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## R.A.F. Form 540

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No....

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I., para. 2549, and War Manual, Pt. IL, chapter XX., and notes in R.A.P. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation) /48 SOURDEON, R.R.F.

No. of pages used for day\_

| Place               | Date                  | Time  | Summary of Events  | Reference<br>to<br>Appendice |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------|--|------------------------------|
|                     | E INC. TO             |       | The state of the s |                              |
|                     | 1942                  |       |  |                              |
|                     | 1,9,42                |       | 12 aircraft detailed for operations. Target - Enemy M.T. concentrations now reported   |                              |
|                     | 1.9.42                |       | to be vetweeting westwards after heavy attakes by light and medi um hombers the previous night.  |                              |
|                     |                       |       | 111 sixons of proceeded to the target and much have was observed among M.T. Vehicles which were  | 19.7                         |
|                     |                       |       | badly dispersed. All strongft claim direct hits and many fires observed burning. 16 Fires observed   |                              |
|                     |                       | P. L. | burning when afferaft left target area. Very little opposition encountered and all aircraft  |                              |
|                     |                       |       | returned safely. W/Cmdr. Warne C.O. flew in aircraft "M".  |                              |
|                     |                       |       | Letter written to 205 Group stating it was impossible to hold tour expired personnel   |                              |
|                     |                       |       | on strength owing to present state of alert.   |                              |
|                     |                       | 5.4   | Runbs dropped 164 x 250lb g.p. 245Bc x 40lb g.p.   |                              |
|                     |                       |       | Bonne or obligation of a second of a secon |                              |
|                     |                       |       | News received all available aircraft to be prepared to do a double sortie. 10 aircraft   |                              |
|                     | 2.9.42                |       | took off on lst Sortie. Target as on previous night - Concentrations of vehicles moving westwards.   |                              |
| -                   |                       |       | Excellent regults reported by Crawa, Good visibility made task much easier. 8 Fires observed as  | SCHOOL SE                    |
|                     |                       |       | educate left terror, appeared to be too large for transport Aircraft Int 525 (castain will meal)   |                              |
|                     |                       |       | claims direct hite out vehicles equing 4 fires, all singular bething early. Nine sirecars week   | CONTRACTOR OF                |
|                     | 1.42                  | •     | olaims mirest hits out somether contains a three at the state of the s |                              |
|                     | 1.1                   |       | off on 2nd Sortie and proceeded to attack the same target. Excellent illumination made this  |                              |
|                     |                       |       | operation highly successful a dany direct hits obtained on vehicles and 14 fires started, one of   |                              |
|                     |                       |       | which could be seen to miles away. Bursts seen among lorries manych appeared to disintegrate. All  |                              |
|                     |                       |       | aircraft returned safely and from some a meny susceptial operation.  |                              |
| And the             | 111                   |       | Bombs dropped 209 x 2501b G.P. 248BC x 401b G.P.   |                              |
|                     |                       |       |  | CEASION CO.                  |
|                     | 3.9.42                |       | Is aircraft detailed for operations of Porgot M.T. commentrations in Battle Area. News   |                              |
|                     | 60                    |       | repoired Set Flood WOAR posted to U.L. as bour expired, All aircraft took off safely and   | SOME THE REAL PROPERTY.      |
|                     |                       |       | proceeded to the burget. Many fires and explosions started amongst pehicles. B/o dlank (captade.   | WEST OF                      |
|                     |                       |       | airoratt IV 895) crashed are lege 224 on returning oning to vanibility being many pour ever Base,  |                              |
|                     |                       | 100   | the aircraft erakhed into high ground nose first. The Front Gumer (Sgt. Doma) was delided and  |                              |
|                     |                       | 100   | 2nd Pilot, Observer and lat Wo/Aq injured. The aircraft on dramine then was a complate white off,  |                              |
|                     |                       |       | 2nd Pilot, absorped and let more injured, the alteract on describe then was a complete waite off, fuschage being broken. Remainder of aircraft returned safety and a complete waite off.   |                              |
|                     | 7974.11               |       | Bombs dropped 210 x 2501b G.P.   |                              |
|                     | 4" 4"                 |       | the range of a stant of cultie of the culties of the culties of the state of the culties of the  |                              |
|                     | 4.9.4                 | -     | to date the fire of delighted for persetted parent and the persetted one of the fire observed burning an ability every M.T. concentrations of III.   | 1002                         |
|                     | 4.9.49                |       | retireating westmards. S. fines observed burning on arrival over target, Aircraft IV-543 (Captain  |                              |
|                     | W 6 49                |       | and controls beset from on toke off but fautain decided to carry on with operation and make  |                              |
|                     |                       |       | a belly landing on soft sand when aircraft returned. The 5th stick of bombs dropped by this  |                              |
| No. of Line         |                       | -     | aircraft started 5 large red fires and 12 small fires. By light of flare it was found that the   | 1111111                      |
|                     |                       | 18    | port type was hanging in ribbons, Violent explosion started by Aircraft DV 393 (Captain D/O  |                              |
|                     |                       | 1     | No gollar) the blast of which could be felt at 5,700ft. Many fires burning over target ascaircraft   |                              |
|                     |                       | 100   | left. All returned safely. Afteract DW 545 made a successful beel landing on soft sand. All crew   |                              |
|                     | THE PERSON NAMED IN   | 120   | were uninjured. Hews received Sgt Clark WO/AG posted 21 P.T.C. to await passage to U.K. as tour  | 12 - 25                      |
|                     | 1. 1. 1               |       | expired.   |                              |
|                     |                       |       | Bombs dropped 194 x 250lb G.P.   | 5                            |
| 10000               | 5.9.4                 | -     | Bombs dropped 198 X 25010 G-7 at 25010 G-7 a |                              |
|                     | 0.9.4                 |       | personnel, as they have been working at maximum pressure since June 23rd.  |                              |
| Control of the last | The state of the same |       | personnel, as they have been working at manual process.  | A STATE OF                   |

