummy run A.A. opened up from DUNAROLDVAR - four guns firing self destroying tracer, 20 mil. type. Aimed at aircraft, fairly accurate. A.A. did not open up on mining run. 2310 hrs - L.A.A. seen ahead in BAJA area. About one gun. D.R. compass went unserviceable on take off. Went round on Pioneer until D.R. put itself right later in trip. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs type A, Mark V.	
"	BE. 928	Lt. Young. J.F. 10314.V. P/Sgt. Myers. J.R. P/O. Davis. R.F.E. Sgt. Dearden. J. W/O. Gingras. H. P/Sgt. Hogan. J.P. Sgt. McGuffie. W.A.	R. 74054.	1955	0155	2250 hrs - approached bed but A.A. opened up so circuted widely. Pinned again at DUNAPAJ at 2254 hrs. 2256 hrs, 140 ft - mined on heading 330°. IAS 182 mph. Aiming point 46°42'N; 19°00'E. Did not mine own bed but about three miles South - due to A.A. from own bed area. First mine at position 381390. Last mine at position 372420. L.A.A. guns scattered on either side of river near DUNAVOZE. 2303 hrs - A.A. from 46°28'N; 18°54'E. 2312 hrs, - A.A. from BAJA. 2325 hrs - A.A. from MFLAC (45°57'N; 18°45'E). Ship seen off MAREDONIA (41°37'N; 15°55'E.) going South. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs type A, Mark V.	
"	EV. 140	Lt. Hall. J.N. 22814.V. Sgt. Ramsay. F.J. P/O. Hart. J. Sgt. Edwards. M.L. Sgt. Howe. H.V. Sgt. Carter. G. Sgt. Kenaway. A.M.		2002	0210	2237 hrs - identified target clearly. 2245 hrs - all mines hung up so circled and made second mining run. 2250 hrs, 50ft - mined on heading 000°. IAS 190 mph. First mine seen at position 112723. Stick was cut a little short as barges were seen at North end of bed. 2-4 L.A.A. guns at 46°06'N; 18°47'E. Some A.A. seen North of MFLAC. Attacked barges at 2255 hrs, 2258 hrs and 2303 hrs - moving upstream. Drifted apart on attack. Mines carried as above.	
"	BE. 947	W/O. Strenach. J. AUS. 402115. P/O. McNaughten. G.E.S. NZ. 411099. P/O. Howe. J.D. J. 20174. P/Sgt. Sprenter. H.A. W/O. Temple. J. W/O. Plevman. W.T. P/Sgt. Barrington. A.H. AUS. 40029.		2000	0145	2128 hrs, 43°27'N; 17°05'E - read convey seen in YUGO SLAVIA going South. 2250hrs - identified target clearly. Flashing lights seen along river. 2255 hrs, 200 ft - mined on heading 340°. IAS 190 mph. Aiming point 46°13'N. Six splashes seen in river - parachutes opened. First mine fell at area 375412, rest at two second intervals. 2-3 L.A.A. guns North of bed mined. A.A. seen at several points - this aircraft shot at twice, once from a bridge after the aircraft had fired at it - 46°11'N; 18°55'E.	

Appendix

R.A.F. Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

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**SECRET**

For the Month of MAY, 1944. Page No. 4

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		

BE-947 W/O. Strenach, J. *Aus. 402418*  
 P/O. McNaughton, G.E.S. *NZ. 412099*  
 P/O. Howes, J.D. *J. 20174*  
 P/Sgt. Sprenter, H.A.  
 W/O. Temple, J.  
 W/O. Piveman, W.T.  
 P/Sgt. Barrington, A.H. *Aus. 40049*

2000 0145 2128 hrs, 43°27'N: 17°05'E - read convey seen in YUGO SLAVIA going South. 2250hrs - identified target clearly. Flashing light seen along river. 2255 hrs, 200 ft - mined on heading 340°. IAS 190 mph. Aiming point 46°43'N. Six splashes seen in river - parachutes opened. First mine fell at area 375412, rest at two second intervals. 2-3 L.A.A. guns Northerly bed mined. A.A. seen at several points - this aircraft shot at twice, once from a bridge after the aircraft had fired at it - 46°11'N: 18°55'E

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK  
 Appendix 2A R.A.F. Form 541  
 DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT  
 By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.  
 For the Month of MAY, 1944. Page No. 4

SECRET

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 5/6th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. BE-947	(continued).....	Mining the river DANUBE.			...but not able to attack it. Set course directly after flew down river for 50-60 miles at 500 ft but no traffic seen at all. 2310 hrs - flashes seen 6-7 miles from river - possibly ground explosion. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs type A, Mark V.	
"	EW. 139	Lt. Gibson, G.L.E. <i>228257.V.</i> Sgt. Durie, P.D. P/Sgt. Ellis, L.T. Sgt. Young, J. Sgt. Pearce, K.A. P/Lt. Liversidge, J.P. <i>Aus. X. 401012.</i> Sgt. Allan, R.V.	"	2010	0220	2142 hrs, 11,000 ft - observed a double flarepath in position approximately D.R. 43°56'N: 17°24'E. 2230 hrs 5,000 ft - approaching target area - identified a section of river Danube. Visibility good at this stage. Identified channel to be mined and made dummy run over it. Turned, made smaller orbit and came up for mining run. 2242 hrs, 200 ft - made mining run but all mines hung up. Turned again and made another attempt. 2245 hrs, 200 ft - mines on heading 360°. IAS 180 mph. Splashes of mines seen in water well in centre of river. First mine fell in area 278210 (YUGO-SLAVIA, 1,100,000), rest at two second intervals. 2305 hrs - fired on by two L.A.A. guns from the vicinity of MEHACS - fairly accurate. Immediately after mining run observed two barges in centre of river. Attacked these and many strikes seen on deck. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	EW. 341	P/Sgt. Molyneux, W.A. Sgt. White, K.M.A. P/Sgt. Langley, W.S. P/Sgt. Rhodes, L.G. Sgt. Velzian, J.R. P/O. Whitley, S. Sgt. Tucker, H.J.	"	2005	0140	2245 hrs - identified bed clearly. One dummy run made over target before mining run. 2247 hrs, 200 ft - mined on Northerly heading. IAS 190 mph. Aiming point 46°06'N: 08°48'E. Six splashes seen. First mine fell in river in area 130737. 2 L.A.A. guns on one side of river, one L.A.A. gun on other and one searchlight, 20 miles South of bed mined. 2249 hrs - rear gunner fired at barge on second run. Several aircraft seen on route - one seen with two white lights at 46°20'N: 17°50'E. Flew parallel course, 400 yards away, for about 4-5 minutes. 2250 hrs - set course for base. Mines carried as above.	
"	EW. 822	Lt. Hecken, J.H. <i>228253.V.</i> Sgt. Scott, A.C. Sgt. Warner, A.G. Sgt. Exton, J.M. Sgt. Orford, W.C. Sgt. Baston, R.J. W/O. Newman, M.E.	"	2005	0215	2129 hrs - read convey (eight vehicles) on coast road in YUGO SLAVIA, opposite BRAZZA (43°43'N: 16°50'E.). 2250 hrs, - 3-4 barges seen between rail bridge and bed mined and fired at by beam gunner. 2253 hrs - identified gun bed clearly. River did not seem flooded. 2307 hrs, 125 ft - mined on Northerly heading. Six splashes seen. First mine fell in area 286146, rest with two second intervals. One L.A.A. gun South of bed mined at ELTEX (44°25'N: 19°55'E.) L.A.A. scattered along river banks and also on islands. After mining went North and found 4-5 barges - fired at them ..	75

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 5/6th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EW. 922	(continued)....	Mining the river DANUBE.			.....also. Turned South and fired at another two barges. Set course after firing at barges at 2342 hrs. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs type A, Mark V.	
"	EW.106	Lt. Knight, T.E. Sgt. 206181.N Sgt. Paul, J.A.W. P/Sgt. Green, F.A. Sgt. Allen, A.F. Sgt. Holdup, M.H. P/Sgt. Sutcliffe, W.C. Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.		2002	0201	2257 hrs, 4,000 ft - approached target area and identified the bed to be mined. On run in, losing height, light accurate tracer observed ahead in the vicinity of DUNICE. Not directed at this aircraft but as it was very intense across the actual area for mining turned off and decided to mine further North. Identified a suitable bed. 2303 hrs, - made one dummy run over area. 2307 hrs - mined from 0 ft on heading 010°. IAS 180 mph. Parachutes seen to open. First mine fell in centre of river in area 387134. Last mine fell in area 283160. Three second intervals between them. 2310 hrs, 700 ft - attacked one barge mined alongside river South of bed mined. No results seen. 2325 hrs - A.A. seen ahead - tracer. 2328 hrs, 5,000 ft - further light tracer ahead. Some came close to aircraft - position approximately 45°55'N: 18°50'E. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
5/7th May	BE. 947	W/O. Strenach, J. W/O. McNaughton, G.E.S. P/O. Hayes, J.D. J.2076 P/Sgt. Sprester, N.A. W/O. Temple, J. W/O. Floman, W.T. P/Sgt. Barrington, A.H.	Industrial area at BUCHAREST. NZ. 413099.	2103	0442	About 2355 hrs saw red flare as marker. 0015 hrs - LAKE BALTA - saw sky marker. 0019 hrs - ran into target area. Flares went down behind - 0026 hrs - first batch. Circled again for four or five runs looking for target pinpoint. Flares down at two places and spread out widely. 0042 hrs, 16,000 ft - bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 100 yards on heading 300°. Aimed at factory with fire in middle in estimated target area. One bomb jettisoned over DANUBE at turning point. Own bursts not seen as flares and green and red lights covered the target area. Little other bombing seen in target area. 40-50 L.A.A. guns and H.A.A. guns covering town area - inaccurate. 25-30 searchlights, not at all accurate. Lights seen and A.A. to North West of BUCHAREST in marshalling yards area. Window used. Turning point at Danube - 7 barges seen pulled by tug. A.A. at TURNUL MAGURELE (43°46'N: 21°57'E.), NISI (41°19'N: 21°52'E.) BRAGADIRU (43°45'N: 15°10'E.) and GIURGIU - accurate. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
"	BE. 928	Lt. Hayman, N.E. J.21451.V. Sgt. Rutherford, G.H. P/O. Lord, S.E. Sgt. Mellor, W.F. Sgt. Webster, T.L. P/Sgt. Berkeley, Y.L. Sgt. Smith, G.W.E.		2101	0457	2303 hrs - rockets seen near NISH. 0020 hrs - marker's seen at LAKE BALTA (44°05'N: 16°13'E.). 0028 hrs - ran into target area which was identified by ground detail in crescent shape. 0025 hrs - first flares seen - others followed immediately. 0032 hrs, 13,000 ft - bombs dropped in one stick with 300 ft spacing on heading 025°. Aimed at junction of roads in Southern part of target. Bursts not distinguished amongst other flashes on ground. Green markers and flares covered target. Some burning on ground and creating smoke. 56 searchlights from LAKE BALTA to target area. Some seemed to be tracking this aircraft but no fighters seen. A.A. was barrage, heavy, bursting at 20,000 ft.	

**OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK**

Appendix R.A.F. Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F. **SECRET**

For the Month of MAY, 1944. Page No. 5

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 5/7th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. BE. 928	(continued)....	Industrial area at BUCHAREST			...tracer "ORLICEN" type. Window used. 7 ships seen	



1700 hrs  
Sgt. Keller, W.F.  
Sgt. Webster, T.L.  
P/Sgt. Berkeley, V.L.  
Sgt. Smith, C.W.E.

into target area which was identified by ground detail in crescent shape. 0025 hrs - first flares seen - others followed immediately. 0032 hrs, 13,000 ft - bombs dropped in one stick with 300 ft spacing on heading 025°. Aimed at junction of roads in Southern part of target. Bursts not distinguished amongst other flares on ground. Green markers and flares covered target. Some burning on ground and creating smoke. 56 searchlights from LAKE BALTA to target area. Some seemed to be tracking this aircraft but no fighters seen. A.A. was barrage, heavy.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F. SECRET Page No. 5  
For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 6/7th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. BE. 928	(continued)....	Industrial area at BUCHAREST.			...tracer "ORLICZEN" type. Window used. 7 ships seen on Danube at 45°49'N; 22°57'E - were moving West. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.O. Tail Inst.	
"	EW. 341	P/Sgt. Melyneux, W.A. Sgt. White, K.M.A. P/Sgt. Langley, H.S. P/Sgt. Rhodes, C.G. Sgt. Velsian, J.A. P/O. Whitley, A. Sgt. Tucker, H.J.	"			Aircraft failed to return to base. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EW. 106	Lt. Knight, T.E. S84 Sgt. Paul, J.L.W. P/Sgt. Green, F.R. Sgt. Allen, A.F. Sgt. Haldup, M.H. W/O. Baby, R.L. Sgt. Bradshaw, R.H.	20163.Vn  J. 85747.	2108	0446	0021 hrs - redmarker seen North West of LAKE BALTA. 0028 hrs - green flares seen over target in one cluster. 0030 hrs - illuminating flares seen over target area. 0031 hrs, 15,000 ft - bombs dropped in one stick with 300 ft spacing on heading 360°. Aimed at road junction in South of target area. Bursts seen. One bomb started fire and others out across road. Some other bombing seen in target area before bombing. Illumination very good illuminating Southern part of town. 30-40 H.A.A. guns inaccurate, in target area. 10 L.A.A. guns, inaccurate in target area. 25-30 searchlights inaccurate, with some blue. Window used. 0321 hrs - light seen flashing in sea at 42°11'N; 17°47'E - aircraft at 8,000 ft. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EW. 829	P/Sgt. Steale, A.W.L. Sgt. Helms, R.N.L. P/Sgt. Diamond, J. Sgt. Richardson, E.J. Sgt. Perryer, L.S. P/Sgt. Davies, E.	"	2107	0416	2335 hrs, 43°53'N; 22°52'E - huge ball of flame seen on ground (at first turning point). 0018 hrs - arrived at LAKE BALTA. Saw marker over lake. Ran in from lake on to town which was clearly seen under many flares and target illumination. 0029 hrs, 12,800 ft - bombs dropped in one stick with maximum spacing on heading 000°. Aimed at two large buildings in Southern part of industrial area. Bursts not seen under flares which were very numerous. Two fires seen burning in target area on leaving at 0033 hrs. 15 H.A.A. guns, slight tracer, flaming onions, 15 searchlights and one blue searchlight in target area - all very inaccurate to begin with but improved during attack. Window used. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	76
"	BE. 929	P/O. Anyon, R.S. Sgt. Naylor, N.V. P/O. Chapman, J.E.	"	2105	0425	0017 hrs - LAKE BALTA. 0026 and 0027 hrs - two batches of flares seen over target area, illuminating the Southern part of town. 0028 hrs - target identified. Two road junctions...	

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1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2				

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 6/7th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. BE. 929	(continued)..... W/O. Lamarre. G.J.V. W/O. Phillips. A.W. Sgt. Carter. G. W/O. Foley. P.	Industrial area at BUCHAREST. R. 10 P. 4. 61.			... seen. Flares good but illuminated only a small area of town. 0030 hrs, 15,400 ft - bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 120 yards on heading 330°. Fired at factory seen under light of two sets of flares. Bursts not seen. Other aircraft seen in target area during bombing. 0032 hrs - fire in target area seen on leaving and for about 50 miles. 15 H.A.A. guns, 6 L.A.A. guns and 18-23 searchlights. Target area was encircled by these defences. Guns were accurate at end of bombing run. A.A. seen at GIURGIU. Window used. 2-3 H.A. guns at NISH. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
"	EV. 159	P/Lt. Eardley. D.A. Sgt. Dalrymple. H.M. P/O. White. A.K. Sgt. Rosebaum. H. Sgt. Farnish. C.D. P/Sgt. Sutcliffe. W.C. Sgt. Budgen. S.W.	"	2110	0458	2329 hrs - observed incendiaries at first turning point - behind aircraft. 0016 hrs, 16,000 ft - marker seen at second turning point. 0028 hrs, 15,000 ft - observed flares scattered over the whole of target area. Identified target but unable to see the aiming point - took the general outline of the entire area. 0032 hrs, 15,000 ft - bombs dropped in one stick with 300 ft spacing on heading 350°. Own results not seen. No actual bombing seen at the same time but as aircraft left target area bombing appeared to be fairly concentrated. One fairly large fire and one small seen in target area. Observed two searchlights slightly North of LAKE BALTA. Intense H.A.A. fairly accurate for height from target area. Saw L.A.A. Approximately 20 searchlights (9 in one batch). H.A.A. from NISH opened up on another aircraft - seen enroute. 0124 hrs - observed what appeared to be a flare at same height of aircraft - was whitish yellow in colour. Broke up into several pieces and was last seen burning on ground. Burned for a long time - position approximately South of 43°50'N; 22°52'E. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 822	Lt. Gibson. G.C.E. 20726 V. * Sgt. Durie. P.D. P/Sgt. Ellis. A.T. Sgt. Young. J. Sgt. Pearce. K.A. Sgt. Basten. R.J. Sgt. Allan. R.V.	"	2105	0505	A.A. seen at NISH - going and returning - 2302 and 0135 hrs. A.A. seen at RUSE (43°51'N; 25°57'E) at 0004 hrs. 0025 hrs - flares - five minutes before target. Six strings of flares when over target. Red T.I.'s to North West of target - K.9 (map B/11) approximately. Target identified visually. 0030 hrs, 17,000 ft - bombs dropped in one stick on heading 305°. One hung up and jettisoned at 0126 hrs at position 43°50'N; 22°56'E in the Danube. Bursts observed at aiming point area 15. Wellington seen 7,000 ft below just ahead. Bombs seen to go down in same area. Two further sticks seen to burst also in target area. Green T.I.'s seen at T.U. 6 and 7, area South West of target. Red marker seen North of target byside of river - P.12. 5 H.A.A. guns. L.A.A. observed firing at Wellington. 25 searchlights seen. Two master searchlights in Northern area of marshalling yards. A.A. seemed definitely to be coming from marshalling yards area. Bombs carried as above.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 6

