

**200 Squadron
RAF**

A Record of Their Operations in SEAC

March 1944 to April 1945

Transcriptions of records from the National Archives, Kew, England
Air27, 1174-1175

Compiled by

R. G. Quirk

Dedicated to all those who served on 200 Squadron, Royal Air Force

Notes:

This is a preliminary transcription.

There are errors in it, especially where the microfilm was difficult to read.

The "?" symbol is used where the film was unclear or where the transcript is suspect.

Names and initials are always a problem in transcribing these records. Not only is it difficult to read the copies and discern an "F" from a "P", but the records themselves are not consistent.

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March 1944, Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
			Note: This record will be supplementary to the Squadron record maintained at Yundum, West Africa, during March, 1944, and will cover only the movements of aircraft and personnel of 200 Squadron in transit from West Africa Command to S.E.A. Command. The record will date from the time of the first flight of aircraft to leave Yundum until their arrival in India, and the establishment of the Squadron as an Operational Unit is S.E.A. Command. The normal returns will be subsequently made monthly from the new unit headquarters in India. Nominal rolls of Squadron personnel are added as Appendix I according to their distribution by aircraft and as Appendix II covering those who proceeded by sea.
Yundum	16.3.44		Liberator "N" 200 BZ884. Captn. S/Ldr. Reid. Liberator "B" 200 BZ830. " F/Lt. Jamieson Liberator "G" 200 BZ867. " F/O Kelly. Flight under command of S/Ldr. Reid. Airborne Yundum en route to RAF Station Takoradi, Gold Coast, Africa. Weather fair. Flight arrived without incident. Each aircraft carried a crew of eight, four Squadron passengers and 1,000 lbs. of freight.
Yundum	17.3.44		Liberator "X" 200 EV869. Captn. S/L. Macpherson Liberator "O" 200 BZ991. " P/O. Waltman Liberator "T" 200 BZ994. " P/O. Henderson Second flight of aircraft under S/L. Macpherson. Airborne Yundum en route Takoradi. Weather fair. Each aircraft carried a crew of eight, 4 passengers, 100 lbs freight.
Takoradi	17.3.44		Liberator "N" 200 BZ884 Liberator "B" 200 BZ830 Liberator "G" 200 BZ867 Airborne Takoradi on second leg to Maiduguri, Nigeria, via Accra, Kano. All aircraft arrived safely.
Yundum	18.3.44		Liberator "P" 200 EV818. Captn. F/L. Cherrington Liberator "U" 200 EV863. " F/O. Smith Liberator "H" 200 BZ868. " P/O. Griffin Third flight airborne Yundum under F/L Cherrington en route to Takoradi. Weather generally fair with local thundershowers. Each aircraft carried crew of eight, 4 passengers and 1,000 lbs. kit. On arrival at Takoradi EV863 was placed unserviceable with petrol leaks from two main wing tanks necessitating tank changes and delaying this aircraft several days.
Yundum	18.3.44		One Dakota ¹ of 196 Wing Transport Command airborne Yundum en route to S.E.A. with twenty one airmen ground personnel.
Takoradi	18.3.44		Liberator EV869 Liberator BZ991 Liberator BZ994 Second flight airborne Takoradi en route to Maiduguri, Nigeria. Flight completed successfully.
Maiduguri	18.3.44		Liberator BZ884 Liberator BZ830 Liberator BZ867 First flight airborne Maiduguri en route Wadi Seidna, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan via Atiel-Genins and El Fasher. Weather fair across desert with strong correction currents.

¹ As typed in record – should be Dakota.

			No incidents.
Yundum	19.3.44		Liberator A 200 BZ829 Captn. W/C Thomas. Liberator V 200 EV831 " F/L. Mills. Liberator M 200 BZ828 " F/O Lomas. Flight No. 4 Airborne Yundum en route Takoradi under command of W/C. Thomas. Flight completed successfully. Each Aircraft carried crew 8, 4 passengers 1,000 lbs freight.
Maiduguri	19.3.44		Liberator EV869 Liberator BZ991 Liberator BZ994 Airborne Maiduguri – landed Wadi Seidna.
Wadi Seidna	19.3.44		Liberator BZ884 Liberator BZ830 Liberator BZ867 Airborne Wadi Seidna. Flew up the Nile to Cairo West. Here all three aircraft were placed unserviceable for two days during which time crews carried out a proper Daily inspection after approximately 24 hours flying time. Accommodations for transit crews very poor.
Yundum	19.3.44		Three Dacotas of 196 Wing Transport Command, airborne at Yundum carrying 44 ground crew airmen of 200 Squadron and some freight in transit to S.E.A.
Takoradi	20.3.44		Liberator BZ829 Liberator EV831 Liberator BZ828 Airborne Takoradi in transit to Maiduguri.
Wadi Seidan	20.3.44		Liberator EV869 Liberator BZ991 Liberator BZ994 Airborne Wadi Seidna in transit to Cairo West. Two days stop over for servicing each aircraft.
Kano	21.3.44		Liberator EV818 Liberator BZ968 Airborne Kano in transit to Maiduguri.
Maiduguri	21.3.44		Liberator BZ829 Liberator EV831 Liberator BZ828 Airborne Maiduguri in transit to Wadi Seidna.
Yundum	21.3.44		One Dakota 196 Wing Transport Command airborne Yundum in transit to S.E.A. Command carrying 21 airmen ground crew of 200 Squadron.
Maiduguri	22.3.44		Liberator EV818 BZ868 Airborne Maiduguri en transit to El Fasher.
Wadi Seidna	22.3.44		Liberator BZ829 Liberator EV831 Liberator BZ828 Airborne Wadi Seidna in transit to Cairo West via the Valley of the Nile. All aircraft stopped over for three days for servicing and correction of minor unserviceabilities.
Cairo West	22.3.44		Liberator BZ884 Liberator BZ830 Liberator BZ867 Airborne Cairo West in transit to Habbanya, Iraq, via I.P.C. oil pipeline, Ratba and Razadi.. On arrival in Habbanya all personnel were medically examined before entering India.
El Fasher	23.3.44		Liberator EV818 Liberator BZ868 Airborne El Fasher in transit to Wadi Seidna. Briefing at Wadi Seidna for second

