

S.O. Book 129

Code 28-69-0.



SUPPLIED
FOR THE
PUBLIC SERVICE

JANUARY 26th MARCH 2ND 1944.

JAN 26.

1232 J 1664 Returned to base and landed safely. Dist port 17.30.

1240 J/420 Confirmed ex base 62 that this op is diverted to Long - Long F.C. informed.

1240 M.S.G. - Yellow. Raining. Craft still green. - a/c recalled.

1245 Long. - Yellow. Raining. Ref J/420: Advised F.C. Long to revert to craft if necessary. - ok. Day base 62

1245 - Flaring lines opened to York 9 & 10.

1250 Base 61 Happy about all their %

1301 J/420 Landed Long. RED!

1430 Met. 6. Re. disposition of weather this afternoon re. visiting A/C returning. Prospects not very good today & rather dubious about tomorrow.

1725 w/c Huns. Ex 5 group. w/c Huns - en route to Linton on Queer in Proctor HM 479 landed at Stigleby because of adverse weather. Remaining the night. Passed to base 62.

1815 AMLO Inquiry ref category of the facemask etc J/428, J/428 - and J/428 a request of operation right to 20th Jan.

1815 AMLO Advised all three aircraft to be Cat B.C.

1830 - Off duty. J. R. Johnson.

JAN 26. TH

18.30 On duty. J.D. Cleland F/L.

19.00 No night flying in group. No ops. in command. Thursday. Jan 27 1944

01.00 Ident. Board changed.

09.00 Off duty J.D. Cleland F/L. On duty H.B. Spence F/L.

10.00 Petrol Requested of C.F.C. One definite Petrol Diversion Base for 433 Sq. (Middle Wallop area) and 6 additional provisional Petrol Diversion Bases (central East Anglia & to south)

1130. ditto Ref. entry 1100 "Middle Wallop" requested in error. Changed to West Welling but C.F.C. say all ops are being kept away from this station for diversion, and suggest Woodbridge.

1145 Crash 61 Base report crash 1 mile north east of Sessay Station. 1666/0 called Lindholme. Darky to report it. Topcliffe picked up message. Dalton taking action. Run Point 5411N 0116W.

1200 Petrol Cancelled request for one definite Diversion Base & reduced request to 3 Emergency Petrol bases.

1210 M.B.B. Completely 4s for 5 days due to Contractor's carelessness in cutting cables; also Lightning affects Contact Strip, etc.

1255 L.F.B. Dungeness on 340° - 0010 - 0110. Shoreburghess on 330° - 0015 - 0125

1255 Balloons Down. Canterbury, Chalmersford, Thomas Estuary London will be at 1500 ft. with advice if any change from 0601 - 0130 hrs. 2330, - 0100

1310 Crash From 61 Base: - Pilot H.R. Hodson. From Lindholme en route to Dalton. Engine failed and Pilot crash landed. H.R. Hodson O.K.; Stbd Wing off Port Wing cut, Prop bent, fuselage ok. 1 Gr. F.C. informed.

1315 Emergency Petrol from C.F.C. + allotted as indicated
 Diversion Bases
 Feltwell - 408 Sq.
 Stradishall - 426 "
 Wratting Common - 432 "
 Passed to 62 Base with available fuel

1500 4/19/0 Div 1 sent forward HQ Squadron to fly
 Woodbridge crew down to Woodbridge to bring
 back the new aircraft, provided
 the Station Commander does not
 feel the wind is too strong for them.
 M. & A. informed. T.O. 1538 hrs.

1600 L.F.B. New times:-
 Dungeness 2340 - 0040.
 Shoeburyness 2350 - 0050.

Balloons New times for control - 2330 - 0100 hrs.
 Passed to 62 Base.

1830 Off duty. H. Spence P/O.
 On duty. F. Gustason. L + F/O Warwick. W.A.

1900 1679 "A" Linton report A- as landing
 at Millom on 2 engines
 no further gen.

1915 AIR.I. Permission granted by Air.I.
 for w/c Langton to fly
 Com. F. H. Ayford to Millom
 approx. 0900 in the morn.
 Base 62 notfd.

1940 DARKY A/C Mid. St. George report A/c
 calling Darky in vicinity
 unable to get A/c's RT call
 sign

1950. R.O.C.L.O. Contacted re. any A/c in
 distress or pecked in our
 area. No gen.

1955 BEAUFIGHTER (EASTMOOR) A/c now serviceable & ready
 to go.

JANUARY. THUR. 27.

2030 Wellington C Eastmoor report a 4ell. has
 raining. landed at 2010 from
 Harwell, with ing. trouble
 bad mag. drops on both engs.
 91 Grp. notified & staying the
 night.

2035 R. DARKY W Darky. A/c Nandy W from
 Upper Heyford in our vicinity
 turning. Croft & Topcliffe
 sit up & looking out for
 him. A/c reported to have
 fired colors of the period RR
 near Rishforth when coned
 by intercepting Landra's.
 Learning have been firing
 gyro's but to no avail.

2040. 1679 "A" A/c landed at Millom due
 to eng. failure. landed on
 two engines at approx. 1821.

2050 UPPER HEYFORD. U. P. H. phoned re. Nandy W.
 & his endurance & whether
 Wt. could contact on Sun. HEYF.

2105 DARKY W. A/c disappeared from York
 area.

2115. F.C. 93 GRP. w/T. messages from 62 Base.
 to F/C-93 Grp.
 to 18 O.T.U. Cinningley, from
 3NZ/K. 9951. A2DP. BFFY. 2000
 XC-5417 W-0022 W.
 To 30. O.T.U. Dixon
 RN R/Q = 99. CB. 5G. DP. W. R. 2037.
 5443. - 0051 W.
 To 27 O.T.U.
 Litchfield = KRX/I.
 99. X.C. 51TT. BIXS - 2026.
 Posn = 5455 - 0128 W.

2120. 3GRP. F.C. Re. our broadcast periods
 on G.O.F. - passed - 20-30 & 50-60

2130. 93 GRP. Re. Nandy W. they had contacted
 him on Sun. HEYF. & homing
 him on such.

JANUARY 27, THUR.

2135 61 BASE. Report Dalton Outer Circle until further notice.

2210. 93 GRP. from 62 Base w/t message to Litchfield.
K.R.K. I. 99-10.1E CMU4 NC - 2120
Posn. = 5540-0312^W. Passed to 93.

JANUARY 28th

0020. C.F.C. 3/4 re. diverting 4 Wellington from Bramcote & suggested Leeming. C.F.C. notified weather OK.

0025. C.F.C. Leeming have a 40°-50° X wind of 35-40 mph on runway in use & suggested Topcliffe. Gen. already sent to A/c to divert them to Leeming. Leeming contacted & will re-divert A/c to Topcliffe by R/T. Top. informed.

0030. Bramcote 4 Wellingtons.
w/t. MHR. R/T. Airrest.
A/c = E. U. Q. A. ETA = 0300.

0040. J.C.L.D. R.O.C. report A/c in power dive near mid. St. George. mid. St. Geo. notified but have no news of such.

0045 C.F.C. Re-2 A/c from Ashbourne.
1 Albemarle - w/t. W.O.N. "V" R/T
allad. 1 Whitley "P.L.U." G
R/T Indus. arriving approx
0140 hrs. diverted to Topcliffe.

0105 mid. St. Geo. Re-entry of 0040. mid. have checked with all concerned also Thornaby. but no reports of crash or A/c in power dive?

0110 IDENT BOARD Ident Board changed.

JANUARY 28, FRIDAY, 1941

0130 BASE 61- A/c's Whitley & Albemarle landed OK at base. Leeming notified.

0135 Wellingtons One of scheduled Wings "U" landed at Stanton Harcourt. 0050. Leeming & Top. notified.

0140 Bramcote They have had 5 Wellingtons & accounted for, one which is believed to have blown up in mid-air. I still outstanding.

0220. Bramcote Diversion off. all A/c accounted for, this information passed to Base 61 & Leeming.

0330 6 Gp. 10 A/c outstanding on Ops. from total of 48 Lancs.

0400 6 Gp. Repeating 0330 - when Linton and Eastmoor checked up on their dispersals the number missing was reduced to 8.

0830 Ref. Return of A/c away. Picture according to 6 Gp. net as follows:
Heat wave front over this group just now - expected to clear in about 2 hours time.

0845 Instrn to F.C. at groups where % are: - All of our A/c which are serviceable are to stand by ready for take off instruction as of 10:30 - 11:00 hrs approx.

0900 off duty - { 30 Starmicks.

1000 Return of Aircraft. Met. say weather here is OK for return during next six hours - QBB 1500 ft vis. good.
All aircraft away have been told to return immediately.

Friday January 28th 1944

14.00 Landfall Beacon at Flamborough on bearing 270° T from 0740-0840.

Billingham Balloons: Close-hauled 2320-0110, 0745-0930 hrs.
(See entry 16.30 hrs)

15.00 Middleton St George: - Rem outer circle, funnels & flare path
4/5. Temporary arrangement: - Contact
strip is okay and they will use Money
flares as funnels - Okay with Squadrons
Station Commander. Thornaby is standing
by for Middleton. Informed C.F.C. of this
arrangement.

15.30 Diversion Boxes Unless the weather in this group
should deteriorate diversion boxes are not
necessary, as it is just as short back to
bases in 6 hrs as to anywhere else in England.

15.30 Fix 424/0 56.37N 0043 W III 13.22 from Inverness.
Movement passed to 13 group for checking
purposes.

15.30 Permission by SASO for Oxford to take parts to 9/659
at Juby tomorrow morning at 10.00

16.30 Billingham Balloons. Now close-hauled 23.00-01.00, 07.00-09.00 hrs.

18.30 Off duty Mr. Cleland. On duty Mr. Spence.

20.15 Crash? Originally thought to be a
Mr. Eastman crash by R.O.C. 12 Group & 6/18. Now
considered to be part of
Army exercises. White & Red
Flares & Verep seen by Eastman
to the south. Strenuous bombing
Range confirm firing going
out to west of them.

21.00 1679/B. Randed at Pocklington. Fuel
gauges showed zero. Called
Darky. Staying overnight.

Saturday - Jan. 29/44

0001 Ident Board changed.

0440 Bomber 343. Noticed M/F coming from the east
turned around & flew west. Informed

F.C.P.O. & suggested fighter be sent
to lead him back in.

0445 Bomber 343. Fighter being sent out to intercept.

0450 ditto 12 Group do not believe this was
flying east previously but are
checking further.

0645 Emergency Fix 5358N 0555E 1st class, 0632 ack.
431/N. from Hull.
Passed to Craft.

0658 Important Fix 5340N 0421E 2nd class 0649. ack.
431/N. passed to Craft.

0658 S.O.S. 434/S. Fix 5505N 0325E 2nd class. 0654.
+ message. 61300. Craft informed.

0705 ditto Fix 5444N 0258E 3rd class 0655
passed to Craft.

0710 ditto Fix 5437N 0417E 3rd class 0706 ack.
Passed to Craft. Also informed
12 Group F.C.P.O. & requested
to render any possible assistance.

0725 ditto Fix 5437N 0417E 3rd class 0715. Craft.

0725 Emergency Fix 5330N 0211E 1st class 0723 ack.
431/N. Passed to Craft.

0735 S.O.S. 434/S. Fix 5414N 0100E 1st. 0731 ack.
passed to Craft.

0740 S.O.S. 434/S. Fix 5408N 0032E 1st. 0730 ack.

0800 S.O.S. 433/E. Fix 5400N 0004E 1st. 0749. ack.
(Cancelled at 0753 hrs.)

0800 S.O.S. 434/S. Fix 5407N 0009E 1st. 0743. ack.

0850 Crash 431/F. From Desford. Aircraft crashed
on landing - no petrol and 2
engines cut. Crew OK.

Friday January 28th 1944

14.00 Landfall Beacon at Harborough on bearing 270° T from 0740-0840.

Billingham Balloons: Close-hauled 2320-0110, 0745-0930 hrs.
(See entry 16.30 hrs)

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Mr. Eastman crash by R.O.C. 12 Group + 6x Base.
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Passed to Craft. Also informed
12 Group F.C.R.O. + requested
to render any possible assistance.

0725 ditto Fix 5437N 0421E 3rd class 0715. ^{Passed} Craft.

0725 Emergency Fix 5330N 0241E 1st class 0723 ack.
431/N. Passed to Craft.

0735 S.O.S. 434/S. Fix 5414N 0100E 1st. 0731 ack.
passed to Craft.

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(Cancelled at 0753 hrs.)

0800 S.O.S. 434/S. Fix 5407N 0009E 1st. 0743. ack.

0850 Crash 431/F. From Desford. Aircraft crashed
on landing - no petrol and 2
engines cut. Crew OK.

0855 433/E Aircraft crashed 2 miles S.W. of Catfoss who are taking crash action.
 No. Stiles killed.
 M. H. A. injured.
 Remainder of crew: 3/4 Tharwick

0900 On Site =

0910 433/H. Crew baled out 8 miles north of Thirsk. K.F.S. & Thirsk Police are searching for crash. 8 miles north east of Thirsk. Skipton checking further for definite location of crash.

0925 434/S. From Craft. Crew baled out at Haxton Wold. Following accounted for:
 P.O. Huelling OK
 P.O. Claton OK
 Sgt. Thompson OK
 Sgt. Demiers - killed

Remainder unaccounted for at present.
 - 5x F.C.L.O. 12: Crash near FLATTON. F-115 (RAF) taking necessary guard action.

1010 434/S. 5x. Craft - all crew except P.O. Brown (BOMB A.) accounted for.

1050 433/E. 4 Grp. F.C. re. position of crew that crashed at Catfoss. Pilot 3/5 Stiles killed. m/w seriously injured. in Catfoss S.S.O. remainder of crew O.K. Crashed due to lack of petrol at 0758. Position of A/C near Officers Mess at a place Burando Burton Catfoss providing guard.

1055. 433/H. 5 of crew accounted for & are picking up such Flt. Eng. & R/G. to be accounted for.

SATURDAY JAN. 29

1110 433/H. Position of A/C near Coesby Hall. Skipton have arranged for guarding of such member of crew found in A/C was. P/O Coy. Sgt. Lumsdon 3/5. Still unaccounted for.

1125. 431/N. J.C.L.O. 12. Grp. phoned re. 4 men picked up by trawler "Swallow" 2 of the crew. Sgt. Webber & Sgt. Parker. They reported with crew list. Craft notified.

1130. M.L.O. South Down. Sgt. Daries re. losses. etc. passed.

1140. 16 Grp. They give approx. position of crew picked up by trawler as 5300N - 0110E approx. No further news as to when & names of other two bods. as "Swallow" is transferring them to other boats dispatched from Humber. Will phone in further gen.

1155 SKIPTON Re. Search. Sanctioned by W/C MacCarthy. Skipton request to fly an A/C in an area around Thirsk to possible pick up visual parachute of missing Flt. Engineer. Sgt. Lumsdon, who is still not accounted for.

1220. 16 GRP. Phoned if it would be possible for us to put up 6 A/C on sea search.
 Area:
 52:55 - 0130.
 53:15 - 0110.
 53:23 0210.
 5313 0230.
 Parallel track. Search. from S.W. to N.E. working 70. W. at 1/2 mile vis. usual 1/3 R. briefing. Call sign W.C.F. 4. 47 to 52 inclusive

SATURDAY JAN. 29/44.

1230 61 Base. Contacted them re. A/c standing by for A.S.R. & that we required 6 A/c. Area passed & numbers allotted. 3 A/c from 1679 & 3 from 1664.

1240 61 Base. Asked if it would be possible to put another A/c up for A.S.R. Told them to stand the A/c down until 16 Gp. contacted & new no. allotted. W.C.F. 72.

1245 16 Gp. Re. one extra A/c for A.S.R. OK & allotted W.C. 7. # 72. also correction in 3rd. boundary line of area. Should read 53-33 0210. instead of 53-23 0210. 61 Base not'd immediately.

1355 4 Gp. 434/15. Phoned re. position of crew 5. near Filey. 5 of the crew OK & at Filey mess. 2 of the crew. Egoe & Godney. injured & in B.S. A. at Filey & one dead Sgt. Dimers. Post approx. on Top. Sheet 23. ref. 518998. This information passed to Croft.

1410 432/V. Who is at Wharfedale Common is now Sevier & B/c at W.C. advised. Weather checked.

1430 433/D. Report from M.S.G. that the crew of D. 433 at been picked up at Hartlepool. 30 Gp. & crew. No further gen.

1455 A.S.R. 16 Gp. re. crew of 434/N should be in Grimsby. Some time this evening, they will notify us when further gen. is obtained.

SATURDAY JAN. 29/44.

1535 A.S.R. Re. sighting two wheels floating in the sea with N. painted on them. From N. of 434 (Imagine).

1650 433/D. Transportation sent to Hartlepool & all of crew O.K.

1700 433/H. According to ~~up~~ ~~Clinton~~ & ~~Sp. Cuck.~~ all the bodies are accounted for.

1830 - off duty. ~~St. A. Harwick~~

1830 On watch. J.D. Cleland F/L.

2034 A.S.R. All 1659 & 1664 aircraft now down. No sightings. Passed to M.S. 12 - 16 group.

2050 431/N. See entry 11.25 hrs. Flag Officer (Humber) phoned to give us names of 4 crew members picked up. They were not able to land them until this evening for operational reasons. They were picked up 2 1/2 miles SE of Cromer Light and are now all at Grimsby Naval Sick Bay. They are: 75 Charleson, Sgt. Cole, Sgt. Webber, Sgt. Parker. All are OK but suffering from shock & exposure. Said they ditched due to shortage of petrol. Passed this gen. to Croft.

2312 All aircraft in group down.

Sunday. January 30th 1944

0100 Ident. Bd. changed.

0800 408 N. Obs. posn. 55°N 0220 W - 17000 ft at 19.27 hrs. Attacked by 408 N. Obs. posn. 55°30'N 0300W - 17000 ft at 19.38 hrs. The Beaufighter did not open fire - but made two determined attacks. The Lanc. was just burning Resin lights at first posn but upon being attacked switched on Nav. lights & main light. In spite of this they were attacked again at posn (2). Beauph. on Lanc. guns were loaded & gunners were ready to fire if he did not break off.