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 7/8th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. BE. 932	Lt. Schuurman. J.G. P/Sgt. ...	Industrial area at BUCHAREST. 20726 V.			Aircraft failed to return to base. Bombs carried	

sticks seen to burst also in target area. Green T.I.'s seen at T.U. 6 and 7, area South West of target. Red marker seen North of target byside of river - P.12. 5 H.A.A. guns. L.A.A. observed firing at Wellington. 25 searchlights seen. Two master searchlights in Northern area of marshalling yards. A.A. seemed definitely to be coming from marshalling yards area. Bombs carried as above.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

R.A.F. Form 541 Page No. 6

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 7/8th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. BE. 932	Lt. Schuurman, J.G. F/Sgt. Bissett, P. W/O. Grier, R.R. F/Sgt. Phillips, J.A. Sgt. Brown, K. F/Sgt. Pearsall, W. Lt. McGee, J.P.	207044.V. Industrial area at BUCHAREST. R. 114916.	-	-	Aircraft failed to return to base. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. 025.	
"	BE. 928	Lt. Young, J.F. F/Sgt. Myers, J.R.E. P/O. Davies, A.F.E. Sgt. Dearden, J. W/O. Gingras, H. F/Sgt. Hogan, J.P. Sgt. McGuffie, W.A.	103147.V. " " R. 74064.	2045	0405	2357/8 hrs, 15,000 ft - first main flares went down followed by red indicators. Illumination right over target area. Just prior to approaching target observed vapour trails well above aircraft (approximately 20,000 ft). Identified the area as a whole. Visibility restricted positive identification of any special pinpoint. 0000 hrs, 14,800 ft - bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 300 ft on heading 080°. Own results not seen. As aircraft turned off from target the concentrated bombing began but appeared to be scattered. Approximately 20 H.A.A. guns and 20 L.A.A. guns not intense or accurate. 16 searchlights 0005 hrs, 12,000 ft - immediately after leaving target area an unidentified single engine aircraft seen. At first crew thought it was a flare as it had a yellowish light on it. Flew parallel at first and turned and attacked from below on starboard by climbing rapidly and at a distance of 300/400 yards it stood on its tail and fired what was, no doubt, a rocket projectile - a yellow orangey colour. Enemy aircraft then climbed rapidly away. Evasive action taken by this aircraft. The rocket was seen to split up into five red kind of pokers which fall towards the ground. Observed many flares being dropped well away from target below aircraft in batches of three. Defences opened up from GRAIOVA (44°21'N:27°30') and NISH. All lights were on at town of TURULSEVERIN. ( ) Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	
"	BE. 946	F/Lt. Lewis, J.H.C. P/O. Melton, H.A. P/O. Bygrave, G.D. P/O. Anselme, A.G. W/O. Griffin, R.C. W/O. Fedorchuk, M. P/O. Johnstone, J.D.	J. 26806. J. 13073. J. 14911. R. 114827. R. 114929. J. 14926.	2045	0355	2249 hrs - evasive action taken to avoid A.A. at NISH. 2322 hrs - white marker seen at GRAIOVA. 2324 hrs - flares seen jettisoned at this point and A.A. seen. 2335 hrs - one green T.I. seen 15 miles West of BOLINTINIANU (44°57'N:26°45'E.) 2350 hrs - three T.I.'s at BOLINTINIANU. 2355 hrs - flares over target. 2358 hrs - two other T.I.'s (in target area, one mile apart). 0001 hrs, 15,000 ft - bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 300 ft on heading 030°, aimed at T.I. on ground and the railway and factory seen near the T.I. Bursts not seen as there were a considerable number of searchlights flickering round aircraft. Some other bombing seen just....	

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1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
7/8th May 1944	BE. 946	(continued).....	Industrial area at BUCHAREST.			...before own run and some other bombs after. 0004 hrs - bomb flash. 30-40 searchlights scattered round town at target area - did some tracking. Slight H.A.A. and L.A.A. not very accurate. Some flares dropped were bursting at about 18,000 ft and may have been fighter flares. Window used. Fires were seen burning North of target area in city. Seen on arrival and burning when this aircraft left at 0006 hrs. Fighter flares seen enleaving target - two groups of three. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. 025.	
9/10th May 1944	EW. 139	P/Lt. Kardley, D.A. Sgt. Dalrymple, H.M. P/O. White, A.K. Sgt. Rosebaum, H. Sgt. Farnish, C.J. P/Sgt. Sutcliffe, W.G. Sgt. Budgen, S.W.	Mining the river DANUBE.	2245	0405	Danube easily identified after crossing mountains of YUGO SLAVIAN coast which was in 8-9/10ths cloud. River in flood and aircraft mined on second run to make quite sure (32 minutes over Danube). Press enabled crew to identify channel. 0116 hrs, 1000ft - mine dropped on heading 265°. IAS 190 mph. Parachutes of first mine seen at position 45°15'N; 19°33'E (580730 on map YUGO SLAVIA 1:100,000, Sheet No. 51). L.A.A. from NOVI SAD (45°5'44"N; 19°) - not at aircraft. 2-3 H.A.A. guns. No opposition in whole stretch from NOVI PUTOC to five miles beyond BAKAPALANKA. No activity seen in river and no barges. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs type A. Mark V.	
	EW. 140	Lt. Hall, J.N. Sgt. Ramsay, F.J. P/O. Hart, J. Sgt. Edwards, M.L. Sgt. Rowe, H.V. Sgt. Carter, G. Sgt. Kennaway, A.M.		2238	0410	0040 hrs - twin engined aircraft seen at SAVA junction. 0052/0055 hrs - circled. Identified own bed by bend in river and small town. 0110 hrs, 100 ft - mines dropped on heading 260°. IAS 190 mph. Parachutes seen to open. Six splashes in centre of river. First mine in area 520722 (YUGO SLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet 51) with two and a half second intervals. Few bursts of A.A. seen at BEGEC. Few barges seen East of bed - not moving. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
	BE. 929	S/Ldr. Brown, A.A. P/O. Bleasfield, R.B. P/O. Ombt, H.C. P/O. Rasmussen, N.E.J. P/O. Ingleton, W.J. P/Sgt. Sympson, G.H.		2232	2336	Returned early with generator trouble. Mines jettisoned safe on heading 340° at position 42°13'N; 15°19'E.	
	BE. 946	P/O. Smythe, D.L. P/O. Wright, W.D. P/Lt. Wells, M.L. P/O. Wood, G.T. P/O. Fleeman, W.J. Sgt. Baston, R.J. W/O. Boby, R.F.C.		2240	0320	0045 hrs - identified target area from 6,000 ft. Searched. Own bed mined and sand banks seen. 0101 hrs, 200 ft - mines dropped on heading 320°. IAS 175 mph. Parachutes seen to open and splashes seen. First mine in area 195460 (YUGO SLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet 52). Last mine in area 160520. The shallows were mined between 490170 and 500170 - four mines before and two after. 8 L.A.A. guns and 2 H.A.A. guns from NOVI SAD area. Flarepath seen at SABAC. Lights in shape of arrow between SABAC and Danube. Flashed on twice. 0115 hrs - engaged by L.A.A. and H.A.A. and five aircraft seen below going in opposite direction. Mines carried as above.	

**OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK**

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Appendix "A" R.A.F. Form 541

SECRET

Page No. 7

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
9/10th May 1944	EW. 829	P/Sgt. Blankenberg, J.P. Sgt. ...	Mining the river DANUBE.	2232	0345	0029 hrs - identified own bed. 0051 hrs - 100ft - mine	

W/O. Wood. G.T.  
 W/O. Fleaman. W.D.  
 Sgt. Baston. R.J.  
 W/O. Baby. R.F.C. J. 86748

mines dropped on heading 320°. IAS 175 mph. Parachutes seen to open and splashes seen. First mine in area 195460 (YUGO SLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet 52). Last mine in area 160520. The shallows were missed between 490170 and 500170 - four mines before and two after. 3 L.A.A. guns and 2 H.A.A. guns from NOVI SAD area. Flarepath seen at SABAC. Lights in shape of arrow between SABAC and Danube. Flashed on twice. 0115 hrs - engaged by L.A.A. and H.A.A. and five aircraft seen below going in opposite direction.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT  
 By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.  
 For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Appendix R.A.F. Form 541

SECRET Page No. 7

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
9/10th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 829	F/Sgt. Blanckenberg, J.P. Sgt. Garner, W.G.C. W/O. Latimer, J.T. W/O. Webster, J.A. Sgt. Cobb, F.J.T. W/O. Foley, P.	Mining the river DANUBE.	2232	0345	0029 hrs - identified own bed. 0051 hrs, 100ft - mines dropped on heading 150°. Parachutes seen to open and six splashes seen. First mine fell in area 133560 (YUGO SLAVIA 1:100,000, Sheet 52) with two second intervals for first four and four seconds between fourth, fifth and sixth. Gun position seen South of bed but did not open up. A.A. seen along river some miles off. NOVI SAD lit up. No shipping seen. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs, type A, Mark V.	
"	EV. 822	Lt. Hecken, J.H. 22823.V. Sgt. Scott, A.C. F/Sgt. Warner, A.G. Sgt. Exton, J.M. Sgt. Orford, W.C. W/O. Newman, M.E.	"	2245	0415	0017 hrs, 44°05'N; 18°03'E - three lights seen on ground with fire to South. 0025 hrs, 44°15'N; 18°04'E - large fire, three centres. Own bed not identified. Mined East of NOVI SAD. 0058 hrs - over Danube. Mined believed bed but after mining decided bed was not as briefed. 0110 hrs, 125 ft - mines dropped on heading 280°. IAS 185 mph. Parachutes seen to open and six splashes seen. First mine fell in area 030590 (YUGO SLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet 52) with three second intervals. 4 L.A.A. guns and 3 H.A.A. guns at NOVI SAD. Balloons seen here - very low. No shipping seen on Danube. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	EV. 959	Lt. Hayman, N.E. 22853.V. Sgt. Rutherford, G.H. P/O. Lerd, S.E. Sgt. Moller, W.F. Sgt. Webster, T.L. F/Sgt. Berkeley, V.L. Sgt. Smith, G.W.E.	"	2229	0354	0045 hrs - own bed identified but was not mined as it was flooded. Mined just to East of bed. 0111 hrs, 120 ft - mined on heading 260°. IAS 180 mph. Parachutes seen to open and detach in water. Six splashes seen. First mine fell in area 730690 (YUGO SLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet 51) with 300 ft spacing. 4-6 H.A.A. guns at CEREGIC. Considerable L.A.A. and H.A.A. at NOVI SAD. No shipping seen on Danube. Small ship seen on BOSTIA river. Mines carried as above.	
"	EV. 947	Lt. Gibson, G.C.E. 22857.V. Sgt. Duris, F.D. Sgt. Ellis, H.T. Sgt. Young, F. Sgt. Pearce, K.A. Sgt. Allam, R.V.	"	2233	0410	0059 hrs - circled target area. Identified own bed at 0104 hrs, 200 ft - mined on heading 250°. IAS 180 mph. Six splashes seen. First mine fell in area 660688 (YUGO SLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet 51) with two second intervals. Considerable A.A., hosepiping with flashing ordnance from NOVI SAD. Torch seen flashing from river bank at own bed. Flarepath lit up six miles South of SAVA pin-point. No shipping seen on Danube. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	EV. 106	Lt. Knight, T.E. SEC. 206/53.V. Sgt. Paul, J.L.W. F/Sgt. Green, F.R.	"	2249	0348	0029 hrs, 44°28'N; 18°46'E - glow seen in distance. 0110 hrs - twin engined aircraft seen over target area with onelight on. 0115 hrs - identified own bed clearly. 0118 hrs, 100 ft...	

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 9/10th May 1944	LIBERATORS. EW. 106	(continued)..... Sgt. Allen, R.F. Sgt. Holdup, M.W. Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.	Mining the river DANUBE.			...mined on heading 330°. IAS 180 mph. Parachutes seen to open and six splashes seen. First mine fell in area 620685 (YUGO SLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet 51), with three second intervals. Considerable A.A. seen from NOVI SAD. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs, type A, Mark V.	
10/11th May 1944	BE. 946	F/Lt. Lewis, J.H.C. F/O. Melton, H.A. J. 2570 F/O. Bygrave, D.J. 1307 (35°10'N: 15°00'E) F/O. Anselme, A.G. J. 4911 W/O. Griffin, R.C. R. 114227 W/O. Fedarok, M. R. 114914 F/Lt. Liveridge, J.A. AUS. K.431092.	'Nickelling' at CRISTE.	2010	0612	0020hrs, 5,000 ft - approaching the Western end of CRISTE. 0025 hrs, 5,000 ft - dropped 'nickels' to fall over the extreme Western end of island. 0030 hrs, 6,000 ft - dropped 'nickels' to fall over KISAMOS (36°20'N: 21°42'E). 0038 hrs, 6,000 ft - dropped 'nickels' to fall over SUDA BAY area. 0047 hrs, 6,000 ft - dropped 'nickels' to fall over ESTIMO (35°21'30"N: 24°11'18"E). 0105 hrs - dropped 40 packages over CANDIA then abandoned run due to A.A. Orbits DRIA island - made another two orbits off the coast and dropped 100 packages allowing for wind direction. 0120/0145 hrs - continued dropping the remaining 'nickels' along the coast to the extreme Eastern tip. Made two complete runs up and down. Encountered extremely accurate predicted H.A.A. from (35°24'N: Western side of CANDIA. Slight H.A.A. from DRIA Island. 35°14'E). 'Nickels' carried 491 packages, type B/G/307. (196,400).	
"	EW. 139	F/Lt. Hardley, D.A. Sgt. Dalrymple, H.M. P/O. White, L.K. Sgt. Roscham, H. Sgt. Farnish, C.D. F/Sgt. Sutcliffe, N.C. Sgt. Dodson, S.W.	Marshalling yards at BUDAPESST.	2103	0012	Returned early as artificial horizon unserviceable and bomb sight unserviceable. All bombs jettisoned safe in sea at position 43°20'N; 16°00'E at 2310 hrs. IFF switched on as soon as identified. 44°02'N: 16°27'E - white lights in two rows with red and green light at end. Coloured lights kept changing. Very cartridges seen fired. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.G. Tail Inst.	
"	BE. 929	S/Ldr. Brown, R.A. F/O. Bloomfield, R.E. F/O. Oht, W.C. F/O. Rasmussen, N.E.J. F/O. Ingleton, W.J. F/Sgt. Tomlin, R.L. F/Sgt. Symes, G.H.	"	2035	0035	Returned early as pilot was feeling unwell. Very humpy conditions. All bombs jettisoned safe in ADRIATIC at position 43°05'N: 15°52'E. 2123 hrs, 42°31'N: 15°42'E, 8,000 ft - colours of the day seen fired and red light like ident. light seen flashing. 2222 hrs, 45°18'N: 17°30'E - turned for base. 2253 hrs, 43°55'N: 16°32'E - flare seen over land on starboard bow. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.G. Tail Inst.	
"	EW. 829	W/O. Steele, A.L. Sgt. Holmes, R.N.L. F/Sgt. Dimond, J. Sgt. Richardson, E.J. Sgt. Perryer, L.S. F/Sgt. Davies, E.	"	-	-	Aircraft did not take off as C.S.I.No. 4 unserviceable.	
"	EW. 140	F/O. Anyon, R.S. Sgt. Naylor, N.V. F/O. Chapman, T.E. W/O. Lamorre, G.J.J. R.108461 W/O. Phillips, A.W. Sgt. Carter, G. W/O. Foley, P.	"	-	-	Aircraft failed to return to base. Bombs carried as above.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F. Appendix NA R.A.F. Form 541

For the Month of MAY, 19 44. SECRET Page No. 8

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 10/11th May	LIBERATORS EW. 106	108461, Y.V.					

EV. 140  
 F/O. Anyon, R.S.  
 Sgt. Nyler, N.V.  
 F/O. Chapman, T.E.  
 W/O. Lamorre, G.J.J. R.108461  
 W/O. Phillips, A.W.  
 Sgt. Carter, G.  
 W/O. Foley, P.

Aircraft failed to return to base. Bombs carried as above.