			stage to Cairo West. Airborne Wadi Seidna in transit to Cairo West. Two day stop over for servicing.
Cairo West	23.3.44		Liberator EV869 Liberator BZ991 Airborne Cairo West in transit to Habbanya. Liberator BZ994 Delayed Cairo West 24 hours with u/s electric system.
Habbanya	23.3.44		Liberator BZ884 Liberator BZ830 Liberator BZ867 Airborne Habbanya in transit to Bahrein Island, Gulf of Persia, via Shuridurard Kuwait.
Yundum	23.3.44		Liberator "U" ² 200 BZ825 Captn. P/O McKeen Liberator "S" 200 EV832 " P/O. Cook Liberator "W" 200 EV866 " F/O. Lamb. Flight No. 5 airborne at Yundum in transit to S.E.A. Command. Landed first stage at Takoradi. Crew of eight, 4 squadron passengers and 1,000 lbs of freight.
Takoradi	24.3.44		Liberator BZ825 Liberator EV832 Liberator EV866 Airborne Takoradi in transit to Maiduguri.
Cairo West	24.3.44		Liberator BZ994 Airborne Cairo West in transit to Habbanya, Iraq.
Habbanya	24.3.44		Liberator EV869 Airborne Habbanya in transit to Bahrein Island.
Bahrein Isl.	24.3.44		Liberator BZ884 Liberator BZ830 Liberator BZ867 Flight No. 1 from Yundum completed last leg to India from Bahrein Island arrived at Mauripur Road, Karachi. All aircraft were delayed for a period of four days, during which time personnel were stationed at North Malir Camp and completed Indian documentation, and aircraft were fitted with Mk.II. I.F.F.
Maiduguri	25.3.44		Liberator BZ825 Liberator EV832 Liberator EV866 Airborne Maiduguri in transit to Wadi Seidna.
Cairo West	25.8.44		Liberator BZ829 Liberator BZ828 Airborne Cairo West in transit to Habbanya.
Cairo West	25.3.44		Liberator EV8?? Delayed at Cairo 24 hours with unserviceable generator.
Habbanya	25.3.44		Liberator BZ991 Liberator BZ994 Airborne Habbanya in transit to Shaibah. Use of Bahrein Isl was discontinued as a Liberator ferry base.
Bahrein IIs.	25.3.44		Liberator EV869 Completed last leg to India. Bahein Is to Mauripur Road. Delayed here four days by India Command for fitting Mk.II IFF.
Wadi Seidna	26.3.44		Liberator BZ825 Liberator EV832 Liberator EV866 Airborne Wadi Seidna in transit to Cairo West. Aircraft experienced some difficulty in landing at Cairo West. BZ825 and EV832 landed safely but EV866 the last to land as the storm grew steadily worse, sustained minor damage when a landing was

² This appears to be "U" in the record, but BZ825 is "J", so the "U" should be considered a typo, or due to the poor copy.

			affected on the sand and not the runway. Details are not yet available at this Unit.
Habbanya	26.3.44		BZ829 BZ828 Airborne Habbanya in transit to Shaibah.
Cairo West	26.3.44		Liberator EV831 Liberator EV818 Liberator BZ868 Airborne Cairo West in transit to Habbanya.
Shaibah	26.3.44		Liberator BZ994 Liberator BZ991 Airborne Shaibah in transit to Mauripur Road, Karachi. Delayed three days to have aircraft fitted with Mk.II I.F.F. P/O Waltman captain of BZ991 entered hospital April 27th and as a result was delayed several days, during which time the Squadron establishment of 12 Liberators passed through to St. Thomas Mount, and BZ991 was unloaded and retained at Mauripur Road in Command Reserve.
Shaibah	27.3.44		Liberator BZ829 Liberator BZ828 Proceeded from Shaibah to Mauripur Road. Aircraft delayed for three days for fitting Mk.II. IFF.
Habbanya	27.3.44		Liberator EV831 Liberator EV818 Liberator BZ868 Proceeded in transit from Habbanya to Shaibah.
Shaibah	28.3.44		Liberator EV831 Liberator EV818 Liberator BZ868 Airborne Shaibah in transit to Mauripur Road. Delayed two days for fitting Mk.II. I.F.F.
Yundum	28.3.44		One Officer (F/O. R. Harbot) and 120 squadron airmen embarked at Bathurst on H.M.T. "Sibajak" en route to India.
Mauripur	29.3.44		BZ884, EV869 BZ830, BZ994 BZ867 Airborne Mauripur Road in transit to Unit Base St. Thomas Mount, Madras. Aircraft took off in extremely bad visibility due to haze but were all airborne without mishap. BZ867 developed engine trouble in No. 3 engine, necessitating switching off that motor. Captain decided to make an emergency landing at Bidar, Hyderabad, which was successfully completed. The aerodrome was not occupied, there was no accommodation or servicing facilities available. Crew and passengers spent the night in the aircraft, on guard, and in a hut on the aerodrome. The four remaining aircraft proceeded to St. Thomas' Mount. Personnel were accommodated in the various messes of 146 Squadron. Billets were not ready for occupation and the remaining hours of sunlight were devoted to acquiring mosquito nets and blankets for the beds from Wing Headquarters and private personnel of the station. The landing at St. Thomas Mt. Marked the completion, for the first flight of aircraft to leave Yundum, of one of the longest Squadron movements of the war.
Mauripur Road	30.3.44		Liberator EV831 Liberator EV818 Liberator BZ868 Airborne Mauripur Road in transit to St. Thomas' Mount.
	30.3.44		Squadron allocated billets, flight offices, and headquarters buildings from 172 Wing. Billets and H.Q. buildings leave much to be desired. There is no mosquito proofing in a malarial area; billets are situated in the centre of a rice swamp and have been repeatedly condemned by squadron Medical Officers. Headquarters building occupied land absolutely no security facilities – are of bamboo and reed matting. No