Sunday, January 30th 1944

08.05	N/408.	Passed this information to 12 Gps. who say there was a Bullseye (local) scheduled for last night. This was probably the reason for the attack. F.C.L.O. 12 will confirm this later after investigating.
09.00	Off duty	F.D. Leland & P. On duty H.B. Spencer H.R.
1000	Dalton "Mag"	Permission granted by air I to fly pilot of crashed Spitfire from Dalton to Rindholme.
1015	R/428	AIR I authorized two crews to be flown to Gravelly to pick up 2 aircraft there.
1020	Comm. Flight Proctor	Reserved for Mr. Saunders & Mr. Henderson for 1050 hrs - for day.
1130	R.F. B. & V.	On bearing 270° from 2330-0030 hrs.
1145	Emergency Div. Base	Requested on base (for 433 Sqn.). Suggested Docking in East Angles and Base.
1235	U.S. ARMY MUSTANG.	m/n a/c, ATC, Lieut. BRONSTON landed. Craft, who advised U.S. station GOX HILL.
1320	Emerg. Petrol Div. Base	Docking allocated by C.F.C. "Gen." passed to Stations.
1405	2nd Proctor	Reserved for Mr. Rawson for 1445 hrs.
1410	U.S. Army Mustang	Took off from Craft for Hopton at approx 1420 hrs.
1510	Possible Diversion to 6 Gps.	20 C.F.C. the following stations with their numbers as follows, with the reservation that our weather was the same as forecast this morning. The figure could be increased. 61 Base - Womblesdon 15 62 Base - Linton - 5. Dishforth 25 Eastmoss - 15, Reaming - 25 Skipton - 15 Croft - 25

SUNDAY JAN. 30/1944.

1830.		On duty 3/4 Justason L.A. 3/6 Starwick H.R.
1900.	1 GROUP	Re. an 5.0.5 at sea approaching 1 Gp. area & phoned if possible our O of 426. 3/C given RT call sign of O.
1925	1664/Y. (CRASH) DG 308	Planged at Dishforth blocking no. 22 Rvw. Cat. B. no one hurt, up. collapsed & back broken. ?
1950.	431/L. (CRASH) DL 245	Planged on main Rvw. obstruction - up. collapsed. possible Cat. A/C. may be able to remove 4/4 tonite.
2135	450/T.	Returning from base due to O.E. 4/5 carrying live bombs & asking permission to go to sea to jettison.
2150.	3.C. L.O. & M.L.O. 12.	Notified re. A/C T. going out to jettison about 50 miles off Flamboro Head. also on 3 engines "T. NLZ.
2230.	434/5. crash 29th nr. Filey.	4 Gp. 3/C phoned re. position of 5 that crashed near of 29th. near Filey. ref. Sheet. 23 - 515994. & as they wondered how long guard required as it was supplied by North-ern Command. C.F.C. T.O. phoned as was under the impression that A/C had crashed in the sea. but if had crashed on land the nearest R.A.F. Stn. should send Crash Signal as to Cat. 3/C Craft notified for C.T.O. to contact Filey at. Hunnamby 291. to see if signal sent & whether Cat. 4/C & M.U. notified for pick up. N. Command would like to

SUNDAY JAN. 30. 1944.

2230 434/5 Know how long guard required. Posn. 1/4 mile N. of Heston.

2250. 420/T. Who was sent to jettison has not been heard from as yet. F.C.L.O. & M.L.O. notified & have no news of anything in distress.

2310. 420/T. Is now up on R/T. M.L.O. & F.C.L.O. notified.

2350. 4 GROUP. Re. diverting an A/c to Dishforth a Con. whilst A/c. 61 Base notified & Dishforth standing by.

MONDAY JAN. 31/44.

0010. C.F.C. (DIVERSION) not required for diversion of 8 Gp. A/c. Stations standing by. contacted to stand by. down.

0040 F.C.L.O. All operational A/c down ok. with exception of L. 433. asked F.C.L.O. if any news of such. no joy.

0045. GROFT. W/433 "W" of 433 landed at Croft & staying overnight. Croft taking care of Int. etc. This passed to Skipton Flying Control.

0100. 4GRP. 420/R. F/c phoned re. an "Climax" R. had overshoot one of their dromes & landed in a field. no further gen.

0105 62BASE. Re. an R-420 who had called on Channel A. saying short of petrol. Instructed to switch to Darky D. & call. Presumably entry 0100 hrs.

MONDAY JAN. 31. 1944.

0120 4 Gp. (CRASH) A/c R-420 Sqd. crash landed at Rufforth, made a belly landing, went thru a hedge. Cat. B. All crew OK. and in the S.S.C. as no other room available. This information passed to 62 Base.

0130. 62 Base. Re. Linton H/F/D.F. picking up a continuous steady note on 130° bearing (0130) signal strength very strong & could be possibly 13038 - 2 K/c's lower than 3040.

0210. 62 Base. No gen. on entry 0130. imagine it may be R/420 that crashed near Rufforth.

0410. M.L.O. Bom. Com. Report a Hal. crashed at Catfoss at 2225 & as we are 1 of 433 Hal's down wondered if it was ours. Told M.L.O. would contact Catfoss immediately.

0520. F/c CATFOSS. A/c crashed near aerodrome all killed but one, seriously injured & in Beverly Hosp. his name being P/O Andrews this is the only gen. available & does not surp. up with crew list of 433/L.

0530. A/5/R. 16 Gp. 16 Gp. require 7 A/c for Sea Search in the morn.

0535. 61 Base. Re. A/5/R. 61 natfd. re. Sea Search this morning. have 7 A/c laid on for such emergency. Can not be ready until 1000 hrs.

0540. A/5/R. 16 Gp. Contacted & told them we could put up 7 Hal's from 1679 & 1664.

MONDAY JAN. 31/44.

0550. A/S/AREA. 16 Gps. re. Search Area
 ① 5320 - 0235
 5336 - 0248
 5345 - 0125
 5400 - 0140
 ② N.W. to S.E. parallel track
 creeping N.E. 1/4 mile N.E.
 usual A/S/R briefing.
 ③ CALL SIGN - W.C.F. #5. 78-84 incl.
 ④ Area to the South will
 have 8 Stirlings of 3 Gps.
 ⑤ 2 boats at posn. 5334-0100+
 R.M.L. - 520-9/5 M.H.P. - 11 +
 R.M.L. - 523-9/5 " - 14.
 ⑥ There will also be Anson's
 near our area.
 - All this gen passed to
 61 Base.

0555. IDENT. BD. Ident board changed at 0140.

0600. MET. G. Consulted re. possible weather
 in search area. Quoted vis.
 fairly good, & cloud base
 between 2-3000.

0630. 62 Base. All Wambleton's A/c returned
 to Wambleton (0130) by Sgt. Watch
 Kypse.

0815. A/S/S. 61 Base advise can only
 put up 1679. ③ 1664 ③ 16
 Gps. advised.

09.00 Off duty. F/L Justason & F/O Warwick
 On duty. F.X. Clelland #4.

10.00 Gardening. Routing in and out via Middlesboro
 Effort. Authorized by MLO 12 Gps. Also OK'd by BLO 12.

10.30 Crashes. (1664 Y - 431 L - 420 R). All interested parties
 last night informed - SASO, Controller, Air I, Equip, Eng, GTI I,
 & Group Acc. Investigator.

12.30 No LFB ordered for tonight.

14.30 Billingham. Close-hauled 23.00 - 00.01 hrs
 Balloons. 06.00 - 07.30 hrs.

Monday Jan. 31st 1944

14.30 Diversion Base for Middleton tonight is Joyce. 13 group informed
 Will pass call. Signs later. Prov. petrol only.

16.00 " Cancelled.

16.00 Balloons "

16.30 Diversion Base (Joyce) cancelled.

16.30 434 S. At Filey now being guarded by Filey & Northern
 (Crashed on Jan. 29/44) command. In answer to query from 4 Gps
 the following was ascertained from Capt. -
 Aircraft is Cat E - partially burnt. The M.U.
 are taking over and hope to have it cleared in
 3 days.
 Incidentally, time of crash was 08.25 according
 to RAF Lissett. An unidentified Darky Call
 was heard at 08.08 by Driffild. This probably
 was 5/434 who were calling about that time.

16.30 420 R. Seems to be due to finger trouble. Group Accident
 (Crashed on Jan 30/44) Investigator states that, although pilot reported only
 5 mins. more petrol, there were at least 300 gallons
 found in the crash. The pilot belly landed
 because he thought undercart would not come down
 whereas it could have been manipulated. Also
 was calling Darky on LAC and had to be told by
 Tholthope to use Button "S".

18.00 Overdue A/c. Supposed to proceed on X-Country on return from
 1664 H Sea Search - Did not report to station at all.
 DK 185. Crash has been reported to ROKLO 12 - Supposed
 to be Halifax Aircraft near Shkley. 9 group have
 been looking after this but 4 Gps (Marston Moor)
 have been asked to guard it. No details at
 all yet but 9 Gps or 4 Gps will contact us as soon
 as they learn about it.

18.30 Off duty F/L Clelland. On duty F.B. Spencer #6.

20.30 Crash. At approx 1950 hrs. Dkley Police indicated
 1664/H. the aircraft in entry 1800 hrs belonged
 (DK 185) to Driffild. On checking learned
 from 4 Gps they were not missing
 any. Subsequently it was learned
 the aircraft was 1664/H. Crash
 occurred at VE-5769 a few miles
 north west of Dkley. Local police &

20-30	Crash 1664/14 (Cont'd.)	N. F. on job with Marston - Moor taking crash section, ^{Army are guarding it. (9 hr. arranged)} going up. Crash occurred at approx 1730 hrs + 40 burned. Of the crew 6 were killed and 3 are injured. Latter taken to High Royds Hospice, Menston-in- Wharfedale, under Sgt. Bishop (#1253021). Flight Engineer. Flying Control 4+11 4000 ft in picture, also 61 Base Crew list -
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2130.	Crash	Pilot -	Wp. McLeod, D. G. R 156986	Killed.
	1664/H.	Nac.	Sgt. Rogers, L. R 148524.	"
	(DK-185)	C/a.	" Kahn, R. H. R 155420.	" Identified
		WOP.	Mg. King, W. G. R 93560.	"
		MUB.	Sgt. Martin, S. R 163413.	" Identified
		R.G.	" Mullen, A. R. R 192035.	" Identified
		Wp.	" Bryan, F. 1,553,021.	" Injured - taken to hospital as noted above. Passed to 4 Group for checking purposes.

2130	Pundit #274. (Area L-13.)	61 Base report Topcliffe requesting Roan of Reserve Pundit mark Bacon from Linton-on-Ouse. (AF3 31 Jan.)
------	---------------------------------	--

2215 Air-Sea 16 Group request 84c for search
Rescue tomorrow morning, area as
Search follows:-
5320 N 0120 E
5350 N 0120 E
5350 N 0210 E
5320 N 0240 E
61 Base asked for offers.

2230. Possible
diversion
from 1 Gr. Weather closing in on 1 Group,
and we may be asked to
co-operate. Met feel our northern
stations should be OK until
midnight at least & possibly
later. Craft warned of this
possibility. M.S.S. Mk II fighting
still 45. Met should be viz
at least 3 miles, cloud 5000 2000 ft.

2300 A/S/R Search Offers. - 1664 - 3 a/c
1659 - 5 a/c.
16 Group informed

2300 J.H. Heard Call signs - W.C.F.
Numbers - 46-53 (Incl.)
Work. Section "J", 385 kcs. & 500 kcs.
(385 at the hour & half hour for
5 minutes).
Parallel track search, north to south,
wrapping east to west, at $\frac{1}{4}$ mile
sq.

165946 Area - 3 alc.
5320N 0120E
5350N 0120E
5320N 0150E
5350N 0150E

1664 etc area - 3 etc.

5320 N	0150 E
5350 N	0150 E
5320 N	0200 E
5350 N	0200 E

Passed to 61 Base. T.O. - APPROX-1030-1100 Hrs.

2325 1 Group They're coping ok. Craft stood
Diversions down.

Tuesday - Feb. 1, 1944

0001	Ident Board changed.
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0040. *W/R Search Ex 16 Group. - Surface Craft*
ck M. H. B-12. 61 Base informed 0750 hrs.

0830 ditto
Met say weather should be fair at first, cloudy, with rain spreading to bases at mid-day, and out to the sea area during afternoon. Wg. will remain reasonable, not less than 2,000 yds even in rain at first but will come down as wind backs to south, by mid afternoon, 1000 - 3000 yds in base area with 1-2 miles of rain in the sea area mid afternoon. On return to bases approx 1600 hrs, continues & heavy rain.

0900 Off duty H.R. Spence Pk.

TUE. FEB. 1. 1944.

0900 An duty, Ho Warwick, W.A.

0910. A/S/R. re met. figure ok for search but on return, if weather bad north of Gyp. should be ok. 61 Base notfd.

1000 CRASH. 166A/H. Following notified Controller. S.A.S.O. Air. I. (B.C. until tomorrow) P. 4. W/C. Saunders. G. J. D. Equip. Eng.

1005 EASTMOOR. Wish permission to take a Lane. down to middle Wallop to pick up. A/c. leave approx. 1030.

1010. EASTMOOR. 6 Gyp. met. contacted re. lane. to middle Wallop. weather very duff for the whole day. 3/c Eastmoor told to scrub.

1015 MOVEMENTS E-27. Air Firing R.H.B. & Whithy. B. at Stumpall, local 3/A. & H. test for Hali's & Lane's from 1030 - 1800 hrs.

1030. 166A/H. (CRASH). One survivor of crew of H. died at 0820 this morning 61 Base advised.

1050. F.C. 12 GRP. Report that R.O.C. post R.I. n. of Wombleton reported sighting a lane. overhead A/c went out of sight & then heard a crash & noticed a vivid flash. approx position V-2511. 8 mile N.E. of Wombleton near village of Crompton

1055 BASE 61. To check with Wombleton.

FEB. 1. (TUE). 1944.

BASE. 61 (cont'd). if they had any lanes. flying they had two but both in circuit & on R/T & W/T.

1100. BASE-62. Contacted & have all lane. A/c accounted for.

1110 R.C.L.O. Phoned re. track of A/c. & R.I. post saw A/c overhead & proceeded N.E. & then heard crash. Requested back track of A/c from York. 3. will phone later.

1115. M.L.O. 12. Re. any lane. which was flying in our area. They checked & no A/c detailed.

1130. Base 61. Re. presumed crash, they have detailed one A/c to search area & also two cars in the area.

1145. 5 Group. Asking them if they have any lane flying into or thru our area. they checked & all O.K.

1225 61 Base. Wombleton search A/c report a Bush or Heath fire approx. 4 miles East of Crompton.

1230. Police PICKERING. Contacted Police at Pickering near Crompton & they have search cars out but no news as yet, will notify us as soon as they have any gen.

1350. 61 Base. Re. any developments of Search by car, & no news as yet.

1445 " Car returned to Wombleton with no news or sign of any A/c.

1600 R.O.C.L.O. F.C.L.O. Notified re. findings, no sign of A/c & all A/c accounted for in our Gyp. & 5.

TUESDAY FEB. 1 1944.

1620 C.F.C. Put in the picture re. our XCO scheduled for tonight. Number 9 area.

1830 off Watch Ho Warwick.
On Watch F.D. Cleland f.p.

1930 E/429 (LL196) Due on X-Country. Swing on take-off. Cat AC.

2054 Well L/82 OTU. Landed at Croft. One engine giving trouble. HE424. On X-Country from Grafton. 93 groups informed.

2103 Fix on 5330N - 0330W II at 21.03 hrs ack. (Sealand)
427 Q Passed to Leeming.

2300 Crash Ex Leeming. Two members of this crew telephoned Leeming to say they had parachuted near Abington. Checking with 12 Gps. a crash has been reported at 22.20 hrs and is being attended by Grafton Underwood (1st US Bomb. Div.) This is very close to the position of parachutists.

2320 " 12 Gps. say serial number checks - LV 828.

2345 " Crew List:-
Cap. F/O Mathuly JM. J22428.
✓ Nav. F/S Herring C. Littleford Littleford Hospital
✓ B/A F/O Albers MM - At Grafton Underwood
✓ W/Oq. W/O Stephenson GT - " Thrapston 25.
✓ M/U. Sgt. Hall WC " Gt. Underwood ✓
✓ R/G Sgt. Mayling DW " " "
✓ F/E. Sgt. Coleman GW " Thrapston 25. Littleford Hospital

2350 " Report from Flight Eng. Both port engines fell out. Pilot unable to control aircraft.

Wednesday, Feb 2nd 1944

0130 " Still no news of Pilot & Navigator. All other crew members accounted for as noted above.

0200 " Leeming say that one body (unident.) has been found in the crash.

0315 Diversion Stirling "F" From Wigsley. On X-Country. At present about 30 mi E of Flamborough. 5 Gps. ask to divert him to Leeming ok as far as Met goes.

Wednesday, Feb 2/44.

0345 Diversion Stirling "F" The plot of this aircraft has moved from E of Flamborough in over hull and SW as if en route to Wigsley despite fact that "F." acknowledged the diversion to Leeming at 03.18 hrs.

0350 " Now over Wigsley - Diversion off.

0400 Report from 62 Base re "Lronite" Observer Corps report that aircraft which landed at Tholthorpe at 02.05 hrs. had been flying quite low over Leeds, Bradford area. The hulls were obscured by low cloud ahead of his course and they lit a red flare which they think he saw. He gained height and altered course.

DFCO
Note -

Tholthorpe have been asked to check if any of their aircraft saw the flare & realized the significance. Will DFCO tomorrow pass any gen. about this to FCLD & RDCLO 12??

0830 427/Q All crew OK except Pilot who was killed in crash.

0900 Off duty. F.D. Cleland f.p.

0930 Crashes E/429 Q/427 All concerned informed - Sp. Goularton to inform Mc Sammers.

1055 429/ap. M. Air I authorized flight of Halifax to Wratting Common.

1100 431/X Test. Croft planning test (ht.) of several aircraft. Instead carrying 8-1000lb Bomb containers filled with sand and do not wish to land with load. 12 Gps. M-R.O. suggest dropping load at 5320N 0100E. Croft to inform us if satisfactory.

