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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

FORM 541.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

BY 179 Squadron

SECRET

PAGE No. 1.

(*9342) WL 34651-33 60,000 5142 T.S. 700

FOR THE MONTH OF December 1942

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				UP	DOWN		
30. 11. 42	Wellington O HX 474	P/O Riding Sgt Green W/O Bryant F/Sgt Burwell Sgt Hall F/Sgt McCullough	A/S Sweep East	2220	0840	At 0230 in position 3629 N 0120 obtained an S/E contact 6 1/2 miles to starboard which disappeared on homing. Two further contacts were not investigated as there was a convey in the actual position.	01/11/12/42
	Wellington T LA 441	S/L Southall P/O Elisha F/Lt McFegor Sgt Cooke Sgt Sutton Sgt Cochrane	A/S Sweep East	2208	1003	At 0415 in posn 3747 N 0140 obtained an S/E contact to port and homed losing height. At 1 1/2 miles at 1000 ft the contact began fading and almost under the nose of the aircraft a swirl & wake were seen disappearing. Research was made for 40 minutes without results. At 0627 in posn 3736 N 0114 E another contact was obtained which disappeared on homing.	02/11/12/42
1. 12. 42	Wellington M HX 531	F/Sgt Martin Sgt Holdens Sgt Kirkwood Sgt Bramwell Sgt Stabler Sgt Toyn	Air Test	1205	1415	The aircraft was being tailed to the East of base when at 1240 in posn 3602 N 0420 W a periscope was sighted from 1000 ft on an easterly course. The aircraft circled the position for 1 hour but nothing further was sighted.	Transport E 02/11/12/42
	Wellington J HX 641	P/O Scott P/O May P/O Guss P/O Vogt Sgt Handley Sgt Barnsdall	A/S Sweep East	1617	0131	At 1655 in posn 3610 N 0557 W a white streak was seen which resembled a periscope wake. The aircraft circled losing height to 600 ft when the streak disappeared. At 2110 in posn 3743 N 0120 E intermittent gun flashes were seen to the N.E. but the position could not be determined. At 2202 in posn 3743 N 0140 E an S/E contact was obtained to port the aircraft homed losing height and at 3/4 mile the search light was put on to illuminate a fully surfaced 4/5 on a course of 55°. The aircraft attached a course to port.	28

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						was dropping 4 Ds from 75ft the nearest of which fell about 20ft from the port bow. The Rear fuselage SGT in one long burst hit 4 hits were seen and though a/c crashed for 14 mins no flames were observed and having reached P.L.E. comms was set for base	01/2/12/42
1. 12. 42	Wellington D HX 474	Flt Lt Martin Sgt Widdows Sgt Kirkwood Sgt Bramwell Sgt Stabler Sgt Tozer	A/S Sweep East	2016	0650	During the flight the a/c homed onto various naval units on patrol and 0214 in pos 3707 N 0130 E an S/E contact 1 mile to starboard was obtained. The a/c homed losing height and at 1/2 mile the searchlight illuminated the stern of a U/B in the process of diving. The a/c passed 20 yards to starboard too far away to make an attack. The area was searched until 0338 but nothing further was sighted.	02/2/12/42
	Wellington D HX 720	Flt Gordon Glasgow Sgt Hargrave P/O Quattri P/O Carmichael Sgt Beale Sgt Brown	A/S Sweep East	2210	0850	At 2220 intercepted a/c T sighting report and on two occasions sighted destroyer on patrol. A convoy was also sighted on the return flight	03/2/12/42
	Wellington T LN 771	1/c Combe Flt Sgt Birrell P/O Haynes Flt Lt Butler Sgt Ridley Sgt Voth	A/S Sweep East	0128	1040	Only two sightings were made on this flight one of a destroyer and one on a convoy of one merchant vessel escorted by four destroyers.	04/2/12/42
	Wellington C HX 449	Sgt Andrews Sgt Anderson Sgt Archibald Sgt Murray P/O Wilson	A/S Sweep East	0400	1110	Only two sightings were made during this flight one of a destroyer & the other of an unidentified convoy. An S/E contact 0902 proved to be a patrolling Hudson a/c	05/2/12/42

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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By 179 Squadron

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(FORM 101) WL 945-56 60,000 5/43 T.S. 790

FOR THE MONTH OF December 1942

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
3. 12. 42	Wellington T LA 971	A/c Combs Pilot Birrell P/O Stanger P/O Barber Sgt. Radley Sgt. Voh	A/S Sweep East	2230	0240	Sighted a convoy at 2301 and then found the S/E to be unserviceable so course was set for base.	01/4/12/42
	Wellington J HX 641	P/O Scott P/O Flay P/O Good P/O Vogt Sgt. Standley Sgt. Barnsdoll	A/S Sweep East	2259	0817	Sighted at 2338 in posn 3606N 0537W 2 planes probably fired by a surface vessel and at 0009 obtained S/E contacts from a convoy. A large convoy was sighted at 0500 just east of Gibealta.	02/4/12/42
	Wellington D HX 720	Sgt. Horne Sgt. Andrews Sgt. Heath Sgt. Archibald Sgt. Murray P/O Wilson	A/S Sweep East	2155	0755	At 2341 in posn 3626N 0109W an S/E 6 miles to port vanished when homed on. At 0515 in posn 3626N 0130W illuminated a fully surfaced U/B after an S/E contact 6 miles to port and attached from 90° abaft from port side releasing four D's from 50ft whilst the U/B was still surfaced. The carrier jammer opened fire and hits were seen on the conning tower. During the 12 mins which the A/c spent circling the area a large patch of oil was seen which gradually increased in size.	03/4/12/42
	Wellington C HX 749	P/O Martin Sgt. Diddow Sgt. Kirkwood Sgt. Bramwell Sgt. Stabler Sgt. Cooper	A/S Sweep East	2342	0927	During the patrol two convoys were sighted and a sighting report from A/c "D" was intercepted. The A/c accordingly altered course for the position arriving at 0706 the area was searched without success.	04/4/12/42
4. 12. 42	Wellington R LA 776	P/O Riding Sgt. Green W/O Bryant Pilot Birrell Sgt. Heath P/O McCallough	A/S Sweep East	2122	0410	At 2312 in posn 3631N 0053W missed an S/E contact at a range of 5 1/2 miles homed into it and at 1/2 miles illuminated a fully surfaced U/B. A/c attached along U/B track dropping 4 D's from 130ft which fell alongside. The A/c turned away & the carrier jammer opened fire as the A/c circled the U/B returned the	29

