

RAF Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I. para. 240, and War Manual, Pt. II, chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 1.

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 95 SQUADRON

No. of pages used for month 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
BATHURST	May. 1st	1944 1100	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 74 AND A/S SWEEP OF U.S.A.C. 2990. Sunderland S/95 took off from JUI at 1100. The convoy was met and sweep made. Slight engine trouble was experienced but S/95 was safely waterborne at BATHURST at 2200. The S/A was u/s during the entire trip.		Narrative
		1745	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 74 AND A/S SWEEP OF U.S.A.C. 2990. Sunderland R/95 was airborne at JUI at 1745. The convoy was met and sweep made. R/95 was waterborne at BATHURST at 0542/2nd.		"
	3rd	0910	ESCORT TO CONVOY SL 157. Sunderland V/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1957.		"
		1745	ESCORT TO CONVOY SL 157. Sunderland R/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 0520/4th.		"
	4th	0627	ESCORT TO CONVOY SL 157. Sunderland S/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1655.		"
	5th	1250	A.S.R. SEARCH. In response to an S.O.S. Sunderland M/95 searched for 20 miles round the given position without success. The aircraft was waterborne at base at 1730.		"
		1139	ESCORT TO CONVOY SR. 13 AND MOVE FROM JUI TO BATHURST. Sunderland J/95 met the convoy and was waterborne at BATHURST at 2351.		"
		1804	ESCORT TO CONVOY SR. 13 AND MOVE FROM JUI TO BATHURST. Sunderland A/95 met the convoy and was waterborne at BATHURST at 0700/6th.		"
	6th	0355	ESCORT TO CONVOY SR. 13. Sunderland S/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1607.		"
		1215	ESCORT TO CONVOY SR. 13. Sunderland R/95 continued the convoy escort and was waterborne at base at 0035/7th.		"
	11th	1001	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 75. Sunderland A/95 met convoy. The aircraft returned and was over base at 2145 but, owing to engine trouble, delayed landing until 2255 when moon had risen.		"
		1925	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 75. Sunderland M/95 met the convoy and was waterborne at base at 0710/12th.		"
	12th	0406	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 75. Sunderland G/95 experienced engine trouble after an hour and had to turn back for base. The convoy was not met. The D.Gs. and some fuel was jettisoned and the aircraft was safely waterborne at base at 0725.		"
		0827	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 75. Sunderland J/95 took off to replace G/95. Convoy was met and aircraft waterborne at 1606.		"

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
BATHURST	May. 12th	2056	ESCORT TO CONVOY SL 158. Sunderland A/95 met the convoy and was waterborne on return at 0720/13th.		Narrative
	13th	1600	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 75 AND MOVE FROM JUL. Sunderland D/95 met convoy and was diverted to BATHURST being waterborne there at 0225.		"
		0245	ESCORT TO CONVOY SL 158. Sunderland E/95 completed its task and was waterborne at BATHURST at 1315.		"
		1015	ESCORT TO CONVOY SL 158. Sunderland S/95 continued the escort and was waterborne at base at 2150.		"
		2332	ESCORT TO CONVOY SL 158. Sunderland M/95 met the convoy and was waterborne at DAKAR at 1230/14th.		"
	14th	1400	ESCORT TO H.M.T. "DUCHESS OF BEDFORD". Sunderland J/95 completed task and was waterborne at base at 2146.		"
	15th	1158	RETURN TO BASE. Sunderland M/95 returned to base, having left DAKAR at 1100.		"
	16th	1753	U-BOAT HUNT. A report having been received of a U-boat thought to have been sighted. Sunderland F/95 left for patrol. A patrol was carried out but the aircraft developed engine trouble and had to return to base, being waterborne at 0221/17th.		"
	17th	0954	A/S SWEEP AND MOVE TO PORT ETIENNE. Sunderland G/95 completed its A/S sweep and was waterborne at PORT ETIENNE at 1500.		"
	18th	0955	A/S SWEEP AND MOVE TO JUL. Sunderland D/95 swept the track of convoy SL 159 and was waterborne at JUL at 1545.		"
		0900	A/S SWEEP AND MOVE TO JUL. Sunderland S/95 completed the sweep and was waterborne at JUL at 1607.		"
	19th	1008	ESCORT TO CONVOY BS. 17. Sunderland B/95 located the convoy at 1731 and escorted it until 2000. The S/E had gone unserviceable at 1420. The aircraft was waterborne at base at 2122.		"
	20th	0920	COASTAL RECCO AND MOVE FROM PORT ETIENNE. Sunderland G/95 completed patrol and was waterborne at BATHURST at 1412.		"
		0146	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 76. Sunderland A/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1454.		"