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK  
 DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT  
 By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.  
 For the Month of MAY, 1944.  
 Appendix A  
 R.A.F. Form 541  
 SECRET  
 Page No. 8

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
10/11th May 1944	LIBERATORS EV. 959	Lt. Young, J.F. 10847 V. F/Sgt. Myers, J.R. F/O. Davies, A.F.E. Sgt. Dearden, J. W/O. Gingras, H. R.74064 F/Sgt. Hegan, J.G. Sgt. McGuffie, W.A.	Marshalling yards at BUDAPEST.	2038	0248	Pinpointed South of target area at 2315 hrs. Orbited and saw searchlight and A.A. from town area. 2327 hrs - stick of bombs seen and slight other bombing before leaving target area at 2335 hrs. 2328 hrs - batch of flares seen (about four) followed by second batch. Visibility good after flares went down. 2330 hrs, 11,200 ft - bombs dropped on heading 300°. IAS 182 mph. Aimed at town area lit up under flares at estimated position of marshalling yards. Bursts not seen. 'Nickels' dropped over target. 30 L.A.A. guns, 25 H.A.A. guns and 30 searchlights - not very accurate. Balls of fire seen in batches of four. Searchlight seen at SPLIT (44°30'N: 16°24'E.). Window used. 0125 hrs - white light seen flashing like Vercy cartridge over mountains of YUGO SLA VIA. Lightning storm seen opposite MANFREDCENIA. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.G. Tail Inst. 'Nickels' 28,000, type C/HY/404.	
	EV. 822	Lt. Hesken, J.H. 118193 V. Sgt. Scott, A.C. F/Sgt. Warner, A.G. Sgt. Exton, J.M. Sgt. Orford, N.C. Sgt. Basten, A.J. W/C. Newman, M.E.		2039	0315	2217 hrs, 44°33'N: 16°59'E - two Vercy cartridges seen fired in YUGO SLAVIA. Fire seen burning at same position. 2316 hrs - L.A.A., two searchlights at SZEGED NEAR. 2327 hrs - as running into target area saw three batches of flares go down in different parts of the town. Two close together, one much further North. All flares had gone out before arrived so bombed estimated position of middle batch. 2335 hrs, 10,300 ft - bombs dropped on heading 160° with spacing 300 ft. Aimed at town area under flares. First bomb landed on very wide smooth road and others in open country. 'Nickels' dropped over target. Scattered L.A.A., not very accurate. 0220 hrs, 42°10'N: 17°00'E - gun flashes seen on sea. Window used. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above. 'Nickels' 28,000, type C/HY/404.	
	BE. 947	W/O. Strenach, J. AUS. 402416 F/O. McNaughton, G.S.S. NZ. 415099 F/O. Howes, J.D. J. 20174 F/Sgt. Spreates, H.B. W/O. Temple, J. W/O. Flewman, W.T. Sgt. Barrington, A.H. AUS. 40039		2038	0242	2310 hrs, 11,500 ft - reached last turning point - very poor visibility - unable to identify any pinpoints. Orbited waiting for flares. No. 2 engine was giving trouble at this period so captain decided to bomb the defences in the estimated position of target. Flares went down on starboard just as bombing run had begun. 2330 hrs, 11,500 ft - bombs dropped on heading 055° with spacing 100 yards. No results seen. 'Nickels' dropped over target. Approximately 6 H.A.A. guns and 6 searchlights, very erratic and inaccurate. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Return route exceptionally rough. Lightning in clouds towards North. Bombs carried as above. 'Nickels' 28,000, type C/HY/404.	79

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 13/14th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EW. 129.	Lt. Hall, J.N. 12843.V. Sgt. Ramsay, F.T. P/O. Hart, J. Sgt. Edwards, M.L. Sgt. Rowe, H.V. P/Sgt. Berkeley, V.L. Sgt. Kenneway, A.M.	Marshalling Yards at AREZZO. (41°28'N: 11°50'E) Road Junction at ORVIETO. (42°44'N: 11°59'E)	2032	0043	2159 hrs, 10,000 ft - observed three fixed searchlights at Galf's Head. One revolved every three seconds. 2234 hrs, 8,500 ft - first flares went down - appeared to be West of town. Orbited and further flares went down at 2238 hrs. Illuminated the marshalling yards clearly - had overshoot by this time. Went round again and further flares went down in the same position - 2242 hrs. Identified target and made run in. 2244 hrs, 8,500 ft - 5 bombs dropped with spacing 300 ft on heading 270°. IAS 170 mph. One bomb hung up, and salvaged after bombing run. Four bombs were seen to burst right across the marshalling yards - the fifth bomb fell outside. On approach to target three bursts were seen in target area which started three large fires. Had the appearance of being three buildings, the framework could be easily identified. Had died down by the time aircraft had left target. A large column of whitish smoke rising to a great height observed from the actual marshalling yards. Bombing appeared to be well concentrated in target area. 6-8 L.A.A. guns approximately 10 miles from target towards the North. Accurate for height but not for direction. Compass trouble en route but corrected later on. Photograph obtained. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 6 x 1000 lbs G.P. Inst.	
"	BZ. 947	W/O. Strensch, J. AUS. 4024115. P/O. McNaughten, G.E. NZ. 413099. P/O. Hewes, J.D. T. 20174. P/Sgt. Spreates, H.B. W/O. Temple, J. W/O. Plesman, W.T. P/Sgt. Barrington, A.H. AUS. 40039.		2034	0025	Three searchlights and revolving beacon seen approximately five miles North West of ANCONA and beacon flashing "RF" very near. Searchlights inclined towards sea, stationary. Seen en route and on return. 2228 hrs - two or three flares dropped over target area. 2230 hrs - first main flares South East of town. 2235 hrs - run made to identify target and not seen clearly - dummy run - turned starboard away. 2237 hrs - second main flares over target area. 2240 hrs, 7,500 ft - three bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 100 ft on heading 325°. IAS 190 mph. Two bombs undershot and one in marshalling yards. Target clearly identified. Last bomb in position J.K. 31 (target map 5-55-NA). Bursts clearly seen. 2242 hrs - third main flares over target. 2244 hrs, 7,800 ft - 5 bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 75 ft on heading 340°. IAS 190 mph. First four undershot; last clearly seen in marshalling yards in position L.K. 29/30. Turned off to starboard and turned back over target and many craters then seen in marshalling yards. No fires observed. Odd lights in area. Flight H.A.A. not accurate from target area. Photograph obtained. Bombs carried - 8 x 1000 lbs G.P. Inst.	
"	EW. 106	Lt. Knight, T.E. SEC. 20653.V. Sgt. Paul, T.L.W. P/Sgt. Green, F.R. Sgt. Allen, K.F. Sgt. Heldup, M.H. J. 85748. W/O. Beby, R.C. Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.		2112	0126	2237 hrs - observed revolving white beacon on ANCONA and three fixed searchlights in same area. 2315 hrs, 9,000 ft - observed first main flares go down on run in to target area. Illumination excellent. Viaduct and marshalling yards clearly identified. Made orbit to the West and South for bombing run - further flares went down while en orbit. 2324 hrs, 8,000 ft - all bombs carried.	

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F. SECRET

For the Month of MAY, 1944. Page No. 9

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 13/14th May	LIBERATORS. EW. 106	(continued)	Marshalling Yards			Had read sign on the marshalling yards. Bursts seen	



EW. 106 Lt. Knight, T.E. SEC. 20653 V. 2112 0126  
 Sgt. Paul, J.L.W.  
 P/Sgt. Green, F.R.  
 Sgt. Allen, R.F.  
 Sgt. Holdup, M.H.  
 W/O. Baby, R.C. J. 65748  
 Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.  
 2237 hrs - observed revolving white beacon on ANCONA and three fixed searchlights in same area. 2315 hrs, 9,000 ft - observed first main flares go down on run in to target area. Illumination excellent. Viaduct and marshalling yards clearly identified. Made orbit to the West and South for bombing run - further flares went down while on orbit. 2324 hrs, 9,000 ft - all bombs fell on target area.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

R.A.F. Form 541

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Page No. 9

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 13/14th May 1944	LIBERATORS. EW. 106	(continued)....	Marshalling Yards at AREZZO. Road junction at ORVLETO.			...Had good aim on the marshalling yards. Bursts seen - believed overshoot the junction - last bomb seen to fall in river bed. Many sticks seen to burst across the junction. One stick seen to burst along railway tracks running North West from the junction. Bombing appeared to be well concentrated - several bursts were also seen to be in the near vicinity of the viaduct across river/tie North East. Only one H.A.A. gun seen firing in the area. Photograph obtained. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 6 x 1000 lbs G.P. Inst.	
	EW. 959	P/Sgt. Blanckenberg, J.P. Sgt. Garner, N.G.C. W/O. Latimer, J.T. W/O. Webster, J.B. Sgt. Cobb, F.J.T. P/Sgt. Hogan, J.P. P/Sgt. Symes, E.H.	"	2030	0020	2052 1/2 hrs - observed a cluster of white lights in water off Start Point (approximately 20-30). A lighted triangle of lights seen slightly West of the aerodrome at target. Had the appearance of being a P.O. W. camp - lights did not go out. PESARO - observed four searchlights fixed in a cone also flashing beacon in the near vicinity. 2232 hrs, 9,000 ft - approaching target - first flare went down - burst above aircraft and blinded navigator. Orbits to try and find the river relevant to target. Further flares were going down but appeared to be off target. Other flares seen and these illuminated rail and road communications South of town. Identified marshalling yards and started bombing run. 2233 1/2 hrs, 7,200 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 300 ft on heading 325°. IAS 180 mph. Had very good aim on pinpoint. Bursts seen across the South East end of marshalling yards. Immediately after several sticks were seen to burst right across target. Bombing appeared to be well concentrated. A large column of grayish smoke rose to approximately 2,000 ft. Was seen by rear gunner as aircraft came away. A fire was seen on approach to target, in the town area, North of marshalling yards - much black smoke was coming up from it. Practically no opposition from target - only one gun firing. Photograph obtained. What appeared to be a Wellington seen over target, with navigation lights on. Bombs carried 6 x 1000 lbs G.P. Inst.	
	EW. 822	G.C.E. 32825 V. Lt. Gibson, F.S. Sgt. Durie, I.D. P/Sgt. Ellis, L.T. Sgt. Young, J. Sgt. Pearce, K.A. P/Sgt. Heel, W.R. Sgt. Allen, R.V.	"	2110	0130	2257 hrs - fighter reported by captain, mid upper and rear gunners - seen very clearly. Went just overhead on dead reciprocal. Aircraft's course 258°, height 9,500 ft. No attack. Definitely PW. 190. 3 searchlights in cone over ANCONA - revolving beacon and beacon flashing "RP". Went out when aircraft went across on outward journey. No searchlights on return. 2318 hrs - first main flares reported by rear gunner as aircraft turning on course. 2320 hrs - more flares down over target area in bunch....	

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
13 <sup>th</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 822	(continued).....	Marshalling Yards at APEZZO. Road junction at VIETO.			2332 hrs - arrived target area - not identified, 2355 hrs - headed for flares but went out just before arrival. Definitely saw fall in L. 2211 to North of marshalling yards but target not actually seen. Carried an overestimated position of target then turned round and dropped bombs in estimated position. 2358 hrs, 9,000 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 50 ft on heading 275°. IAS 180 mph. Bursts seen by W/Cp. No fires. Photograph obtained. Bombs carried 6 x 1000 lbs G.P. Inst.	
	EV. 839	W/O. Steele, A.I. Sgt. Holmes, R.N.L. P/Sgt. Diamond, J. Sgt. Richardson, E.J. Sgt. Perryer, L.S. P/Sgt. Tomlin, L.C. P/Sgt. Davies, E.		2110	0115	2342 hrs - observed occult beacon revolving slightly inland from Galf's Head - approximately 20 miles. 2310 hrs, 8,500 ft - observed first flares - markers. 2318 hrs - first main cluster seen - illuminated the whole area. The viaduct across river to the North of marshalling yards clearly seen. Made a sharp turn and started run in. Illumination excellent. 2322 hrs - dummy run due to bombs hanging up - did not see target owing to the smoke from bombing. Made an orbit and approached target again. 2327 hrs, 7,500 ft - three bombs dropped on heading 320°. IAS 180 mph. Made another orbit and attempted to drop remaining three bombs but still hung up. Made another orbit and salvaged over target area. Flares had gone out by this time as aimed at lights seen in the area. First three bombs went safe and believed that three salvaged also went safe. Own results not seen. Observed a stick of bursts from the Northern end of viaduct on a heading of 330°. Further sticks seen across marshalling yards. The area was seen to be well covered. Concentration was good. A stick seen to burst across the town area. Fuse boxes were checked at base and found to be unserviceable. Photograph obtained and one other. 2329 hrs, 7,500 ft - unidentified single engine aircraft approached from above and on port beam. Evasive action taken and aircraft lost. Bombs carried as above.	
14/15th May, 1944	EV. 961	Lt. Hayman, N.E. 21/22 Sgt. Rutherford, G.H. P/O. Lord, S.E. Sgt. Moller, W.F. Sgt. Webster, T.A. Sgt. Berkeley, V.A. Sgt. Smith, G.W.D.	Refineries at PORTO MARGHERO. (45° 15' N. 12° 46' E.)	2040	0147	2330 hrs, 11,000 ft - first illumination - very good. Deck area clearly identified. Further flares and incendiaries went down. Incendiaries were observed in two lines right across the docks on a heading of approximately 300°. 2339 hrs, 11,000 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 120°. Bursts seen by W/Cp in area P.E. 21/22 (target map 4-1305-1A). A direct hit was observed amongst the storage tanks in the same area just before own bombs had gone. An explosion occurred and flames were seen - not seen when aircraft came away. "George" unserviceable on the whole trip. Photograph not obtained. 2343 hrs - 'nickels' dropped to fall over area. Much bombing seen in progress in general direction of PORTO MARGHERO. Large cluster of flares seen in the same vicinity. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs H.C. Tail Inst.	

Aircraft Type & Number  
LIBERATORS.  
EV. 822

EV. 961

EV. 946

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

For the Month of MAY 1944.

Appendix "A"

81

R.A.F. Form 541

SECRET

Page No. 10

not obtained. 2343 hrs - 'nickels' dropped to fall over area. Much bombing seen in progress in general direction of area. Large cluster of flares seen in the same vicinity. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.

Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
			Up	Down		
LIBERATORS. EV. 822	Lt. Heaken, J.H. Sgt. Scott, A.C. P/Sgt. Warner, A.G. Sgt. Exten, J.M. Sgt. Orford, W.L. Sgt. Easton, R.J. W/O. Newman, M.E.	Refineries at PORTO MARCHIRO.	2035	0205	2328 hrs - in target. 2336 hrs - target identified by D.T. rail road to VENICE through sea. No illumination seen. 2335 hrs, 9,300 ft - 9 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 180°. Aiming point not seen below cloud. Bursts not seen. 2336 hrs, 9,800 ft - 3 bombs dropped on heading 160°. Aiming point not seen below cloud. Three bursts seen through cloud. Flashes seen on ground in target area. Slight H.A.A. from POLA. No photograph obtained. 'Nickels' dropped at position 45°34'N; 12°07'E. CAPE SALVORE - bunch of flares seen in area of PORTO ROSE. Looked like dummy. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
BZ. 946	P/Lt. KERR, Lewis, J.H.C. P/O. Melton, H.A. P/O. Bygrave, G.D. P/O. Anselme, A.G. W/O. Griffin, A.C. W/O. Federchuk, M. P/O. Johnston, J.D.	J. 12704. J. 13073. J. 14911. R. 114827. R. 134119. J. 19516.	2030	0145	2325 hrs - arrived in target area. Identified by jetties and quays. 2327 hrs - flare run, dropping eight flares illuminating target at 2329 hrs. 2329 hrs - second flare run but flares hung up. 2333 hrs - dropped remaining eight flares and all bombs (flares illuminated target). 2333 hrs 8,000 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 035°. Bursts seen on quay but exact position not seen. 2335 hrs - 'nickels' dropped 7 miles North West of target. Some other bombing seen in target area. 2345 hrs - large explosion seen in target area. Slight L.A.A. and H.A.A. from VENICE. Slight L.A.A. from POLA. Photograph obtained. 2337 hrs - 16 flares seen dropped over target. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 10 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
EV. 959	P/Sgt. Blaukenberg, J.P. Sgt. Garner, W.G.C. W/O. Latimer, J.T. W/O. Webster, J.A. Sgt. Cobb, F.J.T. P/O. Kirkby, I.E. Sgt. Syme, G.H.	406-403221.	2030	0201	2328 hrs - first flare seen off target area while running into target. Identified clearly by jetties in light of flare Oil tanks seen. 2334 hrs - dropped incendiaries over target. 2337 hrs - further flares dropped over target. 2343 hrs - flares seen 10 miles South West of target. 2328 hrs, 12,000 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 130°. Aimed across jetties - target jetty not definitely identified. Bursts not seen as cloud obscured view. Flares did not seem to burn very long (about three minutes). Small fire in one of the quays with smoke. One searchlight seen in VENICE area. Very slight H.A.A. from VENICE. H.A.A. from POLA. 2347 hrs - 'nickels' dropped at position 45°40'N; 12°00'E. Photograph obtained. Dummy target at position 45°44'N; 13°34'E, with fires and flares hanging in air with false A.A. Another dummy at position 45°44'N; 13°41'E. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	