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4. 12. 48	Wellington M HX 531	Flt Lt Hastings Sgt Rees Sgt Allen Sgt Pepperdine Sgt Williams Sgt Pennington	A/S Sweep East	2155	0755	fire with M.G. tracer which passed close to the a/c tail. The U/B did not suffer any damage in estimated to have been sustained. Finally the a/c lost sight of the U/B and two hours were spent searching the area.	01/5/12/42
	Wellington D HX 720	Flt Sqnldr Glasgow Sgt Hastings Flt Lt Hunter Sgt Beale Sgt Brown	A/S Sweep East	2235	0815	At 2355 homed onto an M/V in posn 3608N 0110W but had nothing further to report	02/5/12/42
	Wellington C HX 749	Flt Lt Dwyer Sgt Bart Sgt Kipping Sgt Radcliff Sgt Smithson Sgt Vine	A/S Sweep East	2156	0825	Intercepted. Picked up message concerning the attack by a/c "R" and altered course accordingly. Arriving over the position of the attack at 0438 a/c commenced a square search without success	03/5/12/42
5. 12. 42	Wellington M HX 531	Flt Lt Martin Sgt Widdows Sgt Kirkwood Sgt Brownwell Sgt Stabler Sgt Tozer	A/S Sweep East	1810	0130	At 0217 homed onto 2 vessels on an easterly course at 0255 received a diversion signal to the position of a/c "R" attack and course was altered accordingly nothing was sighted.	04/5/12/42
						Homed onto a Cruiser and a Destroyer and at 2106 in posn 3645N 0106 E after an S/E contact illuminated from 100ft a U/B on the surface. The a/c attacked and the DCs were seen to explode close on the U/B starboard quarter. The a/c gunner fired about 500 rounds at the U/B as it was in the act of diving. The a/c resumed patrol and at 2228 was again in position of attack but nothing more was observed.	

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(1051) WL 945-36 60,000 5/28 T.S. 790

FOR THE MONTH OF December 1942

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
5. 12. 42	Wellington O HX 474	F/O Scott F/O May F/O Jones F/O Vayr Sgt Barnard Sgt Comfort F/O Fether Sgt Nichols Sgt Johnson Sgt Hotten	A/s Sweep East	2058	0703	At 0253 sighted a neutral vessel on a westerly course, but nothing further to report.	02/6/12/42
6. 12. 42	Wellington D HX 720	F/O Fether Sgt Nichols Sgt Johnson Sgt Hotten	A/s Sweep East	0059	1006	At 0130 illuminated a Destroyer on an easterly course and at 0710 in posn 3655N 0007E sighted an oil streak about 4 miles long.	03/6/12/42
	Wellington X LB 145	F/Sgt Hasty Sgt Best Sgt Allen Sgt Pappadine Sgt Williams Sgt Pennington	A/s Sweep East	1825	0016	At 2113 in posn 3612N 0016W after 5/E contact illuminated fully surfaced U/B. R/c attached dropping 400 lbs from 100-150 ft. across U/B bows. Only two explosions were seen and on flying over the position a second time only a white streak was seen. The a/c remained in the vicinity for 68 minutes but nothing more was seen.	01/7/12/42
	Wellington J HX 641	F/O Briny Sgt Barr Sgt Kerpurning Sgt Ashton Sgt Smithson Sgt Vine	A/s Sweep East	1520	0210	At 1725 in posn 3603N 0228W an S/E contact was obtained 8 miles ahead and at 2 1/2 miles a periscope was seen. As the a/c approached this disappeared and as the a/c was now on the edge of a restricted area patrol was resumed. At 2055 a further contact was obtained at 7 miles but on hovering nothing was seen & a square search yielded no results.	02/7/12/42
	Wellington T LA 971	F/O Riding Sgt Green F/O Bryant F/Sgt Bennett Sgt Drake F/Sgt MacCallough	A/s Sweep East	2108	0722	At 0251 obtained a contact on a conveyer did not investigate it. Nothing further to report.	03/7/12/42
	Wellington R LA 976	S/Lt Smith F/O Evans F/Sgt MacCallough Sgt Cooke Sgt Smithson Sgt Lockman	A/s Sweep East	2323	1012	At 0305 in posn 3550N 0040W illuminated a Corvette and at 0312 in posn 3555N 0050W sighted 200 yds to port U/B on surface too close to attack. Rear gunner fired & estimated hit on C.T. After searching Convoys for the Corvette or sighting reported Corvette did not reply. At 0652 while in cloud a/c passed close to a/v which opened fire.	05/7/12/42

