

21795 W1 38805/2503 400,000 12/35-McC & Co-51-5658

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. 2249, and War Manual, Pt. II., chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

of (Unit or Formation)

No. 185 Squadron.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Hal Far	2.11.42	1805	Interception from practice flying 8 a/c led by P/Lt. Charney, K.L. plot 12+ e/a. No contact made. Sgt. Pilot Tarbuck left by air on attachment to Gibraltar on temporary duty.	
	3.11.42	1830	Scramble 4 a/c led by Capt. K.C. Kuhlmann for 15+ e/a. patrolled island but saw nothing. S/Ldr. B.E.G. White posted to the Squadron command vice Major C.F.O. Gwales who is posted to Station Headquarters, Hal Far, Malta pending transfer to the Middle East Command. Scramble 3 a/c led by Sgt. M.N. Gunstone for same plot as above. Intercepted 3 Macchi 202 and 1 Macchi 202 was destroyed. Nothing sighted.	
	4.11.42	0800	patrol 4 a/c led by Sgt. M.N. Gunstone. Nothing sighted.	
	8.11.42	0705	Scramble 4 a/c led by S/Ldr. White. patrolled. sighted nothing. Sgt/Pilot Harwood involved in a flying accident. Badly injured and admitted to hospital.	
	10.11.42	1015	patrol 4 a/c led by P/Lt. Atkinson. No e/c seen. P/Lt. K.L. Charney left by air on return to the U.K.	
	11.11.42	1425	patrol 4 a/c led by P/O R.B. Park for enemy shipping, but nothing sighted.	
	12.11.42	1435	Scramble 4 a/c led by W/Cdr. Thompson, J.M. but no raid materialised.	
	13.11.42	0845	Scramble 4 a/c led by Capt. K.C. Kuhlmann. No raid materialised.	
		1155	patrol 4 a/c led by W/Cdr. Thompson. Nothing sighted.	
	14.11.42	0805	patrol 4 a/c led by P/Lt. Atkinson to Lampedusa and Linosa. Nothing sighted.	
		1155	patrol 4 a/c led by W/Cdr. Thompson J.M. cover for Squadron returning from sweep	
	18.11.42	1345	but nothing sighted. Reconnaissance patrol of 4 a/c led by Capt. K.C. Kuhlmann	
		0935	over Linosa and Lampedusa. Nothing sighted. Reconnaissance patrol of 4 a/c led by W/Cdr. Thompson, J.M. over Linosa and Lampedusa but nothing sighted.	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	Page No.	References to Appendices
Malta	15.11.42	1450	search for Beaufighter crew. 2 a/c led by S/Ldr. White but nothing sighted.		
	18.11.42	0815	escort patrol 4 a/c led by P/O R.B. Park. No enemy a/c sighted.		
	19.11.42	1010	scramble 4 a/c led by Capt. K.O. Kuhlmann for plot which turned back.		
		1440	patrol over convoy 8 a/c led by F/Lt. Atkinson. No e/a sighted. P/O parked baled out.		
		1515	patrol over convoy 8 a/c led by S/Ldr. White. Nothing sighted.		
			P/O R.B. Park whilst on convoy patrol fifty miles south of Malta, developed engine trouble and had to bale out. P/O Park was dead when picked up by the crew of an escort ship. His body was laid to rest in the Capuccini Cemetery, Malta.		
			F/Sgt/Pilot Weaver previously reported missing, is now officially reported as being a prisoner of war.		
	20.11.42	0715	patrol 4 a/c led by S/Ldr. White. Nothing sighted.		
		0950	patrol 4 a/c led by P/O Maynard. Nothing sighted.		
		1210	patrol 4 a/c led by W/Cdr. Thompson, J.M. Nothing sighted.		
		1555	patrol 4 a/c led by P/O L. Cheek. Nothing sighted.		
	21.11.42	0715	escort patrol 4 a/c led by Capt. K.O. Kuhlmann. A search was carried out for missing swordfish dinghy, but nothing was seen.		
		0830	patrol 8 a/c led by W/Cdr. J.M. Thompson over friendly shipping.		
		1055	patrol 4 a/c led by S/Ldr. White over friendly shipping.		
		1235	patrol 4 a/c led by Sgt. W.H. Walker over friendly shipping.		
		1255	patrol 4 a/c led by P/O Maynard over friendly shipping.		
		1315	patrol 4 a/c led by F/Lt. Atkinson.		
		1405	patrol 4 a/c led by F/Lt. Atkinson.		
			P/O H.J. Smith left by air on transfer to the Middle East Command.		
	22.11.42	0610	Anti E-Boat patrol 2 a/c led by P/O Maynard. Nothing sighted. P/O Maynard on return home crashed into the sea. No trace of pilot or wreckage found.		
			P/O A.R.H. Maynard whilst returning to base from an E-Boat patrol off the coast of Sicily flying at sea level crashed into the sea. His body was not recovered.		

