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# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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of (Unit or Formation) No. 214 (P.M.S.) Squadron

No. of pages used for day.

| Place       | Date   | Time | Summary of Events   | References to Appendices |
|-------------|--------|------|---|--------------------------|
| Stratishall | 1.4.42 |      | <p>Operations were detailed for tonight and so the remaining air tests were carried out.</p> <p>ATTACK ON THE RAILWAY IN THE HANAU AREA.</p> <p>14 Wellingtons Mk. 10's. were detailed to attack the railway in the Hanau area. 3 a/c attacked.</p> <p>3 a/c attacked last report. 1 a/c returned early. 7 a/c failed to return.</p> <p>3 a/c attacked the railway near Hanau.</p> <p>1 a/c attacked the railway at Aschaffenburg which was easily identified by the U shaped bend in the river Main. Bombs were seen to burst near the rail bridge W. of the town. No results were seen. The rear gunner machine gunned standing in the believed Mulheim Station.</p> <p>1 a/c attacked the railway 3 miles N.W. of Lohr.</p> <p>1 a/c attacked the railway 12 miles E. of Aschaffenburg. All bombs were seen to burst in the marshalling yards, and tracks were broken up. Coaches in the marshalling yard were machine gunned.</p> <p>1 a/c attacked the railway at Heidelberg. Bridges and the railway were clearly seen. Bombs were seen to burst on rail track. Debris was thrown up and fell into the river.</p> <p>1 a/c attacked a railway bridge at Mainz over the Rhine. The crew are confident that the end of the bridge was destroyed.</p> <p>1 a/c returned early having been severely damaged in the Middelkirche area.</p> <p>1 a/c attacked Dorsal. The bombs fell on the railway line within 50 yards of a stationary train.</p> |                          |
| Stratishall | 2.4.42 |      | There was no flying today.  |                          |
| Stratishall | 3.4.42 |      | Local flying and air tests were carried out.  |                          |

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| Place       | Date   | Time | Summary of Events  | References to Appendices |
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| Stradishall | 4.1.42 |      | 10001 flying and air tests were again carried out. The Squadron was not required for operations.   |                          |
| Stradishall | 5.1.42 |      | The Squadron was told to prepare for tonight's air tests were accordingly carried out.   |                          |
| Stradishall | 6.1.42 |      | <p>ATTACK ON EUSEN. 8 Wellington Mk. 10's were detailed to attack Eusen. 5 attacked believed Eusen area. 3 returned early.</p> <p>5 A/c attacked the believed Eusen area between 01.15 and 01.40 hrs. from 15,000 ft. to 12,000 ft. The weather was 9/10th. to 10/10th. cloud with a few small breaks and haze. None of the A/c pinpointed Eusen, but one A/c saw flares dropping on what was believed to be the town. The others bombed flak and searchlights in the Ruhr area. Owing to weather, the majority of the A/c did not see their bombs burst, or observe any results. One A/c saw 6 or 7 small fires on arrival. The three A/c returned owing to severe icing and electrical storms.</p>   |                          |
| Stradishall | 6.1.42 |      | <p>Owing to the late return from operations, there was no flying this morning, but after lunch air tests were carried out. Operations were again ordered for tonight.</p> <p>ATTACK ON COLOGNE.</p> <p>7 Wellington Mk. 10's. A/c were detailed to attack Cologne. 6 attacked, 1 attacked believed Cologne area.</p> <p>6 Wellingtons attacked Cologne between 03.10 and 03.44 hrs. from 15,000 ft. (1 A/c brought back 1 x 250 owing to release gear failing) The weather was 9/10th cloud with fair visibility, bright moonlight and haze. Most of the A/c were able to identify Cologne by the river Rhine, bridges and Autobahn. On arrival, all A/c saw one very large fire and several smaller ones which they were certain were in Cologne. Most A/c saw their bombs burst, but no definite results were seen.</p> <p>1 A/c attacked the believed Cologne area at 05.14 hrs. from 15,000 ft. The U shaped bend in the Rhine 7 miles south of the town was identified, but the town itself was under cloud. Bombs were seen to burst but no results were observed.</p> |                          |

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of (Unit or Formation) No. 21A (T.M.S.) Squadron.