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	Wellington C HX 749	Sgt Hovew Sgt Andrews Sgt Brady Sgt Ashibald Sgt Murray P/O Wilson	A/S Sweep East	2312	—	The aircraft was airborne first at 2312 but returned to base and landed at 2318 owing to the hatch being open. At 2324 it was airborne again but did not return from the sortie and no signals were received from it	01/8/12/42
7.12.42	Wellington X LB 145	P/O Gordon Stamford Sgt Murray P/O Hunter Sgt Beale Sgt Brown P/O Carmichael	A/S Sweep East	1804	2225	At 2016 in posn 3444 N 0152 W obtained an S/E contact 6 miles ahead. The aircraft was illuminated by fully surfaced U/B. The attack was made from the port beam & 4 DCA were released which fell close amidships. The U/B opened fire with the MG or cannon and the Rear gunner of the aircraft replied with one short burst as the aircraft passed over. No results were obtained. At 2020 the crew became aware of a heavy smell of petrol & the Captain decided to return to base	01/8/12/42
	Wellington R LA 976	P/O Comfort P/O Fettes P/O McHardy Sgt Nichols Sgt Johnson Sgt Hobson	A/S Sweep East	2011	0411	At 2052 intercepted message from aircraft "X" & set course for the position of the attack which was reached at 2211 and on square search was commenced which produced no results & patrol was resumed. At 0030 a short circuit developed	01/8/12/42
	Wellington V HX 562	P/O Martin Sgt Laidlaw Sgt Kirkwood Sgt Parrinell Sgt Stobler Sgt Tager	A/S Sweep East	2235	0745	Homed onto a Corvette and on two occasions homed onto contacts that disappeared. Nothing further to report.	03/8/12/42
8.12.42	Wellington T LA 971	P/O Cook P/O Binnett P/O Haynes P/O Roberts Sgt Ridley Sgt Voth	A/S Sweep East	0005	1020	Homed on to an M/V a Corvette & a large cargo ship. One contact was obtained & homed on which disappeared. Nothing further to report.	04/8/12/42

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(*5511) WL 9855-56 60,000 514 T.S. 700

FOR THE MONTH OF December 1942

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				Up	Down		
8.12.42	Wellington R LA 976	S/L Pearce P/O Fisher P/O McGregor Sgt Cochrane Sgt Sutton Sgt Cochrane	A/S Sweep East	1954	0116	At 2201 in position 35 53 N 0051 W illuminated U/B 3/4 mile distant. As the a/c approached U/B continued to dive and 15 seconds after it had completely submerged 4 d/c's were dropped. Rear gunner saw d/c explode on the edge of the searchlight. Though the a/c remained circling & illuminating the area nothing was seen. A vessel named "Hunda" was homed onto the position to continue the search.	01/9/12/42
	Wellington V HX 562	F/O Dring Sgt Barr Sgt Koperberg Sgt Ashton Sgt Smithson Sgt Vine	A/S Sweep East	1722	0335	At 0107 having received a diversion from base in posn 36 55 N 0057 E obtained a contact at 3/4 mile range. S/L was switched on but thick haze made visibility nil. Tracer was observed by the pilot to be coming up from what was presumed to be a U/B. The Rear gunner also observed tracer from the starboard gun. He passed over and opened fire on the source of the tracer but was temporarily blinded by a vivid white flash from this source. The tracer ceased immediately. Pilot having climbed to check if damage had been sustained then set course for base.	02/9/12/42
	Wellington T LA 971	F/Sgt Hasty Sgt Barr Sgt Koperberg Sgt Ashton Sgt Smithson Sgt Vine	A/S Sweep East	2220	0530	Searched the area for the U/B reported by a/c R without success. At 0330 an oil leakage in starboard engine started and pilot decided to return to base.	06/9/12/42
9.12.42	Wellington M HX 531	P/O Scott P/O May P/O Goss P/O Logg Sgt Standley Sgt Barnard	A/S Sweep East	0005	0750	At 0547 in posn 36 29 N 0126 W illuminated a U/B at 3/4 mile. From 150 ft 4 d/c's were dropped & were seen to explode midway between C/T & base of the U/B. The Rear gunner opened fire & saw some of his tracer missing off the C/T. Nothing further was seen.	07/9/12/42

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9.12.42	Wellington R LA 976	Pilot Comfort P/O Fother Sgt MacHardie Sgt Macintosh Sgt Johnson Sgt Hooton	A/s Patrol East	1743	1849	Commenced a sweeping line ahead patrol at 1813 west of 40° West the engine grills were U/S and pilot returned to base	029/9/12/42
	Wellington T LA 971	P/O Combe P/O Birmell P/O Haynes P/O Bowles Sgt Ridley Sgt Voss	A/s Patrol East	2014	0645	Obtained contacts on two con rags and at 0350 illuminated a destroyer or corvette the identity was not definitely established	05/10/12/42
	Wellington D HX 720	P/O Gordon Glasgow Sgt Strangway P/O Macintosh Sgt Beale Sgt Brown P/O Carmichael	A/s Patrol East	2232	0815	Homed onto a lighted ship and at 0130 received a message from base concerning an attack on an enemy submarine. A/c altered course accordingly and at 0224 was in pos. 3640N 0004W & then commenced a search. Nothing was seen except 2 DPs.	06/10/12/42
	Wellington M HX 531	P/O Ridley Sgt Green P/O Ryan Sgt Bennett Sgt Smith P/O McCallough	A/s Patrol East	2354	1003	Homed onto a cruiser or large DR at 0216 and at 0340 received message from base of an attack on an enemy submarine. The message had been received earlier but was indecipherable. No other aircraft were known to be searching the area pilot remained on patrol.	08/10/12/42
10.12.42	Wellington R LA 976	S/Ldr Southall P/O Elishaw P/O Macgregor Sgt Cochrane Sgt Sutton Sgt Cochrane	A/s Sweep East	1954	0009	At 2155 in pos. 3643N 0102 W having received S/E contact 6 miles to port, illuminated fully surfaced U/S. A/c attacked from 80ft & D/Cs opened to straddle U/S aft. Red tracer was fired by U/S but ceased as D/C exploded. The war gunner opened fire as soon as U/S became visible. After 8 minutes searching the area the S/E was found to be U/S & pilot returned to base	02/11/12/42

