

December 1944: Form 541

159 Squadron

Aircraft	Crew	Duty	Time Up	Time Down	Remarks
Lib. VI.					From 2/12/44 to 3/12/44
"A"	Appendix (1) Attached		1551	0617	15 A/C carrying 61,400 lbs of HE and 2700 lbs. Incendiary Bombs attacked the Rama vi bridge at Bangkok in good visibility and bright moonlight. A/C H returned early owing to Engine Trouble. Flak was meagre and did not interfere with bombing runs. Subsequent photographic reconnaissance showed no visible damage to the bridge 20000 leaflets were dropped over Bangkok. Later information showed the attack was successful and the bridge closed to all traffic.
"B"			1601	1615	
"C"			1556	0548	
"D"			1551	0617	
"F"			1550	0633	
"G"			1603	0605	
"H"			1555	2030	
"J"			1559	0600	
"Q"			1605	0536	
"R"			1612	0628	
"S"			1611	0619	
"U"			1607	0610	
"V"			1630	0800	
"X"			1604	0640	
"Y"			1609	0645	
"Z"			1608	0632	
Lib. VI.					From 0318 hrs 5/12/44 to 1548 hrs 5/12/44
"A"	Appendix (1) Attached		0318	1612	4 A/C were detailed to search for and attack 4 M/Vs of approximately 6000 tons with 6 smaller trawler type vessels in an area east of the Andamans. Nothing was sighted except two beached coasters at Goyangyi by A/C "Q" which attacked and secured direct hits on each vessels, and later the remaining bombs were dropped on a jetty on Great Coco Island, and a possible radar Station sighted and strafed – this was later definitely identified as a Radar Station from photographs taken.
"C"			0332	1618	
"Q"			0336	1558	
"U"			0343	1543	
					A/C attacked a small naval patrol vessel scoring a near miss, and two junks were strafed.
					A/C A strafed a large junk which was later seen beached on Preparis Island and later attacked unsuccessfully. Naval patrol Boat attacked by A/C "U".
					A/C C sighted no shipping but attacked a group of 20 Huts on Great Coco Island, two of which were destroyed.
Lib. VI.					From 4/12/44 to 6/12/44
"B"	Appendix (1) Attached		1737	0710	5 A/C were detailed to lay mines in the Ye River; 4 A/C to mine the Mergui northern approaches, and 3 A/C the Southern approaches and in good weather with very meagre opposition from A/A. all A/C were successful except "F" which failed to identify pinpoint and laid mines in wrong area. A total of 60 mines were laid.
"D"			1733	0728	
"F"			1727	0548	
"G"			1729	0712	

Aircraft	Crew	Duty	Time Up	Time Down	Remarks
"H"			1731	0640	
"J"			1735	0628	
"R"			1748	0518	
"S"			1755	0514	
"V"			1739	0531	
"X"			1741	0458	
"Y"			1745	0452	
"Z"			1723	0630	
Lib. VI.					From 0700 hrs 8/12/44 t 2151 hrs 8/12/44
"A"	Appendix (1) Attached		0709	2220	A/C B,D,G,R,V,Y, were detailed to lay 29 mines in Pakchan River and remaining 10 A/C were detailed to bomb Khao Huagany simultaneously. the weather was good with 10/10 str-cu. at 2500 ft., and the mining was successful. All remaining A/C except "U" attacked the Jetties and sheds from 8/900 ft. with HE's and Incendiaries many good oblique photos showed the success of the operation. On leaving the target 3 Jap Float planes at anchor were attacked with M/G and two were set on fire, and A/C G & Y were damaged LMG
"B"			0708	2157	
"C"			0705	2051	
"D"			0702	2101	
"F"			0658	2136	
"G"			0704	2132	
"H"			0700	1945	
"J"			0706	2051	
"Q"			0718	2201	
"R"			0717	2158	
"S"			0722	2210	. A/C U due to Fuel Pump trouble attacked with bombs & M/G Huts on Great Coco Island, claiming near misses Bombs and heavy hits. with M/G. Leaflets were dropped on the primary target. 30,000 lbs HE and 21,000 lbs of Incendiaries were dropped.
"U"			0720	1652	
"V"			0715	2217	
"X"			0712	2204	
"Y"			0711	2017	(Cox's Bazaar)
"Z"			0713	2151	
Lib. VI.					From 1000 hrs 11/12/44 to 2356 hrs 11/12/44
"R"	Appendix (1) Attached		1104	2344	A/C R, S, V, X, were detailed to lay mines in Heinze Bay. A/C V returned early due to engine trouble, and the remainder laid their mines according to orders, meeting no opposition, in good weather conditions at dusk. 24 mines were laid. A/C A, F2, J, U, Y, Z, were detailed to lay mines in Tavoy River Meagre A/A was encountered in good weather conditions at dusk, and 36 mines were laid as ordered.
"S"			1108	2353	
"V"			1101	1410	
"X"			1103	2326	
"A"			1058	0019	
"F2"			1052	2356	
J"			1055	2347	
"U"			1107	0016	
"Y"			1100	0008	
"Z"			1105	0146	