			safes or steel cabinets are available for Squadron records and documents. Squadron took on charge 12 3-ton Chevrolet trucks from 172 Wing M.T. Section for squadron duties. Freight was unloaded from aircraft and stowed away.
Cairo West	31.3.44		BZ825 EV832 Airborne Cairo West in transit to Sheibah.
St. Thomas Mt.	31.3.44		Liberator "N" 200, BZ884 Transit to Bidar carrying supplies (food and water) for personnel of Liberator "G" 200 BZ867 which forced landed 29.3.44. Airborne St. Thomas' Mount 310435Z landed St. Thomas Mount 311226Z.
St. Thomas Mt.	31.3.44		Personnel proceeded with selection of offices for various sections. Remaining aircraft were unloaded and supplies stored. Action taken to procure office furniture from 172 Wing stores.
			Serviceability after arrival low. Due to lack of tools, spares and personnel. Large percentage of maintenance personnel recently posted and not trained on Liberators.

March 1944: Appendix I

Personnel Arrived by Air

Liberator "N" 200 BZ884	Liberator "B" 200 BZ830	Liberator "G" 200 BZ867
Crew	Crew	Crew
S/L. Reid	F/Lt. Jamieson	F/O. Kelly
F/O. Treveaven	F/O. Dear	F.S. Wingate
F/O. Boyd	P/O. Ball	F.S. Cocks
F/L. Redhead	W.O. Pitman	F/S. Cote
W.O. Olinger	F.S Orloff	Sgt. Casey
W.O. Heightington	W.O. Mains	Sgt. Jones
F.S. Walsh	F.S. Ramsden	Sgt. Taylor
Sgt. Wilcock	Sgt. Winston	Sgt. Edwards.
Passengers	Passengers	Passengers
F/O. Taylor	Cpl. Lee	F/L. Horne
Sgt. Bell	AC1 Bee	AC1 Parsons
Cpl Hawkes	AC2 Ball	Cpl. Monkman
AC1. Abbott	AC1 Forbes	LAC. Coull
Liberator "X" 200 EV869	Liberator "T" 200 BZ994	Liberator "O" 200 BZ991
S/L. Macpherson	P/O. Henderson	P/O. Waltman
P/O. Youngblud	F.S. Spiers	P/O. Montgomery
Sgt. Lucking	P.O. Peek	P/O. Fetherstone
W.O. Esden	Sgt. Harwood	F.S. Doyle
F.S. Penfold	W.O. MacLean	Sgt. Edwards
Sgt. Elwick	Sgt. Morton	Sgt. Robinson
F.S. Benstead	Sgt. Gregory	Sgt. Campbell
Sgt. Forsythe	Sgt. Martin	Sgt. Ratcliffe
Passengers	Passengers	Passengers
Cpl. Hargreaves	LAC. Hart	LAC. Gomersall
W.O Price	Cpl. Hartley	Sgt. Whitfield
W.O. Tribe	AC2. Bowbridge	AC. Bellingham
LAC Graig	AC2. Cormack	LAC. Winter.
Liberator "P" EV818	Liberator "V" 200 EV831	Liberator "U" 200 EV863
F/L. Cherrington	F/L. Mills	P/O. Smith
F/O. Cole	F.O. Swift	F/O. Roderique
P/O. Jarrett	Sgt. Dresch	F.S. Campbell
P/O. Green	P/O. MacLaughlin	F.S. Burrows
P?/O Hyde	F/O. Meyer	F.S. Skeet
Sgt. Lord	Sgt. Nott	F.S. Weinberg
Sgt. Harper	Sgt. Shepherd	F.S. Mossman
Sgt. Bobson-Kettley	Sgt. Brown	Sgt. Green
Passengers	Passengers	Passengers
Sgt. Drury	AC. Thatcher	Cpl. Gowan
AC. Rose	Sgt. Hunt.	Cpl Saunders
AC. Sharp	Cpl. Davy	AC2. Saudders
AC2. Craig	AC. Taylor	AC. Taylor