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Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
			Up	Down		
LINEATORS. May, NZ. 947	Lt. Knight, T.E. Ssc. Sgt. Paul, J.L.W. W/Sgt. Green, F.R. Sgt. Allen, R.F. Sgt. Holdup, M.H. W/O. Beby, R.C. Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.	Refineries at PORTO M. R. II RO. J. 85748.	2030	0136	2223 hrs - flares seen in distance, probably TRIESTE with slight A.A. 2315 hrs - one flare seen over target. 2320 hrs - sticks of flares seen further west and at intervals after that. 2323 hrs - Wellington seen bombing beneath this aircraft. Town with river, river bridge and rail bridge seen in illumination. 2329 hrs, 11,000 ft - all bombs dropped on heading 270°. Aimed at bridge over river. Eleven bursts seen but hard to pinpoint them. Other bombing seen. Some bombing seen (about 15-20) North West. One L.A.A. gun in target area. 3-4 A.A. guns North of target. Photograph obtained. 2323 hrs - 'nickels' dropped. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried - 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
EV. 839	Lt. Young, J.F. J0384Y.V. F/Sgt. Myers, J.R. F/O. Davis, A.F.E. Sgt. Dearden, J. W/O. Cingras, H. F/Sgt. Hagan, J.P. F/Sgt. McGuffie, W.A.	R. 74064.	2028	0155	2230 hrs - A.A. seen from OIA. 2323 hrs - first main illumination observed to go down - illuminated the whole deck area - very good. 2332 hrs, 9,000 ft - identified marshalling yards and dropped 8 flares. Illuminated the area very well. Dropped a further 8 flares immediately after. Illuminated the deck area. Turned to port and started first run. 2338 hrs, 9,000 ft - all bombs hung up. 2337 hrs, 9,000 ft - all bombs had to be salvaged on heading 320°. Own results not seen. Incendiaries burning in two sticks. Bursts were seen right across the oil installations. A grey column of smoke also observed in the area. 2345 hrs, D.R. position 45°40'N; 11°58'E - dropped 'nickels' to fall over area. No photograph obtained. Observed bombing and flares from general direction of MONFALCONE. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 10 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
EW. 106	Lt. Hall, J.N. J22143.V. Sgt. Ramsay, F.J. F/O. Hart, J. Sgt. Edwards, M.L. Sgt. Rowe, H.V. Sgt. Kennaway, A.M.		2034	0132	2041 hrs - astrefix - found aircraft approximately 40 miles North East of track. 2205 hrs - crossed mainland. 2241 hrs - A.A. seen on starboard, possibly FIUME. 2252 hrs - unable to pinpoint part of coast. 2316 hrs - out at sea after searching. Unable to obtain fix due to cloud - running into 10/10ths. Decided to abandon operation. Six bombs jettisoned safe North of TERNOLI in sea. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
EV. 139	F/Lt. Eardley, D.A. Sgt. Dalrymple, H.M. F/O. White, L.K. Sgt. Resbaum, H. Sgt. Farnish, C.D. F/Sgt. Sutcliffe, W.C. Sgt. Budgen, S.W.		2037	0148	2059 hrs - crossed coast at STAM Point. 2205 hrs - landfall at unidentified point on ILLIRIAN coast. 2150 hrs - astre fix, position 45°N; 15°31'E. Set course CHERSO (44°50'N; 14°15'E). Could not distinguish coastline on E.T.A. but crew observed lights to starboard. 2257 hrs - re-obs. flares to starboard. Position not ascertained. 2304 hrs - few bomb bursts seen from mainland on starboard. 2308 hrs - altered course to follow coastline but no pinints obtained. Strabocumulus cloud, 6-8/10ths, tops 6,000 ft. 2322 hrs - few flak bursts to port. 2327 hrs - abandoned search for target and set course on D.R. for base. 0105 hrs - all bombs jettisoned safe at position 42°15'N; 15°25'E. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	

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1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6

By Appendix A **DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT**  
 No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.  
**SECRET**  
 Page No. 11  
 R.A.F. Form 541  
 Logue Reference

Appendix "A"  
R.A.F. Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By        No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

For the Month of   MAY  , 19  44  

**SECRET**

Page No.   11  

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
18/19th May	LIBERATORS. BY. 822	Lt. Gibson. G.H.E. Sgt. Durie. P.D. P/Sgt. Ellis. A.F. Sgt. Young. J. Sgt. Pearce. K.A. P/Sgt. Seal. W.R. Sgt. Allan. R.V.	Read communications at TERRACINA. (W 17 N 13 01 E.)	2041	0005	2215 hrs, 10,000 ft - approached target area. Coastline clearly seen. Identified CAPE S. PELICE and started to drop 'nickels'. 2215/30 hrs, 8,000 ft - first stick of flares went down - illumination excellent - main coast road and town clearly identified. 2221 hrs, 8,000 ft - 6 bombs dropped on heading 190°. IAS 170 mph. Bursts seen - slightly under shot main coast road. Just before own bombs had gone observed a stick burst across the same part of the road as own bombs. 2224 hrs, 8,000 ft - second stick of flares went down - illuminated town area - still able to identify roads very clearly. All remaining bombs dropped on heading 220°. IAS 170 mph. Results not seen. No other results observed. Only one gun seen in area. Photograph obtained. 2230 hrs - another small cluster of flares seen to go down over target area. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
"	BL. 947	W/O. Strenach. J. AUS. 402418. P/O. McNaughten. G.E.S. NZ. 413099. P/O. Howe. J.D. J. 20174. P/Sgt. Sprates. H.B. W/O. Temple. J. W/O. Plewman. W.T. P/Sgt. Barrington. A.W. AUS. 40029.		2038	2340	2214 hrs, 7,800 ft - target area identified by coastline. 2219 hrs, 7,800 ft - made flare run and dropped 16 flares. Illuminated target excellently. 2222 hrs, 7,800 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 60 ft on heading 310°. IAS 180 mph. Reads were clearly seen - took junction as aiming point. Beam gunner and rear gunner saw bursts and smoke from own bombs right down coast road leading to town. Further sticks seen in same area, also two sticks seen to fall in sea slightly off the point of target area. No photograph obtained. 'Nickels' dropped in vicinity of target area - NAPLES area very clearly identified by the large amount of lights in town. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 10 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
"	BL. 898	Lt. Young. J.F. 10384.V. Lt. Rosenthal. G. 541430.V. P/Sgt. Myers. J.R. P/O. Davis. A.F.E. Sgt. Dearden. J. W/O. Gingras. H. P/Sgt. Logan. J.P. P/Sgt. McGuffie. W.A.	R. 74064.	2035	0005	Route as briefed plus orbit to waste 11 minutes. 2215 hrs arrived at target area. Identified clearly by headland. 2216 hrs - dropped eight flares and two bombs from 8,000 ft on heading 140°. IAS 180 mph. Aimed at road North West of town. Bursts not seen. 2218 hrs, 8,000 ft - five bombs dropped from 8,000 ft on heading 270° aimed at road North West of town. IAS 180 mph. Bursts not seen. 2223 hrs, 8,000 ft - dropped eight flares and three bombs on heading 15°. IAS 180 mph. Aimed at road North West of town. Bursts seen across road. One stick seen in sea. Bomb craters clearly visible on beach. One stick seen on road in North of road. 'Nickels' dropped on run in from CIRCEO Point. Two photographs obtained. Bombing seen by Wellington in target area. Steady green light seen in water near CIRCEO Point. Bombs carried 10 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 18/19th May	LIBERATORS EV. 961	Lt. Hall, J.N. <i>41144 V</i> Sgt. Ramsay, F.J. P/O. Hart, J. Sgt. Edwards, M.L. Sgt. Rowe, H.V. Sgt. Fell, H.K. Sgt. Kennaway, A.M.	Read communications at TERRACINA.	2041	2347	2214 hrs - arrived at target area after route as briefed. Illumination good over target. 2215 hrs - green light seen flashing in sea off TERRACINA Point. 2216 hrs - first flares. 2218 hrs - second flare. 2229 hrs - third flares. Target clearly identified by headland. 2217 hrs, 7,500 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 20 ft on heading 120°. IAS 175 mph. Bursts not seen. 2223 hrs, 7,200 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 20 ft on heading 230°. IAS 180 mph. Aimed across town area. Bursts seen to undershoot hitting building on roadside. Other bombing seen on minor coast road and in town area. Photograph obtained. 'Nickels' dropped on CIRCEO Point from 8,000 ft. Attack seen on coast in CASINO area, with night flares. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
"	BE. 946	Lt. Van Der Merwe, J.W. <i>41100 V</i> Sgt. Elunt, L.J. P/Lt. Lindsey, E. P/O. Wood, S.T. Sgt. Baston, A.J. P/Sgt. Sutcliffe, W.G. W/O. Baby, R.C.	<i>J. 18748.</i>	2040	2330	Route as briefed. 2215 hrs - identified target clearly seeing road and village. Illumination was excellent. First batch seen at 2218 hrs and second batch at 2225 hrs. 2219 hrs, 8,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 20 ft on heading 090°. IAS 170 mph. Aimed at road west of TERRACINA. Bursts not seen. 2227 hrs, 8,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 20 ft on heading 120°. IAS 170 mph. Aimed at road leading out of West end of village. Bursts not seen. 2220 hrs - two good attacks seen with cliff debris and dust North East of TERRACINA. One attack seen in sea. Two photographs obtained. Green light seen near shore four miles East of CIRCEO. Fighting seen in both beachhead and CASINO areas. Flares seen at POCINONE ( <i>41°17'30"N 13°10'E</i> ). Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	
"	EV. 959	W/O. Steele, A.L. Sgt. Helms, R.N.L. P/Sgt. Dimond, J. Sgt. Richardson, E.J. Sgt. Ferryer, L.S. P/Sgt. Temlin, R.C. P/Sgt. Davies, E.	"	2040	2345	2217 hrs - at target area after route as briefed. Illumination very good. Two batches of flares at 2211 hrs and 2217 hrs. Batch seen after leaving target. 2225 hrs 8,100 ft - bombs hung up twice and so made three runs. All bombs dropped in one stick with 100 ft spacing on heading 220°. IAS 175 mph. Aimed at main road leading into TERRACINA from North West. 2205 hrs - 'nickels' dropped from 8,000 ft. just West of CIRCEO Point. Bomb bursts seen in town at North West side. Houses seen hit close to road. Some other bombing seen in same area. Dust seen and smoke in town. 4-5 H.A.A. guns, not accurate bursting above 8,000 ft, scattered round target area. Three photographs obtained. Other attacks seen along coast. Attack seen on TERRACINA at 2150 hrs from a distance. Steady lights seen on CIRCEO headland and green light in sea off TERRACINA. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tail Inst.	

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F. **SECRET** Page No. 12

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 19 44.

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

(4722) W. 2422/1650. 1800. 240. P.L. 21-7781.

in town. 4-5 H.A.A. guns, not accurate bursting above 8,000 ft, scattered round target area. Three photographs obtained. Other attacks seen along coast. Attack seen on TERRACINA at 2150 hrs from a distance. Steady lights seen on CIRCIO headland and green light in sea off TERRACINA. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. Tall Inst.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 12

(7472) Wt. 24229/1650. 180w. 8/40. P.L. 51-7751.

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT 22/23rd May,	LISERRANOS. EV. 822	Lt. Hecken, J.H. 12293 Sgt. Scott, A.C. P/Sgt. Warner, A.G. Sgt. Exton, J.M. Sgt. Esford, H.L. Sgt. Woodford, N.A. W/O. Newton, M.E.	VALLONONE. (41°46'30"N: 12°55'E.)	2105	0055	2218 hrs, 13,500 ft - rear gunner reported seeing the colours of the day being fired behind aircraft. 2205 hrs 'Nickels' dropped on way in to target, from coast. 2200 hrs, 8,000 ft - observed cluster of flares. Had to fly round a bank of cumulus. Illuminated the target clearly. Decided to lose height as so much cloud. First cluster of flares had gone out but further clusters went down - more towards the TOWN AREA. Could still pick out town and roads in target area. 2227 hrs, 4,000 ft - 6 bombs dropped on heading 230°. IAS 175 mph. Took road and Eastern end of town as aiming point. Bursts seen to straddle the road - one hit positively seen on the road. 2335 hrs, 4,000 ft - six bombs dropped on heading 165°. IAS 160 mph. Town area covered by dust and smoke - took centre of town as aiming point. Bursts seen outside town area to the South East, possibly overshooting the road. No other results of bombing seen while in target area. A large tented camp with transport slightly North West of town. Dispersed on the side of road leading to CAVE (41°48'N: 12°55'E.). Photograph obtained. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs L.C. Tall Inst.	
"	BZ. 946	P/Lt. Lewis, J.H.C. P/O. Melton, A.H. P/O. Bygrave, G.D. P/O. Anselme, A.G. W/O. Griffin, R.C. W/O. Federchuk, M. P/O. Johnston, J.	J. 15806. J. 13073. J. 14911. K. 114827. K. 134939. J. 19936.	2100	0045	2300 hrs, 8,000 ft, 41°08'N: 13°05'E - observed twin engine aircraft on reciprocal course. 2310 hrs - three single flares seen on run in. 2317 hrs, 8,000 ft - first illumination seen. Slightly North of target area, illuminated the town but drifted North East. 2322 hrs/2332 hrs - remainder of flares went down but in vicinity of CAVE. 'Nickels' dropped in target area and South of target area. 2318 hrs, 8,000 ft - road taken as aiming point. Bursts seen parallel with road and railway - possibly hits on them. 2331 hrs, 5,000 ft - six bombs dropped on heading 090° - same aiming point as first run. Results not seen as aircraft went into some low cloud. A few bursts seen in target area on first main illumination otherwise nothing being seen. No photograph obtained. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 139	P/Lt. Eardley, D.A. Sgt. Dalrymple, H.M. P/O. White, L.K. Sgt. Resbaum, H. Sgt. Farnish, L.D. P/Sgt. Sutcliffe, W.C. Sgt. Budgen, S.W.	"	2105	0110	2239 hrs, 10,000 ft - observed several large clusters of flares go down in the vicinity of LITTONIA (41°57'N: 12°31'E.) and further flares seen while on way in to target. Towns and villages were badly blacked out. 2304 hrs - 'nickels' dropped from five miles from coast to target. 2315 hrs, 7,000 ft - first main illumination seen - very good - could easily identify the road and town area. Illumination continued for a considerable period. 2324 hrs, 6,500 ft - six bombs dropped on heading 265°. IAS 170 mph. Commencement of town and roads taken as aiming point. <del>RESULTS NOT SEEN</del> Results not seen due to cloud cover. 2337 hrs, 6,500 ft - six bombs dropped on heading 230°. IAS 170 mph. First bomb came away, rest salvaged due to bomb aimer possibly knocking selector switch up by mistake. Results not seen. Other bursts seen in area aimed at. Artificial horizon ....	83

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT 22/23rd May, EW. 139	LIBERATORS.	(continued).....	VALMONCOURT.	-	-	....unserviceable. No photograph obtained. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs H.C. 025 Tail.	
"	EW. 106	Lt. Knight, T.F. S.C. Sgt. Paul, J.L.W. P/Sgt. Green, F.K. Sgt. Allen, A.F. Sgt. Holdup, M.H. Sgt. Hampton, K. Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.	201534.V.	2102	0106	'Nickels' dropped on way in to target. 2315 hrs - observed flares. 2317 hrs, 8,000 ft - flares observed over target area but cloud made view of target difficult. 2331 hrs, 6,500 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 320°. IAS 180 mph. Bombs estimated to have straddled road and town but no member of crew saw bombs burst. Other aircraft bombing target at same time. No photographic flash used due to cloud. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EW. 999	P/Sgt. Blankenberg, J.P. Sgt. Garner, W.G.L. W/O. Latimer, J.T. W/O. Webster, J.B. Sgt. Elgar, A.E. Sgt. Cobb, F.J.T. P/O. Kirkby, I.E. P/Sgt. Symes, G.H.	"	2100	0115	2313 hrs - arrived at target area. Flares started burning at 2310 hrs - believed about five miles North West of target. Circling looking for target. 2324 hrs, 6,000 ft - six bombs dropped on heading 060°. IAS 200 mph. - exact run along road East of town. Target covered by cloud and could not be seen. 2344 hrs, 6,000 ft - six bombs dropped on heading 240°. IAS 180 mph. Bombs not seen to burst and no shock felt. Crew believe they did not explode. Position on both runs four miles along road East of VALMONCOURT. No photograph - photographic flash safety pit fractured - flash unserviceable. Single engine fighter seen in target area - believed Hurricane. 'Nickels' dropped on way in to target. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EW. 961.	Lt. Hayman, N.E. 118153.V. Sgt. Rutherford, G.H. P/O. Lord, S.B. Sgt. Meller, W.F. Sgt. Cam, E. Sgt. Webster, T.L. P/Sgt. Berkeley, V.L. Sgt. Smith, G.W.E.	"	2058	0057	2315 hrs - observed flares burning South West of target area. 2318 hrs - arrived target area. Identified target by light of flares. 'Nickels' dropped from 7,500 ft after crossing coast going in towards target. 2325 hrs, 5,000 ft - six bombs dropped on heading 270°. IAS 190 mph. 2332 hrs, 3,000 ft - six bombs dropped on heading 240°. IAS 180 mph. Both sticks observed to burst in target area. Crew unable to pinpoint bomb bursts but definitely in target area. No other bombing seen. Two photographs obtained. No opposition but numerous flashes from ground position in direction of front. 2334 hrs - left target area. Bombs carried as above.	
23/24th May, BZ. 946	S/Ldr. Lewis, J.H.C. P/O. Melton, H.A. P/O. Bygrave, G.D. P/O. Anselme, A.G. W/O. Griffin, R.L. W/O. Federchuk, M. P/O. Johnston, J.D.	"	"	2310	0230	0046 hrs, 8,000 ft - observed a large lighted "T" in vicinity of LYMPORIA - possibly slightly South. 0050 hrs, 8,000 ft - approached target area. Numerous single flares seen - scattered over a wide area. 0055 hrs - single flare went down in target area. 0058 hrs - first main cluster went down. Target clearly identified. Made one dummy run. 0102 hrs, 8,000 ft - observed large explosion at 8,000 ft, in sky. Two large burning masses were seen to fall to ground and burnt in two separate fires. Pieces seen to fall off on way down. A.A. had been seen in the same area. South and East of own target area. 0110 hrs, 7,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 260°. IAS 180 mph. Tank built up area and roads for aiming point. Flashes seen in target area. Unable to pinpoint due to the odd A.A. flash from same area. 0115 hrs, 7,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 340°. IAS 180 mph. Same aiming point as first stick. Results not seen due to turning sharply and then a Wellington.	

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 13

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

(7472) Wt. 24229/1650. 180mc. 2/40. P.I. 51-7751.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT 23/24th May, BZ. 946	LIBERATORS.	(continued).....	VALMONCOURT.	-	-	...a yellow ball of fire pass over aircraft with smoke trail. Possibly a rocket projectile. Certainly fired from air and	



masses were seen to fall to ground and burnt in two separate fires  
 Pieces seen to fall off on way down. A.A. had been seen in the  
 same area. South and East of own target area. 0110 hrs, 7,000 ft  
 - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 260°. IAS 180 mph.  
 Took built up area and roads for aiming point. Flashes seen in  
 target area. Unable to pinpoint due to the odd A.A. flash from same  
 area. 0115 hrs, 7,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick with  
 heading 340°. IAS 180 mph. Same aiming point as first stick.  
 Results not seen due to turning sharply away from a Wellington  
 while in target area.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 13

(7472) Wt. 24229/1650. 180m. 8/40. P.I. 51-7751.

