

RAF COLLEGE CRANWELL

“RAFC Fs540 - WWII (July)”



Extracts from July 1940/41/42/43/44/45

RAF Cranwell - WWII

For the months of July, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945

PERMANENT HISTORICAL RECORD

ROYAL AIR FORCE
OPERATIONS
RECORD
BOOK

—
FORM 540

—
HEADQUARTERS.

AIR HISTORICAL BRANCH
AIR MINISTRY.

AMB 500A

R.A.F. Form 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

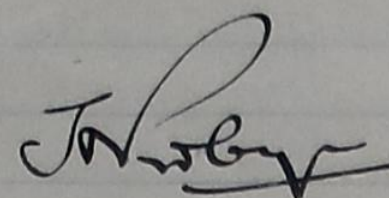
Page No. 1

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.

No. of pages used for ~~65~~ MONTH

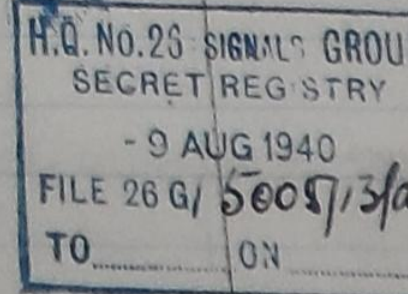
of (Unit or Formation) STATION HEADQUARTERS, CRANWELL.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
CRANWELL	3rd.	July.	Three 20 m/m Hispano Cannons with mountings arrived.	
"	7th.	July.	This Station Was transferred from Flying Training Command to Technical Training Command.	
"	10th.	July	A long distance rifle range was opened by Air Vice Marshal R.P. Willock. This range is situated on the north side of Bristol Wood and was constructed by personnel of this Station in 14 days.	
"	12th.	July.	An exercise was held at 1800 hours to test the efficiency of the machine gun defences. Six formations consisting of three Oxford aircraft each assumed the role of low level bombing attackers, and sixteen 'Hind' aircraft assumed that of dive bombing and machine gun attackers. Camera guns were used in four of the defence posts.	
"	16th.	July	Air Commodore J.H. Simpson (A.O.C. No. 26 Group) visited this Station.	
"	29th.	July.	Air Marshal Sir W.G. Mitchell, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., A.F.C., arrived by air at 1025 hours and left again at 1817 hours.	
"	30th.	July.	69 airmen arrived from Blackpool on posting to this Station for permanent ground defence duties.	



Air Commodore,

Commanding,

R.A.F. Station, Cranwell.

SECRET

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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

S E C R E T.

Page No. One.

Month.

No. of pages used for ~~days~~

of (Unit or Formation) Royal Air Force Station, Cranwell, Lincs.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Cranwell.	3.7.41.		Visit of Major General J.H. Beith, C.B.E., M.C., to Cranwell.	
Cranwell.	7.7.41.		Station Swimming Gala held. Many entries and high standard of performance. The competition between East and West Camp resulted in a draw with 21 points each.	
Cranwell.	8.7.41.		Visit of Air Commodore ^{Vice Marshal} Parry, C.B., D.S.O., of Headquarters, Technical Training Command, to discuss accommodation problems at Cranwell.	
Fulbeck Relief Landing Ground.	15.7.41.		Four 50 kg. bombs dropped immediately south of the Landing Ground at Fulbeck. All exploded, no damage to R.A.F. personnel or property.	
Cranwell.	16.7.41.		Station Athletic Sports held at Stadium. There was keen competition between East and West Camps, resulting in a win for East Camp by 209 points to 193 points.	
Fulbeck Relief Landing Ground.	17.7.41.		A stick of ten 50 kg H.E. bombs dropped in fields West of Fulbeck Landing Ground. All exploded on impact; no damage was done to R.A.F. personnel or property.	
Barkston Relief Landing Ground.	22.7.41.		At 0115 hours an unidentified enemy aircraft flying from North to South dropped five H.E. bombs making craters approximately 20 feet apart, 9 feet wide and 5 feet deep in a line across the flare path. One airman slightly injured no damage to aircraft or other property.	
Cranwell.	24.7.41.		Instructions received from Air Ministry of proposed formation at Cranwell of No. 3 O.T.U. This commitment to include :- STRENGTH :- 120 Officers. 130 N.C.O.s. 500 Airmen. AIRCRAFT :- 29 Wellington or Whitley. 9 Anson. 4 Target towing.	
Cranwell.	30.7.41.		Visit of A.O.C. No. 17 Group, Air Commodore A.W. Milne, and Wing Commander J.B.M. Wallis in connection with formation of No. 3 O.T.U. at Cranwell. Mutually agreed No. 3 O.T.U. to arrive at Cranwell on 6th August, 1941.	

