

R.A.F.
Form 541

By No. 263 Squadron

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
7/1/42	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	Scramble	10:55	11:30	Scramble, patrol base 15000.	
	P.7003	Sgt Lovell		10:55	11:30	Two photographic ME.109.Fs were patrolling between Plymouth and	
						Ibsley. One of these crashed through engine failure. The pilot	
						bailed out successfully and was captured near Bovey Tracey.	
11/1/42	P.7056	P/O Holmes	Scramble	11:05	11:50	Pilots were vectored to the Isle of Wight chasing a bogey and	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		11:05	11:50	from Wight due south into the sun when they were shown in behind	
	P.7114	P/O Gill		11:05	11:50	the bogey. The bogey was then identified as a Grumman Martlet by	
						pilots of squadron.	
		<u>Tactical Exercise</u>					
20/1/42	P.7112	F/Lt Rudland DFC		10:50	11:45	An exercise in co-operation with the Army. Dummy Attacks were made	
	P.7108	PO Harvey		10:50	11:45	on troop concentrations and supply columns in the Marlborough	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King		11:15	11:45	Yatesbury area.	
	P.6990	Sgt Lovell		11:15	11:45		
	P.7116	S/Ldr Pugh, DFC		11:15	11:45		
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		11:15	11:45		
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		12:25	12:55		
	P.7116	S/Ldr Pugh, DFC		12:25	12:55		
						<i>A Wordsworth, P/O</i>	
						<i>Intelligence Officer 263 Squadron</i>	

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				Up	Down		
	"A" Flight						
12/2/42	P.7061	P/O Blackshaw	Convoy Patrol	08:20	09:10	No Incident.	
	P.7004	P/O Harvey	" "	"	"	" "	
	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	" Recco.	10:40	11:00	" "	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	" "	"	"	" "	
	P.7018	F/Sgt Coyne	"	11:10	12:35	" "	
	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	"	"	"	" "	
	P.7007	P/O Harvey	"	12:40	13:25	" "	
	P.6990	Sgt. Ridley	"	15:25	16:35	" "	
	P.7017	F/Sgt Lovell	"	"	"	Port Engine cut at 2000 over convoy, Sgt Lovell returned to base at 1500 & made a good landing. Three way oil union was u/s & broken off.	
	P.7052	P/O Harvey	"	16:50	18:13	No Incident.	
	P.7004	P/O Currie	"	"	"	" "	
	"B Flight						
12/2/42	P.7100	P/O Holmes	Convoy	10:40	12:00	No Incident.	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley	"	11:00	13:40	" "	
13/2/42	P.7100	P/O Holmes	Dusk Patrol	17:30	18:05	Nothing seen) These flights are regularly made	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley	" "	"	"	" ") from FairwooddCommon to intercept	
	P.7061	F/Sgt Walker	" "	17:50	18:35	" ") bandits which tend to appear off	
	P.6991	Sgt Abrams	" "	"	"	" ") Linney Head at dusk.	
	P.7116	F/Sgt Lovell	Dusk Patrol	17:00	18:30	" "	
	P.7060	Sgt Small	" "	18:15	18:30	" "	
	P.7114	F/Sgt Kennedy	" "	"	"	" "	
14/2/42	P.7110	F/Sgt Walker	Convoy	14:10	15:35	No incident.	
	P.7099	F/Sgt Kennedy	"	"	"	" "	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	<u>"A" Flight</u>						
13/2/42	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	Convoy Patrol	13:16	14:10	No Incident.	
	P.7051	F/Sgt Coyne	" "	"	"	"	
	P.7008	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	" "	15:45	17:25	"	
	P.7061	Sgt Muirhead	" "	"	"	"	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	" "	16:50	18:20	"	
	P.7051	P/O Currie	" "	"	"	"	
	P.6990	P/O Blackshaw	Dusk "	17:05	18:25	Ordered to patrol Linney Head - Sincalls.	
	P.7016	F/Sgt Lovell	" "	"	"	" " " " "	
	P.7011	Sgt Ridley	Convoy Patrol	18:25	18:55	Last convoy patrol. Sgt Coyne after landing in the half dusk swung	
	P.7018	F/Sgt Coyne	" "	"	"	off the runway on to one of the many soft patches. His Whirlwind	
						turned on its back and is Cat "B", but Sgt Coyne walked out with	
						minor head injuries. He flew again on the next day.	
	<u>"B" Flight</u>						
15/2/42	P.7110	S/L Woodward, DFC	Convoy	08:20	09:10	No Incident.	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	"	"	"	" "	
	P.6991	F/Sgt Walker	"	08:35	09:00	" "	
	P.7041	Sgt Abrams	"	"	"	" "	
	P.6991	F/Sgt Walker	"	10:05	11:20	" "	
	P.7041	Sgt Abrams	"	"	"	" "	
	P.7116	P/O Holmes	"	12:50	13:35	" "	
16/2/42	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	) Scramble	14:35	15:30	Section patrolled Angle at 15000. Several short vectors given by	
	P.7007	Sgt Wright)			F'Wood Humbug. Nothing seen.	
	P.7100	P/O Holmes	Enemy patrol	15:35	17:15	Nothing seen.	
	P.7069	Sgt Small	" "	"	"	" "	

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				Up	Down		
	<u>"A" Flight</u>						
16/2/42	P.7004	P/O Blackshaw	Convoy	13:35	14:55	No incident.	
	P.7051	Sgt Meredith	"	"	15:00	"	
	P.7039	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	"	14:35	15:55	"	
	P.7011	Sgt Muirhead	"	"	"	"	
	P.7004	F/Sgt King	"	15:40	17:15	"	
	P.7056	Sgt Meredith	"	"	"	"	
	P.7039	P/O Blackshaw	"	16:40	17:55	"	
	P.7011	F/Sgt Dovell	"	"	"	"	
18/2/42	P.7052	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	"	10:20	10:50	"	
	P.7004	Sgt Meredith	"	"	"	"	
22/2/42	P.7110	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	"	14:00	15:25	"	
	P.7004	P/O Currie	"	"	"	"	
	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	"	14:55	16:05	"	
	P.7051	Sgt Meredith	"	"	"	"	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	"	16:45	17:20	"	
	P.7004	Sgt Muirhead	"	"	"	"	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	<u>"B" Flight</u>						
18/2/42	P.7116	S/Lr Woodward DFC	Convoy	10:20	11:05	No incident.	
	P.7060	Sgt Small	"	"	"	"	
19/2/42	P.7116	S/Lr Woodward DFC	Convoy	13:05	14:35	Very bad visibility, but convoy found & patrolled.	
	P.7007	Sgt Abrams	"	13:30	14:35	Sgt. Abrams failed to contact No.1 in poor visibility.	
	P.7110	P/O Holmes	"	14:55	15:25	P/O Holmes was flying at 100 feet near convoy 25 miles south of	
	P.7060	P/O Brearley	"	14:55	16:20	St Gowan's Head. Without any warning from instruments, his starboard	
						engine exploded, caught fire and disintergrated. He lost height to	
						within inches of the sea but then managed to climb to 400 feet,	
						pulling the fire-extinguisher knob, which had a good effect on the	
						flaming engine. He was unable to gain more height to bale out and	
						indeed fell to 50 feet. Surmounting the cliffs by using full flaps,	
						then finding Carew Chenton at 50 feet, he gained 400 feet by using	
						full flap again, and after pulling emergency knob for landing-gear	
						he made a successful landing at Carew Chenton. Two buckets-full of	
						engine parts, still smoking, fell out then the cowlings were taken	
						off. Most of the rest of the engine had disappeared. The Peregrine	
						engine had scored again by being twins.	

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				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
7 th	P.7003	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Scramble	09:30	10:25) Nothing seen. Both aircraft were plotted within 4 miles of	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King		09:30	10:25	) bogies off Lundy Island.	
	P.7117	P/O Harvey	Convoy	12:50	14:05)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	patrol	12:50	14:05)	
	P.7116	S/Lr Woodward	"	13:20	15:00	) Nothing seen.	
	P.7089	Sgt Reed	"	13:20	15:00) " "	
	P.7117	P/O Gill	"	13:45	14:25	) do	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	"	13:45	14:25)	
	P.7061	F/St Kennedy	do	15:05	16:40	) do	
	P.7041	Sgt Wright	do	"	")	
	P.7116	F/Sgt Walker		16:10	17:35	) do	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley	do	"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		17:00	18:05	) do	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	do	"	")	
8 th	P.7051	P/O Harvey		13:00	14:15	) do	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	do	"	")	
	P.7003	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Scramble	13:20	14:05	) do	
	P.7100	P/O Currie	"	13:20	14:05)	
	P.7011	F/Sgt King	Convoy	14:00	15:15	) d0	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	patrol	"	")	
	P.7003	F/Lt Rudland, DFC		15:00	16:20	) do	
	P.7100	P/O Currie	do	"	")	
	P.7051	P/O Harvey		15:40	17:15	) do	
	P.7116	Sgt Meredith	do	"	")	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King		16:45	18:10	) do	
	P.7011	Sgt Ridley	do	"	")	
	P.7120	F/Lt Rudland, DFC		17:40	18:50	) do	
	P.7100	P/O Currie	do	"	")	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
8 th	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	Scramble	07:20	07:55	) Nothing seen.	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		"	"	) do	
	P.7116	P/O Gill	Convoy	07:45	09:35)	
	P.7089	Sgt Wright	patrol	07:45	09:35	) do	
	P.7061	P/O Braerley		09:10	10:40)	
	P.7117	Sgt Reed	do	"	"	) do	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		10:20	11:45)	
	P.7116	Sgt Small	do	"	"	) do	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		11:30	13:00)	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley	do	"	"	) do	
9 th	P.7011	Sgt Ridley		07:35	08:55)	
	P.7004	F/Sgt Coyne	do	"	"	) do	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley		15:30	17:00)	
	P.6991	Sgt Abrams	do	"	"	) do	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		16:30	18:30)	
	P.7116	P/O Crabtree	do	"	"	) do	
10 th	P.7100	P/O Harvey		13:15	14:35)	
	P.7003	F/Sgt Lovell	do	"	"	) do	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley		14:15	15:40)	
	P.7117	F/Sgt Coyne	do	"	"	) do	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King		15:10	16:40)	
	P.7004	P/O Currie	do	"	"	) do	
	P.7100	P/O Harvey		16:15	17:35)	
	P.7003	F/Sgt Lovell	do	"	") do	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley		17:15	17:40	Recalled	
	P.7117	F/Sgt Coyne	do	"	"	"	

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March	Whirlwind						
10	P.7060	F/Lt Warnes	Convoy	12:15	13:45) Nothing seen.	
	P.7007	P/O Crabtree	patrol	"	") do	
14	P.7120	F/Lt Rudland, DFC		13:10	14:30)	
	P.7100	P/O Currie	do	"	"	) do	
	P.7003	P/O Harvey		14:10	15:30)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	do	"	"	) do	
	P.7051	P/O Blackshaw		15:10	16:30)	
	P.7052	Sgt Muirhead	do	"	"	) do	
	P.7120	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Scramble	15:15	16:15)	
	P.7004	P/O Currie		"	"	) d0	
	P.7100	P/O Harvey	Evening	18:30	19:20)	
	P.7117	Sgt Ridley	Sweep	"	"	) do	
	P.7120	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Convoy	18:45	19:20)	
	P.7052	Sgt Muirhead	patrol	"	"	) do	
	P.7051	P/O Blackshaw	Evening sweep	18:35	18:50	) do	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	Scramble	11:45	12:50)	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley		"	"	) do	
	P.6991	P/O Holmes	"	11:45	12:25	) Nothing seen.	
	P.7007	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
15	P.7100	P/O Harvey	Convoy	11:50	13:25)	
	P.7117	Sgt Ridley	patrol	"	"	) do	
						) Cloud spoilt interception. Squadron congratulated by Group on being the only a/c in Group able to take off in thick weather.	
	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	Scramble	10:40	11:55	) Landed at Pembrey Fuel shortage.	
	P.7051	Sgt Muirhead		10:40	11:55)	
	P.7120	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Convoy	11:25	12:05)	
	P.7052	P/O Currie	patrol	"	"	) Nothing seen.	
	P.7116	S/Ldr Woodward	Scramble	13:20	14:00)	
	P.7110	P/O Holmes		"	"	) do	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
March	Whirlwind						
15	P.7060	F/Sgt Walker	Scramble	14:15	15:00	) Nothing seen.	
	P.7041	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	Convoy	14:55	16:05)	
	P.7007	Sgt Reed	patrol	"	"	) do	
	P.7116	S/Ildr Woodward	"	15:55	17:10)	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley		"	"	) do	
	P.7110	P/O Holmes	Scramble	17:50	19:00)	
	P.7060	F/Sgt Walker		"	"	) do	
16	P.7116	F/Lt Warnes	Scramble	09:15	09:50)	
	P.7110	P/O Holmes		"	"	) do	
18	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	Convoy	16:50	17:30)	
	P.7051	Sgt Muirhead	patrol	"	"	) do	
19	P.7056	P/O Gill	"	13:35	14:55)	
	P.7007	Sgt Wright		"	"	) do	
	P.7060	F/Sgt Walker	"	14:30	16:00)	
	P.7110	Sgt Reed		"	"	) do	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	"	15:35	17:15)	
	P.7116	P/O Brearley		"	"	) do	
20	P.7120	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Sweep	17:20	18:50)	
	P.7117	P/O Blackshaw	to sea	"	"	) do	
	P.6990	Sgt Meredith	Evening patrol	19:05	19:50)	
	P.7003	P/O Currie	" "	"	19:55	) do	
21	P.7052	Sgt Meredith	Convoy	08:45	09:35)	
	P.7003	Sgt Muirhead		"	") do	
	P.7120	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Sweep of	10:35	12:00		
	P.7100	P/O Harvey	Irish Sea	"	"		

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21	P.7089	P/O Brearley	Convoy	13:25	14:55) Nothing seen.	
	P.7001	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	"	14:30	16:00) do	
	P.6991	F/Sgt Walker		"	")	
22	P.7051	P/O Blackshaw	Sweep of	11:00	12:20	) do	
	P.7052	P/O Currie	Irish Sea	"	")	
	P.7112	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	do	11:30	12:45	) do	
	P.7100	P/O Harvey		"	")	
	P.7100	F/Sgt King	do	14:35	15:55	) do	
	P.7120	Sgt Muirhead		"	")	
	P.7051	P/O Currie	Convoy	15:40	16:40	) do	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	patrol	"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	Irish Sea	10:05	11:45	) do	
	P.7114	Sgt Abrams	Sweep	"	")	
	P.7110	Sgt Reed	do	10:30	12:10	) d0	
	P.7007	Sgt Wright		"	")	
	P.7116	P/O Holmes	do	12:05	13:50	) do	
	P.7060	F/Sgt Walker		"	")	
	P.7110	S/Ldr Woodward	do	13:10	14:10	) do	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley		"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	do	13:35	15:00	) do	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		"	")	
	P.7041	Sgt Abrams	do	14:00	14:30	) do	
	P.7007	Sgt Wright		"	")	
	P.7110	S/Ldr Woodward	do	15:15	16:50) do	
	P.6991	Sgt Reed		"	")	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley	do	16:10	17:30) do	
	P.7007	Sgt Wright		"	")	

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March	Whirlwind						
22	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	Sweep over	16:55	18:15) Nothing seen.	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	Irish Sea	"	")	
23	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	Convoy	14:35	15:55)	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	patrol	"	")	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley	do	15:05	16:15)	
	P.7007	Sgt Wright		"	")	
	P.6991	F/Sgt Walker	do	16:00	17:30	) On the way back from patrol Sgt Abrams' port engine cut five	
	P.7041	Sgt Abrams		"	"	) miles from base. He made a good landing.	
	P.7116	S/Idr Woodward	do	16:35	18:00)	
	P.7060	P/O Holmes		"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	do	17:05	18:35)	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		"	")	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley	do	17:40	19:00)	
	P.7007	Sgt Wright		"	")	
24	P.7100	Sgt Ridley	do	16:40	18:00	) Nothing seen.	
	P.6990	F/Sgt Coyne		"	")	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	do	17:00	18:20	) do	
	P.7051	Sgt Muirhead		"	")	
	P.7100	P/O Harvey	Sweep of	18:45	19:40)	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	Irish Sea	"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	patrol	14:25	15:45	) do	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		"	")	
	P.7160	F/Sgt Walker	do	15:00	16:45	) do	
	P.7110	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley	do	15:15	16:55) do	
	P.7007	Sgt Small		15:15	16:55)	

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March	Whirlwind						
24	P.7000	P/O Holmes	Patrol	15:15	16:50) Nothing seen.	
	P.6991	Sgt Wright		"	")	
25	P.7011	F/Sgt King	Convoy	08:55	10:15	) do) Landed at Angle.	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	patrol	"	"))	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	Scramble	18:30	18:35	) do	
	P.7000	P/O Holmes		"	")	
26	P.7011	F/Sgt Lovell	Sweep of	15:10	16:20	) do	
	P.7120	P/O Coyne	Irish Sea	"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	Convoy	10:35	11:20	) Blue section was ordred to escort convoys Steward & Sapper II which were found 15 miles 200 degrees from base. No cloud but	
	P.7000	P/O Holmes		"	"	) thick haze up to 5000'. Visibility ½ mile. Balloons were flying from these convoys at 2000 feet, in accordance no doubt with	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	do	14:15	15:45	) SD.158 but nevertheless affording great danger to fighter escort,	
	P.7000	P/O Holmes		"	"	) which therefore returned to base.	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	do	13:50	15:45	Nothing seen.	
27	P.7120	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Sweep of	15:10	16:40	) do	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	Irish Sea	"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	Convoy	13:50	15:00	) do	
	P.7000	P/O Holmes		"	")	
	P.7110	P/O Crabtree	Patrol	14:35	15:55	) do	
	P.7056	Sgt Small		"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes	do	17:40	19:00	) This patrol was carried out in very wide echelon, two miles between the sections, of which the aircraft were half a mile	
	P.7110	P/O Crabtree		"	"	) apart. The Linney-Head, Smalls, Carnsors, Saltee area was thoroughly	swept.
	P.7000	P/O Holmes	do	17:40	19:10)	
	P.7056	Sgt Small		"	")	
28	P.6990	F/Sgt Lovell	Convoy	14:00	15:35	) Nothing seen.	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	patrol	"	")	
	P.7112	P/O Blackshaw	do	15:00	16:35) do	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith		"	")	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron
For the month of April, 1942

"B" FLIGHT

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
Apl. 2 nd	P.7060	P/O Walker	Patrol	07:40	09:05	) Patrol of Irish Sea	
	P.7041	Sgt Abrams		"	"		
	P.7056	F/Sgt Kennedy		08:05	09:35		
	P.7116	Sgt Reed		"	"		
5 th	P.7056	F/Sgt Kennedy	Convoy	09:30	10:50	) -do-	
	P.7110	Sgt Reed		"	"		
	P.7060	P/O Walker		09:55	11:20		
	P.7114	P/O Gill		"	"		
	P.7116	Sgt Wright		11:30	12:30	) -d0-	
	P.7056	Sgt Small		"	"		
	P.7060	P/O Walker		09:05	10:55		
	P.7089	P/O Brearley		"	"		
	P.7056	P/O Kennedy		10:35	11:50	) Patrol Steward	
	P.7110	Sgt Reed		"	"		
	P.7114	F/Lt Warnes		10:20	11:55		
	P.7116	Sgt Wright		"	"		
	P.7060	P/O Gill		11:25	13:10	) " " " " Very wide echelon	
	P.7089	Sgt Small		"	"		
	P.7110	P/O Crabtree		12:45	13:45		
	P.7056	P/O Kennedy		"	"		
10 th	P.7061	P/O Gill	Patrol	14:00	15:25	) Patrol of Irish Sea 10 Saltees	
	P.7116	Sgt Wright		"	"		
	P.7089	P/O Brearley		14:30	15:50		
	P.7056	Sgt Abrams		"	"		
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		14:30	15:50	) " " " " Very wide echelon	
	P.7110	Sgt Reed		"	"		
	P.7090	S/Lr Woodward, DFC		17:45	18:50		
	P.7061	P/O Gill		"	"		

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
10 th	P.7089	P/O Brearley	Convoy	19:10	20:50)	
	P.7056	Sgt Small		"	")	
	P.7116	S/Lr Woodward, DFC		20:05	21:20)	
	P.7061	P/O Gill		"	")	
11 th	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	Scramble	13:00	14:00)	
	P.7056	P/O Kennedy	"	"	"	) Three sections after raid 159. Although Blue section plots were	
	P.7110	P/O Walker	"	13:05	14:15	) coincident for 5 minutes, e/a escaped unseen in cloud	
	P.7061	P/O Gill	"	"	")	
12 th	P.7116	P/O Walker	Convoy	12:15	13:25)	
	P.7061	P/O Gill		"	")	
14 th	P.7056	P/O Crabtree		10:35	12:05)	
	P.7090	P/O Gill		"	")	
	P.7116	P/O Kennedy		11:40	13:10)	
	P.7110	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7060	P/O Holmes		12:50	14:00)	
	P.7056	Sgt Wright		"	")	
	P.7116	P/O Gill		17:00	18:15)	
	P.7060	Sgt Wright		17:00	18:15)	
15 th	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	Patrol	13:40	14:50	) Saltee Patrol	
	P.7110	Sgt Reed		"	")	
	P.7116	P/O Gill	Convoy	14:40	16:10)	
	P.7090	Sgt Wright		"	")	
	P.7000	S/Lr Woodward, DFC	Scramble	15:35	16:25)	
	P.7061	Sgt Small		"	")	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron
For the month of April, 1942

"B" FLIGHT

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
Apl. 15 th	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	Convoy	17:10	18:30)	
	P.7110	F/Sgt Reed		"	")	
	P.7116	Sgt Wright	Patrol	18:25	19:50	) Saltee Patrol	
	P.7090	P/O Gill		"	")	
	P.7060	S/Lr Woodward, DFC		18:55	20:15) " "	
	P.7056	Sgt Small		"	")	
16 th							
	P.7116	P/O Gill	Scramble	08:20	09:35)	
	P.7060	Sgt Wright		"	")	
	P.7056	P/O Kennedy	Convoy	10:20	11:50)	
	P.7114	Sgt Small		"	")	
	P.7061	P/O Crabtree		11:10	12:30)	
	P.7089	F/Sgt Reed		"	")	
	P.7090	P/O Gill		11:50	13:20)	
	P.7060	Sgt Wright		"	")	
	P.7056	P/O Kennedy		12:55	14:05)	
	P.7114	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7000	P/O Holmes		14:40	16:00)	
	P.7089	F/Sgt Reed		"	")	
	P.7114	P/O Kennedy		17:10	18:45)	
	P.7061	Sgt Wright		"	")	
17 th							
	P.7056	P/O Kennedy		13:10	14:10)	
	P.7060	P/O Gill		"	")	
	P.7089	P/O Holmes		16:25	17:50)	
	P.7116	Sgt Wright		"	")	
	P.7056	P/O Kennedy		17:10	18:40)	
20 th							
	P.7060	P/O Gill		"	")	
20 th	P.7110	P/O Brearley		15:40	16:55)	
	P.7056	Sgt Small		"	")	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
21 st	P.7000	P/O Holmes	Scramble	11:10	12:00	) Bogey was identified as Liberator.	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley		"	")	
	P.7060	P/O Walker	Convoy	15:20	16:30)	
	P.7089	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		16:10	17:35)	
	P.7056	Sgt Small		"	")	
	P.7000	P/O Gill		17:00	18:20)	
	P.7110	F/Sgt Reed		"	")	
	P.7060	P/O Walker		18:00	19:15)	
	P.7061	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		18:50	20:05)	
	P.7056	Sgt Small		"	")	
	P.7000	P/O Gill		19:40	21:00)	
	P.7110	F/Sgt Reed		"	")	
	P.7089	P/O Walker		20:35	21:45)	
	P.7061	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
22 nd	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		07:10	08:25)	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		"	")	
	P.7000	P/O Gill	Scramble	07:40	09:10)	
	P.7110	F/Sgt Reed		"	")	
	P.7060	P/O Walker	Convoy	08:10	09:10)	
	P.7089	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		09:40	10:55)	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		"	")	
	P.7000	P/O Gill		10:35	11:35)	
	P.7110	P/O Brearley		"	")	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 263 Squadron
For the month of April, 1942

"B" FLIGHT

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
Apl. 22 nd	P.7060	P/O Walker	Convoy	18:50	20:05)	
	P.7000	P/O Brearley		"	")	
23 rd	P.7000	P/O Crabtree		11:50	13:10)	
	P.7060	P/O Brearley		"	")	
	P.7110	P/O Crabtree		13:40	14:45)	
	P.7056	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		14:30	15:40)	
	P.7089	Sgt Small		"	")	
24 th	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		17:40	18:25	) Five aircraft from each Flight flew to Portreath	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		"	"	) for a Ramrod operation, but this was cancelled and	
		etc				they returned on April 25th.	
25 th	P.7110	P/O Walker	Scramble	10:25	11:15)	
	P.7056	P/O Brearley		"	")	
26 th	P.7056	P/O Kennedy	Convoy	13:05	14:15)	
	P.7090	Sgt Abrams		"	")	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley		14:05	15:15)	
	P.7110	Sgt Small		"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		16:40	16:50	) Recalled as convoy entered Haven.	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		"	")	
	P.7056	P/O Kennedy		17:30	18:55)	
	P.7110	Sgt Small		"	")	
	P.7061	F/Lt Warnes		18:25	18:50)	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		"	")	
27 th	P.7056	F/Sgt Muirhead		17:20	18:40)	
	P.7116	P/O Blackshaw		"	")	
	P.7090	Sgt Ridley		18:15	18:35)	
	P.7110	Sgt Small		"	")	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
27 th	P.7116	Sgt Small		19:40	20:55)	
	P.7056	F/Sgt Muirhead		"	")	
29 th	P.7110	P/O Lovell		17:20	18:35)	
	P.7114	P/O Currie		"	")	
	P.7114	P/O Currie		20:30	21:50)	
	P.7110	P/O Coyne		"	")	
30 th	P.7116	S/Lr Woodward, DFC		18:12		) 10 Group <i>Fighter</i> Ramrod 18. From Predannack.	
	P.7089	P/O Kennedy				) 4 aircraft Red Section of "A" Flight and 4 aircraft from <i>Blue Section of</i>	
	P.7000	P/O Holmes				) "B" Flight Blue Section led by F/Lt Rudland, DFC and S/Ldr.	
	P.7090	Sgt Abrams			19:30	) Woodward, DFC left Predannack at 18.12, escorted by Spitfires	
						of 310 Squadron, to attack Lannion and Morlaix aerodromes,	
						respectively. Both sections made landfall too far West	
						owing to incorrect wind forecast and neither section found	
						its target. Red Section observed a gun position West of	
						St. Pot de Leon and orbitted to attack it but were ordered	
						back to base by W/Cdr Blake ho accompanied the sweep.	
						Accordingly all eight aircraft landed at Predannack at 1930	
						hours. The moral seems to be, again, that more time must	
						be given for briefing and studying maps and photographs.	
						In this case half an hour was available at Predannack.	

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"A" FLIGHT

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT
By No. 263 Squadron
For the month of April, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
Fairwood Common.							
Apl. 2 nd	P.7052	S/Ldr Woodward DFC	Convoy	15:40	16:55)	
	P.7117	P/O Coyne		15:45	17:15)	
	P.7056	F/Sgt Lovell	Convoy	15:00	15:20)	
	P.7120	P/O Currie		15:10	15:50)	
	P.7011	F/Sgt King	Convoy	16:35	17:55)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley		"	")	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Lovell	Convoy	17:20	18:40)	
	P.7117	P/O Coyne		"	")	
5 th	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	Scramble	17:40	18:20	) 2 Spitfires from Llandow, misplotted owing to	
	P.7117	Sgt Muirhead DFC		"	"	) temporary absence of I.F.F. from all Spit. V's.	
	P.7052	S/Lr Woodward DFC	Convoy	18:50	20:10)	
	P.7051	P/O Lovell		"	")	
8 th	P.7035	S/Lr Woodward DFC	Convoy	13:15	14:40)	
	P.7003	P/O Lovell		"	")	
	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	Convoy	14:20	15:40)	
	P.7051	Sgt Muirhead		"	")	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	Convoy	15:30	17:00)	
	P.7100	P/O Coyne		"	")	
	P.7035	S/Lr Woodward DFC	Convoy	16:25	18:00)	
	P.7003	P/O Currie		"	")	
	P.7117	P/O Lovell	Convoy	17:30	18:50)	
	P.7051	Sgt Muirhead		"	")	
	P.7052	P/O Blackshaw	Convoy	18:30	19:55)	
	P.7110	Sgt Ridley		"	")	
	P.7035	F/Sgt King	Irish Sea	19:45	20:55)	
	P.7003	P/O Coyne	Sweep	"	")	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
Apl. 8 th	P.7117	P/O Lovell	Convoy	19:40	20:30)	
	P.7051	P/O Currie	"	"	")	
11 th	P.7035	F/Lt Rudland DFC	Scramble	16:20	17:20	) See "B" Flight for same date.	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	"	16:20	17:15)	
12 th	P.7120	P/O Coyne	Irish Sea	10:15	11:40	) This section was vectored towards "Milk Train" off	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	Sweep	10:15	11:40	) Carnsore, but plots were inadequate.	
	P.7035	F/Lt Rudland DFC	Irish Sea	11:10	12:30)	
	P.7011	P/O Lovell	Sweep	"	"	-)	
14 th	P.7035	S/Ldr Woodward DFC	Convoy	13:35	14:55)	
	P.6990	P/O Currie	"	"	")	
	P.7100	P/O Harvey	Convoy	14:35	15:55)	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
	P.7011	P/O Lovell	Convoy	15:35	16:45)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	Convoy	16:25	17:20)	
	P.7035	P/O Currie	"	"	")	
	P.7052	P/O Harvey	Convoy	16:35	17:40)	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
15 th	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	Salter	09:25	10:40)	
	P.7052	F/Sgt Muirhead	sweep	"	")	
	P.7100	P/O Harvey	Salter	10:40	11:55	) P/O Harvey swung off runway on landing in a cross	
	P.6990	P/O Currie	sweep	"	"	) wind. Aircraft damaged Cat. B. starboard wing and engine.	
	P.7003	P/O Lovell	Salter	10:55	12:15)	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	sweep	"	")	
16 th	P.7003	P/O Lovell	Convoy	13:45	15:00)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

"A" FLIGHT

By No. 263 Squadron
For the month of April, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
Apl. 16 th	P.7052	F/Lt Rudland DFC	Convoy	14:40	16:10)	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
	P.6990	P/O Blackshaw	"	15:40	17:15)	
	P.7120	Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	16:40	18:10)	
	P.7003	P/O Lovell	"	"	")	
	P.7052	P/O Currie	"	18:05	19:45)	
	P.7117	Sgt Meredith	"	"	19:35)	
	P.7000	P/O Blackshaw	"	18:45	20:05)	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
17 th	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	Scramble	07:30	08:45)	
	P.7052	P/O Currie	"	"	")	
	P.7000	F/Lt Rudland DFC	Convoy	10:05	11:25)	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
	P.7052	P/O Currie	"	10:55	12:25)	
	P.7011	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
	P.7000	F/Lt Rudland DFC	"	12:10	13:15)	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
18 th	squadron to Angle						
20 th	P.7035	F/Sgt King	Convoy	13:45	15:40)	
	P.7003	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	"	14:40	16:00)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	"	15:40	16:20)	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
	P.7035	F/Sgt King	"	16:45	17:55)	
	P.7003	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
Apr. 20 th	P.6990	P/O Lovell	Convoy	20:45	21:40)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
21 st	8052	F/Sgt King	"	07:00	08:05)	
	P.7035	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
	P.6990	P/O Lovell	"	07:45	09:00)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	"	08:35	09:55)	
	P.7035	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
	P.6990	P/O Lovell	"	09:40	11:10)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	"	10:50	12:00)	
	P.7035	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
	P.6990	P/O Lovell	"	11:50	12:55)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
22 nd	P.6990	P/O Lovell	"	08:50	09:55)	
	P.7035	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	Scramble	16:45	18:00)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.6990	P/O Lovell	Convoy	19:15	20:40)	
	P.7011	F/Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
	P.7011	F/Sgt King	Convoy	21:00	22:45)	
	P.7120	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
22nd							
23 rd	P.7052	F/Sgt King	"	07:15	07:40)	
	P.7120	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	"	20:10	20:40)	
	P.7011	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

"A" FLIGHT

By No. 263 Squadron
For the month of April, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
Apl. 23 rd	P.7011	P/O Coyne	Convoy	11:10	12:15)	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	"	"	")	
	P.7035	P/O Lovell	Scramble	11:50	12:45)	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
	P.6990	F/Sgt King	Convoy	12:45	13:50)	
	P.7011	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7013	Sgt Ridley	"	15:25	16:05)	
	P.6990	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
26 th	P.7013	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	"	11:45	13:00)	
	P.7051	Sgt Ridley	"	"	")	
27 th	P.7013	F/Sgt King	"	16:20	17:35)	
	P.7035	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7016	P/O Blackshaw	"	17:20	18:40)	
	P.7056	F/Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
	P.7090	Sgt Ridley	"	18:15	18:35)	
	P.7110	Sgt Small	"	"	")	
	P.7013	F/Sgt King	"	18:40	19:45)	
	P.7035	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	"	19:40	20:55)	
	P.7116	Sgt Small	"	"	")	
	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	"	20:30	21:35)	
	P.7056	F/Sgt Muirhead	"	"	")	
29 th	P.7013	F/Sgt King	"	15:00	15:45)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7011	P/O Lovell	"	16:05	16:15)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	"	"	")	
	P.7014	P/O Currie	"	16:25	17:40)	
	P.7035	P/O Harvey	"	"	")	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
29 th	P.7110	P/O Lovell	Convoy	17:20	18:35)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	"	"	")	
	P.7013	F/Sgt King	"	18:20	19:30)	
	P.7051	P/O Coyne	"	"	")	
	P.7035	P/O Harvey	"	19:10	00:00)	
	P.7114	P/O Currie	"	"	")	
	P.7011	P/O Lovell	Scramble	20:10	21:05)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	"	"	")	
	P.7010	P/O Coyne	Convoy	20:30	21:55)	
	P.7013	F/Sgt King	"	"	")	
30 th	P.7051	F/Sgt King	"	07:30	08:45)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	"	"	")	
	P.7035	P/O Currie	"	08:30	09:40)	
	P.7011	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
	P.7013	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	"	10:30	11:45)	
	P.7114	P/O Harvey	"	"	")	
	P.7035	P/O Lovell	"	11:30	11:50)	
	P.7011	Sgt Meredith	"	"	")	
	P.7013	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	"	09:30	10:00)	
	P.7114	P/O Harvey	"	"	")	
	P.7013	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Ramrod 18	18:05	19:25	) Report of this operation will be found on	
	P.7114	P/O Harvey	" "	"	") last page of "B Flight sorties.	
	P.7011	P/O Lovell	" "	"	")	
	P.7052	Sgt Ridley	" "	"	")	

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By No. 263 Squadron

For the month of May, 1942

Time

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
16 th .	B.	7090/7089	Sgts Abrams/Wright	Scramble	15:20	16:10	
		7090/7089	" " "	"	20:15	21:05	
20 th	A.	7052/7120	F/Sgt King/Muirhead	"	12:35	14:00	
		7011/6991	F/Lt Rudland/P/O Harvey	"	12:55	13:45	
	B.	7056/7000	Sgt Kennedy/P/O Lovell	"	13:40	14:45	
		7056/7000	" " " "	"	15:10	16:10	
21 st .	A.	7013/6991	F/Lt Rudland/P/O Harvey)		11:30	12:00	
		6990/7120	Sgts. Ridley/Muirhead)		11:30	12:00	Balbo
		7011/7051	P/O Blackshaw/Sgt Meredith)		11:30	12:00	
		7052/7116	F/Sgt King/P/O Currie)		11:30	12:00	
		7013/7120	F/Lt Rudland/Sgt Muirhead		15:05	16:05	
22 nd .	B.	7061/7007	P/O Walker/Sgt Abrams	A.S.R.	18:25	19:45	<i>A search was made for ten miles around St David's Head.</i>
		7089/	Sgt Wright	"	19:40	20:25	<i>Nothing was seen of the Blenheim supposed to have gone in there</i>
		7090/7061	Sgt Reed/P/O Walker	Scramble	21:00	21:56	
		7060/7110	P/O Walker/Sgt Reed	"	08:00	10:00	<i>This flight was the longest operational flight ever made with Whirlwinds. The Section was vectored to Smalls Island to base, then to Smalls again where Blue One's R/T failed. Blue Two took the lead & they were vectored hotly after an e/a towards Dublin. They lost R/T touch with Humbug Repeater and near the coast of Ireland Blue One took the lead again in heavy rain and 10/10 low cloud. While flying East a vector to base was received from Humbug via a Beaufighter of 125 Squadron. Blue one knew he had not enough petrol to make base and continued to fly due East. The weather was very foul & he just saw a very small aerodrome at Hell's Mouth near Pwllhelly at which they were enabled to land by the strong Westerly Wind. Blue One saw 67 gallons of petrol put into his starboard tank.</i>
23 rd .	B.	7056/7089	P/O Gill/Sgt Abrams	Scramble	10:30	10:50	
					19:00	20:00	
24 th .	B.	7114/7110	P/O Crabtree/Sgt Reed	"	19:30	20:30	
		7090/7007	Sgt Abrams/Sgt Small	"			
25 th	A.	7014/7120	F/Lt Rudland/F/St Muirhead)		21:50	22:20	Sweep of Smalls.
26 th	B.	7007/7114	P/O Homes/Sgt Small	Scramble	19:40	20:30	
31 st	A.	7014/6991	P/O Blackshaw/Harvey		09:55	10:55	Sweep to Cainrov.
		7014/7120	P/O Blackshaw/F/St Muirhead)		14:15	15:40	Hust Escort.
		7090/6990	P/O Currie/Sgt Meredith)		14:55	16:10	
26 th		7014/7090	P/O Blackshaw/P/O Currie (Predannack)		06:15	06:56	<i>Rhubarb 54 to attack Railway objective in Landivisiau. Section flew to within 15 mls of French Coast, but found no cloud cover and returned</i>
				Max.	Min.	Daily Average Aircraft	
			On Charge	20	18	19.3	
			Serviceable	18	11	15.3	
						= 79.2%	
							<i>Andrew Wordsworth</i>
							<i>Flying Officer</i>
							<i>Intelligence Officer</i>
							<i>for Officer Commanding</i>
							<i>No. 263 Squadron</i>

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron
For the month of June, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
June 4 th	P.7052	P/O Currie	Scramble	20:40	21:05	) No incident	
	P.7120	P/O Van Zeller		20:40	21:05)	
B.	P.7089	F/Lt Warnes	Patrol	05:55	06:55	) Early patrol of Smalls-Carmsore area.	
	P.7007	Sgt Yates		05:55	06:55)	
5 th A.	P.7052	S/Lr Woodward, DFC	10 Group	15:20	16:40	) This operation has been fully recorded	
	P.7011	P/O Blackshaw	Ramrod	15:20	16:40)	
	P.7013	P/O Coyne	19	15:20	16:40	) on Form 540, page 1 for June.	
	P.7120	F/Sgt King		15:20	16:40)	
B.	P.7089	F/Lt Warnes	Offensive	15:10	16:30	) 10 Group Ramrod 19	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	Operation	15:10	16:30	) This operation has been fully recorded	
	P.7000	P/O Holmes	"	15:10	16:30	) on Page 1 of Form 540	
	P.7090	P/O Kennedy	"	15:10	16:30)	
	P.7043	P/O Gill	Scramble	20:40	21:20	) This scramble south of base and towards Lundy	
	P.7007	P/O Lovell		20:40	21:20	) originated in the misplotting of the	
						Squadron Oxford, returning from Portreath.	
6 th A.	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	Scramble	16:15	16:35	) No incident	
	P.7013	P/O Van Zeller		16:15	16:35)	
8 th B.	P.7060	P/O Gill	Scramble	09:45	10:00	) Abortive Scramble.	
	P.7090	Sgt Wright		09:45	10:00)	
10 th	P.7114	P/O Holmes	Scramble	08:50	09:35)	
	P.7117	P/O Lovell		08:50	09:35)	
13 th	P.7043	P/O Gill	Scramble	06:05	06:40	) Bogey identified as Liberator, South of Smalls	
	P.7007	P/O Lovell		06:05	06:40)	
15 th A.	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	Scramble	17:55	18:50	) No incident	
	P.6987	P/O Coyne		17:55	18:50)	
B.	P.7090	Sgt Wright	Scramble	-	-	) Cancelled	
	P.7043	Sgt Small		-	-)	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
19 th A.	P.7120	P/O Harvey	Scramble	19:20	20:30	) Enemy aircraft out of range off Irish	
	P.6987	P/O Coyne		19:20	20:30)	
	P.7014	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Scramble	20:15	21:05	) South coast.	
	P.7035	P/O Van Zeller		20:15	21:05)	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	Scramble	20:35	21:35) " " " " " " "	
19 th B.	P.6990	Sgt Ridley		20:35	21:35)	
	P.7000	P/O Holmes	Scramble	08:15	08:50	) Nothing seen.	
	P.7089	Sgt Abrams		08:15	08:50)	
	P.7056	P/O Holmes	Scramble	11:00	12:15	) Scramble Smalls 8000. Plots faded and Sector was	
	P.7089	Sgt Abrams		11:00	12:15	) ordered to convoy Peroration.	
20 th A.	P.7014	P/O Currie	Scramble	08:05	09:00	) No incident.	
	P.7052	P/O Van Zeller		08:05	09:00)	
	P.7089	F/Sgt Reed	Scramble	13:15	13:40	) Plots were off Salters but faded before	
	P.7060	P/O Walker				) contact could be made.	
	P.7056	Sgt Yates		13:40	14:30) " " " " " " "	
B.	P.7056	P/O Brearley		13:40	14:20	) Nothing seen.	
	P.7110	Sgt Yates	Scramble	13:40	14:20)	
	P.7000	F/Lt Warnes		14:30	14:55	) Nothing seen.	
	P.7007	Sgt Small		14:30	14:55		
21 st A.	P.7014	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Scramble	11:05	12:05	) No incident	
	P.7120	P/O Coyne		11:05	12:05)	
	P.7035	P/O Currie	Scramble	13:30	14:30	) No incident	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead		13:30	14:30)	
22 nd	P.6991	P/O Harvey	Escort	05:30	06:35	) No incident	
	P.7003	P/O Lovell		05:30	06:35)	
	P.7116	S/Lr Woodward, DFC	Scramble	10:40	11:15) No incident	
	P.6987	P/O Van Zeller		10:40	11:15)	