No. of pages used for day

| Place       | Date    | Time | Summary of Events  | References to Appendices |
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| Stradishall | 7.4.42  |      | Return from operations was late, and so there was no flying today at all.  |                          |
| Stradishall | 8.4.42  |      | The weather today was unimproving, but operations were ordered. Air tests were carried out mostly in the afternoon.<br>ATTACK ON HAMBURG.<br>7 Wellington 12. 10's detailed to attack Hamburg.<br>2 attacked, 3 attacked the believed Hamburg area, 1 returned early, 1 failed to take off.<br>2 A/c attacked Hamburg between 00.30 and 00.50 hours from 16,000 to 18,000 ft. dropping 144 x 30lb. incendiaries. The weather was 5/10 to 9/10 cloud with good visibility. Hamburg was identified and one A/c saw fires burning on arrival. The A/c saw his bombs burst amongst fires and spread them.<br>3 A/c attacked the believed Hamburg area between 00.10 and 00.30 hours, also with incendiaries.<br>2 A/c did not observe bursts, but 1 A/c saw his bombs start several small fires. |                          |
| Stradishall | 9.4.42  |      | Bad weather and a late return from operations caused no flying to be done today.   |                          |
| Stradishall | 10.4.42 |      | Operations were ordered for tonight and accordingly air tests were carried out.<br>ATTACK ON HAMBURG.<br>7 Wellington 12. 10's detailed to attack Hamburg.<br>3 A/c attacked, 2 attacked the believed Hamburg area, 1 A/c returned early, 1 failed to return.  |                          |

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| Place       | Date    | Time    | Summary of Events  | References to Appendices |
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| Stradishall | 10.4.42 | 00.1.42 | <p>ATTACK ON BERNI (Continued)</p> <p>3 A/c attacked Berni between 00.10 and 00.18 hours from 17,000 to 14,000 ft. Dropping 3 x 1000 15 x 500. The weather varied from 1/10 to 7/10 cloud with clear weather over the Berni area, there was, however, a slight haze. Berni was identified by flares and fires, and 1 A/c picked out the wide band in the river Suir. Only one A/c saw his bombs burst.</p> <p>2 A/c attacked the railway Berni area between 00.20 and 00.26 hours from 15,500 to 10,000 ft. 1 A/c returned early owing to inter-com. failure, bringing all bombs back to base.</p> <p>ATTACK ON 13 BARRIS.</p> <p>1 Wellington 12. 10 was detailed to attack Le Havre.</p> <p>He attacked at 21.02 hours from 14,000 ft. Dropping 12 x 250. Weather was good, no cloud but a slight haze. Le Havre was identified by the Tassin de la Maree, and it is thought that bombs overbore a bit and burst early, across the Tassin de la Maree and partly in the estuary.</p> |                          |
| Stradishall | 11.4.42 |         | <p>After operations there was very little flying today, an air test and cross country being carried out.</p>   |                          |
| Stradishall | 12.4.42 |         | <p>Air tests were carried out during the day preparatory to operations. One cross country was flown.</p> <p>ATTACK ON BERNI.</p> <p>6 Wellington 12. 12 A/c were detailed to attack Berni. 2 A/c attacked. 2 attacked early and 2 A/c landed away.</p> <p>2 A/c attacked Berni at 02.20 to 02.35 hours. Weather was dark but with no cloud and hazy. Berni was identified by 2 large fires and 3 A/c felt to the N. of the town. One crash and several white flares were seen. Bombs were dropped on a large fire which was giving off dense columns of white smoke. Bombs were seen to burst but no results were seen.</p>  |                          |



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of (Unit or Formation) No. 216 (D.L.S.) Squadron.

