

R.A.F. Form 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 135

See instructions for use of this form in R.R. 141 & C.L. 141, 224, and War Manual, Pt. II, Chapter 18 and notes to R.A.F. Order Book.

of (Unit or Formation) 157 (Hobbs), Squadron

No. of pages used for day

Place	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Northern Italy ROSSIGNANO	1st	F/O. DOUGLAS and P/Sgt. ADAMS took off on an armed recon, but had to return to base owing to bad weather, on the coast. Low cloud over base all day. There were no scrambles. The O.C. (S/Ldr. SPARD, D.F.C.) and P/Lt. CARLISLE went to Group Captain Scott's farewell party at Leghorn. Since they returned at 4 a.m., it is evident that 'a good time was had by all!'	
	2nd	P/Sgt. FRANKS and Sgt. LINDALL had to return from an armed recon as the weather was still bad - 10/10 strato cirrus. P/Sgt. HUNDT was scrambled to investigate 'fumes' west of Pisa - later identified as friendly. W/C returned to base. Second W/C was ordered out to scramble. Weather was unsuitable for operational flying.	
	3rd	Bright, sunny day, but a strong cross-wind. 3 'Stand-by' Sections put on thirty minutes' readiness. There were no operations and all trips scheduled were cancelled.	
	4th	P/O. MURRAY and P/O. RAINIER went on an armed recon west of ALSSANDRIA. They shot hell out of two 8-ton lorries with trailers attached, and also a 2½-ton lorry. Two were left smoking. P/O. BARNES took 'T' up on air test. The O.C. (S/Ldr. SPARD, D.F.C.), P/Sgt. FRANKS, Sgt. MAXWELL, W/O. TAYLOR and Sgt. ALLAN bombed target 14 miles north of Genoa. The target was an ammo dump about 2,500ft. long. The southern end was smashed, but no large explosions were seen. Light and inaccurate flak was encountered. P/Lt. CARLISLE, Sgt. SMITH, P/O. BARNES and P/O. RAINIER bombed oil towers; excellent bombing - 4 direct hits. No flak. P/Sgt. HUNDT and W/O. CARLISLE went up to do some practice bombing and cannon tests in 'T' and 'A' respectively. In the early afternoon S/Ldr. SPARD, W/O. TAYLOR, P/Sgt. FRANKS, P/O. MURRAY and Sgts. ALLAN and MAXWELL bombed explosive dump 12 miles east of TORTONA: good bombing - 5 direct hits. No explosion seen. Dump appeared deserted. Flak was shot up at the W/C on the way back from this mission, along the coast - to Sgt. MAXWELL's alarm. There were no scrambles. Readiness Sections were on their toes - or noses! - all day. 7,500-lbs. G.P. bombs were dropped altogether - an excellent record.	135