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Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron
For the month of June, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
22 nd A.	P.7003	F/Sgt King	Scramble	10:50	11:10	) No incident	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead		10:50	11:10)	
24 th	P.7014	P/O Lovell	Scramble	09:35	10:15	) No incident	
	P.6991	F/Sgt King		09:35	10:15)	
25 th	P.7035	P/O Lovell	Irish Patrol	09:00	09:50	) Patrol of Irish Sea. No incident.	
	P.6990	P/O Coyne		09:00	09:50)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	Scramble	20:10	21:05	) No incident	
	P.7052	F/Sgt Muirhead		20:10	21:05)	
	P.7014	P/O Lovell	Scramble	20:25	21:05	) No incident	
	P.7013	P/O Coyne		20:25	21:05)	
26 th	P.6990	Sgt Ridley	Scramble	12:35	13:40	) Enemy aircraft between Anglesea and Ireland.	
	P.7052	F/Sgt Muirhead		12:35	13:40	) A Valley aircraft engaged it, a JU.88 but we obtained	
	P.7003	P/O Lovell	Scramble	12:35	13:40	) no result	
	P.7013	P/O Coyne		12:35	13:40)	
27 th A.	P.7003	P/O Lovell	Irish Sea	09:15	10:10	) No incident	
	P.7013	P/O Coyne		09:15	10:10)	
	P.6991	P/O Blackshaw	Scramble	13:45	14:40	) No incident	
	P.7035	P/O Van Zeller		13:45	14:40)	
	P.7003	P/O Lovell	Scramble	21:50	23:00	) No incident	
	P.7035	P/O Van Zeller		21:50	23:00)	
	P.7120	P/O Blackshaw	Scramble	21:55	22:45	) No incident	
	P.7013	P/O Coyne		21:55	22:45)	
28 th A.	P.7060	P/O Holmes		18:50	19:50	) Black Blue and Green Sections were vectored	
	P.7000	P/O Lovell		"	"	) hard after plots 20-60 miles S.W. of Base.	
	P.7089	P/O Brearley	Scramble	19:05	19:55	) The were also vectored on to each other and	
	P.7090	Sgt Abrams		"	"	) intercepted successfully but fortunately did	
	P.7007	Sgt Small		19:15	19:45	) not engage	
	P.7110	F/Sgt Reed		"	")	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
28 th B.	P.7089	P/O Brearley	Patrol	21:20	22:05	) Enemy patrol to salter area.	
	P.7090	Sgt Abrams		21:20	22:05)	
29 th A.	P.7052	P/O Lovell	Scramble	18:35	19:30	) Bogey identified as Liberator.	
	P.7013	P/O Coyne		18:35	19:30)	
	P.7014	Sgt Ridley	Scramble	19:40	20:30) " " " "	
	P.7016	P/O Van Zeller		19:40	20:30)	
30 th	P.7052	P/O Lovell	Scramble	19:50	20:15) " " " "	
	P.7013	P/O Coyne		19:50	20:15)	
	P.7035	P/O Harvey	Scramble	22:40	23:15	) F/Sgt Muirhead saw low-flying aircraft 10 miles North	
	P.7120	F/Sgt Muirhead		22:40	23:15	) of St. Davids Head. But it disappeared in fading light.	
	B. P.7089	P/O Crabtree	Scramble	22:50	23:10	Nothing seen.	
	P.7110	F/Sgt Reed		22:50	23:10		
				see add		NOTE:- The remaining operational hours, which were again the	
				f. 541		highest in 10 Group, were devoted to Convoy patrols. As these	
				p5		were wholly without incident, they have not been recorded.	
						The largest number of scrambles may be accounted for partly	
						by misplotted friendly aircraft and partly by the renewed	
						interest shewn by the Hun in shipping in the Western approaches.	
						But German pilots are very well aware of our interception tactics	
						and one dubious visual has been the only defensive contact made	
						by this Squadron. Methods of interception without the use, or	
						with the minimal use of R/T have been and will increasingly be	
						tried out.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 263 SQUADRON
For the month of JUNE, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight				References
				Up	Down					
			ANALYSIS OF FLYING TIMES							
				SCRAMBLES		PATROLS Opps				
				No	Times	No	Times.	No	Times	
	F/Lt C.P. Rudland. D.F.C.			2	1.50	5	5.30	-	-	
	P/O H.J Blackshaw			2	1.45	8	9.35	1.	1.20	
	P/O P. Harvey			2	1.45	16	19.25	-	-	
	P/O J.P. Coyne			7	7.00	23	25.15	1.	1.20	
	P/O V.L. Currie			1	1.00	15	15.25	-	-	
	P/O W.A. Lovell			6	4.35	22	26.50	-	-	
	P/O C.P. Van Zeller			8	6.00	23	25.55	-	-	
	F/Sgt C.P. King			2	2.05	12	13.15	-	-	
	F/Sgt H.D. Muirhead			5	4.00	19	21.35	1.4	1.20	
	Sgt K.C. Ridley			6	5.00	23	26.15	-	-	
	F/Lt G.B. Warnes			1	.25	3	4.20	1.	1.20	
	P/O J.W.H. Holmes			4	4.30	18	20.20	1.	1.20	
	P/O H.V. Crabtree			1	.25	4	4.20	1.	1.20	
	P/O J.J. Walker			1	.50	23	25.55	-	-	
	P/O S.J. Lovell			4	3.00	26	29.55	-	-	
	P/O D.R. Gill			3	1.30	15	19.05	-	-	
	P/O N. Brearley			2	1.30	6	6.40	-	-	
	P/O I.F. Kennedy			1	.55	3	2.55	1	1.20	
	F/Sgt R.I. Reed			3	1.15	11	12.40	-	-	
	Sgt W.R. Wright			-	-	12	15.00	-	-	
	Sgt S.C. Abrams			3	1.50	20	24.00	-	-	
	Sgt D.F. Small			3	1.35	16	17.55	-	-	
	Sgt J.I Yates			2	1.50	20	22.50	-	-	
			TOTALS.....	61	54.35	343	394.55	7	8.20	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.f.
For the month of July, 1942

R.A.F.
Form 541

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
1 st A.	P.7052	P/O Lovell	Scramble	20:10	20:55)	
	P.7013	P/O Coyne)	
	P.7020	P/O Blackshw	Scramble	18:35	19:40)	
	P.7007	P/O Harvey)	
B.	P.7000	P/O Holmes	Scramble	08:55	09:55	) Scramble diverted to convoy staysail.	
	P.7087	P/O Brearley)	
	P.7060	P/O Walker	Scramble	20:20	21:20	) Scramble no incident.	
	P.7090	Sgt Abrams)	
4 th A.	P.7052	Sgt Ridley	Scramble	17:20	17:40)	
	P.7120	P/O Currie)	
	P.7089	P/O Crabtree	Patrol	18:15	19:40	) Patrol to S. of Eire.	
	P.7000	F/Sgt Reid)	
5 th A.	P.7014	P/O Currie	Scramble	12:15	13:20	) This attempted interception was watched in Ops room by I.O.	
	P.6991	F/Sgt Muirhead				) Enemy aircraft plots came up regularly and rapidly S.E. of	
						Lizard 8/10000 ft. The Red Section carried out normal	
						instructions instating that they were airborne and immediately	
						received vectors from controllers. Within 3 minutes E/A plots	
						faded and did not reappear.	
	P.7014	F/Lt Rudland	Scramble	21:40	23:00)	
	P.7052	P/O Lovell)	
6 th	P.7014	F/Lt Rudland	Scramble	11:05	12:05)	
	P.7003	P/O Lovell)	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	Scramble	19:50	20:50	) No incident.	
	P.7110	F/Sgt Reed)	
	P.6979	P/O Blackshaw	Scramble	13:20	14:00)	
	P.7052	P/O Harvey)	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
7 th B.	P.7000	P/O Holmes	Patrol	21:00	22:05	) Patrol Smalls area	
	P.7100	Sgt Small)	
	P.7089	P/O Walker	Scramble	22:10	22:55	) No incident.	
	P.7056	Sgt Abrams)	
8 th A. B.	P.7007	P/O Blackshaw	Scramble	07:50	08:55)	
	P.7052	P/O Harvey)	
	P.7090	P/O Walker	Scramble	07:55	08:55	) No incident.	
	P.7056	Sgt Abrams)	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree	Patrol	09:55	11:15	) Patrol to Carnsore and South	
	P.7110	F/Sgt Reed)	
	P.7060	P/O Crabtree	Scramble	19:45	20:50)	
	P.7000	F/Sgt Reed)	
10 th B.	P.7060	P/O Walker	Patrol	13:35	14:25	) Patrol Irish Sea.	
	P.7090	Sgt Abrams)	
	P.7117	F/Lt Warnes)	
12 th A.	P.6979	P/O Blackshaw	Scramble	14:00	14:10)	
	P.7014	F/Lt Davie)	
14 th B. 14 th B.	P.7114	P/O Lovell	Patrol	20:35	21:55	Patrol South of Eire.	
	P.7114	P/O Crabtree		20:10	21:05	) This was a modified form of operation "pigstick"	
	P.7110	Sgt Reed				) designed to catch unplotted low-flying aircraft	
	P.6995	P/O Brearley		20:35	21:35	) of 1/123 and 3/123	
	P.7056	Sgt Wright	Patrols			) The whole area between Angle and Eire and	
	P.7117	F/Lt Warnes		21:10	22:10) Lundy was swept, but unsuccessfully.	
	P.7060	P/O Lovell)	
16 th a.	P.7003	P/O Lovell	Scramble	21:20	22:00)	
	P.7057	P/O Coyne)	

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By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
July	Whirlwind						
18 th B.	P.7060	P/O Holmes	Patrol	19:15	20:05	) Small Patrol.	
	P.7007	Sgt Small)	
	P.7056	P/O Brearley	Patrol	20:15	21:20	) Smalls Patrol.	
	P.7000	F/Sgt Reed)	
	P.6995	F/Lt Warnes	Scramble	19:40	20:20	) No incident.	
	P.7090	P/O Lovell)	
	P.7060	P/O Holmes	)	20:50	21:50	This was a similar operation no that of the	
	P.7007	Sgt Small	)			fourteenth. A feature of both operations was that	
	P.7117	F/Lt Warnes	)	21:20	22:20	R/T silence was maintained. Again no <i>enemy</i> aircraft	
	P.6995	P/O Lovell	) Patrol			were seen.	
	P.7060	P/O Holmes	)	22:26	22:55		
	P.7110	F/Sgt Reed)				
20 th A.	P.7116	F/Lt Rudland	Scramble	22:15	22:45)	
	P.7003	P/O Lovell)	
21 st A.	P.7057	P/O Lovell	Scramble	13:55	15:10)	
	P.7035	P/O Currie)	
23 rd	P.6990	S/Lr Woodward, DFC	)	15:30	16:45	12 Whirlwinds led by S/Leader Woodwrad, DFC left their advance base	
	P.7062	P/O Coyne	)			at Predannack at 15.34 hours, rendezvousing with Spitfires of 234	
	P.7057	F/Sgt King	) Combined	15:30	16:45	Squadron at the Lizard. 300 feet. Dropping tp sea level, course was	
	P.7035	P/O Currie	)			set and the French coast was crossed West at Plouescat at 0 feet.	
	P.7060	P/O Walker	) Rhubarb	15:28	16:30	They then turned S.S.E. to Llanderveau.	
	P.7120	Sgt Abrams	)			<u>Red Section</u> 1. Sqdn/Leader Woodward, DFC, 2. Pilot Officer Coyne	
	P.7117	F/Lt Warnes	) Operation	15:28	16L43	flew to Leaneveu and South to the railway, branching left along the	
	P.7007	P/O Lovell	)			track. At Landivisiau they both fired at the station and on trucks.	
	P.7056	P/O Holmes	)	15:28	16:43	Pilot Officer Coyne reports he saw smoke and people running. They	
	P.7090	Sgt Wright	)			then flew on to Morlax. Squadton Leader Woodward firing at more	
	P.7014	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	)	15:30	16:45	trucks	
	P.6979	P/O Harvey	)				P.T.O.

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
23 rd		See over	Combined			Next they tuned to port and set course for Predannack via Taule.	
			Rhubarb			Pilot Officer Coyne attacked two vessels thought to be lightship-	
			Operation			tender, and abtrawler and saw hits. The section joined four other	
			(cont).			aircraft and on the way back saw a Whirlwind followed by two ME.109.	
						They turned in this direction and saw two more lo9's. By now the	
						Whirlwind had hit the sea. Later at about ten minutes from the	
						English coast another Whirlwind was seen with 3 109's on its tail.	
						Again S/Ldr Woodward turned back but cpuld not see owing to dirty	
						windscreen. They were unable to contact any other section as their	
						R/T was unintelligible. Pilot Officer Coyne saw 5 unidentified	
						aircraft, one of which went into the sea about mid channel.	
						<u>Blue Section</u> (1) Flight Sergeant King (2) Pilot Officer Currie.	
						Blue 1 turned left at Landivisiau and fired at a lorry on the Morlaix	
						road, seeing hits on its Radiator. Blue 2 was last seen with four	
						other aircraft near the French coast. (Blue 2 Pilot Officer Currie,	
						is missing and believed to be killed in action).	
						<u>Yellow Section.</u> (1) Pilot Officer Walker (a) Sergeant Pilot Abrams.	
						Yellow 2 flew South to Landivisiau, turning left along the railway	
						to St. Tregonnec. He fired at a lorry and saw hits, also at a signal	
						box on the line south of Morlaix. The next target he "shot up" was	
						a train in Belair Station. Hits were seen but no smoke. There was	
						however smoke over Morlaix. No enemy aircraft were seen but a	
						convoy was spotted 8 miles N.E. of Chaises de Primal (12 ships	
						NE/SW, course not known	

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By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.
For the month of July, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
	continued from previous page.		Combined	-		and no other details). Yellow 1, Pilot Officer J. Walker, did not	
			Rhubarb			return and is presumed killed in action.	
			Operation			<u>Green Section.</u> Flight Lieutenant Warnes (2) Pilot Officer S. Lovell.	
						This section attacked two huts near some tall wireless masts, North	
						of railway between Landivisiau and Landerneau. Flight Lieutenant	
						Warnes also attacked two huts by a gun-post North of Landivisiau.	
						Pilot Officer Lovell attacked a large camouflaged transport on the	
						road South of the railway.	
						<u>Black Section.</u> (1) Pilot Officer J. Holmes (2) Sergeant Pilot	
						Wright, also attacked the same huts as Green section. At the time of	
						Blacks attack the huts were glowing and three men ran out. Pilot	
						Officer Holmes fired at them and they (ie. the men) collapsed.	
						Black section then attacked a distillery one mile North of	
						Landivisiau (see White section. This was burning when they attacked.	
						<u>White Section.</u> (1) Flight Lieutenant R.P. Rudland, DFC (2) Pilot	
						Officer P. Harvey. This section first attacked 3 tall black	
						covered railway trucks coming out of the St Pol de Leon. The first	
						truck was left glowing red. Then they attacked the distillery one	
						mile north of Landivisiau which was left on fire, referred to under	
						Black Section.	
25 th B.	P.7056	Sgt Abrams	Scramble	09:25	10:15	) No incident.	
	P.7110	Sgt Wright)	
26 th A.	P.7120	P/O Brearley	Scramble	20:10	20:20		
26 th B.	P.7110	Sgt Abrams	Scramble	19:05	19:20	) Plots identified as friendly.	
	P.7117	Sgt Wright)	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
26 th B.	P.6995	P/O Brearley	Scramble	19:45	20:00	) Plots in Smalls area intermittent and doubtful.	
	P.7056	Sgt Yates				) Nothing seen	
	P.7000	Sgt Abrams	"	20:00	20:45)	
	P.7110	Sgt Wright)	
	P.7007	P/O Holmes	"	20:10	20:25)	
	P.7120	P/O Brearley)	
27 th B.	P.7000	P/O Holmes	A/S/R. search	20:00	21:00)	
	P.7007	Sgt Small)	
	P.7090	Sgt Abrams	Patrol	20:20	21:15	) Patrol of Small area.	
	P.7110	P/O Lovell)	
	P.7117	P/O Brearley	Patrol	21:00	21:55	) Conninnation of Smalls patrol	
	P.6995	Sgt Yates)	
28 th A.	P.7057	F/Sgt King	Scramble	16:05	17:10)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley)	
	P.7014	F/Lt Rudland, DFC	Scramble	17:00	18:20)	
	P.7120	P/O Harvey)	
	P.7062	P/O Lovell	Scramble	17:25	18:30)	
	P.6990	P/O Van Zeller)	
	P.7052	F/Sgt King	Scramble	19:50	20:15)	
	P.6990	Sgt Ridley)	
	P.7090	Sgt Abrams	Scramble	12:35	13:05	) No incident.	
	P.7007	Sgt Small)	
	P.7110	S/Lr Woodward, DFC	Patrol	18:10	18:40	) Small patrol	
	P.7007	P/O Brearley)	
30 th A.	P.6990	P/O Harvey	Scramble	08:10	08:40)	
	P.7014	P/O Van Zeller)	

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By No. 263 Squadron.
For the month of July, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight					References
				Up	Down						
						<u>Scramble</u>	<u>Convoy</u>	<u>Opps</u>			
						<u>No.</u>	<u>Time.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Time.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Time.</u>
		F/Lt C.P. Rudland			4	4.00	5	6.30	1	1.15	
		P/O H.J Blackshaw			4	3.45	17	21.00	-	-	
		P/O P. Harvey			6	4.30	24	30.20	1	1.15	
		P/O J.P. Coyne			2	11.25	16	16.45	1	1.15	
		P/O C.P. Van Zeller			2	1.35	15	15.10	-	-	
		P/O W.A. Lovell			7	6.45	23	27.05	-	-	
		F/Sgt C.P. King			3	2.15	10	11.05	1	1.15	
		F/Sgt H.D. Muirhead			2	1.25	11	12.40	-	-	
		Sgt K.C. Ridley			3	1.50	17	21.00			
		F/Lt G.B. Warnes			2	1.50	11	14.30	1	1.15	
		P/O J. Holmes			2	1.30	19	17.55	1	1.15	
		P/O Crabtree			2	2.05	15	18.25	-	-	
		P/O E. Brearley			2	1.55	14	17.10	-	-	
		P/O S.J. Lovell			1	00.40	16	18.55	1	1.15	
		Sgt B.C. Abrams			7	4.30	17	18.10	1	1.15	
		F/Sgt R.I. Reed			2	2.05	13	15.00	-	-	
		Sgt J.I. Yates			1	00.15	12	13.05	-	-	
				Totals	52	52.20	255	294.45	8	10.00	
			<u>DAILY AVERAGE.</u>								
			Available aircraft	17. 08%							
			Serviceable "	14. 94%							
		In addition to the above analysis the following Pilot's time are hereby noted. At the time of computation these									
		were not available:									
		P/O J.J. Walker			1	1.00	14	13.30	-	-	
		P/O V.L. Currie			1	1.00	13	14.55	-	-	
		Sgt W.R. Wright			2	1.45	12	12.50	1	1.15	
		Sgt D.F. Small			3	1.50	17	20.00	-	-	
			Totals.....	7	5.35	56	61.15	1	1.15		
			Total from above.....	52	52.20	255	294.45	8	10.00		
			Gross Total.....	59	57.55	311	356.00	9	11.15		

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By No. 263 Squadron.
For the month of August, 1942

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
1 st A.	P.6990	Sgt K. Ridley	Convoy	13:40	14:05)	
	P.7003	P/O C. Van Zeller)	
	P.6979	P/O H. Blackshaw	Scramble	14:05	15:10	) Plots 40 miles West of Lundy, infrequent and fading.	
	P.7014	P/O J. Coyne)	
	P.7057	F/St H. Muirhead	Convoy	14:25	15:15)	
	P.7120	F/St C. King)	
	P.6990	Sgt K. Ridley	Scramble	15:20	16:25	) Plots in Salter area. No interception	
	P.7003	P/O C. Van Zeller)	
4 th A.	P.7014	P/O P. Harvey	Convoy	10:05	11:20)	
	P.7062	P/O W. Lovell)	
	P.6979	P/O H. Blackshaw	Convoy	12:10	13:15)	
	P.7003	P/O C. Van Zeller)	
4 th B.	P.7000	P/O J. Holmes	Patrol	21:45	22:40	) Patrol of Smalls area and South. No incident	
	P.6995	P/O D. Gill)	
5 th A.	P.7014	F.St C. King	Convoy	13:15	14:25)	
	P.7013	P/O J. Coyne)	
	P.7062	P/O W. Lovell	Convoy	18:30	19:30)	
	P.7092	P/O J. Coyne)	
	P.7014	P/O H. Blackshaw	Convoy	17:35	19:00)	
	P.7013	F/St H. Muirhead)	
	P.7014	F/St C. King	Scramble	22:25	22:40	) Doubtful plots identified as friendly½	
	P.7013	F.St H. Muirhead					
5 th B.	P.7000	P/O J. Holmes	Patrol	08:50	09:50	) Salter Patrol	
	P.6995	P/O D. Gill)	
	P.7099	P/O N. Crabtree	Convoy	10:00	11:05)	
	P.7110	F/St R. Reed)	
	P.7090	Sgt B. Abrams	Convoy	10:50	12:50)	
	P.7056	Sgt J. Yates)	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
5 th B.	P.7000	P/O J. Holmes	Convoy	11:45	13:00)	
	P.6995	P/O D. Gill)	
	P.7099	P/O N. Crabtree	A/S Rescue	12:25	13:15	) Search for Blenheim believed ditched off St. Davids Head. No	
	P.7110	F/St R. Reed	Search			) trace seen. It was later reported that the original information was doubtful.	
	P.7090	Sgt B. Abrams	Convoy	12:45	13:45)	
	P.7056	Sgt J. Yates)	
6 th B.							
	P.7099	P/O N. Crabtree	Convoy	11:05	12:05)	
	P.6995	P/O D. Gill)	
9 th A.							
	P.6990	Sgt K. Ridley	Convoy	20:30	21:15)	
	P.7120	F/St H. Muirhead)	
9 th B.	P.6995	P/O D. Gill	Convoy	05:45	06:55	) Convoy "YOUNG"	
	P.7056	Sgt J. Yates)	
	P.7000	P/O J. Holmes	Convoy	06:30	07:55)	
	P.7099	Sgt W. Wright)	
	P.7090	Sgt B. Abrams	Convoy	07:30	07:40	) Sgt R. Reed on take off struck lorry stationary near runway. He	
	P.7117	Sgt R. Reed				) was uninjured by aircraft Cat "AC".	
10 th A.							
	P.6990	Sgt K. Ridley	Convoy	12:20	13:20)	
	P.7013	F/St H. Muirhead)	
	P.7014	P/O H. Blackshaw	Scramble	12:45	13:10	) No incident.	
	P.6991	P/O J. Coyne)	
11 th B.							
	P.7059	P/O D. Gill	Convoy	13:30	14:45)	
	P.7056	P/O W. Lovell)	
	P.7059	P/O E. Brearley	Convoy	17:10	18:15) Convoy "POKER"	
	P.7056	P/O W. Lovell)	
	P.7099	Sgt B. Abrams	Convoy	18:00	19:00)	
	P.7000	Sgt W. Wright)	

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By No. 263 Squadron.
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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
11 th B.	P.6995	P/O D. Gill	Convoy	18:55	19:05	) Recalled as ships were in Milford Haven.	
	P.7110	F/St R. Reed)	
12 A.	P.7120	P/O J. Coyne	Convoy	09:30	10:50)	
	P.7003	P/O C. Van Zeller)	
	P.7014	Sgt K. Ridley	Convoy	11:20	12:30)	
	P.7062	F/St H. Muirhead)	
12 B.	P.7059	P/O E. Brearley	Convoy	13:15	14:20	) Convoy "STEWARD"	
	P.7000	P/O Lovell)	
	P.7059	P/O E. Brearley	Scramble	15:15	16:30	) Infrequent plots in Carnsore area faded when our aircraft	
	P.7000	P/O Lovell				) approached.	
13 th A.	P.7003	P/O J. Coyne	Convoy	13:40	14:55)	
	P.7120	F/St H. Muirhead)	
	P.6079	P/O H. Blackshaw	Convoy	14:25	15:50)	
	P.6990	Sgt K. Ridley)	
	P.7120	F/St H. Muirhead	Convoy	15:50	17:05)	
	P.7003	P/O C. Van Zeller)	
13 th B.	P.7059	P/O E. Brearley	Scramble	08:40	08:50	) Doubtful plots identified as friendly½	
	P.7000	P/O Lovell				) Aircraft Backing-up at Exeter.	
17 th	P.6979	P/O H. Blackshaw	Convoy	12:35	14:05)	
	P.7003	P/O J. Coyne)	
	P.7052	Sgt K. Ridley	Convoy	13:35	15:05)	
	P.7120	F/St H. Muirhead)	
	P.7014	F/Lt C. Rudland, DFC.	Convoy	14:40	14:50)	
	P.7003	P/O C. Van Zeller)	
	P.6979	P/O H. Blackshaw	Scramble	15:10	15:45)	
	P.7013	P/O J. Coyne)	
	P.7014	F/Lt C. Rudland, DFC.	Anti½Rhubarb	16:10	17:25	) From Exeter. Patrol Bolt Head at 1000 feet.	
	P.7062	P/O C. Van Zeller)	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
17 th A.	P.7052	Sgt K. Ridley	Scramble	17:55	18:25)	
	P.7090	F/St H. Muirhead)	
17 th B.	P.7090	P/O N. Crabtree	Patrol	17:00	17:30	) Anti-Enemy Rhubarb Patrol off Bolt Head.	
	P.7056	F/St R. Reed)	
18 th B.	P.7099	P/O N. Crabtree	Scramble	09:15	10:00	) Patrol base at 20,000 or enemy aircraft, which turned back	
	P.7090	Sgt J. Yates)	
22 nd A.	P.7014	P/O P. Harvey	Scramble	06:05	06:25)	
	P.7062	P/O W. Lovell)	
24 th B.	P.7057	P/O H. Blackshaw	Scramble	17:20	18:15)	
	P.6991	P/O S. Lovell)	
28 th B.	P.6991	P/O E. Brearley	Scramble	09:25	10:05	) In the morning two enemy aircraft believed HE.177 dropped bomb	
	P.7059	F/Sr R. Reed				) in Bristol which caused many casualties in crowded buses. Plots	
	P.7099	P/O D. Gill	Scramble	14:20	15:30	) were good from Cherbourg at 20,000-30,000 but in fact aircraft	
	P.7057	Sgt J. Yates				) saw smoke trails 3000 feet above them at 35,000 feet. Cardiff was	
	P.7000	P/O P. Harvey	Scramble	19:25	19:45	) bombed in the afternoon from a similar height; the Observer	
	P.7043	P/O S. Lovell				) Corps made an unlikely identification of one of the enemy	
						aircraft as a F.W.200. The Whirlwinds which were scrambled	
						struggles to 24,000 but saw nothing.	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 263 "A" Flight (and Offensive Ops "B" Flight.)

For the month of September, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
8 th	P.7062	S/Ldr. Woodward, DFC	Roadsted	07:45	09:20	This Roadsted operation conducted from Bolt Head, to which the	
	P.7014	F/Lt Blackshaw	Operation			Whirlwinds had been flown on the previous evening, was the first in	
		F/Lt Warnes	}			which Whirlwinds were fitted with bombs (2 x 250 lb, 3 secs).	
		P/O Brearley	} "B" Flt			Escorted by two Spitfire squadrons of the Exeter Wing. The shipping	
						lanes of the Channel Islands were searched for a tanker which had	
						been reported there. However nothing was seen of it and the Whirlwinds	
						landed back at Bolt Head, three of them safely with bombs on. Bolt	
						Head is a small landing ground, and so F/Lt. G.B. Warnes dropped his	
						bombs into the sea.	
9 th	P.7105	S/Ldr. Woodward, DFC	Roadsted	14:35	15:20	A large ship was reported by a shipping recco near Cap de la Hague.	
	P.7014	F/Lt Blackshaw	Operation			Accordingly 4 Whirlwinds were bombed up with 2 x 250lb. 3 sec. bombs	
	P.6979	F/Lt Warnes	}			and escorted by Spitfires of No. 118 and 66 Squadrons, took off from	
		P/O Brearley	} "B" Flt			Warmwell. Four ships of the large armed trawler type (1000 - 1200	
						tons) were seen steaming West between Cap de la Hague and Alderney.	
						Following the anti-flak Spitfire escort (No. 118 squadron). Squadron	
						Leader R.S. Woodward, DFC and Flight Lieutenant G.B. Warnes attacked	
						the second of the ships which were in line astern S/Ldr Woodward	
						fired all his ammunition from extreme to very short range and his	
						bombs were observed to explode on the waterline against the side of	
						the ship. Flight Lieutenant Warnes could not fire during the C.O's	
						attack and his bombs were not observed, but he believed them to be	
						accurate.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
						Flight Lieutenant H.J. Blackshaw and Pilot Officer E. Brearley attacked the first ship with cannon-fire and bombs. Flight Lieutenant Blackshaw's bombs were observed to be near misses, Pilot Officer Brearley's were unobserved. But, in fact, both these ships were sunk. When S/Leader Wootton accompanied by the Warmwell Station Commander Wing Commander Boyd, DSO, DFC arrived with the rear support Spitfires six minutes later, only two ships were left floating. This was the first operation in which 25o lb bombs were dropped by Whirlwinds "in anger", and, in fact, the first in which anything but practice bombs were dropped. Oddly enough, it was also the first operation whose take-off and landing was witnessed by the squadron personnel as a whole, because this was the first week in which the squadron, albeit on Group Practice Camp, was situated at a forward aerodrome. Several newspaper cuttings describing the operation will be found in the Squadron Scrap Book.	
10 th	P.7605	S/Ldr. Woodward, DFC	Roadsted	18:25	20:05	The Whirlwinds, up from Bolt Head and escorted by 310 and 312 squadrons searched the Sept Islands - Brehat Shipping lane. Target not found. They returned to find 100 feet low cloud a Bolt Head, and so flew to Warmwell and landed in the dusk, very short of petrol.	
	P.7062	P/O Lovell, W.A.	operation				
	P.7014	F/Lt Blackshaw					
	P.7057	P/O Coyne					

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By 263 Squadron "A" Flight
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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
15 th	P.7014	F/Lt Blackshaw	Escort A/S/R	18:55	19:25	H.S. Launch escorted to 20 miles South of Warmwell	
	P.7052	F/Sgt Muirhead	launch				
16 th	P.7105	S/Ldr. Woodward, DFC	A/S/R	07:20	08:15	Search for Typhoon pilot who bailed out about 20 miles North of Cherbourg after engine failure on the previous day's operation.	
	P.7014	F/Lt Blackshaw	search			Nothing seen.	
	P.7062	F/Lt Johnstone					
	P.7057	P/O Coyne					
19 th	P.7014	F/Lt Johnstone	Anti-	18:15	18:55	Sections patrolled between Swanage and Needles. Nothing seen	
	P.7057	F/Sgt Muirhead	Rhubarb				
	P.7052	P/O King	Patrols	18:45	19:25		
	P.6991	Sgt. Ridley					
						"B" FLIGHT	
3 rd	P.7090	P/O. Brearley	Scramble	09:15	10:00	Up from Colerne they were vectored South at 15,000 feet, and	
	P.7057	Sgt. Macauley				finding low cloud at base landed at Middle Wallop. No incident in	
	P.7099	P/O. Crabtree	Scramble	11:05	11:45	either patrol	
	P.6995	F/Sgt. Reed					
8 th	P.7043	F/Lt Warnes	Roadsted	--	--	Fully reported on "A" Flight sheet	
	P.6979	P/O Brearley	operation				
9 th	P.7043	F/Lt Warnes	Roadsted	--	--	Highly successful Roadstead operation. Fully reported on "A" Flight	
	P.6979	P/O Brearley	operation			sheet.	
16 th	P.7043	F/Lt Warnes	A/S/R	10:15	11:10	Search was carried out in area 15-25 miles North of Cherbourg,	
	P.7099	P/O. Crabtree	search			often within sight of French coast. Nothing seen.	
	P.7000	P/O Brearley					
	P.6995	P/O. Gill					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
21 st	P.7099	P/O. Crabtree	Scramble	10:15	11:15	Vectored towards two enemy aircraft at 1000 feet 20 miles South	
	P.7110	Sgt. MacAuley				of St. Aldhelms Head. Nothing seen	
	P.6987	P/O. Lovell	Scramble	11:20	11:30	Section recalled to base	
	P.7000	Sgt. Simpson					
	P.7099	Sgt. Abrams	Scramble	13:05	14:05	Patrol off Portland. Nothing seen	
	P.7110	Sgt. Yates					
29 th	P.7043	F/Lt Warnes	Shipping			This section took off intending to make use of cloud cover in	
	P.6995	P/O. Gill	recco			reconnoitring the Channel Island Shipping Lanes. But finding heavy	
						rain squalls in which visibility was reduced to zero, 45 miles	
						South of Warmwell, returned to base.	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 263 SQUADRON
For the month of October, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind I						
3 rd	P.7105	S/Ldr. Woodward, DFC	10 Group	18:15	19:00	Following a P.R.U report and a further recco by 501 Squadron,	
	P.7062	F/Lt H. Blackshaw	Roadstead			this Roadstead Operation was laid on to attack a 3000 ton M/V	
	P.7052	P/O C. King	Operation			in Alderney Harbour. The Whirlwind bombers took off from Warmwell	
	P.7013	F/Sgt K. Ridley				together with five Spitfires of 501 Squadron, antiflak, and	
						rendezvoused over the base with 118 Squadron, rear support. The	
		("A" Flight)				antiflak aircraft did not catch up the Whirlibombers and only	
						one of them crossed the target area. In order to attack out of	
						sun, landfall was made at Casquets where the Whirlibombers turned	
						East. When they were still more than two miles from Alderney there	
						were engaged by flak from a hill top position and thereafter flak	
						of all calibres was accurate and very intense; indeed it is	
						reckoned that by reason of its concentration round the target area	
						this was the most intense barrage through which Whirlwinds of the	
						squadron have flown. Three pilots attacked the large ship which was	
						lying 40 yards off the mole. Results were not observed and the ship	
						was only claimed Cat IV "Believed hit and Damaged". No further	
						information has been received by the squadron about the success or	
						failure of the attack. The C.O.'s aircraft was hit by flak just as	
						he bombed. He returned to base on one engine, very closely escorted	
						by 118 Squadron. P/O King attacked a smaller ship alongside the	
						mole. Results not seen. His aircraft was holed in the tailplane. A	
						chunk was torn from F/Sgt Ridley's propeller. F/Lt Blackshaw led	
						the other two Whirlwinds back to base. All had landed safely by	
						1900 hours.	
	<u>"B" FLIGHT</u>						
1 st	P.7043	F/Lt G. Warnes	Roadstead	17:00	18:15	During the morning enemy minesweepers had been found and attacked	
	P.7059	P/O D.R. Gill	Operaton			by Typhoons in the Trieux estuary. This operation was planned to	
	P.7089	P/O E. Brearley				bomb them. The Whirlwind bombers flew at zero feet on 178 degrees,	
	P.7099	Sgt. B. Abrams				escorted by 312 Squadron. Landfall was made between some islands	
						but F/Lt Warnes could not pinpoint his position. He flew East for	
		("B" Flight)				fifteen miles, twice pulling up to 1000 feet in unsuccessful efforts	
						to discover his position. Our aircraft then returned on 352 degrees	
						which bought them to Eddystone Lighthouse, , and thence to Bolt Head	
						from which they had taken off.	
6 th	P.7043	F/Lt G. Warnes	Armed Recco	09:05	09:50	This operation was intended to reconnoitre the Guernsey-Sark area	
	P.6995	P/O D.R. Gill				where, doubtless because of the Sark Commando raid, a small ship	
						was expected to be at that time. F/Lt Warnes set course on 190 deg.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind I						
						at zero feet. Over South Coast cloud was at 200 ft. Further South,	
						the cloud base lowered to 50 feet and visibility fell to zero	
						in heavy rain. Believing this to be an important mission the	
						Whirlibombers penetrated to Casquets area, but finding less than	
						50 yards visibility, returned to base, flying on instruments.	
10 th	P.7043	F/Lt G. Warnes	Armed Recco	12:00	13:10	This recco was carried out in the Alderney area and three miles	
	P.7099	Sgt. B. Abrams				off the coast of the Contentin as far as Cap Barfleur. Cloud 10/10	
						at 2/300 feet, visibility 1600 yards, less in showers. Nothing seen	
12 th	P.6995	P/O D.R. Gill	Armed Recco	09:55	10:55	Armed low recco of Alderney, Cap de la Hague, Guernsey area.	
	P.7059	F/O S.J. Lovell				Flying at 30 feet they were engaged at 3-5 miles range by heavy	
						accurate flak from Alderney. Bursts behind, underneath and between	
						them. Bursts seemed in groups at about seven secs intervals. Pilots	
						jinked and skidded. No casualties. Weather off Alderney, scattered	
						low cloud brightening and thinning towards East.	
13 th	P.7105	S/Ldr R. Woodward	Armed Recco	07:05	07:42	Intended armed low recco of Barfleur-Cherbourg area but found	
	P.7009	P/O E. Brearley				too little cloud cover; it consisted of scattered cumulus and	
						nimbus cloud at 2500 feet, with large patches of blue sky. They	
						therefore returned before sighting Cap Barfleur. Two sections of	
						266 Squadron, Typhoons, provided rear cover for returning	
						Whirlwind bombers.	
21 st	P.6995	P/O E. Brearley	Convoy	10:40	11:55	Convoy escort between Needles and Portland.	
	P.7000	Sgt W. Wright					
31 st	P.7043	P/O E. Brearley	Rhubarb	10:40	12:20	Successful Rhubarb Operation reported under "A" Flight. Press	
	P.7099	Sgt W. Wright	Operation			cutting in Squadron Scrap Book.	
	<u>"A" FLIGHT</u>						
8 th	P.7105	S/Ldr R. Woodward	Bomb Dropping	16:00	16:30	See Appendix "A"	
			Test				

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 263 Squadron
For the month of October, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
1942	Whirlwind I	"A" FLIGHT, (Continued)					
Oct. 8th.	P.7014	F/Lt A.N.W. Johnstone,	DFC Shipping Recco	10:25	--	This was an abortive sortie. F/Lt Johnston unfortunately	
	P.7057	F/O P. Harvey	(Armed 2 x 250)	10:25	10:40	attempted to take off in coarse pitch, failed to do so, throttled	
	P.7105	S/Ldr R.S. Woodward, DFC		"	"	back, avoided dispersed aircraft and piled up his aircraft Cat "AC"	
						in the trees of Knighton Woods. He was only bruised and shaken.	
						S/Ldr Woodward orbitted over the coast and found no cloud cover,	
						and the recco was abandonded.	
9 th	P.7013	F/O P. Harvey	Shipping Recco	14:10	15:20	Armed recco of Alderney - Barfleur area. Courses given by Ops	
	P.6979	P/O C. King, DFM	(Armed 2 x 250)	"	"	proved satisfactory. Nothing seen. Weather: cloud 10/10 at 800	
						feet, visibility 8-10 miles, less in showers.	
10 th	P.7057	P/O J. Coyne	Shipping Recco	14:10	15:20	Armed recco, Alderney - Cherbourg area, nothing seen. Pilots were	
	P.7062	Sgt M. Cotton	(Armed 2 x 250)	"	"	twice held, though at sea level, by enemy RDF which can be heard as	
						a "buzz" on VHF R/T. Weather thick, poor visibility.	
12 th	P.7105	S/Ldr R. Woodward	Bomb Test			See Appendix "A"	
14 th	P7.913	F/Lt A. Johnstone	Shipping Recco	14:15	15:25	This armed low recco was intended to search Guernsey - Alderney -	
	P.7062	Sgt M. Cotton	(Armed 2 x 250)			Barfleur but after 25 mins flying to a point S.W. of Guernsey cloud	
						cover failed altogether and the section returned.	
17 th	P.7052, 7062	P/O J. Coyne Sgt M. Cotton	Convoy Patrol	08:45	10:25	Convoy escorted without incident from Needles to Portland.	
	P.7013, 6979	Sgt J. Barclay Sgt D. Williams	"	10:05	11:30		
	P.7052, 7120	F/Lt A. Johnstone P/O D. Samant	"	11:00	12:35		
	P.7057, 7094	P/O J. Coyne Sgt M. Cotton	"	12:05	13:20		
21 st	P.6979, 7062	Sgt K. Ridley Sgt M. Cotton	Convoy Patrol	12:50	13:15	This convoy was found to be tucked up in Portland.	
	P.6979, 7062	Sgt K. Ridley Sgt M. Cotton	Convoy Patrol	13:45	14:45	Another convoy escorted from Portland towards St Aldhelm's Head.	
31 st	P.7094	F/O P. Harvey	Rhubarb	10:40	12:00	It was intended that the "B" Flight section should attack the main	
	P.7057	F/Sgt K. Ridley	Operation	10:40	12:00	railway line in the Cherbourg peninsula, south of Valogues.	
						However, Met decided (and their opinion was ratified) that cloud	
						cover would be insufficient there. Accordingly both sections were	
						led by F/O Harvey to attack the railway triangle N.W. of the La	
						Haye du Puits. The courses given by Ops took them West of the	
						Casquets and thence to a correct landfall at Barneville.	

