ABBREVIATED SURFAT REPORTS 263/52-56 14th & 18th June 1944

- 1. <u>263/52 Roadstead 140 14 June Harrowbeer 1845 2015</u>
 - 8 Typhoons with 64 x 60 lb R.P. attacked in standard dive from SW at 1920 hours the presumed position of a 500 ton U boat at 475067 in St. Peter Port (Guernsey Map 3 inches to 1 mile). Only one pilot thought he saw the U boat. R.P. concentration was fair in the target area, others side on the South end of the NE jetty. Strikes were seen on one, and probably on two, small U/I ships between 400 and 1200 tons in the NE basin. Intense flak damaged 2 Typhoons Cat. B and holed a third Cat A. Claim. 1 small U/I ship Cat. 3
- 2. <u>263/53 Roadstead 142 15th June Harrowbeer 0856 1000</u>

7 Typhoons with 56 x 60 lb R.P. attacked in standard dive from SE at 0922 hours the presumed position of the U boat indicated above. The attack was hampered by a wisp of cloud at 1500 feet, and results were hard to see. But many R.P. appeared to go into the target area and hits were seen on the mole at the W. side of the NE basin. Intense and accurate light and heavy flak damaged one Typhoon Cat. B and another Cat. A.

No claim. – However, 1 T.T.A. Confirmed sunk Cat 1.

Note. It has been rumoured that a U boat was damaged and that a T.T.A. may have been sunk as a result of these two attacks. But the evidence of reconnaisance is not known at this unit.

3. 263/54 Armed Ship recco. 17th June Harrowbeer 1940 - 2110
12 Typhoons with 96 x 25 lb R.P. attacked shipping in St. Malo harbour and in the entrance to River Rance in standard dives from SW at 2022 hrs. One section of 4 A/C attacked an M/V judged to be of 1600 tons or more at 129079 (St. Malo Port Plot C.I.U. 508) and their R.P. were seen by themselves and by 610 Squadron Spitfires, close escort, to be two salvoes of direct hits amidships and two salvoes near undershots which quite probably hit the ship below the waterline. The other section attacked two T.L.C's (Not L.S.T's as reported in Harrowbeer Opflash 5 of 17th June) in the entrance to the River Rance. Direct hits were seen on one of them and a pilot of 610 Squadron saw one of them sinking, with bows awash, as he orbitted a minute later. The St. Malo flak was moderate

Claims. 1 M/V 1600 tons Ca 3 - or Cat.2 if evidence is obtained.

1 T.L.C. Cat 2 or Cat. 1. In fact M/V L97 Passenger Packet 975 tons Cat 1. Sunk.

- 4. 263/55 Armed Ship Recco 18th June Harrowbeer 0538 0716
 7 Typhoons with 24 x 60 lb R.P. and 32 x 25 lb R.P. found a convoy of 2 M class M/S and 2 T.L.C's going N off Jersey Corbiere Point. Our A/C then reccod St. Malo and finding nothing of importance there, returned to attack the convoy off Groznez Point in standard dives from SW at 0640 hrs. No R.P. strikes were seen. Intense light flak from ships. St. Malo and Jersey flak normal.

 No claim.
- 5. 263/56 Armed Ship Recco 18th June Harrowbeer 0824 - 0937 8 Typhoons with 64 x 60 lb R.P. returned as soon as possible to harrass the convoy sighted two hours earlier and at 0910 hours attacked in standard fashion from NE a convoy found to be going S. off the W. coast of Jersey and turning E. towards St. Helier, It now consisted of 1 T.L.C. and a T.TA close alongside each other in the centre surrounded and preceded by 5 other T.T.A's, and followed by a 2000 ton escort vessel, thought to be a small Sperrbrecher (it was thought possible that the ship alongside the T.L.C. was an M class M/S and that one of the leading ships may also have been of that type). Two minutes after the attack Spitfires of 610 Sqn. close escort observed that the 2000 ton escort vessel was smoking heavily with whitish grey smoke and that an oil patch was developing round it and that an oil patch also surrounded the T.L.C. Moderate light flak from all ships. Meagre heavy from the 2000 ton escort vessel. This vessel was attacked only by F/O H.M. Proctor. Further Reconnaissance. Spitfires of No. 1 Squadron attacked a convoy off Jersey Corbiere Point five minutes later ar 0915 hrs. They identified the largest ship as an M/V of 7000 tons. It was smoking heavily with brown smoke (not funnel smoke) going at 3 knots towards St. Helier closely escorted by T.T.A's. Claims. 1 escort vessel 2000 tons Cat3. Request higher cat. if further evidence. 1 T.L.C. Cat. 3.

A. Wordsworth F/O I.O. 263