1130 429/B. Mc Turnbull authorized to fly to Grafton Underwood re crash of 427A

1150 Ballons. Billingham & Middlesbrough will be close hauled 0130 - 0240 hrs & 0700 - 0900 hrs.

1349 Mayday Call. 61 Base ex Topcliffe - Mayday call picked up & answered by Ground Station whose op. appeared to be "Hamlet". Passed to F.C.R.O. 12 Group

Wednesday - Feb. 2/44

1400 Report from 62 Base re "Granite" Reference entry 0400: - None of H25 Squadron appear to have seen the flare. 425F Capt. stated he changed course in that vicinity but on instruction of his navigator, not through having seen the red flare. 12 Group informed.

1745 Night Flying Summary passed to C.F.C.

1830 Off watch H25 Base. On Watch 3/0 Warwick, W.A.

2135 J.C.L.O. 12 Grp. J.C.L.O. reports by R.O.C. plot at crash at E-9185. just E of Boroughbridge

2140. CRASH 61 Base. re. J/c Dishforth heard a 4 eng. A/c pass overhead with engines spluttering & pre-determined a crash & had crash tender ready as A/c losing ht. rapidly. Crash heard & fire seen to break out. Crash tender dispatched. also R.F.S. at Boroughbridge.

2200 R.O.C.L.O. Contacted to get exact position of crash, hoping not two. A/c involved.

2205. Local Police. Boroughbridge Report A/c crashed at Village Green, Aldborough. 1 mile S.E. of Boroughbridge on Boroughbridge & York Rd. 100 yds. from road. burning badly. map ref. 887858. Army guarding temp.

2210. Re. Crash. Dishforth dispatched Ambulance & Fire Tender N.7.S. Boroughbridge on the job. Linton crash tender sent.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2, 1944.

2225 J.C.L.O. Phoned re. a lane. on 3 eng. from 5 Grp. that had been on a Bullseye & heading in our direction. All Stations in 6 notified. call sign Pompey or Condid F.

2245 Re. CRASH 432/F (LL-686) Boroughbridge Police phoned re. crash. it was a lane. Reg. No. LL-686 from Eastmoor, 5 bodies found near A/c with chutes none spilled. no names of crews.

2300 " Dishforth providing guards on Crashed 432/F & bodies of A/c at Dishforth.

2305 Re. entry 2225. All 6 Grp. Stations lit up for Pompey F. as we are plotting them & is flying around in ever increasing circles.

2320. 5 GRP. Phoned re. Pompey F. & O. & are very happy re. the position of these A/c. Our Stations notified & standing down.

2335. 408/W Re. A/c Stemon M.L.O. 12 notified re. A/c Stemon airborne at 2335 for Grandson Lodge.

2345 J.C.L.O. J.C.L.O. notified re. 2 de J.K. of 1679. overdue. 1 hr. no news of any A/c. wizard nite, no cloud & bag of vis.

2350 F.C. 92 Grp. w/t message for 12 O.T.U. A/c. JON/N - 12 Grp. 3. Imp. 99 - PORT R.F. 006 - TOR. 2235. Passed to 92.

WED. FEB. 3/1944.

2355. CRASH 432/F. Local Police Boroughbridge report 7 bodies recovered. rem. 2 found in a field 1 mile away with chutes open. No names of crew bodies being sent to Wishforth.

THUR. FEB. 4. 1944.

0025 CRASH 432/F. LL 686. Crew list of A/C-F. Pilot = 3/5 Seibin JG-R-139783. Nav. = F/O Kerr. D.S. - J-22 198. B/A = 3/5 Way W.L. - R-148977. W.O.P. = Sgt. Pratt-Robinson R-RAF-1480812. M/U = Sgt. Finch. DD - R-183578. R/G = 3/5 Power P.J. - R-153715. F/E = Sgt. Huggins - RAF-1684923. all above killed but no one in the A/C all clear as A/C burned out.

0300 met. Picture for return quoted ok.

0650 " maybe a few isolated showers but cloud base around 2500 & vis not less than 6 miles.

0740 F.C.L.O. 12 Re. Bomber 302 who went off board, & said ok. & proceed South again.

0755 F.C.L.O. B.302 now coming into York q. area should be over Middleton.

0830 THORNABY 428/A. A/C A-428 landed Thornaby no reason. Middleton notified they will take action re. his return.

0840 428/E Still outstanding, Pilot approaching Middleton - hopping. also "A" returning to base R/T w/5 having landed at Thornaby.

THUR. FEB. 3/1944.

0900 off Watch 3/0 Warwick. On watch. J.B. Cleland F/L.

1000 0/434. At Fittwell, now serviceable. Request permission to fly down to pick up this aircraft. Permission refused by Air I.

1030 New a/c for 428 Sdn. At Gravelly. Air I says to send crew down by train.

1200 Jettisoning y Bombs. Permission given by MRO 12 for aircraft of 420 + 425 sq. to jettison 1000 lb. bombs 30 miles off coast of Flamborough Head tonight after Bullseye.

1200 " Permission also for 431 sq. - 2 aircraft to jettison 3-1000 lb bombs (safe) at posn. 57 N 6100 E and 5340 N 0200 E at 22.00 hrs tonight. Also OK for 431 + 434 aircraft to drop Recco flares, T.I.s & flash bombs at above positions.

1315 Balloons. Billingham - close-hauled { 00.45 - 02.15 hrs. ✓
 { 0815 - 10.00 hrs. ✓
 Cardiff, Newport. 02.30 - 03.30 " ✓
 Southampton, Portsmouth. 06.30 - 08.00 " ✓
 Landley } 0645 - 08.15 " ✓
 Wedbridge }

L.F.B. Selsey Bill - bearing 360° T from 07.00 - 08.00 ✓

Diversion Base Food for emergency diversion only.

1545 Movement E 479 Barracuda from Leeming to Grail via Ouston & Holy Island. Normal height - Passed to M.S.

1750 G/433 On Radar X-C #28. Took off 13.20 due back at 17.08 hrs. Skipton want any news.

1800 G/433 ~~Has~~ news from 12 Gp. but they will check.

1824 " Now in Skipton's circuit.

1830 Off duty F/R Cleland. On duty H. J. Spence A/C.

1930 Night flying Summary passed to C. F.C.

1940 Squadron Signals Security Officer is arranging
R/S. + W/S. to provide Group Flying Control
each week with W/S. + R/S. Station
Call signs. aircraft call signs for ensuing period.
DECOs to
NOTE

2315 A.S.R. Search 16 Group request 6 A/c for search
tomorrow morning. Asked for
offers from 61 Base.

FRIDAY - FEB. 4, 1944

0001 Ident Board changed.

0109 1659/V Landed at Eastmoor - servicing
being done on brake pressure
before returning to Topcliffe.

0115 ditto Landed at Base.

0900 Off duty H. Spence A/c.
On duty H.A. Hawick F/O.

0920 movement. E-25. Air Firing. R.H. Day. Whitley
B. at Skirpsall, Skipsa.
L. F/A. & ht. tests for Halls
& lanes. from. 0930-1800 hrs.

0925 A.S.R. Search 1659 A/c = 5-63, J-64, M-65.
no numbers allotted as
yet & A/c from Skipton.
424 Sgd. U-60, D-61 = K-62.

0930 A/S/R. All A/c & letters & no. allotted
passed to 16 Gp.

0935 Bullseye. Command Bullseye tonite.
no route. Sgd. offers. as
1666 - 3 A/c.
426 - 2 A/c 2 A.A.O.
425 - 10 "
432 - 4 " 2 A.A.O.
408 - 3 "
424 - 8 "
433 - 5 "
429 - 1 "

0940 " Only non-operational crews
on Bullseye.

FRIDAY FEB. 4, 1944

1015 A/S/R. Top report 5. W/S # 63. &
trying to get sub. from
1664. 424 Sgd. also scrubbed.
U-60 W/S. Wondering re.
replacements.

1030 61 Base. Re-1664 can put up 3 A/c
for A/S/S. subs. no's - 60 & 63
allotted & another number
required from 16 Gp. for
7th A/c.

1035 16 GRP. New number allotted 75.
A/S/S. for 7th A/c. 61 Base informed.
Possibly airborne around
1200 hrs.

1130 A.A.O. 420 require 11 A.A.O. making
a total = 15 A.A.O. 43 AA Brigade
notified.

1250 A/S/S. All A/c off except #60 of 1664.
Con. unit.

1255 DARKY. 61 Base report 2 Forts. RT
whisper asking for adm
for Burton Wood. This given
by 61. Weather & Vis. Wizard?

1256 Mid. St. Geo. Re. A.A.O. all they could get
was 5 obs. - 2 allotted 426,
2 - 432. & 1 to 420 Sgd.

1350 1679/1666. These two Con. units have
amalgamated & become C.U.
1666 from Jan. 27, 1944.

1420 W/T Rm. A.S.S. NO. 63. W.C.F. NLI. GR.I.
F.U. (425) - (returning to base).
61 Base notified

1530 Met. Picture for returns of B/E
A/c seems to be very good.
few slight drizzles, but
vis Good.

1535 Ops. B.C. No. & ETA & ETR of B/E passed.

FRIDAY FEB. 4. 1944

1540. 3 Grp. Fk. Phoned re. 434 O airborne for base from Feltwell at 1530 Base notified.

1610. B.C. Bullseye definitely scrubbed.

1630 62 Base whether 420, & 425 could do Bullseye Route as X.C. told them sanction from D.C. or Airt, not around, so ok by Jk Rawson. Also carrying Bomber ops. Code & ok'd but use to minimum.

1605 EXPLOSION NR. CATTERICK After series of phone calls originating from Mid. St. Geo. seeming. Croft. Catterick phoned re. a petrol dump & petrol dump exploded. No further news. R.O.C.L.O. & J.C.L.O. notified.

1630. 62 Base. Possible X.C. re. G/E route scrubbed & they are going on a short trip.

1645. A/5/5. 2 A/c still outstanding from 5/5. 16 Grp. & J.C.L.O. query & found no news of such.

1730. A/5/5 A/c contacted & ok.

1800 16 Grp. Phoned re. return of all our A/5/5 A/c.

1835 Off duty J/o Harwick. J.A.
On duty. J.D. Cleland & L.

0001 Ident Board changed.

0130 Flying. In group finished.

0810 Morning Offer Passed to Southdown.

0900 Off duty. J.D. Cleland & L.
On duty. H. Spence P/O.

Saturday Feb. 5/1944

1140 Balloons. Middlesbrough & Billingham balloons will be close-hauled from 1615-1730 hrs & 2245-0030 hrs.

1220 Ltho New Times - 1630-1800 & 2315-0100 hrs.

1330 431/D. Authorized by M.R.O. 12 Group to drop bombs at 5320N 0100E between 1530 & 1600 hrs. today. Croft informed.

1830 Off watch H. Spence P/O.
In watch J.A. Harwick. J/o.

2240 428/D. Sent message, one engine up & position, next message. 2 engines unfit giving A/5, H. & Co. J.C.L.O. notified but A/c not as yet sending S.O.S.

2300 J.C.L.O. 12 Grp. Notified re. A/c approaching coast so everything re assistance of A/c put on. plots at sea appear to be ok. R.O.C.L.O. notified to contact us when A/c made landfall & pt. Midd. notified.

2350 428/D. Mid. St. Geo. re. A/c up on R/T. J.C.L.O. notified & A/c landed at 2356.

SUNDAY FEB. 6/1944.

0002 w/408. Last X/C A/c down, had been receiving Q.D.M's from Stn. H.F./J.F. but was 2 hrs. overdue.

0045 Flying In Grp. packed up also nothing very much in Command.

0050 Ident. Board changed.

0230 All quiet.

0900 Off duty J/o J.A. Harwick.
0900 On duty. J.D. Cleland & L.

Sunday Feb 6th 1944

- 15 18.00 No day-flying in group today.
- 18.15 Night-flying. No X-C's from any stations. Wombleson are undecided about some C+B's.
- 16 1830. Off duty H.R. Cleland. On duty H.L. Spence P/O.
- 16 2100 16 Group Offered M.S.H. on Craft to 12 Group for possible diversion from 16 Group.
- Diversion
- 2110 2 Beaus due at Thornaby 2140, are crossing coast now. 1 Wellington due Thornaby 2225 hrs. If unable to land at Thornaby will divert to M.S.H. Met picture - QBB. 2000' patches below - QBA 3,000' yet chance of slight drizzle. Middleton informed.
- 2235 Whitley. Landed at Leeming - Eng + R/T 1/2.
D/4689 Staying overnight.
Kinlos 91 Group P.O. informed.
- 2340 16 Group The 3 ap involved have all landed
Diversion M.S.H. stood down.

Monday, Feb. 7/44

0001. Ident Board changed.
0830. Off duty H. Spence P/O.
On duty H.R. Hawick P/O.
0910. B.C. Make & mend today.
0920. Permission. Leeming wish permission for Central Maintenance Engineer to fly to Chedburgh to inspect 3427 P/O. Permission granted by Air I.
- 0945 Movement. Air Firing, R.H. Bay & Whitley
E-445. B. at Strensall. Local 3/A & 4/A tests for Hal's & Lanis. from 1030 until 1815.
- 1308 F.C.L.O. Reports Halifax blowing up in mid-air near Leeming.

MONDAY, FEB. 7/1944

1310. CRASH. E/427. A/c making approach normal like, & then suddenly dropped a wing & spiralled into the deck immediately burst into flames. NFS. North Allerton phoned, also Skipton reserve fire-tender dispatched.
1340. CRASH. E/427. A/c burned out & no survivors all burned. A/c completely burned out. Pilot 3/5 Nichols no names of remainder of crew yet available.
1350. F/C 11 Grp. Re. a Beau. that left Eastmoor on 3rd. Feb. Pilot Sgt. Andrew for Fair Oaks. Eastmoor contacted & the only Beau. in question was. A/c W-8561, "NG" N. Sgt. ? Chyck, from Montrose & his base was Valley. in Angley R. Wales left at 15:12 for Valley. All this gen passed to 11 Grp.
1350. Re. CRASH. notified -
S.A.S.O. (away) P. 4. "v"
Air I. w/c Saunders "v"
Equip. Eng. "v"
1450. CRASH. E/427. Crew list.
Pilot = 3/5 Nichols A.W. - R-139309.
Nav = ? no nav. in A/c.
B/A = 3/5 Polaway V.R. - R-159089.
W/O = Sgt. Robertson DD-1438554 (Rat)
M/W = 3/5 Vidal J.W.H. - R-96518.
3/E = Sgt. Shark, S.H. - 1001749 (Rat)
R/G = Sgt. Howard D.W. - R-186134 (P).
- 1700 434/Q. Craft phoned to say A/c had left Copcliffe for Craft at 1458, & no news of such. Search thru out 6 Grp. Stns. on before notifying F.C.L.O. no reports of crashed A/c from F.C.L.O. or landing away.
- 1712 F.C.L.O. R. 434/Q.

Tuesday Feb. 7/44

1730 Q/434. Having landed & was not authorized by Flt. Com. to go on a detail. Unnecessary action involving scolding of people & tying up of telephone.

1735 C.F.C. Picture of our Nite Flying passed & also a picture from our met. that is very good.

1800 - off watch F/O Warwick.

1800 On watch. F.D. Cleland p/p.

21-20 0/420 Landed at Riccal after calling Darky. They will refuel him and send him back to Tholthorpe.

22-30 Both Compresses U/S Staying overnight.

0001 Ident Board changed.

Tuesday, Feb 8th 1944

0016 X-Countries down. C & B's at Dusk & Wombledon continuing.

03-30 All flying in group finished. Thirty-seven aircraft detailed for X-Countries last night. All down safely.

0900 on duty Skrymshaw F/L.

0955 by Ford. Air I O.K. to take 3/4 Pinson down to do an accident investigation. Underwood.

1035 Line Bomb m/p. O.K. for 433 Sgdn at 5359N 0090W

1051 Bannoy Balloon. Ex. Wombledon. Bannoy Balloon on Ground at 5405N 0046W. All necessary action outlined in AP1975.

1440 Low Flying Incident. S/L Everett from Boston Spa. Reported a Lanc. using letters NA-5 "shot up" Jarrow Breweries, Tadcaster at a height of 350 feet. We have no Lancs. with those markings but those are the squadron letters of 428 Sgdn. Who had an "ape 5" in the air at that time. Pilot of 428-S was W/O FORSBERG. Passed to Air I & Station Commanders.

425/T at Tholthorpe, making 3 engine landing. on a runway with approx 10-12 m.p.h. crosswind. u/c collapsed and both outer engines torn out. Crew O.K.

1830 off duty - Skrymshaw F/L. On duty F.O. Warwick F/O.

1840. 62 Base- 432 Sgd. non-effective w.e.f. 1800hrs 8-2-44 until 22-2-44, Converting to Hali. III.

WED. FEB. 9/1944.

0055. FLYING. All Bullsuge. & X/C F/c down O.K.

0100. Bull's Eye. officers re. offers for today's BE subject to change, offers listed in Ops Log Book.

0105. C & B Wombledon C & B until 0330 hrs.

0120 Mid. St. G. Report Anson flying in vicinity with Inter. Com. in Tr. 9 & disclosing Rurit positions & letters flashing. also his position & direction. If by chance he works. Mid. HF/DF to phone Trip & action will be taken. D. S. O. notified & taking action on such.

0155. 425/T. Cat. of Crash. Cat. B nobody injured. (LW-424) CRASH

" Ident board changed.

0207 ANSON-57 (MILLON) Landed Mid. St. Geo. having trans. trouble, is staying overnight. Millon notified by mid.

0350. ANSON K2 MG/239/K2 Anson from West Keugh landed at Dopsuffe at 0343 with w/t u/s. Capt. Sgt. Pickles. staying overnight base notified.

10400. J.C.L.G. Notified re. entry 0207 & 0350 hrs.

THURSDAY FEB. 10/1944.

081205. BALLOONS. Cardiff-as:
1900-2000 } CANCELLED
2230-2345 }

091220. L.F.B.#18. Arranged for 1hr. 2200-2300.
on a bearing of 007°(T)

091300. BALLOONS. Route changed. Cardiff scrubbed
& spool close-hauled at a
controlled height of 1000 ft.
= 2200
2315.

111310. L.F.B. No. 18 bearing changed from
007° to -050° from 2200 hrs.
2300 hrs.
Stn. notified on scramble. &
con. signal being sent.