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By No. 263 Squadron
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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
<u>"A" FLIGHT Whirlwind I</u>							
Nov. 7th.	P.7057	P/O J.P. Coyne	Rhubarb	10:30	11:40	This operation, led by P/O D.R. Gill, had as its target the	
	P.7062	Sgt M. Cotton				Valognes - Carentan railway. Good Rhubarb weather prevailed	
						off the French coast but overland it deteriorated to 10/10ths at	
						250 ft with very poor visibility in heavy rain; indeed pilots could	
						only see properly through their side panels. They were just turning	
						for home when targets were seen in the Valognes - Montebourg	
						triangle. P/O Coyne scored cannon strikes on a detached locomotive.	
						Sgt Cotton thinks his bombs hit the track.	
						P/O Gill's bombs were seen to explode on or near the track by	
						Sgt Abrams who then lost all contact with P/O Gill. This was the	
						last that was seen of P/O Gill. He is missing in circumstances	
						in which, at present, only guesswork can provide any clue.	
8 th	P.7105	S/Ldr R. Woodward	Convoy	13:30	15:00	Large convoy escorted without incident from Isle of Wight towards	
	P.6979	F/Sgt K. Ridley	"	13:30	15:00	Portland.	
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw	"	14:30	15:55		
	P.7062	Sgt M. Cotton	"	14:30	15:55		
10 th	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw	Convoy	13:00	14:25		
	P.7057	F/Sgt K. Ridley	"	13:00	14:25		
	P.7057	P/O J. Coyne	"	14:30	15:00	Convoy of Floating Dock from Needles, Westward.	
	P.7062	Sgt D. Williams	"	14:30	15:00		
	P.7052	P/O C.P. King	"	15:05	16:40		
	P.7013	F/Sgt K. Ridley	"	15:05	16:40		
	P.7105	S/Ldr R. Woodward	"	15:05	16:40		
	P.7094	Sgt J.M. Barclay	"	15:05	16:40		
	P.7057	P/O J.P. Coyne	"	16:05	17:30		
	P.7062	Sgt D. Williams	"	16:05	17:30		
<u>"B" FLIGHT</u>							
Nov. 7th.	P.7043	P/O D. Gill (RCAF)	Rhubarb	10:30	--	Details of this operation are recorded above.	
	P.7099	F/Sgt Abrams		10:30	11:45		
	P.7089	W/O D. McPhail	Convoy	16:00	17:20	Convoy off Portland. A Hudson was chased and identified.	
	P.7059	Sgt J. Simpson	"	16:00	17:20		
8 th	P.6986	W/O D. McPhail	Convoy	10:20	11:40	No incident. Large convoy from Isle of Wight towards Portland.	
	P.6987	Sgt J. Simpson	"	10:20	11:40	Convoy of important Floating Dock from Needles area towards	
	P.7089	F/O E. Brearley	"	11:20	13:00	Portland. Two sections were continuously occupied.	
	P.7059	Sgt J.I. Yates	"	11:20	13:00		
	P.7007	F/Sgt Abrams	"	12:30	13:55		
	P.7000	F/Sgt W. Wright	"	12:30	13:55		
10 th	P.7099	F/Sgt Abrams	"	14:00	15:15		
	P.7007	W/O D. Tebbitt	"	14:00	15:15		

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
Nov. 10th.	P.7089	W/O D. McPhail	Convoy	14:10	15:20		
	P.6995	P/O A. Lee-White	"	14:10	15:20		
	P.6987	F/Sgt W. Wright	"	15:00	16:35		
	P.7059	Sgt J.I. Yates	"	15:00	16:35		
	P.7089	F/Lt G.B. Warnes	"	16:00	17:30		
	P.6995	P/O A. Lee-White	"	16:00	17:30		
	P.7099	F/Sgt B. Abrams	"	17:00	--	cancelled	
	P.7007	W/O D. Tebbitt	"	17:00	--		
18 th	P.7059	F/O E. Brearley	Convoy	16:55	17:55	Convoy off Portland (going West)	
	P.7007	F/Lt G. Warnes	"	16:55	17:55		
19 th	P.7113	F/Lt G. Warnes	10 Group	11:20	12:15	F/Lt Warnes led the 4 Whirlibombers on this first all-263 Roadstead	
	P.7059	F/Sgt W.R. Wright	Roadstead 40	"	"	Operation. No incident (see p.2)	
	P.6995	F/O E. Brearley		"	"		
	P.6987	W/O McPhail		"	"		
<u>"A" FLIGHT</u>							
14 th	P.7105	F/Sgt K. Ridley	Convoy	11:40	11:55		
	P.7117	Sgt J.M. Barclay	"	11:40	11:55		
16 th	P.7094	F/O E. Brearley	Rhubarb	16:05	17:30	This Rhubarb operation was, perhaps, the most successful carried out yet by the squadron. It was Sgt. Yates' first Offensive Operation. The target was the Valognes - Carentan railway. Good Rhubarb weather conditions prevailed over the Cotentin. The pilots flew down the line from Ecausseville but reserved their bombs for the much bridged watery area North of Carentan. F/O Brearley's bombs were observed to disintegrate the wood and metal of both railway tracks and Sgt. Yates considers that his bombs may have hit the bridge over the River Madeleine and that they probably hit the track. F/O Brearley then scored cannon strikes upon a line of goods wagons. Sgt. Yates then saw tracer coming from an E Boat off Village du Nord and was able to fire a two-second burst at it, observing strikes. It is only claimed Cat VI - (believed damaged).	
	P.7013	Sgt J.I. Yates	"	16:05	17:30		
18 th	P.7094	F/O P. Harvey	Convoy	12:15	13:50	This convoy of 16-18 ships was escorted without incident from Needles area to Portland.	
	P.7105	Sgt D. Williams	"	12:15	13:50		
	P.7057	F/Sgt K. Ridley	"	13:20	14:40		
	P.7117	Sgt M. Cotton	"	13:20	14:40		
	P.7013	F/O J. Coyne	"	14:25	15:45		
	P.6979	P/O D. Samant	"	14:25	15:45		
	P.7117	P/O C.P. King	"	15:25	16:35		
	P.7062	F/O P. Harvey	"	15:25	16:35		
	P.7105	F/Sgt K. Ridley	"	16:15	17:30		
	P.7013	Sgt M. Cotton	"	16:15	17:30		

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind I						
	"B" FLIGHT						
20 th	P.7113	F/Lt Warnes	Roadsted	08:45	09:50	F/Lt Warnes led the 4 Whirlwinds antifiak on this second all-263	
	P.6987	Sgt Simpson	Operation	"	"	Roadsted Operation. It was, unfortunately, again quite without	
	P.7099	F/Lt Johnstone		"	"	incident.	
	P.7059	Sgt Yates		"	"		
	P.7007	W/O McPhail	Convoy	15:20	15:45	Finding cloud at 100 feet the section returned to base.	
	P.6987	Sgt Simpson		"	"		
26 th	P.7113	P/O Abrams	Rhubarb	16:05	17:05		
	P.6987	Sgt Simpson		"	"		
29 th	P.7113	P/O Abrams	Scramble	16:50	17:40	The section was vectored very fast after a JU. 88 and, accirding	
	P.7000	F/Sgt Tebbitt				to Ops, were "right on top of it" at 10,000 feet about 16 miles	
						North of Cherbourg. The bandit was, however, concealed in 10/10	
						cloud.	
"A" FLIGHT	continued						
19 th	P.7105	S/Lr Woodward, DFC	Roadstead	11:20	12:15	This was the first all-Whirlwind Roadstead Operation. 4 "B" Flight	
	P.7013	Sgt Cotton	40	"	"	Whirli-bombers were escorted by 4 "A" Flight Whirlwinds antifiak.	
	P.6094	F/O Coyne	Whirlwinds	"	"	Although two enemy torpedo boats had been reported between Havre	
	P.6979	F/O Harvey	Antifiak	"	"	and Cherbourg, the area between Alderney and 5 miles East of	
						Barfleur was xxx swept, without incident. The squadron therefore	
						returned in formation.	
23 rd	P.7105	F/Sgt Ridley	Convoy	09:40	10:45	Convoy escorted Eastwards from Portland.	
	P.7094	Sgt Cotton		"	"		
						P.T.O.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
26 th	P.7105	F/O Harvey	Rhubarb	16:10	17:00	F/O Harvey led this operation, which included a section from	
	P.7052	Sgt MacAuley				"B" Flight, intending to attack railway objectives S.W. of Isigny,	
						but finding inadequate cloud cover 10 miles S.E. of Barfleur.	
						The Whirlibombers returned to base without incident.	
	P.7052	F/O Coyne	Rhubarb	10:25	11:35	Pilots did not reach their objective, the railway N. of La Haye du	
	P.7013	P/O Samant				Puits, owing to lack of cloud cover. F/O Coyne shot up a pill-box	
						and bombed the harbour installations at Diellette. P/O Samant	
						bombed camouflaged huts 7 miles S.E. of Piereville. Bombing results	
20 th	P.7105	S/Lr Woodward, DFC	Roadstead	08:45	09:50	This second all-Whirlwind Roadstead Operation was as blank as that	
	P.6079	Sgt Ridley	Operation	"	"	of the previous day. The roles of the flights were reserved,	
	P.7094	F/Lt Blackshaw	Whirlibombers	"	"	"B" Flight being anti-flak & "A" flight whirlibombers.	
	P.7013	F/O Harvey		"	"		
30 th	P.7105	P/O Coyne	Diversion	14:30	15:30	This section airborne North of base on cine camera gun dogfighting	
	P.7094	Sgt Williams	from Practice	"	"	was diverted to chase a bandit. They were recalled from 20 miles	
						South of Swanage.	

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By 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

For the month of December, 1942

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
Dec. 1st.	P.7013	F/O Brearley		16:30	17:35	Together with 4 Mustangs of 400 Squadron and 4 Spitfires of 118,	
"B" Flt	P.7000	W/O Tebbitt	Armed			these Whirlibombers patrolled Cap Levy, Casquettes, Jersey area.	
	P.6995	F/O Lovell	Recco			Returning they met 3 Me.109Fs. The Whirlwinds and Mustangs were	
	P.7059	Sgt Barclay				ordered home, while W/C Morgan stayed to damage one of the enemy	
						aircraft.	
Dec. 3rd.	P.6991	F/O Harvey	Convoy	08:40	09:55	Convoy approaching Solent from Needles. Pilots saw 8 invasion	
"A" Flt	P.7094	P/O Samant				barges which the Navy couldn't place, but identified later. Pilots	
						returned very hungry for breakfast.	
Dec. 7th.	P.7105	S/Lr Woodward, DFC	}	13:10	--	Rendezvous over Warmwell with 66 Squadron Anti-flak and 118	
	P.7117	Sgt Williams	} Red	13:10	14:40	Squadron with Wing Commander Morgan close escort. After skirting	
	P.7094	F/O Harvey	}			West of Guernsey, Enemy convoy was sighted lying off Baie de St.	
	P.7057	P/O King	} 10 Group			Brelade, South West of Jersey. Antiflak went in, closely followed	
	P.7113	F/O Lovell	} Roadstead 45	13:10	14:40	by the Whirlwinds. Red sections divided left and right to attack an	
	P.6986	Sgt Yates	}			right to attack an 800 and a 500 ton M/V respectively. Red 1's	
	P.6987	W/O McPhail	} Blue	13:10	--	bombs overshot but Red 2s scored direct hits on the stern and set	
	P.6995	F/St Wright	}	13:10	14:40	it well on fire, claimed Cat. 2, probably sunk. Squadron Leader	
	Woodward's aircraft was hit by flak and was seen to make what looked like a prepared ditching about 400 yards from the ships.						
	Red 3's bombs scored a very near straddle of the bows, claimed Cat.3, seriously damaged. Blue sections attacked a Seiner type vessel.						
	Blue 1s bombs were very near misses, or one was a direct hit, claimed Cat. 3. Warrant Officer McPhail was seen to fly through a						
	heavy flak burst (Probably from Jersey) while making his run-up. His aircraft disappeared straight into the sea. He is therefore						
	missing, presumed killed in action. Blue 4 had to skid away from the Seiner to avoid his leader's bomb bursts. He attacked a barge,						
	well and truly he thinks, but results were not seen, claimed Cat. 4. Both Red 4's and Blue 2's bombs hung up: neither was flying						
	his own aircraft, and the hang-up was due to a differently placed bomb-release button and to an unusually stiff one, respectively.						
	Other than those of our two casualties, no other Whirlwinds were hit						

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
						by flak. It is hoped that Squadron Leader Woodward may be a prisoner-of-war.	
Dec. 9th.	P.6991	F/St Ridley	Rhubarb	11:25	12:15	Intending to attack Railway triangle North of La Haye du Puits.	
"A" Flt	P.7117	Sgt MacAuley				Flight Sergeant Ridley led to good landfall West of Casquets.	
	But finding	only 6/10 thin cloud,	they reccoed N. of Cap de la Hague			and returned.	
Dec. 10th.	P.7099	P/O Abrams		11:50	12:15	Intending to bomb the Valognes - Carentan main line, they were	
"B" Flt	P.6995	W/O Tebbitt				recalled by Facta from 15 miles S. of St Aldhelms Head, because	
						"the sea was too rough for Air Sea Rescue."	
Dec. 14 th	P.7057	F/O Coyne	Anti-Rhubarb	15:00	16:25	Pilots flew, or were vectored, five or six times between Portland	
"A" Flt	P.7052	Sgt Cotton	Patrol			and St. Aldhelms Head. Finally vectored to 20 miles North of	
						Barfleur. Returning from there, they met 2 F.W.190s and had a	
						dogfight from zero to 4000 feet, following upwards after enemy	
						aircraft, and F/O Coyne twice getting on their tails and firing	
						good bursts but at extreme range. Sgt. Cotton also got in two	
						bursts, one head on, the other a beam attack. 1 F.W.190 claimed	
						damaged by F/O Coyne in their this first Whirlwind-190 combat. Both	
						Whirlwinds were undamaged. They broke off combat at cloud base and	
						returned to Hurn, very short of petrol.	
	P.7094	F/St Ridley	Scramble	16:40	17:00		
	P.6991	Sgt Williams	(Recalled)				
Dec. 14 th	P.7099	P/O Abrams	Anti-Rhubarb	11:50	13:00	Routine Anti-Rhubarb Patrol. No incident, although Pilots were	
"B" Flt	P.7059	F/St Wright	Patrol			vectored about 40 miles South of Portland.	
Dec. 15 th	P.6991	P/O King	Anti-Rhubarb	12:00	13:10	No incident, in this Needles-Portland routine patrol.	
"A" Flt	P.7057	F/St Ridley					

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By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
January	Whirlwind						
8 th	P.6971	F/Sgt W. Wright	Convoy	13:25	14:10	Convoy South of St. Aldhelms Head, going West.	
	P.7007	Sgt J. Simpson					
7 th	P.7099	F/O E. Brearley	Roadstead	16:00	17:40	Escorted by 130 and 234 Squadrons the channel was swept for	
	P.7013	P/O A. Lee-White	Operation			minesweepers reported off Ile Vierge. The only thing of any	
	P.7057	F/Sgt K. Ridley	from Predannack			interest seen was a floating mine.	
10 th	P.7013	F/O E. Brearley	Roadstead	09:22	11:05	Escorted by 19 and 130 Squadrons the Ile Vierge minesweepers were	
	P.7057	F/Sgt K. Ridley	Operation			again searched for. Six fishing vessels were found by not molested	
	P.7099	Sgt M. Cotton	from Predannack			and a report on enemy R.D.F. was forwarded.	
15 th	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw	Air	12:20	13:10	Flight Lieutenant H.J. Blackshaw and Sergeant J. MacAulay together	
	P.6991	Sgt J. MacAulay	Sea			with a Defiant of 276 Squadron actually sighted the missing pilot	
	P.7007	P/O B. Abrams	Rescue			in his dinghy about 20 miles South of Portland. Owing to the	
	P.7059	F/Sgt W. Wright				failure of R/T communication, which is normal and well known in	
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw				this area, this pilot was not picked up. The second sweep was	
	P.699b	Sgt J. MacAulay				entirely unsuccessful.	
	P.6986	F/O P. Harvey	Air	16:10	17:40		
	P.6979	F/Sgt K. Ridley	Sea				
	P.7054	F/O E. Brearley	Rescue				
	P.7007	Sgt J. Simpson					
	P.7089	W/O D. Tebbitt					
	P.6971	P/O A. Lee-White					
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw	Night Recco	22:15	23:35	First 263 Night Operations. These extensive shipping reccos of	
	P.7113	S/Ldr G. Warnes	" "	22:20	23:38	the Channel Island area were uneventful.	
	P.7059	F/O E. Brearley	" Rhubarb	22:15	23:37	Flying Officer E. Brearley penetrated the Cotentin as far as Baupte.	
						Near there he descried a train upon which he released his starboard	
						bomb, reserving his port bomb for the track a mile ahead.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
						After orbitting he found the train stopped and obscured by bomb-smoke.	
18 th	P.6995	F/O S. Lovell	Roadstead	14:03	15:29	This time the Ile de Batz area was searched for the promised but elusive, if not illusory, minesweepers. Returning from Ushant the formation was attacked by 4 F.W. 190s. There were no Whirlibomber combats or casualties, but one enemy aircraft was damaged by Flight Lieutenant Bell of 19 Squadron. Unfortunately Sergeant Sloan of the same Squadron is missing and Sgt. Glover was seriously wounded.	
	P.7099	P/O C. King	Operation				
	P.7097	F/Sgt J. Yates	from Predannack				
21 st	P.6995	F/O S. Lovell	Roadstead	16:40	17:15	Escorted by 19 Squadron. Formation recalled when a few minutes out from English coast.	
	P.7099	P/O C. King	Operation				
	P.7097	Sgt D. Williams	from Predannack				
						A. Wordsworth F/O	
						<u>I.O. 263 Sqdn</u>	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT
By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.
For the month of February, 1943

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind						
7.2.43	P.7094	S/Ldr G. Warnes, DFC.	Army	15:40	16:35	Equipment containers dropped on Netheravon aerodrome at 1600 hours.	
	P.7095	F/O E. Brearley	Co-op	15:40	16:35	F/O E. Brearley's containers hung up.	
	P.7052	F/O C. King, DFM		15:45	16:25		
12.2.43	P.7094	F/O P. Harvey	Rhubarb	08:30	10:00	Attack on La Haye du Puits. 2 trains attacked with cannon and a	
	P.7052	Sgt D. Williams		08:30	--	siding at Port Bail bombed. Sgt. D. Williams hit by flak from train	
						and ditched 4 miles off Cap de Carteret. Last seen organising dinghy.	
						Subsequent attempted rescue by Walrus navigated by F/O Harvey had	
						to be abandoned owing to roughness of the sea.	
14.2.43	P.7117	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC	Rhubarb	08:00	08:45	Attack on Carentan-Valognes Railway abandoned owing to lack of	
	P.7013	Sgt J. MacAulay		08:00	08:45	cloud cover.	
15.2.43	P.7057	F/O C. King, DFM	Rhubarb	08:25	09:25	Attack on Carentan-Valognes Railway abandoned because of no cloud	
	P.7117	Sgt M. Cotton		08:25	09:25	cover.	
	P.7113	S/Lr G. Warnes, DFC	Night Off.	20:30	22:05	Railway line S.E. of Carentan bombed.	
	P.7057	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC	Ops.	20:30	22:10	Abortive Shipping Recco round Channel Islands.	
16.2.43	P.7113	S/Lr G. Warnes, DFC	Night Off.	20:00	21:30	Train bombed N of Carentan - train stopped in clouds of steam.	
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC	Ops.	20:05	21:40	F/Lt Blackshaw, DFC, bombed a bridge S.E. of Carentan.	
"	P.7113	S/Lr G. Warnes, DFC	Night Off.	22:55	00:25	Returned to above locality but too dark for accurate observations	
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC	Ops.	22:45	23:45		
18.2.43	P.7094	F/Sgt K. Ridley	Rhubarb	08:25	09:35	Bombed railway junction at La Haye du Puits Triangle.	
	P.7013	Sgt M. Cotton		08:25	09:35		
	P.7094	F/O C. King, DFM	Rhubarb	11:25	12:50	Lock gates at Ouistreham bombed.	
	P.7013	Sgt J. MacAulay		11:25	12:50		

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
19.2.43	P.7094	F/O P. Harvey	Army	15:20	16:15	Army transports attacked North of Wroughton aerodrome on	
	P.7013	Sgt J. MacAulay	Co-op	15:20	16:15	Wroughton-Swindon Road. F/Sgt F. Hicks hit a tree and crashed	
	P.6971	F/O C. King, DFM	Exercise	15:20	16:15	in target area in a field. He was killed instantly.	
	P.7062	F/Sgt F. Hicks	"Longford"	15:20	--		
26.2.43	P.7113	S/Ldr G. Warnes, DFC.	Attack	16:00	17:00	Landfall made at Cherbourg but avoiding intense and accurate flak,	See
	P.7010	F/Sgt K. Ridley	Maupertus	16:00	17:00	the flight dived from 12,000 ft. to 7000 ft at an angle of 45°.	Appendix
	P.7117	F/O C. King, DFM		16:00	17:00	Hits were observed on aerodrome, dispersals and buildings.	A.
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC	10 Group	16:00	17:00		
	P.6971	Sgt M. Cotton	Circus	16:00	17:00		
	P.7057	F/O J. Coyne	16	16:00	17:00		
27.2.43	P.7113	S/Ldr G. Warnes, DFC.	Attack	13:30	14:30	Landfall made at Pointe du Barfleur and flight dived vertically	See
	P.6971	Sgt M. Cotton	Maupertus	13:30	14:30	from 15000 to 5000 feet. Hits were again observed on aerodrome,	Appendix
	P.7117	F/O C. King, DFM	Diversion to	13:30	14:30	dispersals and buildings.	A.
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC	10 Group	13:30	14:30		
	P.7057	F/O J. Coyne	Ramrod	13:30	14:30		
						Continued on page 2.	

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				Up	Down		
28.2.43	P.7113	S/Ldr G. Warnes, DFC.	10 Group	14:40	15:40	"B" Flight took off from Warmwell. This was their first	
	P.7110	F/Lt J. Holmes	Circus 17	14:40	15:40	dive-bombing attack. It was observed to have been successful.	
	P.7095	F/O E. Brearley		14:40	15:40	Buildings were seen "opened up like flowers".	
	P.7099	P/O B. Abrams	Attack	14:40	15:40		
	P.7086	W/O D. Tebbitt	Maupertus	14:40	15:40		
	P.7108	F/Sgt W. Wright	"B" Flight	14:40	15:40		
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC	10 Group			The veteran dive-bombers of "A" Flight went in for the third time.	
	P.7057	F/O J. Coyne	Circus 17			A F.W.190 which was about to get a bead on Sergeant M.T. Cotton as	
	P.7117	F/O C. King, DFM				he began to dive, was shot down by Flying Officer Andrieux of 130	
	P.6971	Sgt M. Cotton	Attack			Squadron.	
	P.7010	F/Sgt K. Ridley	Maupertus				
	P.7115	Sgt J. Simpson	"A" Flight				

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	<u>Whirlwind</u>						
1 st	P.7099	W/O D. Tebbitt	Convoy	08:00	09:20	Patrol off Angle	
	P.7110	F/Sgt W. Wright					
5 th	P.7099	P/O E. Brearley	Convoy	15:25	17:05	Patrol off St. Davids	
	P.7089	Sgt S. Thyagarajan					
	P.7110	F/Sgt W. Wright	Convoy	17:40	18:55	Patrol off St. Davids	
	P.7117	P/O J. Yates					
7 th	P.7089	F/O E. Brearley	Convoy	15:05	16:20	Patrol off St. Davids. Large Convoy.	
	P.7110	Sgt J. Simpson					
12 th	P.7089	P/O J. Yates	Convoy	18:10	19:40	Escort Convoy "Dinner".	
	P.6995	Sgt S. Thyagarajan					
	P.7099	F/Lt J. Holmes	Patrol	19:20	20:10	Dusk Patrol	
	P.7117	Sgt J. Simpson					
13 th	P.7099	W/O D. Tebbitt	Scramble	12:50	13:25	Scrambled over Cardiff at 25,000 feet. Recalled when they	
	P.7110	Sgt S. Thyagarajan				Reached 18,000	
14 th	P.6971	F/Lt J. Holmes	10 Group	15:55	17:00	Escorted by 312 squadron they made landfall at Barfleur at	
	P.7099	P/O B. Abrams	Circus 18	Warmwell		15000 ft. They dive-bombed Maupertus aerodrome from 15000 -	
	P.7117	P/O S. Lovell	(First Wave)			9000 ft. and saw 2 bursts in S.E. corner and other bursts in the	
	P.7059	P/O J. Yates				centre. Flak was slight and inaccurate.	
	P.7089	F/Sgt W. Wright					
	P.7094	F/O P. Harvey	Circus 18	16:15	17:15	Escorted by 616, 504 and 130 squadrons and led by Wing Commander	
	P.7013	Sgt J. MacAulay	(Second Wave)	"	"	O'Brien. They crossed French coast at Barfleur at 16000 ft. They	
	P.7057	F/O J. Coyne		16:22	17:30	dive-bombed 15000 - 8000 ft. and saw 8 bursts on centre of the	
	P.7113	F/O C. King, DFM		Ibsley		airfield, on the S.W. perimeter and in the S.E. dispersal area.	
	P.7108	P/O M. Cotton				Moderate flak. The success of these attacks is hard to estimate.	
	P.7010	F/Sgt K. Ridley				These seem to have been excellent.	
						P.T.O.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
19 th	P.7113	S/Lr G. Warnes, DFC	10 Group	18:10	19:10	These twelve Whirlibombers were the greatest number ever to become	
	P.7040	F/Lt J. Holmes	Roadstead			airborne for an operation. It was a pity, therefore, that the large	
	P.7089	F/O E. Brearley	53			convoy which had been reported South of Guernsey could not be	
	P.6971	P/O B. Abrams				located in thick black haze in the Channel Island area.	
	P.7110	Sgt J. Simpson				The squadron was escorted by 504 and 616 squadrons, led by	
	P.7013	F/Sgt W. Wright				Wing Commander Morgan.	
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC					
	P.7010	F/O P. Harvey					
	P.7117	F/O C. King, DFM					
	P.6974	W/O D. Tebbitt					
	P.7057	F/O J. Coyne					
	P.7108	P/O J. Yates					
20/21 st	P.7113	S/Ldr G. Warnes, DFC.	Bomb	24:00	01:20	Held by S/Ls and accurate flak 2000-200ft. Bombs jettisoned	
	P.7110	Sgt J. Simpson	Morlaix	00:05	01:30	Bombed from 1200 ft. through moderate flak.	
	P.7040	F/Lt J. Holmes	Viaduct	00:10	00:50	Gyro, Artificial Horizon etc; U/S. Returned to base.	
	P.7059	F/O E. Brearley	10 Group	00:15	01:45	Bombed 4000-1000 ft. After passing through heavy flak.	
	P.7057	P/O B. Abrams	Night	00:20	02:10	Bombed 3000-1500 ft. & scored direct hit on top of Viaduct.	
	P.7010	F/O P. Harvey	Rhubarb	00:25	01:50	Bombed 4000-1500 ft. No flak, no S/Ls. Saw P/O Abrams results.	
	P.7108	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC	No. 23.	00:30	01:40	Target not found. Jettisoned bombs over sea.	
	P.7013	F/Sgt W. Wright		00:35	02:00	Target not found. Jettisoned bombs in sea.	
	P.7117	F/O C. King, DFM		00:40	02:05	Bombed 4000-2000 ft. No flak. Looked for results, saw none.	
21/22 nd	P.7113	S/Ldr G. Warnes, DFC.	10 Group	00:01	01:20	Bombed from 300 ft. after dummy run. Accurate flak all calibres.	
	P.7110	Sgt J. Simpson	Night Rhubarb	00:05	01:30	Bombed from 3000-1000ft. " " " "	
	P.7108	F/Lt J. Holmes	No. 24	00:10	01:25	Bombed from 1000 ft. and scored a direct hit.	
						The above operation continued on page 2.	

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				Up	Down		
	continued from page 1						
21/22 nd	P.7059	F/O E. Brearley		00:15	01:55	Bombed from 3000 ft. after dummy run. Two direct hits.	
	P.7057	P/O B. Abrams		00:20	02:05	Landfall at Ile Vieuge. Therefore bombed Pense Bridge.	
	P.7010	F/O P. Harvey		00:30	01:55	Bombed from 3000-1200 ft. Accurate flak etc.	
	P.7108	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC		00:35	01:50	Port engine u/s.	
	P.7013	F/Sgt W. Wright		00:40	02:05	Unable to evade S/Ls and flak, jettisoned bombs.	
	P.7117	F/O C. King		00:40	00:50	Flaps would not lift, therefore jettisoned bombs and landed.	
22/23 rd	P.7113	S/Ldr G. Warnes, DFC.	10 Group	01:00	02:30	Bombed target after 2 dummy runs in thick haze.	
	P.7110	Sgt J. Simpson	Night	01:05	02:20	Target not found. Bombs jettisoned in sea.	
	P.7108	F/Lt J. Holmes	Rhubarb	01:00	02:10	" " " Bombed unknown railway track	
	P.7059	F/O E. Brearley	No. 25	01:15	02:50	" " " Bombed main line cutting.	
	P.7099	P/O B. Abrams	Bomb	01:17	02:40	Found target but unfortunately misfused bombs.	
	P.7010	F/O P. Harvey	Ponthou	01:00	02:15	Target not found. Bombed main line cutting.	
	P.7094	F/Lt H. Blackshaw, DFC	Viaduct	01:00	02:15		
	P.7040	F/Sgt W. Wright		01:30	01:40	Artificial Horizon etc. u/s.	
	P.6974	F/O C. King, DFM		01:30	03:00	Bombed target after 2 dummy runs, then looked for damage but saw none.	
24 th	P.7099	P/O B. Abrams	Rhubarb	13:45	14:45	Ordered to attack railway objectives at La Haye du Puits, they	
	P.7089	F/O A. Lee-White	Operation			found no cloud cover in the Casquets area and returned to base	
						with their bombs	
26 th	P.7007	F/Sgt W. Wright	Rhubarb	10:45	11:55	Ordered to attack target as above but they mistook Cap Flamanville	
	P.6971	W/O D. Tebbitt	Operation			for Cap Carteret and so searched too far North. Finding no other	
						target, they bombed a road at La Mare du Pors.	
	P.7108	F/O J. Coyne	Rhubarb	10:45	12:10	Making landfall at LANGRUNE/S/M they scored cannon strikes on a	
	P.6974	P/O J. Yates	Operation			goods loco there (Cat II) then bombed Ouistreham lock gates through	
						moderate accurate light flak, which tore a large hole in P.7108.	
						Lock gates believed damaged.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
26 th	P.7099	P/O B. Abrams	Rhubarb	12:45	14:20	They had carefully studied the position and appearance of the	
	P.7089	F/O A. Lee-White	Operation			Transformer Station at St. Lo , and the route to it. Making	
						landfall East of Isigny they flew through various patches of light	
						flak, located the target and both scored cannon strikes on it.	
						P/O Abrams bombs apparently disintegrated the whole transformer	
						unit. F/O A. Lee-Whites' exploded among the complex of huts. This	
						was perhaps the squadron's most successful Rhubarb operation.	
	P.7059	F/O E. Brearley	Rhubarb	15:05	15:50	Intending to attack targets in the Carentan area they found no	
	P.7110	Sgt J. Simpson	Operation	15:05	15:50	cloud cover whatever 20 miles North of Carentan and returned to	
						base.	

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind Mk 1						
4 th	P.7113	F/O Brearley	Roadstead	07:40	08:45	Rendezvous at 0758 with 129 Squadron Spitfires, and swept the	
	P.7040	F/O Lee-White	Operation			ALDERNEY - CAP de la HAGUE area at zero feet, in quest for E Boats	
	P.7007	Sgt Simpson				reported there, but none was found, despite the excellent visibility.	
	P.6995	P/O Abrams					
	P.6971	F/O Lovell					
	P.7108	P/O Cotton					
6 th	P.7059	F/Lt Holmes	10 Group	18:27	20:12	These Whirlibombers, escorted by 616 and 129 Squadrons, were	
	P.7113	F/O Brearley	Circus 20			intended to form a second bombing wave to the Typhoon bombers which	
	P.7040	F/O Lee-White				had bombed CAEN/CAUPIQUET aerodrome an hour before. However they	
	P.7007	F/Sgt Wright				found 9/10 cloud at OUISTREHAM at 8000 feet and the operation was	
	P.7090	F/O Coyne				abandoned. The Whirlibombers took off from TANGMERE and landed at	
	P.7108	P/O Cotton				WARMWELL. Normal heights were used, see other 263 Circus Operations.	
	P.6974	Sgt Macaulay					
	P.6971	F/O Lovell					
	P.6995	Sgt Simpson					
	P.7010	F/O King, DFM					
	P.7099	P/O Abrams					
9 th	P.7040	F/Lt Holmes	10 Group	12:50	14:30	Taking off from HARROWBEER they met 312 and 313 Spitfire Squadrons	
	P.7059	F/O Lee-White	Roadstead 55			at BOLT HEAD and flying at zero feet swept the SEPT ILES - ILE DE	
	P.7099	F/O Lovell				BATZ area for shipping reported there, as often, ship-like rocks	
	P.6979	Sgt Simpson				were found. A spitfire chased a JU.88 but it escaped into cloud.	
	P.7094	F/O Coyne				Visibility was good under 10/10 cloud except in patches of rain.	
	P.7108	P/O Cotton					
	P.7010	F/O King, DFM					
13 th	P.6974	S/L Warnes, DFC	Roadstead from	12:45	14:00	A 3,000 ton M/V escorted by "E" Boats had been reported off BREHAT,	
	P.6879	F/O Coyne	Exeter			but this sweeping operation failed to locate them.	
	P.7117	F/O King, DFM					
	P.7013	P/O Cotton					
	P.7099	F/Lt Holmes					
	P.7007	F/O Lovell					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind Mk 1						
13 th	P.6971	S/L Warnes, DFC	10 Group	17:30	19:00	On this bright blue April evening BREST/GUIPAVAS aerodrome was	
	P.7099	F/Lt Holmes	Circus 22			successfully divebombed with 20 x 250lb bombs. This was the first	
	P.7010	F/O Harvey				time the Squadron has attacked GUIPAVAS, though MORLAIX, LANNION,	
	P.7089	P/O Abrams				MAUPERTUS are ancient enemies. Taking off from PREDANNACK the	
	P.6979	F/O Coyne				Squadron made rendezvous with the Portreath Wing over PREDANNACK	
	P.7013	P/O Cotton				and flew at zero feet for twelve minutes, then climbed to cross the	
	P.7090	Sgt Thyagarajan	(first op)			French coast correctly at PONTUSVAL at 14000 feet. The target was	
	P.7059	F/O Lee-White				easily identified being indifferently camouflaged and outlined by a	
	P.7094	Sgt MacAuley				newly made perimeter track. Divebombing was in echelon port from	
	P.7007	F/O Lovell				15000 feet, pulling out at about 6000 feet. Bursts were seen in	
						dispersal areas E. & S. of the runway and apparent direct hits upon the watch-office and a hanger near it. Flak followed our	
						aircraft back to the coast. Fortunately no enemy aircraft were seen, since F/O LEE-WHITE only got his aircraft started 5 minutes	
						after the formation left; he joined up over GUIPAVAS; and F/O LOVELL got detached after bombing and returned alone from the USHANT area.	
14 th	P.7090	F/O Harvey	Armed	07:12	08:30	These two first light reccos from PREDANNACK and WARMWELL	
	P.7059	F/O Lee-White	Ship-Recco			respectively were to search for E Boats which, after mauling a	
	P.6971	S/Ld Warnes, DFC	Armed	07:20	08:40	convoy off FALMOUTH, were believed to be returning towards CHERBOURG.	
	P.7007	F/O Lovell	Shipping			The WARMWELL recco found nothing, but the PREDANNACK recco found a	
	P.7040	F/O King	Recco			Lancaster floating and its crew in a dinghy near it, 20 miles S of	
						Start Point (They had attacked SPEZIA). Their R/T had been u/s and	
						obtained fixes, waiting until A/SR Beaufighters appeared. The crew	
						of seven were rescued. But the attempt to tow in the Lancaster	
						was unsuccessful.	

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				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind Mk 1						
14 th	P.7090	F/O Harvey	10 Group	15:30	17:05	Shipping was reported in the LANNIL IS estuaries and these	
	P.7094	Sgt Thyagarajan	Roadstead 57			Whirlibombers, escorted by 65 Squadron searched for it at zero feet.	
	P.7010	Sgt MacAuley			Missing	By chance, landfall was made too far South and F/O HARVEY	
	P.7089	P/O Abrams				inadvertently led into the area off RAIE de BREST and thereby found	
	P.7059	Sgt Simpson				three ships; one which was reported as an 800 ton dredger and	
	claimed Cat 2, ("Well on Fire")		by bombing, was shown in CCG films			to have been a large trawler-type with a heavy crane in the bows.	
	The cannon attacks were extremely		good. The other two were also			trawler-types. They were claimed Cat 4 but this claim is under	
	revision, since these cannon attacks were also clearly effective.					Sgt MACAULAY alone attacked a small fourth ship. Nothing definate	
	was seen of him after his attack, but the C.O. of 65 Squadron heard him say "I am going down now, I am going to land", so that we						
	hope he may have force-landed safely in the BREST peninsula. F/O HARVEY fired without seeing results at a JU W/34, another of						
	which was destroyed by 65 Squadron.						
15 th	P.7113	S/Ld Warnes, DFC	10 Group	12:10	13:20	Rendezvous with 616 Squadron over WARMWELL and searched GUERNSEY -	
	P.7059	F/O Lee-White	Roadstead 58			JERSEY area at zero feet in good visibility. The ships which had	
	P.7007	F/O Lovell				been reported there seemed evarescent.	
	P.7110	F/O Brearley					
	P.7094	F/O King					
	P.6979	F/O Coyne					
16 th	P.7057	F/O Coyne	Escorted	20:40	22:10	It was believed that E Boats were leaving CHERBOURG at last light	
	P.6874	P/O Cotton	Armed			for their Channel Island bases, and thence towards the Cornish	
	P.7007	F/O Lovell	Dusk			Coast. However, this dusk escorted armed recco did not find them in	
	P.6979	Sgt Thyagarajan	Ship Recco			the Channel Island area. Our aircraft landed in the dark.	
16/17 th	P.7113	S/L Warnes	Bomb	22:33	00:01	Compass temporarily jammed u/s entailed a landfall at C. DE LA	
			MONDEVILLE			HAGUE. He therefore reccod for ships and trains, ISIGNY - CARELAN.	
			Industries				
			(night)				

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
16/17 th	P.6995	F/O Brearley	Bomb	22:35		Nothing was seen or heard of him after he left WARMWELL. A Vichy radio report of April 19th, suggests that his "Canadian aircraft" (he carried Maple leaves crest) may have crashed at ST. LO. The report states that the pilot was killed.	
			MONDEVILLE Industries (night)				
	P.7099	P/O Abrams		22:37	00:10	Mistaking ISIGNY for the CAEN canal, he pin-pointed too late. He then disintergrated the main line N. of CARENTAN.	
	P.7110	Sgt Simpson		22:41	00:14	Attacking the primary target from 2,000 feet in a 30° dive, he saw bursts in the target area. Mod. flak.	
	P.7059	F/O Lee-White		22:45	00:15	He made a dummy run through the flak and then attacked primary target from 800 feet, seeing bursts satisfactorily in the target area. Was shot up by ship on way out.	
	P.7094	F/L Blackshaw		22:49	00:25	Finding a (heavily) armed trawler N of OUISTREHAM, he bombed it but thinks that in evading flak, he missed.	
	P.7117	F/O King		22:52	00:31	He bombed the primary target from 100 feet but saw no results. He saw two ships N. of OUISTREHAM.	
	P.7090	F/O Harvey		22:57	00:25	Making landfall near COXSHULLES, he flew East but missed the CAEN canal and therefore returned to disintegrate the main line W of BAYEUX.	
						Weather for these operations was:- No cloud, bright moonlight, and good visibility. A rather strong easterly wind than that allowed for, caused pilots in general to make landfall too far West.	

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Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT
By No. 263 Squadron
For the month of April, 1943

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
17/18 th	P.7108	P/O Cotton	Night	22:44	23:30	Ordered to recco the CHANNEL ISLAND area, he returned from the CASQUET area with port engine trouble.	
			Armed Shipping				
	P.7099	P/O Abrams	Reccos and Rhubarbs in CHANNEL ISLANDS	22:48		Ordered to recco the HOULGATE - ST MARCOUF area, nothing was heard of him after he left WARMWELL. It is surmised that he may have found and attacked an armed trawler off OUISTREHAM.	
	P.7089	F/O Lee-White	-CHERBOURG -CAEN AREA	22:51	00:15	He reccod ALDERNEY - MARCOUF and finding no shipping, bombed Fort ST. MARCOUF. He landed at EXETER.	
	P.7057	F/O Coyne		22:56	00:25	He searched for trains BAYEUX - AIREL, meeting intense flak at AIREL, then disintergrated the line near CARENTAN.	
	P.7094	F/L Blackshaw		22:59	23:47	Intending to bomb GRANVILLE - FOLLIGNY he returned from the CASQUETS with exactor trouble.	
	P.7090	F/O Harvey		23:00		Ordered to look for trains between BAYEUX and CAEN nothing was heard of him after he left WARMWELL	
	P.7110	Sgt Simpson		23:04	00:15	He reccod the LA HAYE DU PUIITS area, but finding no target, returned with bombs.	
	P.7117	F/O King		23:08		Ordered to look for trains ISIGNY - ST LO, it is likely that he was shot down by the Airel flak at 2348, see below.	
	P.7113	S/Ldr Warnes		23:15	00:35	Finding no trains he bombed the Carentan Valogues line. He saw an intense barrage of flak at Airel at 2348. Weather: Good visibility, brilliant moonlight. Nothing definite is known about our three casualties. It is guessed that flak from land or sea was the cause of them.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
18 th	P.7057	F/O Coyne	Escorted	20:20	21:25	Escorted by 616 Squadron, which was met over Warmwell, they	
	P.6974	Sgt Thyagarajan	Armed			reccod the Channel Islands area at zero feet in good visibility,	
	P.7113	S/Ldr Warnes	Dusk			but found no shipping there.	
	P.6971	F/O Lovell	Recco				
	P.7007	F/O Lee-White					
	P.7110	Sgt Simpson					
18/19 th	P.7094	F/Lt Blackshaw, DFC	Night	22:45	23:50	Night Recco of Channel Islands Barfleur area	
	P.7108	P/O Cotton	Reccos	22:45	00:05	" " " " Southern Channel Islands area	
18/19 th	P.7113	S/Ldr Warnes	Night	01:55	03:15	Shipping was reported between Jersey and Cap de la Hague.	
	P.7007	F/O Lee-White	Roadstead			It was searched for but cloud 9/10 at 500 feet made observation	
	P.7057	F/O Coyne				difficult and unfruitful	
	P.7110	Sgt Simpson					
20 th	P.7108	F/O Coyne	Night	23:05	00:25	He found a small convoy of 2 Dutch Coasters a small M/V and	
			Armed Recco			2 Motor barges, steaming N.E. from Guernsey. He bombed the small	
						M/V and doesn't think he missed. Light flak followed.	
	P.7007	F/O Lee-White	Night	23:20	00:50	He found two armed trawlers steaming South about 2 miles about S.E.	
			Armed Recco			of St Marcouf. He made a beam attack on the nearer of them and	
						doesn't think his bombs missed. Mod. Flak.	
						Both these attacks were carried out from below mast height.	
						Evidently it is very difficult for a pilot to observe his own results,	
						even by day.	
	P.7113	S/Ldr Warnes, DFC	Night	02:00	03:40	The Channel Islands convoy which F/O Coyne had attacked was sought	
	P.7094	F/Lt Blackshaw, DFC	Roadstead			for, but not found. It had probably berthed in Alderney.	
	P.7089	Sgt Simpson					
	P.7108	P/O Cotton					

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron
For the month of April, 1943

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
27 th	P.7113	S/Ldr Warnes				Making rendeyvous with the Ibsley Wing and W/Cdr Morgan at Anvil	
	P.7069	W/O Tebbit	10 Group			Point. They flew at just above sea level to s. of Jersey where they	
	P.7040	F/O Lee-White	Roadstead	16:35	17:50	found a convoy of nine ships. S/Ldr Warnes, F/Lt Blackshaw and P/O	
	P.6974	F/Lt Blackshaw	59			Cotton bobmed a 1500 ton M/V and left it flaming at smoking furiously	
	P.7007	Sgt Simpson				(Cat 2). F/O Lee-White bombed an armed trawler and seriously damaged	
	P.7108	P/O Cotton				it (Cat 3). Sgt Simpson bombed a 100 ton converted yatch and probably	
	sunk it (Cat 2) and then went on to damage an E Boat with cannon fire (Cat 3). W/O Tebbit bombed and probably sunk a motor-barge						
	(Cat 2). Flak was moderate. F/O Lee-White's tailplane was damaged probably by debris.						
28 th	P.7089	S/Ldr Warnes	10 Group	10:15	12:50	The same six were detailed for this operation but S/Ldr Warnes's	
	P.6974	F/Lt Blackshaw	Roadstead 60			a/c wouldn't start and he therefore got into W.O Tebbit's, and	
	P.7059	Sgt Simpson				F/O Lee Whites A/C had exactor trouble. Escorted by the Exeter Wing	
	P.6981	P/O Cotton				and W/Cdr Dolezal leading, they found a convoy (see 540) of 8 ships	
	N. of Sept Isles. After some good antiflak attacks (so too on the previous day) S/Ldr Warnes and F/Lt Blackshaw scored direct hits						
	on an M Class Minesweeper and probably sunk it. Sgt Simpson scored many cannon strikes and direct bomb hits on an armed trawler						
	(Only claimed Cat 3) and P/O Cotton scored many cannon strikes and direct bomb-hits on a second Minesweeper (Also claimed Cat3)						
	Flak was very intensive throughout, and accurate. P/O Cotton returned with an 18" hole in his stbd wing. One of the Spitfires was						
	shot down.						