(*2025-0305) WL 2452-0322 1904 ref: T.S. 700

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) NO. 95 SQUADRON.

No. of pages used for month 7 day 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
BATHURST	May 20th	1217	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 76. Sunderland F/95 set out for the convoy but developed engine trouble. Fuel was jettisoned and aircraft had to set course for base without meeting the		Narrative

waterborne at BATHURST at 1412.

0416

ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 76. Sunderland A/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1454.

(*10885-0505) Wt. 34652-4319 150W 17/42 T.S. 700

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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.

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Page No. 3.

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 95 SQUADRON.

No. of pages used for month 7 day 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
BATHURST	May 20th	1217	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 76. Sunderland F/95 set out for the convoy but developed engine trouble. Fuel was jettisoned and aircraft had to set course for base without meeting the convoy. F/95 was safely waterborne at base at 1524.		Narrative
		1545	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 76. Sunderland M/95 set out to replace F/95. Convoy was met and the aircraft waterborne at base at 2220.		"
	23rd	1912	C.L.A. SEARCH. Sunderland A/95 made contacts but no incidents occurred. The aircraft was waterborne at base at 0900/24th.		"
	24th	0750	C.L.A. SEARCH. Sunderland J/95 completed patrol without incident and was waterborne at 1928.		"
		1928	C.L.A. SEARCH. Sunderland B/95 completed the patrol and was waterborne at base 0710/25th.		"
	25th	0715	C.L.A. SEARCH. Sunderland G/95 carried out this patrol. At 1400 engine trouble was experienced but the aircraft was safely waterborne at 1620.		"
		1926	C.L.A. SEARCH. Sunderland A/95 set out on patrol but at 2037 engine trouble was experienced and the aircraft had to return to base being waterborne at 2205.		"
	26th	0633	C.L.A. SEARCH. Sunderland M/95 carried out the patrol and was waterborne at base at 1743 with nothing to report.		"
		1850	C.L.A. SEARCH. Sunderland J/95 carried out the patrol and was waterborne at BATHURST at 0638/27th.		"
	27th	1158	A/S. SWEEP AND MOVE TO PORT ETIENNE. Sunderland F/95 completed the sweep and was waterborne at PORT ETIENNE at 1852.		"
	29th	1715	A/S. SWEEP AND MOVE FROM JUL. Sunderland D/95 arrived at BATHURST from JUL, having taken off from there at 1215 and carried out A/S sweep on route.		"
	31st	0422	ESCORT OS. 77. Sunderland G/95 met the convoy and was waterborne at base at 1527.		"
		1305	ESCORT OS. 77. Sunderland J/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 2242.		"
		1855	ESCORT OS. 77. Sunderland D/95 developed a serious oil leak at 1923 and had to return to base, being safely waterborne at 2020.		"
		2105	ESCORT OS. 77. Sunderland R/95 took off to replace D/95. The convoy was met and the aircraft was waterborne at BATHURST at 0406/1st.		"