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Place	1945 Date	Time	Summary of Events	Page No.
Northern Italy: ROSSIGNANO.	14th	5th	P/Sgt. MORANT and W/O. CORNISH went on an armed recon in the early morning. One L.T. was destroyed and 8 box-cars damaged. Unfortunately, the weather was bad in Northern Italy and all operational trips had to be cancelled. Readiness, however, was maintained throughout the day. P/O. AYLMER and P/Sgt. ADAMS went up on pipe exercises during the afternoon.	References to Appendices
		6th	P/O. BARNIER and Sgt. BELL carried out an early morning recon in the PO VALLEY. They destroyed 4 L.T. and a box-car, besides 1 L.T. damaged. P/Lt. CARROLL, P/O. RAINIER, P/O. BURTON, P/O. HARRIS, W/O. TAYLOR and Sgt. ALLAN bombed an ammo dump at SORDO PAVANI. They scored 5 direct hits, but there were no large explosions. P/O's MUSGRAVE, BARNIER, AYLMER, P/Sgt. PEARSON, P/Sgt. SLADE and Sgt. MAXWELL bombed a rail/road bridge at CHIARI. 1 direct hit on one end of the bridge. P/Lt. CARROLL and P/O. RAINIER, W/O. TAYLOR and Sgt. ADAMS, Sgt's. ALLAN and BELL again bombed dump at SORDO PAVANI. 4 direct hits were registered on a large building. P/O. MUSGRAVE and Sgt. MAXWELL went up on an evening recon, destroying 2 trucks and damaging 2 more. P/Sgt. MORANT and W/O. CORNISH went on a shipping recon, but nothing was seen.	
		7th	The weather was fine all day and 2 Readiness Sections were on the alert. P/O. BURTON and P/O. HARRIS destroyed 3 L.T. and damaged 2 more while on an armed recon in the morning. S/Ldr. SLADE, P/Sgt. MUNDY, P/O. AYLMER and P/Sgt. ADAMS bombed some barracks west of PARMA, scoring one hit. P/O. BURTON and P/O. HARRIS, P/Sgt. MUNDY and W/O. CORNISH bombed the same target later in the day. They obtained two hits. P/O. BARNIER and P/O. RAINIER were sent on an abortive scramble, which did not materialise. P/O. AYLMER and P/Sgt. SLADE went on an evening recon, destroying 1 L.T. and bowser. P/O. HARRIS, P/Sgt. MUNDY, P/Sgt. MORANT and W/O. CORNISH carried out a shipping recon. 1 L.T. was destroyed and 1 L.T. and 15 box-cars were damaged. W/O. CORNISH returned early, due to engine trouble. P/O. BURTON and P/Sgt. PEARSON went on air tests.	
		8th	W/O. TAYLOR and Sgt. ALLAN carried out an early morning recon, damaging 1 electric train. P/Lt. CARROLL, P/Sgt. PEARSON, P/Sgt. MORANT, Sgt's. BELL and MAXWELL bombed a railbridge at CHIARI. Later, S/Ldr. SLADE, P/O. MUSGRAVE, P/O. BARNIER and P/O. RAINIER, P/Sgt. ADAMS and Sgt. ALLAN bombed the same target. Many near misses were scored. W/O. TAYLOR...	

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R.A.F. Form 540

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. two.

See instructions for use of this form in R.E. and A.C.I.,
para. 2248, and War Manual, Pt. II, Chapter XX and

No. of pages used for day.

FORM 540 (1945)

R.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in R.A.F. and A.C.I.
p. 214, and War Manual, Pt. II, Chapter XX, and
also in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. two.

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of (Unit or formation) 257 (Rhodesia) Squadron

Place	1945 (Date)	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Northern Italy: ROSSIGNANO	8th (Contin:)	-	F/O. TAYLOR, P/Sgt. PARSONS, Sgt. HILL and LAXMILL bombed the barracks, scoring 2 direct hits. Sgt. LAXMILL burst a tyre on landing and nosed over. F/O. AYLMER and P/Sgt. SLADE were scrambled for 'wire' at 20,000ft. They chased it to MILAN but could not contact it. P/Lt. CARLIS, F/O. BURROW, P/O. RAINIER and W/O. SLADE carried out an armed sweep near LAKE GARDA. 2 I.L.T. were destroyed and 1 dredger was attacked. F/O. AYLMER carried out an air test in the afternoon.	
	8th		F/O. AYLMER and P/Sgt. ADGERO went on an early morning recon, destroying 1 I.L.T. The C.O. (S/Ldr. SHAND, D.F.C.), P/O. LANSBELL, P/Sgt. RUDNIT and P/Sgt. SLADE bombed an ammo dump north of PAVIA: all the bombs fell in the target area, but there were no explosions. F/O. AYLMER, W/O. CORNISH, P/Sgt. HUNDY and ADGERO bombed the target again, but no visible results were observed. S/L. SHAND, F/O. BURROW, P/O. LANSBELL and P/Sgt. HUNDY carried out an armed sweep, destroying 2 I.L.T. and damaging 2 I.L.T. and 4 box-cars.	
	10th		The weather was fine, but as the Squadron has been taken off "Ops" for a few days, no operational trips were flown, except for a missing MESSITO, carried out by P/O. HUNDY and P/Sgt. ADGERO. Nothing was seen. P/O. RAINIER and Sgt. ALLAN went up in the afternoon to practise low cloud landings. That evening, S/L. SHAND, P/Lt. CARLIS, F/O. HUGHES, F/O. BURROW and P/O. RAINIER went to 558 Wing for a few (9) drinks. Midnight found these Officers prouncing around in 257 Mess.	
	11th		Readiness was on the alert all day, the weather being fine. F/O. SHARPLEY and P/O. RAINIER were sent up to recon Sicily for a destroyer. The destroyer was sighted and its position reported. Later in the day they were scrambled and successfully intercepted 4 D47's. Cine exercises and air tests were carried out all day. P/Sgt. PARSONS and P/Sgt. HUNDY were commissioned (as Pilot Officers) today.	
	18th		The weather being fine, 3 Sections were maintained on readiness; but the Squadron was still off operations. F/O's PARSONS and LAXMILL flew over to FALCONE to buy some uniforms, staying the night at the Transit Hotel. Cine exercises and local flying were carried out during the day.	