111315. C.F.C. Re. possible Weather Division
Base. suggested Colerne. &
gave OK. 10 Gp. Fk phoned
& details passed.

111350. 10 Gp. Cannot let us use Colerne
as they are rather crowded
& suggest we obtain some
other drome.

111400. Met. 6. Suggest anything W. of 10W
& southerly, suggested
Exeter. C. F. C. notified & will
call us back later.

111500. DIVERSION (EXETER). 10 Gp. OK & C.F.C. re. Exeter.
information passed to Stn.

111650. 10. Gp. Re-EXETER. if wind remains
in the north the runway in use
will slightly out of wind &
short runway 1000 yds. Info.
passed to Grid. St. Geo.

111710. 427/H. 3 Gp. re. return of A/C. now
serviceable & if weather permitted
his return. Advised weather
not fit & to remain today.

THUR. FEB. 10/1944.

1830 off duty. 3/0 Wannick W.A.
1830 On duty F. D. Cleland f.p.

1900 Weather. Met are happy about weather tonight. At times
stations may be yellow but only for about 10 minutes
at a time.

Friday Feb. 11th 1944

0100 Ident Bd changed.

0109 Gardening Aircraft All down safely.

0142 Night Flying finished.

0700 Off duty. F. D. Cleland f.p.

0900 On Duty - *John D. F. Mason* f.p.

0905 Bracket Clearance With M.S. - REF E-218. covering
M.A.B. FIRMS - AIR/SEA FIRMS - BOMBING
FIGHTER AFFILIATION - LOCAL HT TESTS.

0910. 408/0 Requested of F.C. 93 that this
aircraft be instructed to
return directly.

0945 427/H. Serviceable. The OK for
return passed to F.C. 36p.

1015 431/H. Arranged with M.S. 12 for
this a/c flying at maximum
Wt to the out of 11. Lambors
- proceed to position
53°30'N 02°20'E there to
Jewison 8 x 1000 and bombs.
- cleared with M.S. at 1025.
- Craft given OK.

1125 BALLOONS. Billingham arranged with 84012
to be close-hauled from
1715 hrs to 1845 hours
and from 2300 to 0100 hrs
Cardiff. report. Same
balloons. 500 ft 1850
hours to 2240 hrs

FRIDAY - 11-2-44

1140 LFB. Arranged with F.C. 10
H.B. for this beacon to operate
on a bearing of 010°
from 2115 hrs to 2215 hrs.
Passed to Stns at 1200 hrs.

1230 ANSON To F.C. 9. w/o Carter airborne
DT 148 from Middleton for mission
at 1204.

1825 DVNS. Request Ex. C.F.C. for use
of Middleton, Linton and
Disposals for possible
diversion from 91 Group
tonight. Granted.
Times of other a/c returns
passed to C.F.C. with
summary of our
total night flying effort
- bomber - met - Stns

1830 off duty. *John P. Foster*
An Duty H.A. Harwick 20. *FL*

1900 DVNS. Re. Disforth not very good
C.F.C. for diversion, offered him
Leeming. Stns notified. also
Controller.

2000 93GRP. Re permission from C.F.C. if
DVNS. it would be possible to
send 18 Stellingtons to
Middleton, as bases very
duff down South. 6 Gyp.
Met. advised & said the
South of 6 Gyp. would be
rather duff around 2359
but extreme north. Croft &
Middleton could cope. 93
Gyp. will notify us later

2010 BRAMCOTE. Phoned re. possible diversion
DVNS. of 6 Timp. on X.C. & if
they became much worse re.
weather, they would divert
them to Linton from a
point "York" on w/t approx. E.T.A.
of turning point York. 2/30.

FRIDAY - 11-2-44

(contd) Linton advised & standing by.

2100 93 Gyp. 2/c 93 phoned with w/t. R/T. 93
DVNS. of various A/c, "Provisionally"
approx number now 14.
All immediate information
passed to Middleton &
Croft, as Mid. Parent Stn.
& only carried on B. Code,
also if weather became much
worse down South they
would divert them from
"Newcastle" turning point
on B/E route, approx E.T.A.
2300 hrs.

2200 Bramcote. Phoned figuring they could
(DVNS) cope with A/c at town base.
if not on A/c return to
base would contact 6 Gyp.
& we could lay on a base
& they would divert said
A/c by R/T on receipt of our
instructions.

2220 93 Gyp. 2/c phoned that diversion would
(DVNS) be on for sure. Mid. & Croft
notified immediately.

2230 B.L.O. Ref. entry (1125 Balloons) as
12. Billingham close hauled from
period 2300 - 0100 hrs. would
they extend period from
2245 - 0100, as 93 Gyp. diversion
from Newcastle would
possibly interfere with
period laid down. Permission
granted.

2245 Re-call w/c Feris of 1659 Con. Unit not
(1659). happy re. weather on return
of B/E A/c & requests recall of
1659. 5/L Forbes D.C.O granted
permission.

2250 93 GRP. 2/c re. all 93 Gyp. A/c had. Act.
DVNS. diversion signal, Mid. &
Croft notified

FRIDAY 12-2-1944

2310. Bramcote DUN'S I/c re. possible diversion & they are very happy & can cope. Linton advised & standing down re. diversion
2315. Re-call General All Con. Unit A/c re. weather. 5/L Forbes sanction.
2320. 93 Gp. DUN'S Croft have first Wellington up on R/T.
2348. Operation Last Gardening A/c down ok. at mid. St. George & if they possibly could would try & land some of the Hellingtons.

SATURDAY 12-2-44.

0005. CRASH. F.C.L.O. R.O.C.L.O. reported crashed A/c to F.C.L.O. near Leeming.
0007. CRASH. (LEEMING) Leeming I/c report an A/c coming overhead at approx. 0001 hrs. & flashing on his downward reco. Aerodrome was lit up at the time to a green was flashed to the A/c. A/c made a normal approach & at a ht. of about 200' in the fog funnel turned abruptly to stbd, losing ht. & was heard to crash at approx. 1 1/2 miles at a bearing of 110° (M) from Leeming. 5/L Durham D.F.C.O. Leeming was under the impression that A/c lost two engines but could not maintain ht. - Ambulance & Fire Tender dispatched. Dof. notified & figured might be one of their A/c F who had been on R/T at 2341 was one of 3 outstanding. they also sent Ambulance & Crook tender

SATURDAY 12-2-1944.

0130. OUTSTANDING A/c. Only 2 A/c at yet outstanding in 16 Gps. 425/0. & 1659/F, possibly one of above two a Hall that crashed near Marnby (Leeming). F.C.L.O. notfd.
0135. 93 GRP. Position of 14 Wumps & landing times of such passed to Flying Control. 6 at Croft. 6 Middleton 1 at Thornaby. 1 at Scorton
0200. CRASH. 425/0 (LW-395) 9 Gp. called re. A/c had crashed at a place Handbury near Droitwich, & told that A/c was 425/0 which was 2 hrs. overdue. Also eight bodies recovered & in Droitwich Mortuary. Pershore providing guard.
0210. " Crew List of 425/0.
PILOT - Sgt. G.P. Aubin R-118590
NAV - P.S. H. Milton - 1319639 (RAF)
W/O - Sgt. Dubroy R-54360
M/U - Sgt. Fleury R-174119
R/G - Sgt. J. Mayhew R-141896
★ PASS - Signinr. J.P. Dubroy
no. C-100506, no. 1. Canadian Line of Communications.
R.C.C.S. Canadian Army Overseas.
ALL BODIES in "DROITWICH MORTUARY" (NR. MARNBY)
0230. CRASH. 1659/F (DK-129) A/c definitely F. A/c burned out. 3 bodies found in crash by. N.F.S. W. Allerton & 4 crew alive, one member Sgt. Jasker thru. severe shock etc. was picked up near Leeming Bar Wandering. Crew list.
PILOT - Sgt. Fairhead R-149481
NAV - Sgt. Joy R-160403
R/B - Sgt. Ingulden 2293 A. (R.C.A.F.) (alive)
W/O - Sgt. Jennings 1540656 (RAF) (alive)
R/G - 1593011 Sgt. Bennett (RAF)
M/U - Sgt. Jasker 1590052 (RAF) (alive)
F/E - Sgt. Gates 650149 (RAF) (alive)
(Contd. O.L.)

SATURDAY 12-2-44

(cont'd)
CRASH.
1659/F.
Have not determined who killed
as yet. Learning supplying
guard & possibly Skipton
today as in Skipton's crash
area.

0250. CRASH.
425/O
(LW-395)
Full Crew list:
NAV = 3/5 Milton - 1319639.
R/G = 3/5 T.F. Mayville R-141896
PILOT = Sgt. Aubin G.P. - R-118590
P/B = Sgt. Albert J.H.Y. - R-125906
W/O = Sgt. Dubroy - R-54360
F/E = Sgt. Shankhan - 1801992
Infu = Sgt. Fleury - R-174119.
see entry * PASSENGER: Sgt. Wm. R. Dubroy.
0210. C. ARMY. R.C.C.S. No. C-104506.

0300. Re: 0100. Ident Board changed.

0900 Off duty. ~~Ed. Calland~~ F/O Warwick.
On duty. J.D. Calland.

1000 Crashes. All concerned informed: Air I, Controller, Equip.
last night. Engineering, P4 - GTI - (W/C Saunders on sick
leave.)

1000 425/O - Queried authorization for passenger. This authority
was given by 5/C Blenkinsop. Air I informed.

1130 Reported. Enemy activity on route last night's Bullseye. Message
file damage received here from Fighter Command at 1943 - tell
by K/420. aircraft to proceed direct to Birmingham & continue
route from there. Due to various signals
delays this did not reach aircraft until too late.
K/420 was the only one to report damage by Flak.

1135 Landfall. Flamborough Head - Ordered on bearing 270° T
Beacon from 21.45 - 22.45 tonight.

1135 Billingham. Close-hauled from: 17.15 to 18.45 hrs.
Ballboms 22.00 to 23.45 hrs.

Saturday Feb 12th 1944

12.30 Diversions. Complete picture of aircraft diverted to us
to us last night :-
night. At Middleton
J } 30 OTU from Hixon.
All Wellingtons D }
B }
C 82 OTU " Ossington
Q 18 OTU " Bircoates
B " " Workshop

At Craft
O 27 OTU " Church Broughton
M 82 OTU " Ossington
R " " "
P " " "
L 18 " " Workshop
F 30 " " Hixon

" Also Wellington V/21 OTU landed at Middleton
due to engine trouble. Base: Moreton in Marsh.

12.50 Re above. Contacted 93. groups about these aircraft
returning. OK for those from Hixon &
Church Broughton to return immediately. They
will call us about the others.

13.00 " Contacted 91. groups re Well V/21 OTU returning.
Instructions received are: It is OK for him to return
but he must do his best first and if satisfied
proceed back to base.

Passed above information to Middleton & Craft.

14.30 " OK for Ossington a/c to proceed to base if they
can be there by 17.00 hrs. Also OK for
Bircoates a/c to

15.20 Well DF 632. Left Dishforth for Hullavington. Hullavington advised.

16.50 Diverted a/c All back to their bases except:
V/21 OTU at ~~the~~ M.S.G. - Engine trouble
2/18 OTU " Craft - Too late for take-off. OK.

17.41 Martinette With g/c Edwards left Craft for Birbrooke. 1 g/c advised.

18.00 CFC re: Wish to know if we can take any OTU diversions
OTU Diversions before midnight. We offered Topcliffe until midnight
Vis: 3 miles. Cloud: 1500 ft or better.

Saturday, Feb 12th 1944

17.50 Crashed glider. Reported to us by 12 Group. No one hurt but aircraft needs guarding. Position A. 288909 1 1/2 miles from Norton. Wombledon are going to guard this aircraft.

18.00 Landfall Beacon See entry 11.35 hrs. Times now changed to 21.30-22.30 hrs.

Balloons See entry 11.35 hrs Times now changed to 17.15-18.45 hrs 21.30-23.30 hrs Passed to M.S.G. by Controller.

18.30 Off duty Isleland = p

18.30 On duty - *Sam D. J. Pearson: 1/2*

Summary Passed to C.F.C. 11/15

21.00 MARTINET MS 550 Report S.F.C. Base 61 that this aircraft struck a pylon while making an approach to land. Craft ~~was~~ through out the afternoon. First at. Damaged aft at Craft.

22.30 S.O.S Plot 8437 Plot appeared in area north of Humber. proceeded towards Wombledon. Base 61 in the picture.

22.40 " Plot lost in Wombledon area. Presumed landed there. Base 61 advise that this is not so. nor did Wombledon see any thing of the aircraft

22.45 " Plot reappeared near Wombledon - where pyro. technicians were fired etc. Finally confirmed that the reappeared plot had been confused with the original S.O.S.

SAT. FEB. 12-1944.

2330 B437 Removed from board.
Plot - The original SOS plot was on the board at the time when 419 epire ops were returning. R/419 is outstanding. Some doubt as to whether this plot might have been R1419. F.C.C.O. 12 no knowledge of any crash in the hills.
- SOS plot unsolved.

Sunday Feb. 13.

0100 - Ident ~~SOS~~ corrected.

0830 All quiet.
off-watch 2/L J. A. Jystason.
On " 3/L J. A. Warwick.

0930 Re B437. Query re. S.O.S. Bomber, seems rather a peculiar set up. as. 61 Base checked again & no news or sight of an A/C at time or place.

0940 Ops. Goodwood on Halit & Lanes. only.

0950 R.O.C.L.O. Re. S.O.S. B-437. Contacted York. 9 & 10 & following pin-points given.
YORK-10 = A-7753. YORK-9 = A-1599.
" 6755 then A/C 1051 near
" 5959 Wombledon as they
" 5169 had C & B? on at
" 4175 the time.
" 3377
" 2585

This information passed to 61 Base & Mid. St. George.

1000. SEARCH. Air I. with Duty Controller laid on a search area for B-437.
of = 54-28N - 0110W.
54-28 - 0040W.
54-10N - 0110W.
54-10N - 0040W.
61 Base & Mid. notfd. & to offer #A/C.

SUNDAY FEB. 13. 1944.

- 1030 SEARCH. Mid. St. Geo. can possibly put up 5 A/c or 6. on the search.
1055. C.F.C. offer passed to C.F.C. re. definite petrol diversion for each Hali. Sgd. no. 37. & weather for 32 lanes. Would phone us after C.F.C. conference.
- 1130 Search. Mid. St. Geo. putting up 6 A/c on search, times & A/c later.
1145. L.F.B. (SCRUBBED). Flambers Head 270⁽¹⁰⁾ from 2315-0015. laid on
- 1200 Search. Mid. 6 A/c = A.F.G. 5. W.V. 1300 hrs. on until possibly 1600 hrs. Will close haul Billingham Balloons.
- 1220 B.L.O. 12. Billingham Balloons close-hauled from 1300 hrs. until 1600 hrs.
1240. C.F.C. C.F.C. have granted Stn. for Prov. weather Divisions.
D.V.N.'S
- 100. Exp. Skulthorpe = 420 500
Fulham = 433-424
Little Snoring = 427
3 Exp. NEWARKET MILDENHALL = 426
Tudenhams = 408
allotted to following Sgds
- 1310 Search All Mid. A/c off on search but recalled due to bad weather in search area.
- 1350 " A/c all down from search.
- 1420 B.L.O. 12. Billingham balloon control no longer required.
1430. DIVERSIONS Now definite unless otherwise told on G.O. Wave broadcast. 3 Exp. & 100 Exp. informed. also stations. Further gen. passed.

SUNDAY FEB. 13. 1944.

- 1445 3GRP⁶⁰⁰ 100 Phoned re. control they have on balloons, & by all reports the control will not bother our A/cas they are approx. same coast in etc.
1520. Rpt. 5.9. H.W. 14.7. 6/5.25/11/AIR. All stns. reminded re. margin ref. on Scrambles.
1550. Operations Scrubbed, Wm's stns. of 3 Gp. & 100 notified.
1600. L.F.B. Hamboro Head. L.F.B. cancelled.
1700. SEARCH. Wambleton & Jap. & Mid. on ground search & Army, & Police ref. Kirby moorhead. reported to 2/6/20 12 Gp. no news as yet.
- 18.30 Off duty. W.A. Warwick F/O
On duty F.D. Cleland F/O.
- 19.00 No flying in group tonight.

01.00 Ident Board changed.

MONDAY FEB. 14. 1944.

- 09.00 Off duty. F.D. Cleland F/O.
- 09.00 Search. No news about search - no calls from Police or Army. Topcliffe report W/c Fernie searched in a car with no avail.
- 0900 on duty - *John B. F. Tuson F/O*
0910. Search. Parties at Wambleton stand down on order from the controller.
- Base 61 advised to have aircraft standing by for afternoon takeoff over Wambleton. Cleland K11 Search.
- 1055 .. 61 Base offers two Halifax a/c 419 Sqn six Halifax a/c Search area as in entry 1000 hrs 13.2.44.

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>AT</u>	<u>En Route</u>
4 OXFORDS. { K. FF SS. DD. }	MICROSS.	DALTON.	DALTON HILL
1 OXFORD. P 1968	"	J. SHIFORTH	" "
1 OXFORD. P 1988	"	SKIPTON	" "
1 ANSON H 9531	SHERBORN	LEEMING.	SHERBORN
1 STINSON MK 990	JUNING	CROFT	CROFTON
1 SPITFIRE 7	DYR	TOPCLIFFE	BITTISHAM
1 ANSON K 2	W. FRESH	" "	7

2.0. will be probably 1400 hrs.
Middletown F/C will advise times for
Billingham balloons to be close-
hauled. Roc and
61 Base, M. St. E. Ops and Mel advised

1515 Search Because of adverse
weather - search aircraft
did not take off.
To be prepared. Wombleson
felt something should
be done so set out in
his car for a six of a hunt.

1915	450	Base required for
	Given	Hal. E. x. m. moor.
		- net consultant.
		- Given Eastmoor.
		- Landed Rufforth

1950. Re. Search. 61 Base re. continuation of Search by Police in Billingsdale West. Moon due to a clue from local inhabitants, F.C.I.O notified.

2205 Flying all flying in Gp. ceased.
also. B.C. scrubbed. at 1630.

MONDAY FEB. 14. 1944.