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			SECRET.	
			<u>RECORD OF OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT BY NO. 95 SQUADRON DETACHMENT AT JUI.</u>	
JUI	May 4th	1505	<u>C.L.A. SEARCH.</u> Sunderland D/95 commenced search at 1546. At 1926 engine trouble was experienced and aircraft was waterborne at 2040.	Narrative
	8th	1755	<u>A/S SWEEP.</u> Sunderland D/95 completed patrol at 0328/9th and was waterborne at 0420/9th	"
	12th	1600	<u>ESCORT OS. 75 AND MOVE TO BATHURST.</u> Sunderland D/95 met the convoy and was waterborne at BATHURST at 0225/13th.	"
	18th	1545	<u>ARRIVAL.</u> Sunderland D/95 was airborne at BATHURST at 0955 and arrived at JUI having swept track of convoy SL.159 on route.	"
		1607	<u>ARRIVAL.</u> Sunderland S/95 arrived from BATHURST having swept convoy track en route.	"
	19th	0655	<u>C.L.A. SEARCH.</u> Sunderland D/95 developed engine trouble and was waterborne at 0822	"
		0915	<u>A/S. SWEEP.</u> Sunderland S/95 was on track at 1030. Bad weather conditions were encountered and at 1945 instructions were received to divert to FISHLAKE where the aircraft was waterborne at 2050.	"
	20th	2130	<u>C.L.A. SEARCH.</u> Sunderland S/95 was airborne at FISHLAKE. Very bad weather conditions were experienced. Patrol was completed without incident and aircraft waterborne at FISHLAKE at 0835.	"
	22nd	0420	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY LMS. 7.</u> Sunderland S/95 took off from FISHLAKE. Convoy was met and task carried out in bad weather conditions. At 0900 engine trouble occurred but task was completed and aircraft waterborne at JUI at 1210.	"
	23rd	1130	<u>A/S SWEEP.</u> Sunderland D/95 experienced serious engine trouble immediately after takeoff and made a forced landing in FREESTOWN HARBOUR at 1135.	"
	29th	1215	<u>A/S SWEEP AND RETURN TO BASE.</u> Sunderland D/95 carried out the A/S sweep en route to BATHURST where it landed at 1715.	"

*10086-03051 Wk 34822-0328 1500K 13/42 T.S. 700

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See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I. para. 2949, and War Manual, Pt. II, chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

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of (Unit or Formation) NO. 95 SQUADRON

No. of pages used for day month 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			SECRET.	
PORT ETIENNE	May 27th	1157	<u>RECORD OF OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT BY NO. 95 SQUADRON DETACHMENT AT PORT ETIENNE.</u> <u>A/S. SWEEP AND MOVE TO PORT ETIENNE.</u> Sunderland F/95 was airborne at BATHURST. Sweep was completed and aircraft was waterborne at PORT ETIENNE at 1852.	Narrative

(*10886-5505) Wk. 34851-5528 15000 11742 T.R. 700

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of (Unit or Formation) NO. 95 SQUADRON

No. of pages used for month 7

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
PORT ETIENNE	May 27th	1157	<u>RECORD OF OPERATIONS CARRIED OUT BY NO. 95 SQUADRON DETACHMENT AT PORT ETIENNE.</u> A/S. SWEEP AND MOVE TO PORT ETIENNE. Sunderland E/95 was airborne at BATHURST. Sweep was completed and aircraft was waterborne at PORT ETIENNE at 1852.		Narrative
	29th	0437	ESCORT TO CONVOY OS. 77. Sunderland E/95 met convoy and was waterborne on return at PORT ETIENNE at 1647.		"
			<u>WEATHER SUMMARY FOR BATHURST.</u> Weather was mainly fair, visibility 4 - 8 miles generally but 1½ - 3 miles for four days near the end of the month. Surface wind moderate north-westerly. No low cloud apart from thin stratus at 1500 feet on five or six occasions around dawn.		
			<u>MEDICAL REPORT.</u> The health of the Squadron on the whole was satisfactory during the month. There were 19 admissions to hospital, including two cases of malaria among the ground crew billeted at Half Die. There were no cases of dysentery.		
			<u>CHANGE OF COMMAND.</u> Wing Commander P.R. HATFIELD, D.F.C. (33315) left the Unit by air en route to Home Establishment on expiration of tour on the 5th May, 1944, and Wing Commander D. MITCHELL (33008) assumed command of the Squadron with effect from the same date.		
BATHURST	19th		<u>COMMUNICATION FLIGHTS.</u> Sunderland E/95 was airborne at base at 0831 and arrived at Dakar at 0927. Airborne on return journey at 1000 and waterborne at base at 1054.		
	25th		Sunderland S/95 returned from JUI which it left at 1530 being waterborne at base at 1137.		
			<u>TRAINING EXERCISES.</u> A flare dropping exercise was arranged with a naval M.L. on the 16th May, 1944, but Sunderland S/95 which was detailed for this exercise went u/s and was prevented from taking off. The exercise was not, therefore, carried out. On the 9th May, 1944, exercise SKA took place at Dakar with the French submarine "ATLANTIC". A copy of the full report thereon is attached as appendix No.		45