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in
Appendices

Place	1945 Date	Time	Summary of Events
Northern Italy: ROSSIGNANO	15th		P/Lt. CARLYLE and P/O. RAHMER carried out a shipping recon of the coast, from SPALLA to SAVONA during the morning. A Sinking submarine was seen in GENOA Harbour. One scramble was cancelled just after the W/O had become airborne. P/O. PEARSON returned in the Fairchild and P/O. MUNDY brought a light fire back from FALCONARA. Fire and bombing exercises continued throughout the day. Two new pilots arrived: Sgt. BARNES and WINGFIELD - and were warmly welcomed.
	15th		The Squadron was back on operations today, which began with an armed recon, carried out by P/O. PEARSON and Sgt. ALLEN. They destroyed 5 M.T., a trailer and a Volkswagen and damaged 3 M.T. and trailer. S/Ldr. SHAW and P/O. SLADE, P/O. MURPHY and P/O. RAHMER bombed a railway bridge, scoring a direct hit. P/Lt. CARLYLE, W/O. TAYLOR, Sgt. BELL and Sgt. MAXWELL bombed the same target later in the morning, obtaining 2 hits. During the afternoon P/O. PEARSON, P/O. SPAGNOL and P/O. RAHMER again bombed the bridge, but scored no hits. P/O. MURPHY and Sgt. MAXWELL went on an evening recon, destroying 1 M.T. and trailer and damaging an articulator.
	15th		P/O. MURPHY and P/O. MAXWELL destroyed 4 M.T. and 2 trailers in the early morning recon. The C.O. (S/Ldr. SHAW, D.F.C.), P/O. AYLMER, P/O. MURPHY and P/O. SLADE bombed a railbridge at SERRAVALLE: one bomb cut the railway line. P/O. AYLMER, P/O. MUNDY, P/O. SLADE and W/O. CURTIS bombed the same bridge during the afternoon. Unfortunately, the weather deteriorated during the afternoon and flying was cancelled, except for the Readiness Sections, which were maintained until dusk.
	16th		P/O. Spagnol and Sgt. Shaw took off on an armed recon late in the morning, as the weather had been bad earlier on. 1 M.T. and 3 box-cars were destroyed and 9 box-cars damaged. P/O. MURPHY, P/O. PEARSON, P/O. RAHMER and Sgt. MAXWELL obtained 2 direct hits on a bombing mission on a railbridge. P/O. AYLMER and W/O. SLADE escorted a Walrus on a mine-spotting mission. P/O. MUNDY and P/O. MAXWELL went on a shipping recon, but saw nothing. P/Lt. CARLYLE, W/O. TAYLOR, Sgt. BELL and Sgt. ALLEN bombed a railbridge, obtaining one hit. P/O. MUNDY and W/O. CURTIS went on an evening recon, destroying 1 M.T. and 1 engine; several box-cars were also damaged.

H.A.F. Form 540

H.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in K.B. and A.C.A.,
p. 104, and War Manual, Pt. II, Chapter XX and

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FORM 540

R.A.F. Form 540

See instructions for use of this form in R.A.F. and A.C.F.
 Para. 2209, and War Manual, P.O. Chapter XX and
 Annex to R.A.F. War Manual.

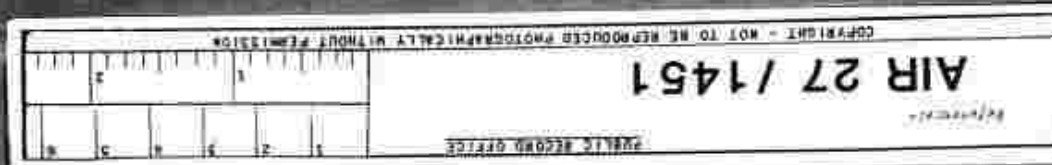
OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. THREE.