Summary of Events

Place

Date

Time

Summary of Events

Place

Date

Time

Cranwell.

30.7.41.

Visit of Brigadier R. B. L. Persse, of No. 212 Infantry Brigade, to inspect Defended Localities at Cranwell, Fulbeck Relief Landing Ground and Barkston Relief Landing Ground.

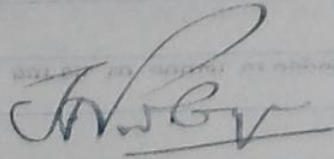
Cranwell.

31.7.41.

A most successful classical concert was given in the Cinema by the R.A.F. College String Orchestra, augmented by Headquarters Wing Musical Society, under the direction of F/O. Sims, M.B.E., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

GENERAL.

During July the following Home Office warnings were received : - Yellow, 31; Purple, 20; Red, 19. Personnel were not ordered to shelters.


Air Commodore,
Commanding R.A.F. Station,
CRANWELL LINCS.

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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.

No. of pages used for day JULY 1942

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. STATION, CRANWELL.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
CRANWELL	1.7.42		Squadron Leader Jones, Canadian Liaison Officer visited the Station for the purpose of contacting Canadian personnel.	
CRANWELL	3.7.42		Group Captain R. Reay Jones and Wing Commander E.G. Bunce Phillips of Headquarters, No.27 (Training) Group visited No.1 Signals School. A Station Defence exercise was held on 3rd July, 1942 with the Army (48 Divisional Battle School) simulating paratroops attacking the Aerodrome during the hours of darkness. The intention of the exercise was to prevent the destruction of aircraft at dispersal points and the infiltration of hostile troops into the Main Camp. Attached is a copy of observations on the exercise by both attacking and defending forces (Attachments 'A' and 'B' respectively).	
CRANWELL	6.7.42		Lieutenant Colonel Gavro Shkrwanitch, Head of Royal Yugoslav Military Air Force Section visited College for purpose of seeing flying training activities.	
CRANWELL	7.7.42		Air Marshal Sir William L. Welsh K.C.B., D.S.O., A.F.C., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Flying Training Command visited the College and Headquarters, No.21 Group.	
CRANWELL	9.7.42		Flight Lieutenant J.P.D. Agate, Medical Quartermaster of Headquarters No.27 (T) Group, visited the Station and Sick Quarters. Squadron Leader E.W. Braendle D.F.C., visited No.1 R.D.F. School to discuss Technical Training.	
CRANWELL	13.7.42		Air Commodore H. Gordon Dean, visited No.1 Signals School on inspection.	
CRANWELL	15.7.42		Wing Officer L.M. Turner Headquarters No.27 (T) Group visited the Station reference W.A.A.F. Welfare.	
CRANWELL	16.7.42		Flight Officer McCall (Staff Code & Cypher Officer) visited No.1 R.D.F. School.	
CRANWELL	21.7.42		Group Captain E.A. Lumley M.C., Senior Medical Officer, Headquarters No.27 (T) Group visited Cranwell.	

Summary of Events

Place Date Time

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References
to
Appendices

Place Date Time

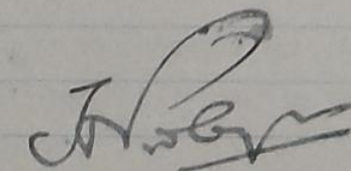
Summary of Events

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events
BARKSTON	22.7.42	00.45	An unidentified aircraft flying from N.E. to S.W. at a height of approx. 100 feet dropped 4 H.E. bombs of about 250 Kilgs. One bomb dropped on the landing ground. No damage to personnel, 1 aircraft punctured in starboard wing fabric.
CRANWELL	23.7.42		Captain Orga, Turkish Welfare Officer, visited College for purpose of consulting Captain Ersel on training of Turkish Cadets.
CRANWELL	27.7.42		Group Captain I.T.B. Hart, O.B.E., Command Education Officer visited No.1 Signals School regarding Educational Training.
		07.56	Personnel ordered to Shelters on sounding of Air Raid Warning.
CRANWELL	29.7.42		1406 (Spalding & District) Squadron A.T.C., visited the Station for week-end Camp. A programme of flying and instruction was arranged.
CRANWELL	31.7.42		Major S. Turagay, Turkish Air Attache visited College for purpose of meeting Turkish officers undergoing training.

GENERAL.

During July six Home Office "RED" and six "PURPLE" warnings were received.

Personnel ordered to Shelters once.



Air Commodore,
Officer Commanding,
RAF Station, Cranwell.

