

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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.

of (Unit or Formation) 25 SQUADRON

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
BATHURST	June 1944				
	2nd	0249	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY S.L. 160.</u> Sunderland Z/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1330.		Narrative
	2nd	1730	<u>A/S SWEEP AND MOVE FROM PORT ETIENNE TO BATHURST.</u> Sunderland P/95 carried out A/S sweep being airborne at Port Etienne at 1317.		
		1005	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY S.L. 160.</u> Sunderland M/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1930		
		1727	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY S.L. 160.</u> Sunderland P/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 0440		
	5th	0200	<u>A/S SWEEP AND MOVE TO PORT ETIENNE.</u> Sunderland R/95 carried out A/S Sweep and was waterborne at Port Etienne at 0650.		
		0142	<u>A/S SWEEP AND MOVE TO PORT ETIENNE.</u> Sunderland S/95 carried out A/S Sweep and was waterborne at Port Etienne at 0721.		
		0255	<u>A/S SWEEP AND MOVE TO PORT ETIENNE.</u> Sunderland Z/95 carried out A/S Sweep and was waterborne at Port Etienne at 0800.		
		0227	<u>A/S SWEEP AND MOVE TO PORT ETIENNE.</u> Sunderland J/95 carried out A/S Sweep and was waterborne at Port Etienne at 0749.		
	6th	0150	<u>A/S SWEEP AND MOVE TO PORT ETIENNE.</u> Sunderland P/95 carried out A/S Sweep and was waterborne at Port Etienne at 0700.		
	7th	1650	<u>COASTAL RECOE AND MOVE TO BATHURST.</u> Sunderland J/95 carried our coastal recco being airborne at Port Etienne at 1252.		
	11th	0421	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY S.R. 1.</u> Sunderland B/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1545		
		1915	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY O.S. 78 AND MOVE TO BATHURST.</u> Sunderland Z/95 met convoy, being airborne at Port Etienne at 0651.		
		2105	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY O.S. 78 AND MOVE TO BATHURST.</u> Sunderland P/95 was airborne at Port Etienne at 1635 to take the place of R/95 which had returned with engine trouble. At 1910 a message was received instructing the A/C to land at Bathurst before 2200 as the weather was expected to deteriorate, course was set for Bathurst and the aircraft was waterborne there at 2105, the convoy was not met.		
		1205	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY S.R. 1.</u> Sunderland D/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 2230.		
	12th	0053	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY O.S. 78.</u> Sunderland G/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1235.		27

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
BATHURST	12th	1125	<u>ESCAPE TO CONVOY O.S.78.</u> Sunderland E/95 met convoy at 1250. At 2000 the aircraft set course for base as the weather had become impossible and was waterborne at 2215.		Narrative
	13th	0155	<u>ESCAPE TO CONVOY S.L.161.</u> Sunderland D/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1415		
		1207	<u>ESCAPE TO CONVOY S.L.161.</u> Sunderland C/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 2230		
	15th	1455	<u>A/S SWEEP TRACK OF CONVOY S.L.161 AND MOVE TO BATHURST.</u> Sunderland S/95 swept track of convoy being airborne at Port Etienne at 1030.		
	16th	1755	<u>A/S SWEEP TRACK OF CONVOY S.L.161 AND MOVE TO BATHURST.</u> Sunderland R/95 swept track of convoy being airborne at Port Etienne at 1030.		
	17th	2133	<u>CIA SWEEP.</u> Sunderland E/95 was airborne at Jui at 1609. At 2010 the aircraft entered a storm area and sent a message that it was terminating patrol. The aircraft was waterborne at Fishlake at 2133.		
	19th	1002	<u>ESCAPE TO CONVOY O.S.79</u> Sunderland A/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 2218.		
	20th	0341	<u>ESCAPE TO CONVOY O.S.79.</u> Sunderland J/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1504		
	21st	1645	<u>ESCAPE TO CONVOY S.L.162 AND MOVE FROM JUI.</u> Sunderland G/95 met convoy, being airborne at Jui at 0336		
		2331	<u>ESCAPE TO CONVOY S.L.162 AND MOVE FROM JUI.</u> Sunderland E/95 met convoy. Airborne at Jui at 1043		
	22nd	0325	<u>ESCAPE TO CONVOY S.L.162.</u> Sunderland A/95 met the convoy and was waterborne at base at 1350		
		1135	<u>ESCAPE TO CONVOY S.L.162.</u> Sunderland P/95 met the convoy and was waterborne at base at 2208		
	24th	0703	<u>CIA SEARCH.</u> Sunderland A/95 commenced patrol, but at 0805 had to send a message to base reporting an oil leak on the port inner engine, estimated flying time 6 hours. At 0900, a yellow object, thought to resemble a K Type Dinghy, was seen, but after 14 minutes search nothing further was seen. At 1025 a message was received from base stating that E/95 was being despatched as relief, so course was set for base and the aircraft was waterborne at 1304.		
		1012	<u>CIA SEARCH.</u> Sunderland E/95 was airborne to relieve A/95 which had developed engine trouble. At 1622 a line squall and thunderstorm was encountered, cutting the patrol short and the aircraft was waterborne at base at 1929 with nothing to report.		