Liberator "A" 200 BZ829	Liberator "H" 200 BZ868	Liberator "M" 200 B828
Crew		
W/C. Thomas	P/O. Griffin	P/O. Lomas
Sgt. Smith	F.S. Ryder	F.O. Coulson
F/L. McAra	Sgt. Dickson	Sgt. Blake
W.O. Dalton	Sgt. MacAdam	F.S. Black
Sgt. Parkhill	Sgt. Hutchinson	W.O. Hoobin
W.O. Nicholls	Sgt. Freemark	Sgt. Rose
Sgt. Rice	Sgt. Faulkner	Sgt. Irvine
Sgt. Mitchell	Sgt. Jarvis	F.S. Ballenger
Passengers	Passengers	Passengers
F/O Read	F.O. Gough	A.C. Thompson
AC. Meek	AC. Payne	Cpl. Taylor
Cpl. O'Gorman	AC. Turner	AC2 Huttin
Cpl. McHarg	AC. Doves	
Liberator "S" 200 EV832	Liberator "J" 200 BZ825	Liberator "W" 200 EV866
P/O. Cook	P/O. McKeen	F.O. Lamb
W.O. Bagg	Sgt. Hayes	Sgt Harris
Sgt. Huie	P/O. Saunders	P/O. Cudworth
F.S. Lawrence	Sgt. Lyons	Sgt. Suddaby
Sgt. Speirs	Sgt. Davidson	Sgt. Sorenson
W.O. Neil	Sgt. Sillence	Sgt. Commack
Sgt. McEwan	Sgt. Defir	Sgt. Jenkinson
Sgt. Wilkinson	Sgt. Jordan	Sgt. Beresford

Personnel Arrived by Air

No. 1 D.C. Party. Arr. 29.3.44	No. 2 D.C. Party. Arr. 29.3.44
Cpl. Frost	Sgt. Mant
AC2. Davies	LAC. McWilliams
AC1. Tryer	AC1. Barnes
AC1. Culshaw	AC1. Cliff
AC1. Beeby	AC2. Eve
AC2. Gray	AC2. Homer
Cpl. Bell	AC2. Tenwick
AC2 Archer	Cpl. Bentall
AC2 W?allor	AC1. Harfield
AC1 Nevey	AC2. Mitchell
AC2. Rothwell	AC1. Perry
AC2. Maguire	AC1. Wood
AC2. Renshaw	AC2. McMillan
AC2. Taylor	AC2. Swingler
LAC. Howard	LAC. Bowden
AC2 Grounsell	AC2. Smart
AC2. Wilson	Cpl. Merricks
AC2 Edwards	AC2. Cook
LAC. Charlton	LAC. Thorpe
LAC. Oldham	AC2. Hughes.
LAC. Seaford	
No. 3 D.C. Party	
Cpl. Hodge	
AC2. Peters	
No. 4 D.C. Party	No. 5 D.C. Party
W/O? Tilley	Sgt. Helm
??? Townsend	LAC. Morris
LAC. Downes	Cpl. Marshall
AC1 Chalmers	AC2. Warwick
LAC. Baylies?	AC1. Gill
LAC. Fort	AC1. England
LAC. Phillips	LAC. Wilks
??? Croxon?	LAC. Payne
??? Clarke	AC2. Nathan
AC1. Thompson	AC2. Jones
LAC. Last	AC1. McIntosh
??? Whitefield	AC2 Stephens
??? Dye	LAC. Ashton
??? Robinson	AC1. Hadley
AC1. Darrant	AC2. Barnes
AC1. Harvey	AC2. Hillier
AC2. Davidson	AC2. Ball
??? Locke	AC2. Law
??? Hepplewhite	LAC. Dearn
??? Morris	AC1. Newbury
??? K?een	AC1. Bryce
??? Wood	

(note left side of original cut off on microfilm – ranks are hard to read)

March 1944: Appendix II

Nominal roll of R.A.F. Personnel Embarked on S.S. "Sibajak Red" at Bathurst 28.3.44