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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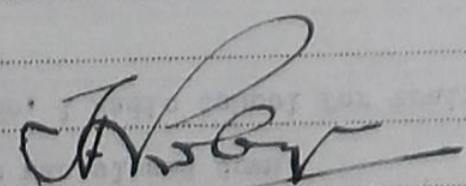
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of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. STATION, CRANWELL, Lincs.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
CRANWELL.	5/6.7.43.		Air Vice-Marshal G.B.A. Baker, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., Air Officer i/c Administration, and Captain H.T. Humphries, O.B.E., Chief Engineer of Headquarters Technical Training Command, visited the Station.	
	8.7.43.		The Duchess of Portland visited the new Y.M.C.A. Building, East Camp.	
	14.7.43.		The Anniversary of the Storming of the Bastille and National Day of France, was celebrated by a special Ensign Hoisting Parade on the East Camp Parade Ground, in which Free French personnel took part.	
	17.7.43.		The Western half of the South Airfield was closed, and handed over to Contractors for the restoration of the grass surface.	
	21.7.43.		The National Day of Belgium was celebrated by a special Colour and Ensign Hoisting Parade and March Past on the West Camp Parade Ground in which Belgian personnel participated. The Station Commander commanded the Parade and read out the Belgian Order of the Day.	
	23.7.43.		Visit of the Principle Medical Officer of Headquarters Technical Training Command, Air Vice-Marshal W. Tyrrell, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., M.B.	
	28.7.43.		Owing to the reduction in the number of officers on the Station, due to fewer Courses for Officers being held, the Bristol Wood Officers' Mess was closed down.	
			The first contingent of 50 W.A.A.C's arrived at No. 1 Radio School for training as Teleprinter Operators.	
	29.7.43.		A Station Gas/Fire Exercise was held. Station specialist personnel carried out their duties efficiently and expeditiously, but there was some lack of co-operation by one or two Sections, due to a desire to interfere as little as possible with basic training. The N.F.S. Sleaford were called upon to assist, and arrived promptly, but they were rather slow in getting to work, possibly due to the employment of part-time personnel.	
			<u>GENERAL.</u>	
			Weather during the greater part of the month was cloudy, but towards the end there was a	

over...

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
			<p>succession of fine, warm days, culminating in a violent thunderstorm in the late evening of the 31st July.</p> <p>One Home Officer Air Raid Warning 'RED' was received on the 12th July, and an Air Raid Message 'PURPLE' on the 13th July.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  Air Commodore, Commanding, <u>R.A.F. Station, CRANWELL.</u> </p>	

of (Unit or Formation) _____

No. of pages used for day _____

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Cranwell	1.7.43		Dr. J. Clarke, County Medical Officer of Health called on S.M.O. and inspected Sewage Disposal Works.		
Cranwell	5.7.43.		F/O. J. Weightman W.M.O. proceeded on 7 days annual leave.		
Cranwell	12.7.43.		S/Ldr. H.B. Sutton proceeded on 7 days + 48 hrs. leave. Given 48 hours travelling time to Ireland. F/O. J. Weightman, W.M.O. returned from leave.		
Cranwell	15.7.43.		Sister Miller P.M.R.A.F.N.S. arrived 16.20 p.m. to take over duties of Senior Sister.		
Cranwell	16.7.43.		Sister Parsons P.M.R.A.F.N.S. V.R. Transferred Sick to R.A.F. Hospital, Ely. Inquest held in Station Sick Quarters by Mr. E.C. Deal, Coroner, Sleaford on body of L.A.C. French, R.C.A.F. who died suddenly on 15.7.43. Inquest adjourned for two weeks.		
Cranwell.	23.7.43.		S/Ldr. H.B. Sutton returned from annual leave. A.M. Visit to Cranwell by A.V.M. W. Tyrrell, D.S.O., P.M.O., T.T.C. All wards inspected and short tour of Camp.		
Cranwell	29.7.43.		Gas fire exercise. Alert 14.16 p.m. First Aid Post and Cleansing Centres manned. Gas attack alarm 14.25 hours. Gas all clear 15.22 hours and alert cancelled. 20 stretcher bearers reported. 24 W.A.A.F. and 26 R.A.F. Casualties dealt with. All treatment completed before end of exercise.		
Cranwell	30.7.43.		S/Ldr. Trenchard of C.M.E. London visited station to inspect X-ray facilities. F/Lt. Pearce, X-ray specialist from Mass Radiography Unit, Skegness visited Station Sick Quarters to confer with S/Ldr. Trenchard of C.M.E. Both returned to their units 16.00 hours.		

P.M. Frades
Wing Commander,
Senior Medical Officer,
R.A.F. Cranwell, Lincs.