No. of pages used for day

of (Unit or formation) 227 (Independent) Squadron

Place	1945 Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Northern Italy: ROSSIGNANO	17th		P/O's BURTON and ALLARD, W/C. CORNISH and Sgt. BISHOP started out on an armed recon, but had to return due to bad weather over Northern Italy. Later in the morning P/O. ALLARD and W/C. SLIM went on another armed recon, destroying 1 L.T. and damaging 1 L.T. and 4 box-cars. They also reported the weather as improving. P/O. BUSHAW and Sgt. BISHOP were scrambled, but 'bogie' turned friendly. The C.O. (S/Ldr. SHAW, D.F.C.) - carrying two 250-lbs. bombs - P/O. BURTON, P/O. BISHOP and Sgt. BISHOP bombed a railbridge at VOGHERA. There were no hits. Later P/O. ALLARD, P/O. BISHOP, W/C. SHAW and CORNISH bombed the same target: 6 direct hits were achieved. W/C. CORNISH lost formation and returned to base, jettisoning his bomb. S/L. SHAW, P/O. BURTON and P/O. L. SLIM and P/Sgt. ADAMS went on an evening recon. They destroyed 2 L.T. and damaged 8 more. There was a scramble in the late afternoon, but 'bogie' again turned friendly.	
	18th		P/Lt. CARLISLE, W/C. TAYLOR, Sgt's ALLARD and BISHOP damaged 3 L.T. and 4 pontoon boats in the early morning recon. P/O. BISHOP and P/Sgt. ADAMS went on a shipping recon, but saw nothing. Later P/O. ALLARD and W/C. CORNISH went on another shipping recon and saw life rafts and wreckage. As the early morning recon had reported the weather as unfavourable over the FO TALLY, P/O. BUSHAW and P/O. ALLARD were sent up to recon the weather, which they reported, then, as suitable. They destroyed 1 L.T. and damaged 1 more, on the way back. P/O. BURTON, P/O. BUSHAW, W/C. SLIM and Sgt. BISHOP bombed a railbridge at NOVI LIGUNA. No hits were observed. W/C. SLIM returned early, due to engine trouble. P/O. BISHOP and P/Sgt. ADAMS again went on a shipping recon and saw 50 men in the water near SPALIA, with 4 S.S. launches approaching. P/O. BUSHAW, P/Lt. CARLISLE, Sgt's ALLARD and BISHOP bombed a roadbridge at POMEZANIE. No direct hits seen. P/O. BUSHAW, P/O. ALLARD, P/O. BURTON and P/O. L. SLIM attacked a roadbridge in the same area: there was 1 near miss.	
	19th		P/O. BISHOP and Sgt. BISHOP destroyed 3 L.T. and damaged 3 rail cars in the early morning recon. S/L. SHAW, W/C. BUSHAW, P/O. BUSHAW and P/Sgt. ADAMS bombed a railbridge at FIDENZA: no hits observed. P/O's BURTON.....	137