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|       |  | Page   |  |
|-------|--|--|--|
| Place | Date' 'Time  | greet grad or Summary of Events  | Reference<br>to<br>Appendic  |
|       | 1. 1. 1.   | sand 1000 a strong to detailed for operations, rarget a Shipping and legislations Tobruk Burbour.  |  |
|       |  | associations of detected for operations, Target a Shipping and Installations Tobruk Barbour.   |  |
|       | 6.9.42.  | Hows, reserved, R/sgt. Williams, P/O Loos, P/O Mahood (Sadn. May, Officer) and Sgt. Hooper posted  |  |
|       |  | here, reported P/Sgt williams, P/O Loos, P/O lancon (aguata mar a visibility no results could be 21 8,7 % to senit process to U.S., as team expires. Owing to poor visibility no results could   |  |
|       |  | to 21 most to small returned the last tour empires. Owing to poor visite that no results only agon, All aircraft grounds the else II to the small aircraft are proposed at a last of the l |  |
|       | Sec.   | being dramped 27 x boolds date ony sarek or posses public, as 14   |  |
|       |  | a belly lengths on soil and the contract of cold and the  | 10   |
|       | 7.9.42   | all arms sthed dom . No operations st. tillie attached to No. 2 M.S. T.S. for further  |  |
|       | FEED AND TO SEE AND TO | training with a view to captainty. Message received from G.Q.C. ath Army comgratulating R.A.F.   | -  |
|       | 1  |  |  |
|       | 1  | achievements attained curing present camer to a solid of he shipping at Tebruk Marbour. Visibility  Leaves 15 Advanaft detailed for operations. Target sharbed in deek area, diversit DV 607   |  |
| 10    | 8.9.42.  | 13 aircraft detailed for operations. Threat - Shipping at Tebruk Harbour. Visibility   |  |
|       | 0.0.44   | very poor, and results were only partly observed. Fires started in dock area, directly opened in   |  |
|       | THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE |  |  |
|       |  | Joseph jettiagmed shi a Sett Home on returning in a troops 55, 567 run over a 500lb S.F. beat  |  |
|       |  |  |  |
|       |  | 100 A AP TO THE WAR AREA OF THE SECOND OF THE  |  |
|       |  | ment of the many Bearbe dropped 65 x 500lb G.P. 41b SBC x 1.   | STATE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN   |
| -     | 1000000  |  |  |
|       | 9.9.42.  | Il aircraft detailed for operations, farget - Shipping in Tobruk Marbour. Rombs seen to  |  |
|       |  | ll aircraft datalle for operations, the by a supply has dire very accurate. Aircraft burst in dack area and the fines on which heavy subdiverse directory accurate. Aircraft burst in dack area and the fines of the subdiverse by the subdiverse of t |  |
|       |  | The stand Agrico Read manifester to Evine come and another the company begg by I am the company of the company  | e i communicación  |
|       |  |  |  |
|       | 0.00   | off on San Sortie are proceeded to acted the cars carget, I rection to immarte, must care and  | E 22 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1   |
|       | 10.9.42.   |  |  |
|       |  | crome risk operations and markey, P/o paries, P/it, Moore, Sgt. Ridgell, Sgt. Fish, P/o Poster posted 25 P. r.o. to make passage to U.R. as tour expired.  |  |
|       |  |  |  |
|       | 11.9.42  | Sgt. Winthore, Sgt. Worsley, Sgt. Gosling posted 25 P.T.C. as tour expired. 2 F.K.S.   | Legisla  |
|       | 11.9.460   | and on posting 12 strengt detailed for operations. Target - Shipping and Dock Installations  |  |
|       |  | makent warhour one large fire started in dock and followed by Violent explosion. Illumination  |  |
| -     |  | not very good and results were difficult to observe. Anti Aircraft fire fairly accurate. All   | The state of the s |
|       |  | aircraft returned safely.  | 1000   |
|       |  | Bombs dropped 58 x 5001b GaF.  | A Charles  |
|       | 17 17 17   | The state of the s |  |
|       | 12.9.42.   | No operations. All orews stood down.   |  |
|       | 1777   |  | CHECK TON  |
|       | 13.9.42.   | 14 aircraft detailed for Secret operation. Target later discovered to be Tebruk and the  | Street Com   |
|       | 7.51.1   | operation a Combined Services Raid. All aircraft took off on operations. A violent explosion   |  |
|       |  | seen at 23.33. hours at base of harbour. All crews report on the violence of this explosion  | ALCA, S  |
|       |  | which shook all aircraft. Anti aircraft fire fairly heavy but appeared to be firing very high.   |  |
|       |  | Many fires and explosions observed along dock area. All aircraft returned safely.  | THE ROLL   |
|       | TERES VALUE  | Bombs dropped 78 x 250lb G.P. 428BC x 40lb G.P.  |  |
|       | 1 1 1 1  | <b>1</b>   |  |
|       | 14.9.42.   | No operations. Crews stood down.   |  |
|       |  | No operations. Crews stood down.   |  |
|       | 15.9.42.   | No operations, crews stood down.   | N. C. S. S. S. S. S.   |