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of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. Station, Cranwell.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
CRANWELL	JULY		Compiling Officer:- Wing Commander E.K. Cormody (Station Administrative Officer).	
	1944		<u>I - OPERATIONS.</u>	
			(a) <u>Weather.</u>	
	1,2,3,5,7,8,10,			
	13,21,22,26,27,30		Showers, continuous rain at times. A cloudy month, poor flying weather. Winds moderate throughout.	
	16,17,18,19		Excellent visibility, good flying weather.	
			(b) The flying hours of the Station for the month were:-	
			No. 1 Radio School 3409.50	
			No. 17 SFTS day 5090.45	
			night 352.45	
			8852.40.	
			<u>II - ADMINISTRATION.</u>	
	3		Group Captain H.M.S. Wright, Air Ministry Plans (ii), visited the Station.	
	8		Air Commodore W.E.G. Bryant, M.B.E. took over the command of the Station vice Air Commodore H.M. Probyn, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.	
	5		Canadian Dominion Day. A dance was held for Canadian personnel.	
	14		Air Marshal Sir Philip Babington, KCB, MC, AFC, Flying Training Command, visited No. 17 S.F.T.S.	
	16		Group Captain The Rt. Rev. Monseigneur H. Beauchamp, M.C., Principal Roman Catholic Chaplain, visited the Station, and accepted two Polish artists' pictures for the Roman Catholic Church on behalf of the Royal Air Force.	
	4		A parade was held in celebration of the American Independence Day.	
	14		A parade was held to commemorate the French National Day.	
	21		A parade was held to commemorate the Belgian National Day.	

/over...

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
CRANWELL	JULY			
	26		Air Vice-Marshal Sir W. Tyrrell, P.M.O., Technical Training Command, visited the Station.	
	29		The first Airborne Divisional Sports were held in the Stadium. Major General R.E. Urquart, D.S.O.	
	31		attended.	
			Mr. J.E. Young, Air Ministry (Horticultural) visited the Station.	
			<u>III - PERSONNEL.</u>	
			(a) Strength at the end of the month.	
			(i) <u>Station Headquarters.</u>	
			Officers: R.A.F. 56	
			W.A.A.F. 21	
			W.M.O. 3	
			PMRAFNS. 5	
			85	
			W.Os. and S.N.C.Os. RAF 87	
			WAAF 22	
			Other ranks. RAF 470	
			WAAF 422	
			1001	
			(ii) <u>Total Strength of Station.</u>	
			<u>Officers.</u>	
			R.A.F. W.A.A.F.	
			556 44 600	
			<u>Other Ranks.</u>	
			5502 1753 7255	
			Civilians 331	
			8186	

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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) R.A.F. Station, Cranwell.

No. of pages used for day T

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
<u>CRANWELL.</u>	<u>JULY</u>			
	<u>15</u>		<p><u>IV - GENERAL.</u></p> <p>R.A.F. Cranwell Cricket Team v. Spitalgate Club, Grantham played at Cranwell. Cranwell won by 3 wickets, 14 runs.</p> <p><i>W. J. Bonfield</i> Air Commodore, Commanding, R.A.F. Station, Cranwell, Lincs.</p>	

of (Unit or Formation)		R.A.F. STATION, CRANWELL.		No. of pages used for day	
Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	
CRANWELL	1945 June JULY		Compiling Officer:- Wing Commander E.K. Cormody (Station Administrative Officer).	References to Appendices	
			<u>I - OPERATIONS.</u>		
			(a) <u>Weather.</u>		
	3,4,5,6,7,12,17,22.		Fair to cloudy.		
	1,9,13,14,15,21		Fair to cloudy with thunderstorms.		
	2,10,16,19,20		Cloudy with showers.		
	11		Light drizzle with thick fog at night.		
	18		Fine, becoming cloudy.		
	23		Fine, good visibility.		
	8,24,25		Cloudy, poor visibility, becoming moderate.		
			Wind light to moderate throughout the month.		
			(b) The flying hours of the station for the month were:-		
			No. 1 Radio School 938.00		
			Station Headquarters Communication Flight 115.35		
			No. 19 F.T.S. day 4171.10		
			night 300.50		
			5525.35.		
			<u>II - ADMINISTRATION.</u>		
	10/11		F/Sgt. Willer, No. 24 Group Catering Training Staff, visited the station in connection with the Catering Training Courses.		
	11		S/Ldr. Bialowiejski, Technical Training Command, visited the station in connection with the training of Polish Aircraft Apprentices.		
	12		G/Capt. Rev. H.J.W. Carpenter, Assistant Principal Chaplain, R.C. visited the Station.		
	12		F/Lt. Cowling, No. 14 S. of T.T. visited the station regarding Camouflage and Shadow Landscape Model.		
	17		F/Lt. Wilson, Air Ministry lecturer, visited the station to give lectures on the Far East, embodying the new Prisoner of War Rule.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Cranwell.	1945 July				
			<u>IV - GENERAL.</u>		
	3		A Swimming Gala was held at the Station Swimming Baths.		
	4		An Inter-Group Cricket Match, No. 24 Group v. No. 27 Group, was held at the Station.		
	18		Station Sports were held at the Stadium, commencing at 1400 hours.		
	22		The R.A.F. Dance Orchestra gave a performance in the Station Cinema. A Royal Air Forces Association Dance was held in the Station Dance Hall, Music was played by the R.A.F. Dance Orchestra.		
			T. R. Pike Air Commodore, Commanding, R.A.F. Station, <u>Cranwell, Lincs.</u>		