2300 All quiet.

TUESDAY FEB. 15. 1944

0100 Ident. Board changed.

0900. off duty H.A. Harwick 2/0.

0900 On duty F.S. Cleland 2/1.

10.00 Search Wombledon doing ground search today. Two lorries - one to Kirby Moorside Police Station will pick up civilians there to search Bilsdale West Moor as far as Snilesworth. The second will pick up civilians at Norton Police Station to search Arden Great Moor as far as Snilesworth. Wombledon also tell us that the Rothallerton Police are also arranging a search today.

10.55 Dakota C47. Overhead calling a Control & asking QDM to Bottesford. Was given 180° - no distance. Wombledon reported this and we warned 12 Gp. about it. They will look out for plots.

11.03 Dakota E-250. At Leeming for several days, left for Doncaster at 11.03. Route passed to 12 Group - not to be confused with Dakota m/n at 10.55 hrs.

11.15 Diversion Bases. C.F.C. asked at 10.30 hrs. to provide us with 10 diversion bases for tonight. They will call us later after the met. conference.

11.15 Thunderbolt W.L./N. Landed at Tholthorpe at 11.00 hrs en route to Melfield from Cranwell - weather reasons. Melfield has been signalled. Taking off again when weather improves.

14.30 Diversion Bases (Weather) Allotted as follows:

420 Sq.	to Shipdham	2nd VSB	406 Sq.	to Kimbolton
424 "	Bungay	"	408 "	Ridgwell
433 "	Hardwick	"		
429 "	Bethel	"		
427 "	Wendling	"		
428 "	Old Buckenham	"		
419 "	Seething	"		
431 "	Attlebridge	"		
434 "	Thurleigh	1st VSB		

Changed at 15.00 hrs. -
See next page -

15.45 Out of these 9 aerodromes given to us by CFC with no choice - 3 are u/s ---
Chelveston: they are working day & night on the main u lighting and it may not be usable.
Polebrook: Have only one serviceable runway which may be out of wind.
Podington: Definitely u/s - All runways.
 We have substituted Moleworth for Podington and #2 USBA say they will do their damndest to have Chelveston + Polebrook OK.

VISITING AIRCRAFT as of 1830 hrs.
 15. 2. 44.

- 1. Beaufighter - J.5.4 forth.
- 1. Thunderbolt - 16343 - Ex Gosfield & Trothorpe
- 1. Hurricane - Kx199 - Ex Milfield, at "

Feb 15th 1944

Changed by CFC to the following

15.00	Divisions (Weather)	433 Sq - Bassingbourne 1 st USBA - ✓
		420 " } Kethel " - ✓
		424 " } " " - ✓
		426 " } Kimbolton " - ✓
		427 " } Chelveston " - x
		419 " } Polebrook " - x
		428 " } " " - ✓
		434 " } Thunberg " - ✓
		429 " } Grafton Underwood " - ✓
		408 " } Ridgewell " - ✓
		431 " } Podington Moleworth " - ✓

427 Squadron told they can use Kethel if in emergency also.

15.15 Landfall Beacon #2 on bearing 270° T from 23.30 - 00.30 hrs.
 Billingham Balloons close-hauled from 16.15 - 18.00 hrs.
 " 23.30 - 01.45 hrs.

16.30 Alleged crash - Near Leyburn - Ryegate district reported to Leeming, Topcliffe & Croft by various N.F.S. & Police Stations. Finally traced rumour down to a mere enquiry by 9 Gps. as to whether a crash might have occurred or not. Informed stations.

18.30 Division Base for early returns - Binbrook.

18.30 Search for R/419. See entry 10.00 hrs. today - 12 groups suggest calling off the search until more information is available. Controller agrees. 61 Base informed & will have police etc. stood down.

19.00 Broadcast to Stns Re Binbrook as diversion base.

1830 On Duty - *John D. J. Two or: Fk*

1910 01431 Early Retn. Landed safely at Croft. Passed to F.C. 1 Gp

2000 Early Returns. Weather improving - so far all early retns being coped with at own bases.

Feb 15th

Provisional change of
Sqn allocation to new
diversion bases as
follows:

419. - ~~Shipham~~ Bury St Edmunds
428. - ~~Shipham~~
431. - ~~Wendling~~
434. - ~~Burgoyne~~
430. - ~~Hethel~~
434. - ~~Hethel~~
433. - ~~Bury St Edmunds~~ - ^{FOULSHAM} Shipham
427. - ~~Wendling~~ W. Raynham
429. - ~~Thorpe Abbotts~~ Scutthorpe
408. - ~~West Raynham~~ Warham
426. - ~~Scutthorpe~~ Thorpe Abbotts

Burgoyne } - not on diversion
Wendling } Glimsay.

Lat and long
positions of
these 2 bases
sent on with
with Jcn Broadcast.

Burgoyne - 52°25' 01'SE

Wendling - 52°41' 00'SE

Feb 15th

2010 FORUM
"3"

St. F.C. 61. Jarky Coor Forum J.
not contact.
This should be an aircraft
from Griffing - passed
to F.C. 4.

2030 Jcn.
Bases.

6 Gp. met. unhappy over
conditions at present
diversion bases.
Request for reallocation
of bomber bases requested
of C.F.C. who names the
following places:

Shipham
Burgoyne
Hethel
West Raynham
Bury St Edmunds
Warham
Great Eastfield
Thorncliffeham
Thorpe Abbotts

Nº2 USA B.D.
Nº3 USA B.D.

Because some of these
stations are neither on
the diversion Glimsay
nor covered in Bomber
Code, further requests
were made of C.F.C. who
made further allocations
as follows:

Wendling
St. Raynham
Scutthorpe.

100 Gp.

All foregoing and allocn
(left page) approved by
S.O. S.C. Duty Controller and
Sqn. net officer.

2130 Corrected
Diversion

Broadcast to Stations
by Jc Freedon. J.C. 114.

2055⁺ Search
fighter

Plot in. A. 49. Searchlight
on Gishforth - passed
to Base 61 D.F.C.O.

2150 To C.F.C.

confirmed stations to be used
for diversion.

Feb 16th

For sea search.

1659 - 3. 432 - 5.
1664 - 3.
1666 -
425 - 2.

AREA I

6 a/c = 1/3 WCF - 68, - 73 Incl.
54°05' 00'30"E 54°30' 00'30"E
54°30' 01'30"E 54°05' 01'30"E.

Paracet track. W → E
Creeping North.
4 mi. vis.
Standard Sigs Procedure.

6 a/c = 1/3 WCF - 74 - 79 Incl.

Area 2.

53°40'N 01°00'E 54°05' 01°00'E
54°05'N 01°00'E 53°40' 01°00'E

Same Ruling.

RELOCATION.

1659 } AREA I.
1664 }

425 AREA II.
432 " "

Gen. passed to Bases 61-62
at 0530 hours.
- 60p met advised at same time

- 5335N (MHB) MTP - 13+14.
0100E

5 miles of S.W. corner

Feb 15th

2200. Pear. No news. Lights downed.
fighter Ex. F.C.O. effort useless.
- Searchlighting to dist. forth
abandoned.
F.C. Base 61 informed.

2210 ASR. Request from ASR.
16 for 12 aircraft - stand
by for sea search as
of dawn. - Granted
by Controller.

2230 Diversion. Diversion definite
Gen. Diversion particulars
passed to N.S.2 and 3
- 65A.D.D.W. and to F.C. 100Sp
- C.F.C. advised.
- M.L.S. Informed.

P/102 Lockington aircraft -
Landed Eastmoor.
4 group advised.

K/424 Landed Colby Range
Said he received message
diverting him to Woodington
- messages checked.
- Wt message sent head
"Land Herkel" - mis in-
terpreted by Wop.
cleared quarry at F.C. 5.

J/424 Message: Short Petrol
diverting to Herkel.
passed to F.C. 420000.

2310 1st 65A.B.D. Not advised by C.F.C. of change
in Diversion bases.
Diplomatic Relationships
maintained with profuse
apologies. 1st 65A.B.D.
stood down with thanks.

2320 Lanc. Air Commodore (S400) in com-
munication with met ordered
(through the duty controller)
that the 2 Lanc sqns be
brought home by redirec-
tion on R.T. Horham.
- Order passed to F.C. 3rd 65A.B.D.

Feb 15th

CRASHES

1. SQN. LTR. POSITION
420 T. RASKELE Q SITE. SHEET 22-966972.
CREW
F/O TAYLOR - NAV.
F/O DAMGAARD. PILOT.
F/S MAZUR. B/D.
SGT FLETCHER F/E
SGT HARVEY. MU/AG.

W/O WHALE W/O.P. } KILLED
SGT DOWNEY R/G. }

CASE ACTION = DISHEARTH.
NES THIRSK.

2. SQN. LTR. POSITION
? ? RAVENSCAR-BRYANSIDE FARM
SHEET 16-4621.
CREW
F/O YUEN - PILOT - AT:
STEVENSON HOUSE.
CLIFF TOP FARM.
DOCK LANE
BURNISTON.

3 BODIES IN AIRCRAFT - NOT
IDENTIFIED AS PART OF F/O YUEN
CREW.
THESE BODS - REMOVED TO MORTUARY
AT WHITBY
M/O. SCARBORO ATTENDING.

ENG'R OFFICER WOMBLETON TO
TAKE SIGNAL ACTION
ARMY GUARDING.

3. ? ? NR SUNDERLAND. ? ?
4. ? ? IN SEA OFF WHITBY ?

Feb 15th/16th

23.30. Lance To Base 6r - Lances being
Div. redirected on RTs from
Narham to Linton.
- M.L.S. informed.

0001 - Wednesday, Feb 16th

0015 Lance Linton
- deterioration steady.
Base 6r unhappening.
Duty net unable to give
continued optimistic picture
discussed by Controller
with SASO.
-> Decision: 3rd U.S.A.B. Div to
be advised to land all
further Lances which
show up there.
-> Decision passed
to F.C. 3rd U.S.A.B. Div.

0045 Lance Linton
- weather in this group
bleeding!
Base 62 unable to cope
- screaming for immediate
fit base nearest hand.
- Request made to G.F.C.
- 66p net finally advise
that atc should not go
farther north but south
wards to 4-1-5 groups.
- Topcliffe was showing
3000 yds. but before
some of the Lances reached
it the weather there
had packed up.
- 4 group unhappening
and unwilling to assist
though net gave Lisette
and Holme as still fit.
- Through G.F.C. 5 group
offered WIGSLEY and
WINTHORPE. - This
information was
passed at once to Bases
6r-61 and long all of
whom were trying
in vain to cope.

Feb 16th

0045	420/1	10 min. Petrol. en R/S THOLTHORPE Immediate diversion de- manded by Base 62 - 66p met decelerating slow - When Dunslett was finally ahead upon the aircraft had stroged away from Base and no contact could be made.
0100		
0115		At 0115. learned from Base 61 that T/420 had Crashed near RASKET. A Site. Crash Action was taken by Ditchforth N.F.S. Thirsk and an additional ambulance was dispatched from Tholthorpe. Result: 2 killed in crash. 5 in North DUNSTON Hosp.
0045	62/100	The following plain language message was sent from H.F.S. London: "Proceed South. Land at first available airfield." - they did.
0100	Solution	
0100	SoS	Handing near Middleboro
0130	Plot.	Aid requested by T.C.40. or Northern Station lights. Plot maneuvered - weather rotten. Aircraft crashed just west of Dunderland. Thomsby took Crash action. (No Gen sig 0500 hours)
0120	R/640	Landed at Womblesdon - 48p F.C. informed.
0130		Portetic Efforts to get Land- ing times.

Feb 16th

0350 CRASH Report Ex FCLO 12 through
Raven Police & RAVENSCAR -
SCAR. POSITION: V 4521.
= Sheet #16 - 4621
Aircraft: Halifax.
= Burned out.
Crew - Thought to be
4 group because
F/O Yuen (Canadian) because
only 20 Gals remained in tanks
balled his crew out in
the area of Ravenscar
leading the aircraft to sea.
The crashed burned out
aircraft is heading in from
the sea. F/O Yuen so far
is only one of this crew
accounted for.
3 bodies in the aircraft
were taken to MORTUARY WHITBY
F/O Yuen at MR STEVENSON'S
CHIEF TOP FARM
ROCK LANE
BURNINGTON
GRANDVIEW
M/O. (RAF) Scarborough
in attendance.
- Engineering officer
Wombleson requested
to take necessary crash
action.
Army guarding at present.
0530 All Gen passed to FCLO 12.
0530? M.R. Area Allocation etc. Ex FC.16
Passed to Boxes 61, 8, 62.
66p net unhappy over
search area until
0600 afternoon when the
Frontal Conditions pass.
0630 RAVENSCAR - To satisfy 4 G and FCLO 12
CRASH Wombleson were instructed
through Box 61 to take
all necessary crash action

Middleton St. Geo.

Landed 5 Spits, 1 Master from Dumfries
- Cranbush

No's - 4390

Spits 8646

4616

8168

7440

Master M-838

Scaping overnight
Blacks advised

Feby. 16th.

0700 1/420

Engine of this etc constit-
uting obstruction on
railway ^{branch} to Kirk.
Position - etc. passed
to INER Intelligence York
by 5th Stages, Base 1

0815 C.F.C.

Complete summary
of diversions materialization
passed to C.F.C.

0830 Return
of Sen
etc.

Met advise conditions
unfavourable for
return before noon.
Respective Groups advised
to await further instrs
from this H.Q.

0900

off duty

Col. P. Johnson: F.L.

On Duty H.A. Hammett 3/0.

0910 D.V.N. 46

After consultation re. met. all
probs. of our A/c returning nil
this morning.

0950

"

Trying very hard to bail down
individual Gps. in which
A/c landed & contacting same
to hold fire re. met. Sanction

1000 F/C-12 Gp.

They have 4 Hudsons they
might possibly sent to Mid.
St. George.

1045 434/0

At Woodbridge instructed them
to tell crew to return by
rail. A/c damaged badly.

1105 Re-entry
0350

Crash at Ravenscar - Hali (P)
from Driffeld; position
452212, 7 bodies recovered
& sent to Driffeld & they
will take casualty action
Wombledon crash action.

1400 Return A/c

Weather in U.S. Bomb Division still
dull.

Feb. 16, 1944.

19.10 Croft advise that B.D.S. Darlington report bombs fell in a field behind Little Kelm Wood, 500 yds east of Pierce Bridge on West Auckland Road - Approx. 1 mile north of Denton X-Roads.

- 1135 4 GRP. Re = P-102 Sqd. at Eastmoor to stand by before taking off for Pocklington re. ok from base. Passed to 62.
1210. Div. A/c. All Gyps. & Stris phoned re. disposition of our A/c. tally card compiled & everything under way.
1350. Permission NORTHOLT 61 Base Oxford. A.O.C. 61 Base wishes permission to go to Northolt in the morning. 5A.50 granted permission.
1400. DIV A/c 5 Gyp. 4 Gyp. Contacted to let our A/c take off as soon as they are fit, 100 Gyp. 2nd, 3rd, & 1st U.S.B.D. still a/cuff & holding up.
1430. 2nd U.S.B.D. That 427/N had taken off without permission of 6 Gyp. or 2nd U.S.B.D.
1500. L.F.B. & B.L.O. 12. L.F.B. & Billingham Balloons scheduled for tonite's ops. cancelled. as ops. scrubbed 1458.
1540. 431/B. BOMBS JETT. A/c on ht. test on take off lost his Libid Inner & jettis. = 7x1000 lb. bombs
4x1000 G.P.'s
3x1000 M.C.
at position 5435 N - 0140 W. N. of Darlington, north of a place Denton, observed to fall in an open field. B.D.S. Darlington advised & taking action.
1620. Return of DIV A/c w/c Pattison of 429. instructed his A/c to stand by 0730 in the morning. w/c Turnbull 427 A/c to stand by until 2100 hrs. tonite ready to return if weather permits. if not to return by 0730 in the morning.
- (NB)

Feb. 16/1944.

Crew List of B/432 - LK 761

Pilot	S/L Strachan W.	J 9863	
Naw	P/O Martin M.A.	J 18871	
B/A	P/O Baron N.J.	J 21045	Ident. killed.
W/op.	P/O Stuart R.C.	J 18402	
M/P.	Lt. Rooke A.L.	0886242	Ident. killed
R/G	P/O Stewart H.M.	J 19066	Ident. killed
F/Eng.	Sgt. Gilliard J.	616713.	

1736. Rv. in A/C. All mem. A/C in respective Gyps. not happy on return of A/C tonite. Sgt. Com. contacted & think it fit for them to return in the morning at 0730 be ready & to phone 6 Gyp. before starting off.

1820 431/A/c Sp. Daw figures OK for his A/c
to return by approx. 1915.

1830. off watch J. A. Harwick 2/0 On: - F. S. Cleland $\frac{1}{2}$

18.55 G/408 At Wendling - As 431 a/c are returning from there tonight, suggested that G/408 return also. Permission granted by 408 Squadron.
Advised 2nd USB D. of this decision & they will let us know if the aircraft takes off.

19.49	Crash	Presumed to be B/432 taking off on X-Country Eastmoor can see glow of fire in distance & have sent out Ambulance and crash tender. ROC state crash is about 2 miles NW of Eastmoor called Stillingington Police who say crash is just N. of Aubrey. Easingwold N.F.S are notified. Linton are going to send ambulance also.
20.25	"	

20.45 { 431 a/c S/L Dow now decides not to come back tonight
408/G Doesn't like weather. Cancelled 8/408 also
and left word for all crews to be ready to
take off at first light tomorrow.

21:55 Crash See entry 19:49 hrs. Now positively identified
B/432 as B/432 (Hal III). 58 bodies recovered 2 more in a/c.
No reason for crash - B/432 had only been
airborne about 2 or 3 minutes.

22:00 431 a/c W/C Newsome wants S/L Dow at Wendling to arrange to pick up crews of V/431 at Upwood + crew of X/431 at Wittering on way back tomorrow. Passed to Ind B.D. and also message for S/L Dow to call these crews and let them know when he will pick them up.

Wednesday, Feb 16th 1944

22.25 Air Sea Rescue. As 16 groups have asked us for eight aircraft on sea search tomorrow we have arranged with 432 Squadron to provide these. The search may not be practicable until after 1100 hrs so we explained situation to 62 Base, stressing that if it was going to interfere with training to make no offer. They understand this.