Number ³	Rank	Name and Initials	Trade	Number	Rank	Name and Initials	Trade
00130	AC1.	Wilson L.	ACH/GD	629438	Cpl.	Tawse W.	F.II.A
17196	AC2.	Jackson P.	FME	1120136	Cpl.	Sandham	F.II.E
50024	LAC.	Cray H.	A/Asst.	1551526	AC1	Watson T.	M/Asst.
71864	AC2	McCarroll J.	"	1683005	AC1	Butler	"
25055	AC2	McManus G	"	1798146	AC1	Doyle B.	"
95226	AC1	Garner J.	M/Asst.	1798732	AC2	Rankin E.	"
64226	AC2	Hare W.	"	1798735	AC2	McDaniel W.	"
26436	LAC	Liddiard V.	"	1799180	AC2	ODriscoll W.	"
22323	AC1	Roylance J.	"	1813036	AC2	Collier R. E.	"
5557	Sgt.	Trowbridge E.	W.O.M.	1188990	LAC	Hallam H. R.	A/Asst.
80907	AC2	Ramsden R.	Armr.	1616411	LAC	Hayes R.	Carp.2.
80774	AC2	Coates L.	Armr.	1571728	AC2	Sutherland A.	Elect.2.
01367	AC2	Coysh R.	F.M.E.	1667385	AC2	Thompson D.	Elect.2.
16520	AC2	Davies R.	"	2209257	AC2	Roberts W.	"
68326	AC2	Elgy H.	F.M.E.	2216681	AC2	Hill D.	F.M.E.
16565	AC2	Sharpe R.	"	1160548	LAC	Cooper L.	F.II.A?
16572	AC2	Stott A.	"	1235641	LAC	Savage R.	"
35943	AC1	Oxley K.	"	1313106	AC2	Morris K.	Elect.2.
37802	AC1	Makey L.	F.M.A.				
02604	AC2	Jones D.	F.II.A	1504187	AC2	Haydon D.	F.II.A
06713	LAC	Sunderland F.	S.E.A.	1539037	AC1	Cooper W.	F.II.A.
57571	Cpl	Brown R.	F.II.A.	1237290	AC1	Sewell W.	F.II.E.
9898	Sgt.	Whitfield R.	"	1491249	AC1	Taylor J.	"
84073	AC2	Wigham A.	F.M.E.	1513187	AC1	Hopes A.	"
55411	AC2	Wiseman S.	"	1576322	AC2	Newey L. A.	"
07905	AC1	Seaward	Arm.B.	1876296	AC2	Martin G.	F.M.A.
20870	LAC	Pattinson J.	Elect.2.	1876402	AC2	Bees W.	F.M.A.
10333	AC2	Lines R.	Elect.2.	1876447	AC2	Davies G.	F.M.A.
08146	AC2	Broadbent D.	Elect.2.	2209442	AC2	Johnson D.	F.M.A.
53327	AC1	Bain W.	Elect.2.	2209490	AC2	Bamford R.	F.M.A.
34990	LAC	Thomas P.	B.&W.	2217173	AC2	Mee J.	F.M.A.
16722	AC2	Hemsley S.	I/Rep.II	2217636	AC1	Taylor T.	F.M.A.
03238	AC2	Gleaves W.	"	2206286	AC2	Martin F.	F.M.E.
92086	AC2	Broughton T.	"	2206244	AC2	Mehaffy D.	F.M.E.
48796	AC1	Dally	"	1513855	AC2	Firth D.	I/Rep.II.
4393	Cpl.	Hardie K.	F.II.A.	1481249	AC2	Minnett F.	W/Mech.
90992	AC2	Godgeon W.	F.M.E.	1832490	AC2.	Lewis J.	"
50109	AC2	Crithlow L.	F.M.E.	1879072	AC2	Bradley G.	"
60349	LAC	Payne E.	F.A.B.	1647865	AC2	Philipson W.	"
72044	AC1	Gray R.	C&SMW	1870964	AC2	Lunn G.	"
11780	AC2	Bailey R.	FME	621564	Sgt.	McBride J.	FIIE
3303	Sgt.	Nash C.	FIIE	549699	Sgt.	Smitham N.	F/Arm.
18283	AC2	Dennison F.	FME	1216067	Cpl.	Ribbons	Elect.1.
81481	AC2	Nichol R.	FME	1440310	LAC	Johns K.	I/Rep/2
66487	AC2	Shaw R.	FME	1494387	AC2	Fieldhouse	Elect.1.

³ Because the left side of the record was cut off when being microfilmed, the complete service numbers are not visible; only the last four or five are given.

0606	AC1	Humphreys D.	I/Rep/2	521852	F/S	Morrow J.	FIIE.
22688	AC2	Coupland P.	FME	1194263	Cpl.	Hobkirk J.	FIIE.
03484	AC1	McDermott K.	F/Arm	613082	Cpl.	Cowan H.	S.E.W.
32490	LAC	Redfern A.	F/Wkr.	1640272	AC2	Hunt J.	I/Rep/2
98233	AC2	Nix G.	FMA	1873805	AC2	Hill A.	FME
1987	LAC	Kelly R.	FMA	1765663	AC2	Read E.	FME
69344	AC1	Gregory K.	Arm	1875126	AC1	Jenkins F.	I/Rep/2
64016	AC2	Clarke A.	Arm	1029047	AC1	Ashton S.	I/Rep/2
83237	AC2	Stracey R.	FME.	650137	LAC	Norris L.	Elect. I.
92936	AC2	Lowe A.	FMA	1563892	LAC	Malcolm J.	"
19170	LAC	Levy J.	FMA	1207475	Cpl.	Mather A.	FIIA
1602	LAC	Knight W.	FMA	1106975	LAC	Clarke A.	I/Rep/1.
285	AC1	Rutherford J.	FME	1014220	LAC	Glass R.	Arm/Asst.
67595	AC1	Clark A.	Arm/Asst.	1107887	LAC	Peoples D.	Arm/Asst.
00237	AC2	Mallry H.	Arm/Asst.	1668841	AC2	Comez I.	"
60734	AC2	Barratt R.	Armr.	1443436	AC2	Burleigh	Elect.II.