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Place	1945 Date	Time	Summary of Events	Page No.	Reference to Appendix
Northern Italy: RUSSIGNANO	MARCH				
	10th (Contin.)		P/O's SHAW, WILLARD, W/O. SHAW, Sgt. ALLAN, P/O. LUNDY and P/Sgt. ADSENO bombed a railbridge at VERONA. The C.O. (S/Ldr. SHAW, D.F.C.), P/O. DUGLAS, P/O. HARRIS and Sgt. BENNIE bombed a railbridge at VERONA. They scored 1 direct hit. P/O. HARRIS and Sgt. ALLAN went on a shipping recon, but saw nothing. P/O. SHAW and P/O. HARRIS went on an evening recon, destroying 2 H.T.		
	30th		P/O's FIBBERG and HARRIS destroyed H.T. in the early morning recon. W/O. TAYLOR and Sgt. ALLAN bombed a railbridge at VERONA. The rails were cut just short of the bridge. S/L. SHAW, P/O. HARRIS, P/O. HARRIS, P/O. HARRIS and Sgt. BENNIE bombed a railbridge at VERONA, scoring 2 direct hits. S/Ldr. SHAW, P/O. HARRIS, P/O. HARRIS and Sgt. ALLAN bombed a railbridge at VERONA, scoring a near miss. P/O. HARRIS and Sgt. ALLAN went on a search for the survivors of a destroyer which the Navy had sunk during the night, and found rafts and bodies. There was also a mine in the vicinity. P/Lt. SHAW, P/O. HARRIS, Sgt. ALLAN and Sgt. BENNIE went on the evening recon, destroying 3 H.T. and damaging 3 more, plus a railway; also, a stone dump was left unexploded. to receive a day engineer officer - P/O. HARRIS.		
	31st		P/O. WILLARD and W/O. SHAW went on an early morning recon, destroying 3 H.T. and damaging 3 more. P/O. DUGLAS and P/Sgt. ADSENO bombed a railbridge: no hits were observed. As the weather was uncertain in the PO VALLEY, P/O. SHAW and P/O. HARRIS went on a weather recon and reported the weather as favourable. S/L. SHAW, W/O's SHAW and HARRIS, P/O's HARRIS and HARRIS and Sgt. BENNIE bombed a railbridge, but unfortunately no hits were obtained. P/O. WILLARD, P/O's LUNDY, HARRIS, W/O. SHAW and P/Sgt. ADSENO and Sgt. ALLAN bombed the same bridge, but again failed to hit it. S/L. SHAW, P/O. SHAW, P/O. HARRIS and Sgt. BENNIE went on the evening recon, destroying 3 H.T. and 3 trailers and damaging 3 H.T.		
	32nd		W/O. TAYLOR and Sgt. ALLAN began the day with an armed recon. They destroyed 3 H.T. and a trailer and damaged 1 H.T. They reported the weather as cloudy in Northern Italy, so later in the morning, P/O. HARRIS and Sgt. HARRIS carried out an armed weather recon, destroying 1 H.T. and damaging another, by which time the weather had cleared over the PO VALLEY. P/O. LUNDY and P/Sgt. ADSENO carried out a shipping recon: they reported mines along the Spanish-Lake coast.		

P/Lt. CAULIN.....

On the GRCP (15-17)

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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FORM 340

R.A.F. Form 340

See instructions for use of this form in R.A.F. and A.C.A. forms 234b, and 11 of Manual, Pt. II, Chapter XX, and notes in R.A.F. Pocket Book.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Page No. 108

No. of pages used for day

of (Unit or formation) 207 (dreadnaught) Squadron

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
Northorn Italy: ROSSIGNANO	23rd		P/Lt. CARLIS, P/O's HUSKINS and SHARLES and Sgt. BELL bombed rolling stock at CODORIO, all the bombs falling in the target area. During the afternoon, P/O's PEARSON and RABBITT, P/O. TAYLOR and Sgt. MAXWELL bombed a large factory at VARAZZA: 1 direct hit was obtained. One scramble was cancelled immediately after take-off. P/Lt. CRUMER, P/O's HUSKINS and SHARLES and Sgt. BELL carried out an evening recon. The results were extremely good - 13 M.T. destroyed and 5 damaged.	
	23rd		The weather improved considerably, and the armed recon was able to take off at dawn. P/O. HENDY and P/Sgt. ADSHAW destroyed 3 M.T. and damaged some box-cars. P/O's D. HALL and AILWARD, P/O's COULSON and SLADE bombed the marshalling yards at CODORIO, scoring 8 direct hits. P/O. SHARLES and P/O. RABBITT recon'd the factory at VARAZZA, as it was believed to be under cloud; but it was found clear. P/O. HERRON, P/O's MAXWELL, HENDY, PEARSON and Sgt's BELL and SHARLES bombed the above factory, but there were only near misses. P/O. SHARLES and P/O. AILWARD were sent on a shipping recon, but nothing was seen. P/O's AILWARD, DOUGLAS and HUSKINS, P/O. SLADE and P/Sgt. ADSHAW and Sgt. MAXWELL bombed a bridge, scoring 4 hits. P/O's HERRON, AILWARD, P/O. MAXWELL and P/O. CURTIS went on an evening recon, destroying 4 M.T. and trailer and damaging 2 M.T. and trailer. In the late afternoon there was one scramble, but pilot - as usual - turned friendly.	
	24th		The weather was fairly clear and the usual readiness was maintained all day. P/O's PEARSON and RABBITT went on the early morning recon, attacking 1 train. P/O's PEARSON's engine cut on the way back and he force-landed in enemy territory. He called up from the ground and said he was getting out. P/Lt. CARLIS, P/O. TAYLOR and Sgt's BELL and AILWARD bombed rolling stock at VIGEVANO: all bombs hit the target. 2 locomotives were strafed and damaged. P/O's HUSKINS and SHARLES, P/O. RABBITT and Sgt. AILWARD bombed a railbridge, scoring one direct hit. 2 A/C were scrambled, but 'bogey' unfortunately turned friendly. P/Lt. SLADE, P/O. MAXWELL, P/O. TAYLOR and Sgt. BELL bombed a railway bridge at CIVAVALLI: one direct hit was observed. P/Lt. CARLIS, P/O's HUSKINS and SHARLES and Sgt. MAXWELL carried out an evening recon, destroying 7 M.T. 1 new Pilot (P/O. TAYLOR) - an ex-instructor - arrived today.	138