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 23/24th May, 1944.	LIMBERLOBS. EZ. 946	(continued)....	VALMONYCHER.			... a yellow ball of fire pass over aircraft with smoke trail. Possibly a rocket projectile. Certainly fired from air and not from ground. No photograph obtained. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs G.P. .025 Tail.	
"	EV. 822	Lt. Gibson, G.L.E. 121157W Sgt. Durie, P.D. P/Sgt. Ellis, L.T. Sgt. Young, J. Sgt. Pearce, K.A. P/Sgt. Heel, W.A. Sgt. Allan, R.V.		2305	0250	0102 hrs, 10,000 ft - target area. Flashes seen to go down. Illuminated target clearly. Ran over and turned for bombing run - losing height. 0113 hrs, 7,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 310°. IAS 155 mph. Took a large building situated on the main road through the town for aiming point. Bursts seen. The second bomb appeared to burst right on road. Much bombing seen at same time. 0119 hrs, 8,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 180°. IAS 195 mph. Target covered with dust and smoke so headed into middle of this. Results not seen. Other Wellington still concentrated in the area. Photograph obtained. Nil opposition. 0106 hrs 7,000 ft - a large ball of fire seen in sky at 6,000 ft. Seen to travel forward and dive straight to the ground. Burnt for a long period. A cluster of flames erupted in the same area immediately after it had started to dive down - 2-3 miles South East of target area. Had every appearance of being an aircraft. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 961	Lt. Young, J.F. 1031, Y.V. " P/Sgt. Myers, J.R. P/O. Davis, A.F.E. Sgt. Bearden, J. P/Sgt. Hogan, J.A. P/Sgt. Berkeley, Y.L. P/Sgt. McQuillie, W.A.		2300	0245	0050 hrs, 8,500 ft - approached target area. First single flames seen ahead. 0055 hrs - identified target. Two more single flames had gone down right over target. 0059 hrs, 8,500 ft - five bombs dropped in one stick on heading 220°. IAS 192 mph. Took built up area and road in the Eastern end of target as aiming point. Flares lit up target area - results of own bombs not seen. 0102 hrs, 8,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 300°. IAS 195 mph. Bombs seen to burst amongst the town buildings. Two 4,000 lb bombs seen to explode in the same area. A fire was seen also in the same area - possibly caused by these bombs. Three photographs obtained. Nil opposition. Much activity seen in the battle area. Several Wellingtons seen. Appeared to be flying very close and at same height - 8,000 ft - over target area. Bombs carried 11 x 500 lbs G.P. .025 Tail.	
"	EZ. 947	W/O. Strenach, J. AUS 4024415 P/O. McNaughten, G.E.S. NZ 413099 W/O. Howes, J.D. J 23174 P/Sgt. Treates, H.B. W/O. Temple, J. W/O. Plesman, W.T. P/Sgt. Barrington, A.H. AUS 40039.		2303	0229	0055 hrs - single flares seen ahead. 0101 hrs - main flare went down. Ran over target area to identify then turned starboard. 0103 hrs - explosion in air seen in South East of target - about same height of aircraft - 8,000 ft. Fell to ground and ball of fire flew off and red and green lights flew off - possibly cartridges. Hit ground, exploded and burned. Just after explosion, single engine aircraft on reciprocal seen diving and below. 0105 hrs, 7,800 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 300°. IAS 190 mph. Bombs seen to explode West of target - one seemingly on road. 0108 hrs, 7,800 ft -	

84

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT 23/24th May, 1944 BZ. 947	LIBERATORS.	(continued).....	VALMONTONE.	-	-	... six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 090°. 300 mph. Bursts seen but not pinpointed. Slight H.A.A., but not at this aircraft. Photograph obtained. 0109 hrs - turned off starboard and set course for LIBRO (40°44'N/13°05'E). Two fires seen, presumably from two parts of one aircraft. Approximately 15 miles to 20 miles East of LIBRO, single searchlight waving Northwards seen on way in and out. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs G.P. .025 Tail.	IAS
"	EV1 959	W/O. Steele. A.L. Sgt. Holmes. A.N. P/Sgt. Dimond. J. Sgt. Richardson. E.J. Sgt. Perryer. L.S. Sgt. Marrell. A.A. P/Sgt. Davies. E.	"	2301	0245	0045 hrs - marker flares seen well ahead. Orange lights on ground in shape of large "V" seen on port side halfway between LIBRO and target. 0053 hrs - three pairs of marker flares seen spread over target area. 0056 hrs - ran toward a middle pair and saw target clearly. 0059 hrs, 8,900 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 130°. IAS 175 mph. Bursts seen but not pinpointed. 0102 hrs - sudden explosion just before dummy run. In air approximately 200 ft above then fell directly to ground and continued burning - presumably five miles North East of target. 0104 hrs - dummy run caused by running on to flare cluster North of town - flares over town having gone out. 0106 hrs, 8,200 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 120°. IAS 185 mph. Aimed at centre of town. Bursts seen across road. Two photographs obtained. Rear gunner saw second fire North East - two miles off first. 0110 hrs - whitish-red-glow North East of target approximately 15 miles, lasted few seconds then died out. Slight A.A. in this area. Gun flashes continuously around battle area. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 974	Lt. Hall. J.N. 21249.V. Sgt. Ramsay. P.J. P/O. Hart. J. W/O. Edwards. M.L. Sgt. Rowe. H.V. Sgt. Pell. H.K. Sgt. Kenaway. A.M.	"	2330	0300	0108 hrs - over target. Scattered illumination. Identified village and road running East to West. 0112 hrs, 6,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 120°. Bursts not seen. 0115 hrs, 6,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 155°. Aimed at road in village centre. IAS 150 mph. Bursts seen only across corner of village. No illumination. Photograph not obtained. Bombs dropped as above.	
24/25th May, 1944	EV. 822	Lt. Hecken. J.H. 21249.V. Sgt. Scott. A.C. P/Sgt. Warner. A.G. Sgt. Exton. J.M. Sgt. Orford. W.C. P/Sgt. Heel. W.A. W/O. Newman. M.E.	"	2051	0028	Slight cloud over hills from base. Then ran into cumulus and towering cumulus, 10/10ths, slight icing. Aircraft seemed to be struck by lightning - crew members dived for many minutes on return journey. Continued to target in cloud. Identified LIBRO (40°44'N/13°05'E) through cloud. 2232 hrs - E.T.A. target - nothing seen. Continued on course for three minutes then returned on reciprocal - 11,000 ft. 2238 hrs - E.T.A. target area - orbited and descended to 5,000 ft. Cluster of flares then seen and turned to them. Still in thin cloud and heavy rain. 2239 hrs - road seen and river parallel to aircraft - heading 160° - then turned to starboard to endeavour to straddle road which was by now obscured by layer of cloud. 2240 hrs, 5,000 ft - slight dive attack on heading 230°. Six bombs dropped with spacing 50 ft. Bursts seen and appeared to be small explosions from each bomb - green and bluish hue. 2244 hrs - W/O. saw small fire burning - approx. 1/25 (target area) ...	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

FORM 541.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

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PAGE No. 14

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944

(7672) Wk. 24229/1650. 180m. 8/40. P.I. 51-7751.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT 24/25th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 822	(continued).....	VALMONTONE.	-	-	... opposition at target. 2251 hrs - A.A. experienced and evasive action taken. Slight H.A.A. and L.A.A. 2244 hrs - set course for LIBRO and ...	

2238 hrs - E.T.A. target area - orbited and descended to 5,000 ft. Cluster of flares then seen and turned to them. Still in thin cloud and heavy rain. 2239 hrs - read seen and river parallel to aircraft - heading 160° - so turned to starboard to endeavour to straddle road which was by now obscured by layer of cloud. 2240 hrs, 5,000 ft - slight dive attack on heading 230°. Six bombs dropped with spacing 30 ft. Bursts seen and appeared to be small explosions from each bomb - green and bluish hue. 2244 hrs - W/Op. saw small fire burning - ...

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.  
FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

SECRET

PAGE No. 14

(7472) W/L 24229/1650. 1806. 8/40. P.L. 51-7751.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 24/25th May, 1944	LISSERATORS. EV. 822	(continued).....	VALLENTORSE.	-	-	....opposition at target. 2251 hrs - A.I. experienced and evasive action taken. Slight H.A.A. and L.A.A. 2244 hrs - set course for CIRCUS and decided to bring six bombs back as flares had died out, visibility nil and navigator's panel pretty well covered with rain. Bombs believed to have been dropped in position 41°44'N; 13°0'E - flares in this area. Bomb seen by mid upper gunner lit up to rear of aircraft when on heading 160°, a few miles behind aircraft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs GP. 1025 TAIL.	
"	EV. 961	Lt. Hayman, N.E. 31835 V. Sgt. Rutherford, G.H. P/O. Lord, S.E. Sgt. Keller, W.E. Sgt. Webster, T.L. F/Sgt. Berkeley, V.L. Sgt. Smith, G.W.E.	"	2048	0003	Weather generally disgusting. Seen after base into 10/10ths cumulus (large) at 8,000 ft. Occasional cumulus which persisted to target. Little icing. Descended to 6,000 ft and carried on. Bumpy conditions. Visibility nil. 2229 hrs - target area. 2230 hrs - few isolated flares. 2236 hrs - unable to see target and bombed into rain flares. 2236 hrs, 6,500 ft - twelve bombs dropped in one stick on heading 300°. IAS 170 mph. No bursts or results seen. Flares illuminated cloud and aircraft in cloud when loaded. Slight activity around beachhead seen on outward and return journey. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 139	F/Lt. Eardley, D.A. Sgt. Dalrymple, H.M. P/O. White, A.K. Sgt. Rosebaum, H. Sgt. Farnish, G.D. F/Sgt. Sutcliffe, W.G. Sgt. Budgen, S.W.	"	2048	0145	Weather good until NAPLES area. From then on in cloud - cumulus and stratocumulus at 6,000 ft. Very heavy static experienced - climbed to 8,000 ft and 12,000 ft. Still in 10/10ths cloud. Continued to target area on D.R. and E.T.A. Observed gun. Flashes through cloud. 2225 hrs - over target area - same conditions. Hoped on target by "C" for 50 minutes. Unable to locate any gaps in cloud. Captain decided that under these conditions it was too risky to bomb being over the battle area. 2314 hrs - set course for base from estimated position of target area. Climbed to 19,000 ft - burst cloud at this height - stratocumulus above. Fairly heavy icing experienced from 12,000 ft upwards. 0118 hrs - twelve bombs fettisoned (live) from 11,000 ft approximately 10 miles off coast at base. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 959	F/Sgt. Blanckenberg, J.P. Sgt. Garner, N.G.C. P/O. Latimer, J.T. W/O. Webster, J.A. Sgt. Cobb, F.V.J.T. Sgt. Mitchell, P.E. F/Sgt. Kymes, G.H.	"	2045	2345	Up to 30 miles off the NAPLES coast weather was good. 2145 hrs, 9,000/6,000 ft - (losing height), ran into warm front - unable to give estimate of density. Aircraft in cloud the whole time. Tried to go under but conditions became worse. Captain decided to climb higher but still conditions were the same. Weather was definitely worse at this stage so decided to abandon task. 2203 hrs - turned on reciprocal and climbed to 19,500 ft - broke cloud, but by this time icing began to form on windscreen and tips of wings. Visibility nil. Electrical storms were seen on approach to base - cloud ahead. Rudder lead up at 14,000 ft. 2220 hrs - set course for base. Six bombs fettisoned safe at	85

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1	2	3	4	5	6

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT 24/25th May, EV 959	LIE RATORS. EV 959	(continued)....	VANHOUCHE.	-	-	...41°38'N: 16°24'E. Six bombs brought back to base. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs G.P. 025 Tail.	
"	EV. 974	Lt. Van Der Merwe. Sgt. Blunt. L.J. P/Lt. Lindsey. E. P/O. Wood. G.T. Sgt. Basten. R.J. P/O. Parthing. B. P/O. Boby. A.C.	J.W. 44300.V. AUS. 412935. J. 85748.	2045	0015	Approaching NAPEN area when aircraft ran into 10/10ths stratus-cumulus, tops 8,000 ft. Lost height to 6,000 ft trying to get out of cloud. Ran into cumulonimbus between coast and PUNZA. In 10/10ths cloud all the time - navigator' west of D.R. Observed battle area through cloud. Flew on E.T.A. for target at 2228 hrs, 7,000 ft. Observed flares go down at 2232 hrs. Decided to orbit to try and find gap in cloud but by this time flares had gone out. Flares seen at 2237 hrs. Lost height and broke cloud at 5,000/6,000 ft. Flares were fast going out. Orbited till 2249 hrs trying to find breaks. Visibility poor. Captain decided to abandon task. Observed a very large lighted "m" through gap en route to coast. A.A. seen behind aircraft at same height. 2249 hrs - set course for base. Weather became considerably worse on return route. Climbed above cloud, 10/10ths, tops approximately 10,000 ft. Static electricity experienced so decided to jettison bombs. Twelve bombs jettisoned safe at approximately five miles Perth of PUNZA. Bombs carried as above.	
"	BZ. 946	Lt. Knight. T.E. Ssc. Sgt. Paul. J.L.W. P/Sgt. Green. F.A. Sgt. Allen. A.F. Sgt. Holdup. M.H. Sgt. Woodford. N.A. Sgt. Bradshaw. R.H.	20615.V.	2052	0055	Weather good until 2142 hrs then 10/10ths cumulus. Above cloud at 10,000 ft - visibility poor. Lost height to 6,000 ft to try and identify the coastline - still in cloud. Flew on D.R. and E.T.A. Observed gun flashes from battle area. Unable to pick up any landmarks so climbed to 8,000 ft - still same conditions. 2230 hrs, 8,000 ft - reached target area on D.R. and E.T.A. Made a square search - lost height to 6,000 ft. Still unable to see anything. 2241 hrs - observed three flares in cloud. 2249 hrs - further flares. Captain decided to abandon task and return to base. Observed A.A. on port side on way out of target area - bursting at height of aircraft. Static electricity experienced and rain and dust over sea. Weather on return route was considerably worse until crossing coast near base. 0032 hrs - six bombs jettisoned safe from 5,000 ft in sea at position 41°34'N: 16°13'E. Six bombs brought back to base. Bombs carried as above.	
"	BZ. 894.	w/Cdr. Smythe. D.C. Lt. Resenthal. G. P/Lt. Wells. M.L. P/Lt. Day. V.F. Sgt. Pratt. D.L. P/Lt. Liversidge. J.A. P/O. Kirkby. I.E.	'Nickelling' in BULGARIA. 542430.V.	2050	0440	2125 hrs, 10,000 ft - bright red light seen at position 41°32'N: 16°12'E. Encountered high cirrus and fair amount of low cloud with much ground haze. Unable to use astrolabe to get a fix therefore was unable to identify any landmarks. Reached BULGARIA on D.R. and E.T.A. - in the vicinity of VAREVA (41°12'N: 27°54'E.). Cirrus had cleared by this time and able to get fix on astras. Dropped 'nickels' on astras only, therefore unable to give estimate of number of bundles dropped over each individual target (E.T.A.'s over estimated areas as briefed). Dropped 'nickels' at 0019 hrs over VAREVA, 0038 hrs over SHEREN (41°12'N: 27°00'E), 0104 hrs over TRICHO (41°06'N: 25°28'E), 0112 hrs over SUTER (41°04'N: 26°19'E.), 0118 hrs over YERUL (41°30'N: 26°30'E.) and 0124 hrs over STANO ZAGORA (41°14'N: 25°40'E.). 450 bundles of bombs. No operations. Returned to base.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Form 541.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron R.A.F.