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

BY 179 Squadron
FOR THE MONTH OF December 1942

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(*9311) WL 925-96 60,000 5/12 T.S. 700

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
10.12.42	Wellington T HX 561	P/O Scott P/O May P/O Goss Sgt. Spindley Sgt. Barnardall	M/S Sweep East	1733	0318	At 2006 in posn 3652N 0083W an S/E contact was obtained but found to be in a restricted area. Contacts were also obtained on a convoy & a lighted ship.	03/11/42
	Wellington T LA 471	P/O Harte Sgt. Beale Sgt. Allen Sgt. Pepperdine Sgt. Williams Sgt. Rennieforter	M/S Sweep East	2220	0820	At 0330 after an S/E contact 8 miles to starboard illuminated in posn 3610N 0124W U/B on the edge of S/L beam when next sighted directly to weather but wrong U/B was sent missing. A/c turned to attack but U/B was lost and a later contact was found to be a destroyer.	06/11/42
	Wellington M HX 531	P/O Diving Sgt. Bate Sgt. Koperwing Sgt. Ashton Sgt. Smithson Sgt. Vine	M/S Sweep East	2355	1025	Contacted two illuminated vessels & a large Naval Force. Intercepted message from A/C T over a U/B. Horned onto two convoys and at 0715 warned an escort vessel after second op. that there was a U/B in the vicinity and was joined by attacker & a Catalina in the search.	07/11/42
12.12.42	Wellington O HX 474	P/O Reding Sgt. Green P/O Bryant P/O Blissett Sgt. Harte P/O McCallough	M/S Sweep East	1713	2155	At 1913 in posn 3550N 0110W an S/E contact was obtained 7 miles to port and at 1/2 mile range the cony tower & stern of a U/B were illuminated. A/c attached from 110ft and a large explosion was seen to starboard. The rear gunner fired about 100 rounds as the aircraft passed over. No results were obtained.	019/12/42
	Wellington D HX 720	P/O Gordon Glassford Sgt. Harte P/O Hurtle Sgt. Beale Sgt. Brown P/O Carmichael	M/S Sweep East	1940	2300	At 2052 in posn 3612N 0218W after an S/E contact 5 miles to starboard the wake of a U/B was seen and from 100ft at range 1/2 mile search light switched on revealing fully surfaced U/B. A/c attached from 60ft and 3 explosions were seen, the flashes illuminating the submarine. The rear gunner got in two short bursts. No results were observed.	01/13/42

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12.12.42	Wellington J HX 641	Plt Comdr V P/O Feltham P/O McHardy Sgt Nichols Sgt Johnson Sgt Holton	A/S Sweep East	2206	0740	Many S/E contacts were homed onto but there were no U/Boat sightings and nothing to report.	05/13/12/42
13.12.42	Wellington M HX 531	P/O Martin Sgt Williams Sgt Kimbrell Sgt Bramwell Sgt Jones Sgt Cooke P/O Birtwell	A/S Sweep East	0005	0935	At 0408 homed onto a convoy west of Oran and a neutral vessel carrying lights otherwise nothing to report.	06/15/12/42
	Wellington H HX 738	P/O Birtwell P/O Hayes P/O Birtwell Sgt Ridley Sgt Vell	A/S Sweep East	1745	2040	At 1821 the S/E was found to be unserviceable at 1857 pilot decided to return to base.	025/12/12/42
	Wellington J HX 641	P/O Comdr V P/O Feltham P/O McHardy Sgt Nichols Sgt Johnson Sgt Holton	A/S Sweep East	2338	0851	Various S/E contacts were obtained but nothing was sighted and there was considerable interference on the S/E.	02/16/12/42
	Wellington O HX 474	P/O Jones Sgt Baw Sgt Koberling Sgt Ashton Sgt Williams Sgt Vell	A/S Sweep East	2352	0910	Homed onto two lighted vessels and two convoys. Considerable interference was experienced with the S/E	05/16/12/42
14.12.42	Wellington D HX 720	Plt Southall P/O Elisha P/O McGregor Sgt Cooke Sgt Sutton Sgt Cockburn	A/S Sweep East	0003	0412	At 0152 in posn 36 35N 0056 W an S/E contact 2 1/2 miles to port was homed onto & what was believed to be the wake of a U/B was sighted. The a/c held its course & then turned to attack and at 0203 a further contact was obtained 6 miles ahead, this was homed onto & the S/E switched on revealing a fully surfaced U/B in posn 36 37N 0057 W, which immediately opened fire with its heavy gun & machine gun on the commingling. The attack was pressed home & the firing ceased as the U/B exploded. The a/c gunner got in two short bursts as a/c passed over, no results were observed.	01/16/12/42

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FOR THE MONTH OF December 1942

