



(c) crown copyright

RAF Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in KR and A.C.I. forms 515 and 516 Manual, Pt. II, chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 1

635 Squadron R.A.F. Downham Market.  
of (Unit or Formation)

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices														
Downham Market	20.3.44		<p><u>Formation of Squadron No. 635.</u></p> <p>Under the command of Wing Commander A.G.S. Cousens DSO, DFC, Czech MC, the Squadron formed at Downham Market, Norfolk, consisting of 'G' Flight from R.A.F. Graveley (8 aircraft) and 'C' Flight R.A.F. Bourn (8 aircraft), against a war establishment of 16 plus 4 Heavy Bomber Squadron, and manned and equipped in accordance with War Establishment Ref: LWE/BO/3364 dated 1.10.43 as amended.</p> <p>Road parties commenced to report at 09.15 hours, with personnel and equipment, and continued to arrive until 11.00 hours. First airborne party arrived from Bourn at 12.00 hours and remainder of Flight landed within 20 minutes. Aircrew and ground personnel airborne party from Graveley arrived 15.05 hours. Squadron detailed 12 aircraft to attack Munich. Aircraft bombed up and prepared, but operations cancelled at 17.00 hours.</p> <p>Accommodation of Squadron. 36 Officers and 120 Aircrew N.C.O.s and 200 Other Ranks occupied 'J' Site, remainder of Officers accommodated in the Boxwell Rectory, and 20 N.C.O.s and 40 Armourers on 'B' Site.</p>																
	21.3.44		<p>14 aircraft detailed to attack Berlin.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>'S' Captain F/L. C.R. Snell.</td> <td>'N' Captain S/L. W.C. Riches.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'X' " F/L. J. Billing.</td> <td>'T' " F/L. J.H. Nicholls.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'Y' " F/O. F. Smith.</td> <td>'W' " F/O. D. Courtenay.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'A' " F/O. G.A. Young.</td> <td>'B' " Sgt. A.M. Ross.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'C' " F/L. D. Stewart.</td> <td>'F' " W/O. J.M. Bourassa.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'J' " S/L. J.R. Wood.</td> <td>'H' " S/L. R.B. Roache.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'K' " F/O. K.A. Patch.</td> <td>'L' " F/O. R.W. Beveridge.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Crews briefed. Operations cancelled.</p>	'S' Captain F/L. C.R. Snell.	'N' Captain S/L. W.C. Riches.	'X' " F/L. J. Billing.	'T' " F/L. J.H. Nicholls.	'Y' " F/O. F. Smith.	'W' " F/O. D. Courtenay.	'A' " F/O. G.A. Young.	'B' " Sgt. A.M. Ross.	'C' " F/L. D. Stewart.	'F' " W/O. J.M. Bourassa.	'J' " S/L. J.R. Wood.	'H' " S/L. R.B. Roache.	'K' " F/O. K.A. Patch.	'L' " F/O. R.W. Beveridge.		A.
'S' Captain F/L. C.R. Snell.	'N' Captain S/L. W.C. Riches.																		
'X' " F/L. J. Billing.	'T' " F/L. J.H. Nicholls.																		
'Y' " F/O. F. Smith.	'W' " F/O. D. Courtenay.																		
'A' " F/O. G.A. Young.	'B' " Sgt. A.M. Ross.																		
'C' " F/L. D. Stewart.	'F' " W/O. J.M. Bourassa.																		
'J' " S/L. J.R. Wood.	'H' " S/L. R.B. Roache.																		
'K' " F/O. K.A. Patch.	'L' " F/O. R.W. Beveridge.																		
	22.3.44		<p>14 aircraft detailed to attack Frankfurt.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>'N' Captain S/L. W.C. Riches.</td> <td>'U' Captain F/O. W. Still.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'W' " F/O. R.A. Leader.</td> <td>'V' " F/L. J.H. Nicholls.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'Q' " F/O. R.W. Beveridge.</td> <td>'A' " F/O. G.A. Young.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'H' " S/L. R.B. Roache.</td> <td>'J' " S/L. J.R. Wood.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'X' " F/L. J. Billing.</td> <td>'K' " F/O. F. Smith.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'S' " W/O. J.B. Voyce.</td> <td>'B' " F/O. A.M. Ross.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>'F' " W/O. J.M. Bourassa.</td> <td>'K' " F/O. K.A. Patch.</td> </tr> </table> <p>1 aircraft 'X' failed to take off. 3 aircraft returned early 'H' S/L. Roache port outer U/S. 'J' S/L. Wood, starboard outer U/S. 'S' W/O. Voyce, rear turret and inter-communication U/S. 10 aircraft bombed primary target.</p>	'N' Captain S/L. W.C. Riches.	'U' Captain F/O. W. Still.	'W' " F/O. R.A. Leader.	'V' " F/L. J.H. Nicholls.	'Q' " F/O. R.W. Beveridge.	'A' " F/O. G.A. Young.	'H' " S/L. R.B. Roache.	'J' " S/L. J.R. Wood.	'X' " F/L. J. Billing.	'K' " F/O. F. Smith.	'S' " W/O. J.B. Voyce.	'B' " F/O. A.M. Ross.	'F' " W/O. J.M. Bourassa.	'K' " F/O. K.A. Patch.		A. B.
'N' Captain S/L. W.C. Riches.	'U' Captain F/O. W. Still.																		
'W' " F/O. R.A. Leader.	'V' " F/L. J.H. Nicholls.																		
'Q' " F/O. R.W. Beveridge.	'A' " F/O. G.A. Young.																		
'H' " S/L. R.B. Roache.	'J' " S/L. J.R. Wood.																		
'X' " F/L. J. Billing.	'K' " F/O. F. Smith.																		
'S' " W/O. J.B. Voyce.	'B' " F/O. A.M. Ross.																		
'F' " W/O. J.M. Bourassa.	'K' " F/O. K.A. Patch.																		
	23.3.44		<p>Stand down. Squadron Commander, Wing Commander A.G.S. Cousens, DSO, DFC, addressed all officers and men of the Squadron outside the Squadron offices explaining the formation of the Squadron and its aim. Squadron Commander later addressed a meeting of all aircrew in the Briefing Room, and a general discussion on the flying aspect followed.</p> <p>One aircraft carried out flying training in the evening (circuits and landings)</p> <p>'C' F/L. H.J.L. Webb and S/L. R.B. Roache 19.20 - 21.00.</p>		C.														