OPERATIONS
RECORD
BOOK

ROYAL
AIR FORCE
COLLEGE
CRANWELL
INCLUDING
SERVICE FLYING
TRAINING
SCHOOL

17

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.O.I., para. 2349, and War Manual, Pt. II., chapter XX., and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

R.A.F. Form 540

 of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. COLLEGE (F.T.S), CRANWELL.

 No. of pages used for 1. month.

Place.	Date.	Time.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
CRANWELL.	JULY 1940.			
	1st.	2320-0035.	33% Interference with pupils Night Flying Training due to Air Raid Warning.	
	2nd.		-	
	3rd.		-	
	4th.		-	
	5th.		-	
	6th.		P/O. J.C. Burraston and L.A.C. (Air Cadet) R.H.W. Parker killed as result of a flying accident. A Court of Inquiry was held.	
	7th.		-	
	8th.		-	
	9th.	0025-0050.	14% Interference with pupils Night Flying Training due to Air Raid Warning.	
	10th.		-	
	11th.		-	
	12th.		-	
	13th.		-	
	14th.		5 Pupil Officers and 7 Air Cadets completed No.9 Course, and were posted to Units.	
	15th.	2235-2305.	20% Interference with pupils Night Flying Training due to Air Raid Warning.	
	16th.		-	
	17th.		-	
	18th.		S/Ldr. A.J. Holmes (Chief Flying Instructor) posted to Central Flying School.	
	19th.		F/Lt. V.C. Wood posted to R.A.F. College (F.T.S) as Chief Flying Instructor.	
	20th.		-	
	21st.		-	

Place.	Date.	Time.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
	22nd.	0050-0145.	36% Interference with pupils Night Flying Training due to Air Raid Warning.	
	23rd.		-	
	24th) 25th)		2 Pupil Officers and 39 Air Cadets (No.13 Course) arrived for flying training.	
	26th.		13 Pupil Officers and 13 Air Cadets completed No.9 Course, and were posted to Units.	
	27th.		-	
	28th.		-	
	29th.		The Inspector General (Air Marshal Sir William Mitchell) G.C.B. C.B.E. D.S.O. M.C. A.F.C) visited the Station.	
	30th.		-	
	31st.	2220-2245.	19% Interference with pupils Night Flying Training due to Air Raid Warning.	
			(Contd).	
			Extracts from Terminal Reports - See Page 2.	

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See instructions for use of this form in K.R. and A.C.I.,
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of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. COLLEGE (SETS) CRANWELL.No. of pages used for day One.
month

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
CRANWELL.	<u>July 1941.</u>			
	2nd.		No.24 Course (49 L.A.C's), completed flying training and were posted to units.	
	3rd.		No.27 Course (3 Sergts. 5 Corporals and 52 L.A.C's) arrived for flying training.	
	9th.		Flying cancelled half day on account of bad weather.	
	14th.		Visited by No.2 C.F.S. Instructional Staff.	
	15th.		Half day unfit for flying through bad weather.	
	18th.		Half day unfit on account of bad weather.	
	19th.		Half day unfit for flying through bad weather. No.25 Course (1 Officer, 2 Sgts. and 45 L.A.C's) completed flying training and were posted to units. (One L.A.C detained for disciplinary purposes) 12 Officers and 9 Sergeants completed No.12A Flying Instructor's Course, and were posted.	
			2305-0510. 13.8%. Interference with pupils night flying training on account of enemy air activity in the immediate vicinity.	
	20th.		No.14A Course (13 officers and 12 Sergts.) arrived for flying instructor training.	
	21st.		No.28 Course (1 Officer 4 Sgts. 12 Cpls. and 43 L.A.C's) arrived for flying training. 2310-0510. 65.28%. Interference with pupils night flying training through enemy air activity in the immediate vicinity.	
	23rd.		Half day unfit flying through bad weather.	
	26th.		Full day unfit flying through bad weather.	
	29th.		Half day unfit flying through bad weather.	
	30th.		2300-0230. 19.05%. Interference with pupils night flying training on account enemy air activity in immediate vicinity.	
	31st.		Half day unfit flying through bad weather.	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. One

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of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. College S.F.T.S. CRANWELL.