(*9311) Wt. 925-50 50,000 5/42 T.S. 700

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
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15.12.42	Wellington T LA 941	F/L Compton F/O Feller F/O MacHardy Sgt Richards Sgt Johnson Sgt Horton	A/S Patrol East	2214	0633	At 0040 an S/E contact 1 1/2 miles to starboard and at 0042 a fully surfaced U/B was illuminated from 1 1/2 miles in from 3702 N 0015 E. The attack was made from 40 ft + the stick of D.C. fell between the C/P & bow the explosions illuminating the submarine. After the passed over, the rear gunner saw the U/B dive. No results were observed	01/16/12/42
	Wellington H 14X 738	F/Sgt Hasty Sgt Rust Sgt Allen Sgt Pepperdine Sgt Williams Sgt Pennefather	A/S Patrol East	2255	0823	At 0428 in from 3653 N 0028 W S/E contact at 12 miles to starboard at 0431 in from 3652 N 0028 W a U/B was sighted in the act of diving in the beam of the search light. R/C attached from 100 ft and when D.C. were released only the sword was visible but the explosions were seen between the a/c & the sword completely obliterating the latter. The only result observed was a darker patch on the water.	02/16/12/42
	Wellington M 4X 531	F/Sgt Martin Sgt Widdows Sgt Kirkwood Sgt Bannister Sgt Stabler Sgt Torgov	A/S Patrol East	2320	1025	Homed onto 2 M/Vs and a Wellington a/c and contacted a convoy. On return to base weather had deteriorated so much that a/c was compelled to infringe neutral territory to avoid the Rock while waiting to land.	03/16/12/42
16.12.42	Wellington T H X 641	F/O Gordon-Glasford Sgt Murray A/S Smith Sgt Reale Sgt Brown F/O Carmichael	A/S Patrol East	0016	-	human contacts were investigated & two D.R. a fishing vessel homed etc. At 0455 a message was received from base diverting the a/c to Tag Arawai owing to weather conditions. At 1125 off the African Coast both engines cut & the D.C. were jettisoned. The a/c ditched 12 miles NW of	03

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				Up	Down		
16.12.42						of Pape Figalo near Cran. The crew entered the dinghy but as the aircraft remained afloat the crew boarded it again. A Boston a/c flew over several times & then a Catalina appeared & landed on the water. At 1650 the crew having paddled over in the dinghy were rescued by the Catalina and were landed at Gen at 1710. The following day the crew returned to Gibraltar in the Catalina landing at 1845 on the 17 th Dec. The navigators log was lost in the aircraft. So times are all approximate.	
18.12.42	Wellington O Hx 474	P/O Scott P/O May P/O Sans P/O Vaght Sgt. Woodley Sgt. Barnsdall P/O R. Hodgson P/O R. Thompson Sgt. Chalmers Sgt. Evans Sgt. Davis	A/s Patrol East 1726	0312		Two contacts were obtained & homed either in each case an illuminated vessel was sighted. Nothing further to report.	06/18/12/42
	Wellington T (LA 77)		A/s Patrol East 1939	0608		A limited M/V & a destroyer were sighted in the moonlight. At 0200 the S/E went up & at 0520 off Point Almina believed that he had infringed territorial waters but having turned south found this was incorrect & set course for base.	01/19/12/42
	Wellington D Hx 720	P/O Diving Sgt. Bann Sgt. Thompson Sgt. Smithson Sgt. Vane	A/s Patrol East 2149	0740		Three contacts homed onto were found to be patrolling destroyers and two further contacts investigated were illuminated M/V.	02/19/12/42
	Wellington Lt. Hx 738	P/O Riding Sgt. Bann P/O Bennett Sgt. Russell Sgt. Stalk P/O J. McCullough	A/s Patrol East 2345	1010		Several destroyers & a/c were homed onto and at 0400 a contact was obtained which disappeared repeatedly when homed onto. S/E then went partly up believed due to jamming.	03/19/12/42

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(FORM) WL 955-48 60,000 5/48 T.S. 950

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
19.12.42	Wellington T LA 971	F/Sgt Hardy Sgt Bear Sgt Allen Sgt Petherbridge Sgt Williams Sgt Pennington	A/S Sweep East	1825	0425	At 2245 the aircraft homed onto a sailing vessel otherwise there was nothing to report.	01/20/12/42
20.12.42	Wellington M. HX 531	F/O Dunning Sgt. K. Brown Sgt. Ashton Sgt. Smith Sgt. Vane	A/S Sweep East	1800	0415	At 1850 a contact was obtained but found to be in a restricted area. The aircraft homed onto a lighted ship and a convoy and destroyed.	01/21/12/42
	Wellington H HX 738	F/Sgt Hodgson Sgt. Munn F/Sgt. Thompson Sgt. Callender Sgt. Evans Sgt. Davis	A/S Sweep East	1055	0638	Homed onto a convoy and various ships. Many contacts obtained from convoys. At 0515 a message was received from base giving a U/Boat sighting but the aircraft had not got the endurance to reach the position & search.	02/21/12/42
	Wellington T LA 971	F/L Comfort F/O Foster F/O Hutchings Sgt. Highley Sgt. Johnson	A/S Sweep East	0004	1000	Homed onto convoy at 0340. At 0635 received a message from base of a U/Boat sighting having torpedoed a merchant vessel in posn 3652N 0034W so altered course and carried out a search in the area without success.	03/21/12/42
21.12.42	Wellington T LA 971	F/O Gordon Glasgow Sgt. Harvey F/O Hunter Sgt. Beale Sgt. Brown F/O Carmichael	A/S Sweep East	1905	0420	A contact was followed for 12 minutes which proved to be an aircraft. At 2112 in posn 3606N 0028W a contact was obtained 12 miles to port, on being it was found to be a large merchant vessel on fire. At 2310 a convoy was sighted visually.	01/22/12/42
22.12.42	Wellington M HX 531	F/O Riding Sgt. Green W/O. Bennett F/Sgt. Hurrell Sgt. Heath F/Sgt. McCullough	A/S Sweep East	0024	1055	A convoy of 15 vessels was sighted at 0155. At 0255 in posn 3556N 0031W the merchant vessel Strathkhan was sighted on fire and 7 lifeboats all apparently empty were seen at 0750 in posn 3625N 0015W.	02/22/12/42