*20886-0305 WL 34832-0310 1300 11/10 T.S. 700

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 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 day 6

month

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
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nothing further was seen. At 1020 a message was received from base stating that R/95 was being despatched as relief, so course was set for base and the aircraft was waterborne at 1301.

1012 CLA SEARCH. Sunderland E/95 was airborne to relieve A/95 which had developed engine trouble. At 1622 a line squall and thunderstorm was encountered, cutting the patrol short and the aircraft was waterborne at base at 1929 with nothing to report.

(*10885-9300) Wk 14812-2322 150W 11/42 T.S. 700

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of (Unit or Formation) No 95 Squadron.

month

No. of pages used for entry 6

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET:</u>	References to Appendices
BATHURST	26th	0432	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY R.S. 18.</u> Sunderland G/95 met the convoy at 0520. At 0602 the S.E. went u/s. At 0750 a message was received from base reporting a thunderstorm with squalls which was moving west. The Aircraft altered course to avoid the storm which was passing over the convoy's position and at 1048 commenced a square search to find the convoy. At 1235 a message was sent to base reporting that the visibility towards the surface was only three miles and that the A.S.V. was n/s. The convoy was next met at 1340. The aircraft set course for base at 1502 and was waterborne at 1605.	Narrative	
		1258	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY R.S. 18.</u> Sunderland E/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 0125/27.		
29th	1005		<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY O.S. 80.</u> Sunderland Z/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 1917.		
		1429	<u>CLA SEARCH.</u> Sunderland G/95 completed search with nothing to report and was waterborne at base at 0305/30.		
		1747	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY O.S. 80.</u> Sunderland A/95 met convoy and was waterborne at base at 0242/30.		
30th	0409		<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY O.S. 80.</u> Sunderland Z/95 developed an oil leak at 0400 which threatened to be serious and set course for base. It was over base at 0515 and circled until daylight, being waterborne at 0658, the convoy was not met.		
		0630	<u>TO PORT ETIENNE.</u> Sunderland C/95 was waterborne at Port Etienne at 1801, completing CLA Search en route.		
		1202	<u>ESCORT TO CONVOY O.S. 80.</u> Sunderland R/95 was airborne and had to alter course at 1352 to avoid a storm. At 1520 a message was sent to base that the convoy had not been met. The aircraft continued search and met the convoy at 1905. At 1951 a message was received recalling the aircraft to base on account of bad weather and R/95 was waterborne at 2220.		
			RECORD OF OPERATIONS BY 55 SQUADRON DEPARTMENT AT JU		
15th	1908		<u>ARRIVAL.</u> Sunderland E/95 arrived from Bathurst having taken off from there at 1550. Coastal recce was carried out en route.		
17th	1609		<u>A/S SWEEP.</u> Sunderland E/95 commenced patrol at 1756. Bad weather conditions were experienced and patrol was discontinued at 2000. Aircraft was waterborne at Fishlake at 2133.		
19th	1420		<u>A/S SWEEP.</u> Sunderland E/95 was airborne at Fishlake and on patrol at 1444. Aircraft came off patrol at 1639 and was waterborne at Ju at 1728.	57 88	