## R.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I., para. 2349, and War Manual, Pt. II., chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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of (Unit or Formation) AS Squaren, R.A.F.

No.-of pages used for day...

| Place | Date         | Time      | Observation of Summary of Eventsum.  | References<br>to<br>Appendices   |
|-------|--------------|-----------|--|--|
|       |              |           | The area of the state of the st |  |
|       |              |           |  |  |
| - "-" | 1942.        |           | 9 aircraft detailed for operations. Target - Shipping and Dook Installations Tobruk Harbour.   |  |
| G. Z  | 16.9.42      |           | 9 aircraft detailed for operations, farget - shapping and book installation for the difficult to observe. Bursts seen along dock area. Not a   |  |
|       | 20.9.4       |           | an account on 111 sirorsit returned saleive  |  |
|       | 88.97        |           | Bombs dropped 48 x 5001b G-Pe  |  |
|       | 17.8.42      |           | All crews stood down. No operations. One Wellington crew detailed to standby for proceeding to Dudia.  |  |
|       |              |           | Light Timer server wrear w hoor chergarm.  |  |
|       | 18.9.42      |           | 9 agrorant detailed for operations. Target - Shipping and Dook installations februk Barbour.<br>Stationary ship about 10,000 tons seen off Mersa Belafrit by F/Lt. Cane (Aircraft DV 875)  |  |
|       | -            |           |  | With the same of t |
|       |              |           |  |  |
|       | 28.944       | ×*        | difficult to see during the past for nights owing to meen too night when clits period sources, not a bucketshill be best like it is and the following the see that the see it is a see i |  |
|       | +++          | *         |  |  |
|       | 19.9.42      | •         | 8 aircraft detailed for operations! P/O Medae and crow proceeded to No.1. Ferry Control to main transport to India, crow position will be difficult this month owing to personnel being  |  |
|       |              |           | to man't transport to hith, tree positions are striving, all already took off on operations, withdrawn transporting that sharper of crows driving, all already took off on operations, 2 large palls of black sadd seen driving across harbour, 2 lives observed turning in book area,   |  |
|       | 1            |           | 2 large palls of black sacks seen drifting across harbour. 2 Fires observed turning in Dock area,  |  |
|       | 7            |           |  | A DE 25 IN S. JO   |
|       |              |           | after 00.36 hrs when S.O.S. position 70 - 80 miles S. of Mersa Matruh was received. Remainder  |  |
| Ten I |              |           | of directly returned and a cope 2 x 50015 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2  |  |
|       | 1.0          | are and a | THE LEGISTE COOR OF EVERY ME STEPPING OF THE PROPERTY OF SHEET OF SOCIAL STRUCK OPERALS . A MOSE .   | The state of the s |
|       | 1 R-11 54.5  |           | The Carlings of Mars produces retries series to moun corne con urfar at an enterent man a car. cer   |  |
|       | 20.9.42      |           | The care constituted in the state of the sta | 201-00-0   |
|       |              |           | 8 Kirchaft detailed for operations, parget - Enemy alrevialt - L.G. los, Set. Univery posted   |  |
|       | 21.9.43      |           | 23 P.T.C. to amait passage to U.K. as tour expired. 3 At Gunners arrived on posting. 1 Sgt Gunner  |  |
|       |              | 7         | left on posting to Aquir. Visibility good and clear over target. 2 Fires started but no aircraft   |  |
|       |              | 2 100     | seen. Heavy A.A. fire fairly accurate. All aircraft returned safely.   |  |
|       |              |           | Bombs dropped 114 x 2501b G.P. SEC 41b x 8.  |  |
|       | 5.5          |           | ACTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE  | **   |
|       | 22.9.42      |           | 5 sirerare de talled for sperktions. Low servicesbility expected during next few days owing  |  |
|       | 22.9.4       |           |  | HIGH COLUMN  |
|       | 1225         | 4 21/137  | to we as the amount of the bank off to bomb target and bombed dock area. No results  |  |
|       |              |           | Begins by structly jettle and beinds gaing to engine trouble and returned to base. All other aircraft returned safely. A poor operation.  Bonds dropped 15 z 5001b Cap.  |  |
|       | THE PARTY OF | 1 2 1 2   | sires of retirmed as felv. A poor oversion.  | -  |
|       | 11020 F      |           | Similar of Bombs drooted 15 x 5001b GaPe   |  |
|       | 1000         |           |  | 3 5 5 9 V  |
|       | 23.9.42      |           | No operations. All crews attood down. Sgts. Harper and Tate posted No. 23 P.T.C. to awant  | 25   |
|       |              | Brown     | passage to U.K. as tour expired.   | 6  |
|       |              | -         |  | MEN ELLO   |