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				Up	Down		
21.12.42	Wellington D HX 720	F/Sgt Hartley Sgt Widdows Sgt Kirkwood Sgt Bramwell Sgt Stalker Sgt Toner	A/s Patrol East	1835	0425	nothing was seen during the patrol but the aircraft crashed on landing. This crew were unharmed.	04/22/12/42
22.12.42	Wellington T. LA 971	Sgt Southall P/O Elmer P/O Hooper Sgt Cohen Sgt Sutton Sgt Bechman	A/s Sweep East	1722	0317	At 2115 sighted four large M/V were seen on a westerly course and much interference was experienced on the S/E. Nothing to report.	01/23/12/42
	Wellington W HX 531	F/O Dwyer Sgt Baird Sgt Koperberg Sgt Ashton Sgt Smithson Sgt Vines	A/s Sweep East	2043	0658	A/c homed on to a number of lighted merchant vessels but nothing else was seen. Some interference was experienced on the S/E.	02/23/12/42
	Wellington G HX 741	F/Sgt Hasty Sgt Burt Sgt Allen Sgt Rappaport Sgt Williams Sgt Pennington	A/s Sweep East	2346	0910	At 0201 in posn 3703 N 0058 W an S/E contact was obtained & homed onto but nothing was seen. No other results were obtained.	05/23/12/42
23.12.42	Wellington J	Sgt Sims Sgt Kelly Sgt Keaton Sgt Heston Sgt Bell Sgt Dickenson	A/s Sweep East	0931	1528	nothing was seen during the patrol.	08/23/12/42
	Wellington M	P/O Henry Sgt Dwyer Sgt Tunnell Sgt Little Sgt Wilson Sgt MacGowan	A/s Sweep East	0930	1618	A contact was obtained at 1419 & homed onto but proved to be a destroyer, but no other sightings were made.	01/23/12/42
	Wellington D	Sgt Newman Sgt Wood Sgt Smith Sgt Headley Sgt Ridge Sgt White	A/s Sweep East	0939	1725	At 1113 4 Swedish relief ships were sighted on a westerly course. At 1200 in posn 3640 N 0130 W 5 open rowing boats all unoccupied & stationary were seen. At 1251 a contact was received in a restricted area.	01/23/12/42

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(*9581) Wt. 925-56 50,000 5/42 T.S. 780

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
23.12.42	Wellington P	F/Sgt Hodgson Sgt Munro F/Sgt Hodgson Sgt Cook Sgt Evans Sgt Davis	A/S Sweep West	1826	0412	At 1855 a very large convoy was seen covering an area of about 6 miles. At 2205 the S/Lt came in the broke down & pilot decided to return to base but half an hour later the Wireless Operator had repaired it & the patrol was resumed, only one lighted M/V was seen	01/24/12/42
	Wellington Y	F/Lt Comfort F/O Bell F/O McHardy Sgt Becham Sgt Johnson Sgt Hutton	A/S Sweep West	2045	0639	At 0157 in posn 3600 N 1415 W a flame float was seen burning but as the aircraft circled it died out. A lighted M/V was homed onto at 0215	02/24/12/42
	Wellington W HX 531	F/Sgt Heather Sgt Widdows Sgt Kirkwood Sgt Bramwell Sgt Taylor Sgt Tager	A/S Sweep West	2230	0820	The only sighting was of an illuminated merchant vessel at 5 miles distance at 0152	03/24/12/42
24.12.42	Wellington I	F/O Reding Sgt Green F/O Bryant F/Sgt Russell Sgt Hall F/Sgt McCullough	A/S Patrol in Vicinity of Lough	1756	0505	At 1910 met convoy in position 3612 N 0240 W. Several contacts on naval vessels were obtained during the patrol & the Convoy was left at 0258 in posn 3615 N 0250 W.	01/25/12/42
	Wellington T LA 911	F/O Gordon Glasgow Sgt MacIntyre F/O Hunter Sgt Beale Sgt Brown F/O Carmichael	A/S Patrol in Vicinity of Lough	2012	0625	The convoy was contacted at 2120 in posn 3613 N 0213 W. At 2140 a submarine was sighted in a restricted area. The convoy was left at 0205 in posn 3614 N 0130 W	02/25/12/42
	Wellington V	F/O Brigg Sgt Burt Sgt Kermack Sgt Graham Sgt Smithson Sgt Vane	A/S Patrol in Vicinity of Lough	2030	0637	The convoy was met in posn 3613 N 0216 W. The aircraft patrolled in the vicinity of the convoy for 20 miles on each side & left it at 0458.	03/25/12/42
25.12.42	Wellington C	F/O Nicholson Sgt Wilkner F/O Moon	A/S Sweep East	0800	1446	At 1053 an S/Lt contact was obtained in posn 3724 N 0173 W. The aircraft homed being height to 1000ft & at 6 miles sighted	03/25/12/42

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
25.12.42		Sgt Fournier Sgt Yates Sgt Gibson				the Conning Tower of a U/Boat on an easterly course. The U/B dived & the a/c attached the search dropping only 3 DC as the 1st "hump". The 3rd DC fell dead on the track of the U/B which could be seen under water but apart from a thin patch of oil on the edge of DC skimmer which spread but quickly dispersed no results were seen though the a/c remained in the vicinity for 12 minutes left for 40 mins & then returned.	08/25/12/42
Wellington D		Flt Coatsman Sgt Deacon Flt Price Sgt Hoach Sgt Head Sgt Withier	A/S Sweep East	0803	1453	Five convoys of varying sizes were sighted during the morning and a large naval force was seen at 1215.	09/25/12/42
Wellington T		Sgt Sims Sgt Kelly Sgt Preston Sgt Mitchell Sgt Bell Sgt Drehman	A/S Sweep East	0808	1634	Reparish merchant vessel and a convoy were sighted and an S/E contact on a cv. at 20 miles was obtained. A large Naval Force was seen. At 1540 in posn 3600N 0245W a long white streak resembling a wake was seen but no sign of a vessel to cause the wake to cover with.	010/25/12/42
Wellington P		Flt Hasty Sgt Bear Sgt Robinson Sgt Williams Sgt Rennie Flt Cook	A/S Sweep East	1830	0330	At 0040 a large naval force was contacted to port otherwise there was nothing to report.	01/26/12/42
Wellington T	LA 971	Flt Bennett Flt Hughes Flt Pearce Sgt Ridley Sgt Voth	A/S Sweep East	2103	0716	Remained contact on an a/c dropping flames a corvette two convoys and two warships. There was nothing to report.	02/26/12/42