Wing Commander Commanding,  
No. 625 Squadron, R.A.F.

Wing Commander Commanding,  
No. 635 Squadron, R.A.F.

Reference:-

AIR 27/2155

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE											
Reference: AIR 27/2155											
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION											

Page No. 2

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Downham Market.	24.3.44		14 aircraft detailed to attack Berlin. 'F' Captain S/L. J.R. Wood. 'W' Captain F/O. K.A. Petch. 'A' " F/O. G.A. Young. 'X' " F/L. J. Billing. 'G' " F/O. R.W. Beveridge. 'Y' " F/L. O. Lyon. 'V' " F/O. R.A. Leader. 'L' " F/O. W. Still. 'H' " S/L. R.B. Roache. 'M' " F/L. C.R. Snell. 'T' " F/L. J.H. Nicholls. 'P' " F/S. D.J. Farrant. 'S' " W/O. J.B. Voyce. 'W' " F/O. L. Henson. F/O. W. Still (L) failed to return, no news from time of take-off. F/O. G.A. Young returned early, Flight Engineer ill.		D.E.F.6
	25.3.44		'Stand down'. Photographs of complete Squadron taken, and photograph of aircrew personnel only taken, for record purposes. Training programmes of cross countries carried out by following aircraft. 'H' S/L. M.M. Henderson. 1545 - 1744 'J' F/L. H.J.L. Webb. } Stradishall and Warboys. 1536 - 1722 'K' F/O. I.B. Hayes. } 1544 - 1736 'V' F/O. R.A. Leader. Skellingthorpe.		G.
	26.3.44		7 aircraft detailed to attack Essen. 'J' Captain W/O. J.M. Bourassa. 'O' Captain F/O. R.W. Beveridge. 'H' " F/O. R.A. Leader. 'P' " F/S D.J. Farrant. 'W' " F/L. E.J.B. Whible. 'X' " F/L. C. Lyon. 'S' " W/O. J.B. Voyce. W/O. J.M. Bourassa returned on 3 engines. 4 aircraft on Flying Training cross country flights. 'H' S/L. M.M. Henderson. 'B' F/L. H.J.L. Webb. 'A' F/O. I.B. Hayes, 'V' F/O. F. Smith.		H.I.J.
	27.3.44		'Stand down'. Flying Training Programme completed during afternoon. 'G' S/L. R.B. Roache Air to Sea Firing. 'A' F/O. G.A. Young Bombing by F/Eng. 'M' F/L. O.R. Snell. Bombing. 'K' F/O. K.A. Petch Bombing by F/Eng. Route 9.		S.K.
	28.3.44		Demonstration of Fido by Flying Control Officer. Flying Training Programme continued, following aircraft engaged on 'Y' cross countries. 'O' F/O. R.W. Beveridge. 'X' F/L. C. Lyon. 'T' F/S. D.S. Farrant. 'V' F/O. L. Henson. 'H' F/O. R. Smith. 'P' W/O. J.M. Bourassa. Fighter affiliation: 'H' F/L. H.J.L. Webb. 'L' S/L. M.M. Henderson. 'A' F/O. I.B. Hayes. Bombing: S/L. J.R. Wood.		K.L. 17.
	29.3.44		14 aircraft detailed to attack 'B' Captain F/L. H.J.L. Webb. 'O' Captain F/O. R.W. Beveridge. 'F' " W/O. J.M. Bourassa. 'H' " S/L. R.B. Roache.		M.N.
Wing Commander Commanding, No. 635 Squadron R.A.F.				Continued.	