**SECRET**

Page No. 5

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

Dropped bundles on target only, therefore unable to give estimate of number of bundles dropped over each individual target (E.P.A.'s over estimated areas as briefed). Dropped bundles at 0019 hrs over VENZA, 0038 hrs over SHIBEN (42°12'N: 27°00'E), 0104 hrs over TRNOVO (42°05'N: 25°38'E), 0112 hrs over SIBEN (42°04'N: 26°19'E), 0118 hrs over ZAMBUL (42°30'N: 26°30'E) and 0134 hrs over STARO ZAGORA (42°24'N: 25°40'E). 450 bundles all told. No opposition. Returned on a/c.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron R.A.F.  
FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944

SECRET

PAGE No. 15

(7472) Wk. 24229/1650. 1806. 2/40. P.I. 51-7751.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
25/26th May	BE. 947	W/O. McNaughtan, G.S.S. (NZ. 413099. Adj. 401415. Head communications at VIMERC. (42°25'N: 12°07'E) 20174. W/O. Strenach, J. W/O. Hewes, J.D. E/Sgt. Sprates, H.S. W/O. Brothers, W. E/Sgt. Harrington, A.H. (Adj. 40039. W/O. Plowman, W.T. W/O. Temple, J.		2243	0208	Two single marker flares in LIDO DI ROMA area (41°44'N: 12°16'E). Further flares ahead in target area. Identified target clearly. 0041 hrs, 9,000 ft - six bombs dropped on heading 300°. IAS 195 mph. To k main cross road at northern end of town as aiming point. No results seen of bombs but on run-up observed three fires in target area. 0045 hrs, 9,100 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 320°. IAS 190 mph. Same firing point. Results not seen due to the area being covered with smoke from flares. 'Nickels' dropped to fall over target area. Slight H.A.A., inaccurate. Photograph obtained. I.A. seen in NAPLES area. 0110 hrs - observed a very large convey on road heading South - position 42°29'N: 13°01'E. Convey used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs G.P. 1035 1042	
"	BE. 946	S/Ldr. Lewis, J.H.C. (J. 25806. E/O. Melton, H.A. (J. 13073. E/O. Myrave, G.D. (J. 146644911. E/O. Anslme, A.G. (R. 114827. E/O. Griffin, R.L. (R. 134929. E/O. Federowk, M. (J. 19924. E/O. Johnston, J.D.		2245	0259	2320 hrs, 9,000 ft - observed considerable I.A. in vicinity of NAPLES. Observed what appeared to be fighter aircraft above aircraft slightly before reaching target area. Also further flares seen in LIDO DI ROMA area. An unidentified aircraft seen behind aircraft in same area. Flares seen over TRNOVO and LIDO DI ROMA. 0038 hrs - target area. 0025 hrs - first illumination (anti) seen ahead. Continuous illumination until 0058 hrs. Target area clearly seen - identified northern main cross road and the town area. 0039 hrs, 8,500 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 330°. IAS 160 mph. To k cross roads as aiming point. Results not seen but at same time a 4,000 lb bomb was seen to burst slightly off road. 0043 hrs, 8,500 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 335°. IAS 160 mph. Results not seen due to whole area being covered with smoke from flares - hardly any wind over target. Observed several bursts right in target area, on run up. Very slight H.A.A. and I.A.A. Photograph obtained. 0046 hrs - 10 packages 'nickels' dropped five miles North of target. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	
"	BE. 894	W/O. Stote, A.L. Sgt. Holmes, R.A.L. E/Sgt. Dimond, J. Sgt. Richardson, E.J. Sgt. Perryer, L.S. Sgt. Merrall, R.P. E/Sgt. Davies, E.		2245	0220	2320 hrs, 10,000 ft - observed much A.A. activity ahead in NAPLES area. 0030 hrs - approached target area. Flares seen ahead and continuous illumination until 0038 hrs. Most of these flares appeared to be unusual as they burst at 6,000 ft. Were ineffective as much smoke from them covered target area. Target for attack could easily be identified on approach however. 0046 hrs, 8,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 030°. IAS 170 mph. Results not seen. 0054 hrs, 8,500 ft - five bombs dropped in one stick on heading 020°. IAS 175 mph. On run up for this stick observed four small fires in northern end of town. Results of attack not seen due to considerable smoke from flares. One bomb hung up and jettisoned safe on return route at position 42°29'N: 12°12'E. 'Nickels' dropped....	85

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 25/26th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. BZ. 894	(continued).....	Read communications at VINCENZO.			....from a point North of target to fall over target area. Nil opposition. Photograph obtained. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs G.P..025 Tail.	
"	EV. 959	Lt. Gibson. S.L.E. Sgt. Durie. P.D. P/Sgt. Ellis. F.T. Sgt. Yeung. J. Sgt. Pearce. K.A. Sgt. Mitchell. P.E. Sgt. Allan. R.V.	1215Z. W.V.	2240	0235	2322 hrs. - observed much A.A. activity in NAPLES area. 0043 hrs. 10,000 ft - target area - observed flares going down from the time coast was crossed. Illumination was very good. Identified target clearly. 0049 hrs. 8,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 322°. IAS 188 mph. Bursts only seen. 0050 hrs. 8,000 ft - mid upper gunner reported a Ju. 88 directly above at 6-8,000 yards. Took evasive action and mid upper gunner reported seeing the Ju's bomb door open and two canisters fall from the aircraft - flares burst immediately at same height of own aircraft. Mid upper gunner gave short burst at the enemy aircraft. Own tracer seen ahead of it. 0053 hrs. 8,000 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 313°. IAS 175 mph. Bursts seen. A fire seen going well on the Eastern side of the railway junction. Nil opposition. Photograph obtained. 0059 hrs - 'Nickels' dropped on heading 020°, 10 miles from target area. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 961	Lt. Young. J.E. 1031 W.V. P/Sgt. Myers. J.R. P/O. Davies. R.A.E. Sgt. Dearden. J. P/Sgt. Hogan. J.P. Sgt. Pell. H.K. P/Sgt. McGuffie. W.A.	"	2240	0205	2321 hrs - barrage at NAPLES area - persisting. 2330 hrs - barrage at TERRACINO area. 0020 hrs. 10,000 ft - six flares seen over LIDO ROMA over period of five minutes. 0034 hrs - first flares seen in target area while approaching LAKE BALPOZZA. 0037 hrs - target identified. Illumination excellent. Single bright white flares dropped in target area which burst higher than main clusters. Three or four only. 0042 hrs. 8,400 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 340°. IAS 185 mph. Aiming point No. 1 target area. Own bomb bursts seen in smoggy buildings at Hershera end of town. 0046 hrs. 8,300 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 305°. IAS 190 mph. Same aiming point. No results seen. 0042 hrs. - one Wellington seen bombing on reciprocal same height. Other bombing in target area reported - well concentrated in town itself causing pall of dust etc. One light gun only. Two photographs obtained. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 974	Sgt. Nicholas. A.D. Sgt. Birch. D.H. Lt. Shtein. S. 1247 W.V. Sgt. Elgar. A.E. Sgt. Hampton. K. P/Sgt. Hatcher. W.E. Sgt. Woodford. N.A.	"	2245	0211	0005 hrs. 10,000 ft - MUZZA - large aircraft passed from starboard to port above aircraft on heading 320°. 0040 hrs - target identified. 0042 hrs. 9,500 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 330°. IAS 180 mph. Aiming point Southern road and rail junction in town. Aird three or four bursts seen just South of junction, possibly car bombs. A number of bomb bursts seen in town, some big ones. 0046 hrs. 8,700 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 330°. IAS 180 mph. Aiming point, centre of town. No results seen. Nil opposition. Two photographs obtained. Bombs carried as above.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 17<sup>th</sup> Squadron, R.A.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

SECRET

PAGE No. 16

(472) W. 24229/1450. 1896. 8/60. P.I. 51-7781.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 26/27th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 139	P/Lt. Eardley. D.A. Sgt. Dalrymple. B.N.	Read communications at VINCENZO.	2158	0136	2322 hrs. 10,500 ft - white flashing beacon flashing "GM" - position 41°12'N; 12°30'E. Seen on return with a faint searchlight	

8,700 ft - six bombs dropped in one stick on heading 330°. IAS 180 mph. Aiming point, centre of town. No results seen. Nil opposition. Two photographs obtained. Bombs carried as above

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 16

By 17<sup>th</sup> Squadron, R.A.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944

(7472) Wt. 24229/1650. 180m. 8/40. P.I. 51-7751.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT. 26/27th May. 1944.	EW. 139	P/Lt. Barclay, D.A. Sgt. Dalrymple, R.M. P/O. White, A.K. Sgt. Rosebaum, H. Sgt. Parrish, C.D. P/Sgt. Sutcliffe, W.C. Sgt. Hudson, S.W.	Read communications at VY 11250.	2152	0136	2322 hrs, 10,500 ft - white flashing beacon flashing "GM" - position 41°12'N; 12°30'E. Seen on return with a faint searchlight with small object in the peak of cone. 2327 hrs - single flares seen ahead. 2331 hrs - further number of single flares seen. Well spread out. 2340 hrs - main cluster went down in target area. Excellent illumination. 2348 hrs, 6,500 ft - 6 bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 20 ft on heading 295°. IAS 150 mph. Took the crossroads to the West of the main roads in the Northern end of town as aiming point. No results seen. Bursts from other bombing seen on this run, in built up area. Further bursts seen in open country to East of target. Dummy run made due to bomb doors creeping. By this time target area was well covered by smoke from flares - could only pick up the general outline of town. 0009 hrs, 6,500 ft - 4 bombs dropped in one stick and 2 salvoed. Took estimated position of crossroads to North as aiming point. Bursts only seen. Last bomb caused a small fire which died out at once. One fire was observed burning in the town area - a dull red glow seen in same area. No photograph obtained. Nil opposition. An unusual sight was seen over target area - a long red pear shaped object with what seemed to be ballam cables coming from it - 7/8,000 ft. Was seen on two occasions. 0013 hrs - 'Nickels' dropped to fall over target area. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs G.P. 1025.	
"	EW. 106	Lt. Knight, T.E. Svc. 20163.V. Sgt. Paul, J.L.W. P/Sgt. Green, F.A. Sgt. Allen, R.F. Sgt. Heldup, M.H. Sgt. Hilson, K.A. Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.		2157	0121	2334 hrs - approaching target area - single flares ahead South of target area. 2336 hrs - main flares went down as on run up. Flares to North East of target. Orbited and further flares went down. Illuminated the town excellently. 2345 hrs, 8,000 ft - 6 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 320°. IAS 160 mph. Took main crossroads to the North as aiming point. Bombs were seen to burst right across road slightly off the junction to the West. 2349 hrs, 8,000 ft - 6 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 320°. IAS 160 mph. Same aiming point. Bombs seen to burst at right angles to the main road through town area to the North. Further bursts were observed in built up area. Bombing appeared to be fairly concentrated in the town as aircraft came away. Nil opposition. Two photographs obtained. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. 2353 hrs - 'nickels' dropped to fall over target area. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EW. 974	Lt. Rosenthal, G. Svc. 2448.V. Sgt. Brown, J.E.A. Lt. Steel, C.D. 2189.V.V. Sgt. Cam, E. Sgt. Morrel, A.P. Sgt. Pell, H.K. Sgt. Garbutt, T.A.		2206	0115	2320 hrs, 11,000 ft - observed flashing beacon flashing "GM" to part of track - position 41°12'N; 12°30'E. 2325 hrs - marker flares seen ahead slightly East of target. 2341 hrs - main flares went down illuminating the target. 2345 hrs, 6,500 ft - 6 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 330°. IAS 175 mph. Main crossroads to East at Northern end of town taken as aiming point. Results not seen. 2350 hrs, 6,500 ft - 6 bombs dropped....	87

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT 26/27th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 974	(continued).....	Read communications at VITERBO.			...in one stick on heading 310°. IAS 175 mph. Results not seen but observed a fire in built up area at the Northern end of town. Bombing appeared to be rather scattered. 2351 hrs, 6,500 ft - 'nickels' dropped from a point North West of target. Photograph obtained. Nil opposition. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500lbs G.P. .025.	
"	EV. 822.	Lt. Hesken, J.N. <i>112298.V.</i> Sgt. Scott, A.C. P/Sgt. Warner, A.G. Sgt. Ertan, J.M. Sgt. Orford, H.C. P/Sgt. Heel, W.R. W/O. Newman, M.E.	"	2205	0125	2308 hrs, 10,500 ft - white revolving beacon seen 10 miles to port of aircraft when at 41°52'N; 14°10'E, heading 291°. 2322 hrs - mid upper gunner saw white beacon flashing "GM" and reddish searchlight waving in same position - approximately 35 miles further along track of aircraft from last position. 2338 hrs - scattered flares. 2341 hrs - on run up main flares seen to South East of town. Definitely identified as target area after running over town. 2344 hrs, 7,000 ft - dummy run on heading 340° to identify target and seen clearly. 2347 hrs 6,500 ft - 6 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 090°. IAS 180 mph. Road junction to North of town as aiming point. Bursts seen to straddle road after hitting a building. 2352 hrs, 6,200 ft - 6 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 135°. IAS 160 mph. Road South East of town as aiming point. Bursts seen by road and one definitely on it. 2352½ hrs - explosion seen on outskirts of town - buildings parallel straddled by stick of bombs and burst giving off various lights. Colour of explosion just like rainbow. Turned back to see town entirely covered with smoke. Four photographs obtained. Nil opposition. 2353 hrs - leaving target area and aircraft's main white light seen heading same direction - 135°. Definitely identified as single target. 2354 hrs - 'nickels' dropped from 8,000 ft to fall in target area. Considerable amount of medium and L.A.A. in direction of target. Spasmodic until 0012 hrs. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	
"	BZ. 894	Lt. Van Der Horst, J.H. <i>11500.V.</i> Sgt. Blunt, L.T. P/Lt. Lindsey, E. P/O Wood, G.T. Sgt. Basten, A.J. P/O. Farnley, B. P/O. Doby, A.L.	J. 95748.	2200	0112	2305 hrs - buildings 1200 ft high in shape of square with lights on each side of square - in approximate position 42°07'N; 13°16'E. Well lit up. Road leading to North and turning East also lit up. Seen out and on return. 2329/30 hrs - first single flare ahead. 2344 hrs - first main flares seen, believed to be South East of target. 2345/6 hrs, 3,000 ft, 330° - dummy run over flares to check. 2347 hrs - second main flares over target. Target identified. 2348 hrs - dummy run caused by No.1 engine starting to back fire, revs and boost dropped, aircraft unstable. 2350 hrs, 5,800 ft - 11 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 020°. IAS 190 mph. Secondary road two miles North of target taken as aiming point. Bursts not seen. One bomb hung up and brought back to base. 2349 hrs - explosion in middle of town and smoke billowed up to about 3,000 ft, fairly covering town. No photograph obtained. Nil opposition. No. 1 engine still giving trouble so feathered. 2355/6 hrs - 'nickels' dropped to fall over target area. 0017 hrs, 10,500 ft - intense L.A.A. and H.A.A. bursting around 4,000 ft seen to starboard of aircraft in area approximately 20 miles East of target. About five flares seen North East of target.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK FORM 541.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F. **SECRET** Page No. 17

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT	LIBERATORS.						

(1472) Wt. 24229/1650. 1800g. 8/60. P.L. 51-7791.



... brought back to base. 2349 hrs - explosion in middle of town and smoke billowed up to about 3,000 ft, fairly covering town. No photograph obtained. Nil opposition. No. 1 engine still giving trouble as feathered. 2355/6 hrs - 'nickels' dropped to fall over target area. 0017 hrs, 10,500 ft - intense L.A.A. and H.A.A. bursting around 4,000 ft seen to starboard of aircraft in area approximately 20 miles East of ROMA. About five flares just North East of...

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 17

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

(7472) Wk. 24229/1650. 180m. 840. P.L. 51-7751.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT 26/27th May, 1944	EV. 961	Lt. Hall, J.N. 12874.V. Sgt. Ramsay, F.T. F/O. Hart, J. Sgt. Edwards, M.L. Sgt. Ross, H.V. F/Sgt. Berkeley, V.L. Sgt. Kenaway, R.M.	at VITERBO.	2200	0125	2327 hrs, 10,500 ft - observed fully lighted P.O.W. camp at position 42°12'N: 12°45'E. Approximately 20 miles off a bearing of 200°T a flashing beacon seen flashing "GK". Searchlights also in near vicinity in a group. 2331 hrs - odd flare seen ahead. Further single flares at 2334 hrs and 2338 hrs. 2341 hrs - first main flares went down to North of target. Orbited then turned South and identified target. 2344 hrs - more flares seen right over target. 2347 hrs, 7,300 ft - dummy run over target. 2352 hrs, 7,400 ft - 6 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 310°. IAS 165 mph. Crossreads at Northern end of town taken as aiming point. Bursts seen in built up area. 2356 hrs, 7,800 ft - 6 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 310°. IAS 160 mph. Bursts seen on the side of the road leading North West from the town. 12c hits seen on buildings along the main road. Nil opposition. No photographs obtained. 2359 hrs - 'nickels' dropped to fall over target area. Oxygen used over 5,000 lb. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs G.P. .025.	
27/28th May, 1944	BE. 894	F/Sgt. Blanckenberg, J.P. Sgt. Garner, W.G.C. W/O. Latimer, J.T. W/O. Webster, J.A. Sgt. Chubb, F.J.T. Sgt. Pell, H.K. F/Sgt. Symes, G.H.	"	2100	0025	2225 hrs - single flares around target area. 2230 hrs - first main flares - appeared to be over target. 2235 hrs - target area. Made dummy run and target identified clearly. 2237 hrs, 7,000 ft - dummy run - flares restricted vision of target. 2244 hrs, 7,000 ft - 11 bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 50 ft on heading 090°. IAS 190 mph. Crossreads taken as aiming point. One bombing run up and salved over town. Only two bursts seen as photographic flash went off at that moment - not pinpointed. Bomb which was salved was seen to distinctly hit a building in the square which caused a fire. Five small fires burning in town when aircraft left. Very slight opposition. Three photographs obtained. Lights presumably vehicles seen scattered along roads to South West of target. 2259/2302 hrs - 'nickels' dropped. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs G.P. .025.	
"	EV. 822	Lt. Gibson, C.C.E. 12847.V. Sgt. Durie, P. F/Sgt. Ellis, L.T. Sgt. Young, J. Sgt. Pearce, K.A. Sgt. Green (980), P.S. Sgt. Allam, K.V.	"	2105	2226	Returned early owing to port inner engine failure. Bombs jettisoned at position 41°24'N: 16°35'E. Bombs carried as above.	
"	KG 835	W/O. Steele, A.L. Sgt. Helms, A.N.L. F/Sgt. Dimond, J. Sgt. Richardson, E.J. Sgt. Perryer, L.S. Sgt. Billing, R.W.	"	2105	0020	2201 hrs, 9,500 ft - observed what appeared to be a long row of vehicles burning well at position five miles, 2200 from 41°58'N: 14°01'E - vast columns of smoke. 2213 hrs - fire...	OO OO