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(Form 1) Wt. 925-56 60,000 5/12 T.S. 700

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				UP	DOWN		
25.12.42	Wellington R LA 716	S/L Southall P/O Blissha P/O Macgregor Sgt Cooke Sgt Suttren Sgt Cochrane	A/S Sweep East	2038	0740	At 2214 in posn 3650 N 0107 W a contact 2 1/2 miles to port which disappeared on homing. At 2321 a/c returned to the area & a contact was obtained 2 miles ahead which disappeared immediately. The a/c again returned to the area at 0238 and at 0328 in posn 3722 N 0000 E a contact was obtained 3 1/2 miles ahead & the S/L switched on at 1 mile. At 3 1/2 miles a wake was sighted then the sight of a submerged U/Boat as the a/c passed over. The area was again searched without success. At 2309 after an S/E contact some vessels were sighted which fired recognition signals and ahead some gunfire was seen. Contacts were also obtained on several naval vessels. Lighted two lighted M/V and at 0310 intercepted a message from a/c T of a U/Boat sighting. At 0758 a further message was intercepted that a/c T had been fired on & was a boat to ditch off the Oran coast. After sighting numerous lighted vessels at 0311 after an S/E contact 4 miles to port a U/Boat was sighted in posn 3722 N 0125 E but it submerged before an attack could be made. At 0750 in posn 3729 N 0125 E a fully surfaced U/B was sighted which opened fire at once. The a/c continued its run in to attack & dropped 4 D.C. which fell with owing to evasive action due to being hit by U/B gun fire. The rear	02/26/42 01/27/42 02/27/42
26.12.42	Wellington W HX 531	Flight Captain Sgt Widdows Sgt Kirkwood Sgt Brownwell Sgt Stabler Sgt Toger	A/S Sweep East	2115	0630		
	Wellington P	P/Sgt Hodgson Sgt Mackay P/Sgt Thomson Sgt Calladine Sgt Evans Sgt Davis	A/S Sweep East	2322	0843		
	Wellington T LA 711	F/L Comfort P/O Felles P/O Maitland Sgt Richards Sgt Johnson Sgt Johnson	A/S Sweep East	2240	1015 TAFANOU		

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
						gunner opened fire as the a/c passed over & the V/Boat submerged. A small fire was started in the port engine due to enemy gun fire but was quickly extinguished and as the pilot thought he would have to ditch much of the equipment was jettisoned & an SOS sent out. The pilot set course for the Coast but and gradually regained control of the aircraft & headed for Blida which was reached at 0900 but local weather conditions prevented a landing there & course was set for Tafaraoui which was reached at 1015	021/27/12/62
27.12.42	Dellington B	Sgt D. Parn P/O Barnard P/O Bell P/O Morris P/O Jones Sgt Murphy	A/S Sweep West	0828	1753	Two convoys and several neutral vessels were sighted. At 1510 an S/E contact in posn 3756N 1355W was investigated without success.	01/27/12/62
	Dellington C	Sgt Bowman Sgt Good Sgt Smith Sgt Leadley Sgt Pidge Sgt White	A/S Sweep West	0935	1816	Two convoys were sighted the first & one forming up off Gibraltar. Several Destroyers were also seen.	018/27/12/62
	Dellington M	P/O Henry Sgt Dunn Sgt Timney Sgt Little Sgt Wilson Sgt Macdonald	A/S Sweep West	0836	-	At about midday an S.O.S. was received from the a/c saying that it was experiencing engine trouble in posn 3620N 1240W. No more was heard of the aircraft or crew.	022/27/12/62
	Dellington W Hx 531	P/Sgt Hasty Sgt Beal Sgt Allen Sgt Pepperdine Sgt Widdowson Sgt Pennington	A/S Patrol East	1825	0550	No contacts or sightings were obtained during the sortie but interference with the S/E was experienced at 0230	01/28/12/62

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(Form 1) W.L. 9256-36 60,000 5/42 T.S. 700

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES.
				UP	DOWN		
27.12.42	Wellington R LA 976	P/O Dring Sgt Barr Sgt Kippenring Sgt Ashton Sgt Smithson Sgt Viner	A/S Patrol East	2057	0622	Alighted M/V was homed onto at 2145. At 2240 an S/E contact was obtained at 3 miles in from 3642N 0131W but though pilot searched for 18 minutes nothing was seen.	02/28/12/42
	Wellington X LB 145	P/O Riding Sgt Green 10/0 Bryant Sgt Brunell Sgt Pratt F/Sgt McCullough	A/S Patrol East	2345	0925	Two lighted Spanish merchantmen were homed onto and at 0140 a British naval vessel was sighted.	02/28/12/42
28.12.42	Wellington J	Sgt Young (RCAP) Sgt Richardson - Thompson - Bannister - Armstrong - Langa	A/S Sweep West	0804	1808	Two convoys were sighted in poor visibility one east bound & one west bound at 1844 a large vessel on a north westerly course was sighted which appeared to take hostile evasive action	013/28/12/42
	Wellington E	P/O Coatham Sgt DeForest P/O Price Sgt Moore Sgt Heald Sgt Wilkshire	A/S Sweep West	0801	1813	The a/c was fired on by coastal batteries off Malabar Pt. in Spanish Morocco. Several Spanish merchant vessels & trawlers were homed onto, and a corvette & a convoy sighted.	019/28/12/42
	Wellington D	P/O Nicholson Sgt Willsher P/O Moon Sgt Fournier - Yates - Gibson	A/S Sweep West	0755	1915	A corvette & a convoy were sighted and at 1355 a search was made in the vicinity of 3600N 1300W for the a/c lost on the 27th but nothing was seen	021/28/12/42
	Wellington F	P/O Gordon Shroford Sgt Hardy P/O Haynes Sgt Beale Sgt Brown P/O Carmichael	Search for P/O of Wellington	1115	2145	At 1430 a Destroyer was sighted searching in the area of 3620N 1200W & the a/c signalled 'Have you seen dinghy?' D replied 'No'. A Portuguese vessel was also sighted but gave no reply to aircraft signals. A square search was then started & a Catalina a/c was seen but it had no news. At 1750 a convoy was sighted but on being questioned gave a negative reply, but said they had seen a waterlogged boat 70 miles astern	023/28/12/42