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
JUL	21st	0036	ESCORT TO CONVOY S.L. 162. Sunderland G/95 met convoy. At 1440 course was set for base and aircraft was waterborne at Bathurst at 1645.		
	1043		ESCORT TO CONVOY S.L. 162 AND TRANSIT TO BATHURST. Sunderland E/95 met convoy and was waterborne at Bathurst at 2331.		
			RECORD OF OPERATIONS BY 95 SQUADRON DETACHMENT AT PORT ETIENNE		
PORT ETIENNE	2nd	1317	Sunderland F/95 was airborne to sweep track of Convoy Route and move to Bathurst. Task was completed without incident and a/c was waterborne at Bathurst at 1730.		
	5th		Four Sunderlands R, S, J and Z of 95 Squadron were airborne at Bathurst at, respectively, 0200, 0142, 0229 and 0255 and having carried out A/S Sweep without incident were waterborne at Port Etienne at, respectively, 0650, 0729, 0749 and 0800.		
	1129		AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland S/95 was airborne to carry out A.S.R. Search. The search was unsuccessful and the aircraft was waterborne at base at 2350.		
	1131		AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland R/95 was airborne to carry out A.S.R. Search. The search was unsuccessful and the aircraft was waterborne at base at 2330.		
	1132		AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland Z/95 was airborne to carry out A.S.R. Search. The search was unsuccessful and the aircraft was waterborne at base at 2316.		
	6th	0700	Sunderland F/95 was waterborne from A/S Sweep which was completed without incident, having been airborne at Bathurst at 0100.		
	1231		AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland Z/95 was airborne to continue Air Sea Rescue Search. Engine trouble developed and aircraft returned to base being waterborne at 1300.		
	1233		AIR SEA RESCUE. Sunderland J/95 was airborne to continue Air Sea Rescue Search. After an unsuccessful search the aircraft returned to base being waterborne at 2315.		
	7th	1252	Sunderland J/95 was airborne at 1252 on Coastal Recon and move to Bathurst and was waterborne there at 1650.		
	11th	0651	Sunderland Z/95 was airborne at 0651 to continue escort of Convoy O.S.78. Task was completed and aircraft was waterborne at Bathurst at 1915.		
	1444		Sunderland R/95 was airborne at 1444 to continue escort of Convoy O.S.78 but engine trouble developed and aircraft returned to base without having met the convoy and was waterborne at 1530.		

(410886-93005) Wt. 34632-33724 150W 11/42 T.S. 700

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of (Unit or Formation) 95 SQUADRON

No. of pages used for month 6

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices

7th	1252	Sunderland J/95 was airborne at 1252 on Coastal Recon and move to Bathurst and was waterborne there at 1650.
11th	0651	Sunderland Z/95 was airborne at 0651 to continue escort of Convoy O.S.78. Task was completed and aircraft was waterborne at Bathurst at 1915.
14th		Sunderland P/95 was airborne at 1444 to continue escort of Convoy O.S.78 but engine trouble developed and aircraft returned to base without having met the convoy and was waterborne at 1530.

*10880-99051 Wk. 24812-2322 190W 11/45 T.S. 700

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of (Unit or Formation) 25 SQUADRON

month 6
No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
PORT ETIENNE	11th	1635	Sunderland P/95 was airborne at 1635 to replace P/95 on escort of Convoy O.S.78. The Convoy was not met and the aircraft was waterborne at Bathurst at 2105.	Narrative	
	13th	0925	Sunderland S/95 was airborne at 0925 to relieve Sunderland J/343 and to escort Convoy S.L.14. Task was completed and aircraft was waterborne at base at 1135.		
	15th	0726	Sunderland P/95 was airborne at 0726 to escort Cruiser Suffren. Task was completed and aircraft was waterborne at 1900.		
		1030	Sunderland S/95 was airborne at 1030 to sweep track of Convoy S.L.161. Convoy was met, task was completed and aircraft was waterborne near at 1455.		
	16th	1030	Sunderland R/95 was airborne at 1030 to sweep track of Convoy S.L.161. Convoy was met, task was completed and aircraft was waterborne at Bathurst at 1755		
	30th	1950	Sunderland C/95 was waterborne at 1950 from C.L.A. Search for possible U-Boat, having been airborne at Bathurst at 0630.		