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Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	Page No.
Northern Italy: ROSSIGNARD	25th		W/C. SIMON and W/C. HARRIS carried out an armed recon. They destroyed 4 U.S. and damaged another. S/L. SMITH, W/C. HARRIS, W/C. SIMON and W/Sgt. ARROW bombed a roadbridge, which was destroyed by 2 hits - one at each end. S/L. SMITH, S/C. HARRIS, W/C. SIMON and Sgt. BROWN bombed stores buildings at FIZZI-ROCCIA: all bombs fell in the area. The timetable was cancelled as 'Honey' became friendly. W/C. ALLMAN, W/C. SMITH, W/C. SIMON and Sgt. BROWN went on an evening recon, failed to return and 2 engines trouble. 1 U.S. destroyed and 1 damaged.	References to Appendices
	26th		W/C. SIMON and Sgt. BROWN took off on an armed recon, but had to return, due to bad weather in Northern Italy, though the weather was fine over base. All operational trips were cancelled, but readiness sections were maintained all day.	
	27th		Weather was still very bad in Northern ITALY and there was a strong cross-wind on the ground, although it was sunny. Operations were cancelled and Readiness Sections were at high to be alerted.	
	28th		In Northern ITALY the weather was still unfavourable, until late afternoon. Over base, however, it was fairly clear except for patches of cloud. Readiness sections were alerted, but there were no operations during the day. S/C's SIMON, HARRIS and BROWN and W/C. ALLMAN went on an evening recon, destroying 1 U.S. and a train.	
	29th		The weather cleared up completely over Northern ITALY and base. W/C. ALLMAN and W/C. SIMON destroyed 4 U.S. and damaged another, on the early morning recon. W/C. SIMON, W/C. HARRIS and W/C. SIMON bombed a roadbridge at FIZZI-ROCCIA. 2 hits were observed. S/C's ALLMAN and HARRIS, W/C. SIMON and W/Sgt. ARROW and Sgt. BROWN bombed the stores sheds at FIZZI-ROCCIA. W/C. ALLMAN's W/C. blew up when his bomb was hit by flak whilst he was in his bomb-dive. The W/C disintegrated, and pieces were seen floating down, but no parachute was seen to open. The target received 4 direct hits. S/C's SIMON, HARRIS, W/C. HARRIS, W/C. SIMON, W/C. ALLMAN and Sgt. BROWN bombed the same target. Several bombs fell in the target area. S/L. SMITH and Sgt. BROWN successfully intercepted 4 U.S. The C.O. (S/L. SMITH, S/C. HARRIS, W/C. SIMON, W/C. ALLMAN and W/C. HARRIS) went on the evening recon, destroying 1 U.S. and 1 train - 1 U.S. destroyed and 1 damaged. The loss of W/C. ALLMAN was felt by all the Squadron, as he was extremely popular.	

139/14 (11/07/1945)

R.A.F. Form 540

See Instructions for use of this form in R.E. and A.C.L. forms 1148, and for Manual, P.M., Chapter XX and para 11.4.1. for use.

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Get instructions for use of this name in K.R. and A.C.2, p.16, TFB, and For Manual, Pt. II, Chapter XX and more in R.A.F. To Get Book.