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DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
28.12.42	Wellington R LA 976	S/L Spinkall P/O Eliza P/O McGregor Sgt Cobble Sgt Sutton Sgt Cochrane	A/S Patrol East	1757	0335	R/V 1859 homed onto a sailing vessel and at 1911 intercepted a message from an unknown a/c that it had crash landed at MSILA with 16 people on board all safe. A distress flare was illuminated at 0057.	01/29/12/42
	Wellington W HX 531	P/Sgt Martin Sgt Widdows Sgt Kirkwood Sgt Bramwell Sgt Stabler Sgt Roger	A/S Patrol East	2105	0620	Nothing was sighted during the patrol except a convoy. At 0350 the starboard engine began to give trouble & the a/c attempted to contact Mission Blanche & Tafaraoui aerodromes for landing facilities without success. Eventually on receiving a satisfactory report from base the a/c set course and arrived safely.	02/29/12/42
29.12.42	Wellington X LB 145	P/Sgt Hodgson Sgt Morrison P/O Thompson Sgt Callaghan Sgt Evans Sgt Davis	A/S Patrol East	0004	0904	Obtained contacts on a convoy at 0539. At 0830 sighted a merchant vessel and by two P.M.	03/29/12/42
	Wellington W HX 531	P/Sgt Hasty Sgt Bell Sgt Rappardine Sgt Williams Sgt Pennington	A/S Sweep East	1850	0430	At 2355 lost of 0300 degs. Port engine gave trouble & Captain set course for Bolida but by 0025 the trouble was no longer apparent & so pilot returned to Gibraltar.	01/30/12/42
	Wellington U HX 690	P/O Riding Sgt Green W/O Bryant P/Ot Burwell Sgt Hall P/Sgt McCullough	A/S Sweep East	1758	0453	At 1945 a contact was obtained 20 miles ahead & later the wakes of vessels in a convoy were seen and contacts were obtained from another convoy. The a/c patrolled outside Oran for 60 minutes.	02/30/12/42
	Wellington R LA 976	P/L Comfort P/O Heston Sgt Nicholls Sgt Johnson Sgt Heston	A/S Sweep East	2008	0542	At 2012 the S/L went up & lost became serviceable at 2031. A contact was obtained at 2348 on another a/c. Nothing else was seen.	03/30/12/42

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(7952) Wt. 955-56 60,000 547 T.S. 700

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
30.12.42	Wellington D	Sgt Botman " Wood " Smith " Hendley " Ridge " White	A/S Sweep West	0821	1743	Several neutral vessels were sighted and at 1239 at 1500 degs West the S/E went in for oil. At 1648 a suspicious object & flurry of water was seen but nothing resulted from investigation though the a/c circled for some time.	018/30/12/42
	Wellington J	Sgt Sims " Kelly " Preston " Mitchell " Bell " Dickenson	A/S Sweep West	1046	1855	At 1134 in posn 3546 N 0657 W a contact was obtained at 3 miles. The a/c descended to 1000 ft & though the contact persisted nothing was seen. A Portuguese merchantman & a convoy were sighted.	018/30/12/42
	Wellington C	Sgt Young C.D. " Rollins " Simon " Hocking " Fuller " Field	A/S Sweep West	0815	2070	Contacts were obtained on a convoy at 0958. At 1558 in posn 3643 N 1135 W a contact was obtained at 10 miles but when homed onto disappeared.	019/31/12/42
31.12.42	Wellington D	S/L Gibson P/O Barshaw P/O Bell P/O Binnie P/O Jones Sgt Murphy	Escort to Convoy	0508	1623	The convoy was met at 0905 in posn 3723 N 1435 W composed of 9 M/Vs & 7 E/Vs. The a/c left the convoy at 1200 in posn 3653 N 1402 W.	010/31/12/42
	Wellington J	P/O Simon P/O Armstrong Sgt Woodhead " Lewis " Higginson " Davies	Escort to Convoy	0809	1925	En route a convoy was sighted at 0931. At 1205 in posn 3700 N 1430 W the convoy was sighted & patrol commenced. At 1820 in posn 3627 N 1331 W Wellington relief a/c was sighted & the convoy was left here.	023/31/12/42
	Wellington E	P/L Coatsman Sgt DeFranco P/O Price Sgt. Hardy Sgt. Ward Sgt. Billingham Sgt. Munro	Escort to Convoy	1140	2247	At 1515 the convoy composed of 9 M/Vs & 7 E/Vs was sighted in posn 3648 N 1431 W. At 1850 in position 3610 N 1250 W the convoy was left.	026/31/12/42
	Wellington P	P/Sgt Thompson Sgt. Munro P/Lt. Thompson Sgt. Colledge Sgt. Evans Sgt. Davis	A/S Sweep East	2052	-	Just after taking off the a/c crashed into the sea about half a mile from the Eastern end of the Runway. One of the D/Ls carried exploded. The	03 00

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