No. of pages used for ^{month} day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
CRANWELL	<u>J U L Y 1942</u>			
	1st/2nd		Squadron Leader Jones, Canadian Liaison Officer visited the Station	
	4th		Half day unfit for flying through bad weather	
	7th		Air Officer Commanding in Chief Flying Training Command, Air Marshal Sir William L. Welsh, K.C.B., D.S.C., A.F.C., visited the Unit.	
	8/10th		Lt. Colonel Gavro Shkriyanitch, Head of Royal Yugoslav Military Air Force Section visited Unit to obtain picture of activities.	
	17th		Half day unfit for flying through bad weather	
	18th		Full day unfit for flying through bad weather	
	19th		Half day unfit for flying through bad weather	
	21st	23.00-05.10.	94% Interference with pupils night flying training on account of enemy air activity in immediate vicinity.	
	22nd		No.36 Course consisting of 44 Officers, 2 Sergeants, 1 Corporal and 13 L.A.Cs. completed flying training and were posted to Units.	
	23rd		No.40 Course (1 Army, 23 Turkish, 1 Fighting French, 1 Czech. and 4 R.A.F. Officers and 1 Canadian, 11 Belgium, 2 Cingalese, 1 Fighting French and 16 R.A.F. airmen) arrived for flying training.	
		22.50-05.10.	35% Interference with pupils night flying training on account of enemy air activity in immediate vicinity.	
			Capt. Orga Turkish Welfare Officer visited the Unit for 3 days to consult Capt. Ersel (Welfare Officer with the Unit) in regard to Turkish Cadet Training.	
	26th			
	27th		Half day unfit for flying through bad weather	
	27th	23.00-02.05.	57% Interference with pupils night flying training on account of enemy air activity in immediate vicinity.	
			Chief Instructor, Wing Commander R.J. Gosnell, D.F.C. posted to No.3 Flying Instructor School, Hullavington, Yorkshire. Vacancy here still unfilled.	

(over)

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
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JULY 1942

29th 23.00-05.15. 38% Interference with pupils night flying training on account of enemy air activity in immediate vicinity.

30th 23.00-03.45. 35% Interference with pupils night flying training on account of enemy air activity in immediate vicinity.

31st 23.00-05.15. 6% Interference with pupils night flying training on account of enemy air activity in immediate vicinity.
Major S. Turagay, Turkish Air Attache, visited Unit to meet Turkish officers undergoing training.

EXTRACT FROM TERMINAL REPORT. No.36 COURSE 21.3.1942 to 22.7.1942

SECTION 1. INTAKE 61
SECTION 1. OUTPUT 60
SECTION 2. Grand totals Flying 6583 hours 55 minutes
SECTION 4. Standard of Flying Above the average.

ARMSTRONG R/chr

Squadron Leader, Commanding

R.A.F. College S.F.T.S.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.F. COLLEGE S.F.T.S., CRANWELL

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
Cranwell	1.7.43		Body of F/Sgt. Hebert, reported "missing believed killed" in a flying accident on 9.6.43 washed up on the coast near Filey. Burial arrangements were carried out by R.A.F. Station, Filey with R.A.F. Cemetery Harrogate, where a Service funeral took place. Representatives, including personnel of the F.F.A.F., attended at the ceremony.		
	2.7		Half day unfit for flying on account of bad weather.		
	6.7		S/Ldr. F.J.M. Pryer, Headquarters Flying Training Command, visited the unit for the purpose of discussing W.A.A.F. technical trainees.		
	7.7		Half day set aside for Divisional Scheme training.		
	9.7		Half day unfit for flying on account of bad weather.		
		0045-0053	2.22% interference with pupils night flying training on account of enemy air activity in immediate vicinity.		
	12.7	0050 - 0145	15.2% interference with pupils night flying training on account of enemy air activity in immediate vicinity.		
	13.7	0135 - 0215	11.1% - ditto -		
	16.7		No. 2 F.I. School visited the Unit with the intention of testing the general flying instruction given to pupils of "F" and "H" Flights.		
	18.7		Lt. S. Parlak, a Turkish Pupil pilot, killed as a result of an accident whilst he was low flying near Grantham. Funeral arrangements were carried out by R.A.F. Bottesford with R.A.F. Cemetery Brookwood. Representatives, including fellow Turkish pupils, attended the interment ceremony. A Court of Inquiry was held.		
	20.7		Half day unfit for flying on account of bad weather.		
	21.7		The National Day of Belgium was celebrated by a special colour and ensign hoisting parade and march past on West Camp Parade Ground, in which Belgian personnel participated. The Station Commander, Air Commodore H.M. Probyn, C.B.E., D.S.O., Commanded the Parade and took the salute. 2 Canadian, 29 Turkish and 10 R.A.F. Officers, and 2 Czech, 1 Free French and 21 British airmen completed No. 46 S.F.T.S. Course and proceeded on leave pending posting, with the exception of the Turkish Officers, who returned to the Unit after leave for No. 1 (T) Course.		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices							
	21.7 (Contd.)		1 Czech, 8 Turkish, 1 Belgium, 1 Free Frenchman and 9 R.A.F. Officers, and 1 Free Frenchman, 1 R.N.Z.A.F., 2 R.C.A.F. and 37 British airmen arrived for No. 49 Course (S.F.T.S.). Half day set aside for Divisional Scheme training.									
	27.7		S/Ldr. E.R. Hamilton, Senior Educational Officer, Command Instructors' School, visited the Unit for the purpose of becoming familiar with the various types of training in the Flying and Technical Training Commands.									
	28.7		29 Turkish Officers returned from leave and commenced Advanced Flying Training with Spitfire and Blenheim aircraft (No. 1 (T) Course).									
	29.7		A Station Anti-Gas exercise was held.									
			<p style="text-align: center;"><i>G. M. Harrison</i> Group Captain Commanding, <u>R.A.F. COLLEGE S.F.T.S.</u></p> <p><u>EXTRACT FROM TERMINAL REPORT NO. 46 COURSE - 18th March, 1943 to 21st July, 1943</u></p> <table><tr><td><u>Section I</u></td><td><u>Twin Engine</u></td><td><u>Single Engine</u></td></tr><tr><td>Intake</td><td>40</td><td>41</td></tr><tr><td>Output</td><td>32</td><td>32</td></tr></table> <p><u>Section II</u> Grand total flying .. 4613 hrs. 15 mins. 4312 hrs. 5 mins.</p> <p><u>Section IV</u> Standard of flying .. Average </p>	<u>Section I</u>	<u>Twin Engine</u>	<u>Single Engine</u>	Intake	40	41	Output	32	32
<u>Section I</u>	<u>Twin Engine</u>	<u>Single Engine</u>										
Intake	40	41										
Output	32	32										