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1	2	3	4	5	6

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 27/28th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. No. 825	(continued)..... P/Sgt. Davies. E.	Read communications at VIERBO.			...seen on starboard quarter and a very large one in the port beam at position 41°58'N: 13°53'E. 2228 hrs, 8,500 ft - flares seen ahead. Main cluster went down slightly South West of town. Illuminated the area very well but had gone out by the time aircraft reached area. 2245 hrs - further flares went down still over the South West part of town - a layer of smoke was over this same area. 2248 hrs, 8,500 ft - 12 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 010°. IAS 170 mph. North East crossroads at the Northern end of town taken as aiming point - clearly identified. Bursts only seen - not pinpointed due to dust and smoke coming from and covering area. 2253 hrs - a large explosion seen in town area with heavy shower of sparks. Did not cause fire. Bombing seemed to be well concentrated. A fire had been started in the town. Slight opposition from aerodrome area. Four photographs obtained. 2255 hrs - 'nickels' dropped to fall over target area. Oxygen used. Bombs carried 12 x 500lbs G.P. .025.	
"	EV. 946	P/Lt. Lewis. J.H.C. P/O. Nelson. A.H. P/O. Myerson. G.D. P/O. Brown. J.D. P/O. Anselme. A.G. W/O. ... P/O. ... P/O. ...	J. 25806. J. 13073. J. 10174. J. 14911. A. 114827. A. 184929. J. 19936.	2058	2355	2153 hrs, 11,000 ft - a large illuminated "L" seen in position 41°47'N: 14°08'E. On approach to target, flares were seen bursting at 10,000 ft. 2237 hrs, 9,000 ft - dummy run over target - flares had gone down by this time - South and West of town. Target could be clearly identified. 2242 hrs, 8,000 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 352°. IAS 165 mph. Crossroads at the Northern end of town taken as aiming point. Bursts seen in target area but unable to pinpoint due to poor illumination. As aircraft turned off a stick seen to burst. Three fires had been started in the Eastern side of town. Slight L.A.A. and H.A.A. from aerodrome area - only seen on dummy run. No photograph obtained. 'Nickels' dropped to fall over target area. Oxygen used. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 961.	Lt. Hayman. N.E. 118353.V. Sgt. Rutherford. G.H. P/O. Lord. S.E. Sgt. Meller. H.E. Sgt. Webster. T.L. P/Sgt. Berkeley. V.L. Sgt. Smith. G.W.E.	"	2059	0015	2227 hrs, 11,000 ft - first main cluster of flares observed to West of town. Target clearly seen by observer. 2240 hrs - made an orbit and dummy run over target. Good illumination. 2248 hrs, 7,500 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 035°. IAS 170 mph. Buildings on the East side of town along the main road taken as aiming point. Results not seen due to the area becoming covered with dust and smoke. Quite a number of bursts seen in town area. Very slight H.A.A. and L.A.A. from aerodrome area. Gyre on bombing gear unascertainable. No photograph obtained. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EV. 974	Lt. Young. J.F. 10347.V. P/Sgt. Myers. J.R. P/O. Davies. A.F.E. Sgt. Dearson. J. P/Sgt. Hegan. J.P. W/O. Flewman. W.T. P/Sgt. McGuffie. W.A.	"	2100	0000	2225 hrs, 8,500 ft - first flares seen in target area. Further flares seen scattered over a large area. Main cluster went down over the Western end of town. Target clearly identified. 2238 hrs, 8,000 ft - 9 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 340°. IAS 182 mph. Main crossroads taken as aiming point. Bursts seen slightly off the road and the last straddled the road in the vicinity of the railway station. 2241 hrs, 8,200 ft - 3 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 355°. ...	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By: No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F. **SECRET** PAGE No. 18

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 27/28th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 974	(continued).....	Read communications			...Results not seen as considerable dust and smoke covered the	

(472) W. 24229/1650. 1806. 5/40. P.I. 21-7731.

EV. 974 Lt. Young, J.F. 2100 0000 2225 hrs, 8,500 ft - first flares seen in target area. Further flares seen scattered over a large area. Main cluster went down over the Western end of town. Target clearly identified. 2238 hrs, 8,000 ft - 9 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 340°. IAS 182 mph. Main crossroads taken as aiming point. Bursts seen slightly off the road and the last straddled the road in the vicinity of the railway station. 2241 hrs, 8,200 ft - 3 bombs dropped in one stick on heading 338°. IAS 182 mph.

F/Sgt. Myers, J.R.  
F/O. Davies, R.F.E.  
Sgt. Dearson, J.  
F/Sgt. Hogan, J.P.  
W/O. Flewman, W.T.  
F/Sgt. McGuffie, W.A.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 18

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

(7472) WL 24220/1650. 180m. 840. P.I. 51-7751.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
NIGHT 27/28th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 974	(continued).....	Read communications at VITERBO.			...Results not seen as considerable dust and smoke covered the area. Slight H.A.A. from aerodrome area. 2245 hrs - 'nickels' dropped to fall over target area. Two photographs obtained. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs G.P. (C25).	
"	BE. 947	F/O. McNaughten, G.E.S. Sgt. Johnston, G.A.S. F/O. Ellis, J.C. W/O. Brothara, N. Sgt. Pratt, J.L. Sgt. Mitchell, P.E. F/Sgt. Barrington, A.H. AUS. 40219.	NZ. 41099.	2107	0025	2230 hrs, 10,000 ft - flares seen to starboard over target area. Further flares seen from 2230 hrs to 2245 hrs. Illumination very good. Target clearly identified. 2241 hrs, 7,400 ft - dummy run to make sure of aiming point. 2245 hrs, 7,400 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 340°. IAS 190 mph. Main crossroads in Southern end of town taken as aiming point. Bursts seen to straddle road and buildings. Fires seen burning in the middle of town. 4,000 lb bomb seen to burst in built up area. Bombing appeared to be well concentrated - area covered with dust and smoke. Slight L.A.A. bursting below aircraft. Slight H.A.A. from aerodrome. Three photographs obtained. 2249 hrs to 2252 hrs - 'nickels' dropped to fall over target area. 2309 hrs - L.A.A. bursting below aircraft - situated on the hills South of target area. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	
"	EW. 106	Lt. Knight, T.E. SEC. 206181.V. Sgt. Paul, J.A.W. F/Sgt. Green (935), F.R. Sgt. Allen, K.F. Sgt. Holdup, M.H. F/Sgt. Batchelor, W.E. Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.		2100	0010	2217 hrs - large fire seen to port of track - position not known. Two searchlights approximately 20 miles South of target on far short time. 2232 hrs, 10,000 ft - 8-10 flares seen. 2242 hrs - target area. 2244 hrs - more flares and target identified clearly. Flares to West, not over target. 2245 hrs - fairly large explosion in town which caused fire - possibly 4,000 lb bomb. Fire not seen to burn long. 2247 hrs, 8,000 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick on heading 010. IAS 180 mph. Crossroads taken as aiming point. Last two bombs only seen to burst and fire from last one continued to burn. Last two bombs believed to be in town. L.A.A. sent up from outskirts of town. Two photographs obtained. 2251/2254 hrs - 'nickels' dropped. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	
29/30th May, 1944	BE. 894	W/Cdr. Smythe, D.C. Sgt. Rush, J.S. F/Lt. Wells, M.L. F/Sgt. Spreater, H.S. Sgt. Coates, D. Sgt. Green, P.S. F/Lt. Liversidge, J.R. AUS. X. 401092.	Mining the river Danube.	2015	0245	2152 hrs, 10,000 ft, 44°20'N: 15°30'E - saw one large ground fire but could not identify what it could be. Three small fires about 15 miles North. Saw a flarepath lit up about 8 miles South West of DUNEJ island. 2320 hrs - target area. Identified own bed. 2326 hrs, 200 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading East to West following river. IAS 190 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°46'05"N: 18°26'40"E. 2300 hrs 6,000 ft - A.A. seen over BUDAPEST area - mainly heavy. Some river craft were observed moving down river. 0055 hrs, 44°10'N: 14°40'E approximately - saw gun flashes and many lights all along the coast. Could not identify what was happening. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mine carried 6 x 1000 lb BOSTON V, type A.	

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 29/30th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EW. 822.	Lt. Hesken, J.H. <i>1129.V.</i> Sgt. Scett, A.C. P/Sgt. Warner, A.G. Sgt. Exten, J.M. Sgt. Orford, W.C. P/Sgt. Batchelor, W.E. W/O. Newman, M.E.	Mining the river Danube.	2010	0231	2118 hrs. 42°58'N; 15°45'E - what looked like a sailing ship seen. 2334 hrs - saw Danube and identified own bed immediately. Red flashing beacon in island in bed mined. 2346 hrs, 150 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading East to West following river. IAS 175 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°45'25"N; 18°02'10"E. 4 L.A.A. guns at KOMARNO (47°46'N; 18°10'E), bursts at 2/3,000 ft. Scattered gun flashes seen on ground at GYOR. 4 L.A.A. guns in North Eastern area of LAKE BALATON. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs Mark V, type A.	
"	EW. 106	Lt. Knight, T.E. <i>58C. 206/53.V.</i> Sgt. Paul, J.L.W. P/Sgt. Green, F.R. P/Sgt. Allen, R.F. Sgt. Holdup, M.H. Sgt. Cameron, P. Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.	"	2012	0243	2153 hrs, 44°21'N; 16°25'E - very big fire in what looked like a village seen to port. 2159 hrs, 44°36'N; 16°31'E - two big fires with white smoke like forest fire with numerous lights found in YUGO-SLAVIAN hills. 2330 hrs - saw Danube and identified area clearly. 2336 hrs, 150 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading East to West following river. IAS 190 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°44'25"N; 17°54'00"E. 3 L.A.A. guns on barges in river and one gun from shore. 6-7 L.A.A. guns at GYOR. 3-4 L.A.A. guns at KOMARNO. Oxygen used over 3,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	EW. 139	P/Lt. Bardley, D.A. Sgt. Gill, S.T.G. Sgt. Dalrymple, H.M. P/O. White, L.K. P/Sgt. Reschauer, H. Sgt. Farnish, C.D. P/Sgt. Sutcliffe, W.G. Sgt. Budgen, S.W.	"	2019	0223	2144 hrs, 44°09'N; 16°20'E - triangle of lights and circle of lights in YUGOSLAVIAN hills and some forest fires seen. 2324 hrs - saw Danube to port. Located own bed clearly. 2342 hrs, 100 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yards between first two and 300 yards between rest on heading East to West following river. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°46'25"N; 18°41'40"E. 4-5 H.A.A. and L.A.A. guns at Eastern tip of LAKE BALATON. About 4-5 H.A.A. guns South of ESZTERGOM. Some A.A. seen along sides of river but not at this aircraft. Lorry seen going over bridge at ESZTERGOM. One barge seen on river and two small barges at East end of bed mined. Fired at in passing. 0041 hrs, 45°39'N; 16°50'E - aircraft seen with navigation lights on. Aerodrome seen on starboard and also one on port with flashing beacon "Z", rotating beacon on flarepath. Mines carried 6 x 100 lbs Mark V, type A.	
"	EW. 231	Lt. Hall, J.N. <i>218/43.V.</i> Sgt. Nicholas, A.J. Sgt. Ramsay, F.T. P/O. Hart, J. P/Sgt. Edwards, M.L. Sgt. Rowe, H.V. Sgt. Pell, H.K. Sgt. Kennaway, A.M.	"	2018	0226	2150 hrs, 10,000 ft - large forest fire seen but not pinpointed. 2155 hrs - large number of lights and fires to starboard near BRANKOV. 2325 hrs, 3,000 ft - arrived in target area hitting river to West of bed so proceeded East along the river losing height and identified own bed. Some L.A.A. started to open up from defended area near own bed but altered course and avoided it. 2336 hrs, 200 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yard intervals on heading East to West following river. IAS 200 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°44'50"N; 18°21'59"E. 2353 hrs - about 6-8 H.A.A. guns seen to North Eastern tips of LAKE BALATON. As aircraft turned off after mining run A.A. in defended area again opened up - about 6-8 L.A.A. guns, not very accurate. A.A. seen in distance around KOMARNO. 2358 hrs - about 4 H.A.A. guns and one on island.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By:                      No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

**SECRET**

Page No. 19

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944

(0472) Wk. 24229/1650. 1806. 240. PL. 81-77H.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 29/30th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EW. 231.	(continued)....	Mining the river Danube.			...guns observed on North Eastern end of LAKE BALATON. 0103 hrs - saw two large lights, one red and one green, about 10 miles South - unable to identify what they signified. 0100 hrs - heavy	

F/Sgt. Edwards, M.L.  
Sgt. Rowe, H.V.  
Sgt. Pell, H.K.  
Sgt. Kennaway, A.M.

...arrived in target area hitting river to West of bed so proceeded East along the river losing height and identified own bed. Some L.A.A. started to open up from defended area near own bed but altered course and avoided it. 2336 hrs, 200 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yard intervals on heading East to West following river. IAS 190 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°44'50"N: 18°21'59"E. 2353 hrs - about 6-8 H.A.A. guns seen to North Eastern tips of LAKE BALATON. As aircraft turned off after mining run A.A. in defended area again opened up - about 6-8 L.A.A. guns, not very accurate. A.A. seen in distance around KOMARNO. 2358 hrs - about 4 H.A.A. guns and some L.A.A.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK  
DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT  
By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.  
SECRET  
PAGE No. 19  
FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 29/30th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. SW. 231.	(continued)....	Mining the river Danube.			...guns observed on North Eastern end of LAKE BALATON. 0103 hrs - saw two large lights, one red and one green, about 10 miles South - unable to identify what they signified. 0130 hrs - many lights seen in area of SPLIT. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried 6 x 1000lbs Mark V, type A.	
"	KG 828	F/Sgt. Blanckenberg, J.F. Sgt. Garner, N.G.C. W/O. Latimer, J.T. W/O. Webster, J.A. Sgt. Cobb, F.J.T. W/O. Flewman, W.T. F/Sgt. Symes, G.H.	"	2015	0215	2323 hrs - saw Danube. Lost height after pinpointing and identified own bed at 2325 hrs. 2329 hrs, 200 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yard intervals on heading East to West following river. IAS 195 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°46'N: 18°34'40"E. About 7 L.A.A. guns both sides of river along bed mined. Other A.A. seen in action along river. 2 searchlights at BUDAPEST. Possibly two barges seen in target area - not moving. No other traffic seen. All towns put lights out when aircraft 10 miles away. White Vasey light seen fired just on YUGOSLAVIAN coast on return. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	EV. 959	Lt. Gibson, G.C.E. 112267.V. Sgt. Durie, P.D. F/Sgt. Ellis, L.T. Sgt. Young, J. Sgt. Pearce, K.A. F/Sgt. Heel, W.R. Sgt. Allan, R.V.	"	2015	0210	2115 hrs, 11,000 ft - observed a large ship in position 43°12'N: 15°34'E, heading 320°. 2257 hrs - L.A.A. observed in Eastern end of LAKE BALATON - about 7 guns. Observed 6 L.A.A. guns in area of KOMARNO. 2328 hrs, 5,000 ft - made dummy run over own bed and identified it. Then proceeded round to make first run. 2334 hrs, 200 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yard intervals on heading East to West following river. IAS 190 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine fell at position 47°43'55"N. Observed a large barge in area of own bed which opened up with machine gun fire. 2335 hrs - left target area and gunner fired a few bursts at barge seen on run in. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	KG. 835	Lt. Van Der Merwe, J.W. 4100.NV. Lt. Rosenthal, G. 54248.O.V. Sgt. Blunt, A.J. F/Lt. Lindsay, E. F/O. Wood, G.T. F/Sgt. Lecken, A.J. W/O. Parthing, B. F/Sgt. Hogan, J.P.	"	2017	0237	2143 hrs - ENIN (44°01'N: 16°15'E.) lit up - considerable transport seen entering town. Various towns in YUGOSLAVIA lit up including ZAGREB (45°45'N: 16°05'E) - At approximately KAPUSVAR (46°21'N: 17°48'E) beacon flashing "FX". 2221 hrs, 5,000 ft - Danube. Flew along river. Thought to have planted mines further West than bed allotted. 2340 hrs, 500 ft - target area - enemy aircraft sighted travelling 270°. No lights. Could not distinguish whether single engine or twin engine. 2346 hrs, 150 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yards between first two, 300 yards between the second and fifth (between each) and 500 yards between fifth and sixth on heading East to West following river. IAS 195 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°46'10"N: 18°27'50"E. From LAKE BALATON to target area fired at by L.A.A. from several towns. From KOMARNO in Easterly direction about 4 L.A.A. guns, fairly intense. A.A. observed from SPLIT. Mines carried as above.	