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
28 th	P.7113	S/l dr Warnes				This operation with the Ibsley Wing, from Warmwell, did not find the depleted convoy in its exstimated position south of Jersey.	
	P.7089	W/O Tebbitt	10 Group				
	P.7059	F/O Lee-White	Roadstead	14:22	15:45		
	P.6974	F/Lt Blackshaw	62				
	P.7110	Sgt Simpson					
	P.7057	P/O Cotton					
29 th	P.7113	S/Ldr Warnes				F/Sgt Ridley had rejoined the squadron in the morning just in time to make the sixth pilot operational for shipping attacks, and to take the place of F/O Lee White who was collected a Whirlwind from Exexter. These six, escorted by the Ibsley Wing found the ships (reported as 1000 tonners) Isigny and S/Ldr Warnes, closely following the anti flak Spitfires, exploded a patrol vessel with his bombs. Attacks were then called off as the remaining ships were identified as fishing vessels.	
	P.7089	W/O Tebbitt					
	P.6979	F/Sgt Ridley					
	P.6974	F/Lt Blackshaw					
	P.7110	Sgt Simpson					
	P.7057	P/O Cotton					
30 th	P.7040	S/Ldr Warnes				Proceeded from Predannack under escort of Portreath Wing to attack shipping off Ushant. No shipping sighted A/C returned to Predannack and eventually to parent station.	
	P.6974	F/Lt Blackshaw					
	P.7110	F/O Lee-White					
	P.7108	P/O Cotton					

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind Mk1						
2 nd	P.6974	F/Lt H J BLACKSHAW	Roadstead	12:10	13:15	Roadstead escorted by the Ibsley Wing in the Channel Island area.	
	P.6979	F/O A LEE WHITE	64			It seems that the Casquets had been again reported as a tanker.	
	P.6989	F/S K C RIDLEY					
	P.7008	P/O M T COTTON					
	P.7013	W/O D TEBBIT					
	P.7113	Sgt S THYGARAJAN					
3 rd	P.7074	F/Lt H J BLACKSHAW	Armed			Up from Exeter and escorted by the Exeter Wing they swept Guernsey,	
	P.7079	F/O A LEE WHITE	Ship	14:25	16:15	Sept Iles, Ile de Batz, where W/Cdr Dolezal and 310 Squadron became	
	P.7113	S/Ldr G B WARNES	Recco			involved in combats with 6 F.W.190s. These resulted in the W/Cdr	
	P.7008	P/O M T COTTON				damaging an e/a and in one Czech pilot being killed and another	
	P.7013	F/Sgt K C RIDLEY				wounded. They effectively protected the Whirlibombers, which were	
	P.6989	W/O D TEBBITT				not engaged. The minesweepers which were being searched for were	
						not found.	
5 th	P.7113	S/Ldr G B WARNES				Escorted by the Ibsley Wing, they searched for a minelayer reported	
	P.6974	F/Lt H J BLACKSHAW	Roadstead	17:15	19:00	steaming East from Brehat. Between Sept Iles and Ile de Batz. They	
	P.6979	F/Sgt K C RIDLEY				found fishing vessels, probably misreported - and returned to	
	P.6989	W/O D TEBBITT				Warmwell via Bolt Head in case anyone was short of petrol. But our	
	P.7008	P/O M T COTTON				formation all got back to Warmwell, though Sgt Thygarajan had let	
	P.7074	Sgt S THYGARAJAN				one of his petrol tanks fall unreasonably low.	
6 th	P.7013	S/Ldr G B WARNES				These nine Whirlibombers escorted by the Ibsley Wing flew at zero	
	P.7048	F/Lt J W E HOLMES	Roadstead	17:15	18:10	feet (as in all these operations) to attack a tanker with 5 small	
	P.7007	P/O P T R MERCER	65			escort vessels reported to be steaming W. in position W.N.W. of	
	P.7069	Sgt S THYAGRAJAN				Alderney. The Casquets were indeed found in this position. There was	
	P.7059	F/Sgt K C RIDLEY					
	P.6994	F/Lt H J BLACKSHAW					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlwind Mk 1						
6 th (Cont)	P.7008	P/O M T COTTON				intense and rather accurate flak from Alderney.	
	P.7110	W/O D F J TEBBIT					
	P.7057	F/O J P COYNE					
11 th	P.7057	F/Lt J W E HOLMES	Ship Recco	13:00	14:20	Escorted by 16 Spitfires of 504 and 129 Sqdns: They reccod	
	7007	W/O D F J Tebbitt				uneventfully to the south of Jersey etc., Sgt Proctor just avoided	
	7110	Sgt J I Simpson				putting his starboard wing down in landing in a strong S crosswind.	
	6971	Sgt H M Proctor					
14 th	P.7113	S/L G B Warnes	Roadstead 67	21:00	21:45	This operation was laid on by a Form D. which designated the target	
	P.7089	P/O P T R Mercer				by secret reference - two destroyers alongside the Quai Maritime	
	P.7040	F/L J W E Holmes				alternatively a medium M/V probably our old enemy the "Solmglint"	
	P.7110	Sgt J I Simpson				in the Basin Napoleon in Cherbourg docks. The method of attack was	
	P.7094	F/L H J Blackshaw				left to the squadron, S/Ldr Warnes DFC decided upon a divebomb	
	P.6979	F/O J P Coyne				attack from 12000-5000 feet. Escorted by W/C Morgan and 504 Squadron	
	P.7059	F/O A Lee White				and 129 Squadron and 610 Squadron as cover and top (The Ibsley Wing)	
						They formed up below 200 feet at Warmwell, they flew just above sea	
						level for seven minutes. Then they climbed to 1200 ft and the	
						escorting Spitfires took appropriate positions. S/Ldr Warnes led the	
						Whirlibombers in over Queiqueville, gliding down to 11,000 feet,	
						and turning left in the base of a valuable cloudbank. Thus he was	
						able to position the Squadron for divebombing out of cloud and out	
						of the glaring yellow sun set. This manoeuvre seems to	

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				Up	Down		
						surprised and abated the Cherbourg flak - the light flak merely attempted a curtain barrage over the M/V in Bassin Napoleon - for only three Whirlwinds were dented by it. The destroyers weren't there, but the medium M/V was, and the Whirlibombers secured a good pattern of bombing without seeing a direct hit. This it was felt would have been a remarkable lucky shot.	
15 th	P.7059	F/O A Lee White	Night Recco	23:50	01:30	He reccod from Alderney to Isigny and was returning from there when he saw an 8 ship convoy steaming east of Cape Barfleur. He kept out of sight and sound of it and bombed the rearmost ship a 200 M/V up moon from mast height. He heard, and saw something of a tremendous explosion as he passed over the ship. It is therefore claimed Cat "2". Flak was late and followed him.	
	P.7974	F/O J P Coyne	Night Recco	23:55	01:25	He reccod the Channel Is; area and had an irritating chase after E Boats which eluded his bombing run.	
	P.7113	S/L G B Warnes	Night	01:00	02:20	These four took off to attack the convoy off Barfleur. S/L Warnes and Sgt Simpson couldn't find it. F/L Holmes bombed one ship of it but did not see whether he hit it (Cat 4). F/L Blackshaw returned to orbit Exeter, Harrowbeer and Exeter again, without lights or R/T and then crashed fatally near Exeter. See Form 540.	
	P.7094	F/L H J Blackshaw	Roadstead 2	01:05	02:35		
	P.7040	F/L J W E Holmes		02:05	04:30		
	P.7110	Sgt J I Simpson					
16 th to 17 th	P.7113	S/L G B Warnes				Escorted armed recco recalled because of a failure of R/T reception at Middle Wallop.	
	P.7059	Sgt J I Simpson					
	P.7013	F/O J P Coyne					
	P.7069	F/O A Lee White					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
16 th	P.7040	S/L G B Warnes	Ship Recco			This armed recco escorted by 504 Squadron flew to search for two	
17 th	P.6979	F/S K C Ridley	"			destroyers and a medium M/V suspected in the Channel Islands area	
	P.7110	F/L J P Coyne	"			7 miles west of Casquets our formation which was in loose line	
	P.7059	F/O A Lee White	"			abreast at zero feet was attacked by two F.W.190's which fired	
	rather wildly from an 11 o'clock approach and then foolishly turned South back over the Whirlibombers. F/O Lee White and F/L						
	Coyne who had now turned to port to the East were able to get in bursts of 76 and 58 rounds respectively, using full deflection.						
	Both saw strikes and claimed these two e/a as damaged. Our formation and the e/a were now flying north and south respectively.						
	Spitfires of 504 Squadron detached to chase and made no further contact, while the Whirlibombers returned to base. This was the						
	second F.W.190 damaged by F/L Coyne, and the third damaged by our Whirlibombers. Bombs were not jettisoned.						
16 th	P.7040	Sgt J I Simpson	Night	23:20	00:25	Uneventful night recco of Channel Is: area	
to	P.6979	F/Sgt K C Ridley	Recco	23:35	00:40	" " " " Barfleur - Isigny	
17 th	P.7008	F/L J P Coyne		23:52	01:10	" " " " Channel Is: area	
	P.7040	F/O A Lee White		23:35	01:15	" " " " Alderney - Pt de la Perces	
18 th	P.7113	S/L G B Warnes	Roadstead	18:50	20:20	Escorted by 504 and 616. No minesweepers were found in their	
	P.7089	Sgt J I Simpson				suspected position between Jersey and Brehat.	
	P.7040	F/L J W E Holmes					
	P.6979	F/S K C Ridley					
18 th /19 th	P.7059	F/L J W E Holmes	Night Recco	00:50	01:15	Repitition of previous nights uneventful ship Reccos.	
	P.7108	F/O M T Cotton					
19 th	P7050	F/O A Lee White	Roadstead			Repetition of previous days uneventful search for minesweepers	
	P.7113	S/L G B Warnes				Channel Islands - Brehat	
	P.7089	Sgt Watkins					
	P.6974	F/L J P Coyne					
	P.6979	F/St Ridley					
21 st /22 nd	P.7113	S/L G B Warnes	Night Roadstead	00:25	01:50	A convoy was reported to be steaming from Cap de la Hague towards	
	P.7040	F/L J W E Holmes	2			Cherbourg. S/L Warnes briefed 4 pilots to follow him as soon as	
	P.7108	P/O M T Cotton				possible. He found the convoy about three miles W.N.W. of	
	P.7007	F/L J P Coyne					

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				Up	Down		
21/22 nd	P.7059	F/O A Lee White	Night Roadstead	00:50	02:05	Cherbourg and orbitted while he broadcast its position to the other who were now airbourne. Then he bombed the 3,500 ton M/V which was escorted by 4 armed trawlers. Then he patrolled 3 miles N of the convoy broadcasting directions and and commentary and observing the next three attacks. F/L Holmes and P/O Cotton finished off the M/V. F/L Coyne sank one of the armed trawlers. When F/O Lee White arrived there were only three trawlers left. His starboard engine was set on fire by flak 400 yards from the convoy but he went on to bomb one of the trawlers from mast height in a port beam up moon attack (this was used throughout). Then he called that he was bailing out over Queiqueville. However the slipstream somewhat abated the engine-fire, and he was able to struggle back to Warmwell and land, there the engine, now in full flame, was extinguished by the fire tender. P/O Cotton's a/c was also Cat B flak, with a fuselage like a pepper-box. He made a good landing after four attempts without A.S.I and with rudder partly jammed. Neither a/c had hydraulics; wheels and flaps answered to the emergency air-bottle. Thus this operation was the most successful, exciting, and spectacular of our night operations to date.	
23 rd	P.7040	F/L J W E Holmes	Roadstead 70	07:45	09:00	A convoy nearing Guernsey from C de la Hague had shot down one of the recco Spitfires which found it. Accordingly the Whirlibombers, escorted by the Ibsley Wing, flew in through the little Russell Strait (Guernsey - Heron) when "The sea seemed to boil with flak" and found a seven ship convoy in line astern E out of St Peter Port neatly disposed for immediate N-S beam attacks. F/L Holmes probably sunk a Dutch Coaster (its centre section was disintegrated on the water line) The other damaged an armed trawler (Cat 3) P/O Cotton's stbd petrol tank was holed by a 20mm shell 30 gallons ran out at once. Then the tank sealed itself and he got back to Warmwell with his third a/c Cat B for Westlands.	
29 th	P.7113	S/L G B Warnes	Roadstead 71	14:10	15:15	Escorted by the Ibsley Wing the 15 Ship Convoy reported off Barfleur was found without much enthusiasm to be the French Fishing Fleet.	
	P.7007	W/O D F J Tebbitt					
	P.6979	F/L J P Coyne					
	P.7000	P/O M T Cotton					
	P.7040	F/O A Lee White					
	P.7013	F/Sgt Ridley					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
29 th	P.7000	P/O M T Cotton	Scramble	17:15	18:45	Fighter readiness again. These sections patrolled base at 5,000	
	P.7013	Sgt W E Watkins				ft as a protection to the 36 Spitfire XI a/c of the Hornchurch Wing	
						which were refuelling after Ramrod 67.	
	P.6974	Sgt N P Blacklock	Scramble	18:10	19:40		
	P.7113	F/O A Lee White					
	P.7040	W/O D F J Tebbit		19:15	20:15		
	P.7007	P/O P T R Mercer					
30 th	P.7113	S/L G B Warnes	Ship Recco	18:35	19:50	Escorted by elements of 616 and 504 Squadrons they reccod the	
	P.7040	F/O A Lee White				Jersey area without anything more eventful than accurate by harmless	
	P.6974	F/L J P Coyne				bursts of flak from Guernsey.	
	P.7000	P/O M T Cotton					

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By 263 Squadron

For the month of June, 1943

E. R. Baker

Squadron Leader, Commanding

No 263 Squadron, R.A.F. Zeals.

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	Whirlibomber						
13 th	P.7113	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Shipping	16:00	17:15	Rendezvous made over base with 12 Spitfires of a Squadron of the	
	P.6974	F/Lt J.P. COYNE DFC	Recco			Ibsley Wing and the Recco was carried out as usual, with all	
	P.7111	SGT H.M. PROCTOR				aircraft flying at heights below seventy feet above sea level.	
	P.7097	SGT W.E. WATKINS				The area searched comprised the Channel Island area and as far as	
						the Ile Brehat. Some fairly accurate bursts of flak was met with two miles from the coast of Guernsey.	
18 th	P.7113	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Shipping	18:57	20:15	Armed escorted shipping recco of the same area as above and with	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC	Recco			the same negative results. Flak this time came from Alderney.	
	P.7097	SGT G.A. WOOD					
	P.6990	F/SGT G.H. SMITH					
20 th	P.7113	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Shipping	10:55	12:10	See above. Flak from Guernsey, one burst shook SGT R.C. BEAUMONT's	
	P.7111	F/Lt J.P. COYNE DFC	Recco			a/c	
	P.7056	SGT R.C. BEAUMONT					
	P.7055	D.R. GRAY (SGT)					
23 rd	P.6986	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Shipping	12:30	13:16	This armed escorted shipping recco was abandoned near the CASQUETS	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC	Recco			in thick sea haze which reduced visibility to 800 yards and made	
	P.6990	SGT W.W. HEATON				low flying dangerous.	
	P.6997	SGT F. GREEN					
						<i>E.R. Baker</i>	
						Squadron Leader, Commanding	
						No 263 Squadron R.A.F. WARMWELL	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 263 Squadron R.A.F.

For the month of August, 1943

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
3 rd	P.7055	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Shipping	11:25	12:35	Escorted by the Ibsley Wing which now consists of two Squadrons	
	P.6974	F/Lt J.P. COYNE DFC	Recco			only, Nos 616 and 453, the Channel Islands shipping lanes were	
	P.6971	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK				thoroughly searched from a height of 20-100 feet. Moderate, rather	
	P.6979	SGT J.B. PURKIS				accurate flak from Guernsey	
	P.7055	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	10 Group	19:57	21:15	Escorted again by the Ibsley Wing and accompanied by the Portreath	
	P.6979	SGT D.R. GRAY	Circus			Wing, these 8 Whirlibombers divebombed Brest Guipavas aerodrome in	
	P.7040	F/O P.T.R. MERCER				the classical manner - from 13,000 feet pulling out at 7,000 feet.	
	P.7111	SGT R.C. BEAUMONT				Six bursts were seen within the boundaries of the aerodrome and four	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC				of these were among buildings. A F.W.190 attacked, but missed our	
	P.6997	F/SGT G.H. SMITH				a/c during the dive. Flak was normal. Weather fine.	
	P.7012	F/SGT SIMPSON					
	P.6974	F/Lt J.P. COYNE DFC					
4 th	P.7055	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Armed	11:38	13:05	Profiting from the presence of the Whirlibombers at Predannack and	
	P.6979	SGT J.B. PURKIS	Shipping			remembering perhaps the successful operation of the 14 th April 1943,	
	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	Recco			10 Group laid on this long shipping recco W. of Ushant and as far as	
	P.6990	SGT W.W. HEATON				Cap Chevre, 10 10 miles south of Brest. This time, however, no ships	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC				were found.	
	P.7012	F/O P.T.R. MERCER					
	P.7098	W/O D.F.J. TEBBIT					
	P.7111	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK					
11 th	P.7113	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	10 Group	14:34	16:05	It had been reported that 7 E. Boats were lying in the estuary	
	P.7111	SGT H.M. PROCTOR	ROADSTEAD			of Aber Vrack. The Squadron sent 10 a/c to Predannack and 8 were	
	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	74			briefed for the operation, a low level attack accompanied by the	
	P.7092	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK				Portreath Polish Wing. The formation took off and flew just above	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC				sea level. The level	
	P.7097	SGT G.A. WOOD					
	P.7098	W/O D.F.J. TEBBIT					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
11 th	P.6979	SGT J.B. PURKIS					
	The Battle of Aber Varch (continued). The Leader of the anti-flak Squadron, No 302 recognised the coast and, turning 10° to port enabled an attack to be made straight into the mouth of the estuary. Thus a notable surprise was effected on the enemy. Seven E. Boats and an armed trawler were lying off the pier at LANIERS. Anti-flak shied in from 800 feet, and the Whirlibombers followed as the last cannon shells exploded, and bombed 6 ships. An armed trawler and 4 E. Boats were blown to pieces by direct hits - it seems likely that H.E. Of German origin helped in the remarkable explosions which were seen - and one E. Boat was left in flames. Flak was very slight from the ships but fairly intense from the shore batteries. One M.G. Bullet pierced the nacelle of one Whirlibomber. The crews of the boats were seen trying to wrench the canvas covers from the guns, others diving overboard in panic, others rushing up and down the deck with doubtful purpose.						
12 th	P.7012	F/SGT J.I. SIMPSON	Night Shipping	23:10	00:25	These two night shipping reccos were standard types of the of	
	P.7096	F/SGT G.H. SMITH	Recco	23:15	00:30	the August moon period. Two pilots took off in quick succession.	
	One flew to Point Barfleur thence at 2-4 miles off the coast past MARCOUF, looked into ISIGNY BAY AND AS far as GRAND CAMP, returning past BARFLEUR to CAP-de-la-HAGUE with an extension to ALDERNEY or to C. FLAMANVILLE thrown in for good measure. The other reconnoitred all the Channel Island shipping lanes with a voluntary extension towards BREHAT. Thus the whole area within range from WARMWELL was covered, two or three times nightly. Heights were at pilot's discretion but they were briefed to cross the channel at 100-200 feet and to search at 200-1500 feet, changing height continuously. Flak from the islands, if the pilot approached within two miles, was a commonplace. So too were the lighthouses at each of the Channel Islands, CAP-de-la-HAGUE and POINT BARFLEUR						
13 th	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC	Armed	06:45	07:50	Escorted by a squadron of the Ibsley Wing the Whirlibombers swept	
	P.7056	SGT R.C. BEAUMONT	Shipping			swept the familiar Channel Island shipping lanes without success	
	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	Recco				
	P.7111	SGT J.B. PURKIS					
14 th	P.7113	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Night Recco	22:55	00:05	F/Lt McCLURE saw nothing on the BARFLEUR route. S/Ldr BAKER found	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC	Night Recco	23:05	00:15	an E. Boat running at high speed from Jersey towards St Peter Port.	
	He bombed it up moon and saw a double explosion, orbitted and saw two sailors swimming among debris. Then he continued towards Brehat, and was returning N. of Guernsey at 300 feet						

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				Up	Down		
14 th	when he saw	a H.E.111 1000 yards	ahead and 200 feet	above him,	flying on a parallel	course. He climbed and closed slowly from below	
continued	and 10° off	(to avoid being seen)	and then fired a short burst	from 200 yards	dead astern. The e/a's port engine caught fire.		
	Another burst	sent the H.E.111	crashing into the sea.	S/Ldr BAKER	DFC nearly followed, but instead pulled out and returned to base.		
15 th	P.7097	F/SGT J.I. SIMPSON	Scramble			The section was variously vectored at 10,000 to 15,000 feet	
	P.6990	F/SGT G.H. SMITH				seawards of SWANAGE and PORTLAND but did not see the enemy.	
	P.7111	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	10 Group	15:00	16:20	This operation was planned after the manner of that of the 3 rd	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC	Circus			August. S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC had exactor trouble and returned to	
	P.6997	SGT W.E. WATKINS				base. F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC led but found 10/10 cloud in the BREST	
	P.7098	SGT F. GREEN				area, and no attack could be made.	
	P.7012	SGT W.W. HEATON					
	P.7013	F/Lt D.G. ROSS					
	P.7092	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK					
	P.6971	SGT H.M. PROCTOR					
15 th	P.7092	SGT R.C. BEAUMONT	Night Shipping	22:00	23:10	F/O R.B. TUFF's CHANNEL ISLAND recco was uneventful	
	P.7013	F/O R.B. TUFF	Recco	23:40	01:00	uneventful except for the occurrences of mysterious flares.	
	SGT R.C. BEAUMONT	mistook CHERBOURG FORTS for ships. Investigating them he did find a Coaster and 3 Barges in the entrance to the					
	harbour. He bombed the coaster (cat 4) but very properly did not wait to see results, as the harbour flak opened up with full						
	intensity. Group Captain Hardy sent a message of congratulations						
16 th	P.6986	F/O P.T.R. MERCER	Night Recco	22:06	23:30	F/O P.T.R. MERCER found nothing remarkable in the Channel Islands	
	P.7047	SGT W.W. HEATON	Night Recco	22:12	23:35	area. SGT W.W. HEATON had a long chase of a doubtful a/c. Each a/c	
	attempted to silhouette the other against the moon and each foiled the other's attempt. SGT W.W. HEATON thinks the a/c may have						
	been a Wellington. He landed back off course at Exeter, refuelled and returned to base at Warmwell.						

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
17 th	P.7113	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	10 Group	08:50	10:00	It was intended to divebomb Brest Guipavas. The operation with the usual escort and cover of the Ibsley Wing and Portreath Wing got under way. But the Brest Peninsula was found to be covered with 10/10 low cloud and the Squadrons returned to their bases with some irritation	
	P.6986	F/O P.T.R. MERCER	RAMROD				
	P.7040	SGT F. GREEN					
	P.7098	W/O D.F.J. TEBBIT					
	P.7096	SGT W.E. WATKINS					
	P.7097	SGT G.A. WOOD					
	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS					
	P.6971	SGT J.B. PURKIS					
	P.7092	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK					
	P.7046	SGT D.R. GRAY					
	P.7047	F/O R.B. TUFF					
	P.6990	F/O E.J. HOLMAN					
17 th	P.7113	F/SGT J.I. SIMPSON	Night Recco	22:00	23:05	The first three pilots found nothing remarkable other than more mysterious flares N. of BARFLEUR - these appear to come up from a totally empty sea. SGT R.C. BEAUMONT had an uneventful patrol but a thrilling landing. His hydraulics system was partially u/s. However the emergency bottle procured wheels and flaps down. Then his port engine cut out with a loud report. He dropped his bombs "safe" in a field W. of Knighton Wood and made a very creditable S.E. landing.	
	P.7047	SGT W.W. HEATON		22:05	23:35		
	P.7098	F/SGT G.H. SMITH		23:10	00:15		
	P.7096	SGT R.C. BEAUMONT		23:05	00:35		
	P.7113	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Night Recco	00:15	02:50	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC was flying down moon along the North coast of the Cotentin when he saw flak coming from port and astern. He turned to investigate and saw a trawler lying about a mile off Cherbourg and firing vigorously. He turned inside Cherbourg Harbour, positioning for attack meeting 2 S/Ls and flak from shore batteries. Then he bombed the trawler up moon from 50 feet and saw a large explosion on the stern of the ship. After orbiting he saw the ship well down by the stern and apparently sinking. Its guns were silenced. F/Lt R.G. ROSS found no trace of the ship an hour later. This armed trawler is claimed Cat 2, probably sunk.	
	P.7096	F/Lt R.G. ROSS		02:58	03:05		

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				Up	Down		
23 rd	P.7098	F/SGT I.J. SIMPSON	CONVOY	09:10	10:40	Escort of convoy Swanage to Needles	
	P.6990	SGT F. GREEN					
	P.7047	F/SGT G.H. SMITH		10:10	11:10		
	P.7040	SGT W.A. HANDLEY					
25 th	P.7047	F/O P.T.R. MERCER	CONVOY	07:50	09:05	Escort of convoy Swanage to Portland	
	7012	F/O D.W. STURGEON					
	P.7098	W/O D.F.J. TEBBIT		08:40	10:15		
	P.7040	SGT F. GREEN					
	P.7068	SGT G.A. WOOD		10:00	11:15		
	P.6997	SGT W.A. HANDLEY					
29 th	P.6974	SGT H.M. PROCTOR	CONVOY	08:30	09:50	Convoy from Needles to West of Portland. A curious convoy, it	
	P.SGT D.M. DUNLOP					consisted of two M/V's of 3,000 - 4,000 tons escorted by two	
	P.6986	W/O D.F.J. TEBBIT		09:30	10:15	destroyers and two Corvettes	
	P.7040	F/O D.W. STURGEON					
	P.6979	SGT D.R. GRAY		10:35	12:05		
	P.6971	SGT G. WILLIAMS					
	P.6977	F/SGT G.A. SMITH		11:45	13:10		
	P.7097	SGT W.W. HEATON					
	P.6979	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK		12:55	14:05		
	P.6971	SGT D.M. DUNLOP					
31 st	P.6974	SGT H.M. PROCTOR	CONVOY	06:55	08:30	Convoy, West of Portland. F/O STURGEON and F/O HOLMAN received	
	P.6979	SGT G. WILLIAMS				warning from both operations and convoy that a bogy was approaching	
	P.6974	SGT PROCTOR		10:25	11:45	and indeed a visual was obtained on a distant a/c, probably a	
	P.6979	SGT J.B. PURKIS				J.U.88. It turned south again. Our pilots were not seduced from	
	P.6974	SGT PROCTOR		12:40	14:10	their task.	
	P.6979	SGT J.B. PURKIS					
	P.7119	F/O R.B. TUFF		14:45	16:05		
	P.7056	SGT P.S. COOPER					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
31 st Cont:	P.7012	F/O D.W. STURGEON	CONVOY	08:10	09:40		
	P.7098	F/O E.J. HOLMAN		"	"		
	P.6990	F/O P.T.R. MERCER		09:20	10:45		
	P.7047	SGT G.A. WOOD		"	"		
	P.6990	SGT G.A. WOOD		11:25	12:55		
	P.7047	SGT W.E. WATKINS		"	"		
	P.7047	SGT F. GREEN		13:45	15:15		
	P.6990	SGT W.W. HEATON		"	"		
						<i>E.R. Baker</i>	
						Squadron Leader, Commanding	
						<u>No 263 Squadron R.A.F. WARMWELL</u>	

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By 263 SQUADRON
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				Up	Down		
	WHIRLWIND						
8 th	P.7096	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	OPERATION	17:07	17:42	This operation, the divebombing of Naval and Flak heavy guns	
	P.7056	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT	STARKEY	"	"	at HARDELOT was designed to safeguard the ships of the "Amphibious"	
	P.6983	F/SGT H.M. PROCTOR		17:07	18:05	Exercise" which were to make a feint at Boulogne on the next day.	
	P.6979	F/SGT J.B. PURKIS		"	17:42	Unfortunately 5 of our A/C returned early, 3 with technical trouble	
	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS		"	"	and two with finger trouble.	
	P.7055	SGT D.C. TODD		"	"	F/Lt J.E. McCCLURE DFC led in the others to a classical d/b	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCCLURE DFC		"	18:05	14,000 - 5,000 feet. 6 bursts in the target area. Escort, or rather	
	P.6997	F/SGT W.W. HEATON		"	"	"Target Cover" by Typhoon Squadron. Flak was light, inaccurate,	
	P.7040	F/SGT W.E. WATKINS		"	"	and late.	
	P.7013	SGT G. WILLIAMS		"	"		
	P.7097	F/SGT G.A. WOOD		"	"		
	P.7092	SGT P.F. COOPER		"	"		
9 th	P.7096	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	OPERATION	08:00	09:05	This operation was a repetition of the d/b of HARDELOT Gun Positions	
	P.7092	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK	STARKEY			It went well from start to finish. Dives were from 14,000 to 3,500	
	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS				feet and bombing results were good - all bursts were in the target	
	P.7055	F/O R.B. TUFF				area, within a circle of 150 yards radius. In both operations the	
	P.6986	F/O P.T.R. MERCER				coast was crossed at Hastings at 4,000 feet after which the	
	P.6947	F/O J.E. HOLMAN				climbed to 14,000 feet, divebombing in echelon starboard and	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCCLURE DFC				returned in formation at 1,000 feet. Target cover by Typhoon Squadron	
	P.7012	SGT W.A. HANDLEY					
	P.7097	F/SGT G.A. WOOD					
	P.7056	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT					
	P.6979	F/SGT J.B. PURKIS					
	P.7013	SGT R.C. TODD					
11 th	P.7047	W/O D.F.J. TEBBIT	CONVOY PATROLS	09:30	10:50	Convoy moving westward from Portland.	
	P.7040	F/SGT F. GREEN		"	"		
	P.7012	F/SGT G.H. SMITH		11:45	13:15		

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
	WHIRLWIND						
11 th	P.6986	W/O D.F.J. TEBBIT		14:10	14:40		
	P.7040	SGT F. GREEN		"	"		
	P.6979	F/SGT GRAY		10:35	12:15		
	P.6971	SGT D.M. DUNLOP		"	"		
	P.6999	F/SGT J.B. PURKIS		13:10	14:40		
	P.7056	SGT D.C. TODD		"	"		
12 th	P.7092	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK	CONVOY	06:55	08:05	Large convoy forming off Needles and moving West.	
	P.7013	F/O J.E. HOLMAN					
	P.6986	F/SGT G.H. SMITH		07:55	09:05		
	P.7097	SGT W.A. HANDLEY		"	"		
16 th /17 th	P	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	NIGHT	22:10	23:20	Bombed E. Boat Cat 4 NNW MARCOUF and cannoned No 2 E. Boat Cat 4	
16 th /17 th	P.7098	F/SGT J.I. SIMPSON	ARMED	22:15	23:15	These pilots took off in pairs to recco the CAP DE LA HAGUE	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC		23:55	00:50	- ISIGNY AND CHANNEL ISLANDS shipping lanes. All reccos were	
	P.7046	F/O J.E. HOLMAN	SHIP	23:50	01:10	uneventful except that of F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC who found two E.	
	P.6983	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	RECCO	01:17	02:22	Boats a mile W.S.W. of Guernsey/PLEINMONT POINT. He bombed the	
	P.7092	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK		01:20	02:47	rearward ship in an 800 - 200 feet up moon astern attack and saw	
						his bursts very close to the stern (Cat 4). Orbiting to see results	
						he was held by S/Ls from GUERNSEY. He then returned to base.	
	<u>"CHATERNOOGA CHOOCKOO"</u>						
	This operation of which details will be found overleaf, was devised by S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC in co-operation with 10 Group						
	Intelligence to sever the main RENNES - BREST railway line if possible in nine places between LAMBALLE AND MORLAIX, so that (a)						
	trains should be bottled up "ranging" on that night (b) trains should be diverted to the southern loop line single track and become						
	ranger targets for Mosquitos on the following night. Pilots were carefully and extensively briefed at Warmwell during the previous						
	days. They were to make landfall at 2,500 feet at the point nearest to their target where no flak was to be expected and to bomb						
	their allotted targets as an absolute priority. Eleven a/c were to be on target at approximately the same time. These orders were						
	nicely carried out. Our a/c saw neither S/Ls or flak, tho' these were seen out of range at MORLAIX. Bombing was carried out						
	between 0205 and 0215 from 2000 to 700 feet. No pilot "lost his way". All a/c took off from Bolt Head and after material						

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				Up	Down		
		"CHATERNOOGA CHOOCHOO" CONTINUED					
		assistance from F/Lt CONNOLLY (F.C.O. WARMWELL) who had established night flying and Homing facilities at Bolt Head landed back at Exeter, most of them after a flight of two hours duration, one after a remarkable long flight of 2 hours 10 minutes.					
	P.7056	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT	NIGHT	01:23	03:00	Bursts in cutting near LAMBALLE	
	P.6983	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	RANGER	01:22	03:30	Bursts on or near bridge N. of LAMBALLE	
	P.7040	F/O P.T.R. MERCER	OPERATION	01:25	03:35	Bursts on or very close to line E. of HLOUVARA	
	P.7097	F/SGT W.W. HEATON		01:24	03:15	Bursts on or v. close to line in BOIS DE MANLANG. He then fired at and secured strikes on a locomotive (Cat B)	
	P.7047	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC		01:25	02:25	Returned with C/S U/S	
	P.7098	F/SGT N.P. SIMPSON		01:26	03:20	Bombed line W. of PLOUARET	
	P.71113	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC		01:31	03:24	These four pilots were briefed to bomb PONTTHOU Viaduct	
	P.6990	F/SGT PURKIS		01:28	03:10	SGT PURKIS recognised his landfall as too far W. and bombed	
	P.6971	F/SGT H.M. PROCTOR		01:27	01:55	the line S.W. of MORLAIX (bursts on or near). The others	
	P.7092	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK		01:30	02:25	attacked their objective but think they hit the cuttings to the S and N of the Viaduct.	
	P.7012	F/SGT G.H. SMITH		01:29	03:05	Bombs on or near the line E. of MORLAIX	
	P.6990	F/O E.J. HOLMAN		02:20	04:00	These two "Rangers" went out an hour later. The first	
	P.6997	F/SGT W.E. WATKINS		02:21	04:05	bombed a train (Cat C.) E. of PLOUAREL. The other secured bursts	
		on or v. close to the line W. of PLOUARET. Unfortunately, the weather was u/s on the following night so that Part II of this operation, ranging by Mosquitos, could not be carried out.					
18 th /19 th	P.7113	S/LRd E.R. BAKER DFC	NIGHT	23:59	00:50	Lightning vied with flak in 10/10 cloud over Cap-de-la-Hague.	
	P.7040	F/SGT F. GREEN	SHIPPING	00:10	01:40	The Channel Island recco, F/SGT GREEN's first night operation,	
		RECCO				was uneventful except for too much cloud	

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				Up	Down		
4 th	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	ARMED	11:40	12:12	Eight Whirlwinds escorted by the Ibsley Wing Chicks, carried out an	
	P.7097	P/O W.W. HEATON	RECCO			abortive armed recco for two Hun destroyers reported lurking in	
	P.7098	F/Lt J.E. McCLURE DFC				LENARDRIEUX ESTUARY. Discontent felt as nothing was found here.	
	P.7012	F/O D.W. STURGEON				Aircraft returned to base.	
	PP6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS					
	P.7111	F/SGT J.B. PURKIS					
	P.6983	P/O D.F.J. TEBBIT					
	P.7046	F/SGT D.R. GRAY					
7 th	P.7012	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	RECCO	11:40	12:50	Escorted by Ibsley Wing, uneventful, recco Channel Island area	
	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS					
	P.6983	F/SGT J. COOPER					
	P.7046	P/O D.F.J. TEBBIT					
	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	NIGHT RECCO			Found thick haze to 1000 feet N. of CHERBOURG and abandoned recces.	
	P.7012	F/SGT F. GREEN					
8 th	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	NIGHT	19:00	20:25	S/Ldr BAKER bombed an E. Boat Cat 4 off VARRIVILLE but was prevented	
	P.7055	F/O E.J. HOLMAN	RECCO			by S/Ls from investigating further. A special report has been sent	
		upon an odd system of winking white lights seen in the BARFLEUR area. The recco of the Channel Islands shipping lands was uneventful.					
	P.7092	F/O N.P. BLACKLOCK	Night Recco	21:00	22:15	Channel Islands again nil. But P/O HEATON was shot up by a	
	P.7097	P/O W.W. HEATON				2,500 ton Flak ship off Cap de la Hague before he could get his	
		nose down enough to attack it. A/C Cat AC with steering pivot damage					
	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	NIGHT	22:20	23:35	S/Ldr BAKER found P/O HEATON's ship off Cap de la Hague and bombed	
	P.7111	F/SGT H.M. PROCTOR	SHIPPING			it from mast height without seeing more than indistinct explosions	
	P.7055	F/O R.B. TUFF	RECCO			(Cat 4). He was forced to orbit in accurate heavy flak from the	
	P.6983	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT				Alderney and Cap de la Hague, as well as much light flak from the	
	P.7047	P/O J.I. SIMPSON				ship which was judged to be a small Sperribrecher. As the visibility	
	P.7012	F/O P.T.R. MERCER				was very poor in	
	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
						sea haze the C.O. decided that this ship should not be further attacked in this land defended area and ordered the 6 a/c which were following him to return to base. Meanwhile fog had come in rapidly at Warmwell and all a/c were ordered to return to Tangmere.	
						It seems that P/O SIMPSON who was, next to S/Ldr BAKER, the squadron's most experienced pilot, had engine failure not due to enemy action and that his other engine failed during his run in at Tangmere. He crashed into an anti-landing post a hundred yards from the runway and was killed instantly. This accident had many features in common with that in which F/Lt BLACKSHAW was killed	
9 th	P.6983	F/L D.G. ROSS	NIGHT RECCO	19:00	20:30	Uneventful except for the strange lights near Barfleur. Recalled to Middle Wallop as there was fog at Warmwell	
13 th	P.7111	F/SGT H.M. PROCTOR	SHIP RECCO			The first of many night searches (Without bombs so that the distance could be covered) for the Munsterland. These were - Warmwell - Sept Iles - Iles de Batz - Predannack.	
	P.6986	F/O P.T.R. MERCER					
14 th	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC		19:45	21:27	A repetition of the long searches of the previous night.	
	P.7092	P/O J.N. BLACKLOCK	Night	20:30	21:52		
	P.7012	P/O W.W. HEATON	RECCOS	21:20	22:34		
	P.6979	F/SGT J.B. PURKIS		21:29	23:03		
15 th	P.6974	F/L D.G. ROSS		21:30	22:25	Another search from Predannack. Poor visibility.	
17 th	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS		21:25	22:43	More searches Predannack - PORSPOIER - SEPT Iles - Predannack.	
	P.7111	F/O E.J. HOLMAN	NIGHT	21:59	23:08		
	P.6971	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT	RECCOS	22:31	23:51		
	P.7040	F/SGT F. GREEN		22:55	00:15		
17 th /18 th	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	263	02:22	03:30	This operation locally devised planned and briefed as "CHUFFA PRANG"	
	P.6986	F/O P.T.R. MERCER	SPECIAL			was designed to disorganise railway communications in and near	
	P.7046	F/SGT D.C. TODD	NIGHT OPS			Cherbourg Peninsula and thereafter to take advantage of the tactical	
	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	"CHUFFA			situation. It was a great success. Each pilot arrived at his target	
	P.7012	F/SGT P.S. COOPER	PRANG"			after a route which had	
	P.6977	F/SGT G. WILLIAMS					

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				Up	Down		
17 th /18 th	CONTINUED	correctly avoided the intense flak which is to be met with by the unwary and:- S/Ldr BAKER blew up an ammunition train S.E. of VALEGNES, then probably damaged a loco near BNCQUEBEC. P/O BLACKLOCK damaged two trains (With one bomb planted between them as they lurked along each other) in Airel station. F/O MERCER probably damaged a loco on the bridge over the river SUELLES near BAYEUX. Four pilots probably disintegrated the railway track at selected places and three pilots probably damaged the bridge over the river VIIE S. of ISIGNY (F/Lt ROSS certainly damaged it). On the way back P/O BLACKLOCK probably sunk a motor launch off the ST MARCOUF. However, as we reckon, the chief success of the operation was in the remarkable large number of trains which were attacked in the same area in day Rhubarbs of the next five days.					
19 th	P.6979	F/SGT H.M. PROCTOR	RHUBARB	12:20	13:35	Between them they badly damaged two locos with cannon and bombs in the junction and he got back with only 1/10 aileron movement to make a good landing in strong cross-wind A/C Cat AC.	
	P.7055	F/SGT N. DUNLOP	OP				
19 th	P.6971	P/O N.P. BLACKLOCK	RHUBARB	14:20	15:45	Flying through very heavy rain they arrived to find good Rhubarb conditions in their area. They repeatedly bombed and cannoned a goods train N. of Airel. Their attacks severely damaged the loco, disintegrated several trucks, set others on fire and tore up the track. Meanwhile the weather had deteriorated at Warmwell to 1000 yards vis in heavy rain with a 45 m.p.h wind blowing 90° across the runway. They were ordered to land into wind and did so from the Watch Office to Battle H.Q. - 500 yards. P/O BLACKLOCK overshot slightly and had not enough petrol for another circuit. He therefore stopped by pulling up his u/c. His a/c is Cat AC. F/SGT BEAUMONT struggled in safely. Watching this landing was vicariously the shakiest thing the writer has ever seen.	
	P.7046	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT					
21 st	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	RHUBARB	17:20	18:50	Whirlwinds on Rhubarb operations are forbidden to carry bombs, and this order is now enforced. These two damaged a loco with cannon fire 3 miles S.E. BARNEVILLE Accurate return flak.	
	P.7092	F/O E.J. HOLMAN					
	P.7098	P/O D.F.J. TEBBIT	RHUBARB	17:20	18:30	Insufficient cloud cover off Barfleur	
	P.6979	F/SGTNG. GRAY					
22 nd	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	RHUBARB	16:00	16:50	Insufficient cloud cover off Alderney.	
	P.7092	F/O E.J. HOLMAN					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
22 nd	continued						
	P.7098	P/O D.F.J. TEBBIT	RHUBARB	16:03	17:15	Having obtained special permission to carry bombs they bombed	
	P.6979	F/SGT F. GRAY				the large railway bridge over the R. VIRE S. of Isigny at 20 feet	
		from N.E and S.E. respectively.	One bomb burst in the concrete eastern end of the bridge one in the water under the bridge, one in				
		the railway embankment and one was observed, but seems to have dislodged a girder which was seen hanging down. Good bombing.					
23 rd	P.6974	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	SHIP RECCO	08:00	09:00	Because Ibsley was non-operational the squadron conducted its own	
	P.7108	P/O A. BARR				anti-flak as had often been mooted and suggested In the past. The	
	P.7046	F/O L.A. UNWIN	6 WHIRLWIND			Munsterland was not found between Casquets and Barfleur - indeed	
	P.7098	F/O E.J. HOLMAN	ANT FLAK			there was only one clinker-built sailing boat, power driven, with a	
	7040 P	F/O D.E.G. MOGG				single Marinst, off Querqueville. It is though that this will be	
	6990 P	F/O K.F.J. FUNNELL				found to be the last time in the history of the world in which	
	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	6			twelve Whirlwinds were airborne together.	
	P.6979	F/SGT H.M. PROCTOR					
	P.6997	F/SGT J.B. PURKIS	WHIRLIBOMBERS				
	P.6998	F/SGT W.E. WATKINS					
	P.6986	F/SGT W.A. HANDLEY					
	P.7012	F/SGT J. GRAY					
	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	10	15:00	16:10	This was the squadron's first (and perhaps the first of the war)	
			GROUP			low level attack upon shipping in Cherbourg Harbour. Our a/c flew	
			ROADSTEAD			at xxxx just above sea level (See the picture in the squadrons scrap	
						book) on a course which brought them between the outer moles and straight to the Munsterland xxx along side the the Digue du Homet.	
						4 a/c bombed the Munsterland and two of these attacked with cannons, leaving her on fire in two places - she was well ablaze 11	
						minutes later but the fire had been extinguished 90 minutes later. The other four a/c bombed two ships aft of the Munsterland and	
						saw cannon strikes on one of them. Two pilots then scored strikes on two of 6 M. Class minesweepers in the transatlantic dock.	
						Flak was fired at our a/c from more than a hundred guns within range from Harbour	