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events				SECRET.	References to Appendices
<u>APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS.</u>								
			P/O. J.S. EDWARDS	Appointed to commissioned rank w.e.f. 30.8.43.				
			S/L. A/W/C. P.R. HATFIELD	Relinquished Acting rank of Wing Commander on posting to Home Establishment w.e.f. 5.5.44.				
<u>POSTINGS - OFFICERS.</u>								
			P/O. A/F/L. I.B. OGILVIE	Posted from this Unit to R.A.F. Station, Bathurst to F/L Post on No. 7095 Servicing Echelon w.e.f. 1.4.44.				
			P/O. E.J. COLLIS AUS.423644(RAAF)	Arrived at this Unit by air on posting from Home Establishment w.e.f. 5.4.44.				
			P/O. T.W. ROWELL AUS.409853(RAAF)	}	Arrived at this Unit by air on posting from Home Establishment w.e.f. 9.4.44.			
			P/L. H.B. UNDERHILL J.5127(RCAF)					
			P/O. M.R. GILCHRIST J.13727(RCAF)					
<u>ADMISSIONS TO AND DISCHARGES FROM HOSPITAL.</u>								
			P/O. A/F/L. J.E. ROUNTREE	Admitted 55th General Hospital w.e.f. 13.5.44. Discharged from the 55th General Hospital w.e.f. 22.5.44.				
			P/O. A.R. HECKMAN	Discharged from 55th General Hospital w.e.f. 15.5.44.				
			P/O. G.S. FORREST	Discharged from 55th General Hospital w.e.f. 31.5.44.				
<u>ANALYSIS OF OPERATIONS.</u>								
			Half Dis. Gambia.	Escort.	A/S. Patrol.	Recce.	Total.	
			Sorties	27	12	2	41	
			Flying hours	266.42	103.18	9.52	379.52	
			Jui. Sierra Leone.					
			Sorties	1	7	-	8	
			Flying hours	7.50	54.37	-	62.27	
			Port Etienne, French West Africa.					
			Sorties	1	-	-	1	
			Flying hours	12.10	-	-	12.10	

(120851-11000) WL 5482-2518 1208 2247 T.S. 998

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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month 7

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 95 SQUADRON

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
<u>ANALYSIS OF OPERATION (Contd.)</u>					
			Grand Total of Flying Hours.	Operations	462

Catalogue Reference: AIR/27/762

(*10886-9303) Wt. 34632--2370 150M 11/4: T.S. 700

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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.

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 95 SQUADRON

No. of pages used for ^{month} day 7

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95 SQUADRON) NARRATIVE.MAY. 1944.

- 1/ ESCORT. O.S. 74. Sunderland S/95(F/Lt. Silburn) was airborne Jul at 1100 47 to escort the O.S. 74. At 1152 in position 0758 N - 1410 W met the LTS.18. At 1448 in position 1055 N - 1746 W met the Convoy. O.S. 74. At 1955 in position 1012 N - 1746 W left the C/V - 2 M/V's detaching. W/B at 2200 at Bathurst.

BATHURST. O. 55. 1/5/44.

- 1/ ESCORT. S.L. 157. Sunderland A/95 (F/Sgt. Skinner) was airborne at 0325. At 0430 in position 0845 N - 1513 W over the SL.157. after S.E. contact. At 0925 2 E/V's of the SL stationary - ships boat moving between and taken aboard, E/V's then continued. At 1042 in position 0917 N - 1539 W met the O.S. 74 escorted by a Sunderland. At 1148 in position 0904 N - 1654 W reported to S. N. O. oil patch on starboard quarter of the S.L. 157 believed from E/V. S.N.O. to aircraft - Radar U/S - Generator burnt out - Can spare be flown out?. At 1434 in position 0920 N - 1631 W left the S.L. W/B at 1630.

JUL. O. 4. 2/5/44.