R.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I., para. 24V and War Manual Pt. II, chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 3

of (Unit or Formation) No. 635 Squadron R.A.F. Downham Market.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
-------	------	------	-------------------	---------	--------------------------

See instructions for use of this form in *K.R. and A.C.I.*,  
form 2349 and *War Manual*, Pt. II, chapter XX, and  
also in *RAF Purser Book*.

I. B. Hayes.  
Bombing: S/L. J. R. Wood.

29.3.44

14 aircraft detailed to attack  
'B' Captain F/L. H.J.L. Webb.  
'F' " W/O. J.M. Bourassa.

'C' Captain P/O. R.W. Beveridge.  
'H' " S/L. R.B. Roache.

17. N

Wing Commander Commanding,  
No. 635 Squadron R.A.F.

Continued

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 3

of (Unit or Formation) No. 635 Squadron RAF Downham Market.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Downham Market.	29.3.44		<p><u>Continued.</u></p> <p>'J' Captain S/L. J.R. Wood. 'L' F/O. I.B. Hayes. Captain. <span style="float: right;">11-N-R</span></p> <p>'N' " S/L. W.C. Riches. 'T' F/L. H.J. Nicholls. "</p> <p>'M' " F/L. G.R. Small. 'X' F/O. R.A. Leader. "</p> <p>'V' " F/S. D.S. Farrant. 'S' F/L. L.J.D. Wheble. "</p> <p>'Y' " F/O. L. Henson. 'P' F/L. C. Lyon. "</p> <p>Crews briefed.</p> <p>Operations cancelled.</p> <p>The following 8 aircraft engaged on 'Y' cross countries.</p> <p>'C' F/O. I.B. Hayes. Fighter affiliation. Route 9.</p> <p>'N' S/L. W.C. Riches. Fighter affiliation. Air to Sea Firing.</p> <p>'W' F/L. J.H. Nicholls. " " Route 9.</p> <p>'B' F/O. G.A. Young. " " Route 9.</p> <p>'K' F/O. K.A. Petch. " " " "</p> <p>'P' F/L. H.J.L. Webb. " " " "</p> <p>'L' F/L. L. Henson. Route 9.</p> <p>'S' W/C. J.B. Voyse. Route 9.</p>	
	30.3.44		<p>14 aircraft detailed to attack Wurnberg.</p> <p>'B' Captain F/L. D. Stewart. 'C' Captain F/L. H.J.L. Webb. <span style="float: right;">O.P.Q.</span></p> <p>'P' " W/O. J.M. Bourassa. 'H' " S/L. R.B. Rosche.</p> <p>'J' " S/L. J.R. Wood. 'M' " F/L. G.R. Small.</p> <p>'N' " S/L. W.C. Riches. 'T' " F/L. J.H. Nicholls.</p> <p>'P' " F/L. L.J.D. Wheble. 'Y' " F/O. L. Henson.</p> <p>'W' " F/S. D.S. Farrant. 'V' " F/O. R.A. Leader.</p> <p>'X' " F/L. C. Lyon. 'S' " W/C. J.B. Voyse.</p> <p>'C' F/L. H.J.L. Webb. 'T' F/L. J.H. Nicholls. 'X' F/L. C. Lyon failed to return.</p> <p>No news from take off.</p>	
	31.3.44		<p>'Stand down'.</p> <p>2 aircraft on 'Y' cross country flights. <span style="float: right;">Q</span></p> <p>'L' S/L. M.M. Henderson. Route 13.</p> <p>'K' F/O. I.B. Hayes. Route 8. Air to Sea Firing.</p>	
			<p style="text-align: right;">Wing Commander Commanding, No. 635 Squadron. R.A.F.</p>	

Wing Commander Commanding,  
No. 635 Squadron, R.A.F.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE	1	2	3	4	5	6
AIR 27/2155						
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION	1				2	