Officer i/c..... Flying Officer P. R. Harbot (GD)

April 1944, Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
Mauripur Rd.	1.4.44		Liberator "A" 200 BZ829 Capt. W/C. Thomas Liberator "M" 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O Lomas Airborne Mauripur Road in transit to St. Thomas' Mount. W/C. Thomas arrived to take over command of 200 Squadron at St. Thomas' Mount.
Shaibah	3.4.44		Liberator "J" 200 BZ825 Capt. P/O. McKeen Liberator "S" 200 EV832 " P/O. Cook Airborne Shaibah in transit to Mauripur Road, Karachi. On arrival India both aircraft were delayed two days to have Mk.II IFF fitted.
Takoradi	4.4.44		Liberator "U" 200 EV863 Capt. P/O. Smith airborne on an air test preparatory to continuing in transit to India, after installation of new wing fuel tanks.
St. Thomas Mt.	5.4.44	0400Z	Liberator "H" 200 BZ868 Capt. F/Lt. Mills airborne St. Thomas Mt. On local air test. Landed 0458Z.
		0505Z	Liberator "H" 200 BZ868 Capt. F/Lt. Mills airborne S.T.O conveying spares to Bidar for stranded Liberator "G" 200. Landed Bidar at 0728Z – airborne Bidar 08.28Z and landed Hakimpet 0905Z, remaining until next day.
Mauripur Road	5.4.44		Liberator "J" 200 BZ825 Liberator "S" 200 EV832 Airborne Mauripur Road in transit to new squadron base at St. Thomas Mt.
Takoradi	5.4.44		Liberator "U" 200 EV863. Capt. P/O. Smith airborne Takoradi in transit to Maiduguri.
Maiduguri	6.4.44		Liberator "U" 200 EV863. Capt. P/O. Smith airborne Maiduguri in transit to Wadi Seidna.
Hakinpet	6.4.44		Liberator "H" 200 BZ868. Capt. F/Lt. Mills airborne Hakimpet 0230Z return flight to S.T.O. via Bidar. Landed S.T.O. at 0843Z.
			F/Lt Horne (Med) left by air to 225 group Bangalore (in transit to No. 5 B.S.U.) on temporary duty.
S.T.O.	7.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "H" 200 BZ868. Capt. F/Lt. Jamieson airborne S.T.O. for Bidar to collect crew of "G" 200 upon the aircraft being taken over by Maintenance Unit for servicing. F/O Kelly and crew of "G" 200 had guarded this aircraft from March 29th when they forced landed at Bidar. Landed S.T.O. 1158Z.
Yundum W. A.	7.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "L" 200 BZ826 Capt F/O Wescombe Liberator Mk.V. "E" 200 BZ823 " P/O Hickman. Liberator Mk.V. "K" 200 BZ827 " F/O Charlton Airborne Yundum West Africa, in transit to India. Landed at Takoradi, Gold Coast, on first leg of journey. All aircraft held up here with minor unserviceability . "L" 200 – Booster pump u/s requiring spares from Accra. "E" 200 – Nos 2 and 3 generators u/s. "K" 200 – Inverter u/s (The three aircraft were unserviceable until 11th April).
Wadi Seidna	7.4.44		Liberator Mk.VI. "U" EV863 Capt. P/O Smith airborne Wadi Seidna in transit to Cairo West. Delayed three days for minor servicing.
			F/O. Featherston. P/O. Montgomery arrived by air from Karachi.
S.T.O.	8-10.4.44		Activities of Squadron taken up in establishing servicing sections for aircraft and Headquarters at S.T.O.. The freight ferried by squadron aircraft and one Dacoata ⁴ from West Africa was sorted out and distributed to proper sections.
Cairo West	10.4.44		Liberator Mk.VI "U" EV863 Capt. P/O. Smith airborne Cairo West in transit to Shaibah.
Takoradi	11.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "E" 200 Capt. P/O. Hickman Liberator Mk.V. "K" 200 Capt. F/O Charlton

⁴ As typed in original record – obviously should be Dakota.

			Airborne Takoradi in transit to Maiduguri.
Shaibah	11.4.44		Liberator Mk.VI. "U" EV863. Capt. P/O Smith airborne Shaibah in transit to Mauripur Road. On arrival in India "U" 200 was taken over as a Command Reserve aircraft and crew proceeded independently by rail and air to S.T.O.
Maiduguri	12.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "E" 200 Capt. P/O. Hickman. Liberator Mk.V. "K" 200 Capt. F/O Charlton. Airborne Maiduguri in transit to Wadi Seidna. Liberator "K" developed engine trouble and was running very roughly. Captain decided to return to Maiduguri after 1 ½ hours flying Successful landing affected. Captain of "E" 200 had received instructions not to proceed singularly so returned to Maiduguri along with "K". A/C "K" 200 was delayed indefinitely pending change of at least one engine which was forced ⁵ to be unfit for further use. Liberator "E" 200 was held up until April 20th due to damage to runway by a Boston crash.
S.T.O.	12.4.44	0336Z	Liberator Mk.V "H" 200 BZ868 Capt. S/Ldr. Reid airborne in transit to Yellahanka conveying crew and passengers as listed here under to 225 Group H.Q. All Squadron heads of sections were represented to interview Group officer on training and policy. W/C. Thomas. Squadron Commander F/O. Read Radar S/L Reid ⁶ Flight Commander F/O. Taylor Squadron Engineer S/L. Macpherson do F/O. Gough Electrical Officer F/L. Cherrington Motor Transport F/O Treleaven Intelligence Officer F/L. Redhead Signals & Gunnery P/O. Griffin Safety Equipment F/L. McAra Navigation. Group Headquarters were visited and instructions and some material were collected concerning training policy and organization for the Squadron Sections for India Command. The party remained overnight, and considerable difficulty in accommodation was encountered.
Yellahanka	13.4.44	0240Z	Liberator "H" 200 BZ868, Capt. W/C. Thomas. Return flight to S.T.O. F/L Cherrington, F/O Taylor and F/O Read remaining to complete discussion with Group Officers of their respective sections.
S.T.O.	13.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "N" 200 BZ884 Capt. P/O. Lomas airborne on local air test. F/O Hyde proceeded to Armada Road on an aircraft Recco. Instructors course.
S.T.O.	14.4.44	0259Z	Liberator Mk.V. "N" 200 BZ884 Capt. F/O McKeen airborne in transit to Yellahanka to collect Squadron personnel – F/L. Cherrington, F/O. Taylor and F/O. Read. Landed S.T.O. 0604Z.
Takoradi	15.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "R" 200 BZ826 Capt. F/O. Wescombe airborne Takoradi in transit to Kano, after an improvised booster pump had been installed in his aircraft. Proper spares were not obtainable.
S.T.O.	15.5.55		Liberator Mk.VI. "T" 200 BZ994 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington airborne on location test.
Kano	16.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "L" 200 BZ826 Capt. F/O. Wescombe airborne Kano in transit to El. Fasher.
			P/O. Smith, F/O. Roderique, P/O. Waltman arrived by air from Karachi.
El Fasher	17.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "L" 200 BZ826 Capt. F/O Wescombe airborne El. Fasher in transit to Wadi Seidna. No.2 Generator was u/s on arrival and aircraft was placed u/s by Station Engineer.
S.T.O.	17.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "N" 200 BZ884. Capt. P/O. Lomas – transport of servicing personnel from Arkoman to Bidar for "G" 200. Airborne S.T.O. 0246Z Landed Bidar 0915Z Landed S.T.O. 1242Z.
			Liberator Mk.V. "A" 200 BZ829 Capt. F/O. Kelly Local air test and compass swinging. Liberator Mk.V. Capt. F/L. Mills Local air test and compass swinging.
S.T.O.	18.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "H" 200 BZ868 Capt. F/L. Cherrington transport of servicing personnel from Bidar to Arkoman. Airborne S.T.O. 0410Z. Landed S.T.O. 1335Z.