Thursday Feb 17/44

01.00 Ident Bd. Changed

06.00 Met. picture for aircraft away - Very hopeless - 10/10 cloud at 1500-1000 or lower. Freezing level very low - also bad conditions at diversion bases.

07.30 " for aircraft away. Bases here may be bad also. Front approaching from east. Great of rain and snow flurries. Route conditions very bad in Lincolnshire now. Cloud base very low and freezing level uncertain.

08.00 A/c Away. Told to stay put until we advise them.

09.00 Off duty. F.D. Colland & P.

09.00 On Duty - J. D. Johnson: o/k

10.00 Ref Retn of a/c away. 1050 decision with Dr. Ock. that aircraft at diversion bases are not to take off unless cloud base be 1000 ft and within a reasonable, viz 12 miles reach both at the diversion bases and on route.

Broadcasts. 1. To F.C.'s or Groups where our a/c are located: "All aircraft to be standing by to take off as soon as weather conditions at Don Base and along Route reach 2 mi vis 1000 * ft cloud base. Further confirmation to be passed by 1100 hrs

2. Same broadcast to 66P 3rd F.C. by S/1st Stanley.

Thursday Feb 17th

1130 Ret- Base forecast -
 Ret- East Angles to bases -
 DUN. etc Clouds - 10/10 - 800 to 1000 ft.
 Slight rain, Sleet.
 v. 5 - 2000 yds.
 Lincolnshire, 600 ft 10/10.

- F.C. At all groups advised
 to land our aircraft for
 the present.

1305 Inversion Allocated by C.F.C. as follows:
 1. West Roughton - Fleming
 2. Little Snoring - M.S. & Craft
 3. Veruel - Thelthorpe
 4. Sanger - Linton
 5. Sanger - Linton
 6. Sanger - Linton
 7. Sanger - Linton
 8. Sanger - Linton
 9. Sanger - Linton
 10. Sanger - Linton

1315 1. F.B. 2. Fleming 270° E.
 Timing: from 23.30 to 00.30 hrs
 Arranged with ops 12

1315 1. F.B. 2. Fleming 270° E.
 Timing: from 23.30 to 00.30 hrs
 Arranged with ops 12
 also for return times
 as follows:
 23.30 hrs 1/2 hrs.
 and 00.30 " - 04.00 "

01320 Diversion 8th C.F.C. replace Sanger
 bases by T. Sanger - Linton

1345 Sea Search East moor S/S scrubbed.

1400 Ret- 2nd Division stood down for today
 after consultation of with met.
 with S.A.S.O's approval

1410 Diversion Information passed to M.S. Fleming
 bases Craft Linton & Thelthorpe concerning
 pundits.

1425 S/L's 12. Group advise they can no longer
 provide searchlight, homing in this
 area due to withdrawal of S/L
 Batteries.

Thursday Feb 17th

- 1430 Ref - with Sado's Approval - in
Retn 4/6 consultation with net - All
groups in which our asc
have landed anyway were
advised to stand down
the asc for today, but to
pass provisional warn-
ing to stand by for early
return tomorrow.
- 1555 Conceal - Successors and L.F.B.'s earlier
attnos. requested were cancelled
because of Cmd scrub.
- 1600 Juv - Cancelled with G.F.O.
Passes with thanks.
- 1730 BL/G. Training asc ex Linton
landed Linton - wpt ups.
- Contacted his bases who
ruled he should remain
the night. - Linton informed.
- 1740 Mag Aircraft with the American
Drops. stations developing mag
drops - not repairable
by the Americans. -
Engineer from Netherland
going down to Bury St.
 Edmunds to fix the
one there. Question
of repairs of Netherland
discussed by Soc with
Sado.
1830. off Duty L.A. Instagon 3/4.
On duty J.A. Warwick 2/10.
- 2050 Met Gp. Met report cloud base down to 500 -
Report. 700 ft in places and suggest all 4/6 be
called in 61 & 62 bases informed
- 2050 Report of Linton Base control report large flashes
Flash by like an aircraft exploding, being seen
Linton NW of Linton. LBC 40 contacted - nothing
reported but will call back

2330

Sea Search:

Area I.

53:39^N - 0050^E
 54:00^N - 0050^E
 54:00^N - 0155^E
 53:39^N - 0155^E

45-W.C.F. No. - 72-77 inclusive

1/4 vis. parallel track, West to East
 creeping north, usual A/S Briefing
 w/f. INF/OF Section. "J" - 385¹⁹

6 A/c, A/c to the N-W & E Well.

1659 - 3 A/c 72-75

1664 - 3 + (3) 76-77

1664 Wish to put up 3 more - (6) new
 numbers allotted - 90, 91, 92. from
 16 Gp.

Area divided, as:-

1st.

53:39^N - 0050^E

53:45^N - 0050^E

53:39^N - 0155^E

53:45^N - 0155^E

2nd

53:45^N - 0050^E

53:53^N - 0050^E

53:45^N - 0155^E

53:53^N - 0155^E

3rd.

53:53^N - 0050^E

54:00^N - 0050^E

53:53^N - 0155^E

54:00^N - 0155^E

1st area for (3) A/c 1664, 2nd (3) A/c of 1664
 3rd (3) A/c 1659

Thursday February 17th

21.05

Flash.

R.O.C.H.O. reports that they have no
 report of the flash but Hentley and Popcliffe
 report having seen it in the post forth
 direction lighting up the whole sky.
 Disforth A.C.B. has seen nothing.

21.15

Night flying.

All 6 grp aircraft have landed
 and all night flying has ceased.

2330.

Met.

Outlook tomorrow for our A/c
 return looks very promising
 Met. predict C.B. about 1500 &
 2500, Vis - OK. with slight hail
 & sleet storms, this will
 prevail the whole route back
 to base.

Friday February 18th

0010

Saunt Board changed.

0025.

A/c away.

3rd, 2nd, & 1st. Amer. B.D. notified
 that if weather fit. A/c to
 be ready to return first
 thing in the morning. Will
 notify them re. our bases.

0100.

A/S/S

Butty Controller Sgt Weedon
 divided area for search into
 3 parts, information passed
 to 61 Base.

0600.

A/c away

Met. picture re. return of A/c
 away, stated. Cloud Base -
 2000' - 1500' - Vis. 2-6 miles, en-
 route slight showers of
 sleet & snow en-route looks
 fairly favourable.

0700

"

1000 Gp.
 2nd & 3rd U.S.B.D. re. state
 of weather this morning.
 State of aerodromes in area
 Red at present, hoping to
 improve. Assured us that
 Stns. warned re. our A/c to
 be kept up for immediate
 take off when weather
 permits.

Friday, February 18/1944

0730. A/C AWAY. 100 Gp. 7/4. i.e. state of weather
vis - 3-4 m. Cl. Base. 1500-2000.
& they figure A/C could take
off but warned by us
that they should obtain a
route forecast, as 7/4 about
1000 ft. en. route & showers
of snow & sleet.

0820 " All Gps. concerned re. return
of our Hc. also warned to
give crews a picture of the
met. & if possible issue each
pilot with a route forecast.

09.20 Off watch J. D. Cleland
On watch J. D. Cleland F/L

10.00 a/c Away. Several on way back. 3rd Bomb Division stations experiencing sleet and snow. 100 lbs are able to get majority of our aircraft off.

11.30 Met. Picture - Now very poor. Freezing level in E. Anglia
+ on route home about 500 ft - Slight snow
all over.
On consulting Controller decided to stand down
aircraft not already off until 13.30 hrs until
met. picture is clarified.

11:30 Croft re Unable to land at Croft. Advised Croft to divert
A/C returning. A/C to Linton. Also message sent by WTS from
Middleton - "Proceed Linton"

12.30 Landfall Beacons. Glambsorough - bearing 270° T - 05.40-06.40 hrs.
 Billingsport Balloons. Close-hauled { 21.30 - 23.30 hrs.
 { 05.30 - 07.30 "

14:30 A/c Away. All have now been ordered to return at once.

17.00 " " Told to stand down for tonight ready for early return tomorrow morning.

18-00 SFCO
Note. Mr. Stanley will be away tomorrow - all day. any telephone calls for him will be routed here.

18.00 Off duty J. B. Leland f/c On duty P. G. Weldon a/c.

Feb. 18th.

Visiting P/C. (Weather)

Baracuda - Shearwater-
landed. Craft.
Dominion = Halton (Petrol)
Swordfish - High Grade
Reliant - from Swath.
2 Sea Lires from Lee-on-
Solent, to W. field, staying
the night - 105 - 302 + 927.

Sqd.	Station	Group
419	West Raynham	= 100 Sq.
428		
431	Cottishall	=
434		
427	Little Snoring	= 100 Sq.
429		
424	Hocking	=
433		
420	Lakenheath	= 3 Sq.
425		
408	Foulsham	= 100 Sq.
426		

Feb. 18th 1944

1830. on duty - *John G. Mason*
Feb. 19th 1944.
0700 - Sent to Corrected.
0800 Ref. see groups in which we
0830 Ret. have aircraft that away
were advised to have
seem return directly.
O.K'd by 6 Gp met.
0900 - off duty - *John G. Mason*
On duty. A.A. Warwick. 70.
0940. - Permission granted for W. Langton
to take a Heli. to Foulsham.
Operations tonite. Haddock
0945 MOVEMENT Air Firing at R.H.B. Whitby.
(E-218) Bombing at Strensall. Total
3A & hitest. for Hals. & Lanes
from 1100 - 1830.
1100. C.F.C. Possibility of Petrol
Diversion tonite. asked
for offer of 4 Stms
pref. East Anglia
for Hals's only.
1200. L.F.B. L.F.B. Flambors at a
bearing of 170°(T)
from 0610 - 0710.
" Ballon. Billingham Balloons
close hauled
2230 - 0030
0545 - 0815.
1600. C.F.C. Allotted Provisional
(D.V.N.) Petrol & Weather
Diversion Basis.
1730 D.V.N. Individual gen passed
EASES to this. on 1st. Seaburn
1830. off duty 3/0 Warwick. W.A.

Crash at Siskforth 20.10 hrs Feb 19/44.
 Halifax D/1664 - DG 385 - Cat. E

Landing with 3 engines. Made normal approach but bounced on landing - the port outer engine fell off and aircraft swerved off runway & burst into flames. With the initial bump the rear turret broke off, with rear gunner in it. Crash crew were right on the job and all crew got out and fire was put out quickly. Rear gunner is injured and now in Harrogate Hosp. Two more crew are slightly injured - now in SSQ.

Will STCO inform interested parties
 SASO has been informed
 Eng. Group accident investigation
 GTT.

Aircraft landing away from base Feb 19/20/44

L/424 - landed Linton.	} All these a/c have been told to refuel and return to base immediately if serviceable.
C/424 - " Downham Mkt.	
B/433 - " Coltishall	
O/433 - " Tholthope	
N/420 - " Coltishall	
F/434 - " Riccal.	

	<u>Landed.</u>
F/434 - back at base	09:15.
L/424 - " " "	09:51.
O/433 - " " "	09:32.
B/433 - took off 10:45	11:56.
N/420 - landed back "	13:01.
C/424 - took off 10:50	12:09.

Saturday. February 19th Feb 1944.

18.30	On watch	J.D. Cleland F/L.
19.20	D/1664	Reports on RT that he is on 3-engines. Told to break cloud on looming beam.
20.10	"	Crashed on landing. Details opposite.
22.30	Division Bases.	Passed on all gen to Groups concerned.

Sunday. February 20th 1944

00.01		
00.05	100 gps.	Worried because we have allotted 32 a/c to L. Snoring, 29 to W. Raynham and 31 to Foulsham. They don't think they can cope as they are fighter stations. We told them that it was not a definite weather diversion, but merely a petrol diversion and that they can expect only a small fraction of that number. However, if this becomes a weather diversion we will have to ask CFC for 3 more bases.

00.45	Tholthope A/c	After 4 aircraft had taken off F/420 bogged at entrance to runway. Two other aircraft managed to get off by taxiing down another runway and using remainder of runway in use for take-off. This meant 12 aircraft were unable to take off although time of take-off was advanced by Controller to 00.40.
-------	---------------	--

00.45	Skipton A/c	D/424 Squadron taxied into W/424, killing the rear-gunner.
-------	-------------	--

08.30	W/T Messages -	All aircraft who sent any W/T messages or got fires last night are accounted for at bases.
-------	----------------	--

08.40	A/C away from base:	Passed to C.F.C.
-------	---------------------	------------------

09.00	Off duty.	J.D. Cleland F/L.
-------	-----------	-------------------

09.00	on duty -	<i>John P. Johnson</i> F/L
-------	-----------	----------------------------

Aircraft Groups contact: and requested to send back all serviceable aircraft landed away.

Diversions Summary

Sqn.	Base	Type of Diverison	Qdm.	Dist
" 420 }	HARWELL 91	DEFINITE	018°	6m
" 425 }				
" 424 }	STANTON 91	DEFINITE	312°	2 3/4 m
" 433 }	HARCOURT			
" 427	MORETON 91	DEFINITE	096°	3 1/2 m
" 419	WING 9V	PROVISIONAL PETROL	172°	4 1/2 m
" 428	THORNEY 16	"	357°	3 1/4 m
" 427	ISLAND			
" 429	SILVERSTONE 9V	"	191°	5m
" 431 }	CHIPPING 9V	"	087°	3 1/4
" 434 }	WARDEN			
" 408	GAYDON 91	"	115°	2 1/2
" 426	WELLESB'N 91	"	278°	3 1/4 m
	MTED.			

Full GEN PASSED TO STATIONS OPS.
ALL GEN PASSED TO 91 GROUP.

February 20th

12.40	Inch- S.ons.	To C.F.C. request for 3 definite bases to accomodate Harford III's tonight and 6 provisional bases for remaining Sgns. Harwell and 3 Group areas agreed upon, with special request for a couple of bases nearer the coast en route for those really short of petrol.
13.30	" "	Stations in 91, 92 and 16 Groups allocated by C.F.C. as set out opposite. Broadcast to stations.
13.35	Do 11.00 NO " Group	Langley, Sheybridge will fly at 1500 ft 0530-0730 except in case of enemy activity when the height will become 6500 ft.
13.50	B.ing. ham-	Close tailed - 2220 hrs to 0020 hrs - 0630 " to 0845 "
14.05	L.P.	Beaching Hd - Leaving 310° - T. me. - 0545 to 0645 hrs
16.10	HAES II and V.	Cancelled from ops by N.A.B.C. Stand down use of WING-SILVERTHORNE - CHIPPING WDN - and THORNEY IS. with C.F.C.
16.20	THORNEY ISLAND.	Stand down with F.C. 16.
17.45	Divers ion	Changes from definite for. Has III. to Provisional Petrol
17.48	" "	91 F.C. informed.
17.50	" "	C.F.C. in the picture.
17.52	" "	F.C. 92 informed that their bases not required.
18.20	Balloons. S.L. 12.	Birmingham Requests Cancelled.
18.30	off duty	Fr. J. J. J. J. J.

February 20th, 1944.

1830. On Duty St. A. Warwick J/o.

1900. DIV GEN. All A/C. R/T + w/H 95 passed to 91 Group Flying Control. All Squadron under the impression that a definite dir. but inexperienced crews instructed that if not happy re. petrol to use their allocated.

1950 Met. Picture re. met. for return of D/C & ops. A/C. Vis - 2-6 m. U.B. 5000 - 3500. Seeing light at 3K of 10000

0002. CRASH. Learning. J/C Report Crash approx. 5 miles E. of aerodrome. North Allerton N. F. S. notified & Learning's Crash Crew & Ambulance dispatched N. F. S. notified possibility of bombs on A/C.

0005. R.O.C.L.O. Reports crash in approx. 2-770.9 1/2 miles E. of Learning tally with entry 0002. J.C.L.O. also notified re. action taken. Ba. changed.

0020 Jaint
0030 62 Base (re. CRASH) N. F. S. North Allerton reported A/C approx "HECKLOW GRANGE" 1 mile East of YAFFORTH VILLAGE; not identified as yet.

0015 62 Base Figured crash close to E.M. & sent C. Crew & Amb. without our authority.

Crash no/427 Sgd. (LV. 836)

approx. HECKLOW GRANGE, 1 mile East of YAFFORTH VILLAGE.

Crew List

PILOT: J/o Launt R. H. J. 22723. Identified.
NAV: J/o Hegy W. T. J. 20660.
B/A: J/s. Waddy R. W. R. 164683
WOP/PG: Sgt. Jones C. H. 1420376.
M/O: " Harris A. C. 545284.
R/G: " Frutten A. F. 2209093.
F/E: " Rowe E. J. 1271083.

All members of crew killed
To be notified.

S.A.S.O.
AIR I.
W/C SAUNDERS.
D-4.
EQUIP.
ENG.

DIVERSION FEB. 20/21/1944

A/C	SQD	PLACE	GRP	LANDED	STATE	OFF	BASE
O	433.	Stanton HARCOURT	91	0635			12.23
U	427.	Moreton-in-Marsh.	"	0640	4/5		01.10
L	424.	Enstone	"	0655		13.17	14.21
N	426.	Wellsbourne	"	0650		09.03	09.54
D	433.	SYERSTON.	5 GRP	0715			10.44
G	427	HARWELL.	91	0737			11.33
D	425	"	"	0716		17.10	16.59
J	433	"	"	0715		15.19	16.45
V	425	"	"	0737		11.50	13.09
R	430.	"	"	0747			

D/425 - overshoot & rolled over roadway but no apparent damage. Instructed all Serviceable A/c to refuel & return to Base.

Feb. 21/44. Monday.

0110 CRASH W/427 (LV-836) 3/c re. N. Allerton Police identified a 3/c Capt. of 427/W, no further news on ident. of remainder of crew. J.C.H.O & R.O.C.H.O notified.

0210 " 7 Bodies recovered & sent to Leeming. 3/c arranged guarding of crash.

0611 B/E 9 XC. all A/c down O.K.
0650 D/W A/c 91 Group re. our P/c landing at said div. bases, instructed to re-fuel immediately & return to base. R.O.C.H.O. notified.

0800 op's - 5/c light 6 A/c, but 91 Grp. have some of this at Harwell but do not know which ones.

0830 91 GRP. Have accounted for 5 of 6 D/425 A/c. 425/D overshoot & ran thru a hedge onto a road, no apparent damage.