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| Stratishall | 12.4.42 |      | <p>ATTACK ON BOMBY (Continued)</p> <p>2 A/c returned early with engine trouble, both A/c bringing their bombs back to base.</p> <p>1 A/c landed at Winton badly shot up with the crew safe.</p> <p>1 A/c landed at Hertlesham, a crash landing and with the observer severely injured.</p> <p>ATTACK ON LE HAVRE.</p> <p>1 Wellington Mk. 10 was detailed to attack Le Havre.</p> <p>The attack was made at 00.20 hours from 15,000 ft. The bombs are believed to have fallen across Look 4, and were seen to burst. No results were seen however.</p> |                          |
| Stratishall | 13.4.42 |      | <p>There was but little flying today. A few consumption tests and cross countries being flown.</p>   |                          |
| Stratishall | 14.4.42 |      | <p>Air tests were carried out prior to operations tonight.</p> <p>ATTACK ON DORTMUND.</p> <p>6 Wellington A/c were detailed to attack Dortmund.</p> <p>1 attacked, 2 attacked the believed Dortmund level, 1 landed away, 1 failed to take off, 1 failed to return.</p> <p>1 A/c attacked Dortmund at 00.30 hours from 15,000 ft. Weather was clear but there was a ground haze. Dortmund was identified by flares and many fires. Bombs were seen to burst S. of a large fire in the town.</p>  |                          |

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| Stratishall | 14.1.42 |      | <p>ATTACK ON DORTMUND (Continued)</p> <p>1 A/c attacked the believed Dortmund area between 02.10 and 04.10 hours. No results were observed. Eight small fires were seen.</p> <p>1 A/c and crew were detached to 214 Stratishall Convoy on Flight at Waterbeach. This was 214's first move to intercept.</p> <p>1 Wellington A/c attacked in force at 04.25 hours. Weather was cloudless with starlight and haze. Bombs were definitely seen to burst over Dock 7 to 8 area in Harve.</p> |                          |
| Stratishall | 15.1.42 |      | <p>Besides some late air tests for operations tonight, there was little flying.</p> <p>ATTACK ON DORTMUND</p> <p>2 Wellington 10's detailed to attack Dortmund. 1 A/c attacked the believed Dortmund area.</p> <p>1 A/c failed to return.</p> <p>1 A/c attacked the believed Dortmund area between 02.11 and 03.25 hours. Weather averaged 8/10 to 10/10 cloud making identification practically impossible. Only 1 A/c saw his bombs burst.</p>   |                          |
| Stratishall | 16.1.42 |      | <p>There was no flying today, except one A/c flew to Waterbeach.</p>   |                          |
| Stratishall | 17.1.42 |      | <p>Air tests and local flying were carried out today.</p>  |                          |
| Stratishall | 18.1.42 |      | <p>Local flying again was carried out. One A/c flew to Colington and returned, and other to Roltwell and Eckenheath.</p>   |                          |

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of (Unit or Formation) No. 211 (2nd S.) Squadron

| Place       | Date    | Time | Summary of Events  | References to Appendices |
|-------------|---------|------|--|--------------------------|
| Stratishall | 18.1.42 |      | Today the flying was as yesterday, mainly in the vicinity of Stratishall. Two A/c flew to Bourne and Orange. One Mustang operational. Mustang A/c arrived, B3117 and B3728.  |                          |
| Stratishall | 20.1.42 |      | One A/c flew to Chipping Warden and returned. Local flying and a communication test were also carried out.   |                          |
| Stratishall | 21.1.42 |      | Flighting and landings were flown today. Two A/c in tests.   |                          |
| Stratishall | 22.1.42 |      | In tests were carried out yesterday. In operations, flighting and landings were practiced by two crews. Wellingtons 12.12 A/c were detailed to practice in area "C" and "D". |                          |
| Stratishall | 23.1.42 |      | In tests were carried out in area "C" and "D". Wellingtons 12.12 A/c were detailed to practice in area "C" and "D".  |                          |
| Stratishall | 24.1.42 |      | In tests were carried out in area "C" and "D". Wellingtons 12.12 A/c were detailed to practice in area "C" and "D".  |                          |
| Stratishall | 25.1.42 |      | In tests were carried out in area "C" and "D". Wellingtons 12.12 A/c were detailed to practice in area "C" and "D".  |                          |
| Stratishall | 26.1.42 |      | In tests were carried out in area "C" and "D". Wellingtons 12.12 A/c were detailed to practice in area "C" and "D".  |                          |
| Stratishall | 27.1.42 |      | In tests were carried out in area "C" and "D". Wellingtons 12.12 A/c were detailed to practice in area "C" and "D".  |                          |
| Stratishall | 28.1.42 |      | In tests were carried out in area "C" and "D". Wellingtons 12.12 A/c were detailed to practice in area "C" and "D".  |                          |
| Stratishall | 29.1.42 |      | In tests were carried out in area "C" and "D". Wellingtons 12.12 A/c were detailed to practice in area "C" and "D".  |                          |
| Stratishall | 30.1.42 |      | In tests were carried out in area "C" and "D". Wellingtons 12.12 A/c were detailed to practice in area "C" and "D".  |                          |

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of (Unit or Formation) No. 271 (P.M.S.) Squadron.