⁵ As typed in original record.

⁶ As typed in original record – probably should be S/L. Reid.

⁷ This entry says "R", but next two give "L" as the code for BZ826.

S.T.O.	19.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "A" 200 BZ829 Capt. S/L. Reid transit to Ratmalana (Ceylon) and return to pick up W/C. Thomas who arrived in Ceylon April 18th on H.M. aircraft carrier from Madras on Naval Liaison Duty.
	19.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "N" 200 BZ884 Capt. P/O. Cook. Local Air test.
Wadi Seidna	19.4.44		Liberator Mk.V "L" 200 BZ826 Capt. F/O. Wescombe airborne Wadi Seidna in transit to Cairo West. Aircraft u/s for three days while new generators were fitted.
S.T.O.	20.4.44		Liberator Mk.VI. "T" 200 BZ994 Capt. P/O. Cook. Liberator Mk.VI. "V" 200 EV831 Capt. S/L. Macpherson Airborne on local air tests.
Maiduguri	20.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "E" 200 BZ823 Capt. P/O Hickman – airborne Maiduguri in transit to Wadi Seidna.
S.T.O.	20.4.44		Squadron was visit by the following training officers from 225 Group H.Q. W/C. Vigours, Group Photo Officer and Group Gunnery Leader, to discuss with heads of their respective sections organization and training technique for the squadron. It was decided to adopt a training syllabus after the fashion of the one in use in Group, and training was to proceed as soon as possible. Details were left to Squadron training officers.
Wadi Seidna	21.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "E" 200 BZ823 Capt. P/O Hickman airborne Wadi Seidna in transit to Cairo West. On arrival aircraft was placed u/s to affect minor repairs on No. 2 Generator, Nos. 1 and 4 meshing solenoids and Auxiliary Hydraulic Pump.
S.T.O.	22.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "M" 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O Henderson airborne on local air test.
Cairo West	23.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "L" 200 BZ826 Capt. F/O. Wescombe airborne Cairo West in transit to Shaibah.
S.T.O.	24.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "H" 200 BZ868 Capt. F/O Kelly to Kolar and return to transport ground personnel on servicing course.
	24.4.44		Liberator Mk.VI. "P" 200 EV818 Capt. P/O. Smith airborne on compass swinging.
			Liberator Mk.VI. "Y" 200 EV836 ferried from Command Reserve Pool to St. Thomas' Mount to complete the squadron establishment of aircraft – 12 Liberators.
S.T.O.	25.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "H" 200 BZ868 Capt. S/L. Macpherson airborne on gunnery exercise – air to ground firing.
			Liberator Mk.V. "N" 200 BZ884 Capt. P/O. Cook airborne on local flying and air test.
Shaibah	25.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "L" 200 BZ826 Capt. F/O. Wescombe. Airborne Shaibah in transit to India. Landed Mauripur Road where aircraft was turned over to Command Reserve. Crew and passengers proceeded to North Malir Camp to await transportation to Unit H.Q. at St. Thomas' Mount.
			A training programme commenced for the Squadron embodying 30 hours lectures per crew per month on maintenance, aircraft and ship recognition, gunnery and bombing tactics, etc. Several crews to be detailed daily for ground training, remainder for air training embodying practice bombing and gunnery, air to air and air to ground, photograph and shadowing exercises.
S.T.O.	26.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "H" ⁸ 200 BZ884. Capt. P/O. Henderson, Bombing and Gunnery exercise. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs on smoke float. Fired 400 rds .5 50 rds .303.
			Liberator Mk.VI. "V" 200 EV831. Capt. F/O Kelly. Bombing and Gunnery exercise. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs on smoke float. Fired 400 rds .5 50 rds .303.
			Liberator Mk.V. "H" ⁹ 200 BZ884. Capt. W/C. Thomas P/O MacKeen. Local night flying. Three circuits and landings each.
Cairo West	26.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "E" 200 BZ823 Capt. P/O. Hickman airborne Cairo West in transit to Shaibah.
			The following aircrew N.C.O's have been grand commissions and appointed Pilot Officers: P.O. W. V. Smith J.85393 P.O. C. E. Weinberg NZ42305 P.O. P. C. Burrows NZ42319 P.O. A. D. Dixon A421185

⁸ "H" BZ884 is in the original record, but "H" is BZ868, and BZ884 is "N"; either code or serial is wrong for this entry.