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 29/30th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 974	218847-V. Lt. Hayman, N.E. Sgt. Rutherford, G.H. P/O. Lord, S.E. Sgt. Miller, W.F. P/Sgt. Webster, T.L. P/Sgt. Berkeley, V.L. Sgt. Smith, D.W.E.	Mining the river Danube.	2013	0230	2135 hrs, 10,000 ft - just after crossing coast of YUGOSLAVIA observed many large fires ahead on same track as aircraft. 2254 hrs - pinpointed LAKE BALATON and just before leaving this point observed an occult flashing "FX" near the Eastern end of lake. 2329 hrs, 3,000 ft - target area. Identified area to be mined by island near it. Owing to quite a fair amount of L.A.A. coming up from Southern side decided to go further East and dropped mines in area No. 7. 2342 hrs, 100 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yard intervals on heading East to West following river. IAS 175 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°45'50"N; 18°26'50"E. Much L.A.A. from many locations along the Southern bank of river. L.A.A. and H.A.A. seen coming up from KOMARNO burning mostly above aircraft. "George" unserviceable on entire trip. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried 6 x 1,000 lbs Mark V, type A.	
"	EV. 961	W/O. Steele, R.L. Sgt. Helms, R.N.L. P/O. Edwards, R.G. P/Sgt. Richardson, E.J. Sgt. Perryer, L.S. P/Sgt. McGuffie, W.R. P/Sgt. Davies, E.	"	2011	0246	2131 hrs, 9,000 ft, 43°29'N; 16°03'E - observed three large vessels, just out to sea heading 250°. 2155 hrs, 44°24'N; 16°29'E - observed a large fire with much smoke and explosions. Two miles East of this position three further large fires. 2342 hrs - target area. Clearly identified area to be mined by small island in river. 2343 hrs, 200 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals, on heading East to West following river. IAS 175 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°26'25"N; 18°32'30"E. Much L.A.A. seen West of area mined. 2352 hrs - observed L.A.A. and H.A.A. in vicinity of VASZAREM (47°06'N; 17°51'E). Three medium sized vessels observed stationary, in what seemed to be a small harbour in vicinity of VASZAREM. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	BZ. 947	P/O. McNaughton, G.S.S. Sgt. Johnston, G.A.S. P/O. Ellis, J.C. W/O. Spanghera, W. Sgt. Pratt, J.L. Sgt. Mitchell, P.E. Sgt. Barrington, A.N.	NZ. 418099. " AUS. 40019.	2020	0219	2214 hrs, 9,500 ft - observed an illuminated sorodrom in the vicinity of SASAK - switched all lights off when aircraft went over 2305 hrs - target area. Identified North side of river. Flew from East to West at 2328 hrs. Identified the bend in river to be mined by island slightly up river. 2337 hrs, 250 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yard intervals. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine at position 47°45'25"N; 18°28'45"E. Aircraft met no opposition but much L.A.A. seen coming up from MOCA. Much L.A.A., intense, experienced from locality of LAKE BALATON on return route. Made an orbit after mining run and attacked some barges seen laying down river. No results seen. Gunners also fired into a jetty which appeared to have a dump on it. No results seen. Rifle fired at aircraft from this area. 0110 hrs, 9,500 ft, 43°50'N; 16°11'E - unidentified single engine aircraft seen below aircraft. Flew on same course for a time. Also twin engine aircraft silver colour, observed at 0112 hrs. No attacks made or attempted. Mines carried as above.	

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 20

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 29/30th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EZ. 946	S/Ldr. Lewis, J.H.C. P/O. Melton, S.H.A.F.	Mining the river Danube.	2010	0200	2125 hrs, 9,000 ft - observed a flashing Al dis lamp in vicinity of SPLIT - flashing "T.L.F.E". Repeated often. 2131 hrs, 13°27'N; 16°00'E - observed a large vessel heading	

to have a dump on it. No results seen. Missiles fired at aircraft from this area. 0110 hrs, 9,500 ft, 43°50'N; 16°11'E - unidentified single engine aircraft seen below aircraft. Flew on same course for a time. Also twin engine aircraft silver colour, observed at 0112 hrs. No attacks made or attempted. Mines carried as above.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

**SECRET**

PAGE No. 20

(C472) Wp. 24229/1650. 1804. 840. P.L. 51-7281

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1944.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 29/30th May, 1944	LIBERATORS. EV. 946	S/Ldr. Lewis, J.H.C. P/O. Melton, S.H.A.F. P/O. Ohrt, S.H.W.C. P/O. Anselme, A.G. W/O. Griffin, R.C. W/O. Federchuk, M. P/O. Johnston, J.D.	Mining the river Danube.	2010	0200	2125 hrs, 9,000 ft - observed a flashing Al dis lamp in vicinity of SLLT - flashing "G...F.E". Repeated often. 2131 hrs, 43°27'N; 16°00'E - observed a large vessel heading North West at very slow speed. Just after crossing coast of YUGOSLAVIA observed large amount of traffic on the main highway from ZILIR. At position 45°00'N; 16°56'E - 12 large fires seen burning. At position 46°20'N; 17°20'E - observed on starboard and above an unidentified aircraft with a downward ident. on. Several ground lights in the vicinity. A lighted "A" in small lights. At position 45°30'N; 15°56'E - observed a lighted flare ath. 2146 hrs, 44°05'N; 16°16'E - observed much A.A. ahead. S.A. observed from Eastern end of LAKE BALATON. Pinned a bend in river Danube and identified area to be mined. 2328 hrs, 175 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading East to West following river. IAS 165 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in water. First mine fell at position 47°45'N; 17°59'30"E. Continuous L.A.A. fairly intense, observed from KAMARNO also on Southern bank in vicinity of DECELENKISS. No opposition encountered by this aircraft. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs Mark V, type A.	
31st May	EV. 961	Lt. Hayman, N.E. Sgt. Rutherford, G.H. P/O. Lerd, S.E. P/Sgt. Meller, W.F. P/Sgt. Webster, T.L. W/O. Farthing, B. Sgt. Smith, G.W.E.	"	2030	0310	2358 hrs - pinpointed on Danube. 0005 hrs - identified bed. Made four dummy runs in effort to keep in centre of river while high cloud obscured moon. 0016 hrs, 150 ft - all mines dropped on heading 030. IAS 180 mph. 200 yard intervals. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in mid river. First mine at position 150750 (target map YUGOSLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet No. 20). Isolated A.A. seen in distance along river banks. No traffic seen on river. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	EV. 822	Lt. Henken, J.H. Sgt. Scott, A.C. P/Sgt. Yarnor, A.G. Sgt. Eton, J.M. Sgt. Orford, N.C. P/Sgt. Batchelor, W.E. W/O. Newman, M.E.	"	2030	0338	2122 hrs, 41°47'N; 16°55'E - red Verex cartridge over sea. Aircraft was seen in the vicinity directly above. 2225 hrs, 43°18'N; 19°12'E - letter "Z" seen on ground marked out in flares. Unable to pick out Danube at first owing to ground haze. 2309 hrs - A.A. from MITROVICA (44°57'N; 19°38'E) - altered course. 2340 hrs - red and white lights seen in air flashing like a beacon - 46°07'N; 18°46'E. 0012 hrs - Danube identified and own bed clearly seen. 0025 hrs, 150 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading 358. IAS 175 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in mid-river. First mine at position 280170 (map YUGOSLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet No. 20). One B.A.A. gun at MITROVICA. 4-5 H.A.A. guns at VERKOVCI. 6 L.A.A. guns at VUKOVAR. All these towns on route and course altered to avoid them. Large boat seen in river dock at FLEEM just South of bed mined. 0130 hrs - M.T. seen - 10 transports going North, 180°, from BANJALUKA, 41 miles. 12 M.T. seen on YUGOSLAVIA coast just North of ZEMUN island. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	

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1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 31st May/ 1st June, 1944.	LIBERATORS.	F/O. McNaughten. <i>NZ. 413099.</i> Sgt. Johnstone. <i>Can. Mining the river Danube.</i> F/O. Ellis. J.L. F/O. Bowers. W. Sgt. Pratt. J.L. Sgt. Mitchell. P.E. F/Sgt. Barrington. <i>R.H. Aus. 40039.</i>		2038	0400	2325 hrs, 7,000 ft - beacon flashing "X" at approximately SOBOR (45°40'N: 18°58'E). 2342 hrs - identified the Danube. 2345 hrs - followed river up to identify own bed. 2351 hrs - bed positively identified by island and town in vicinity. 2354 hrs, 150 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading South to North following centre of river. IAS 185 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in river. First mine at position 325317. 0030 hrs, 11,000 ft - encountered H.A.A. from vicinity behind NOVI SAD - very accurate rer height and course. No shipping seen in target area. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried 5 x 100 lbs Mines, Mark V, type A.	
"	no. 139.	F/Lt. Bardley. J.A. Sgt. Gill. S.T.G. Sgt. Dalrymple. H.M. F/O. White. L.K. F/Sgt. Resbaum. H. Sgt. Farish. C.D. F/Sgt. Sutcliffe. W.C. Sgt. Budgen. S.W.	"	2032	0242	Ground lights in eoling shape near BELGRADE (44°49'N: 20°10'E). 2348 hrs - saw Danube near area to be mined and identified own bed after dummy run at 2353 hrs after losing height. 0007 hrs, 200 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yard intervals on heading 330°. IAS 175 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in mid-river. First mine at position 370455 (map YUGOSLAVIA, 1100,000, Sheet No. 8D). 6 L.A.A. guns, tracer, accurate from DUNAFELDVAR. One L.A.A. gun on West bank just South of bed mined. Fired at by A.A. just after last mine gone. Blue flash seen as gunners fired at row of barges just South of bed mined. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	KG. 835	Lt. Young. J.F. <i>101824V.</i> F/Sgt. Myers. F.R. F/O. Davis. A.F.E. F/Sgt. Dearden. J. F/Sgt. Hegan. V.P. W/O. Fleeman. W.T. F/Sgt. McGuffie. W.A.	"	2030	0235	2158 hrs - red and green Verrey cartridges fired from CATTANO (42°21'N: 17°35'E). 2218 hrs - ground lights seen in PIVA Valley. Belgrade and other towns lit up. 2303 hrs - pinpointed Belgrade, flying off course due to compass trouble. Flew to D.R. position 45°50'N: 20°03'E and altered course for Danube Drava Junction which was identified at 2347 hrs. 0004 hrs - flew up Danube to identify own bed. 0005 hrs, 200 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading 350°. IAS 185 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in mid-river. First mine at position 245000 (map YUGOSLAVIA 1:100,000, Sheet No. 20). 8 H.A.A. guns at Belgrade. Considerable L.A.A. from NOVI SAD. 3 L.A.A. guns at SPARIN (on Danube). 2 L.A.A. guns at ZOMBAR. 2 L.A.A. guns at BAJA. One L.A.A. gun fired from West bank during run in to mine. Tail gunner returned fire. Aircraft seen over BELGRADE with navigation lights on. Red lights seen fired from ground in BAJA area. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	KG. 828	F/Sgt. Blanckenberg. J.P. Sgt. Garner. W.S.T. F/O. Latimer. J.T. W/O. Webster. J.A. Sgt. Cobb. F.J.T. F/Sgt. Baston. R.J. F/Sgt. Symes. G.H.	"	2025	0225	2327 hrs, 4,000 ft - approaching the target area. Encountered hazy conditions and had difficulty in pinpointing own bed. Made several runs over the area and eventually identified an area on the stretch to be mined and decided to mine the first definitely straight stretch of river. Identified a suitable area. 0000 hrs 100 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading South to North. IAS 190 mph. W/O. in bomb bags saw only two mines actually enter water. First mine at position 246880 (map YUGOSLAVIA 1:100,000, Sheet No. 20).	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Appendix "C"

R.A.F.  
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

**SECRET**

Page No. 21

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 31st May/ 1st June, 1944	LIBERATORS KG. 828	(continued).....	Mining the river Danube.			...pert and encountered slight accurate A.A. from vicinity of STRESA but near to bank...	



KG. 828	E/Sgt. Blankenberg, J.P. Sgt. Garner, W.G.T. W/O. Latimer, J.T. W/O. Webster, T.A. Sgt. Cobb, F.J.T. E/Sgt. Basten, R.J. E/Sgt. Symes, G.H.	"	2025	0225	BAJA area. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above. 2327 hrs, 4,000 ft - approaching the target area. Encountered hazy conditions and had difficulty in pinpointing own bed. Made several runs over the area and eventually identified an area on the stretch to be mined and decided to mine the first definitely straight stretch of river. Identified a suitable area. 0000 hrs 100 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading South to North. IAS 190 mph. W/O. In bomb bays saw only two mines actually enter water. First mine at position 216880 (map)
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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 178 Squadron, R.A.F.

SECRET

Page No. 21

For the Month of MAY, 1944.

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
31st May/1st June, 1944	LIBERATORS KG. 828	(continued)....	Mining the river Danube.			...port and encountered slight accurate A.A. from vicinity of KRESSE but near to banks. Several barges observed in area mined - did not attempt to attack. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs Mark V, Type A.	
"	EE. 946	Lt. Gibson, G.C.E. 112457.V. Sgt. Durie, P.D. E/Sgt. Ellis, L.T. Sgt. Young, J. Sgt. Pearce, K.A. E/Sgt. Heal, W.R. Sgt. Allan, R.V.		2036	0312	2358 hrs - identified Danube in vicinity of own bed. 0004 hrs - dummy run. 0007 hrs, 200 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading 035°. IAS 180 mph. Splashes seen in river. First mine at position 355342 (map YUGOSLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet No. 8D). 15 medium A.A. guns, very accurate, predicted from NOVVI SAD Aerodrome (threw out 'window' which attracted their fire). 4 L.A.A. guns at BELCKE. Some barges seen close against bank in bed mined. Did not attack them. 0122 hrs, 13°40'N: 16°32'E - red Verrey cartridge seen fired in air. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	EW. 106	Lt. Knight, T.A. 120152.V. Sgt. Paul, J.L.W. E/Sgt. Green, F.A. E/Sgt. Allen, R.F. Sgt. Holdup, M.H. Sgt. Billing, A.W. Sgt. Bradshaw, A.H.		2025	0348	2342 hrs, 45°47'N: 19°08'E - beacon flashing "IM" and red flares seen dropped in same area, at SCICOR. 2358 hrs - saw target area of Danube. Circled and searched for own bed but due to hazy conditions unable to make certain of location of bed so dropped mines on stretch just South of PAKS. 0019 hrs, 150 ft - all mines dropped with 200 yard intervals on heading 340°. IAS 180 mph. All parachutes seen to open and splashes seen in mid-river. First mine at position 268258 (map YUGOSLAVIA, 1:100,000 Sheet No. 8D). 4 L.A.A. guns, tracer, from North of PAKS. 6 L.A.A. guns from NOVVI SAD. No traffic seen on river. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	
"	EE. 974	Lt. Rosenthal, G. 542430.V. Sgt. Brown, D.F.A. E/Sgt. Steel, L.D. 120948.V. Sgt. Cox, E. Sgt. Marrel, R.P. Sgt. Perryer, L.S. Sgt. Carbutt, T.A.		2030	0302	2359 hrs, 15,000 ft - turned on to river and identified an area South of bed to be mined. Followed river up and identified area to be mined by island in the river. 0010 hrs, 180 ft - all mines dropped with 300 yard intervals on heading North to South. IAS 185 mph. All parachutes seen to open and mines seen to enter water. First mine at position 275157 (YUGOSLAVIA, 1:100,000, Sheet No. 8D). Observed much A.A. from vicinity of BELCKE. Observed L.A.A. coming up from PAKS. No opposition encountered from actual area mined. Barges, stationary, along the bank of river. Beam gunner opened up into them. No results observed and no return fire. 0027 hrs, D.M. position 46°15'N: 18°50'E - encountered L.A.A., fairly accurate - took evasive action. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Mines carried as above.	

92

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1	2	3	4	5	6

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
NIGHT 31st May 1st June, 1944.	LIBERATORS. BZ. 854	Lt. Hall. J.N. 228143. Sgt. Ramsay. F.J. P/O. Hart. J. P/Sgt. Edwards. M.L. Sgt. Rowe. H.V. Sgt. Fell. H.K. Sgt. Kenaway. A.M.	Mining the river Danube.	-	-	0314 hrs - aircraft undershot 300 yards from runway and hit river bank - all crew killed. Mines carried 6 x 1000 lbs Mark V, Type A - presumably dropped in target area.	
"	BZ. 231.	Sgt. Nicholas. A.D. Sgt. Birch. J.N. Lt. Shtein. S. 224725. Sgt. Elgar. A.E. Sgt. Hampton. K. P/Sgt. Davies. E. Sgt. Woodford. N.A.	Bombing Iron Gates at TUNNEL SEVERIN. (44°28'N. 22°49'E.)	2025	0240	2300hrs, 12,000 ft - pinpointed river Danube and set course for target area. 2308 hrs - identified target. 2330 hrs - observed marker flares. 2332 hrs, 11,800 ft - first main cluster went down - illuminated target very well. Could clearly see general outline of canal but railway sheds not seen. 2336 hrs - made run over target area but unable to positively identify pinpoint for attack so made it a dummy run. Made an orbit and came up on target as the last flares were dying out. Picked up read at point relevant to railway sheds. 2344 hrs, 11,500 ft - all bombs dropped in one stick with spacing 120 ft on heading 315°. IAS 172 mph. Own results not seen but believed bombs fell slightly short of sheds along canal bank. On first run over target, bursts were seen on the road South of the railway sheds. This aircraft did not encounter any A.A. while in target area but as turned away 4 L.A.A. guns opened up at another aircraft. Photograph obtained. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried 12 x 500 lbs M.C. .025 Tail.	
"	BZ. 259	Sgt. Rush. J.B. Sgt. Cowan. F.G. Lt. Murray. K.W. 229446.V. Sgt. Coates. D. Sgt. Green. P.S. Sgt. Cameron. P. Sgt. Hillson. K.A.	"	2025	0400	2320 hrs, 12,000 ft - identified East turning point on river Danube - followed river to target area. Observed two clusters of flares ahead. Illuminated area fairly well. Identified target by the Iron Gate canal but actual pinpoint for attack (railway shed) was very difficult to pick out. 2345 hrs, 12,000 ft - all bombs hung up. 2350 hrs - made another bombing run over exact area and tried several times to get bombs off but unsuccessful. 2358 hrs, 12,000 ft - all bombs missed on heading 270°. IAS 180 mph. Aimed at canal in relation to railway sheds. Bursts seen across buildings to the East. Smoke and dust observed over target area during first bombing run. Very slight H.A.A. (about 3 guns) from actual target area. Photograph obtained. Oxygen used over 5,000 ft. Bombs carried as above.	

27151x OHQP 1-43

**OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK**

R.A.F. Form 540  
*See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I. para. 2340 and War Manual Pt. II., chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.*

Page No. 1.

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 178 SQUADRON, R.A.F., M.A.A.F. No. of pages used for day           

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			<b>SECRET.</b>	