0900 Off duty. 2/c Warwick On duty. 1/c Cleland & 1/c.

11.30 Croft. 4/5 tonight. All Nams lighting controls are being changed over. Will be ready again by 18.00 hrs. tomorrow

12.15 L.F.B. Selby Bill - bearing 360° T from 23.00 - 23.59

Balloons. Billingham: Close-hauled 18.00 - 19.00 hrs
09.30 - 02.00 "
Langley } At 1500' from 19.15 - 20.15
Weybridge }
Southampton } 23.15 - 00.30
Portsmouth }

A
 O
 U
 L
 N
 D
 G
 D
 J
 V
 R

Monday. Feb 21st 1944

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|--|
| 1245 | Typhoon
JR 360. | Landed Wombledon from Scorton. Pilot Sgt. Siew. |
| 1240 | V/425 | At Harwell told to return as soon as possible with crew of G/427. The navigator of G/427 will sub. for nav. of V/425 who is in hospital with frozen foot. |
| 14.25 | Emergency
Division Base | for 10 Halls of 428 Sq. is Tangmere. |
| 14.30 | Searchlight
Marker Beacon. | Ordered to be illuminated from 23.30 hrs. SFCO is to tell Church Fenton when to close. 4 Gps. do not require beacon tonight. |
| 17.00 | Division.
428 Sq. | Call-signs, etc. passed to 11 Gps. |
| 18.30 | Off duty
On duty | M.R. Cleland.
H. Spence P/O |
| 19.30 | Night
Flying | Summary passed to C.F.O. |
| 21.20 | Hrs/J. | 62 Base query re this op. missing from last night's ops. Capt. of H25/D (H.R. Bryan) believed he heard Killguard 'J' come up on R/T at Harwell & was answered. On checking F.C. Harwell they had no record of it, although Peaspudding 'J' was landed at 0715, a minute or so ahead of Killguard 'D'. Presumably it was this op. H.R. Bryan heard. 62 Base informed. |
| 2300 | Intruder
activity? | On query of M.R.Q. Stanmore advised our op. would be coming in above cloud, approx 10-12,000 ft. They had picked up some ops presumably at 20,000 & were checking in view of enemy activity. |

Diversion (Petrol)

427 - Manston. - 11 Gp.
 424 - West Malling. - 11 Gp.
 433 - Odiham. - 11 Gp.
 420 - Hartford Bridge. - 2 Gp.
 425 - Gravesend. - 11 Gp.
 408 - Thorney Island. - 16 Gp.
 426 - Bradwell Bay. - 11 Gp.

All Stns. & Divin Stns
 informed & information
 passed.

Tuesday - Feb. 22/44.

0001		Ident Board changed.
0123	Op. a/c	All Operational a/c landed at base.
0900	Am	Off duty H. A. Warwick, 7/0.
0945.	Morement (F-23).	Air Firing at R. H. B. Whitby Bombing at Stensall, L. a/c. J/A & J. tests for H. a/c. & Lances, from 1000 hrs. to 1830 hrs.
1000.	Ops.	Goodwood & Gardening.
1210.	D.V.N. G.F.C.	Passed out offer of 7 Stns. as far South East as possible. Controller states definite petrol diversion.
1205.	J.C.L.O.	Re. report from Linton K. re. a. Heavy. T. Forties #529. H. Butte sup. X Coast coll. Darky. Report sent to Linton that H. in S. East coast of England.
1400.	D.V.N. Stns.	Allocd as on opposite page.
1430.	L.F.B.	Beachy Head - 0000 - 0100 0210 - 0310. (310°T)
"	Balloons	Langley. Weybridge Thames Estuary } for. divin 7/0 Chelmsford. Southampton Portsmouth all at control ht. of 1500 ft. from. 0000 - 0400.
1500.	L.F.B.	Flamboro L.F.B. (297°T) from 2030 2230
"	Balloons	Close hauled Billingsham { 1500 { 2000 { 1650 { 2330

Crash
 Halifax. H/431 - LK 626
 All crew OK
 Pilot: Sgt. Timmons. Category as yet unknown.
 A9CO please inform all parties.

Cat. now tentatively Cat. B. Aircraft belly-landed in field near Holywell. Reason: Port inner + starboard outer engines cut due to failure of CSU's. Crew all OK and staying in Hawarden S.2.

Y.T. ✓
 W/C guest ✓
 Controller ✓
 W/C Miller ✓
 W/C Saunders ✓
 W/T ✓
 S.O.S.O. ✓
 S/R Saunders ✓

Feb 22 contd.

1730 ops Cancelled. - Recon + aircraft airborne.

3000000 } Rearrangements Concerned.
 L.F. B's
 Diversions

Birmingham - rearranged to be close
 landed 1830 - 2130 hrs.

Cid Base Given by net as expected
 to be 1500 - 1000 ft 1910
 C. m. B. cloud marker beacon
 arranged for with S.L.O.
 Church Fenton, for
 Inst. TFR.
 Ops 4 and S.L.O. Watson
 advised.

L.F. B. Flamboro engaged -
 bearing 270° (+) 1900 hrs.

1830 - off duty - J. J. Papp
 On duty. J. J. Papp

1830 Darky Call Heard by Hawarden - Jigger "H" called Darky.
 Message was heard by Hawarden who gave him 25m
 of 3130 which was acknowledged.
 Aircraft was plotted as being on two engines
 although H/431 did not mention it on RT messages.

1900 Crash Reported crashed near Holywell in N. Wales -
 H/431 Landed with 2 engines - aircraft did not catch
 on fire. All crew OK. Will be
 guarded either by Hawarden or Seaforth. Had
 fired colours of period just before crashing

1950 Recall All X-Countries from group ordered recall by SASO.
 61 + 62 Bases informed at once.

2030 61 Base re recall. Think ops out of reach of station H/P/D.F.
 Request recall via M7/D.F. Duty Sigs here contacted
 to send message recalling them.

2215 L.M.B. Cloud Marker Beacon now extinguished -
 S.L.O. 12 informed Ops 4 informed

Feb 23rd 1944.

00.01.	Night Flying	Finished
01.00	Ident Board	Changed
0900		Off duty H.R. Cleland. On duty H. H. Spencer Rk.
0945	Mayday call.	Picked up by Craft & Howblaton.
-	Highball "H"	Originally on Darky, changed to Mayday.
1015	Darky	calling "Odopt" & requesting a bearing. Finally worked O.K. on his Base station. (Raided in Seilly Island)
1110	431/B. dropping pt. for bombs.	M.R.O. authorized m.p. aft dropping 7- 1000 lb unexploded bombs at pos. 5415N 0700E. Craft informed.
1100	431/A. to Hawarden	Flight authorized by S.C.S.O. to investigate crash of H/431. Craft.
1200	Highball "H."	Ref. entry 0945-1015 hrs. Topcliffe H.F. D.F. was working to 6440 Kcs. without result. On contacting St. Maugan, Craft learned they were working the a/c on H.F.D.F.; previously they had heard this station working other aircraft on R/T but not this one which was in difficulty. Flying Control 16 Group, who were contacted previously, later came through to report that the aircraft had been vectored to a safe landing in the Seilly Islands.
1200	1664/O. Crash (DG-278)	61 Base report crash 3 miles west of Rocklington on a farm. A/c did not burn; crew O.K. Reason: 2 engines cut. Believe Rocklington taking crash action.
1620	431/X return from Wittering 431/O return from Upwood.	Craft was advised to check Wittering to ensure that this a/c was serviceable before permitting other 431 Halifax with crews, to take off for Wittering & Upwood. This was not done & 431/X is still U/S. On instructions of Craft. F.C.O. told 12 Gr. F.C. to have crew stay over as 431/X should be serviceable later today or tomorrow. 431/O returned to base

Advised of Crash - Controller, G.J.D. McQuinn,
1664/O.
Sgt. Sanderton, McQuinn, McMillan
J.A.S.O.
Rocklington quarantining aircraft.
Dishforth taking all other action
imprint of crash 205695 -
Map 27- 1" to mile.
Cat "B"

Message from A/c

UWU/E 18-18/OCGHAC/
UHSE/PTOC/FIRN/VHCZ/
CBTU/FPOLG/
T.O.O. 1907 T.O.R. 1929

Message from A/c

UWU/E 18-ZBIG/RNVH/BMUH/
PTZE/TVRN/VHGE/HPGE/RTLE-
CZBD/PTPZ/RNIO/
2100.

D.F.C.O. (NOTE)

Re polishing of ops room, last evening only one body available, would it be possible to lay on some bods for tonight, enquire re. S.O.O & have it shining like a niggers heel.

- 1740 431/X Returned to Craft from Wittering.
1830. off duty H.L. Spence P/O
On duty H.A. Warwick P/O.
1930. 3.O.S. H.C.E. of 1664 C.U. whilst on X.C. observed an S.O.S. flashed from the sea at position 5437"-0150^E but continued on his X.C. T.O.O. 1907
1940. 16 Gp. Contacted H.C. Chatam re. entry 1930. & gave him all details but wishes further gen from P/O if possible before executing any action
1950. 3igs. Request message to be sent to H.C. re. further gen re. S.O.S.
2010. " Report message from H.C. as "Gunner confirms by Bomb Aimed at position given. This passed to 16 Gp.
- 2327 1664/E. Landed & report of S.O.S. also whether a D.R. or Gue fix. Gue fix had been obtained at 1852 & D.R. position at 1907. all this information passed to 16 Gp. H.C.
2350. 16 Gp. Asked whether they wished an offer from us for a sea search this morning. they stated No.
Thursday Feb. 24/44.
- 0100 Ident Board changed
0900. off Watch H.A. Warwick P/O

Provisional Petrol & Weather Diversions

408 Squadron	- 17 Lances	to Chipping Warden	} Wing DEFINITE Group. 92
426 "	- 18 Lances	Westcott	
427 "	- 11 Hals	"	
424 "	- 10 Hals	"	
420 "	- 14 "	"	
432 "	- 10 "	"	
425 "	- 10 "	"	
433 "	- 13 "	"	Rayford St John

For Gardening & Spoof Aircraft

419 "	10 Hals	} to Chedburgh.
428 "	11 "	
431 "	8 "	} to Stradishall.
434 "	7 "	
429 "	9 "	

1664/N Crash (BK-146)

Crew list - all killed.
 Pilot W/O J. B. Broder - #5048.
 P/A W/O J. A. Stewart - R 162373
 Engr. Sgt. R. H. Cotrell - 1850661
 R.A.F. Sgt. C. H. Burgess - R 191070.
 M.O.P. Sgt. A. P. Reid - 1560936.
 M.U.S. P/O. A. D. Sinclair - J 38263.

Advised.
 Controller
 S.A.S.O. ✓
 P.A. ✓
 Engr. ✓
 Eng. ✓
 Acc. Inquest
 C of A. ?

Thursday, Feb. 24th 1944

09.00	On duty	J. D. Cleland op.
13.10	Landfall Beacon (Gardening)	Humborough 270° T - 23.30 - 00.30 ✓ Billingham Balloons - close hauled 16.00 - 17.30 hrs ✓ 23.00 - 01.30 hrs.
	(Main Target)	Beachy Head 315° T - 00.30 - 01.30 hrs. Landfall Beacon 02.55 - 03.55 hrs.
	Balloons	Langley, Weybridge 19.00 - 20.00 hrs. at 1500 ft from 21.00 - 22.00 " 19.00 - 06.00 hrs. 00.30 - 02.30 " 03.00 - 04.30 "
13.20	Diversion Bases	Asked CFC for weather diversion bases for our effort tonight - 45 Hals, Gardening, 68 Hals + 35 Lances on main effort. Several bases on South Coast & remainder in E. Anglia. C.F.C. will call us.
16.00	Billingham Balloons	Now close hauled from 16.00 hrs. until 01.30 hrs.
16.00	Diversion Bases	Allotted as listed on opposite page.
17.10	Surprise	ACN 673. Passed to 62 Base & Leeming - Skipton. Vessel bombing restricts bombing or jettisoning on route tonight from France to Beachy Head.
18.30	Off duty	W. D. Cleland. On duty R. G. Spence P/O.
20.45	Explosions	Reports by Tholthorpe of a series of explosions & red flashes both east & west (20 miles). F.C.P.O. 12 believes these to be army activities.
20.50	Tholthorpe	
21.25	H20 DIVERSION	1/2 Kyle called to say 420 Squadron were briefed to make a definite diversion to WING. 92 Op. advised of the above and told to have 2/c ready for an 0830 T/O. Also 12 Op.
21.10	Crash	61 Base report a/c crashed shortly after becoming a/c. R.O.C.P.O. 12 give position as 5 miles N.W. of Dishforth in E-8397 near Beldersby. Later confirmed to be at Deepening Green between Beldersby & Rapperton. Topcliffe to guard & Dishforth taking all other action. Crew of 6; all killed.

AIRCRAFT LANDED AWAY.

All Groups in which our aircraft have landed have been requested to arrange for refuelling and have crews standing by at 0900 hrs., but not to take off until authorized by 6 Group.

Re. pilot of 408/E.

Reading Hasp.

Lib. No. Reading - 3073.

Area. A/S/R.

$$54.5^{\circ}N - 0.330^{\circ}E$$

5435^N - 0420C

54.35 N - 0330 E

5415 - 0420⁶

N/W - 30 miles away - 2 Warewicks.
E - 40 miles " 7 Fortresses.

47% required. Stead to East-East-North
1/4-mile visibility, no boats
usual procedure, if sighting
to circle

Friday - Feb. 25/44.

Ident Board changed.

0001

0040

82 OTU/
MYZ/O
S.O.S.

61 Base reported that at 2035 hrs, 1664/E on cross country intercepted S.O.S. call from mfn aircraft to M.F. Section F. Latter were working other af at the time and as message seemed to fade, at 2038 hrs. 1664/E relayed it to Section F. At 2041 hrs. 1664/K heard the Section in contact with MYZ/O, who were given several files. Final message heard by our af was that the distressed aircraft was low in petrol. Wishforth received thanks from D. S.O. of the Section for the assistance.

Subsequent check of 12 Group FCPO revealed that this ac from Hausman was landed OK at Koulshorn.

0850

we may

Following Group F.C.O.'s informed our aircraft which are serviceable could take off for bases:-
91, 92, 11, 10, 8, 5, 4, 1, 2, 3³ S.O., 3, 44 Gps

0900

off duty 5/10 W.A. No H.L. Spence
on duty 5/10 Warwick. W.A.

1015.

Movemen
(E-326)

Air Firing, R. H. B. - Whitby.
Bombing Strensall, Local
J/A & A tests - for Davis &
Rares. from 1030 - 1830

1100

C.7.C

offer for definite Division
of approx. 80+ pref. South
Coast 5+ mns.

1120

Permissio

Granted by S.A.S.O. for w/c.
Newson to use Hal. to
send extra crew to Foulsham
to bring back extra P/c.

1200.

At. away

Back Gps. involved re. A/C away
Kept in constant touch &
trying very hard to get A/C back

1300

C.7.C

Passed 6 Stations: & if
more required will phone
us after next met. Conference

Diversion Stations

427 = Hartford Bridge
 433-424 = Odham
 426 = Beaulieu.
 408 = Hurn.
 420-425 = Tangmere. King
 432 = Thorney Island.
 Middle Wallop

D.F.C.O. NOTE

w/c Ferris of 1659 C.U. wishes to know the policy re. taking up passengers as Welsh Guards (Tank corp) will be visiting this wk. & will exchange ride in a tank for one in an A/C. have not contacted the Lt. Col. re. above.

Crash

43/4 A/C = LK-907

S.A.S.O. ✓

CONTROLLER ✓

AIR I-leave.

Eng.

Acc. Equip.

S.F.C.O.

Feb. 25/1944.

GARDENING

305 Balloons. Billingham Balloons - close hauled.

1930 - 2030.

0130 - 0330. amended 0415.

310 L.F.B. Hamboro Head Beacon
 0100 - 0300 hrs. ~~1100~~ 0400
 270°(T) 070° elev.

OPERATIONS

420. Balloons (11 sup.) Weybridge, Langley, Southampton, Portsmouth. Balloons close hauled from

1900 hrs.

0600 hrs.

440. L.F.B.

Beachy Head -

0300 - 0415.

310°(T) 070°(E).

1545 D.V.N. STN'S

met. picture re. Tangmere & Thorney Island as being subject to London smoke & would feel happy if we obtained bases West of a line.

1600 C.F.C.

Re. offer Tangmere & Th. Island & would it be possible for 2 subs. middle Wallop & Wing offered.

1645 Croft.

Re. 434 A/C M. had the pilot severely injured by flying glass & the B/A was piloting A/C & to stand by all A/C in Group (dromes).

1700. CRASH.
 434/M
 (LK-907)

A/C landed O.K. came in too fast - wiped off up & crashed bursting into flames. All crew O.K. but pilot who ran into a flock of birds bursting through in his face.
 (No action taken) re opposite page

Friday

Feb. 25th 1944

23.30 Diversion of 433/424 Sq. Now OK at Odiham for 433 Sq. and 424 will be diverted to Lasham, only 5 miles away. Conferred with Controller and decided it would not be necessary to redirect by W.I. as Odiham can easily do this by R.T.

Saturday Feb 26th 1944

01.00 Ident. Board changed.

03.18 Gardening A/c Last aircraft down - 2 missing.

05.30 Main Effort A/c Last aircraft down - 6 missing.

05.30 W.I. Messages. All aircraft who sent messages have landed safely.

06.30 A/c Away - Met not happy about weather this morning for return. Have risk of snow & sleet. May not be clear before noon. We have told all groups the situation and if any aircraft wish to return they are to check with Group first.

07.00 R/432 - W/C McKay at Middle Wallop very anxious to return. OK'd by us at his own discretion.

07.00 Re A/c Away 25 aircraft landed away and one 158 Sq. aircraft from 4 Gps landed at Eastmoor.

07.00 " Central Flying Control told about all aircraft landed away.

0900 Off duty - ~~W.C. McKay~~ W.C. Cleland
On duty - H.B. Spence P/O.

1020 A/c away. Upon consultation with Met & Controller decided to have A/c return if able to take off by 11.30 hrs; otherwise to contact us further. Stations informed & following instructions passed to 7 C 005, 10, 44, 2, 11, 19, 91 & 92 Groups:-
Aircraft to fly above cloud to base and to break cloud on own or Reaming Beam, or use regular G.C. procedure.