ANALYSIS OF OPERATIONS

	Escort	A/V Patrol	Recon	Total
<u>Half Die, Gambia</u>				
Sorties	19	9	-	28
Flying hours	199.48	65.31		264.79
<u>Rui, Sierra Leone</u>	Sorties	2	2	4
	Flying hours	28.57	8.32	37.29
<u>Port Etienne</u>	Sorties	6	2	14
<u>French West Africa</u>	Flying hours	55.12	11.30	66.52
GRAND TOTAL OF FLYING HOURS -	Operations	399.48		
	Training	78.00		
	Communication	9.45		
	Total	487.32		

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
<u>AIRCRAFT SERVICEABILITY.</u>					
Total including detachments 162					
Additional aircraft available for training 28					
<u>WEATHER SUMMARY FOR BATHURST.</u>					
The first nine days were mainly fair with good visibility and moderate N.W. to W. winds. There were showers or thunderstorms on June 10th, 11th, 12th, 16th, 21st, 22nd and 24th and 30th and about 4 inches of rain were recorded. Visibility was mainly very good during this period. Surface winds were mainly moderate to light W to S/W, but strong and equally E/Wly in storms. The gusts probably reached 45 m.p.h. on one occasion on June 24th. The average day maximum temperature was 20 F and the night minimum 78 F.					
<u>MENTAL REPORT.</u>					
The general health of the Squadron has been average during the month and there has been no abnormal sickness.					
The inoculation of all aircrew against plague has been almost completed, with few reactions to the primary inoculations, but more severe ones to the second.					
P/Lt. J. Jacobs arrived at this unit on 30.5.44 from Port Etienne, to take over duties as Squadron Medical Officer vice P/Lt. K. G. Bowker who is detached to Port Etienne.					
<u>ADMISSIONS TO AND DISCHARGES FROM HOSPITAL.</u>					
P/O G.S. Forrest	Admitted to 55th General Hospital 15.6.44. Discharged 25.6.44.				
P/O H.W.R. Barnes	"	"	"	"	19.6.44 " 27.6.44
P/O H.P. Kirk	"	"	"	"	19.6.44 " 27.6.44
P/O P.H. Packham	"	"	"	"	1.6.44 " 9.6.44

(210856-9305) WL 24854-2322 130W 2214C T.S. 780

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date

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
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	P/O N.W.R. Boyes	"	"	"	"	12.6.44	"	27.6.44
	P/O H.P. Kirk	"	"	"	"	12.6.44	"	27.6.44
	P/O P.N. Packham	"	"	"	"	1.6.44	"	9.6.44

(42085-9303) Wt. 34652-3322 12/42 T.S. 700

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	<u>SECRET.</u>	References to Appendices
<u>APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS</u>					
			P/O D.A.M. Collier Appointed to the Acting Rank of P/Lt. w.e.f. 7.3.44		
			P/O A/F/L J.E. Rountray Promoted to the rank of P/Lt. w.e.f. 28.3.44		
			P/O M.P. Gilchrist Promoted to the rank of P/O w.e.f. 28.2.43		
			P/O H.T. Douglass Appointed to commissioned rank w.e.f. 19.3.44		
			P/O W.J. Berry " " " " 20.3.44		
			P/O F.L. Scargill " " " " 20.3.44		
			P/O D.M. Skinner " " " " 25.3.44		
<u>POSTINGS - OFFICERS</u>					
			P/O A.I. Priest Arrived this unit on 1.6.44 on posting from Home Establishment w.e.f. 2.5.44		
			P/O A.R. Heckman Left this unit by sea on posting to Home Establishment (Invalided) 2.6.44		
			P/O L.K.J. Spinney Left this unit by air on 19.6.44 on posting to U.K. for Captain's Course		
<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>					
15th	1944		Sunderland G/95 was airborne at Bathurst at 1450 in transit to Ju1 and was waterborne there at 1855.		
15th			Sunderland E/95 took off from Bathurst at 1530 and was waterborne at Ju1 at 1908.		
15th			Sunderland I/95 was airborne at Bathurst at 1053 and waterborne Dakar 1152; airborne Dakar at 1330 and waterborne at Bathurst at 1422.		
<u>SQUADRON PERSONNEL AS AT 30TH JUNE 1944</u>					
			<u>AIRCRAFT STRENGTH</u>		
			Establishment Total Posted strength		
Officers	26		38	12	
Warrant Officers	-		7		
Senior N.C.O's	71		86		
Other ranks	10		126		

S. J. Baggott S.A.
for Wing Commander, Commanding,
No 95 Squadron, R.A.F.

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