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 02

of (Unit or Formation)

NO. 17 S. F. T. S. CRANWELL.

No. of pages used for day

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
CRANWELL	JULY				
	1)		Half day unfit for flying through bad weather.		
	2)				
	3		Full day unfit for flying through bad weather.		
	5		No.53 Course arrived for S.F.T.S. training. Course comprises 4 RAF, 3 Persian and 4 Iraqi Officers and 2 F.A.A. 3 Czech, 1 R.N.Z.A.F. 1 Indian, 1 F.F. and 34 R.A.F. Airmen.		
	6/7		W/Cdr J.C. Lunn AFC. Directorate of Accident Prevention visited the Unit.		
	7		S/Ldr G.T. Brown, Officer Commanding Repair & Inspection Squadron posted to No.6(P) A.F.U. F/Lt. F.H. Davies posted from that Unit in replacement and given command of the Squadron.		
	9		Half day unfit for flying through bad weather.		
	11		Air Commodore W.E.C. Bryant M.B.E. and Commanding Officer Group Captain Ryder Young visited CAISTOR Satellite.		
	12		No.3 Refresher Course consisting of 7 RAF & 1 Belg. Officer, 1 Polish and 7 RAF Airmen commenced training.		
			No.1 Refresher Course comprising 7 RAF, 1 Czech, 1 Belg. Officer and 5 RAF airmen completed training at Caistor and proceeded on leave pending posting. (2 Officers and 2 airmen were retained with No.3 Course for further training.		
			Group Captain Ryder Young nominated President of General Court Martial assembled at RAF. Sealand, Cheshire.		
	14		Air Marshal Sir Philip Babington KCB., MC., AFC. Air Officer Commanding in Chief Flying Training Command visited the Unit.		
	19		"F" and "H" Flights (SEFS Pupils) ground crews, instructors and pupils moved to R.L.G. Wellingore where they are being accommodated. S/Ldr H.B. Harries AFC. placed in command of the detachment and given powers of a Detachment Commander under K.R. & A.C.I. para.1139.		
	23		Full Unit Church Parade took place, followed by the Divisional Scheme for the rest of the day.		
	26		No.2 Refresher Course comprising 6 RAF Officers and 7 RAF Airmen completed training and proceeded on leave pending posting. 5 Officers and 2 Airmen were retained for further training with Nos. 3 & 4 Courses.		
			No.4 Refresher Course consisting of 14 RAF, 2 RNZAF, 1 RAAF and 1 Belgian Officer and 3 RAF Airmen arrived for training.		
	27		A fatal casualty to a civilian Mr. J. Weston occurred at Wellingore. Pupil pilot Lt. A. Razzaq (Iraq) made a poor take off and the aircraft crashed striking Mr. Weston. Lt. Razzaq was admitted to RAF Hospital Rauceby with concussion. A Court of Inquiry is being held.		