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				Up	Down		
						and ships: It was like a horizontal hail storm, painted red', (F/SGT BEAUMONT). All our a/c were hit more or less seriously. The formation broke half to port E.S.E. over the peninsula. F/SGT GRAY's starboard engine was smoking and he glided down to port from 150 feet, about three miles E.S.E. of CHERBOURG just in the manner of a controlled forced-landing. The country here is fairly open and it is hoped that he may still be alive. F/O MERCER's a/c was hit over the target and it may have been for this reason that he was flying considerably above the formation when they recrossed the coast 3 miles S. of St Vaast. Here his a/c received a direct hit from a coastal flak battery and dived into the sea, disintegrating on impact. It is not thought that he could have survived. F/Lt ROSS's a/c was severely hit in the starboard wing juddered and stalled at 180 m.p.h., as well as in the wing root. He made a perfect belly landing at Warmwell at this speed. A/C Cat E. F/SGT COOPER's undercarriage damaged by flak, collapsed on landing. a/c Cat AC. S/Ldr BAKER was bruised on the shoulder by perspex dislodged by 8mm bullets. Ninety minutes later 183 Squadron Typhoons attacked the Munsterland and lost S/Ldr GOWERS DFC a veteran of the "Battle of Britain" and two other pilots.	
28 th	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	RAMROD	14:30	15:25	These eight a/c dive-bombed the Munsterland in No 5 dry dock	
	P.7037	F/O D.E.G. MOGG	OPERATION			Cherbourg, in classical formation from 12,000 feet to 7,000. All bombs fell within a 500 yard radius of the target. Warehouses were hit and what looked like an oil fire was started - possibly in our old antagonist the Solinglint. This time the Mitchells which were leaving the target area drew the flak (one was shot down) and none of our a/c were damaged.	
	P.6977	F/SGT W.E. WATKINS					
	P.7092	F/SGT W.A. HANDLEY					
	P.6983	F/Lt D.G. ROSS					
	P.7046	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT					
	P.7111	F/SGT J.B. PURKIS					
	P.7108	F/SGT H.M. PROCTOR					
30 th	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	RAMROD 99	15:00	16:00	The seven Whirlwinds which were serviceable took off to divebomb the Munsterland again F/Lt SNALAM lost a bomb (500lb again) ten miles south of Lulworth and he was ordered back to base. The others attacked from S.W. to N.E. The C.O. started the dive rather too early and pulled back again to 12,000 feet, then almost	
	P.6997	P/O W.W. HEATON					
	P.7037	F/Lt F.D. SNALAM					
	P.7012	F/SGT F. GREEN					
	P.7111	F/SGT H.M. PROCTOR					
	P.7092	F/O E.J. HOLMAN					
	P.7108	F/SGT H.M. DUNLOP					

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				Up	Down		
2 nd	P.7037	P/O W.W. HEATON	RHUBARB	14:00	14:35	2 Whirlibombers took off on a Rhubarb to attack railway targets	
	P.7012	F/SGT W.E. WATKINS	"			N. and W. of CARENTAN. They found 4/10 cloud at 4000 feet 20 miles	
						N of Cherbourg and returned to base.	
5 th	P.7102	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Ramrod 100	15:15	15:45	7 Whirlibombers took off to dive bomb M/V Munsterland lying in	
	P.7108	F/Lt D.G. ROSS	Part 3			No 5 dry dock Cherbourg. They met 10/10 cloud at 1,200 feet,	
	P.7046	F/O E.J. HOLMAN				jettisoned their bombs and returned to base.	
	P.7098	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT					
	P.7037	F/SGT W.E. WATKINS					
	P.7092	F/SGT P.S. COOPER					
	P.7111	F/SGT D.C. TODD					
6 th	P.7108	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT	Night	18:15	19:35	Beaumont and Todd to Channel Islands and Cap de la Hague - Marcouf.	
	P.7111	F/SGT R.C. TODD	shipping			Both reccos were uneventful.	
			Recco				
	P.7037	P/O W.W. HEATON	Night shipping	20:15	21:45	Green had uneventful recco to Channel Islands. Heaton also saw no	
	P.7102	F/SGT F. GREEN	Recco			shipping, although he flew at 50 feet alongside the mole in	
						Cherbourg Outer Harbour. He encountered no flak in doing this, as	
						at the time the Cherbourg defences were concentrating on an a/c	
						with Navigation lights at 2500 feet E. of Manpertuis.	
7 th	P.7037	S/Ldr E.R. BAKER DFC	Air Sea	14:34	15:56	7 Whirlwinds went on A/S/R Search for F/O Coombe of 257 Squadron.	
	P.7098	F/Lt R.G. ROSS	Rescue Search			They searched area radius 10 miles from reported position of dinghy	
	P.7012	F/Lt F.D. SNALAM				but saw nothing. 2 unidentified a/c seen 10 miles N of Cherbourg.	
	P.6990	F/SGT F. GREEN					
	P.7046	F/SGT H.M. PROCTOR					
	P.6979	F/SGT W.E. WATKINS					
	P.7100	F/SGT R.C. BEAUMONT					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
9 th	P.7098	F/SGY DUNLOP	Night Shipping	19:00	20:30	Dunlop had to abandon recco over base owing to exactor trouble.	
	P.7108	F/SGT PROCTOR	Recco			Proctor went to Channel Islands but saw no shipping.	
	P.						
	P.7037	S/LDR BAKER	Night Shipping			Both sorties abandoned owing to 10/10 cloud at 2,000 feet North	
	P.6783	F/Lt ROSS	recco			of Cap de la Hague and lowering to the South.	
9 th	P.7098	F/O R.B. TUFF	Night Shipping	20:03	21:35	Cap de la Hague - Marcouf recco abandoned owing to lack of	
	P.6997	F/SGT Handley	recco			moonlight as a result of 10/10 cloud at 2500 feet 2 miles North	
						of Cap de la Hague. The Channell Island sortie was uneventful.	
	P.7092	F/O E.J. HOLMAN	Night shipping	23:32	00:52	Both sorties from Predannack and both sorties uneventful.	
	P.7108	F/SGT J.B. PURKIS	Recco	21:07	22:32		
9 th /10 th	P.7012	F/O D.E.G. MOGG	Night shipping	00:01	01:20	Williams had uneventful recco Cap de la Hauge Marcouf. Mogg thought	
	P.7037	F/SGT G. WILLIAMS	recco			he saw six ships. approx length 200 feet, 3 miles W of Corbiere	
						Point, Jersey. Owing to intense heavy flak between himself and the	
						ships he did not attack, and not being quite sure they were ships	
						he returned to base without transmitting.	
10 th	P.7098	F/Lt ROSS	Roadstead 78	10:35	11:45	4 Whirlibombers escorted by Spitfires from 312 and 313 (Czech)	
	P.7037	F/Lt SNALAM				Squadrons attacked ships moving South 2 to 3 miles off N.W. Coast	
	P.7046	F/SGT PROCTOR				of Guernsey. Attack with cannon and bombs resulting in following	
	P.7097	F/SGT COOPER				claims: 2 armed tugs Cat 3 -; Merchant vessel 250 tons Cat 3	
10 th	P.7012	F/O STURGEON	Night Shipping	20:34	22:12	Watkins had uneventful sortie Cap de la Hague - Marcouf.	
	P.6997	F/SGT WATKINS	Recco			Sturgeon sighted 4 or possibly 5 ships, thought to be armed	
						trawlers, 4 miles S.E. of Sark and heading	

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				Up	Down		
10 th	continued	N.W. He climbed and asked for emergency homing and then attacked one of the ships from 300 feet with bombs. No results					
		were seen he then returned to base.					
	P.7102	S/Ldr BAKER	Night shipping	10:32	00:07	4 Whirlibombers took off to, attack shipping seen by F/O Sturgeon.	
	P.6997	F/SGT PURKIS	strike			The Convoy was located but S/Ldr Baker attacked small trawler 50-75	
	P.7037	F/SGT GREEN				tons SSE of Hurn. He saw his bombs burst alongside and claims one	
	P.7097	F/SGT COOPER				trawler Cat 3. He searched after attack but found no sign of the	
						trawler. The other a/c jettisoned their bombs. F/SGT Cooper landed	
						at Warmwell the other three at Hurn.	
11 th	P.7111	F/SGT PROCTOR	Night shipping	20:30	22:05	Both sorties uneventful	
	P.7097	F/SGT TODD	recco				
	P.6997	F/O TUFF	Night shipping	21:55	23:18	Holman reached W. of Guernsey without incident when he was called	
	P.7012	F/O HOLMAN	recco			to Cherbourg area by Tuff, who had sighted two tugs ½ mile from	
		Cherbourg about to enter the Harbour from the West. Tuff attacked the Tugs farthest out with bombs from Mast height, scoring a					
		near miss with one bomb 1 tug Cat 4 claimed. Holman arrived after the tugs had entered the Harbour and was unable to attack.					
	P.7100	F/Lt ROSS	Night shipping	22:47	00:17	Uneventful Channel Island sortie	
			recco				
15 th	P.7097	F/SGT GREEN	Night shipping	02:33	23:25	Sortie turned back 10 miles N.E of Ushant. Nothing seen. Flew from	
			recco			Predannack.	
16 th	P.6997	F/SGT WATKINS	Night shipping	02:40	04:10	Two uneventful sorties from Predannack.	
	P.7097	F/SGT GREEN	recco				
24 th	P.7102	S/LDR BAKER	armed shipping	14:59	16:06	Turned back owing to bad weather S.W. of Plienmount Point.	
	P.7100	F/Lt ROSS	recco				
	P.7108	F/O TUFF					
	P.7088	P/O TEBBIT					
	P.6983	F/SGT DUNLOP					
	P.7097	F/O MOGG					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
24 th	P.7012	F/SGT SMITH					
continued	P.6997	F/SGT WILLIAMS					
25 th	P.7102	S/LDR BAKER	Armed shipping	08:30	09:58	Recco 10 miles N of St Malo. Nothing seen.	
	P.6997	F/Lt SNALAM	recco				
	P.7108	F/O FUNNELL					
	P.7012	F/SGT SMITH					
	P.7102	S/LDR BAKER	Ramrod 106	12:00	12:32	10/10 Cloud with tops 6-7,000 over Cherbourg, so sorties turned	
	P.6997	F/O UNWIN	Part 1			back.	
	P.7097	F/O MOGG					
	P.6997	F/SGT WILLIAMS					
	P.7108	F/Lt ROSS					
	P.7111	F/O TUFF					
	P.7098	P/O TEBBIT					
	P.6971	F/SGT DUNLOP					
25 th	P.7102	S/LDR BAKER	Ramrod 106	15:57	16:45	8 Whirlibombers escorted by Ibsley Spitfire Wing dive-bombed	
	P.7012	F/SGT SMITH	Part 2			SS Munsterland again from 12500 feet to 7000 feet through gaps	
	P.7040	F/Lt SNALAN				in cloud, which was 9/10 over target area 4 bombs were seen close	
	P.7097	F/O MOGG				to target and 2 hits in dry docks at north end of the basin	
	P.7108	F/Lt ROSS				Napoleon. Flak, as usual, very heavy from Cherbourg but the	
	P.7111	P/O BARR				aircraft escaped with a few dents. Todd turned back mid-channel	
	P.7098	P/O TEBBIT				with one engine US	
	P.6983	F/SGT TODD					
26 th	P.7040	S/LDR BAKER	Ramrod 108	11:57	12:45	This operation was similar in every respect to that of the previous	
	P.7108	F/Lt ROSS				day. At least 8 bomb bursts were seen within 300 yards of the	
	P.7111	F/O UNWIN				target - some on warehouses. Flak was intense and accurate as usual	
	P.7100	P/O TEBBIT				even though the dive was continued to 4,000 feet by some a/c	
	P.6971	F/SGT TODD					

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				Up	Down		
26 th continued	P.6983	S/Dr BAKER	RAMROD 109	15:40	16:50	This attack was on a secret target SW of Cherbourg. The target	
	P.7097	F/Lt SNALAN				was protected by at least 8 heavy flak positions which were seen,	
	P.6997	F/Lt ROSS				as well as by flak between the target and the coast. All our	
	P.7046	F/O MOGG				aircraft were hit by flak, but no serious damage was done, except	
	P.7012	F/SGT SMITH				to F/O MOGG's aircraft which flew back on one engine to a successful	
	P.7100	P/O TEBBIT				landing. Bombing results, so far as they were seen, were good.	
	P.6971	F/SGT DUNLOP					
	P.6983	F/O TUFF					
29 th	P.7040	S/Ldr BAKER	"Hanwich"	10:04	10:54	This operation was planned to intercept mine-sweepers or	
	P.7012	F/O MOGG	operation			mine-destroying JU52's thought likely to be operating off Cherbourg.	
	P.7046	F/Lt SNALAM				Violent rainstorms with 10/10 cloud from 1000 feet to 0 feet were	
	P.7012	P/O BLACKLOCK				met with and nothing was seen.	
						<i>G.B. Warnes</i>	
						Squadron leader, Commanding	
						<u>263 Squadron, R.A.F.</u>	

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				Up	Down		
2 nd	J.R.440	S/Ldr G.B. Warnes DSO	DFC Ship recco	16:00	16:30	This recco of the Channel Island area had to be abandoned	
	J.R.531	P/O W.E. Heaton				N of Cherbourg in 10/10 cloud at 200 feet, with rain.	
	J.R.434	P/O N.P. Blacklock					
		F/Lt D.G. Ross					
3 rd	J.R.330	F/O R.B. Tuff	D/B of			The target area was covered by 7/10 cloud at 2000 feet. Bombs were	
	J.R.440	S/LDr. Warnes	Noball			jettisoned over the sea (except for one which "hung up" and fell	
	J.R.251	F/SGT G.N. Smith	Ramrod 128			off "safe" in a field near Christchurch) and aircraft returned to	
	J.R.434	F/O Blacklock				base.	
	J.R.531	P/O Heaton					
	J.R.382	F/Lt Ross					
	J.R.304	P/O R.C. Beaumont					
	J.R.196	P/O H.M. Proctor					
	J.R.253	P/O W.E. Watkins					
	J.R.440	S/Ldr Warnes	D/B of Noball	15:20	16:20	Again impossible to reach the target through the cloud. Maupertus	
	J.R.251	F/SGT Smith	Ramrod 128			Airfield was divebombed as an alternative target, and five bursts	
	J.R.434	F/O Blacklock				were seen in the S.E dispersal area. These were the first bombs	
	J.R.253	P/O F. Green				dropped "id auger" by Bombphoons of the Squadron.	
	J.R.382	F/Lt Ross					
	J.R.196	F/Lt Racine					
	J.R.129	P/O J.B. Purkis					
	J.R.330	F/O L.A. Unwin					
4 th	J.R.440	S/Ldr Warnes	Ramrod 124	09:03	10:03	Finding unsuitable weather our aircraft jettisoned bombs and flew	
	J.R.351	F/SGT Smith	D/B of Noball			an uneventful shipping recco to the Isle Marcouf area.	
	J.R.304	P/O Heaton					
	J.R.434	P/O Watkins					
	J.R.496	F/Lt Ross					
	J.R.330	F/Lt Racine					
	J.R.353	F/O Barr					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
4 th	J.R.440	S/Ldr Warnes	Weather recco	15:10	15:50	Weather recco 3 miles of Cherbourg 8/10 at 3,000' Further ops	
	J.R.304	F/SGT WILLIAMS				cancelled.	
5 th	J.R.440	S/Ldr Warnes	Ramrod 129	08:55	09:55	Repeat of previous days operations 7/10 cloud prevented d/b.	
	J.R.253	F/SGT W.A. Handley	Part 1				
	J.R.251	F/SGT P.S. Cooper					
	J.R.382	F/Lt Racine					
	J.R.330	F/O Tuff					
	J.R.304	P/O R.C. Beaumont					
	J.R.129	P/O Purkis					
	129	P/O Purkis	Weather test	11:00	11:50	Recco to 5 miles S. of Querqueville at 8,000 feet. some flak.	
	304	P/O Beaumont	recco			3 - 5/10 at 3000'	
	440	S/Ldr Warnes	Ramrod 129	12:30	13:40	D/B of alternative target, 9,000 to 5,000 feet. The attack was	
	330	F/O Proctor	Part 2			somewhat hampered by cloud and results were not well observed.	
	129	F/O Barr				Flak was slight but accurate in target area	
	434	F/O Blacklock					
	251	F/SGT Ryan					
	253	F/SGT Smith					
	304	F/SGT Williams					
	440	S/Ldr Warnes	Ramrod 129	16:35	17:40	D/B of Noball target. Bomb bursts straddled the target from N.	
	434	P/O Heaton	Part 3			to S. and it is likely that some damage was done.	
	253	P/O Watkins				Flak was accurate and holed F/O Tuff's a/c.	
	196	F/Lt Racine					
	441	F/SGT Dunlop					
	330	F/O Tuff					
	129	F/O Unwin					
	251	F/O Blacklock	Night Ship	21:00	Missing	F/O Blacklock was to recco the Alderney - Barfleur area. He	
	309	F/SGT Cooper	reccos	21:25	22:30	reported enemy shipping off Cap de la Hague	

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By 263 Squadron
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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
5 th	440	S/Ldr Warnes	Night ship			At 2124 and it was evident from his message "Apples are red" that	
continued	253	F/SGT Williams	strike	21:40	23:00	he was going into attack. Nothing more was heard of him other than	
	441	P/O Beaumont				an uncertain R/T message at 2125 "I am going into" F/SGT	
	330	P/O Purkis				Cooper was now airborne and was vectored to the Cap de la Hague	
						area. He found 6 E. Boats there and reported them to control, who	
						ordered him to 10,000 feet for a Fix and then to return to base.	
						Before returning to base he divebombed the E.Boats but thinks he missed. The next four a/c took off immediately for a strike, but	
						did not find the E. Boats, either because of sea haze below 1,000	
						feet or because the ships had reached Alderney Harbour.	
6 th	440	S/Ldr Warnes	A/S/R Search	08:40	10:10	Search of coastline area of Cherbourg - Casquests and return towards	
	129	F/O Tuff				Warmwell on a series of rectangular course. Nothing found.	
	253	P/O Smith					
10 th	389	S/Ldr Warnes	RODEO 79	13:00	14:55	Crossed channel at zero feet, climbed to 8000 to cross French	
	441	F/SGT Dunlop				Coast (too far W.) over 9/10 cloud at Isigny. Dived to zero feet to	
	196	P/O Purkis				find Carentan flak. Then swept Vire - Rennes - Gael area, dropping	
	330	F/SGT TODD				L.R tanks near Vire. No e/a were seen on the ground or airborne.	
	382	F/Lt Racine				Light flak at Gael holed F/Sgt Dunlop's a/c and he was escorted	
	253	P/O SMITH				safely to Warmwell (cat "A"). The others landed at Beaulieu.	
	309	P/O Watkins					
	215	F/SGT Handley					
11 th	938	F/SGT COOPER	Scramble			Vectored S of Portland to investigate a K. Plot. Nothing seen.	
	309	F/SGT HANDLEY					
12 th	440	S/Ldr Warnes	10 Group	14:00	16:30	Flew Beaulieu - Portland Sillon de Talbert in line abreast at zero	
	309	P/O Smith	Rodeo 81			feet. S. of Gael the C.O. saw a D.O.217 to port. He turned and	
	330	F/Sgt Todd	Force C			chased and fired while the e/a evaded among trees. Return fire	
	249	F/Lt Racine				damaged S/Ldr Warnes tail-plane (a/c Cat "A")	
	389	F/O Unwin					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
12 th	365	F/SGT Williams				soon the e/a caught fire and pulled up to 1,000 feet while the	
continued	253	F/SGT Ryan				crew of six baled out. Then it crashed with a remarkable explosion.	
						P/O Smith and F/SGT Ryan also got in bursts as the e/a pulled up	
						but considers it was then “finished” and make no claim. The sweep	
						continued uneventfully. Our a/c were homed to Tangmere and landed	
						at Morston.	
13 th	389	S/Ldr Warnes	Rodeo 82	15:30	17:30	This sweep of Chartres and Mondesir was carried as is normal,	
	196	P/O Purkis				at zero feet after crossing the coast at 8,000 feet. At Chartres	
	215	F/SGT Williams				A/F the C.O chased at, shot down a M.E 109 F while F/Lt Racine	
	249	F/Lt Racine				ground strafed 5 M.E 109 F's which were refuelling. He destroyed	
	309	P/O Watkins				three of them in a remarkable conflagration. P/O Purkis attacked	
	365	F/SGT Cooper				covered shelters. Flak here was surprised and late. But at Etampes/	
	Mondeair it	was intense and too	accurate. F/SGT Williams was seen			to go in from zero feet and is believed to have been killed.	
	P/O Watkins	a/c streamed glycol	and he baled out a few minutes later			. His parachute opened fully at 1500 feet.	
22 nd	MN249	S/Ldr Warnes	Rodeo 88	10:55	Missing	The Squadron took off from Harrowbeer to sweep Kerlin-Bastard	
	JR446	P/O Smith		”	13:10	- Vannes. Finding 10/10 snow cloud off the French Coast. S/Ldr	
	JR129	F/O Unwin		”	”	Warnes abandoned the primary task and began a ship recco to the	
	JR432	F/O Beaumont		”	”	Eastward. When at zero feet some ten miles W of Guernsey he said	
		F/Lt Racine GG		”	”	he was going to ditch and was seen to do so. Our other a/c orbitted	
	JR304	F/O R.C. Hunter		”	Missing	and obtained reasonably good fixer from Middle Wallop and Exeter.	
	MN129	P/O Green		”	13:10	Only F/Lt Racine and F/O Tuff saw the C.O apparently swimming	
	JR304 2	F/O Tuff		”	Missing	towards something that looked like a dinghy pack. F/O R. B. Tuff	
		said he thought the C.O was hurt	and was going to bale out.			F/Lt Racine told him	

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For the month of February, 1944

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
2 nd	MN136	P/O Proctor	Patrol	10:35	12:35	40 miles south of Ringstead to protect calibrating Blenheim	
	JR382	F/Sgt Thould					
	JR440	S/Ldr Gonay	RODEO 85	14:00	16:00	This sweep from Harrowbeer to Mont St. Michel Rennes, Gael, Cap de Erquy,	
	MN170	F/Lt Racine				West of Guernsey and back to Beaulieu was executed exactly as planned in	
	MN187	F/Lt Stark				the classical manner for such operations. It was remarkably uneventful,	
	JR531	F/O Heaton				no flak, no enemy aircraft, no ships were met. This was the first	
						operation with the squadron for both S/Ldr Gonay and F/Lt Stark.	
3 rd	JR432	F/O Purkis	Scramble	14:35	15:20	Identified a Wellington south of the I.O.W	
	JR382	F/Sgt Dunlop					
4 th	JR432	F/O Purkis	Scramble	12:00	12:25	Recalled, duff plot	
	MN196	F/O Barr					
	JR365	F/Sgt Thyagarajan	Scramble	17:40	18:15	Uneventful, south of Portland - Needles.	
	JR253	F/Sgt Thould					
5 th	JR365	P/O Green	Scramble	13:05	13:25	Recalled. Bogey became friendly.	
	MN129	F/Sgt Thould					
	JR389	F/O Unwin	Scramble	16:15	16:45	Enemy aircraft turned south after an apparent feint from	
	MN990	F/O Barr				Cherbourg area.	
	MN136	F/O Unwin	Scramble	17:20	18:03	Enemy aircraft turned south after an apparent feint from	
	JR382	F/O Barr				Cherbourg area.	
6 th	JR389	P/O Proctor	Scramble	12:15	12:50	Uneventful. Vectors to 20 miles North of Cherbourg.	
	JR441	F/O Unwin					
	JR365	P/O Green	Scramble	18:25	19:25	Patrol Needles - Portland, much shipping	
	MN139	F/O Heaton					
7 th	MN187	F/Lt Stark	Scramble	12:20	12:30	Recalled	
	MN196	F/Sgt Dunlop					
	MN170	P/O Green	Scramble	12:55	13:05	Recalled	
	MN129	P/O Smith					
8 th	MN250	F/Sgt Cooper	Scramble	13:10	14:20	Enemy activity was apparently expected & defensive patrols were	
	MN389	F/Sgt Ryan				flown in mid-channel, but there were no hostile plots at all.	
12 th	JR389	P/O Beaumont	Patrol	15:00	16:30	3 patrols and an abortive scramble, in connection with Exercise	
	JR382	F/Sgt Thould				Fox and an amphibious exercise on a large scale off Slapton Sands	
	JR389	P/O Purkis	Patrol	17:15	18:40	As above	
	JR382	P/O Proctor					
	MN170	F/Lt Racine	Patrol	16:15	17:15	As above	
	MN989	F/Sgt Cooper					
	MN989	F/Sgt Thyagarajan	Scramble	15:00	15:10	As above	
	MN139	P/O Green					
15 th	JR440	S/Ldr Gonay	Ship Recco	18:25	19:42	L R Recco off Lezardrieux and Treguieu estuaries. Only Fishing	
	MN139	F/O Heaton				vessels found.	
	JR389	P/O Proctor					
	MN250	F/Sgt Thyagarajan					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
16 th	JR440	S/Ldr Gonay	Ship Recco	11:40	13:00	Recco West of Guernsey, S of Jersey, St Malo & Lezardrieux.	
	JR253	F/Sgt Thould				No ships. No flak.	
	MN250	F/Sgt Ryan					
	MN139	F/Lt Stark					
17 th	JR440	S/Ldr Gonay	Rodeo 98	14:25	16:05	Sweep of Vire, Fougères, Rennes, St. Malo, Channel Islands.	
	MN990	F/O Unwin				CHANNEL ISLANDS. Some flak from St. Malo but no E/A and no ships.	
	MN120	F/Lt Racine					
	JR365						
21 st	MN170	F/Lt Racine	Ship Recco	17:55	19:00	Recco of Cherbourg Harbour. They climbed from zero feet West	
	JR389	P/O Green				to East to fly over the outer moles at 3000 feet but surprised	
	MN136	F/O Heaton				the flak out of the sun. It was late and inaccurate. No ships in	
	MN989	F/Sgt Thyagarajan				the harbour which was thoroughly inspected.	
24 th	JR440	S/Ldr Gonay	Rodeo 103	11:29	13:14	This sweep of Kerlin Bastard, Vannes, and Morlaix was carried out	
	JR441	F/Sgt Handley				exactly as planned (Crossing the French coast in and out at 10,000	
	JR389	F/Lt Stark				feet, otherwise at 0 feet) but no E/A were seen though the actual	
	MN136	P/O Beaumont				A/F at Morlaix was inspected.	
26 th	MN990	S/Ldr Gonay	Rodeo 104			This attempt to catch the Hun airborne early in the morning was	
	JR389	F/Sgt Dunlop				uneventful. The first section completed the course - Mont St. Michel	
	MN250	F/O Heaton				- Rennes - Gael - Pleubian. F/Sgt Ryan has slight engine trouble and	
	MN989	F/Sgt Ryan				P/O Heaton returned with him from East of Rennes.	
31 st	MN136	F/O Purkis	Rodeo 109	16:45	18:06	This sweep of Kerlin Bastard, Vannes, Plouha was mainly uneventful.	
	JR446	P/O Green				A JU52 was seen landing at Vannes from too far away for an attack.	
	MN449	F/Sgt Cooper				P/O Proctor and P/O Green fired at some soldiers and a barge near	
	MN990	P/O Proctor				Auray and Hennebont respectively but make no claims. claims.	
						Unfortunately F/O Purkis A/C hit a tree near Loudeac	

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
31 st (Cont d)		see page 1.	see page 1.			His throttle jammed at +5 boost. The formation kept together. But in landing at Harrowbeer, F/O Purkis cut his switches too early and had to make a wheels up landing. His aircraft is Cat B	
31 st	MN170	F/Lt Racine	Rodeo 108	Missing		This operation was planned to catch JU 88s of Vannes and Kerlin	
	JR531	F/O Heaton		19:04	21:19	Bastard at last light as they approached of left their bases to and	
	JR432	P/O Beaumont				fro the Bay of Biscay. Accordingly, our aircraft came into Ile	
	JR389	F/Sgt Dunlop				Groix from seaward at 0 feet and patrolled between there and the	
		mainland from 2003 to 2014. But there was 10/10 cloud and poor vis				and the dusk was unexpectedly dark. Probably for those reasons,	
	F/Lt Racine	made the mistake of leading our aircraft back at 5000				feet to cross the coast in the Lorient flak area. They evaded to	
	seaward and	thereafter F/Lt Racine was last seen to go back in to				the same area and to be caught in a concentration of flak. The	
	others made	their way back in the night to Harrowbeer, Predannack				and Exeter respectively. There is evidence from RDF resources	
	that F/Lt Racine	straggled later after them, crossed out near Morlaix				and then turned back to the coast where his plot failed. And	
	there was some	evidence that a Beaufighter found a light and a 'blip' from the sea North of Morlaix which <u>might</u> have been connected					
	with F/Lt Racine.	A search the next morning found no trace of him.					
						<i>Gonay</i> S/Ldr	
						Commanding, No. 263 Squadron.	

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
1 st	Typhoon 1B	P/O Proctor F/SGT Thould	A/S/R	06:45	08:38	Search for F/Lt Racine off BATZ - but in fact he was footing it ashore.	
	"	F/SGT Handley F/SGT Thyagarajan					
5 th	"	F/O Heaton F/O Unwin	Shipping recco	19:44	21:14	Uneventful ABERVARCH - LEZARDRIEUX.	
	"	F/SGT Cooper F/SGT Todd					
13 th	"	F/L Stark DFC F/O Parent	Ship	12:33	13:45	Uneventful Channel Islands.	
	"	F/O Heaton F/O Proctor	Recco				
	"	P/O Beaumont F/SGT Thyagarajan					
	"	F/Lt Rutter F/Lt Bell	Ship	19:03	20:23	Uneventful Channel Islands. Flak from Guernsey and LITTLE RUSSELL STRAIT.	
	"	F/O Unwin F/O Purkis	recco				
	"	P/O Green P/O Wood					
	"	F/SGT Thould F/SGT Morgan					
17 th	"	F/Lt Stark F/O Unwin	Rodeo 113	11:00	13:13	Crossed in St Malo 8000 feet but 0 zero feet sweep of BICTON a/fs was impossible owing to 10/10 cloud 2000 feet.	
	"	F/SGT Ryan F/Lt Rutter					
	"	F/Lt Stark F/L Rutter	Rodeo 115	18:33	20:30	Swept St. Malo, GAEL, RENNES uneventfully. Heights as usual, at 0 feet climbing in and out to cross French Coast at 10,000 feet.	
	"	F/L Bell F/Lt Evans					
	"	P/O Proctor F/O Purkis					
	"	F/SGT Cooper F/SGT Charlton					
18 th	"	F/Lt Stark F/O Purkis	Rodeo 117	15:15	17:15	This successful sweep round Paris (Heights as above) was flown from Tangmere. Thould destroyed a M.E.410 at 5,000 feet near BRETIGNY.	
	"	F/L Rutter F/SGT Handley				F/Lt Rutter, F/O Purkis, F/SGT Handley and P/O Green shared in the	
	"	F/SGT Thould P/O Green				destruction of a D.O.217 near VILLAROCHE - both enemy A/C exploded	
						on hitting the ground. F/SGT Handley damaged an H.E.111 at an a/f	
						S. W. of Paris and F/Lt Stark D.F.C who led and controlled the	
						operation seriously damaged an army truck and trailer and a Staff Car.	
21 st	"	F/Lt Rutter F/O Purkis	Rodeo	08:57	10:10	Leaders compass 20° u/s and No 2 R/T u/s. Therefore returned from	
	"	F/SGT Cooper F/SGT Todd				French Coast.	
	"						

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
21 st April	Typhoon 1B	F/Lt Stark F/L Rutter	Rodeo 119	11:58	14:10	Swept CAP CARTERET, VIRE, RENNES, GAEL. Flak from DOMPOUT otherwise nil.	
	"	F/SGT Dunlop F/SGT Handley					
	"	P/O Beaumont F/O Hames		11:58	13:10	These two spare a/c returned as planned from the French Coast.	
25 th April	"	F/O Heaton F/O Purkis	Ship recco	06:44	08:06	BREHAT - BATE possible E. Boats in Lezardrieux some flak.	
	"	F/SGT Thould F/SGT Thyagarajan					
	"	S/Ldr Gonay F/Lt Stark	Rodeo 122	16:00	18:00	Lengthy sweep from TANGMERE of TROUVILLE, CHARTRES, CHATENUDRUM,	
	"	F/Lt Rutter F/O Unwin				FLERS, POINT PERCEE entirely uneventful.	
	"	F/SGT Ryan F/SGT Dunlop					
	"	F/O Heaton P/O Green	Ship Recco	16:56	18:19	Repeat of the morning recco.	
	"	F/O Hames					
	"	F/O Purkis P/O Beaumont	Roadstead 87	20:35	21:45	D/B of 3 enemy destroyers lying in River Rance between St. Malo	
	"	P/O Green F/SGT Cooper				and Dinard. Near misses of Central Destroyer Cat 4).	
		P/O BEAUMONT	then cannonned 2 armed trawlers (both Cat 3). The A.O.			C. 10 Group and the Sector Commander both congratulated the	
		Squadron on	the short time in which this operation was organised			planned and airborne. The tactics of crossing the channel at 0 feet,	
		climbing to	10,000 feet and dive-bombed with 2 x 500lb M.C bombs			fused 0.025 seconds out of the sun from 10,000 to 4,000 - 2,000	
		feet were repeated in the seven subsequent operations, and in each				op accurate light flak of great intensity was encountered.	
26 th April	Typhoon 1B	S/Ldr Gonay F/Lt Rutter	Roadstead 88	09:25	10:36	D/B of 3,500 ton M/V or Sperrbrecher with 5 other ships	
	"	P/O Green F/SGT Cooper				including 2 probable destroyers in Morlaix Estuary. Bombs fell	
	"	F/SGT Thould F/SGT Dunlop				wide from 50 to 300 yards.	
26 th April	"	S/Ldr Gonay F/Lt Stark	Roadstead 90	14:28	15:40	d/b of previous targets, with 2 a/c as close escort. One pair of	
	"	F/Lt Rutter F/Lt Evans				bombs was a near miss of the large M/V and F/O Heaton continued	
	"	F/O Heaton P/O Beaumont				his dive to cannon it (Cat 3). He also fired at an Island flak post.	
	"	W/O Ryan F/SGT Dunlop					
	"	F/SGT Shellard F/SGT Thyagarajan					
27 th April	"	S/Ldr Gonay F/Lt Rutter	Roadstead 91	10:25	11:40	d/b of Previous days targets still in Morlaix Estuary. One very	
	"	F/O Heaton P/O Beaumont				near miss of large M/V (S/Ldr Gonay) and brown black smoke and	
	"	F/O Unwin F/SGT Dunlop				flame from M. Class Minesweeper perhaps from d.b. (both Cat 4)	
		F/SGT Thyagarajan					

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By 263 Squadron

For the month of April, 1944

Gonay

Squadron leader, Commanding

No 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

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				Up	Down		
2 nd May	Typhoon 1B	S/Ldr Gonay P/O Green	Roadstead	18:56	20:08	Standard d/b out of the sun of three M/V 2000 to 3000 tons with	
		F/O Heaton F/O Proctor	101			seven other small ships in LEZARDRIEUX Estuary. Bombs grouped among	
		F/Lt Stark P/O Wood				ships; no claims but F/O Heaton's c/g films shows cannon damage	
		F/Lt Williams				during dive to 1 M/V (Cat 4 or 3) and from a low level attack on an	
		M. Class M/S (In Cat 4 or 3). Accurate flak and balloons but strong wind was harder to cope with.					
3 rd May	Typhoon 1B	S/Ldr Gonay F/Lt Stark	Roadstead 102	13:55	15:00	10/10 cloud at 4000 feet 10 miles from coast therefore returned	
		F/Lt Evans F/Lt Bell	Part 1			to base	
		F/O Heaton F/SGT Todd					
		W/O Ryan F/SGT Morgan					
		S/Ldr Gonay F/O Heaton	Roadstead 102	17:55	19:05	Standard d/b of beached Elbing destroyer off the KERLOUAK.	
		F/Lt Stark F/Lt Bell	Part 2			P.R.U of target two minutes later exactly confirms our	
		F/SGT Handley F/O Hames				observations and claims - this vis:- four near misses of Bows of	
		F/SGT Todd F/SGT Morgan				ship, one probable direct hit amidships (Cat 3).	
		P/O Beaumont P/O Green	Patrl	18:45	19:45	Patrol from Start Point to Lizard at 6000 feet	
4 th		F/O Proctor F/Lt Williams	"	10:05	11:30	" " " " " " " "	
		P/O Wood F/Sgt Thyagarajan	"	11:10	12:30	" " " " " " " "	
8 th May		S/Ldr Gonay F/SGT Morgan	Circus 61	15:20	16:40	Standard D/B of DINARD/PLEURTUIT a/f (The squadron's first attack	
		F/Lt Stark F/Lt Williams				on this target). Flak was surprised and did not fire. Two pilots	
		F/L Bell F/O Heaton				cannoned a flak post on a hulk in the R.Rance estuary.	
		F/O Hames P/O Beaumont					
		F/O Purkis					
		F/O Purkis P/O Wood	Ship recco	20:56	22:15	This recco with dusk landings found and reported minor	
		F/SGT Todd F/SGT Thyagarajan				concentrations of shipping in MORLAIX and ABERVRACH estuaries	
10 th May		F/SGT Cooper F/SGT Shellard	Patrol	12:45	14:10	All these patrols were from Lizard to Start Point and Start Point	
						and 10 miles south of them, at 6000 feet.	
		F/O Purkis F/SGT Charlton		13:50	15:10		
		P/O Beaumont F/O Parent		16:00	17:15		
		F/Lt Bell F/O Hallett		16:55	18:20		

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
10 th	Typhoon 1B	F/SGT Thould F/SGT Morgan	Patrol	17:50	19:15	Patrols of Lizard - Bolt Head	
		P/O Wood F/SGT Thyagarajan		18:50	20:10	" " " " "	
		S/Ldr Gonay	Dusk Patrol	21:00	22:35	Dusk patrol " " "	
		F/O Hames F/SGT Handley					
		F/Lt Bell F/O Hallett	Scramble	20:25	21:10	Scramble to mid-channel for Dinard - Alderney plots	
12 th		F/O Purkis F/O Hames	Roadstead	09:30	11:00	Standard out of sun d/b of three small to medium M/Vs in ABERVRACH,	
		F/O Parent P/O Wood	105			All bombs overshoots, possible damage to Harbour and installations,	
		F/SGT Shellard & Todd				and to Medieval Town.	
		F/SGT Thould					
		S/Ldr Gonay F/L Rutter	Roadstead 106	15:20	16:40	C.O.'s a/c u/s halfway across through his whole section of four	
		F/O Unwin F/Lt Williams				a/c Vet: to base with him.	
		F/SGT Dunlop & Cooper				F/Lt Rutter led the other four A/C and personally scored a pair of	
		F/O Heaton F/SGT Handley				direct hits on the M/V M.65 a ship of 1564 tons (Cat 3).	
14 th		S/Ldr Gonay FO/ Proctor	Rodeo 135	16:58	19:12	This low level sweep round Paris was flown from Tangmere and	
		F/Lt Rutter F/L Bell				was uneventful, except for the damaging of tow or three barges	
		P/O Beaumont F/SGT Thyagarajan				on the Seine and near COMPEIGNE	
15 th		F/Lt Rutter F/O Green	Roadstead 107	09:28	10:35	Unsatisfactory operation. The only targets found in ABERVRACH	
		F/O's Unwin & Heaton				were two landing barges and the beached M/S. There were D/B'd	
		F/O's Purkis & Proctor				with poor results.	
		F/SGT's Morgan & Dunlop					
19 th		F/Lt Stark & Williams	Patrol	21:10	22:05	Predannack - Start Point - Harrowbeer	
		F/O Unwin & Parent	"	20:00	21:05	Predannack - Start Point - Predannack	
		F/O Unwin & Parent	"	21:50	22:45	Patrol Start Point to Lizard with dusk landings	
		F/SGT Dunlop P/O Wood	"	21:55	22:30	" " " " " " " "	
20 th		F/Lt Stark F/SGT Handley	"	22:05	22:50	" " " " " " " "	
						Very poor visibility at base required Mortar fire and canopy.	