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Page No. References Summary of Events Time Place Date promise to U.A. a war expired. Appendices To observations, Att Green popul grant, page, harbon and tage bearen 2 . so 1.5. . se wife. WO BORDE 5 aircraft detailed for operations. Target Landing grounds in Daba area. Poor visibility and low lying cloud observed results; but durate were seen amongst badly dispersed aircraft. P/o matesm (IN 508) claims direct hift on 6 trein. Species were seen to be flying from the engine, and the support of the support of the control of the co 24 9 42 5 sircraft detailed for operations Target 2 Shipping and Dock Installations Tobrak 25.9.42 I arbour. Searchlight dazzle prevented observation of results. Aircraft T. 2571 abandoned operation and returned "B"bate "Ming to engage with the property of the company o 6 aircraft detailed for operations. Target - Shipping Tobruk Harbour, News received Sgts. Cane, writte, Milithian, Batsarrat, Mountain posted 25 7.7.6. to await passage to U.K. Astour expired. Letter written by C.O. to2256 Wing about future operations and position of moon. Last operation was complete failure writty to meen being too high when aircraft were over target. 26.9.42. 1454 All aircraft took off safely. No shipping or jetties could be seen. Bursts observed in Dook area.

Aircraft DV 625 recalled onling to port engine trouble. Remainder of aircraft returned safely.

On the last reput to the same of the safely are the same of the 8 aircraft detailed for operations. Rarget Shipping Towne Barbon. I vitter III. left on posting, I at the strain of the strain o 28.9.42. IN 520 (captain Set Beadle) missing from operations. Remainder of aircraft returned safely. Bombs dropped 19 x 25010 G.P. 216 x 4010 G.P. 4 aircraft detailed for operations. Target - Shipping Tobruk Harbour. News received 28.9.42. sgt. Frampton Wolf in circuit HF 840 reported missing on 18/19th Sept. now safe having walked back. No news received of remainder of crew. Sgt. Frampton reporting back within the next few days. P/O Hambleton took addit. admitted Hospital. P/O Watson took over duties as Squadren Adutant. Aircraft HD 947 (Captain P/O Pearse) failed to return from operations. P/O Pearse had completed .... 38 operations with this Squadron and was due to be taken off shortly. Remainder of aircraft returned safely after a poor operation. Bombs dropped 12 x 5001b G.P. 29.9.42. No operations, Crews stood down, Only 2 aircraft serviceable. 4 aircraft detailed for operations. Target - Shipping Tobruk Marbour. Owing to poor 30.9.42. visibility no results seen. Bursts observed in Dook area. Aircraft HF 646 (captain Sgt. Billingham) did not return. This is the third aircraft missing in 4 nights. Remainder of aircraft returned safely. Bombs dropped 16 x 500lb G.P. Bombs dropped during September, 547,3901bs. Operational Aura flown 894hrs, 25 mins. Commander, Commanding, Hol. 7148 Squadron, R. A. F.

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