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| Place       | Date    | Time | Summary of Events   | References to Appendices |
|-------------|---------|------|---|--------------------------|
| Stradishall | 28.4.42 |      | <p>There was local flying today. One A/c landed at Wyton. Air tests were carried out before operations.</p> <p>ATTACK ON KIEL.</p> <p>4 Wellington Mk.1C A/c were detailed to attack Kiel.</p> <p>3 attacked, one failed to return.</p> <p>3 A/c attacked Kiel between 02.30 and 02.37 hours from 16,000 to 13,000 ft. Weather was very favourable with bright moonlight, no cloud, very good visibility, which enabled Kiel to be easily identified in spite of the smoke screen E. of estuary as high wind rendered it ineffective. Most bombs were seen to burst on east side of Kiel. Numerous fires both large and small were seen spreading on each side of the harbour when the A/c left.</p> <p>This proved to be the last operation carried out by the squadron on Wellington A/c.</p> |                          |
| Stradishall | 29.4.42 |      | <p>There was no flying today.</p>   |                          |
| Stradishall | 30.4.42 |      | <p>Consumption tests were carried out in 3 A/c, another A/c flew to Marham and returned and then to Waterbeach and returned.</p>  |                          |

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|       |      |      | APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, POSTINGS AND AWARDS. | APRIL 1942.              |
|       |      |      | P/O Baker appointed A/E/Lt.                    | 26 . 2 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | A/S/Ldr Carr " S/Ldr.                          | 1 . 3 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | A/S/Ldr. Miles " S/Ldr.                        | 1 . 3 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | P/O Whittingham posted to 214 Squadron.        | 1 . 4 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | P/O Halliday " " "                             | 6 . 4 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | P/O Younger " " "                              | 9 . 4 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | P/O Osborne " " "                              | 6 . 4 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | P/O MacKenzie " 15 O.T.U.                      | 23 . 3 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | P/O Smith " 214 Squadron                       | 6 . 4 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | P/O Casper detached to 1505 BAF.               | 12 . 4 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | P/O Osborne " 214 Conversion Flight.           | 6 . 4 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | P/O Smith " " " "                              | 6 . 4 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | P/O MacKenzie appointed to commission.         | 18 . 3 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | P/O Casper ceased attachment to 1505 BAF       | 18 . 4 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | P/O Osborne " " 214 Conversion Flight.         | 17 . 4 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | P/O Smith " " " "                              | 17 . 4 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | P/O Griffiths appointed A/E/Lt. w.s.f.         | 26 . 2 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | P/O Proude " A/E/O "                           | 2 . 4 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | P/O Brown " A/E/O "                            | 1 . 2 . 42.              |
|       |      |      | W/Comm. Davy posted to Honnington.             | 21 . 4 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | W/Comm. Knecker " 214 Squadron.                | 20 . 4 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | P/O Ruoff " Special Duties list.               | 20 . 3 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | A/E/O Harrison attached from 101 Squadron.     | 18 . 4 . 42.             |
|       |      |      | E/O Younger detached to 214 Conversion Flight. | 13 . 4 . 42.             |

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of (Unit or Formation) No. 214 (F.M.S.) Squadron.