Summary of Events

SECRET.References
to
AppendicesSTRENGTH AS AT 31.7.44.

R.A.F.

OFFICERS.

107

AIRMEN AND AIRWOMEN.

1061

W.A.A.F.

1

163

TURKISH.

55

BELGIAN.

3

FREE FRENCH.

IRAQ.

3

PERSIANS.

4

POLISH.

3

CZECH.

1

INDIAN.

1

3

FLEET AIR ARM.

1

R.C.A.F.

2

R.N.Z.A.F.

6

3

R.A.A.F.

7

2

7

7

FLYING TIMES - JULY.

DAY.....5090.45 hrs.

NIGHT.....352.45 hrs.

TOTAL. 5443.30 hrs.

SUMMARY. The Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Flying Training Command paid a visit to the Unit on 14.7.44. and inspected all Flights and Sections.

This was an average month from the flying point of view. The move of two Flights over to Wellingore has slightly affected the normal functioning of No.53 Course due to the changes in pupils daily programmes. Separate classes have been started for the pupil Persian and Iraqi Officers and Czech N.C.Os. which seem to be working out successfully.

There was one aircraft written off this month when Lt. Razzaq an Iraqi pupil officer of No.53 Course crashed in Master DK.978 at Wellingore on July 27th. A civilian working on the perimeter track at the time was unfortunately killed as a result of this accident. Lt. Razzaq was admitted to hospital with slight injuries.

[Signature]
Group Captain Commanding,
No.17 S.P.A.S. Cranwell

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices
PITALGATE	JULY	4	Colour Hoisting Parade.		
		6	Wing Commander Galloway, Senior Meteorological Officer, No. 5 Group, visited the Station Commander and Meteorological Section.		
		9	Night Flying.		
		10	Night Flying cancelled owing to bad weather conditions.		
		11	Squadron Leader Wilkes, Flying Training Command Accounts Officer, visited the Station. Night Flying Cancelled.		
		12	Group Captain Wright, Assistant Chaplain in Chief, visited Station Commander.		
		16	Night Flying.		
		17	Liaison visit by F/O. Parry-Bucing from Central Examination Board.		
		19	Air Commodore J.G. Hawtrey, A.D.C., Air Officer Commanding No. 21 Group, visited Station.		
		20	Limited day flying.		
		21	Limited day flying.		
		23	Night Flying.		
		24	Night Flying cancelled owing to weather conditions.		
		25	Limited day flying.		
		26	Limited night flying.		
		27	Visit by Command Woman Medical Officer, Flight Officer Robertson.		
		30	Night Flying.		
			<u>FLYING TIMES.</u>		
			Total Night Flying 1192.20		
			Total Day Flying 3696.40		
			Grand Total 4889.00		
			Half Days Unfit for Flying - 10th July.		
			Whole Days Unfit for Flying - 11th July.		
			Limited Flying Days - 20th, 21st, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th July.		
			Days Off - 5		
			Half Days off - 4		
			Full Flying Days - 13		
			Half days full flying - 3		

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	SECRET.	References to Appendices																																																				
SPTALGATE	JULY		<p>Night Flying - 9/13th, 16/20th, 23/27th, and 30th July.</p> <p>Night Flying Cancelled owing to bad weather conditions - 10th, 11th, 24th, July.</p> <p>Night Flying Limited - 26th July.</p> <p>Night Flying was also carried out at Harlaxton and Coleby Grange.</p> <p><u>STRENGTH.</u></p> <table><thead><tr><th></th><th>OFFICERS</th><th>AIROEN</th><th>W.A.A.F.</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>R.A.F.</td><td>186</td><td>1272</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W.A.A.F.</td><td>10</td><td></td><td>408</td></tr><tr><td>TURKISH</td><td>21</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>DUTCH</td><td>8</td><td>15</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>CZECH</td><td>1</td><td>10</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>R.A.A.F.</td><td>-</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>R.N.Z.A.F.</td><td>-</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>POLISH</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>EGYPTIAN</td><td>-</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>BELGIAN</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>CEYLON</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>JAMAICAN</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table> <p><u>SUMMARY</u></p> <p>There were two avoidable accidents during the month.</p> <p>No. 56 Course completed Night Flying.</p> <p>Flying Hours for the month were average.</p> <p>One Blenheim aircraft was written off during the month.</p>		OFFICERS	AIROEN	W.A.A.F.	R.A.F.	186	1272		W.A.A.F.	10		408	TURKISH	21			DUTCH	8	15		CZECH	1	10		R.A.A.F.	-			R.N.Z.A.F.	-			POLISH	6	4		EGYPTIAN	-	2		BELGIAN	-	1		CEYLON	-	1		JAMAICAN					
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<p><i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Group Captain, Commandant, No. 17 S.F.T.S. Spitalgate.</p>																																																									