Page No. FIVE

No. of pages used for day:

of Unit or formation) 237 (Rhodesia) Squadron

Place	1945 Date 1 MARCH	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices																		
Northern Italy: ROSSIGNANO	30th	-	F/Lt. CARLISLE and Sgt. HELL destroyed 3 H.T. and a diesel engine and damaged 2 H.T. in the morning reconce. P/O. HUSGRAVE, W/O. BURROW, Sgt's ALLEN and LANSBELL bombed a railway bridge, but no other hits were observed. S/L. SLADE, P/O. GERRARD and Sgt. HELL bombed a marshalling yard at CODOGNO. All the bombs fell in the target area. F/Lt. CARLISLE, W/O. BURROW, Sgt's ALLEN and ALLEN bombed some stores buildings at PIZZINATICO, scoring hits in the target. Sgt. HELL returned early, due to engine trouble. P/O's HUSGRAVE, GERRARD, W/O. BURROW and Sgt. LANSBELL carried out an evening reconce, destroying 3 H.T. and damaging 5 more. The Squadron New Equipment Officer, P/O. MORRIS, arrived today and was welcomed.																			
	31st		The weather remained fine all day and intensive operations were carried out. F/Sgt. ADAMS and P/O. LANSBELL destroyed 3 H.T. and damaged an electric train on the early morning reconce. S/L. SLADE, P/O. SLADE, P/O. LINDY and Sgt. HELL bombed an ammo dump, scoring 3 hits. P/O's HUSGRAVE, BURROW, P/O's LINDY and LANSBELL, W/O. SLADE and Sgt. LANSBELL bombed the same target later in the morning, obtaining 3 direct hits. Unfortunately there were no explosions. S/L. SLADE, P/Lt. GERRARD, P/O. SLADE and Sgt. HELL carried out a long-range bombing mission on an ammo dump north-west of Milan. They scored 3 hits and a large explosion was seen. 3 H.T. were destroyed on the evening reconce carried out by P/O. BURROW, P/O. LANSBELL, P/O. LINDY and W/O. SLADE.																			
TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF AMMUNITION. <table><tr><td>30mm.</td><td>...</td><td>21,155 rounds</td></tr><tr><td>5"</td><td>...</td><td>10,590 "</td></tr><tr><td>303</td><td>...</td><td>44,680 "</td></tr></table> TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF EXPLOSIVES. <table><tr><td>600-lbs.</td><td>...</td><td>238</td></tr><tr><td>500-lbs.</td><td>...</td><td>58</td></tr><tr><td>100-lbs.</td><td>...</td><td>Nil</td></tr></table>					30mm.	...	21,155 rounds	5"	...	10,590 "	303	...	44,680 "	600-lbs.	...	238	500-lbs.	...	58	100-lbs.	...	Nil
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Hot

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AIR 27 /1451							
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Place	1945 Date	Time	Summary of Events	References to Appendices															
Northern Italy:	MARCH		<u>MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS.</u> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Destroyed.</th> <th>Damaged.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>H.T.</td> <td>155</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rolling Stock</td> <td>10</td> <td>57</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Railway Engines</td> <td>5</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shipping</td> <td>-</td> <td>8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Targets Bombed ... 28 <u>SPORT and SOCIAL:</u> Several good rugby and soccer matches were played during the month - in the Squadron and against: 90 Squadron, No. 6 (S.A.) C.O.S. and an Army team, the details of which are given in the Appendix "Sporting Life", which is a weekly publication brought out for the Squadron by Cpl. Dorey and several able supporters. Some very pleasant evenings were spent at the Whist and Bridge Drives, which are becoming increasingly popular. <u>Commanding Officer's General Survey of Activities:</u> From the operations point of view this has been the best month for the Squadron since Corsica. With four aircraft held on the ground at readiness, the rest have been put up in a maximum effort, with considerable success. Streaking results with the aircraft available constitute a record for the Squadron, while bombing results have been good. The ground crew have done an especially good job of work in keeping the aircraft flying, and the results are as much a credit to them as to the pilots. The billets are far from finished, but a good deal of work has been carried out to improve them. In this respect the R.S.U. have helped the Squadron enormously, both in renovating the buildings and in allowing the troops to combine with them in their canteens. (I.E.R. SHED, D.F.C.) Squadron Leader, Commanding, No. 257 (Rhodesia) Squadron, A.I.C. ... Date: 7th April, 1945.		Destroyed.	Damaged.	H.T.	155	30	Rolling Stock	10	57	Railway Engines	5	4	Shipping	-	8	
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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By 257 (Rhodesia) Squadron.

SECRET

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FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 1945 19

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		