- 2/ ESCORT. SL. 157. Sunderland J/95(F/Sgt. Hawley) was airborne at 1115. At 1310 in position 0911 N - 1622 W met the SL. 157. In position 0930 N - 1700 W left the SL. at 1914 relieved by a Catalina. Waterborne at 2215.

JUL. O. 6. 2/5/44.

- 3/ ESCORT SL. 157. Sunderland Z/95(F/Lt Rountree) was airborne at 0225 - port outer engine cutting after 20 minutes flight - 800 gallons of fuel and 6 D/C's jettisoned. W/B at 0435.

JUL. O. 7. 3/4/44.

- 1/ C.L.A. A/S PATROL. Sunderland D/95(P/O. Phillips) was airborne at 1505. At 1546 in position 0810 N - 1410 W began C.L.A. vis: 5 miles. At 1926 in posn. 0750 N - 1500 W port inner exhaust stubs blown - exhaust flames exposed. Waterborne at base at 2040.

JUL. O. 13. 4/4/44.

- 1/ ESCORT. S.R. 13. Sunderland A/95(F/sgt Skinner) was airborne at Jul at 051804 at 2125 in position 1032 N - 1840 W met the S.R. which was left at 060515 in position 1237 N - 1850 W. W/B at Bathurst at 060700.

BATHURST. O. 8. 6/5/44.

- 1/ A/S SWEEP. Sunderland D/95 (P/O. Phillips) was airborne at 081755. On Patrol at at 1915 in position 0626 N - 1323 W. At 090145 in position 0606 N - 1044 W met small lighted coastal vessel. Off Patrol at 0328 in position 0730 N - 1310 W. W/B at 0420.

JUL. O. 25. 9/5/44.

- 1/ ESCORT. O.S. 75. Sunderland D/95(P/O. Phillips) was airborne Jul at 121600. At 1838 in position 1005 N - 1723 W met the O.S. At 130013 in position 0949 N - 1645 W left the Convoy. Waterborne at Bathurst at 0255.

BATHURST. O. 16. 13/5/44.

- 1/ SWEEP TRACK OF CONVOY. Sunderland D/95(P/O. Phillips) was airborne Bathurst at 0955. At 1414 in position 0830 N - 1536 W sighted S.L. 159 from 12 miles. Waterborne Jul at 1545.

JUL. O. 47. 18/5/44.

- 2/ SWEEP TRACK OF CONVOY. Sunderland S/95(F/Lt. Silburn) was airborne Bathurst at 0900. Nothing seen. W/B at Jul at 1607.

JUL. O. 48. 18/5/44.

- 1/ C.L.A. A/S PATROL. Sunderland D/95(P/O. Phillips) was airborne at 0655 - A/C developed engine trouble, and was waterborne at 0822.

JUL. O. 50. 19/5/44.

- 2/ C.L.A. A/S PATROL. Sunderland S/95(F/Lt. Silburn) was airborne Jul at 0915. Patrol area Covered, but nothing seen. W/B Fishlake at 2055.

FISHLAKE. O. 13. 19/5/44.

- 1/ C.L.A. A/S PATROL. Sunderland S/95(F/Lt. Silburn) was airborne at 202130. Patrol area covered, but with nil results. W/B at 210835.

FISHLAKE. O. 14. 21/5/44.

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- 1/ ESORT. STL. 23. Sunderland S/95(P/Lt. Silburn) was airborne Fishlake at 0422. At 0527 in position 0700 N - 1326 W estimated position of STL after SE contact. At 0934 in position 0633 N - 1243 W began Odra to cover straggler 8 miles astern of G/V. At 1100 in position 0622 N - 1227 W straggler rejoined Convoy, and Aircraft left it. Waterborne at Jul at 1210.

JUL. O. 56. 23/5/44.

- 1/ 160 Fathom Line Sweep. Sunderland D/95(P/O. Phillips) was airborne at Jul at 1215. At 1434 in position 0957 N - 1633 W met the N/V Colorado. At 1523 met the Spanish N/V Plus Ultra in position 1051 N - 1721 W. Waterborne at Bathurst at 1715.

BATHURST. O. 35. 29/5/44.