

ADDITIONAL NOTE

Two Rhubarb operations by 263 Squadron on the 19th October resulted in claims of two locomotives Cat B at the Valognes - Montebourg - Carentan junction and siding and 1 locomotive Cat B (Probably Cat A, but insufficient evidence) at Neuilly, four miles N.N.W of Airel. Composite reports cover the relevant information derived from these operations except that the two pilots of the second operation P/O Blacklock and F/Sgt Beaumont have recollected the following information:

1. 15 - 20 sailing fishing vessels without escorting motor-launch were seen 1 ½ miles W.N.W of Port en Bessin at 145/19 October.
2. A goods train without engine was being loaded by a crane standing on a platform in the one track siding N of the main line at Le Molay (Army/Air Sheet 3a and 8 T6677).
3. The flak reported 3 miles S.E of Isigny has now been pinpointed with some confidence as coming from the high wooded ground near Monfreville (Army Air 3a and 8 T5483)

Pilots now add the following observations about it:

Our A/C were at 100 feet. Intense flak came from several positions (judged 3 or 4) all around them and burst in orange bursts at the same height or just above our A/C, within fifty feet of them. Both pilots are confident that this flak came from positions close around them and not from the Isigny area (2 ½ miles) or other similar distance. They have the strong impression that it was light flak bursting at close range (e.g. at 200-400 yards range. But they did not see any gun positions or tracer. Any available information as to the possibility of this type of close-range burst is requested by this unit.

A Wordsworth

Flying Officer
Intelligence Officer
263 Squadron.

Proctor ✓
Dunlop ✓

RGI. V WRM WRM 15/19 OP
T 10 GROUP INTELLIGENCE
FROM WARMWELL T.H.I. 1545
TO 10 GROUP INTELLIGENCE
INFO MIDDLE WALLOP INTELLIGENCE
SECRET QXX BT.
A1 19TH OCT

COMPOSITE RHUBARB REPORT 19 TH OCT. 1943

- (A) 263 AND 257
- (B) 2 WHIRLIBOMBERS 2X250 LB. AND 2 TYPHOONS.
- (C) 1220 - 1335 AND 1320 - 1350
- (D) RAILWAY LESTRE - MONTEBOURG
- (E) 1300
- (F) 2 LOCOS CAT. B. F/SGTS. PROCTOR AND DUNLOP
- (G) 1 WHIRLWIND CAT UNDECIDED

CROSSED COAST N. OF QUINEVILLE 50 FEET. FOUND 2 LONG GOODS TRAINS WITH
LARGE LOCOS. BOTH STATIONARY.
HEADING N.W. IN JUCTION W. OF ECAUSSEVILLE RED 1 AND 2 ATTACKED AND SAW
CANNON STRIKES PIERCE ~~BOILER~~ BOILER OF ONE LOCO WHICH WAS ENVELOPED IN
STEAM. RED 1 SAW STRIKES ON 2ND. LOCO AND ALSO ATTACKED IT WITH PORT
BOMB. RESULTS NOT SEEN. TURNING TO ATTACK 2ND LOCO RED 2'S A/C STRUCK IN
STARBOARD WING ROUNDEL BY 37 MM. BURST FROM VICINITY OF LARGE WHITE
FACTORY AT 288026 AILERONS JAMMED BUT WRENCHED 1/10 FREE. RED 2 LED OUT
OVER QUINEVILLE WHERE FLAK FROM 4-5 37 M POSITIONS. RED1 THEN CALLED RED
2'S DISTRESS AND 2 TYPHOONS TOOK OFF AND ESCORTED WHIRLWINDS FROM S. OF
ENGLISH COAST.
TO SAFE LANDING AT WARMWELL.
TARGET 8/10 CLOUD 2000 FEET. VIS GOOD. FISHING FLEET S. OF ST VAAST.
T.H.I. 1545

AS
CC ENGLISH

9D
RGI. V WRM WRM 19/19 OP
FROM WARMWELL INTELL
TO 10GRP INTELL
A1 19TH OCT

Blacklock ✓
Beau ✓

COMPOSITE RHUBARB REPORT 263/2 WARMWELL 19 OCT

(A) 263 (B) ~~2 WHIRLWXXXXXX~~ (B) 2 WHIRLIBOMBERS 2 X 250 LB 3 SEC
(C) 1420 - 1545 (D) RAILWAY BAYEUX - CARENTAN (E) 1505 (F)

1 LOCO CAT B AND SEVERAL GOODS TRUCKS CAT A AND TRACK DISINTEGRATED
SHARED BY P/O BLACKLOCK AND F/SGT BEAUMONT (G) 1 WHIRLWIND
CAT B (NOT ENEMY ACTION)

LANDFALL AT 50 FT W OF PORT ~~EN-BESIXXXXXX~~ EN BESSIN. SKIRTED
OUT OF RANGE OF INTENSE BARRAGE BUT COULD SEE FLAK TOWER THERE.
THEN SAW LONG GOODS TRAIN WITH LARGE LOCO MOVING NE ~~TOXXXXXX~~ NE
10 MPH 4 MILES N OF AIREL. BLUE 1 ~~MADE-ATXXXXXX~~ MADE ASTERN
CANNON ATTACK ABEAM BOMBING ATTACK AND ABEAM CANNON ATTACK,
AND SAW EXPLOSION IN ENGINE AND FIRST TWO TRUCKS ON FIRE.

BLUE 2 MADE ASTERN BOMB ATTACK AND 2 LONG CANNON ATTACKS
AND SAW 3 BOMB BURSTS, 1 IN CENTRAL GOODS WAGGONS, 1 ON ~~FXXXXXX~~
ON LINE TEARING UP TRACK AHEAD OF ENGINE WHICH STOPPED, 1 IN
FIELD. ALSO SAW EXPLOSION IN ENGINE AND STRIKES ON FIRST TWO
TRUCKS. TRACER FROM 3-4 20 OR 37 MM POSITIONS 3 MILES SE
OF ISIGNY. TARGET WEATHER 10/10 ~~LOW-CXXXXXX~~ LOW CLOUD.

LANDING AT WARMWELL P/O BLACKLOCK OVERSHOT AND DOUBTING
PETROL FOR 2ND CIRCUIT HAD TO RAISE U/C TO AVOID WIRE.

CCG USED BY THESE AND PREVIOUS 2 PILOTS 263/43 44 45 46

AS
CWA RAISE U/C NOT A/C AS SENT
OSM SWBD AM ON TO RGI KK
RGI. AS

PMO AR K

WRM T.O.R. = 19/1757A + 2 WILKINSON AR +