Licham - is 2 Group Station.

1040.	433/R	Authorization given to 433 Sqn. to fly crew to Basingbourne to pick up m/a. aircraft.
1120	Bomber Code D.F.C.O. To Note	Effective 1-3-44 Daily Change time of Bomber code is to be 1700 hrs. G.M. 2. <i>10:30</i>
1200	A/c away.	F.C.O. at all Groups told to stand down our away aircraft until 1930 hrs, at which further check will be made to determine possibilities of their return tonight. If outlook at that time is still dull or obscure, crews are to stand by at 0800 hrs. when instructions will be issued definitely for return.
1440.	425 Sqn. etc	U.S.S. authorized Sqn Halifax (not operational) to go to Little Harwood tomorrow to pick up crew of 425/E.
1600	A/c away.	Met predict snow, sleet & rain with deteriorating weather & front to negotiate. On consultation with Controller decision made to stand down these aircraft for today; crews to be standing by at 0800 hrs. 27-2-44, ready to take off pending final OK from 6 Group F.C. Crews to be warned they may be required for tomorrow night. Instructions passed to F.C.O.s of all Groups concerned.
1830		Off duty H. B. Spence P/O. On duty H. A. Harwick P/O.
0015 1215	D.F.C.O.	Wymans worries are over. At last a baby boy - 7 lbs. - is he ever happy. SUNDAY FEB. 27. 1944.
0100	Inst B'd.	changed.
0645	MET.	Re. picture for return of our P/O. Weather very unfit & slim poss. for this noon front lying South, with Cl. Base 500-1000' & tops 15,000 & another layer above, icing mod. F/L very low near the deck.

Feb. 27/1944.

0730. A/C AWAY All Gips concerned notified re. weather at our bases & en-route & also definitely expressed that crews remain on the str. & to keep constantly in touch with F/C. for immediate return. (if weather permits)

09.00 Off duty W. Warwick F/O
On duty J. D. Cleland F/L

10.00 A/C AWAY Crews stood down today. To be ready to return tomorrow morning if possible.

10.00 All stations busy with snow clearance.

10.50 See 00.1 27/44 1st Recco Report inaccurate - it is a baby girl! Get some recognition hours in, Sid. Two cigars for that. The Mexicans have the same trouble at first too. They can't tell the difference until they put them out in the sun - if they crack they're girls - if they sprout they're boys.
F/L Griffin also suggests that a recount should be made in view of possibility of error in numbers -

1230 Accident En. F.C. 92 Group.
At 0955 hours today the LW-389/420N. breaks on LW-389 of 420 Sqn
LW-386/420A failed causing it to run
LW-381/420B backwards off its dis
persal point and prang
into both LW-381 & 388/420 Sqn
Extent of Damage as follows:
LW-381/420 = 5760 wing tip.
LW-388/420 = 5760 Inner Prop.
LW-389/420 = Port Elevator
and outer hinges

Notified: Base 62. ✓	S.A. 50
S.F.C.O. ✓	Controller ✓
Egmont ✓	Engineering
G.P.I.O. ✓	

* no one was near these a/c when the accident occurred

Sunday.. February 27th 1944

15.50 Low Flying Report
Bomber Plot B 42 Y. From 9 ROC Posts P1 + P2 at 15.40 hrs. Lancaster L/426 Squadron, bearing Squadron letters "ow". Reported flying at 50 ft over Hamborough district. Traced to York where he climbed to 2000 ft. Pilot: Flt. Douglas. Reported by us to 62 Base and S.F.C.O. Controller and SASO. Being investigated by S/L Stanley.

16.30 Sea Search G/426 One Lanc. from Linton will unofficially search coast south of Hamborough. Passed to MLS as out at Ham. 17.00 and in at 17.30 - Normal height. Took off 16.55 hrs.

16.58 Harrow BJ/5 Landed Didsford from Doncaster. Staying overnight.

18.30 Off duty W. Cleland
On duty H. Spence. P/O.

18.36 Sea Search G/426 L.K.Q.G. Returned from search. Reported sighting a dinghy on a bearing of 166°T from Bridlington Dock, distance 2 miles at 1805 hrs. Flew as low as possible but sea was rough, and while there appeared to be something in the dinghy the Pilot did not believe it was personnel. He reported to Section H sighting of empty dinghy & gave approx. position calculated from D.R. runs, as no "fix" available in A.P., and asked for fix. There was electrical interference at the time, making W/T transmission & reception poor, but he sent his to several times with no reply from Pulham.

The above passed to F.C. R.O. 12 who state R.C. have 2 empty dinghies off this coast at positions 54°03'N 00°06'W and 52°59'N 00°18'W, latter being 8 miles south of Wainflat. The former position (54°03'N 00°06'W) coincides with bearing of 166°T from Bridlington Dock, distance 2 miles. Concurred with F.C. R.O. 12 Group that no action was required regarding this sighting.

Diversion Basis - Feb. 28/29

432
 427 = Middle Wallop = 10 Gp
 408 = Boscombe Down. F.T.C. 10 Gp.
 426 = Huron = 10 Gp
 420 = Ford = 11 Gp.
 425 =
 433 = Tangmere = 11 Gp
 424

Visiting A/C

anson N/5/66. Po Eastment, from
 Long Marston - Kinloss
 staying overnight

Monday, Feb. 28/44.

0001		Ident Board changed.
0700	af away	Met advise conditions at diverted stations to be fog and low cloud. En route weather should clear up rapidly, with 3-4/10ths cloud, well broken, freezing level 2-3,000 ft. 6 Group Bases should be fit, but with occasional local snow showers. Conclusion: - Good chance of all af getting back as soon as it's possible for them to take off. The front appears to have dispersed.
0830	af away	Instructions passed to F.C.O.s. 11, 91, 92, 19, 1st A.D. to have all our af return to their bases at once.
0900		off duty H.L. Spence. On duty W.A. Warwick F.O.
0945		Goodwood on "Catfish."
0950	Movement E-301	Air Firing R.H.B. Whitby & Bombing at Strensall, local H.A. H.B. test from 1000 - 1830.
1000	C.F.C.	re. definite Diversion tonite require. 7 aerodromes in Southern area as landfall Beachy. Head & will be very pushed for petrol.
1230.	Balloons	Billingham Controb: 2300 hrs. 0430 hrs. 0030 hrs. 0600 hrs. L.F.B. Hamboro Head. bearing - 270° (17) 0430 hrs. 0600 hrs.
1300	Balloons	Weybridge, Langley. 2300 - 0030 scrubbed Weybridge, Langley, Southampton Northampton - 0530 - 0730 L.F.B. Beachy Head - (370°T) = 0535 0635

Feb. 28 1944.

1600.	C.F.C.	Diversion stns. allotted & info. passed to Sqds. concerned.
1700.	1664/M.	over an hour overdue. Action taken & found that AC had landed at Warboys & staying overnight, no reason given for his staying overnight. Info. passed to 61 Base.
1710.	61 Base.	Re. AC doing XC & then proceeding out 30 miles from Spamboro Head to jett. bombs. His time might conflict with J. Under AC will orbit base & receive instructions on R/T on sanction from Gps. J.C.
1830		off Watch To Warwick, W.A.
18.40		All Ops scrubbed
18.45		Landfall Beacons } Balloons } Scrubbed. Diversion Bases }
Tuesday, February 29 th 1944		
01.00		Ident Bd. changed
02.00		Last ap down in group.
09.00		Off duty. F.D. Cleland sp. On duty. H.L. Spence P.O.
1000	431/Y (O)	S.A.S.O. authorized mfn aircraft to fly crew to Foulsham to pick up aircraft.
1010	H33/R.	Authorized by S.A.S.O. to fly working crew & spare parts to Oldham, Hartford Bridge & Honeybourne.
1040	1664/P.	Authorized by S.A.S.O. to take parts & crew to Warboys for AC landed there yesterday due to oil leaks & P.O.E. 1/5.

1664/U - Crew OK & billeted in
Hotel at Cardingham near Aberport
told to report to FIC Aberport first thing
in morning

Advised of crashes 1664/U & 420 V.
Controller ✓ B.D. ✓
S.A.S.O. ✓
Air I on leave

Crew List 420/V: -

Pilot R 153784	Wb Hardy H.S.	Believed
Nav. J 24011	Wb Hendrick J	killed
AG. R 110817	Sgt Johnston, L.G.	"
BA. R 158319	Sgt Cummings R.E.	"
MUAG. R 163397	Sgt. Nixon J.L.	"
W.O.P. J 26859	P/O James, D.A.	OK - baled out
F.E. 1288344	Sgt. Willoughby D.H.C.	OK - "

1055	G/420 Wing.	2040 OK's + 20/6 towing with spare parts. 6 Base advised. 7% 11:30 hrs.
1120	1664 ap. Jett.	M.R.D. 12 authorized jettisoning at position 5422 N 0100 E.
	6 Base practice Bombing	M.R.D. 12 authorized dropping smoke floats & practice bombing thereon at pos. 5330 N (no further south) 0210 E.
1220	1664/6/c Jett.	M.R.D. 12 now OK pos. 5422 N 0020 E.
1225	G/420	Flight to Wing cancelled. Replaced by 420/K.
1405	Com. Flight Offord	OK'd by S.A.S.O. to take parts to Mills Hollop for 420/A.
1600	Com. Flight Offord	Reserved for S.Kis Rawson & Miller for 1015 hrs, 1-3-44; going to Woodhall Spa, for the day.
1630	1664/U Crash (LK-643)	Ex 61 Base - report from Aberport - South Wales (No 70 Group p.) ap was coming in to land, P.O.E. was 75; crash landed at 1440 hrs at Aberport. Aircraft was damaged but crew are safe.
1640	420/V (LW-366)	Ex 9 Group - Crashed at Ebergatwyth (map ref. - VO. 0185) at 1510 hrs. 2 of crew baled out (W.O.P. & Engr.) others presumed to be killed. ap burned. 6 Base informed.
1830	Off duty H.B. Spence 7% On duty J.A. Warwick 5%.	
1835	1666/T.	61 Base report 7% T/JO. 386 as an hour overdue & wish to find out whether he had landed or at any other drone.
1850	J.C.L.O. 12.	Contacted re. any news of a crash etc, or A/c reported as landed. Route 7% passed. Reports an A/c crashed near Gosham Woods

1666/T = (JD-386)
 Crew:
 Pilot = P.O. Sigurdson J. ? (R-157133) ^{Travels}
 NAV = " Muskett, C. L. J. 26289. ^{Compt.}
 B/P = " Eaton, J. B. J. 28076.
 WOP = S/S Healey, J. M. R. 96219.
 R/G = Sgt. Zarits, J. R. 124095.
 M/P = Sgt. Will, J. E. R. 197018.
 J/E = Sgt. Laughran, R. J. 796421.

"all above killed"

To be Advised of Crashes = (overleaf)
 420/V () crew killed
 1664/U (LK-643) all crew OK
 1666/T (JD-386) all killed

Controller =

SASO =

Air I =

G.T. I =

Equip. =

P.A. =

Com of Adjustment =

Acc. Invol. =

Mon. Feb. 29/43

1850	Cont'd	no reports whether a fighter + eng. ?
1855	1 Gyp. (CRASH)	P/C contacted re. any news of crashed A/C & reports a 4 eng. bomber reported by R.F.S. Broughton & completely burned out. 1 Gyp. dispatched Elsham Woods. Fire tender & crash wagon. No. of A/C JD-386 & crew list of our A/C overdue, & also possible tie up re. X/C leg. as last turning point before returning to base was Goole.
1900	1 Gyp. (CRASH) (1666/T) (JD-386)	Report it as definitely identified by Eng. Off. Elsham Woods as A/C. 11- JD-386. also Elsham Woods supplying guard.
1920	"	1 Gyp. have found a bag OK. belonging to a W/O Healey J. M. - R. 96219.
1955	"	Crash approx. Ref. - 453301. Bridge Farm near Village of Broughton. 3 bodies recovered but have not determined individual identification.
2030	1 Gyp. "	Re. crash report. A ^{radio} bomb. "Laughton" from Scunthorpe Searchlight Battery. No 103 S.L.B. on duty as Air Sentry observed an A/C dived out of cloud, (base about 3000) making a terrific noise & doing a spiral dive to port, no visual signs of fire, & all engines going & then hit the deck & burst into flames

1630 hrs. Emergency Diversion Bases Mar 1st 1944

- 432 Sq. 11 Hals. } To Wing 92 yps.
- 433. " 15 Hals. }
- 424 " 10 Hals. } Westcott 92 yps
- 420 " 11 Hals. }
- 425 " 11 Hals. } " Thorney Island 16 yps.
- 408 " 13 Lances }
- 429 " 16 Hals. } " Burn 10 yps
- 428 " 12 Hals. }
- 426 " 18 Lances } " Boscombe Down 10 yps

Mon. Feb. 29/1944

2035 432/V. Calling. Darky & presumed lost
in 6. Exp. area, all stris.
advised & lit up in case $\frac{A}{C}$
about had circled base &
disappeared. Cloud base low
but vis ok.

2135 " Landed O.K. at base.

Tuesday Mar. 1, 1944.

0100 Ident. Board changed.

0900. off Duty St. A. Warwick P/O.

09.00	On duty.	F.D. Cleland F/L
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10.30	L.F.B.	Beachy Head.	310°T - 05.25-06.25 hrs.
"	"	Selsey Bill	360°T - 04.15-05.30 "

Balloons. Billingham - close-hauled { 2130 - 2300 (Revised)
2215 - 2330 hrs
05.30 - 07.30 "

Southampton }
Portsmouth } At 500 ft from 04.00-07.00 hrs
Langley }
Weybridge }

16-00 Bank a/c. 9 Group request us to send BBA on Middleton
D/F to all Bank a/c - Call sign "KYZ". They have
been briefed to listen to M.S.G. while on flight.

16-50 " Ex 12 lps - Lark have diverted an Anson (one of the above) to Topcliffe - KYZ-N R.T. "Fingertips".

Wednesday, March 1st 1944

- | | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 17.00 | <u>S.F.C.O</u>
<u>Note</u> | During cold weather with risk of snow. Central Flying Control would like a summarized report of aerodrome serviceability every morning about 07.30 hrs. |
| 18.30 | Off duty H.R. Cleland
On duty H.B. Spence M.O. | |
| 18.40. | KYZ-N | Landed at Peerming. Park informed direct by Peerming. Learned of this landing from F.C.R.O. 9 Group when checking for Spcliffe, to whom he had been diverted, but who had no contact with the a/c. In error 61 Base had previously reported this a/c as having landed and this information was passed through to 9 Group & further efforts to contact him were cancelled. 9 Group were quite annoyed (almost incensed in fact) because of the mistake. Fortunately the aircraft landed safely. |
| 21.40 | Balloons | Close-haul of Billingham balloons cancelled. |
| 23.00 | H70/Q | 62 Base reported this a/c having taken off on Ops. Later, after Southdown had been informed, they stated it was an error. F.C. Tholthorpe only having assumed he had taken off whereas he was still tapping. Communication between Watch Office & A.C.P. was apparently practically 1/2 during take off, 5 times being passed to us after 2338 hrs. at which time we understood all who could take off had done so. |
| 23.40 | Red Glow
S.E. of Hinton
& Tholthorpe | Both mpe stations reported having seen red glow for 30-40 seconds in the sky. F.C.R.O. 12 Group advised there had been a crash near Holme on Spalding, but nothing near our Group. |

Thursday, March 2, 1944.

0001 Ident Board changed.

0230 Hostiles 10 Gr. C.F.C. advise these to be in vicinity of Bournemouth at the moment. Balloons now flying at 6,500 feet.

0300 S.O.S. Ex 12 Gr. W/R was plotted out at Filly & over to Dutch coast & back; then west overland, then south; turned north towards Wombledon; then over Dushforth; south to Marston Moor; turned north up to Tholthorpe and finally landed there. 6261, Passes Station were lit up to render assistance. At the same time Tholthorpe had 2 C.R.s on R/T but no contact with 3rd aircraft. Finally 3rd came up and reported Navigator trouble; all 3 landed - 420/R at 0315; 425/J at 0323 and 425/W at 0326.

Controller 12 Group says the aircraft went out from Farnborough, due east for ~~approx 120 miles~~ at 20,000 ft crossed Dutch coast at IJsselstein where he seemed to fall. Before he turned south & then back north for he was picked up again 40 minutes later coming back & showing broad I.F.F. When about 30 miles off English coast he was showing ordinary I.F.F. Beacon at Farnborough was lit for him as well as aerodrome to South. Finally came in at Farnborough, over to Risset where he circled, following which he stooped off into the 6 Group area & was plotted by R.C.C. to Tholthorpe as noted above.

62 Base requested to pass on the full story on this. 420/R was a ^(last night 6550) few which reported Navigator trouble. Both 425/W & J had previously been in contact with Southampton. Controller at 12 Group wishes pilot's story. Quite some delay was experienced in getting 61 Base & Fleming Ops. ^{to} their switchboard at the time the above flap was on.

N.B.

0550

S.O.S.
A 28K

Ref. Entry 0300:- Tholthorpe now declare 425/J is a/c who had navigation trouble. They also state definitely neither 420/R nor 425/J shined broad I.F.R. nor were they on the route outlined 425/J did some stalling between Fleet + Beesley Head to consume petrol.

0630

ditto

Tholthorpe report Crew of 425/W state they went from base to Peterborough, had compass trouble and made a rough D.R. when they encountered predictor flak, fixed their position as 5100N 0230E. They turned back & flew to 5175N 0120E then by the north Star to 5330N 0000E; thence to base by way of Peemung. They definitely state they did not make landfall at Peterborough head.

0650

Peemung
Under

Reported 4/s.

0845

Dimensions

C.F.C. put in the picture re. our a/c away from Base.

All a/c away from Base told to refuel and get to base as soon as possible. Groups confirm they are being hustled home.

0900

Summary
of Ops

Broadcast to Stations.

0900

Aerodromes

O.K. except Peemung which has ice on runways until 1100hrs. C.F.C. advised.

Off Duty: H.L. Spence 4/s.
On Duty: H.A. Harwick 4/s.

Continued

new

Log.