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
21 st	Typhoon 1B	S/Ldr Gonay F/SGT Ryan	Roadstead 110	21:09	22:31	It was, for reasons not disclosed, very necessary to prevent a	
		F/Lt Stark F/Lt Rutter				convoy of 8 M. Class M/S (or other small warships) which were	
		F/SGT's Dunlop & Handley				leaving St Malo from continuing their operation and since there was	
		F/O's Proctor F/Lt Bell				cloud at 2000 feet this strike was laid on at low level. The convoy	
						was met head on 10 miles N.N.W of CAP FREHEL and after very good	
						anti flak attacks by 610 Squadron which left one ship on fire, our	
						a/c cannoned and bombed from mast height. Results were difficult to	
						observe but one ship is claimed Cat 3 damaged by F/O Proctor's	
23 rd	Typhoon 1B					cannon strikes, and it is reported that the enemy ships were	
						deterred from their proposed operation.	
		S/Ldr Gonay F/Lt Rutter	Roadstead 111	05:55	06:55	From Predannack. d/b a convoy of three M. M/S and two destroyers	
		F/SGT Thyagarajan				off St Matthew Point. A direct hit was scored on one of the	
		F/SGT Cooper F/L Stark				destroyers, damaging it Cat 3	
		F/Lt Evans F/L Williams					
		P/O Green					
		F/Lt's Stark & Rutter	Roadstead 112	17:25	18:38	D/B of 3000 ton and 1000 ton M/V's in LEZARDRIEUX. Both claimed	
		F/O's Chalmers & Purkis				cat 4 (probably 3). Probably damaged by straddling with near misses.	
		F/O Proctor A.R. F/SGT Handley				Intense flak.	
		F/SGT's Shellard & Todd					
		F/L Rutter & Stark	Roadstead 113	20:56	22:08	d/b of ships in LEZARDRIEUX but cloud at 6000 feet prevented a	
		F/O Proctor & Unwin				proper dive and bombs undershot or went wide.	
		F/O Hallett F/SGT Cooper					
		F/SGT Dunlop W/O Ryan					
26 th							
		F/L's Rutter & Stark	Armed ship recco	16:40	18:10	Armed recco from Brehat to ABERVRach, overland for ships or trains.	
		F/O's Unwin & Purkis				None found so d/b six barges in ABERVRACH with poor results.	
		F/O's Hallett W/O Ryan					
		F/SGT Thould F/SGT Todd					
		F/SGT Thyagarajan					

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By 263 SQUADRON
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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
6		S/LDR GONAY F/O HEATON					
		F/O PERKIS F/SGT MORGAN					
		F/LT RUTTER F/SGT DUNLOP	SHIP RECCO	06:25	08:00	HARROWBEER, BATZ, USHANT, PREDANNACK. NIL.	
		F/SGT THYAGARAJAN P/O RYAN					
6		S/LDR GONAY F/LT STARK					
		F/LT EVANS F/S COOPER					
		F/OS HODGSON GREEN	SHIP RECCO	20:15	21:50	SQUADRONS FIRST R.P. ATTACK, SUCCESSFUL, SEE SURFAT 263/44	
		F/L RUTTER F/O PERKIS					
7		F/L RUTTER P/O COOPER					
		F/O HEATON F/S CHARLTON	D/B SHIPPING	08:15	09:55	4 near misses straddled stern of M/V. 2 Gun posts shot up many	
		F/O PROCTOR F/S HANDLEY	ST MALO			strikes seen. <i>Surfat 263/45 (1)</i>	
		W/O RYAN F/S SHELLARD					
7		SLDR GONAY F/S DUNLOP					
		F/LT EVANS F/S MORGAN	R/P SHIPPING	08:30	10:00	<i>no claim 263/45 (2)</i>	
		F/LT STARK F/O H PROCTOR	ST PETERS PORT				
		F/O PURKIS F/S TODD					
7		S/LDR GONAY F/O GREEN				<i>Cloud prevented target being found.</i>	
		F/O HODGSON F/S MORGAN	ROADSTEAD 128	12:25	14:10	No claim F/O Parent missing Surfat 263/46 near Ushant.	
		OCTOR F/O PURKIS					
		F/LT STARK F/S TODD					
7		F/O PARENT F/S CHARLTON	SHIPPING STRIKE	16:30	18:00	<i>No claim F/O Parent missing Surfat 263/46</i>	
		F/LT RUTTER F/S HANDLEY	SARK				
		F/O HEATON W/O RYAN					
		F/O A PROCTOR F/S THYAGARAJAN					
8		P/O COOPER / F/S HANDLEY					
		F/O GREEN F/O HEATON	D/B SHIPPING	13:30	14:55	<i>1 M/V Cat 4 Surfat 263/47</i>	
		F/LT RUTTER F/S SHELLARD	ST MALO				
		F/S THYAGARAJAN					

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				Up	Down		
9		S/LDR GONAY F/S TODD					
		P/O DUNLOP F/S MORGAN	R/P 88 mm	18:50	20:40	<i>impossible to get through 10/10 cloud at 100' at French coast</i>	
		F/L STARK F/O HODGSON	POSTS ST LO				
		F/L EVANS F/O PURKIS					
9		F/L RUTTER F/S CHARLTON					
		F/O GREEN P/O COOPER	D/B ATTACK	21:30	23:00	<i>All aircraft recalled when five miles from target area. F/O Heaton was last seen climbing</i>	
		F/O HEATON F/O PROCTOR	GUN POSTS ST LO			<i>and turning in cloud. F/Lt Rutter's section landed at Hearne & Tangmere</i>	
		W/O RYAN F/S HANDLEY					
9		F/L RUTTER F/S THYAGARAJAN	R/P ATTACK				
		F/O H PROCTOR F/O GREEN	GUN POSTS ST LO.				
		P/O COOPER P/O THOULD					
10		S/L GONAY F/L STARK	SHIPPING RECCO	05:30	06:03	<i>Most successful strike on three M.M/s Surf at 263/48</i>	
		F/S DUNLOP F/S TODD					
		F/L EVANS F/O PURKIS					
		F/L WILLIAMS F/O HODGSON					
10		S/L GONAY F/L STARK	ROADSTEAD 134	09:30	11:00	<i>These R/P aircraft found no shipping in Channel Isles so attacked radar station Jersey</i>	
		F/L WILLIAMS F/O PURKIS	R/P ATTACK			<i>Rouge Nez with fair results</i>	
		F/L EVANS F/S MORGAN					
		P/O THOULD W/O RYAN					
10		F/L RUTTER F/O PROCTOR	ROADSTEAD 133	09:30	11:00	<i>Bomber a/c abortive 10/10 cloud 3000' off St Malo.</i>	
		F/O A PROCTOR F/S THYAGARAJAN	D/B ATTACK				
		F/O HALLETT F/S HANDLEY					
		F/S SHELLARD F/S CHARLTON					
			Ramrod	14:30	15:30	<i>Attack on Yffiniac bridge abortive in 10/10 cloud 1000'</i>	
10		S/L GONAY F/S TODD	ROADSTEAD 136				
		F/O PURKIS F/S DUNLOP	R/P ATTACK				
		F/L STARK F/O HODGSON					
		F/L WILLIAMS P/O THOULD					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
10	F/L RUTTER F/S SHELLARD		RAMROD 136	14:30	15:30	<i>See above.</i>	
	F/O GREEN F/S THYAGARAJAN						
	F/O H PROCTOR F/O A PROCTOR						
	P/O COOPER F/S HANDLEY						
12	F/L EVANS F/S MORGAN						
	F/L STARK F/O PURKIS	SHIPPING RECCO		05:42	07:02	<i>4 T.T.A's bombed in bay St. Aubin – no claim.</i>	
	P/O THOULD F/S MORGAN						
	F/L WILLIAMS W/O RYAN						
12	F/L STARK F/S TODD						
	F/L WILLIAMS P/O THOULD	RAMRDS 137		09:55	11:35	<i>This important operation against the railway viaduct south west of Yffiniac took place in two waves of sixteen a/c (8 B. 8 R.P.)</i>	
	F/O PURKIS F/S TODD					<i>32 sorties altogether</i>	
	F/L UNWIN W/O RYAN						
12	S/L GONAY F/S SHELLARD	RAMROD 137		09:55	11:35		
	F/O H PROCTOR F/O A PROCTOR					COPY	
	F/L RUTTER P/O COOPER					A. Harrowbeer 0955 – 1125 and 1455 – 1625. For this operation, which	
	F/O GREEN F/S THYAGARAJAN					was planned to disrupt the main Brest – Rennes railway line by the	
12	F/L STARK F/O HODGSON					destruction of the viaduct S.W. of Yffiniac, the Squadron twice put	
	P/O THOULD F/S MORGAN	RAMROD 137		14:55	16:30	up 8 Typhoons R.P. and 8 Bombphoons simultaneously (32 sorties).	
	F/L EVANS F/O PURKIS					Bombing and R.P. concentration was excellent in the first attack and	
	F/L UNWIN W/O RYAN					good in the second, when a 2 x 500lb. crater and 3 x 60ld R.O craters	
12	S/L GONAY F/S CHARLTON					were seen to have disintegrated the double track in the first attack.	
	F/O GREEN F/S HANDLEY					However the girder construction which is mentioned in the target	
	F/L RUTTER F/O HALLETT					information (but not visible in the only photo available, a vertical)	
						was never identified, and the railway line in the target area appeared	
						to several pilots to be carried across the “dried up river bed”	
						(Which was very clearly pinpointed by its position 2,000 yards S.S.W.	
						of the Yffiniac bite) an a continuous embankment of masonry with	
						very small drainage arches at its base. The target was thought by	
						this unit to be an unsatisfactory one. Observations of results and of	
						the target were made by W/Cdr Bird Wilson and 610 Squadron Spitfires	
						XIV Close Escort. It should be added that 64 R.P. creat a dusty mass	
						of “smoke and corruption”.	
						A 2 x 20mm. flat position at 3.5105 was twice attacked from low level	
						by two pilots (4 attacks) of 263 Sqdn. who saw strikes during 2	
						attacks and consider that damage and casualties were caused.	

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				Up	Down		
14	F/L	RUTTER F/O PROCTOR					
	F/S	THYAGARAJAN F/S HANDLEY	SHIPPING RECCO	05:30	06:50	<i>Very successful shipping operation Surf at 263/49 + 50</i>	
	F/O	HALLETT F/S SHELLARD					
	XXXXXX	XXXXXX F/S CHARLTON					
14		F/O A PROCTOR	SHIPPING RECCO	06:50	07:25		
14	S/L	GONAY P/O THOULD					
	F/L	EVANS F/O HODGSON	SHIPPING RECCO	08:15	09:45	<i>S/L Gonay got direct hits on a T.T.A. off Corbieu Point. His a/c was then hit by flak and made an apparently controlled forced landing on Jersey. Surf at 263/51</i>	
	F/L	WILLIAMS F/S TODD					
	F/L	UNWIN F/O PURKIS					
14							
14		F/L Rutter F/S Charlton	Roadstead 140	18:45	20:15	<i>Squadrons first U boat attack. This and the next days attack certainly sunk a T.T.A. and the U boat believed to be damaged</i>	
		F/S Handley W/O Ryan					
		F/O Proctor F/S Shellard				<i>Surf at 263/52</i>	
		F/L Stark F/L Williams					
		F/S Thyagarajan					
15		S/L Rutter F/S Shellard	Roadstead 142	08:56	10:00	<i>See above. Surf at 263/53</i>	
		F/S Handley F/O Proctor A					
		F/L Stark F/O Hodgson					
		F/O Purkis F/L Evans					
17		S/L Rutter F/O Purkis					
		F/O Hallett F/S Handley	Ship Recco	12:26	14:03	<i>Unable to reach Grenville owing to cloud.</i>	
		F/O Proctor H F/S Todd					
		F/L Unwin F/L Evans					
17		S/L Rutter F/O Purkis					
		P/O Thould F/S Charlton					
		F/O's Proctor H & A	Ship Recco	19:40	21:10	<i>These twelve a/c with 25 pound R.P. A.P sunk the L97 Passenger Packet of 1000 tons and probably sunk a T.L.C. Surf at 263/54</i>	
		F/S Shellard + Thyagarajan					
		F/L Evans F/O Hodson					
		F/O Hallett F/L Unwin					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
18 th	S/L Rutter	F/L Unwin					
	F/O's Proctor H and A		Ship recco	05:38	07:16	Convoy attacked off Grosnez Point – no claim.	
	F/S's Todd and Thyagarajan						
	W/O Ryan F/S Todd F/O Handley						
18	Names as above		Ship Strike	08:24	09:37	Same formation returned to harass the convoy with good success.	
						Surfat 263/55 + 56.	
20	S/L Rutter	£ F/L Stark					
	F/O Purkis	F/O Hallett	Ramrod	17:00	17:50	All R/P in vicinity of Radar huts at Ploumanack. But Radar aerial £ base apparatus believed not hit.	
	F/S Coultern F/S Dunlop						
	F/L Evans	P/O Thould					
20	S/L Rutter	F/L Stark					
	F/O Purkis	F/O Hodgson	Ship Recco	21:50	22:50	[Illegible] Cap de la Hague Cap [Illegible]	
	F/S Morgan	F/S Shellard				Sudden accurate heavy flak from the final two together – This was the very last time at the Sqdn.	
	W/O Ryan	F/O Thyagarajan					
21	S/L Rutter	F/O Purkis	Ship Recco	05:25	06:25	10/10 cloud at 3,000 ft 40 miles out.	
	F/O Hallett F/O H Proctor						
	F/S Shellard F/S Handley						
	F/O A Proctor						
21	S/L Rutter	F/O Purkis	Ramrod	13:30	14:15	Weather as above.	
	F/O H Proctor F/O A Proctor						
	F/S Thyagarajan F/S Todd						
	F/O Hallett F/S Shellard						

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				Up	Down		
22	S/L Rutter	F/L Stark	Ramrod	18:00	18:50	R/P two salvos of direct hits each in Freya and Wurzburg apparatus	
	P/O Thould	F/S Todd	142				
	F/O Green	F/O Hodgson					
	F/L Unwin	F/S Morgan					
23	S/L Rutter	F/L Stark	Ramrod 144	12:30	13:45	R/P hits on huts of [Illegible] radar station F/L Stark D.F.C. made two long cannon attacks	
	F/L Unwin	F/S Morgan				to damage Wurzburg apparatus. F/S Dunlop some light flak in oil system it brought him	
	F/L Evans	F/S Dunlop				4,000 ft, 60 miles north of French coast and 25 miles from Bolt Head he baled out and took	
	F/O Green	W/O Green				two minutes to get into his dinghy while he had to wait 30 min for Walrus. The A.S.P	
						[Illegible] came up while he was still in [Illegible]. "Dauntless Dunlop" is the first pilot of	
						263 to be rescued by A.S.R. and it was smartly done.	
23	S/L Rutter	F/O Purkis					
	F/O Hallett F/O H Proctor		Ramrod	17:00	18:00	Radar apparatus at [Illegible] pranged by R/P and left leaning	
	F/S Todd	F/S Shellard	145			over.	
	F/S Handley P/O Cooper						
23	F/L Stark	F/L Unwin	Ship Recce	21:45	22:58	Nothing seen except smoke from the destruction of Cherbourg. Flak from Alderney.	
	F/O Hodgson F/O Hallett						
	F/S Charlton P/O Thould						
	W/O Ryan	F/S Thyagarajan					
24	S/L Rutter	F/S Morgan	Roadstead	09:30	10:50	Attack of shipping St Malo. W/O Ryan missing.	
	F/S Charlton F/S Handley		146			See Surf at 263/57	
	W/O Ryan	F/O Purkis					
	F/S Todd	F/S Thyagarajan					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
24	S/L Rutter	F/L Stark		14:30	16:40	Very successful attack on St Malo ships	
	F/S Charlton	F/O Hodgson	Ship Strike			F/S Charlton missing. See Surfak 263/58	
	F/O Green	P/O Cooper	St Malo				
	P/O Hallett	F/S Shellard					
27	S/L Rutter	F/L Stark	Target Recco	09:55	11:15	St Ivy College Pontiry recceed at 8,000 and zero ft.	
27	S/L Rutter	F/L Stark	Ramrod 146	13:00	14:25	First op with 4 R/P and 2 L/R tanks. The target was green camouflaged square concrete building (said to contain a telephone exchange station for [Illegible]) in the Nth East corner of the St Ivy College. As our A/C approached 20/30 huns hurled themselves out of the college into the said building which was (we hope) pranged at least 4 direct hits.	
	F/O's Hodgson, Green						
	F/L Unwin	P/O Thould					
27	Same pilots as above		Ramrod 146	18:00	19:10	This time the L/R tanks to tightly fitted and would not drop off.	

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				Up	Down		
July 3 rd	Typhoon 1B	S/L Rutter, F/Ls Stark, Ramrod Evans, F/Os Unwin, Green, 151 P/O Thould, F/Sgts Todd, Dunlop.		14:00	15:25	The target was Mur de Bretagne Transformer Station. The first section's R/P were thought to be undershoots, but the second section scored hits among the target buildings and in the electrical complex, producing a fine bright flash. F/Lt Stark's aircraft was hit by the accurate light flak and streamed glycol. After a very few XXXX typically Pinkie words of R.T. talk, he baled out nicely and waved to P/O Thould from a field near KERPERT.	
" 4 th	"	S/L Rutter, F/L Unwin, Rhubarb F/O's Proctor, H.M., Green 304 Hodgson, P/O Thould, F/Sgts Todd, Thyagarajan		11:30	12:25	Abortive. 10/10 cloud off French coast.	
" 5 th	"	S/L Rutter, F/L Unwin, Rhubarb F/Os Purkis, Hodgson, 306 F/O Green, P/O Thould, F/Sgts Todd, Handley		14:00	15:00	Abortive as above.	
" 6 th	"	S/L Rutter, F/Os Proctor, A., Ramrod Proctor, H.M., Woodward, 152 P/Os Cooper, Wood, F/Sgts. Handley, Thyagarajan				Despite the change of name this operation was for the same target as above - the supposed oil dump in the Bois de Maulanay. R/P were sent nicely into the huts there and their vicinity, but no spectacular results ensued.	
" 7 th	"	F/Ls Unwin, Evans Roadstead F/Os Purkis, Le Gear, 148 Green, Hodgson, F/Sgts Morgan, Dunlop		14:20	15:25	A T.T.A. and 2 very small u/i ships were attacked after a too steep dive forced by cloud banks. No claim.	
		F/Ls Unwin, Evans, Roadstead F/Os Purkis, Hodgson, 149 P/Os Campbell, Thould, F/Sgts Todd, Morgan.		18:00	19:05	This was the Squadron's last operation in 10 Group. Our aircraft returned to harry the convoy found above, and now attacked the T.T.A. near Pte de L'Armorique. F/O Hogson's R/P were thought to have hit the ship (Cat. A). He did not fully recover from his dive and his aircraft then hit the sea in what might have been an attempt at a ditching. It bounced four times and disappeared. F/O Purkis orbitted but found only an oil patch.	
" 8 th	"					The Squadron is instructed to prepare to move to Hurn for transferring to T.A.F.	
" 10 th	"					Move to R.A.F. Hurn Completed.	
" 11 th /22 nd	"					These days occupied with R/P practice, and practice flying generally.	
" 23 rd	"					Squadron moved to R.A.F. Eastchurch for R/P firing course.	
" 26 th /31 st	"		<i>R.D. Rutter</i> Squadron Leader, Commanding No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.			These days, weather permitting, occupied entirely on R/P practice.	

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By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

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August							
1st/5 th	Typhoon 1B					Squadron at R.A.F. Eastchurch on R/P course. These days occupied with R/P practice.	
6 th	"					Squadron moved to landing strip B.3 in Rance.	
7 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. J.B Purkis, G.C.8		12:55	13:25	Squadron's first operation from France. The target was a defence post. R/P were fired and target area well covered with smoke and dust.	
		J. Arkle, F/Os. H.M. Proctor,					
		F. Green, P/Os J. Thould, P.F. Cooper					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. J.B Purkis, G.C.19		15:10	16:40	One section attacked tanks and claim 3-0-0. The other section attacked scattered M.T., but no results observed.	
		F/Os N.P.C. Woodward, F.S. Le Gear,					
		H.M. Proctor, P/O S.D. Thyagarajan,					
		F/Sgt I.D.M. Dunlop					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin, G.C.42		20:15	21:15	Recce in Flers-Briene-Falaise area. 3 M.T. attacked with claim 0-0-1. No further M.T. seen. Moderate to heavy flak.	
		D.F. Evans, F/Os W.J. Fowler,					
		F.S. Le Gear, H.M. Proctor,					
		F/L J.B. Purkis, P/O W.E. Watkins					
8 th	"	F/Ls J.B. Purkis, J. Arkle G.C.12		11:41	12:14	3 aircraft attacked cross roads at 11448, but no results observed. The remainder attacked cross road 107459, good concentration.	
		F/Os A.R.S. Proctor, A.L.S.					
		Hallett, P/Os G.A. Wood, P.F. Cooper,					
		F/Sgts W.A. Handley, J.W. shellard					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L. L. Unwin, G.C.35		17:15	18:15	A/R Lisieux-Argentan-Flers area. No M.T. seen. 64 R/P fired at 79841, rockets dropping in wood.	
		F/Os H.M. Proctor, A. Barr,					
		P.Os M.S.M Hamilton, J. Thould					
		F/Sgts J.J. Morgan, D.C. Todd					
	"	F/Os H.M. Proctor, A.R.S. Proctor, G.C.51		20:05	20:40	Red smoke seen in target area and all R/P fired. One small fire.	
		A.L.S. Hallett, P/Os G.A. Wood,					
		S.D. Thyagarajan, F/Sgts					
		W.A. Handley, J.W. Shellard					
9 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. D.F. Evans, G.C.8		09:55	10:40	Squadron set out to attack six tanks, but none seen. 10+ M.T. attacked, and several cannon strafing attacks made on roads N S and E. Claims 0-2-4. Moderate light flak in target area.	
		J.B. Purkis, F/Os W.G. Kemp,					
		A.W. Campbell, F.S. Le Gear,					
		F/Sgt D.M. Dunlop, D.C. Todd					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, G.C.28		13:00	14:00	A/R Falaise-Villy. Only scattered M.T. seen and attacked. Claims 2-0-2. Moderate light and medium flak at 01736	
		H.M. Proctor, N.P.C. Woodward,					
		P/Os P.F. Cooper, W.E. Watkins,					
		S.D. Thyagarajan, W/O P.J. McNinley					
	"	F/Ls J.B. Purkis, D.F. Evans, G.C.40		15:50	16:30	R/P fired in target area. A large fire seen in village, dark brown smoke followed by a big explosion. 1 M.T. destroyed.	
		J. Arkle, F/Os A.W Campbell					
		W.G. Kemp, P/O J. Thould,					
		F/Sgts D.M. Dunlop, D.C. Todd					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
August							
9 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green, G.C.51		17:48	18:22	Squadron attacked with R/P, all of which fell in target area.	
		H.M. Proctor, P/Os P.F. Cooper,					
		S.D Thyagarajan, W.E. Watkins,					
		W/O P.J. McNinley					
10 th	"	F/Ls. J.B. Purkis, L. Unwin, G.C.4		09:33	10:35	A/R Falaise-Putanges-Argentan-Trun. Only scattered M.T. seen and	
		J. Arkle, F/Os F.S Le Gear,				attacked with claims:- Tanks 0-1-0, M.T. 2-0-0, AFV 0-2-0.	
		A. Barr, P/O. M.S.M. Hamilton,					
		F.Sgt J.J. Morgan, D.M. Dunlop					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green, G.C.22		15:21	15:57	Target was a chateau H.Q. Strikes were seen on main building which	
		H.M. Proctor, A.L.S. Hallett,				was seen to be destroyed. Red flames and a column of smoke arose.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os W.E. Watkins,				Strikes were also made on minor buildings.	
		G.A. Wood					
	"	F/Ls. J.B. Purkis, J. Arkle, G.C.38		18:36	19:20	R/P were fired into hutments to east to the chateau, and at flak	
		F/Os L.S Le Gear, W.G. Kemp				positions to the north. A large oil fire was seen at U127447.	
		P/Os M.S.M. Hamilton, J. Thould,				Inaccurate heavy and light flak in target area.	
		F/Sgt J.J. Morgan, D.M. Dunlop					
11 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L E.W. Hewett, G.C.18		13:02	13:46	Took off to attack gun positions. Three red smokes were seen and	
		F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, F. Green,				attacked with R/P, all of which fell in target area. One gun was	
		W.J Fowler, P/O S.D. Thyagarajan,				believed to have been seen. Meagre light flak.	
		F/Sgt J.W. Shellard, W.A. Handley					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. J.B. Purkis, G.C.26		15:42	17:31	Target Radar station at Beauvais. 193, 197, 266 Sqdns. also on this	
		J. Arkle, P/Os. J. Thould, M.S.M.				operation. All Sqdns. attacked with R/P and bombs. Direct hit on	
		Hamilton, F/Sgt D.C. Todd, J.J. Morgan,				main building. Three minor buildings destroyed and one on fire.	
		D.M. Dunlop					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L E.W. Hewett, G.C.51		21:07	21:50	Target was infantry and mortars at 750365. Attacked with R/P	
		F/s. W.J Fowler, H.M. Proctor,				in target area and started fires and explosions. One very large fire.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/O P.F. Cooper,				Meagre light flak.	
		W.O P.J. McNinley, F/S. W.A. Handley					
12 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, D.2		10:15	11:32	A/R Morteaux-Crevecoeur. M.T. on the roads was light, but attacks	
		F/Os W.G. Kemp, A. Barr, P/O J. Thould				were made with claims:- 1 armed troop carrier overturned, 2 M.T.	
		F/Sgt J.J. Morgan, D.M. Dunlop, D.C. Todd				damaged, 1 lorry "flamer". One aircraft was damaged by flak (Cat A)	
						and returned early. Intense heavy flak 3/4 miles NW and SE of Falaise.	
	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F/Os. F. Green, D.D.12		15:50	16:57	Attack possible tanks at U1533. No tanks were seen, and little movment	
		H.M. Proctor, P/Os. G.A. Wood,				on road, but 1 tank transporter, one large lorry with trailer and	
		W.E. Watkins, S.D Thyagarajan,				3 M.T. attacked. No claims. Intense and accurate heavy flak N of	
		W/O P.J. McNinley, F/S J.W. Shellard				Falaise. 1 aircraft damaged (Cat.B).	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle D.18		18:03	19:02	Took off to attack guns, but were diverted to A/R before reaching	
		F/Os. A. Barr, W.J. Fowler, F. Green,				target. Little movment seen. Near misses on one barge, and 2	
		F.S. Le Gear, F/S D.M. Dunlop				M.T. destroyed and 1 damaged in Trouville area.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

For the month of August 1944

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
August							
13 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os.	N.P.C D.D.7	14:10	15:15	A/R south of Falaise. Attacks were made with the claims:-	
		Woodward, H.M. Proctor, P/Os				3 tanks "flamers", 1 M.T. "flamer" 1½ miles S.W. of Falaise.	
		S.D. Thyagarajan, G.A. Wood,				No further incidents.	
		F/Ss. J.W. Shellard, W.A. Handley					
14 th	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F/O A.L.S. Hallett D.D.1		09:00	10:00	Took off on A/R Falaise-Vimoutiers-Lisieux area. Only one AFV	
		P/Os. P.F. Cooper, W.E. Watkins,				or stationary M.T. seen and attacked, claimed damaged.	
		G.A. Wood, S.D. Thyagarajan, W/O					
		P.J. McNinley, F/S J.W. Shellard					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. D.F. Evans T.R.A/8		11:20	11:55	W/C Baldwin led flying one of the Squadron aircraft. The target	
		J.B. Purkis, L. Unwin, F/Os. A. Barr				was guns and defence post at U188459. R/P were fired the wood at	
		W.G. Kemp, P/O. Thould.				148433, but no results observed.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, D.7		19:00	19:45	The target was troops and guns at 267474. R/P were fired in target	
		F/Os. F. Green, N.P.C. Woodward,				area, direct hits were made on houses, and probable hits on one of	
		A.L.S. Hallett, P/O W.E. Watkins,				four 88 mm. guns. Several hits were also made on the hillside.	
		F/Ss. W.A. Handley, J.W. Shellard				Moderate light flak, and meagre heavy flak.	
15 th	"	F/Ls. J.B. Purkis, D.F. Evans, D.D.10		11:27	12:33	A/R Falaise area. Scattered M.T. were attacked Lisieux - Vimoutiers	
		L. Unwin, F/Os. F.S. Le Gear,				with claims:- 1 staff car/ AMC "smoker", 2 stationary M.T. "flamers"	
		W.A. Campbell, P/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton,				at Q5164, one of which exploded suggesting ammunition, 1 stationary	
		J. Thould, F/S J.J. Morgan				M.T. at U2838 "flamer", large explosion. 4 ambulances seen moving	
						SE from Livarot, but not attacked. Moderate heavy flak at Q5764 in	
						Vimoutiers area.	
	"	F/L. E.W. Hewett, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, D.D.19		14:35	15:27	A/R. No M.T. seen, except 3 ambulances which were not attacked. No	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/O S.D. Thyagarajan				claims.	
	"	F/Ls. J.B. Purkis, J. Arkle, F/Os. D.D.23		16:08	16:48	R/P were fired on the targets. A few troops were seen, but no tanks.	
		A. Barr, F. Green, A.R.S. Proctor,				The W/C who was flying reported smoke and flames from the target.	
		P/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton, G.A. Wood,					
		P.F. Cooper					
	"	F/Ls. J.B. Purkis, J. Arkle, D.D.28		19:01	19:36	Weather and smoke made conditions impossible for recce, and no	
		D.F. Evans, F/O A. Barr, P/Os.				attacks made. There was accurate heavy flak in Flers area.	
		G.A. Wood, P.F. Cooper, J. Thould,					
		F/S J.J. Morgan.					
16 th	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F.Os. F.Green, F.34		08:05	09:00	A/R Bernay-Lisieux-Falaise-Trun area. No M.T. seen except one small	
		N.P.C. Woodward, A.R.S. Proctor,				car which was damaged. No further incidents to report.	
		A.L.S. Hallett, P/O P.F. Cooper,					
		W/O P.J. McNinley, F/S W.A. Handley					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
August							
16 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. J. Arkle, D.D.40		14:27	15:53	A/R Livarot-Vimoutiers-Orbec. 4 tanks and 8 M.T. were seen and	
		J.B. Purkis, D.F. Evans, F/Os.				attacked at Q4764, but no results observed. 1 M C at Q4463 was also	
		A. Barr, W.G. Kemp, A.W. Campbell,				attacked and a bridge (already damaged) at Q5471, no results observed.	
		F/S J.J. Morgan				From this operation F/Lt J.B. Purkis DFC reported missing. he was	
						heard to call over the R/T that the was hit, but nothing further was heard.	
	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F.Os. F.Green, D.D.47		18:30	19:20	The target was a chateau H.Q. 193 and 197 Sqdns were also on this	
		W.J. Fowler, P/Os. W.E. Watkins,				operation, the formation being led by W/C Baldwin. Several direct hits	
		P.F. Cooper, S.D. Thyagarajan,				scored and the chateau left burning. There was some meagre light flak.	
		F/Ss. J.W. Shellard, W.A. Handley					
17 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. J. Arkle, F.64		14:27	15:33	The target was barges on the Seine Les Audelys to Quille Boeuf.	
		D.F. Evans, F/O A.W. Campbell,				Results were good and the following claims made:- 1 barge "flamer",	
		P/O M.S.M. Hamilton, F/Ss, D.C. Todd,				1 dredger "flamer", 2 barges "smokers", 2 barges damaged, cannon	
		J.J. Morgan, D.M. Dunlop				strikes on 2 locks, 12 barges strafed but no results observed.	
						1 M.T. damaged. There was intense light flak in area M1503, and	
						meagre light flak in R1977.	
	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F.Os. F.Green, D.D.73		18:31	19:30	M.T. was the target on this operation and attacks were made	
		A.L.S. Hallett, H.M. Proctor,				with the results:- 2 "flamers" at Q4563, 2 "flamers" S.W. of	
		A.R.S. Proctor, P/Os.				Vimoutiers and 2 damaged.	
		G.A. Wood, W.E Watkins					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. J. Arkle, D.D.80		20:50	21:40	Squadron took off on A/R Vimoutiers-Orbec-Livarot but was recalled	
		D.F. Evans, F/Os. A. Barr,				before making any attack.	
		A.W. Campbell, P/O M.S.M. Hamilton,					
		F/Ss. D.M. Dunlop, J.W. Shellard					
18 th	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, D.D.85		08:32	09:31	A/R Bernay area. 2 stationary M.T. were destroyed at Q8585.	
		H.M Proctor, A.R.S. Proctor,				The road was cratered by R/P. Ambulances were seen moving E and NE	
		P/O P.F. Cooper, W/O P.J. McNinley,				in twos and fours.	
		F/Ss. J.W. Shellard, W.A. Handley					
		S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin, D.D.93		12:23	13:56	There was much movement of mixed M.T. in small groups in area S.W. of	
		J. Arkle, F/Os. A. Barr, W.G. Kemp,				Orbec moving towards Orbec. Attacks were made with claims:- 1 tank	
		A.W. Campbell, P/O M.S.M. Hamilton,				destroyed, 5 M.T. destroyed, 1 M.T. damaged, all in area Q6363. The	
		F.Ss. J.W. Shellard, W.A. Handley				pilots reported a suspicious ambulance convoy. 22 M.T. of various	
						kinds parked under hedge in square 67. Not attacked.	
	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F.Os. A.L.S. D.D.106		15:17	16:00	A/R Special area Trun. Attacks were made in the target area with	
		Hallett, A.R.S. Proctor, P/Os.				claims as follows:- 1 tank "flamer", 4 M.T. "flamers", 6 probables	
		W.E. Watkins, P.F. Cooper, F/O.				and 5 damaged. F/O A.R.S. Proctor was seen to be hit and made a	
		H.M Proctor, W/O P.J. McNinley				forced landing. He was seen to get out of the aircraft. (He returned	
						to the Squadron the following day, uninjured.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

For the month of August 1944

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
August							
18 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls.	L. Unwin, D.D.117	17:44	19:05	A/R Lisieux-Cormeilles-Bernay. Little movement was seen in the target area but attacks were made with results as follows:-	
		D.F. Evans, J. Arkle, F/Os.	A. Barr,			2 M.T. destroyed at Q8464 and 1 at Q8743.	
		A.W. Campbell, P/O M.S.	M. Hamilton				
	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F/O.	H.M. Proctor, D.D.121	20:48	21:39	A/R area SW of Trun. 30 stationary M.T. were sighted at U2926 and attacked. 18 "flamers" are claimed. A column of 15-20 horse drawn transport and troops was strafed at U3524. In the same area 1 M.T. "flamer" and 4 damaged are also claimed.	
		P/Os. P.F. Cooper, W.E.	Watkins,				
		S.D. Thyagarajan, W/O	P.J. McNinley,				
		F/Ss. J.W. Shellard, W.	A. Handley				
19 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls.	J. Arkle, D.D.131	09:45	11:25	A/R Orbec-Brugle-Beaumesnil-Beaumont. Many burnt out M.T. were seen in this area but few new targets. Attacks were made on some M.T. with the following claims:- 1 stationary M.T. "flamer", at Q6675, 1 probably damaged at Q7299 and 1 damaged at Q7983.	
		D.F. Evans, L. Unwin, F/Os.	A. Barr,				
		W.G. Kemp, P/O M.S.M.	Hamilton,				
		F/S D.M. Dunlop					
	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F/Os.	F. Green, D.D.137	12:38	13:40	The target was M.T. and horse drawn transport east of Vimoutiers. 1 aircraft had to return after take off on account of mechanical trouble. M.T. were attacked and claims were made for 3 destroyed, 2 probables and 2 damaged.	
		H.M. Proctor, A.L.S. Hallett, P/Os.					
		G.A. Wood, S.D. Thyagarajan,					
		W.E. Watkins, F/S W.A.	Handley				
20 th	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F/Os.	W.J. Fowler, F.149	09:41	10:22	A/R Trouville-Thiberville area. This operation was abortive due to bad weather.	
		H.M. Proctor, P/Os. W.	E. Watkins,				
		G.A. Wood, P.F. Cooper, W/O					
		P.J. McNinley, F/S W.A.	Handley				
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls.	J. Arkle, D.158	14:32	15:53	The original target was abortive and the operation diverted to A/R Orbec area. Scattered M.T. were attacked with following claims:- 1 destroyed at Q7298 going east, 1 staff car damaged at W8488. 1 tank was seen but could not be attacked as the pilot who sighted it had run out of ammunition	
		L. Unwin, D.F. Evans, F/Os.	A. Barr, ZQU3				
		A.W. Campbell, P/O					
		M.S.M. Hamilton, F/S D.C.	Todd				
21 st						No flying on this day.	
22 nd	"	F/L E.W. Hewett, F/Os.	W.J. Fowler,	14:09	14:59	A/R area B. No M.T. was seen on this operation and no attacks made. There was some meagre light and heavy flak, and 20 parachute cables were seen.	
		A.L.S. Hallett, N.P.C.	Woodward, D.D.176				
		P/Os. P.F. Cooper, S.D.	Thyagarajan,				
		W.O McNinley, P.J.,					
		F/S W.A. Handley					
23 rd	"					No operational flying. 1 air test and 2 cannon test only were made.	
24 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls.	L. Unwin, D.D.208	08:30	09:45	M.T. and tanks at Q9495 were the target. The weather was obstructive and only 4 aircraft were able to deliver an attack. They claim 2 M.T. damaged, 1 "flamer" at Q9596. There was intense light flak in area Q9598.	
		D.F. Evans, F/Os. W.G.	Kemp, F.S				
		Le Gear, A.W. Campbell, P/O.					
		J. Thould, F/S D.C.	Todd				

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
August							
24 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L H.M.	A/R	20:25	21:30	A/R over area D. No M.T. were seen in the area. Two aircraft	
		Proctor, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, Area D				attacked with R/P a paddle ferry boat proceeding towards the west	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. G.A. Wood,				bank of the Seine at L8020, and left it on fire. F/Lt. H.M. Proctor	
		P.F. Cooper, S.D. Thyagarajan,				DFC crashed after being hit by flak, and no further news was heard	
		F/S J.W. Shellard				of him. There was intense light and heavy flak in the Seine area	
						L7423-L9912	
25 th	"	S/L R.D Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin, D.D.221		10:30	12:05	This operation was an A/R area D and crossings on R. Seine.	
		D.F. Evans, F/Os, A.R.S. Proctor,				2 M.T. were attacked and destroyed at M0306. 2 of four barges	
		F.S. Le Gear, A. Barr, P/Os. J. Thould,				at M0111 were damaged. No M.T. seen in patrol area and no	
		M.S.M. Hamilton				attempts at Seine crossings.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, D.D.232		14:45	15:49	The target was a paddle steamer at L9326. It was located stationary	
		A.L.S. Hallett, N.P.C. Woodward,				on south bank of R. Seine and attacked by all aircraft with R/P.	
		P/Os. S.D. Thyagarajan, P.F. Cooper,				Direct hits were scored and the vessel left smoking. 4 aircraft also	
		F/Ss. J.W. Shellard, W.A. Handley				straffed a barge crossing east to west, many strikes made, and the	
						barge left a "smoker".	
	"	F/Ls. L. Unwin, D.F. Evans, Seine		17:00	17:38	2 of three barges barges attacked at M0111. These were previously	
		F/Os. W.G. Kemp, A. Barr Patrol		17:15	18:20	attacked, and one already sunk. The other two are claimed as	
						damaged from this further attack. One staff car damaged and 2 M.T.	
						"smokers" claimed at L9812. Meagre heavy flak in this area.	
	"	P/O S.D. Thyagarajan, F.229 D/2		19:10	20:20	No movement was seen on this patrol. P/O Thyagarajan was hit by	
		F/O N.P.C. Woodward Seine Patrol				light flak and stated over the R/T that he intended to make a forced	
						landing. He was seen to land but overshot and burst into flames.	
	"	F/O A.W. Campbell F.229 F/t		20:39	21:27	No movement was seen. F/O Campbell was hit heavy flak at M1311. He	
		P/O J. Thould				flew south and was followed by his No. 1 down to 4,000 feet. when the	
						aircraft dived. He was not seen to bale out and is reported missing.	
26 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin, D.D.250		11:40	13:10	This operation was a fighter sweep N.W. of Rouen and M.T. E of Rouen	
		D.F. Evans, F/Os. W.G. Kemp, A.R.S.				area. 3 horse drawn guns were attacked N.E. of L9839, one of which	
		Proctor, P/Os. J. Thould, M.S.M.				was damaged. 1 M.T. was damaged at M3225 and 1 motor cycle destroyed	
		Hamilton, F/S D.C. Todd				S.E. of M3734.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, D.D.271		19:40	20:50	The target was M.T. in area B and C. There was a thick haze up	
		F/Os. W.J Fowler, A.L.S. Hallett,				to 7,500 ft which made ground search impossible and no attacks	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/O P.F. Cooper,				were made. There was some scattered and inaccurate heavy flak from	
		F/Ss. J.W. Shellard, W.A. Handley				the Seine area.	

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By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.
For the month of August 1944

<i>R.D. Rutter</i>
Commanding
<u>Officer, R.A.F.</u>

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

For the month of September 1944

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
XXXXX	September						
1 st	Typhoon 1B	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, D.D.370		13:25	15:55	Armed Recce of area E. Squadron split into 2 sections at Bernaville.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/O P.F. Cooper,				1 section saw M.T. column with white stars NW of Deulens to Auxi le	
		F/Ss. W.A. Handley, J.W. Shellard				Chateau. The other section attacked 10 tanks and M.T. stationary in	
		W/O P.J. McNinley				village 5 miles NE of Montreuil and claim 1 tank "smoker", 2 M.T.	
						destroyed. The remainder of tanks strafed cannon and strikes seen.	
	"	F/Ls. D.F. Evans, L. Unwin, F/Os. D.D.387		18:27	20:25	Armed Recce areas E and F. Some M.T. were seen NE of N0297 and M9298.	
		F.S. Le Gear, W.G. Kemp, A.R.S.				No markings on vehicles so attacked with results 2 damaged at N0297,	
		Proctor, P/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton,				3 damaged at M9298, 2 "flamers" at M8595.	
		J. Thould, F/S D.C. Todd					
2 nd / 8 th	"					No operations. On the 6 th the aircraft took off for Manston to be	
						nearer the front line.	
9 th	"	F/Ls D.F. Evans, J. Arkle, F/Os.		17:15	19:20	The aircraft operated from Manston, the mission being a shipping	
		W.G. Kemp, W.J. Fowler, N.P.C.				strike on minesweepers reported between Jersey and Guernsey, but no	
		Woodward, P/Os. J. Thould, P.F. Cooper,				shipping of importance sighted.	
		F/S J.W. Shellard					
10 th	"	F/O. A.R.S. Proctor, J.R. Reilly,		16:15	18:00	Shipping Recce of the Dutch Islands. 2 ships, probably landing craft,	
		F.S. Le Gear, P/O G.A. Wood,				were attacked. One received direct hits and was beached and left	
		W/Os. P.J. McNinley, D.M. Dunlop				burning. 3 M.T. were seen and strafed. From this operation F/O F.S.	
						Le Gear is reported missing.	
11 th	"	F/L/ J. Arkle, F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor,		17:05	17:50	The aircraft returned to France at B.51.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. P.F. Cooper,				The target was point B.8 at Boulogne. An R/P attack was made	
		M.S.M. Hamilton				followed by cannon strafing and the target area left burning.	
12 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. J. Arkle, D.D.611B		11:50	12:55	Five vessels were sighted, 1 dredger and 4 barges, at D.5627. 1 barge	
		A.L.S. Hallett, F/Os. J.R. Reilly,				was sunk and the dredger hit. Three cannon attacks were made and	
		W.J. Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, P/O				strikes seen on all vessels. 2 barges were also attacked at D.6209	
		P.F. Cooper, F/S J.W. Shellard				and cannon strikes made on both.	
13 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, D.638A		15:45	16:30	The target was located and R/P attack made half along a hedge at	
		F/Os. J.R. Reilly, F. Green, W.J. Fowler,				765584 and half through cross road at 700581. No results were observed.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/O G.A. Wood,				Intense light flak in target area.	
		W/O P.J. McNinley					
14 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L L. Unwin, D.D.675		17:00	18:08	Target was shipping at Flushing. 5 large power driven barges were	
		F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, W.G. Kemp,				found at D.1223 and attacked. Near misses scored. Intense light flak	
		A. Barr, P/Os. J. Thould, M.S.M.				from the barges.	
		Hmilton, W/O D.M. Dunlop					
15 th	"					No operations this day.	
16 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, D.703/ERE3		10:46	11:25	The target was 4 medium guns at H25368135 and 2 155 mm. guns at	
		F/Os. F. Green, W.J. Fowler, N.P.C.				H216829. 32 R/P fired at first position and ammo. dump in centre	
		Woodward, P/Os. P.F. Cooper, G.A. D.704/ERE6				detonated with great explosion. 2 nd position attacked but earthworks	
		Wood, W/O W.A. Handley				only were seen.	