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of (Unit or Formation) 185 Squadron.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Mal Far	22.11.	0720	Patrol 4 a/c led by S/Ldr. White, between Grand Harbour and St. Paul's Bay.	
			No sightings.	
		1520	Patrol 4 a/c led by Capt. Kuhlmann. No enemy aircraft seen.	
		1345	Scramble 4 a/c led by W/Cdr. J.M. Thompson. Proved to be friendly aircraft.	
		1440	Patrol 4 a/c P/O L. Check. No enemy aircraft seen.	
23.11.42	1110		Recon. Patrol 8a/c led by W/Cdr. Thompson. Turned back owing to w/s weather.	
24.11.42	0910		Recon. patrol Lampedusa 2 a/c led by S/Ldr. White. Shot up gun post. No e/a seen.	
		0830	Patrol 2 a/c led by Sgt. W.N. Walker. Nothing sighted.	
		1145	Sweep over Sicily. 8 a/c led by S/Ldr. White. No e/c seen.	
		1335	Patrol 4a/c led by W/Cdr. Thompson. Nothing sighted.	
25.11.42	1035		Fighter bomber sweep over Gela. 8 a/c led by W/Cdr. J.M. Thompson. No e/c sighted.	
		1600	Patrol 4 a/c led by F/Lt. Atkinson. Nothing seen.	
		1620	Scramble 4 a/c led by S/Ldr. White. No e/a seen. Plot did not materialise.	
26.11.42	1000		Scramble 2 a/c led by F/Lt. Atkinson. Proved to be friendly aircraft.	
27.11.42	0835		Search for Albacore crew. 4 a/c led by Capt. Kuhlmann. Nothing sighted.	
		1115	Patrol on shipping in Grand Harbour. 4a/c led by W/Cdr. Thompson. Nothing seen.	
		1135	Patrol 4 a/c led by Sgt. Constone. No enemy aircraft seen.	
		1145	Convoy patrol over Harbour. 4 a/c led by S/Ldr. White. Nothing seen.	
		1640	Scramble 4 a/c led by F/O Knight. Enemy aircraft approached coast but nothing was sighted.	
28.11.42	1105		Fighter bomber sweep over Gela. 8 a/c led by S/Ldr. White. Sgt. Moulton damaged 2 Ju, 52.	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Mal Far	28.11.42	1115	Cover of returning sweep. 4 aircraft led by Sgt. Walker. No e/a seen.	
		1415	Search. 2 a/c led by P/O Cheek for Spitfire pilot. Nothing seen.	
	29.11.42	0740	Cover Patrol. 4a/c led by Capt. Auhlmann. Nothing sighted.	
		1005	Fighter bomber sweep over Gela. 8 a/c led by W/Cdr. Thomson. Sgt. Gunstone damaged 1 Macchi 200 and was shot up himself.	
		1620	Sweep over Sicily. 3 a/c led by P/O Knight. No e/o encountered.	
	30.11.42	1000	Fighter bomber sweep over Gela. 8 a/c led by S/Ldr. White. Nothing sighted.	
		1615	Patrol 4 a/c led by Capt. A. Auhlmann. Nothing sighted.	
			<i>Reasons P/O</i> Squadron Leader, Commanding No 185 Squadron Royal Air Force	

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