Aircraft	Crew	Duty	Time Up	Time Down	Remarks
"B"			1008	2236	
"F"			1003	2239	
"G"			1005	2225	
"Q"			1007	2220	
Lib. VI.					From 1103 hrs 14/12/44 to 0137 hrs 15/12/44
"A"	Appendix (1) Attached		1103	0024	16 A/C were detailed to attack stores and dump areas at Kanchamaburi. All A/C were detailed to R/V and S/C from North Moscos Island at 1645 hours. Shortly after leaving R/V, several A/C were intercepted by 4 S/E Fighters. 5 combats ensued, one fighter being claimed as damaged by A/C "X".
"B"		1053	0012		
"C"		1049	2342		
"D"		1050	2356		
"F"			1039	0048	
"G"			1136	2259	(Cox's Bazaar)
"H"			1041	0014	
"J"			1043	2354	The attack was carried out in good weather conditions at heights of 4/6000 ft. Moderate C/C was encountered over the target and photographic reconnaissance showed a good concentration of bombs in the target area. (64,000 lbs. HE.)
"Q"			1101	0016	
"R"			1056	0028	
"S"			1100	0021	
"U"			1055	0137	
"V"			1054	0019	
"X"			1104	2359	
"Y"			1058	0005	
"Z"			1057	0011	
Lib. VI.					From 1200 hrs 17/12/44 to 2240 hrs 17/12/44
"A"	Appendix (1) Attached		1200	2159	16 A/C were detailed to attack Radar Installations on Great Coco Island. Attacks were made from an average height of 3,000 ft. and in good weather. Owing to the smallness of the target only near misses were claimed. A number of oblique photographs were taken. Bombs dropped amounted to 128,000 lbs. of HE and 12,800 lbs of Incendiaries.
"B"			1159	2220	
"C"			1151	2100	
"D"			1149	2139	
"F1"			1147	2140	
"F2"			1153	2210	
"G"			1155	2200	
"H"			1150	2115	
"J"			1157	2134	
"Q"			1206	2128	
"R"			1204	2205	
"S"			1205	2148	
"U"			1156	2115	
"V"			1202	2151	

Aircraft	Crew	Duty	Time Up	Time Down	Remarks
"X"			1207	2108	
"Z"			1201	2147	
Lib. VI.					From 1130 hrs 21/12/44 to 2355 hrs 21/12/44
"A"	Appendix (1) Attached		1143	2357	16 A/C were detailed to attack Jetties and Railways sidings at Martaban. Bombing was from 4/6000 ft. in good condition at dusk. Meagre A/A opposition was met and a total of 128,000 lbs. of HE and 12,800 of Incendiaries were dropped. Photographic reconnaissance showed two jetties destroyed, a rice mill burnt out, and the station and sidings damaged.
"B"			1136	2328	
"C"			1144	2353	
"D"			1140	0022	
"F"			1133	2342	
"G"			1142	2331	
"H"			1135	2310	
"J"			1139	2337	
"Q"			1150	2344	
"R"			1145	0012	
"S"			1153	0008	
"U"			1149	2328	
"V"			1154	0006	
"X"			1151	2355	
"Y"			1147	2326	
"Z"			1148	0016	
Lib. VI.					From 1136 hrs 23/12/44 to 2353 hrs 23/12/44
"A"	Appendix (1) Attached		1144	2350	16 A/C were detailed to attack Engine Sheds and Sidings at Houlden. Bombing was from 4/6000 ft. in good weather conditions at dusk against moderate A/A. Bombing was well concentrated and a total of 128,000 lbs HE and 12,800 lbs. Incendiaries were dropped. Photographic reconnaissance showed one shed destroyed, one damaged, 4 craters on the main line, and 12 Engines in the dispersals damaged, derailed, and probably destroyed.
"B"			1136	2342	
"C"			1141	2325	
"D"			1139	2335	
"F"			1137	2332	
"G"			1142	2320	
"H"			1134	2322	
"J"			1140	2348	
"Q"			1145	2316	
"R"			1151	2338	
"S"			1148	2353	
"U"			1149	2340	
"V"			1153	2313	
"X"			1154	2328	
"Y"			1147	2317	
"Z"			1150	2344	

Aircraft	Crew	Duty	Time Up	Time Down	Remarks
Lib. VI.					From 1649 hrs 29/12/44 to 0713 hrs 30/12/44.
"A"	Appendix (1) Attached		1707	0347	6 A/C – A, B, H, R, Y, X, were detailed to mine the Rangoon River Estuary, in bright moonlight. 5 A/C met only meagre A/A but A/C "X" was hit by LA/A near Elephant Pt. and seen to crash in flames. 40 mines were laid.
"B"			1702	0310	
"H"			1659	0313	
"R"			1709	0359	A/C C, F, G, J, Z, were detailed to lay mines in Bangkok River. 30 mines were laid against meagre A/A opposition.
"X"			1717	missing	
"Y"			1715	0250	A/C V, U, D, S, Q, were detailed to lay mines in Goh Sichang Anchorage No opposition was met and 40 mines were laid. A vessel of 400 ft. was seen at anchor, which was attacked and damaged the following day by another squadron as a result of the sighting.
"C"			1703	0652	
"F"			1700	0613	This was a record load, - 8,000 lbs per A/C for a sortie of 13 ½ hours.
"G"			1705	0623	
"J"			1708	0610	
"Z"			1716	0647	
"D"			1701	0635	
"Q"			1711	0643	
"S"			1713	0657	
"V"			1719	0713	
"U"			1712	0648	