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				Up	Down		
XXXXX 1944	September						
16 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. A. Barr, D.D.719		13:40	14:25	The target was a church at 846133 which was being used as an observation post. The main body of the church was destroyed but the spire was still standing after the attack.	
		W.G Kemp, A.B. McCully, P/O					
		J. Thould, W.Os. D.M. Dunlop, D.C. Todd					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L .Arkle, D.733		17:14	17:14	12 aircraft took off on this operation, the target being a harbour where four or five ships were lying, 270120. Many near misses were scored, one ship being a "flamer" and others probably damaged. There was intense light flak.	
		F/Os. N.P.C. Woodward, F. Green,		16:15			
		A. Barr, A.B. McCully, P/Os. P.F. Cooper					
		G.A. Wood, M.S.M. Hamilton, W/Os.					
		P.J. McNinley, W.A. Handley,					
		F/S J.W. Shellard					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L .Arkle, D.747		19:25	20:50	The target was a lighthouse at G675699. All R/P were fired and some possible direct hits scored, but results not definitely seen. The lighthouse remains standing.	
		F/Os. A.B. McCully, W.G. Kemp,					
		P/Os. J. Thould, M.S.M. Hamilton,					
		W/Os. D.M. Dunlop, D.C. Todd					
17 th	Typhoon 1B	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. N.P.C. Woodward D.D.763		13:48	14:53	Target V2 activity on Schouen Island. The aircraft operated in pairs and following claims were made:- 2 direct hits on trunks on narrow gauge railway, direct hit on one of three concrete buildings in area west of Haamstode. one direct hit on one of 5 M.T. in quarry at D232518. Camouflaged huts in dunes at 205507 to 210496 attacked and left smoking. Attack made on concrete buildings at 240505 but no results observed. A camouflaged shed on side of road at xxxxxxxx D212536 attacked. Hits scored and much black smoke arose.	
		F/O F. Green, P/O G.A. Wood "		14:16	15:35		
		P/O P.F. Cooper, F/O W.J. Fowler "		14:50	16:00		
		F/S J.W Shellard, W/O W.A Handley "		15:13	16:25		
18 th / 19 th	"					No operations on these days.	
20 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L L. Unwin, D.804		11:08	11:53	The target was 4 guns at 922731. No guns were seen, but emplacements in the area were straddled with R/P and cannon strafed.	
		F/Os. A.B. McCully, A. Barr, W.G. Kemp,					
		P/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton, J. Thould,					
		W/O D.M. Dunlop					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L .Arkle, D.819		18:18	19:25	The target was a H.Q. at Walcheren, but this operation was abortive due to weather.	
		F/Os. F. Green, N.P.C. Woodward,					
		W.J. Fowler, P/O. G.A. Wood, W/Os.					
		P.J. McNinley, W.A. Handley					
21 st	"					No operations this day	
22 nd	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin, D.833		12:14	13:20	The target was the power plant at Dunkirk, Weather made this operation difficult, but an attack was made through a temporary hole in the cloud and claim that all R/P on the target. There was meagre light flak.	
		A.L.S. Hallett, F/Os. A. Barr, A.B.					
		McCully, P/O M.S.M. Hamilton, W/Os.					
		D.M. Dunlop, D.C. Todd					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L .Arkle, D.844		14:42	15:00	The target was gun positions at J.78809660 but operation abortive and aircraft recalled by A.L.O.	
		F/Os. F. Green, W.J. Fowler, N.P.C.					
		Woodward, P/Os. W.E. Watkins,					
		G.A. Wood, W/O W.A. Handley					

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				Up	Down		
September							
23 rd /25 th	Typhoon 1B					No operations on these days.	
26 th	"	W/C Baldwin, F/L J. Arkle, D.888		11:33	12:50	8 aircraft led by W/C Baldwin flying one of the Squadron aircraft took off to attack guns north of Antwerp. Smoke was put down and a very successful attack was made, all R/P falling exactly on target area. This was followed by a cannon strafing attack.	
		F/Os. W.J. Fowler, F. Green,					
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. W.E. Watkins,					
		G.A. Wood, W/O W.A. Handley					
	"	F/Ls. D.F Evans, L. Unwin, D.910		16:05	17:25	The target was guns and farm buildings. An R/P attack was made at D194094 and all R/P fell in target area. There was an ammunition explosion and fires followed, which were added to by cannon strafing.	
		F/Os. W.G Kemp, A.B. McCully,					
		A.R.S. Proctor, P/O M.S.M.					
		Hamilton, W/Os. D.M. Dunlop,					
		D.C. Todd					
27 th	"	W/C Baldwin, F/Ls. D.F. Evans, D.931		08:23	09:30	9 aircraft led by W/C Baldwin flying a Squadron aircraft took off to attack guns at D938063, which were marked by red smoke. An R/P attack was made and all rockets landed in target area. Small arms ammunition was seen to explode. A further cannon strafing attack was made. There was meagre light 20 mm. flak.	
		J. Arkle, L. Unwin, F/Os. W.G. Kemp,					
		A.B. McCully, A.R.S. Proctor,					
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/O M.S.M.					
		Hamilton					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L .Arkle, D.944		11:27	12:25	No red smoke was seen at the pinpoint so the Squadron proceeded to an alternative target at D471211. An R/P attack was made on the railway road bridge, several very near misses being scored. Two gun positions were also cannon strafed, strikes being observed and the guns silenced.	
		F/Os. J.R. Reilly, F. Green,					
		N.P.C. Woodward, W.J. Fowler,					
		P/O. W.E. Watkins, W/O P.J.					
		McNinley					
	"	F/L . Arkle, L. Unwin, D.954		15:56	17:05	The target was medium guns at D690045. There was no red smoke so an alternative target at D471211 was attacked by R/P. No results observed.	
		P/O M.S.M. Hamilton					
	"	F/L D.F. Evans, F/Os. W.G. Kemp, D.956		16:18	17:08	The target was a petrol dump at C972175. An attack was made and all R/P fired but no results observed except for some smoke coming from one of the buildings Moderate light accurate flak.	
		A.R.S. Proctor, W/O D.M. Dunlop					
28 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/OS. F.S. D.977		08:05	08:58	The target was a battery at 94721469. Red smoke was seen in target area and signs on activity at 974146. An R/P attack was made followed by a strafing attack. 1 aircraft was superficially damaged by S.A.A.	
		Le Gear, J.R. Reilly, W/O					
		W.A. Handley					
	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, D.978		08:22	09:19	The target was a battery at D655147. An R/P attack was made but no results observed.	
		F/O. N.P.C. Woodward, P/O					
		W.E. Watkins					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin, D.986		11:25	12:31	The target was a mortar and guns at D180058 and road S.W. of wood. An R/P attack was made all rockets falling in target area. Two further attacks were made with cannon.	
		D.F Evans, F/Os. W.G. Kemp,					
		A.R.S. Proctor, A.B. McCully,					
		P/O M.S.M. Hamilton, W/O D.M Dunlop					

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				Up	Down		
October							
1 st	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls.	L. Unwin, D.D.74	17:27	18:23	The target was barges at D4528. There was 10/10 cloud making attack difficult, but 50 barges were found in a small harbour at D4528,	
		D.F. Evans, F/Os. W.G. Kemp,				Yerseken-Dam. Three pairs of bombs fell among the barges moored	
		M.S.M. Hamilton, A.B. McCully,				closely together and others fell around the target area. They were	
		A.R.S. Proctor, P/O J. Thould				attacked a second time with cannon and well strafed. Moderate medium	
						and light flak at D4223.	
2 nd	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L.	J. Arkle,	12:20	13:01	The target was a railway junction at E450862. The target was located	
		F/Os. F. Green, W.J. Fowler,				and attacked, four direct hits being scored on the line which was	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. G.A. Wood,				broken north of the bridges. This was the first operation from B.70	
		P.F. Cooper, F/S J.W. Shellard				in Belgium.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls.	L. Unwin,	16:55	17:59	For this operation the target was Railway junction E450862 and	
		D.F. Evans, F/Os. W.G. Kemp,				railway overstream at E270882. Attacks were made and one direct hit	
		A.B. McCully, A.R.S. Proctor,				made on the track east of junction, one very near miss and the rest	
		P/O J. Thould, W/O D.G. Todd				overshot. On second target three direct hits were scored, one west of	
						bridge on north bound track, and two east of bridge on south bound	
3 rd	"					track. both tracks cut.	
3 rd	"					No operations this day.	
4 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls.	J. Arkle, D.D.120			Interdiction targets 2/4 and 6/2. 8 aircraft attacked 2/4 at Z9507	
		D.F Evans, F/Os. W.J. Fowler,				and scored two direct hits on factory alongside railway. This would	
		J.R. Reilly, F. Green, A.B. McCully,				probably obstruct the railway. The other four aircraft could not	
		P/Os. J. Thould, W.E. Watkins, G.A.				locate 6/2 owing to poor visibility, but attacked the railway at	
		Wood, F/S J.W. Shellard, F/L D.F. Evans				R2788 near Utrecht. Two direct hits on truck and 3 near misses.	
						Waggons on siding were strafed, strikes observed and 1 "flamer"	
						and 2 "smokers" claimed.	
5 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls.	L. Unwin, D.D.129	11:17	12:37	This operation was a railway target at V000238. The railway pinpoint	
		M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. W.G Kemp,				was located but it appeared as a level crossing, and not a bridge.	
		A.R.S. Proctor, P/O J. Thould,				An attack was made with 2 direct hits on road south of railway and	
		W/Os. D.C. Todd, D.M. Dunlop				1 direct hit on road north of railway. One aircraft dropped 2 bombs	
						on rail canal bridge at V010225 with i direct hit on railway near	
						bridge. 10 large barges were seen at E5469.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os.	F. Green, D.D.129	14:47	15:54	The target was a railway bridge. This was attacked but no direct hits	
		J.R. Reilly, W.J. Fowler, N.P.C.				scored on it, although one direct hit was made on the track. Moderate	
		Woodward, P/Os. W.E. Watkins,				light and medium flak.	
		P.F. Cooper. F/S. J.W. Shellard					
		P/O J. Thould					
	"	W/C Baldwin, F/Ls. D.F. Evans, D.D.129A		17:20	18:26	Interdiction target 1/3 R220940. The target was located and bombs	
		M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. W.G. Kemp,				dropped but were not seen to explode.	
		A.B. McCully, A.Barr, A.R.S.					
		Proctor, W/O D.M. Dunlop					

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				Up	Down		
October, 1944							
6 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin, D.D.155		07:43	09:08	The target was a building at 141195. This was located and attacked with claim i probably direct hit and a direct hit west of the building. Trains at V0107 were successfully strafed.	
		D.F. Evans, M.T. Rumbold, F/Os.					
		A.B. McCully, A.R.S. Proctor,					
		W/O D.C. Todd					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. G.A. Wood D.D.155		11:35	12:50	This operation was against railway targets Interdiction 2/2 and 2/4. At 2/4 all bombs were near misses. At 2/2 one direct hit was scored and 2 direct hits on the embankment. A train at V0107 was strafed with cannon and many strikes observed. Intense light flak at V0107.	
		F. Green, N.P.C. Woodward, W.J.					
		Fowler, P/Os. P.F. Cooper, W.E.					
		Watkins, F/S J.W. Shellard					
	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, D.D.155		15:10	16:34	The target was a rail river bridge pinpoint 863340 at Zwolle. This was located and attacked. The bombs were well concentrated, but no direct hits claimed. There were a number of near misses. Moderate light flak in target area was experienced.	
		D.F. Evans, F/Os. A.B. McCully,					
		W.G. Kemp, A.R.S. Proctor, A. Barr,					
		P/O J. Thould, W/Os. D.M. Dunlop,					
		D.C. Todd					
	"	W/C Baldwin, S/L R.D. Rutter, D.202		17:40	18:15	W/C Baldwin, flying one of the Squadron aircraft led this operation which was against a building at D766108. The building was attacked and destroyed, and the area was well strafed by cannon. The area was obscured by smoke after the attack.	
		F/Os. F. Green, W.J. Fowler,					
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. G.A.					
		Wood, P.F. Cooper, F/S J.W. Shellard					
7 th	"	W/C Baldwin, F/Ls. L. Unwin, D,D.203		17:31	07:58	This operation was abortive due to weather.	
		D.F. Evans, M.T. Rumbold, F/Os.					
		W.G. Kemp, A.B. McCully, A.R.S.					
		Proctor, P/O J. Thould, W/Os.					
		D.C. Todd, D.M. Dunlop					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin, D.D.213		13:15	14:45	The target was railway lines and train activity. Bombs were dropped on a bridge at 40757, two direct hits being observed. The line was cut. Considerable barge and shipping movement seen on the Rhine.	
		M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. A.B. McCully,					
		W.G. Kemp, A.R.S. Proctor, F/L					
		D.F. Evans, W/Os. D.C. Todd, D.M. Dunlop					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green, D.D.283		16:20	17:40	The target was a railway bridge over a stream. This was attacked, 2 direct hits being scored on the track west of the bridge at V141195, also a direct hit on road siding. This was a low level attack and no flak was encountered.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. W.E. Watkins,					
		P.F. Cooper, G.A. Wood, W/Os.					
		C.A. Bury, W.A. Handley					
8 th /10 th	"					No operations on these days.	
11 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. D.F. Evans, D.D.286		10:19	11:10	The original target was 4 ships at Breskens, but this was changed to an attack on the village of Oostburg. The bombs were dropped on NE part of the village. 6 direct hits are claimed on the road going NE out of the village, 2 M.T. in the village destroyed by direct hits, and the remainder of the bombs on houses by the road. Slight light flak.	
		M.T Rumbold, F/L. D.F. Evans,					
		F/Os. A. B. McCully, F. Green,					
		A. Barr, A.R.S. Proctor, F/L					
		A.L.S. Hallett, P/O J. Thould,					
		W/Os. D.C. Todd, W.A. Handley					

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October, 1944							
11 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green D.D.259		12:20	13:25	This operation was against roads at Oostburg. An attack was made and bombs dropped on the east side of the village. Many fires were observed as a result. A cannon strafing attack was also made.	
		W.J. Fowler, J.R. Reilly, P/Os.					
		P.F. Cooper, G.A. Wood, W.E. Watkins,					
		W/Os. C.A. Bury, P.J. McNinley,					
		F/S J.W. Shellard					
	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, D.F. Evans, D.D.259		14:42	15:26	The target was as for the previous operation. Bombs were dropped on the NE edge of the village with claims, 2 direct hits. 2 M.T. were strafed at 085140, one smoker being claimed. Meagre light flak in target area.	
		F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, A. Barr					
		A.B. McCully, P/O J. Thould,					
		W/Os D.M. Dunlop, D.C. Todd,					
		F/S R.W. Ainsley					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green D.D.259		17:15	17:53	Another attack on Oostburg. Bombs were dropped in SW and E part of target. No results were observed. A large part of the target was smoking. Moderate light flak experienced.	
		J.R. Reilly, W.J. Fowler, N.P.C.					
		Woodward, P/O P.F. Cooper, W/Os.					
		W.A. Handley, P.J. McNinley,					
		F/S J.W. Shellard					
12 th	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, D.F. Evans, D.D.281		07:32	08:26	The target was 6 AA duns at D05381983. This was located and an attack made. 2 of the aircraft carried 4 x 1000 lb bombs. two of the heavy bombs fell in the centre of the 6 guns and 15 of the 500 lb bombs fell in the target area. An ammunition explosion was seen. The area was also strafed. There was no flak from the target guns.	
		A.L.S. Hallett, F/Os. A. Barr,					
		A.B. McCully, A.R.S. Proctor,					
		P/O J. Thould, W/Os. D.M. Dunlop,					
		D.C. Todd, F/S R.W. Ainsley					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green D.304		11:50	12:25	The target was mortars and artillery. No smoke was seen and no attack was made.	
		M.S.M. Hamilton, J.R. Reilly,					
		P/Os. P.F. Cooper, G.A. Wood,					
		W/Os. C.A. Bury, P.J. McNinley,					
		D.C. Todd					
	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, D.F. Evans, D.D.312		14:12	15:22	The original target, 15/2 Interdict A045054 was obscured by 8/10 cloud so and attack was made on a railway embankment at E9604 (15/1)	
		A.L.S. Hallett, F/Os. A. Barr,					
		A.R.S. Proctor, M.S.M. Hamilton,				The bombs were dropped from a low level. One direct hit was scored on the line at E9404 and several near misses in the water. Meagre bofor fire from target area.	
		P/O J. Thould, W/Os. D.M. Dunlop,					
		D.C Todd, F/S R.W. Ainsley					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green D.D.312		16:33	17:21	The target was Interdiction at 14/5 nr. Roermund. Bombs were dropped in target area but no direct hits claimed. There were near misses on the railway line. Meagre light flak from Wassenberg and a few bursts of accurate heavy flak from Roermund.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. G.A. Wood,					
		P.F. Cooper, W.E. Watkins, W/O					
		W.A. Handley, F/S J.W. Shellard					
13 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. D.F. Evans, D.338/T		11:45	12:42	The target was guns and infantry at 979151 and 973149. A dive bombing attack was made but no direct hits claimed. P/O J. Thould was seen to crash in flames and is reported missing.	
		A.L.S. Hallett, F/Os. A.B. McCully,					
		A. Barr, N.P.C. Woodward, P/O					
		J. Thould, F/S R.W. Ainsley					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
October, 1944							
13 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green D.D.359		17:10	17:43	The target was 4 guns at D624239. Red smoke was seen in the target area, and two possible gun pits observed. Bombs were dropped, all in the target area, but no direct hits on the the gun pits. The area was also cannon strafed.	
		J.R. Reilly, P/Os. G.A. Wood,					
		W.E. Watkins, P.F. Cooper,					
		W/O P.J. McNinley, F/S J.W. Shellard					
14 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. D.F. Evans, D.375		15:38	16:08	No bombs were carried on this operation. The target was attacked twice with cannon, but no results observed. On re-forming pulling out of the	
		M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. A.B. McCully,				dive F/Lt D.F. Evans and F/O A. Barr collided in mid air, and were	
		A. Barr, M.S.M. Hamilton, W.G. Kemp,				last seen spinning down. The position was approximately D0513. There	
		W/O D.C. Todd, F/S R.W. Ainsley				was meagre light flak.	
15 th	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/O J.R. Reilly		06:45	08:05	Weather recce, Venlo)Wesel area. On a minor road east od Uden 3 M.T. and 1 horse drawn transport were seen. A cannon attack was made with claims 3 M.T. damaged and 1 horse drawn transport destroyed.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green D.D.384		08:22	09:36	4 bombs were dropped on small bridge at A083151, but overshoot and considered worth repeat attack. An attack was also made on the road over the railway at A073168 and 2 direct hits are claimed. A train at A070170 was strafed and several strikes seen.	
		P/Os. P.F. Cooper, G.A. Wood,					
		W.E. Watkins, W/Os. C.A. Bury,					
		P.J. McNinley, F/S J.W. Shellard					
	"	F/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. W.G. Kemp D.D.384		11:48	12:45	This operation was against railway targets. Bombs were dropped in the area A117534 with claims of 3 direct hits on the railway line, and one on trucks in a siding. 25+ balloons were seen at Wesel. There was intense and accurate bofor fire from Milinge, A0757.	
		A.R.S. Proctor, A.B. McCully,					
		W/O D.C. Todd, F/S R.W. Ainsley					
16 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, D.D.404		15:35	16:10	The target was attacked with bombs, the main concentration being in the centre of the village.	
		F/O F. Green, P/Os. W.E. Watkins,					
		P.F. Cooper, W/Os. W.A. Handley,					
		C.A. Bury, F/S J.W. Shellard					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, D.D.404		17:30	18:17	The target was a strong point at D068126. 4 x 1000 lb and 12 x 500lb bombs were dropped. The heavies and 2 500 lb bombs fell in the strong point. Three strafing attacks were also made.	
		A.L.S. Hallett, F/Os. W.G. Kemp,					
		A.R.S. Proctor, M.S.M. Hamilton,					
		W/Os. D.C. Todd, D.M. Dunlop					
17 th	"					No operations on this day.	
18 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, D.D.424		08:39	10:00	The target was not indicated so the railway line at A0598 was attacked. 2 direct hits were made on the line and 1 direct hit amongst 3 trucks in a siding, one of which was completely destroyed.	
		F/O J.R. Reilly, P.O P.F. Cooper,					
		W/Os. C.A. Bury, P.J. McNinley,					
		W.A. Handley					
	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, D.D.424		12:15	13:22	The target was a railway over road at 037906. The target was not attacked due to weather. Instead bombs were dropped on 12 pontoons at E294522, 3 possibly left sinking.	
		F/Os. A.B. McCully, A.R.S. Proctor,					
		M.S.M. Hamilton, W/Os. D.C. Todd,					
		D.M. Dunlop, F/S R.W. Ainsley					

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

For the month of October 1944

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
October, 1944							
18 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. J. Arkle, D.433		15:52	17:00	The target was three guns at 637227 633218 637214. The target was located and attacked. Hits were made at 638215 and 637227, the remainder of the bombs dropping to the east of the target. There was meagre light flak in the target area.	
		A.L.S. Hallett, F/Os. J.R. Reilly,					
		M.S.M. Hamilton, A.R.S. Proctor,					
		P/Os. G.A. Wood, W.E. Watkins, W/Os.					
		C.A. Bury, D.M. Dunlop, W.A. Handley,					
		P.J. McNinley					
	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, D.437		17:38	17:57	No movement was seen on the roads. There was evidence of concentration of position in area of target pinpoint. Bombs were dropped in the target area, but poor visibility hampered made observation difficult and results not seen. Moderate light flak was experienced.	
		F/Os. A.B. McCully, M.S.M. Hamilton					
19 th	"					No operations this day.	
20 th	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/O J.R. Reilly, D.D.550		07:28	08:06	The northern end of the village at 750159 was attacked. Many buildings were seen to blow up. The road to the north of the village was well strafed.	
		P/Os. P.F. Cooper, W.E. Watkins,					
		W/Os. D.C. Todd, W.A. Handley,					
		P.J. McNinley, C.A. Bury					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin D.D.549		10:30	11:48	The primary target was not attacked as it was under 8/10 cloud. The railway S.W. of Zutphen was bombed, two direct hits being scored at E9293 and the lines cut.	
		M.T. Rumbold, F/O A.B. McCully,					
		W/Os. D.C. Todd, D.M. Dunlop					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, D.D.563		14:50	15:20	The target was marked with white smoke at 751145 and was attacked. There were direct hits on houses at D750173 and D750165. All the bombs fell between D749157 and D750165. A fire was started at D750158. There was moderate light flak.	
		P/Os. P.F. Cooper, G.A. Wood,					
		W.E. Watkins, W/Os. C.A. Bury,					
		J.W. Shellard, W.A. Handley					
21s	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin D.D.566		12:05	12:44	The target was the railway line Dordrecht-Breda. An attack was made and the bridge over the river at D898420 was completely destroyed with 4 direct hits. The railway south of the bridge was damaged, possibly broken.	
		F/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton, A.B. McCully, W/Os. D.C. Todd,					
		D.M. Dunlop					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, D.578		15:00	15:39	The target was a H.Q. which was located and attacked. The bombs fell in a good concentration on the west side among buildings. Increased fire and smoke was seen after the attack.	
		F/O J.R. Reilly, P/Os. P.F. Cooper,					
		W.E. Watkins, W/Os. P.J. McNinley,					
		C.A. Bury, J.W. Shellard					
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. L. Unwin D.D.581		17:30	17:59	The area was first recced by 2 aircraft. They dropped their bombs but no results observed. The main force of 8 aircraft attacked barges in the harbour at Yerseke. Ten bombs fell in and amongst the barges, but failing light made observation impossible. There was intense light and medium flak in the target area.	
		A.L.S. Hallett, F/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton, A.R.S. Proctor, P/O.					
		G.A. Wood, W/Os. D.M. Dunlop,					
		D.C. Todd, W.A. Handley,					
		F/S R.W. Ainsley					
22 nd / 23 rd						No operations	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron.

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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
November							
1 st	Typhoon 1B	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, D.693		15:42	16:25	The target was guns at 034318. Owing to cloud this target was attacked from 4000 - 1500 ft. 2 direct hits were made on a concrete building, and the remainder of the bombs were well concentrated. The area was twice strafed with cannon.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, A.G. Davies,					
		F. Green, P/O P.F. Cooper,					
		W/Os. P.J. McNinley, C.A. Bury					
2 nd	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, D.717		13:53	14:35	This was a low level attack and direct hits were scored on the station buildings. A second cannon strafing was made along the road.	
		F/Os. D.J. Turner, F. Green,					
		W.G. Kemp, A.R.S. Proctor,					
		M.S.M. Hamilton, F/S R.W. Ainsley					
	"	F/Ls. J. Arkle, L. Unwin, F/Os. D.176		16:34	17:26	An attack was made on the road between 650367 and 632358 and bombs dropped. A cannon strafing attack was also made between 650367 and 632358. There was intense light flak from Steenbergen.	
		A.G. Davies, N.P.C. Woodward,					
		W.J. Fowler, F. Green, W.G. Kemp,					
		F/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. D.J. Turner,					
		A.R.S. Proctor, P/O W.E. Watkins,					
		W/Os C.A. Bury, H. Barrie, F/SS.					
		J. Quigley, R.W. Ainsley					
3 rd	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, D.734		10:32	11:03	The target on this operation was a strong point at D845421. An attack was made and 12 direct hits were made on a wood. A strafing attack was also made of the area.	
		F. Green, N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os.					
		P.F. Cooper, W.E. Watkins, W/Os.					
		P.J. McNinley, C.A. Bury					
4 th	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, D.757		09:10	09:45	The target was a factory at D840435. This was located and attacked. 1 direct hit was scored, the remainder were very near misses. The target was also cannon strafed.	
		F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, W.G. Kemp,					
		A.B. McCully, M.S.M. Hamilton,					
		D.J. Turner, J.F. Reilly, F/SS.					
		J. Quigley, R.W. Ainsley					
	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. A.G. Davies, D.764		11:17	11:59	The aircraft took off in two sections of four on an armed recce Veere - Middleburg. No movement was seen and bombs were dropped at D173346, a reported gun position. There were 3 direct hits on the pinpoint and 6 bombs in the target area. Intense light flak in the target area.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, F. Green, P/Os.					
		P.F. Cooper, W.E. Watkins, W/Os.					
		C.A. Bury, H. Barrie					
	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, D.765		13:02	13:43	The target was a factory suspected as an ammunition dump near Zeven-Bergen. 4 x 1000 lb and 12 x 500 lb bombs were dropped. 4 direct hits were scored on the factory and 10 very near misses. Debris was thrown up to a height of 3000 ft. Outbuildings were seen to be on fire.	
		F/Os. A.B. McCully, D.J. Turner,					
		M.S.M. Hamilton, W.G. Kemp,					
		J.F. Reilly, A.R.S. Proctor					
	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. A.G. Davies, D.772		15:30	16:15	The target was buildings at D751700. Bombs were dropped on a flak position at D754697 and this target was also strafed from 10,000 to 0 ft. There was moderate light, medium and heavy flak from the target area.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, W.J. Fowler					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
October, November 1944							
5 th	Typhoon 1B	P/O W.E. Watkins, W/O P.J. McNinley	Weather Recce	07:32	08:30	The two aircraft took off on a weather recce of Utrecht - Zwolle area. No bombs or ammunition were expended.	
	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. A.G. Davies, D.D.778 W.G. Kemp, W.J. Fowler F. Green, W/Os. C.A. Bury, H. Barrie		09:36	10:56	This operation was against a railway target. An attack was made and bombs dropped at E7827, the line being cut by one bomb. No other results were observed. A suspected V2 site was reported square Z83 on railway line between Wenep Z8230 and river at 8635. Intense light and heavy flak.	
6 th	"	F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, W.G. Kemp	Weather recce	12:23	13:30	Weather recce, no attack.	
	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, D.D.790 F/Os. D.J. Turner, W.J. Fowler, M.S.M. Hamilton, W/O C.A. Bury, F/Ss. R.W. Ainsley, J. Quigley		13:20	14:42	The target was interdiction Zwolle-Deventer. Bad weather hampered this attack and bombs were dropped on the line at Z9324, all falling in target area. 2 of the bombs fell on the embankment, the line possibly being cut as a result.	
	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. F. Green, D.D.790 A.G. Davies, W.J. Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, W.G. Kemp, P/O P.F. Cooper, W/O H. Barrie		15:44	16:43	This operation was also against a railway target. Bombs were dropped on the line near Hoef (Z5208), with 1 direct hit and 1 probable on the line. 15+ trucks at 5412 were strafed. They were already being attacked by Spitfires. Several trucks were seen to be burning after the attacks.	
7 th	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. A.G. Davies, D.D.811 N.P.C. Woodward, F. Green, P/O P.F. Cooper, W/Os. C.A. Bury, H. Barrie, P.J. McNinley		15:02	16:30	A rail road crossing at Z7525 was attacked. 1 direct hit was scored and the line seen to be cut. 15 waggons at 7727 were strafed with cannon. There were may strikes and some of the waggons were seen to be smoking. F/O Davies was hit by flak while strafing and crash landed. He called over the R/T and said he was alright. Intense light flak from Zeom area.	
8 th	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, D.D.820 F/Os. W.G. Kemp, D.J. Turner, A.R.S. Proctor, M.S.M. Hamilton, W.J. Fowler, F/Ss. J. Quigley, R.W. Ainsley		14:43	15:40	A railway target, Interdiction at Amersfoort. An attack was made with the results:- 1 direct hit at E461981, 6 direct hits at E494985, 2 direct hits at E519911. The line was cut in all three places. Moderate heavy flak at Gorinchem	
9 th	"	F/O W.G. Kemp, F/S R.W. Ainsley		08:20	08:49	Weather recce.	
10 th	"	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os W.J. Fowler, D.D.838 N.P.C. Woodward, P/O P.F. Cooper, W/Os. J.W. Shellard, H. Barrie, W.A. Handley, P.J. McNinley		15:41	16:26	A railway target Goch - Kanten line. An attack was made at A055406. 1 possible direct hit was scored and 3/4 hits among buildings and waggons in a siding. It is not known if the line was cut.	
11 th	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, D.D.843 XXXXXXXXXXXX, F/O W.G. Kemp, W/Os. D.C. Todd, W.A. Handley		09:53	11:00	A stationary ammunition train at E5799 was attacked. 4 direct hits were scored. 3 fires were started and ammunition was seen to explode. The line was claimed to have been cut at the same point. The train was also cannon strafed.	

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				Up	Down		
November, 1944							
11 th	Typhoon 1B	F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. N.P.C. Woodward, P/O G.A. Wood, W/Os. H. Barrie, C.A. Bury, P/J. McNinley, J.W. Shellard	D.D.843	13:22	14:26	Another railway target. A train was attacked at Z5413 with claims of 2 direct hits and 2 near misses. 3 trucks were destroyed and smokers. 25 trucks without an engine were well strafed and 1 minor explosion was seen. The line was also cut. There was moderate light flak from Z5209.	
	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, D.J. Turner, W/Os. R.A. Richardson, D.C. Todd, W.A. Handley, F/S. J. Irvine	D.D.843	16:20	17:23	The primary target was not reached. An attack was made on the railway, which was cut three times, between Z6001 and Z7002, including one in a cutting at Z6902. There was a cloud of white smoke from a direct hit on a station at Z6602. The train attacked on the first operation was still burning and exploding.	
12 th	"					No operations on this day	
13 th	"	P/O W.A. Handley, W/O R.A. Richardson		07:53	08:46	Weather recce.	
14 th /15 th	"					No operations on these two days.	
16 th	"	F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, M.S.M. Hamilton, F/S J. Irvine	W.G. Kemp, D.D.866	11:11	12:15	This operation was a weather recce and railway target. An attack was made at E5497 but no claims are made.	
17 th	"					No operations.	
18 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L L. Unwin, F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, W.G. Kemp, W/Os. R.A. Richardson, D.C. Todd, F/Ss. J. Quigley, J. Irvine	D.D.885	08:47	09:31	The target was a bridge at K887776 which was attacked. Hits were made around the bridge, but it was missed and was left intact. There was moderate light and heavy flak.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L J. Arkle, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. G.A. Wood, W.E. Watkins, P/F. Cooper, W/Os. P.J. McNinley, H. Barrie, M. Luck	D.D.884 890	12:32	13:30	The target was the same bridge as on the last operation One direct hit was scored which caused a whole in the western side, the others were near misses. F/Lt J. Arkle was hit by flak and forced landed at K5868 or 6888. There was meagre light flak.	
19 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, D.D.906 N.P.C. Woodward, F. Green, P/O W.E. Watkins, W/Os. H. Barrie, P.J. MCNinley, J.W. Shellard		09:06	10:03	A railway target at E3788. An attack was made and 2 direct hits scored at E353881 and E374879. The line was cut at both places. Moderate heavy flak from Hertogenbosch.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L L. Unwin, F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, W.G. Kemp, W/Os.D.C. Todd, F/Ss. R.W. Ainsley, J. Irvine, J. Quigley	D.D.903	12:56	14:17	The target was a wireless station at De Heest. Three direct hits were scored, the remainder of the bombs being in the target area. A fire was seen to be started. Moderate heavy flak from Zutphon area	
20 th	"					No operations.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
November, 1944							
21 st	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, P/Os. W.E. Watkins, P.F. Cooper, W/O P.J. McNinley	D.D.994	15:25	16:20	The target was an interdiction at Amersfoort. The target was located and two lots of 10 stationary railway trucks attacked at E520855. Two very near misses were claimed, but no other results observed due to bad weather. Moderate light flak.	
22 nd /24 th						No operations on these three days.	
25 th	"	P/O W.A. Handley, W/O. R.A. Richardsom	Weather recce	07:58	08:53	The 2 aircraft took off on a weather recce base to Waal.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L L. Unwin, D.D.950(8C) F/O D.J. Turner, P/Os. W.A. Handley, W/Os. R.A. Richardson, D.C. Todd, F/Ss. R.W. Ainsley, J. Irvine		12:21	13:38	The target was an interdiction but due to bad weather this operation was abortive.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Os. F. Green, D.D.950 N.P.C. Woodward, W.J. Fowler, W/Os. H. Barrie, M. Luck, P.J. McNinley, F/L R.E.G. Sheward		15:51	16:55	This was an interdiction target. The first 4 aircraft dropped their bombs at E5584, with claims of 1 direct hit and the line damaged. The second four bombed the line at E5594. 2 direct hits scored and the line was cut. A train with steam up, 8-10 waggons was seen at E5693. Moderate light flak.	
26 th	"	F/L L. Unwin, F/O W.G. Kemp, W/O R.A. Richardson, F/S J. Irvine	D.D.961	10:06	11:38	The railway line at A0298 was attacked. There was 1 near miss and the remainder of the bombs overshot. Meagre heavy flak was experienced.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L R.E.G. Sheward, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward	D.D.967	12:45	14:05	The target was a Gestapo H.Q. and Mess. 266, 193, and 257 Squadrons also took part. This Squadron attacked the H.Q. buildings and scored 4 direct hits with 1000 lb bombs. The whole operation was very successful.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L M.T. Rumbold, D.970 W/Os R.A. Richardson, D.C. Todd, M. Luck, F/Ss. R.W. Ainsley, J. Quigley		16:25	16:52	This was cancelled by G.C.C. after the aircraft were airborne.	
27 th /28 th						No operations on these days.	
29 th	"	F/L R.E.G. Sheward, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, P/O. W.E. Watkins, W/Os. M. Luck, H. Barrie, P.J. McNinley, C.A. Bury	D.D.995	10:57	12:20	This operation was against a Special operation target at Rotterdam. 193, 266 and 257 Sqdns also took part, the whole formation being led by W/Cdr. Wells. This Squadron attacked with bombs and cannon the area 7271. 1 direct hit on a gun position at 732718.	
	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L M.T. Rumbold, D.D. 996 F/O M.S.M. Hamilton, P/O W.A. Handley, W/O D.C. Todd, F/Ss. J. Irvine, R.W. Ainsley, J. Quigley		13:42	15:51	The target was an interdiction. Bombs were dropped on a rail road bridge at V007225 with claims 2 direct hit 50 yards NW of bridge, 1 direct hit 50 yards SE of bridge, 1 probable direct hit on same place. Line claimed to be cut in three places.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron.

For the month of November 1944

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
November, 1944							
30 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L R.E.G. D.D.9		11:20	12:30	The target was interdiction Utrecht-Zwolle. The railway line near	
		Sheward, F/Os. F. Green,				Harderwijk, Z5718 to Z6218, was attacked. Several direct hits were	
		P/Os. G.A. Wood, W.E. Watkins,				scored on the line which was cut. The remainder of the bombs were	
		W/Os. C.A. Bury, H. Barrie,				near misses. Moderate light flak from Harderwijk.	
		P.J. McNinley					
						<i>R.D. Rutter</i>	
						Squadron Leader, Commanding	
						<u>No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.</u>	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron.

For the month of December, 1944

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
December, 1944							
1 st	Typhoon 1B	W/O D.C. Todd, F/S. J.J. Morgan	Weather Recce	10:32	11:30	A weather recce of Nejmegen- Zwolle area. no attack made.	
2 nd	"	W/O M. Luck, F/S J.J. Morgan		13:30	14:40	The two aircraft went up on air test when a V1 was sighted. They both attacked and it fell and exploded in a field near a village in area J.8090. The aircraft were at 5000 feet and the V1 at 2000 feet at the beginning of the attack.	
3 rd	"	S/Ldr R.D. Rutter, F/Ls. D.D.32 M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, F/O M.S.M. Hamilton, P/O W.A. Handley, W/O R.A. Richardson, F/Ss. J.J. Morgan, J. Quigley		10:07	11:26	The target was an interdiction. The first section attacked the line at Z9723 and claim 1 direct hit, cutting one line of the double track. The second section dropped their bombs at Z9223 and claim 3 direct hits, cutting the line and loop. One bomb fell on the embankment and one on road adjacent. A signal box was damaged.	
4 th	"	F/O N.P.C. Woodward W/O C.A. Bury	Weather Recce	08:10	09:18	A weather recce of Zwolle-Hengels area. No attack made.	
	"	F/Lt R.E.G. Sheward, P/Os. G.A. Wood, W.E. Watkins	Weather Recce & Interdiction	11:38	12:44	The weather recce was Utrecht-Amerfoort-Zwolle. Bombs were dropped on a railway road crossing at E395870 with claims 1 direct hit and 2 near misses.	
5 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Lt. M.T. Rumbold, F/O A.R.S. Proctor, P/O W.A. Handley, F/Ss. J. Irvine, J.J. Morgan, J. Quigley, R.W. Ainsley	D.D.51	09:50	10:53	One section attacked a railway bridge at E1893 and claimed 4 direct hits on the embankment on eastern side of the bridge. The line was probably cut. The second section bombed the railway bridge at E1895. There were 2 near misses and the line was cut. Moderate light flak from target area.	
		S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Lt. R.E.G. Sheward, F/Os. W.J. Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, P/O W.E. Watkins, W/Os. C.A. Bury, H. Barrie	D.D.51	13:29	14:30	Target interdiction Utrecht-Gouda. 3 aircraft bombed a bridge over the canal at D9592. The bridge was swung open. No hits on the bridge were claimed, but 1 near miss on the east approach. The other 4 aircraft dropped their bombs on a bridge at D9890 but no results were observed.	
6 th						No operations on this day.	
7 th	"	P/O W.A. Handley, F/S J. Irvine	Weather Recce	08:02	09:03	The aircraft went out on weather recce. A train consisting of loco and 6 waggons was sighted at Z7023 and attacked with cannon. Many strikes were seen and a yellow flash from the engine.	
		F/O W.G. Kemp, F/S J.J. Morgan	Weather Recce	15:00	15:48	A weather recce Amersfoort-Apelddorn. No attack made.	
8 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/Lt. M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. W.G. Kemp, A.R.S. Proctor, M.S.M. Hamilton, P/O W.A Handley, W/Os. D.C. Todd, R.A. Richardson	D.D.81	10:24	11:40	The target was in the Sutphen area. 4 aircraft attacked the railway XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX at Z9019 which was probably cut. 3 aircraft attacked at Z9111, probable cuts in the line. 1 aircraft bombed a rail/road bridge at Z9109, and it is thought that 1 very near miss was scored. Intense light flak from Deventer.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
December, 1944							
9 th						No operations on this day.	
10 th	Typhoon 1B	P/O W.A. Handley, F/S J. Irvine	Weather recce	08:09	08:58	A weather recce to Zwolle. No attack made.	
		F/O F. Green, P/O W.E. Watkins	"	14:00	15:15	Weather recce. No attack made. Owing to obstruction on runway had to land away from base.	
11 th	"	S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. N.P.C. Woodward, G.A. Wood, P.F. Cooper, W/Os. C.A. Bury, M. Luck, J.W. Shellard	D.D.107	11:26	12:45	The target was a V2 in a siding at Leiden. At attack was made but it is believed that all bombs overshot. There was intense medium and light flak from the target area.	
		S/L R.D. Rutter, F/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, W.G. Kemp, W/O D.C. Todd, F/Ss. J.J. Morgan, R.W. Ainsley, J. Quigley	D.D.113	15:35	16:35	The target was V2 supplies in Leiden. Two other squadrons, Nos. 193 and 257 took part in this operation. An attack was made and this Squadron claims 1 direct hit on southern end of sidings which produced an orange flash and much debris, also 2 direct hits in eastern end of sidings. Moderate light flak from N.W. corner of Leiden.	
12 th /22 nd						Owing to bad weather no operations on any of these days.	
23 rd	Typhoon 1B	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, L. Unwin, F/O W.E. Watkins, W/Os. D.C. Todd, H. Barrie, C.A. Bury, P.J. McNinley, F/S R.W. Ainsley	D.116/CD	13:15	14:45	The target was a barracks and airfield. An attack was made on the buildings and hits were claimed. The area was also cannon strafed. No aircraft were visible.	
24 th	"	F/L M.T. Rumbold, F/O W.G. Kemp, F/Ss. J.J. Morgan, R.W. Ainsley	D.D.192	13:38	15:28	This operation was a fighter sweep over the Rhur area. 30+ M.E. 262's were seen attacking Lancasters, of which 3 were seen to go down in flames. No attacks were made by this Squadron. Intense heavy flak all over the Rhur area.	
		F/L L. Unwin, F/Os. W.E. Watkins, D.D.202 A.R.S. Proctor, M.S.M. Hamilton		15:20	16:40	An armed recce E. and W. of Utrecht. 3 scattered M.T. in Barnveld area were strafed at E.5094 and 1 claimed damaged. F/Lt. Unwin was hit by flak after this attack. An explosion was seen and the pilot is believed killed. Moderate light flak from area E5094.	
25 th	"	F/Ls. M.T. Rumbold, D.J. Turner, F/Os. W.G. Kemp, A.R.S. Proctor, F/Ss. J.J. Morgan, J. Quigley, R.W. Ainsley	D.D.205	10:46	11:50	Interdiction target. Control ordered an attack on a train at E.7879 which consisted of engine and 25 waggons. It was bombed and 3 direct hits are claimed on the waggons. Several were destroyed and the line probably cut. The engine and waggons were well strafed. moderate light flak from train and area.	
		F/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton, W.E. Watkins, P/O W.A. Handley, W/Os. H. Barrie, C.A. Bury, P.J. McNinley, J.W. Shellard	D.D.218	15:13	16:33	An attack on Amersfoort railway yard was made. 3 direct hits were scored on sheds on north side and 1 direct hit on junction at west end. Moderate light flak from target area.	

R.A.F.
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By No. 263 Squadron.