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| Stradishall |      |      | APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, POSTINGS AND AWARDS.<br>APRIL 1942. (Continued) |                          |
|             |      |      | P/O Younger ceased to be attached to 214 Conversion Flight.               | 21. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Emerson appointed to commission.                                      | 31. 3. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Emerson posted to 26 O.T.U.   | 19. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Noble " from 26 O.T.U. to 214 Squadron.                               | 19. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | S/Ldr. Carr detached to 214 Conversion Flight.                            | 14. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Duffy posted from 12 O.T.U. to 214 Squadron.                          | 29. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Ince " " 12 O.T.U. " "  | 28. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Mitchell " " 101 Sqn. " "   | 28. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Shapiro " " 101 " " "   | 28. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Dent " " Waterbeach " "   | 21. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Davies " " " " "  | 21. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Dimond " " " " "  | 21. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | Captain Hepburn ceased attachment 214 Squadron on                         |                          |
|             |      |      | posting to 455/81 L.A.A. Regiment.  | 25. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | S/Ldr. Carr ceased to be attached to 214 Conversion Flight.               | 27. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/O Gasper " " 214 " "  | 27. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | A/P/O Hope appointed A/P/Lt.  | 22. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | P/Lt. P. Hixey awarded D.S.O.   | 22. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | Sgt. Ward A/Obs. posted to 161 Squadron.                                  | 30. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | Sgt. Melville W/Og. " 214 " "   | 25. 4. 42.               |
|             |      |      | Sgt. Hagger A/G. " from 20 O.T.U. to 214 Squadron.                        | 29. 4. 42.               |

(Continued overleaf)

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|       |      |      | Sgt. Watson W/AG.                             |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Willey W/AG. Posted from 12 O.T.U. to    |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Sewall A/G. 214 Squadron.                |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. O'Hara A/Cbs.                            |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Bennet W/AG.                             |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Watmough W/AG. Posted from 101 Squadron. |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Appleby A/G.                             |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Spiby Pilot                              |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Newcomb A/Cbs.                           |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. McDonald A/G. Posted from Waterbeach.    |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. McGrath A/G.                             |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Munday W/AG.                             |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Lyle A/G.                                |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Rocheleau A/Cbs. Posted from 20 O.T.U.   |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Cresswell W/AG. " to 22 O.T.U.           |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Watts A/G. " to 214 Squadron             |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Goodey W/AG. " from 115 Squadron         |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Copeland W/AG. " to 21 O.T.U.            |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Stanley A/G. " to 15 O.T.U.              |                          |
|       |      |      | F/S. Johnstone W/AG.                          |                          |
|       |      |      | F/S. Hill W/AG. " from 21 O.T.U.              |                          |
|       |      |      | F/S. Sharp W/AG.                              |                          |
|       |      |      | F/S. Beagles W/AG. " " 18 O.T.U.              |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Barham W/AG. " " 27 O.T.U.               |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Calver W/AG. " to 23 O.T.U.              |                          |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Wakeley W/AG. " to 11 O.T.U.             |                          |



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

No. of pages used for day.....

of (Unit or Formation) No. 211 (P.M.S.) Squadron.

| Place | Date | Time | Summary of Events  | References<br>to<br>Appendices |
|-------|------|------|--|--------------------------------|
|       |      |      | APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, POSTINGS AND AWARDS. APRIL 1942. (Continued) |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Chadwick Pilot posted to 1521 BAF                                 | 8 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Johnson-Biggs A/G. " from 15 Squadron.                            | 10 . 4 . 42.                   |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Egan A/G.   |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Colehan W/AG " from 23 O.T.U.                                     | 13 . 4 . 42.                   |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Kerry A/G. " N.E. Stradishall.                                    | 2 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Platt W/AG promoted to T/P/Sgt.                                   | 2 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Stevens W/AG " to T/P/Sgt.  | 2 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Bell-Thompson W/AG posted N.E. Stradishall.                       | 8 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | F/S. Halpin A/Obs " " "  | 8 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Pepper Pilot  |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Morton W/AG   |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Ballentine W/AG " from 115 Squadron.                              | 5 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Honeychurch A/Obs   |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Tonkin Pilot  |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Lawrence Pilot  |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Gates Pilot " " 12 O.T.U.   | 6 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Jacques W/AG  |                                |
|       |      |      | F/S. Page Pilot promoted to A/W/O.                                     | 1 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Cox A/G. posted from 12 O.T.U.                                    | 6 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Mason W/AG  |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Baker Pilot   |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Neal Pilot promoted to T/P/Sgt.                                   | 6 . 4 . 42.                    |
|       |      |      | Sgt. White A/G.  |                                |
|       |      |      | Sgt. Halpin A/Obs  |                                |

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| Reference:-  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |
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