For the month of December, 1944

M.T.S. Rumbold

Squadron Leader, Commanding

No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

R.A.F.
Form 541

By No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F., c/o B.L.A.
For the month of January, 1945

M.T.S. Rumbold
, Commanding
dron, R.A.F.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron.
For the month of February, 1945

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
February, 1945							
1 st	Typhoon 1B					Squadron at R.A.F. Fairwood Common on R/P Course.	
						No operations.	
9 th	"					The Squadron flew from Fairwood Common to Manston en route to Continent.	
10 th	"					The Squadron flew from Manston to B.77 from where they did an operation and landed at B.89, Holland, the new base.	
		F/Ls. R.E.G. Sheward, E.A. D.D.646		15:39	16:47	The aircraft took off in 2 sections of four. The first was diverted by	
		Tennant, N.P.C. Woodward,		16:15	17:14	Longbow to M.T. west of Utrecht but none found. The railway between	
		F/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton,				E110932 and 140930 was attacked and many direct hits on the track	
		W.G. Kemp, W/Os. M. Luck,				claimed. The second section reced north of Arnheim-Apeldoorn-Zutphen	
		H. Barrie, R.A. Richardson				No M.T. seen. The railway at A1399 was attacked and 2 direct hits	
						claimed and 1 track cut.	
11 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L R.E.G. D.D.678		11:48	12:18	Owing to bad weather this operation was abortive. In the target area	
		Sheward, F/O W.J. Fowler,				cloud was 10/10 1000 to 2000 ft.	
		P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os.					
		C.G. Points, R.W. Ainsley,					
		P.J. McNinley, F/S J. Irvine					
12 th	"					No operations on this day.	
13 th	"	F/L R.E.G. Sheward, F/O. D.700		11:13	11:44	8 of the aircraft attacked houses at E920505 and E927503 with R/P	
		C.J. Devey, W/Os. J.J. Morgan,				and several were destroyed The other 4 aircraft rippled with R/P	
		R.W. Ainsley, F/Os. A.R.S. P				along the north edge of a wood from E917505 to E933500. A second	
		Proctor, W.G. Kemp, W/O				straffing attack by all 12 aircraft was made. No movement was seen.	
		R.A. Richardson, F/S J. Irvine,				There was slight flak.	
		F/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton, W.J.					
		Fowler, P/O D.E. Morgan,					
		W/O C.G. Points.					
		S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls. R.E.G. D.707		13:27	14:08	The aircraft took off on an armed recce, but was abandoned before	
		Sheward, N.P.C. Woodward, F/Os.				crossing the bombl ine as 10/10 cloud at 1500 ft.	
		G.F. Gillman, W.J Fowler, W/Os.					
		R.W. Ainsley, J.J. Morgan,					
		M. Luck, H. Barrie, P.J. McNinley,					
		P/O D.E. Morgan					
14 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L R.E.G. D.719		08:34	09:13	The target was a wood at E9249. This was located and attacked with	
		Sheward, N.P.C. Woodward, F/Os.				R/P also heavily straffed with cannon. No results were observed but	
		C.J. Devey, G.F. Gillman, W.J.				there was good concentration. Moderate medium and light flak in the	
		Fowler, P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os.				target area was experienced.	
		C.G. Points, R.W. Ainsley,					
		M. Luck, H. Barrie, P.J. McNinley					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
February, 1945							
14 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls. D.723		10:48	11:55	This operation was done with 257 and 193 Sqdns, the formation led by W/Cdr. Wells. 4 of this Squadron's aircraft attacked a house at 100243138 and the remainder a village at E95953120. Both low level attacks and hits were seen on the house and village. The area also well strafed. W/O C. Points was hit by flak, and was later reported killed.	
		R.E.G. Sheward, N.P.C. Woodward,					
		F/Os. C.J. Devey, G.F. Gillman,					
		W.J. Fowler, P/O D.E. Morgan,					
		W/Os. C. Points, R.W. Ainsley,					
		M. Luck, H. Barrie, P.J. McNinley					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls. D.732		13:02	14:08	The target was reached 10 minutes late owing to approach above cloud and a second approach being necessary. Red smoke was seen and R/P attack made along edge of wood, which was also starffed. No movement seen. Moderate light flak near Goch.	
		R.E.G. Sheward, N.P.C. Woodward,					
		F/Os. G.F. Gillman, W.J. Fowler,					
		P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os. M. Luck,					
		H. Barrie					
	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. W.G. Kemp D.741		17:25	18:15	Barges at 9598 were the target. 15+ between 10097 and 0997 were attacked. They were laden and covered with tarpaulins. One probable salvo direct hit on 1 barge and six damaged by cannon are claimed. Results difficult to assess in poor light.	
		A.R.S. Proctor, M.S.M. Hamilton,					
		W/Os. J.J. Morgan, R.W. Ainsley,					
		F/Ss. J. Irvine, J. Quigley					
15 th	"					No operation this day.	
16 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L E.A. Tennant, D.763		14:14	14:59	The target was the village of Asperden which was attacked with R/P. All R/P fell in the target area which looked well hit, and there was much smoke.	
		F/Os. C.J. Devey, W.G. Kemp, A.R.S.					
		Proctor, M.S.M. Hamilton, W/Os.					
		J.J. Morgan, R.W. Ainsley, R.A.					
		Richardson, F/S J. Quigley					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L E.A. Tennant, D.763		15:54	16:45	The same village was attacked as on the previous operation. An attack was made and and several houses seen to be hit.	
		F/Os. C.J. Devey, W.G. Kemp, A.R.S.					
		Proctor, M.S.M. Hamilton, W/Os.					
		J.J. Morgan, R.W. Ainsley, R.A.					
		Richardson, F/S J. Quigley					
17 th /20 th	"					No operations on these days.	
21 st	"	F/Ls. R.E.G. Sheward, E.A. Tennant, D.795		13:54	14:35	The target was a wood and red smoke was seen. Fragmentation R/P was rippled along the whole length of the edge of the wood at 916409. Red flashes were seen in Goch at 13.50 hours.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, F/Os. W.J. Fowler,					
		A.R.S. Proctor, W/Os. M. Luck,					
		J.W. Shellard, R.W. Ainsley, R.A.					
		Richardson, F/Ss. J.J. Morgan,					
		W/O C.A. Bury					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls. R.E.G. D.790		15:58	16:36	Buildings were the target on this operation and the following claims are made. A building at 997496 was destroyed, and also so very near misses. At E0492 a building was attacked and received at least 1 salvo direct hit. Other attacks were made on buildings at 994503.	
		Sheward, N.P.C. Woodward, F/Os.					
		C.J. Devey, W.G. Kemp, W.J. Fowler,					
		P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os. M. Luck,					
		J.W. Shellard, C.A. Bury, R.W. Ainsley					
		F/S J. Quigley					

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R.A.F.
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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron.

For the month of February, 1945

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
February, 1945							
21 st	Typhoon 1B	W/C Wells, S/L M.T. Rumbold, D.802		17:39	17:55	The targets were guns, mortars and strong points. All the R/P were well concentrated in the target area and three fires were seen to be started.	
		F/Ls. R.E.G. Sheward, N.P.C.					
		Woodward, F/O W.J Fowler, P/O					
		D.E. Morgan, W/Os. M. Luck, J.W.					
		Shellard, R.W. Ainsley, C.A. Bury,					
		F/S J. Quigley					
22 nd	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls. R.E.G. D.805		10:29	10:58	Each target was attacked by 6 aircraft and all R/P were in the target area. At least 3 salvoes were on the northerly target and 2 salvoes on the southerly one. Both were left smoking.	
		Sheward, E.A. Tennant, N.P.C. (JBX1 &					
		Woodward, F/Os. W.G. Kemp, W.J. JBX2)					
		Fowler, D.E. Morgan, W/Os.					
		C.A. Bury, R.A. Richardson, J.W.					
		Shellard, M. Luck, F/S J. Irvine					
	"	F/ E.A. Tennant, F/Os. A.R.S. D.D.811		12:55	14:10	The aircraft took off in pairs and the following claims are made:-	
		Prcotor, W.G. Kemp, C.J Devey,				1 st Pair - one signal box destroyed with station buildings at D8678.	
		W/Os. R.A. Richardson, C.A. Bury,				Two signal boxes destroyed between D9884 and E0267. 2 nd Pair - Two	
		J.W. Shellard, J.J. Morgan, R.W.				barges left smoking at D8779 and 1 M.T. damaged at D8294. 3 rd Pair -	
		Ainsley, F/S J. Irvine				One barge damaged at Z0119. 4 th Pair - Signal box at Z2513 destroyed.	
						A warehouse near Weest attacked with cannon, also 1 M.T. 5 th Pair -	
						The railway line at Z1403 was cut.	
	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/O A.R.S. D.821		15:24	16:06	Red smoke was seen and an attack was made. An attack was made on	
		Proctor, W/Os. R.A. Richardson,				houses along the road and hits were made at 013453 and 015456. The	
		J.J. Morgan, F/S J. Quigley				aircraft also straffed along the road and road sides and scored many	
						hits.	
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L E.A. D.824 & 825		17:10	18:16	The target was indicated by smoke and an attack made, but owing to	
		Tennant, F/Os. C.J. Devey,				bad visibility no results were observed. Meagre heavy flak experienced.	
		A.R.S. Proctor, W/Os. R.W.					
		Ainsley, J.J. Morgan, F/Ss.					
		J. Irvine, J. Quigley					
23 rd	"					No operations on this day.	
24 th	"	F/Ls. R.E.G. Sheward, N.P.C D.845		09:00	09:27	Four aircraft attacked a gun site and infantry in locality of	
		Woodward, F/O W.J. Fowler,				E98874917. Many hits with R/P and the area also well straffed. The	
		P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os. M. Luck,				other our aircraft attacked infantry positions in houses at	
		H. Barrie, J.W. Shellard, C.A. Bury,				E98954890 with R/P and also cannon straffed. Meagre light flak.	
		S/L M.T. Rumbold,					
	"	F/Ls. R.E.G. Sheward, N.P.C. D.848		10:34	11:10	The target was a building at 009480 which was attacked with R/P	
		Woodward, F/O W.J. Fowler,				and largely demolished. The roof was in and the walls holed. A second	
		P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os. M. Luck,				building was also hit. Moderate light flak.	
		H. Barrie, J.W. Shellard, C.A. Bury					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
February, 1945							
24 th	Typhoon 1B	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os.	D.851	13:00	13:35	Buildings were the target on this operation. Buildings at E99044565	
		A.R.S. Proctor, W.G. Kemp,				were attacked and 1 was destroyed, also 1 at E99004560 was believed to	
		W/Os. R.A. Richardson, J.J.				be left burning. The area was also strafed. Medium light flak was	
		Morgan, F/Ss. J. Irvine,				encountered.	
		J. Quigley					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L E.A.	D.853	14:37	14:55	The target, and observation post and H.Q., was indicated by smoke and	
		Tennant, F/Os. C.J. Devey,				an attack was made. 9 salvoes direct hits were claimed and the north	
		A.R.S. Proctor, W.G. Kemp,				half of the target was destroyed. There was no flak.	
		W/Os. R.A. Richardson, J.J.					
		Morgan, F/Ss. J. Irvine, J. Quigley					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L E.A.	D.855	16:03	16:36	The target was a church at E872409, being used as an observation	
		Tennant, F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor,				post. it was attacked with R/P and many direct hits were scored, the	
		W.G. Kemp, C.J. Devey, W/O				church being entirely demolished. The seminary previously attacked	
		J.J. Morgan, F/Ss. J. Quigley, J. Irvine				(D. 853) was seen to be on fire from end to end.	
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L E.A.	D.858	17:27	18:18	This operation was abortive, the squadron being recalled by Longbow.	
		Tennant, F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor,					
		W.G. Kemp, C.J. Devey, W/Os.					
		R.A. Richardson, J.J. Morgan,					
		F/Ss. J. Quigley, J. Irvine					
25 th	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. W.G. Kemp, D.865		07:19	17:45	The target was an observation post, mortars and infantry in a church	
		A.R.S. Proctor, W/Os. R.A. Richardson,				at Wesel. Poor visibility hampered this attack. The church already	
		R.W. Ainsley, J.J. Morgan, F/Ss.				appeared to be in ruins but several direct hits were made. No results	
		J. Irvine, J. Quigley				were observed.	
	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. W.G. Kemp, D.867		08:48	09:20	The target was a H.Q. and infantry position at E94663898. Red smoke	
		C.J. Devey, W/Os. R.A. Richardson,				was seen and an R/P attack made. The eastern half of the building	
		J.J. Morgan, R.W. Ainsley,				was destroyed and smoke and flames were seen coming from the remainder.	
		F/Ss. J. Quigley, J. Irvine				4 aircraft also strafed.	
	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. W.G. Kemp, D.868		10:15	10:54	The target was troops and M.T. in a wood at E938387. R/P were fired	
		C.J. Devey, A.R.S. Proctor,				into the N.W. edge of the wood and ax strafing attack was also made.	
		W/Os. R.A. Richardson, J.J. Morgan,					
		F/Ss. J. Quigley, J. Irvine					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L E.A.	D.867	12:03	12:43	The primary target was not attacked as no red smoke seen. An	
		Tennant, F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor,				alternative target at Sonsbeck was attacked and all R/P fell in the	
		C.J. Devey, W/Os. J.J. Morgan,				target area. Two aircraft were hit by flak but returned safely.	
		R.W. Ainsley, F/Ss. J. Quigley,					
		J. Irvine					
26 th /27 th	"					No operations on these days.	

R.A.F.
Form 541

By No. 263 Squadron.

For the month of February, 1945

M.T.S. Rumbold

Squadron Leader, Commanding

No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron.
For the month of March, 1945

R.A.F.
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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
March, 1945							
1 st	Typhoon 1B	F/L E.A. Tennant	D.D.904	07:04	07:28	Ferry patrol and weather recce. No movement was seen and no attack made.	
		F/O C.J. Devey					
		F/O W.G. Kemp	D.D.904	07:39	08:21	Ferry patrol. 3 barges at A0848 were attacked but no hits claimed.	
		W/O R.W. Ainsley				Strikes on 2 of the barges with cannon fire but no results observed.	
		F/L E.A. Tennant, W/O R.A. Richardson, F/Ss. J. Quigley, J. Irvine	D.907	09:08	09:34	The atrget was a battery at E93933556 but due to weather the operation was abortive.	
2 nd	"					No operations on this day.	
3 rd	"	F/L E.A. Tennant	D.D.942	07:00	08:04	This operation was an armed recce on the Rhine, Rees-Wesel. 2 barges at A0848 were attacked and one pair of R/P scored a direct hit, but no results observed. 6+ barges seen at A165416. 1 aircraft was hit by flak and landed at B.80, pilot uninjured. There was intense light and heavy flak from Xanten and A165416.	
		F/O M.S.M. Hamilton					
	"	F/O W.G. Kemp	D.D.942	08:30	09:10	No movement seen and no attack made.	
		F/O C.J. Devey					
	"	F/S J. Quigley	D.D.942	09:28	10:03	2 barges at A1345 were attacked which appeared to have been previously damaged. Strikes were observed with R/P on 2 barges at A1146, but no results observed. Moderate inaccurate light flak from Bislich.	
		F/S J. Irvine					
	"	W/O J.J. Morgan	D.D.942	10:25	11:02	No movement was seen on the roads Wesel-Dorster and Wesel - Raesfeld. Observation restricted to cloud gaps.	
		W/O R.W Ainsley					
4 th	"					No operations on this day.	
5 th	"	F/L E.A. Tennant	D.D.966	08:09	09:00	Rhine crossings. 10 stationary railway trucks at A1451 were attacked with R/P but no results observed. 4+ stationary M.T. seen in village at A1447. No movement seen on river.	
		W/O R.A. Richardson					
	"	F/O W.G. Kemp	D.D.966	09:16	09:23	Owing to leader having mechanical trouble this operation was abandoned.	
		W/O R.W. Ainsley					
	W/	W/O R.W. Ainsley	D.966	09:42	10:03	Abortive due to weather.	
		W/O J.J. Morgan					
	"	F/O M.S.M. Hamilton	D.D.966	11:00	11:20	Abortive due to weather.	
		F/O C.J. Devey					

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
March, 1945							
5 th	Typhoon 1B	F/L R.E.G. Sheward	D.D.966	15:00	15:30	A barge beached at A090466 was attacked with R/P and 4 direct hits	
		W/O P.J. McNinley				claimed, the barge being damaged.	
	"	F/O W.J. Fowler	D.966	16:15	16:54	There was 10/10 cloud except over Wesel. No barges seen except near	
		P/O D.E. Morgan				Wesel, but not attacked owing to flak from S.E. of Foen.	
6 th /11 th	"					No operations on these days.	
12 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/O.	D.D.24	15:05	16:21	The aircraft took to search for 4 submarines which were reported	
		R. Logan, P/O D.E. Morgan,				S. of Schouen. The area was searched but submarines not seen. A 200	
		W/O C.A. Bury				ton vessel was seen at D3558 marked with red crosses was not attacked.	
						Approximately 10 drifters were in a harbour at D3462 and D3662.	
13 th	"					No operations.	
14 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os.	D.52	14:42	15:30	The target was a 5/600 ton ship at Z449090. It was not seen but an	
		M.S.M. Hamilton, C.J. Devey,				attack was made on 5 drifter type vessels in a lock at the same	
		W.H. Ramsey, J.A. Smith, W/Os.				point by 6 aircraft. The leader scored direct hit among the vessels	
		R.A. Richardson, J.J. Morgan,				causing smoke but results could no be assessed. 3 seagoing barges were	
		F/S J. Quigley				seen at Nijkerk, Z4606.	
15 th /17 th	"					No operations.	
18 th	"	F/O R. Logan	Weather	16:48	17:26	Weather recce Deventer area. South of base 4/10 to 8/10 from 4/500	
		W/O P.J. McNinley	Recce			feet. North of base clear, visibility 20 miles. Over target area thin	
						layers of cumulus 2/10 from 5/6000 ft. Visibility good. Apeldoorn	
						clear.	
		S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os.	D.84/CD117	17:35	18:40	The target was a generals H.Q. and all the Wing squadrons took off.	
		M.S.M. Hamilton, W.H. Ramsey,				There were five targets and this Squadron attacked Nos. 3 and 4. 2	
		A.R.S. Proctor, C.J. Devey,				aircraft attacked no.3 and believed to be hit as a cloud of red brick	
		J.A. Smith, W/Os. R.A. Richardson,				dust was seen. The other 6 aircraft attacked No.4 and claim 2 salvoes	
		J.J. Morgan				in the church which was left burning. Moderate heavy flak at E9598	
						and Z9503, and moderate light at E9697.	
19 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os.	D.97	08:02	09:10	The target was a factory at E9976. All the Wing squadrons took part.	
		A.R.S Proctor, J.A Smith,				This Squadron attacked the eastern rectangular building and scored	
		M.S.M. Hamilton, W.H. Ramsey,				3/4 hits with R/P. The other squadrons attacked with bombs. Much	
		W/Os. R.W. Ainsley, J.J. Morgan,				brown smoke was seen from the factory area after the attack. Intense	
		F/S J. Quigley				light flak from E9978 and A0177.	

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				Up	Down		
March, 1945							
19 th	Typhoon 1B	F/L G.E. Cassie, F/Os.	C.J. Devey, D.107	10:49	11:29	The target was 80+ barges on Deventer-Raalte canal. They were not seen. A single barge and 3/4 small boats at Z9913 were attacked with a claim of 2 direct salvos on the barge. Very little canal traffic seen. W/O Richardson was hit by flak and baled out, but has not returned to the unit.	
		M.S.M. Hamilton, J.A.	Smith,				
		W/Os. R.A. Richardson,	R.W.				
		Ainsley, J.J. Morgan,	F/S.				
		J. Quigley					
20 th	"					No operations.	
21 st	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os.	W.G. D.125	07:35	08:47	The target was the 25 German Army H.Q. 193, 197, and 266 Sqdns also took part, the formation being led by W/Cdr Deall. This Squadron attacked with R/P and at least 6 salvos were seen to be direct hits causing much smoke and fire. the target was thought to be destroyed. Intense light flak.	
		Kemp, J.A. Smith, W.H.	Ramsey,				
		A.R.S. Proctor, W/Os.	J.J.				
		Morgan, R.W. Ainsley					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls.	N.P.C. D.133	16:02	17:30	The target was a POL dump. The other squadrons on the Wing also took part. This Squadron attacked with R/P and claim as follows. 1 salvo direct hit on a school, 2 salvos direct hit on a garage. The guard room also attacked but no results observed. An office attacked with R/P was not hit but cannon strikes seen.	
		Woodward, W.J. Fowler,	G.E.				
		Cassie, F/Ox W.H. Ramsey,					
		H. Barrie, A. Bales, R.W. Ainsley,					
		J.W. Shellard, P.J. McNinley					
22 nd	"					No operations	
23 rd	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls.	W.J. D.159	18:26	19:30	This operation was against a H.Q. in Halle but was abortive due to failing light and thick haze.	
		Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, F/O.					
		R. Logan, W/Os. H. Barrie, P.J.					
		McNinley, A. Bales, J.W. Shellard					
24 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls.	W.J. D.163	06:16	07:00	The target was a H.Q. at Halle. 4 aircraft attacked priority one target, all R/P falling in target area. A large white building at 106776 appeared undamaged but buildings nearby largely destroyed. There was one violent explosion. 5 aircraft attacked priority two target and all R/P fell in target area. A large rectangular building at 10157783 was burning and 3 smaller fires in buildings at 10167786.	
		Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, F/O.					
		R. Logan, W/Os. H. Barrie, A. Bales,					
		J.W. Shellard, P.J. McNinley,					
		C.A. Bury					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls.	W.J. D.179	10:49	11:57	Anti flak patrol. 12+ M.T. moving E. from A305416 to Dorsten attacked but no results observed. Also cannon strafed. 4/5 M.T. attacked moving N.E. and claim 1 destroyed. A light flak position attacked with R/P and cannon and direct hit claimed. A small wood at A100617 strafed.	
		Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, F/Os.					
		W.G. Kemp, W.H. Ramsey, A.R.S.					
		Proctor, C.J. Devey, M.S.M. Hamilton					
		E.J. Whitfield, J.A. Smith, W/Os.					
		R.W. Ainsley, J.J. Morgan					

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				Up	Down		
March, 1945							
24 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls. W.J. D.180		13:04	13:40	Anti flak patrol. The woods along both sides of the road from A3141 to 3342 were rippled with R/P and cannon strafed, where flak experienced on last attack. No movement seen.	
		Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, F/Os.					
		R. Logan, E.J. Whitfield, W/Os.					
		R.W. Ainsley, J.W Shellard					
				07:54	08:16		
25 th	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. W.G. D.200		17:20	19:10	The target was a H.Q. in a house at E677755. An attack was made and many direct hits claimed, which was destroyed There was a huge mushroom of flame as the last rockets were fired.	
		Kemp, M.S.M. Hamilton, A.R.S.					
		Proctor, W.H. Ramsey, C.J. Devey,					
		J.A. Smith, W/Os. R.W. Ainsley,					
		J.J. Morgan					
	"	F/Ls. N.P.C. Woodward, W.J. D.210		17:20	19:10	The aircraft took off in fours on armed recce. The 1 st section found 10+ M.T. including at least 1 well camouflaged tank along the edge of road A3951 - A4641. An attack was made but no results observed. The 2 nd section reced Doesburg Zelhem Ruule-Groenle area. No movement seen. 2 barges at V000160 attacked, 1 claimed damaged. The 3 rd section attacked 10+ barges in the canal Zutphen-Lochem at A030970 and claim 4 damaged. 3 M.T. and 1 tracked vehicle moving S.W. on road at E8472 cannon strafed and 4 damaged.	
		Fowler, W/Os. C.A. bury, J.W. Shellard.					
		F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, E.J. Whitfield, W/Os. H. Barrie, A. Bales.					
		F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os J.A. Smith, R. Logan, W/O P, J. McNinley					
26 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls. N.P.C. D.218		06:40	07:20	The target was billets and defence position at E685747, and was attacked along with 197 squadron. Many direct hits were scored and the target covered in smoke. It was also well strafed. The southern portion of the building was destroyed, but N.W. portion was still standing.	
		Woodward, W.J. Fowler, F/Os.					
		W.H. Ramsey, E.J. Whitfield, R. Logan, W/Os. R.W. Ainsley, J.J. Morgan, C.A. Bury, H. Barrie, P.J. McNinley					
		F/L N.P.C. Woodward, W/Os. D.224		12:30	13:28	The target was barge Zwolle-Deventer-Rysson. 24+ were sighted along the stretch Raalte-Deventer and attacked. No direct hits with R/P but claim 6 damaged with cannon fire.	
		H. Barrie, J.W. Shellard, P.J.McNinley					
		E.A. Tennant					
		F/L WXXXXXXXXXX , F/Os. W.H. D.224		12:30	13:55	The aircraft took off in fours. F/L Tennant's section attacked barges and claim 1 barge destroyed at A0797 and 1 damaged. At E6594 a paddle steamer or dredger was damaged. 2 M.T. destroyed at E8278. F/L Fowler's section attacked and claim 4 barges damaged at A0497, 1 smoker and 1 tug destroyed at Z9405. 3 M.T. were damaged at E9697.	
		Ramsey, W.G. Kemp, W/O M.S.M. Hamilton					
		F/L XXXXXXXXXXXX W.J. Fowler,					
		F/Os. R. Logan, E.J. Whitfield, W/O C.A. Bury					
		F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. M.S.M. D.224		16:47	17:55	F/L Tennant's section was briefed to search for tanks at Zutphen Isselburg, the Keppel road junction (E9778), but none seen. 2 R/P fired at 2 caravan type M.T. at A9683, near misses claimed. F/O Proctor's section attacked 4 barges on Zutphen-Raalte canal and damaged 2. Attacked with R/P and heavily cannon strafed 3 barges Deventer-Raalte canal and all were damaged.	
		Hamilton, W.G. Kemp, W.H. Ramsey					
		F/O A.R.S. Proctor, C.J. Devey, W/Os. J.J. Morgan, R.W. Ainsley					
27 th /30 th	"					No operations.	

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March, 1945							
31 st	Typhoon 1B	F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor,	D.279	15:43	17:04	Armed recce Zutphen area. Ordered by Longbow to attack M.T. on the	
		W.G. Kemp				road E. of Zutphen. Approximately 10 well scattered M.T. seen and	
						attacked. 4 were damaged at A0398	
		P/O J. Quigley, W/O J.J. Morgan	D.279	16:22	17:36	Armed recce. Scattered M.T. found in Oldensall area but no attack made.	
						Reported fires on Encbede A/D also 1 Me.109.	
		F/L E.J. Whitfield,	D.279	17:08	18:09	No attack made. Returned to base owing to R/T trouble. Report that	
		W/O A. Bales				roads N.E. of Deventer empty.	
		F/L N.P.C. Woodward,	D.279	17:25	18:24	This section found 40 mixed M.T. Goor to Hengelo, some of which were	
		W/O M. Luck				already burning. They attacked 20 vehicles at V3008 and claim	
						5 damaged.	
						<i>M.T.S. Rumbold</i>	
						Squadron Leader, Commanding	
						<u>No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.</u>	

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DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron.
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Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
April, 1945							
1 st	Typhoon 1B	F/L G.E. Cassie, W/O M. Luck	D.283	12:30	13:26	The aircraft went on armed recce of Enschede-Almelo-Coevorden. 5 barges south of Lingen were attacked and 1 was damaged.	
		F/L E.A. Tennant, F/O M.S.M. Hamilton	D.D.283	13:35	14:10	Armed recce. 3 stationary M.T. were attacked at Z9537. 2 were destroyed and 1 damaged.	
2 nd	"	F/Ls. G.E. Cassie, N.P.C. Woodward, W.J. Fowler, E.J. Whitfield, F/O R. Logan, P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os. P.J. McNinley, H. Barrie, M. Luck	D.287	19:02	19:53	The target was a telephone exchange which was attacked by this Squadron and 197 Squadron, the formation being led by W/Cdr Deall. 5 aircraft attacked at building at 30308810 and scored at least 2 salvoes direct hits. The building became obscured in smoke. The other 4 aircraft attacked a building 50 yards W. f the first one and several direct hits were observed, and it also became obscured in smoke. No movement.	
3 rd /5 th	"					No operations.	
6 th	"	S/Ldr M.T. Rumbold, F/L. W.J. Fowler, F/O R. Logan, W/O A. Bales	F.C.P.	18:00	18:35	This operation was abortive due to weather.	
7 th	"	S/Ldr M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls. G.E. Cassie, E.J. Whitfield, P/Os. D.E. Morgan, J.W. Shellard, W/Os. M. Luck, C.A. Bury, F/S. W.R. Williams.	D.D.327	12:11	13:20	The target was a stationary train at Z9538. It was located and attacked, 40 direct hits being scored with R/P and very many cannon strikes. There was an explosion followed by black smoke. The train was left burning in two places. The engine was well strafed, also 3 active flak cars detached from the train.	
	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. Hamilton, C.J. Devey, W.G. Kemp, A.R.S. Proctor, W/Os. L.J. Miller, Sgt G.T. Carter.	M.S.M. D.330/DZB1	15:16	16:02	The target was strong points, guns and troops at K218170. An attack was made with R/P and cannon in the target area. Camouflaged positions in wood at 217170, gun pits or diggings seen along road 213172 to 215173 were all well strafed. No movement see Meagre light flak and W/O R.W. Ainsley was hit and baled out, and later returned to the Squadron.	
8 th	"	F/Ls. G.E. Cassie, W.J. Fowler, N.P.C. Woodward, E.J. Whitfeld, F/O R. Logan, P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os A. Bales, C.A. Bury	D.340	18:25	19:14	Target XUL8 was attacked and 1 salvo was a direct hit, no results observed. XUL9 was also attacked and 3 salvoes direct hits were scored among buildings, but no results observed. F/L E.J. Whitfield was hit by flak over the target and baled out and landed safely.	
9 th	"					No operations.	
10 th	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. J.A. Smith, W.G. Kemp, W/O L.J. Miller	D.362	11:20	12:28	The target was water transport near Dixel. A barge of about 400 tons going west at Z0492 was attacked, very near misses with R/P. Two strafing attacks were made and the boat last seen on the sand smoking and steaming heavily, the bows out of the water.	

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April, 1945							
10 th	Typhoon 1B	F/L G.E. Cassie, E.A. Tennant, D.367		15:40	16:12	The Squadron was led by W/Cdr Deall. The target, a headquarters, was very well hit by at least 6 salvoes. Smoke and brick dust prevented detailed observation, but much damage claimed.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, F/Os. C.J. Devey,					
		M.S.M. Hamilton, A.R.S. Proctor,					
		P/Os. J.W. Shellard, D.E. Morgan,					
		W/Os. M. Luck, A. Bales, F/S W.R. Williams					
	"	F/Ls. G.E. Cassie, N.P.C. FCP		17:17	18:20	4 guns at Z894050 were attacked, all R/P falling in target area. They were also well strafed. Three large explosions followed at 9830 893051 which gave off black smoke.	
		Woodward, W.J. Fowler,					
		P/O J.W. Shellard					
	"	P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os. FCP		17:56	19:04	An attack was made on guns at Z898508, all R/P falling in target area. Also well strafed, but no results observed owing to dust.	
		M. Luck, C.A. Bury,					
		F/S R.W. Williams					
11 th	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/O D.399		14:25	16:07	The aircraft searched for a tanker at Z4911, but could not be found. South of Zwolle (Z9030) 2 small stationary tanks were attacked and both damaged. 1 horsedrawn transport was destroyed. 2 M.T. strafed, one of which destroyed and the other damaged. 6 dug in M.T. attacked and 2 destroyed, the others being damaged.	
		C.J. Devey, F/S J. Irine,					
		Sgt G.T. Carter					
	"	F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, M.S.M. D.398		15:25	16:28	This operation was abortive due to 3 of the aircraft developing mechanical trouble.	
		Hamilton, W.G. Kemp, J.A. Smith,					
		W/Os. L. Saunders, L.J. Miller					
	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/O M.S.M. D.402		17:37	18:47	1 aircraft had to return owing to mechanical trouble and F/O Hamilton led the remaining 3 aircraft. The target was a train on the line Assen north to Q2502, but was not seen. 40 trucks were seen in Assen and attacked with R/P but no direct hits scored. As there was no flak the second attack was called off as red crosses seen on the trucks.	
		Hamilton, W/Os. L.J. Miller,					
		L. Saunders					
	"	F/Os. A.R.S. Proctor, C.J. D.398		18:38	20:19	1 aircrat had to return due to mechanical trouble. Two or three trains were seen in sidings at R2044. There was intense heavy, medium and light flak. 6 or 8 guns were firing from the train at R2038. The leading aircraft fired R/P but no results observed as visibility poor.	
		Devey, W.G. Kemp, J.A. Smith					
12 th	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. W.G. Kemp, D.D.413		08:38	09:37	Attacks on railways were made with the following claims. 30+ trucks on main line at Z6018, 6 direct hits with R/P and many cannon strikes. 6+ destroyed and others damaged. At Z6812 a loco and 20+ trucks attacked. The engine was destroyed, two fires started at rear end of train, 2 waggons destroyed and many damaged. At Z5517 15+ trucks attacked and many strikes made, several trucks being damaged.	
		M.S.M. Hamilton, A.R.S. Proctor,					
		C.J. Devey, W/O L.J. Miller,					
		F/S J. Irvine, Sgt G.T. Carter					

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By No. 263 Squadron.
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				Up	Down		
April, 1945							
12 th	Typhoon 1B	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. J.A. Smith, M.S.M. Hamilton, F/S J. Irvine	D.D.422	11:50	13:23	The target was a train between Emden-Aurich. No train was found at the pinpoint given, but at Q7924 (N. of Leer) a stationary train was located, probably loaded with wood. It was already burning in the middle and the loco damaged. The aircraft attacked and 2 more fires were started and very heavy damage done to the loco, and at least 4 waggons were destroyed. The whole train now largely destroyed.	
	"	F/Ls. G.E. Cassie, N.P.C. Woodward, W/O C.A. Bury, F/S J. Irvine	D.D.432	16:25	17:55	The aircraft took off to search for submarines reported off Knocke. The area west of Knock was searched but nothing was seen. The aircraft landed at B.83 and later returned to B.89.	
13 th /15 th	"					No operations on these days.	
16 th	"	F/Ls. G.E. Cassie, N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. J.W. Shellard, D.E. Morgan	D.480	13:20	14:08	The target was mortars at Z7955006. The pinpoint was located and attacked with R/P and cannon. There was no evidence of enemy activity except light flashing. Meagre light flak from a house 200 yards S. of the target.	
		F/Ls. G.E. Cassie, W/Os. M. Luck, P.J. McNinley, F/S J. Irvine	D.D.491	15:26	16:49	The target was barges. A barge of approx. 500 tons towed by a small steam tug was found at U2418 and attacked with R/P and cannon and sunk. The tug was severely damaged and stopped. 3 barges were seen in Staveren harbour (Z4039), 3 or 4 barges or tugs in a harbour at Z3459, 2 seagoing barges S. of causeway at Z4099.	
	"	F/L N.P.C. Woodward, P/Os. D.E. Morgan, J.W. Shellard, W/O C.A. Bury	RTE 7 XXXXX	18:40 200	20:00	The target was an observation post in a church. An attack was made with R/P and cannon. All R/P fell in the target area. One salvo appeared to be on the S. side of the church, but much smoke made observation difficult. There were many cannon strikes.	
17 th	"	F/L G.E. Cassie, P/O J.W. Shellard, W/Os. M. Luck, P.J. McNinley	D.D.508	06:35	08:01	This operation was against shipping Texel-Borkum. 3 barges were attacked with R/P off Terschelling. 1 was damaged and a possible direct hit with R/P on another. 5 more barges and a hospital ship were seen at U6639 but not attacked. A convoy of 9 vessels S. of Borkum (Q3350) was sighted. The leading ship of 1500 tons was a flak ship, the remainder barges and vessels of 4/500 tons. An attack was made with R/P and cannon with claim of 1 direct hit on a 500 ton steamer and strikes on others. Intense light flak from Terschelling and intense heavy and light from Borkum.	
	"	F/L N.P.C. Woodward, P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os. H. Barrie, C.A. Bury	D.D.508	07:04	08:14	The convoy at Q3350 was again attacked. 1 salvo direct hit scored amidships on the largest vessel which was left smoking. Strikes were seen on others. Intense light and heavy flak in the target area.	

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
April, 1945							
17 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Ls.	D.D.508	10:03	11:25	the target was barges at Harderwijk. 14+ were attacked and 8 damaged.	
		N.P.C. Woodward, G.E. Cassie,				A direct hit with R/P was made on a shed at south end of harbour	
		P/Os. J.W Shellard, D.E.				and a bright red flash was seen. 15+ fishing boats seen in the harbour	
		Morgan, W/Os. H. Barrie,				and 14 at anchor outside harbour at Z.5620. F/Lt. Woodward's aircraft	
		C.A. Bury, P.J. McNinley				was seen to crash into the sea approx half a mile from the harbour,	
						believed hit by flak and is reported missing. There was intense light	
						20 mm and 40 mm flak from the target area.	
	"	F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os.	D.D.508	13:33	14:30	This operation was against shipping N.E. of Delfsijl. At Q4047 a Red	
		C.J. Devey, W.G. Kemp, W.H.				Cross ship of about 4,000 tons in convoy with 8 seagoing barges and	
		Ramsey, P/O J. Quigley, W/O				coasters steaming in direction of Borum attacked, i.e. coasters and	
		J.J. Morgan, F/S J. Irvine				barges. 2 are claimed destroyed and a possible flak ship straffed by	
						3 aircraft which was silence and claimed damaged. A coaster at Q.4432	
						attacked with cannon and damaged.	
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L E.A.	D.522	16:46	18:10	The target was defence position on the causeway. At attack was made	
		Tennant, F/Os. W.H. Ramsey,				and all R/P fell in the target area. Hits were seen among fox holes	
		W.G. Kemp, P/O J. Quigley, W/Os.				and huts to S. of road at U422027. 2 direct hits seen on causeway.	
		L. Saunders, J.J. Morgan, L.J.				The area cannon straffed after R/P attack.	
		Miller					
18 th	"	S/L M.t. Rumbold, F/Os. W.H.	D.542	12:58	14:00	The operation was against ships in area Q.14. Approx. 16 ships heading	
		Ramsey, W.G. Kemp, J.A. Smith,				north were found at Q2852 in three lines. The 2 rearmost stragglers	
		P/O J.J. Morgan, W/Os. L. Saunders,				attacked with R/P. One of approx 3,000 tons coaster type received	
		L.J. Miller, P/O J. Quigley				direct hits and was giving off greyish white smoke after attack. The	
						other ship of 2/3000 tons also had direct hits and was seen to be	
						listing and black smoke coming from it. It is claimed as seriously	
						damaged and possibly sinking.	
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L. G.E.	D.D.546	16:35	17:40	The target was again shipping at Q.14. 12 ships were seen W. of Borkum	
		Cassie, P/O J.W. Shellard, W/Os.				(Q.2855) and 20+ of various sizes up to 1,500 tons at Q3452. All were	
		P.J. McNinley, M. Luck, C.A. Bury,				well inshore and protected by shore batteries. Considered unsuitable	
		H. Barrie, F/S W.R. Williams				for R/P attack. 1 stationary tug at Q.3048 was damaged.	
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L. G.E.	D.D.554	20:03	21:05	The target was 2 80 mm guns at E433895. The northern pinpoint was	
		Cassie, P/O D.E. Morgan, W/Os.				seen to have diggings and foxholes. The southern pinpoint located but	
		H. Barrie, P.J. McNinley, C.A.				no diggings seen. R/P were fired and the area heavily straffed, but	
		Bury, M. Luck, F/S W.R. Williams				no movement seen and no results observed.	
19 th	"	F/L G.E. Cassie, P/Os. D.E. Morgan,	D.562	10:04	10:50	Te target was dug in position at C.7587. An attack was made and R/P	
		J.W. Shellard, W/Os. P.J. McNinley,				rippled and all seen to be along north side of canal 748877 - 753877.	
		C.A. Bury, M. Luck, H. Barrie, F/S				Many pits seen in this area.	
		W.R. Williams					
	"	F/L G.E. Cassie, P/Os. J.J. Morgan,	D.566	11:56	12:36	4 aircraft fired R/P in pairs along road 130031 - 154086. Hits were	
		J. Quigley, W/Os. P.J. McNinley,				seen on buildings and a windmill at 148075. The second 4 fired their	
		M. Luck, H. Barrie, F/S W.R. Willaims,				R/P from 157028 - 176068. 7/8 buildings were seen on fire. The area	
		P/O J.W. Shellard				was also straffed.	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 263 Squadron.
For the month of April, 1945

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
April, 1945							
19 th	Typhoon 1B	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os.	D.572	14:26	15:33	The target was coastal vessels at R.2272. 17+ ships were found stationary inshore from R.2068 to 2067. Sizes varied from 200 to 2,000 tons plus one of 4,000+ tons in the centre. Approx. 5 were flak ships. The S. end of the convoy attacked with R/P and cannon. 1 ship of 1,500 was damaged and probably sinking, another smoking. Intense heavy and light flak.	
		J.A. Smith, W.G. Kemp, P/O					
		J. Quigley, W/Os. R.W. Ainsley,					
		J.J. Morgan, F/S J. Irvine,					
		Sgt G.T. Carter					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/O	D.579	17:05	18:13	6 ships were seen at anchor at U.3432. 2 of 1000 to 1100 attacked. One exploded and debris thrown up to 2000 ft., slightly damaging one aircraft. The other ship received several salvoes on the water line and was left in a sinking condition. The ships were also strafed. Heavy and light flak.	
		W.G. Kemp, P/O J. Quigley, W/Os.					
		L. Saunders, R.W. Ainsley,					
		J.J. Morgan					
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. J.A.	D. 584	19:51	20:27	An area formed by triangle 762998 - 762993 - 765995 was attacked with R/P rippled in pairs. All fell in target area. A direct hit was seen on a building at 763994 and 762994, the latter being followed by a sheet of yellow flame. The whole area was strafed twice. Many strikes were seen among 20 mm and 40 mm guns which were firing.	
		Smith, W.G. Kemp, P/O J. Quigley,					
		W/Os. L.J. Miller, L. Saunders,					
		F/S. J. Irvine, Sgt Carter					
20 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. J.A.	D. 598	12:14	13:29	The target was 8/9 coastal vessels at R.7485. An attack was made. 1 salvo scored a direct hit on a single castle cargo ship of approx. 1800/2000 tons and was left burning furiously. 1 minesweeper was damaged by 2 R/P direct hits and another damaged by cannon fire. 1 ship presumed to be an oil tanker had 2 direct hits with R/P and well strafed. No smoke or fire seen and claimed damaged. 1 motor launch damaged.	
		Smith, W.G. Kemp, P/O J. Quigley,					
		W/Os. J.J. Morgan, R.W. Ainsley,					
		F/S J. Irvine					
21 st /22 nd	"					No operations.	
23 rd	"	F/L G.E. Cassie, P/O D.E.	D.641	19:54	20:47	Train strike N.W. of Hamburg. This operation was abortive due to weather.	
		Morgan, W/Os P/J. McNinley,					
		H. Barrie, M. Luck, C.A. Bury					
24 th	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/O W.G.	D.D.661	13:39	15:41	The target was a train strike area Y and Z. The first section returned owing to weather. The second section reported a few trucks at Jever (R.1153). 2 Red Cross trains at Wittmund (R.0353) and x 2 JU88s on the ground at Ardorf. 4 R/P fired with very near misses on one.	
		Kemp, P/Os. J. Quigley, D.E.					
		Morgan, W/Os. L.J. Miller,					
		R.W. Ainsley, D. Coles, Sgt					
		G.T. Carter					
25 th	"	F/L W.J. Fowler, F/O R. Logan,	D.693	13:36	15:10	Armed recce. 10 stationary trucks attacked at M.8828, and at least 2 direct hits scored on centre of train. An engine at M.8729 attacked but no R/P hits observed, although cannon strikes scored. 12 stationary trucks at Heide also attacked, no R/P hits but many cannon strikes. A large ship 4/5000 tons and possible a submarine seen at R.9088 close inshore. 5/6 destroyers in harbours at Cuxhaven.	
		W/O A. Bales, F/S W.R. Williams					

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.F.
Form 541

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT
By No. 263 Squadron, B.L.A.
For the month of May, 1945

Date	Aircraft Type & Number	Crew	Duty	Time		Details of Sortie or Flight	References
				Up	Down		
May, 1945							
1 st /2 nd						No operations on these days.	
3 rd	Typhoon 1B	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/L E.A. Tennant, F/Os. M.S.M. Hamilton, A.R.S. Proctor, P/O J.J. Morgan, W/Os. L. Saunders, L.J. Miller, D. Coles	Shipping Strike	11:35	12:55	The aircraft took off to attack shipping in Lubeck Bay, but due to bad weather the operation was abortive.	
	"	S/L M.T. Rumbold, F/Os. J.A. Smith, M.S.M. Hamilton, A.R.S. Proctor, P/O. J.J. Morgan, W/Os. D. Coles, M. Luck, L.J. Miller, L. Saunders	GC.16/3	15:16	16:29	The target was shipping in Neustadt Bay. A 10,000 ton motor vessel was attacked and hit amidships. It was seen to be smoking. Another motor vessel of 12,000 tons was seen to be on fire from stem to stern.	
4 th /8 th	"					No further operations carried out.	
						(Signed)	
						Squadron Leader, Commanding	
						No. 263 Squadron, R.A.F.	