⁹ See note above on "H" BZ884 entry.

S.T.O.	27.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "H" 200 BZ868. Capt. S/L. Reid Low level bombing exercise from 50 ft. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DC's.
			Liberator Mk.V. "H" 200 BZ868. Capt. F/L. Cherrington. Low level bombing exercise from 50 ft. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DC's. Splash firing 350 x .5 200 x .303.
			Liberator Mk.VI. "V" 200 EV831. Capt. P/O. Cook. Gunnery exercise, air to ground (splash) fired 250 x .5 300 x .303.
S.T.O.	27.4.44		Liberator Mk.VI. "T" 200 BZ994 Capt. F/Lt. Jamieson. Local air test. Abortive due to insecure filler caps on wing main cell tanks, resulting in fuel pouring over wing surfaces and necessitating immediate landing. There was no fire. A poor grade of wire had been used in securing filler caps and had sheered with the vibration of take off.
			Liberator Mk.VI. "V" 200 EV831. Capt. P/O Griffin Liberator do do Capt. P/O Lomas Local night flying, three circuits and landings each.
Shaibah	27.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "E" 200 BZ823 Capt. P/O Hickman airborne Shaibah in transit to India. Landed Mauripur Road where aircraft was turned over to Command Reserve. Crew and passengers proceeded to North Malir camp to await transportation to St. Thomas' Mt.
S.T.O.	28.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "H" 200 BZ868 Capt. F/Lt. Jameison shadowing exercise with H.M. Destroyer Nizan, using Radar. Dummy submarine attacks on destroyer. There were several aircrew personnel aboard destroyer to observe effect of evasive action by aircraft during attack, in relation to possibility of presenting a difficult target for ships gunners.
			Liberator Mk.VI. "P" 200 EV818. Capt. F/O Kelly. Bombing and Gunnery exercise. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs on smoke floats. Fired (splash) 400 x .5 and 100 rds .303 ammunition.
			Liberator Mk.V. "N" 200 BZ884. Capt. P/O. Smith. Bombing exercise. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs on smoke floats. Radar Shadowing exercise on H.M. Destroyer Nizan.
			Liberator Mk.V. "H" 200 BZ868. Capt. F/Lt. Jameison P/O Henderson. Local night flying two circuits and landings each.
S.T.O.	29.4.44		Liberator Mk.VI. "P" 200. Capt. P/O. Lomas. Bombing and Air/Sea firing exercise. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs. Fired 800 Rds. .5 2000 rds. .303.
			Liberator Mk.V. "N" 200. Capt. P/O. MacKeen. Bombing and Air/Sea firing exercise. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs. Fired 800 Rds. .5 2000 rds. .303.
			Liberator Mk.VI. "T" 200 BZ994. Capt. W/C. Thomas. First operational sortie for Squadron in India. Air/Sea escort to convoy U.C.46. Weather fair. Airborne S.T.O. 290556Z. Landed STO. 291448Z ¹⁰ .
S.T.O.	30.4.44		Liberator Mk.V. "N" 200 BZ884. Capt. F/L. Mills. Shadowing exercise with a Naval Launch. Dummy submarine attacks. R/T and V/S communication practice.
			Liberator Mk.VI. "P" 200 EV818. Capt. P/O. Henderson. Shadowing exercise with a Naval Launch. R/T and V/S communication practice.
			Liberator Mk.V. "N" 200 BZ884. Capt. P/O. Cook. Local night flying. 2 circuits and landings.
			Liberator Mk.VI. "P" 200 EV818. Capt. F/O. Kelly. Local night flying. 2 circuits and landings.

¹⁰ This does not match data in Form 541; these are the times for "A", whose flight is not listed in the Form 540.

May 1944, Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
St. Thomas Mount	1.5.44		Three non-operational flights – training. Total time 6.50 hrs day.
			Liberator M.K. V. U(?) 200 K(?)Z825 Capt P/O. McKeen – local air test.
			Liberator M.K. V. N 200 BZ884 Capt. P/O. Lomas Radar shadowing. Exercise with naval motor launch.
			Liberator M.K. V. M 200 BZ828 Capt S/Ldr. Macpherson – Radar shadowing exercise with naval motor launch. Practice bombing on flame float – 4 x 250 lb Mk.8 DCs 25 ft settings.
St. Thomas Mount	2.5.44		Two non-operational flights – training time 4.30 hrs day.
			Liberator M.K. V. N 200 BZ884 Capt F/Lt. Jamieson – Radar shadowing exercise with naval motor launch. R/T and V/S practice.
			Liberator M.K. V. N 200 BZ884 Capt. P/O. Cook – Radar shadowing and R/T and V/S exercise with motor launch. Bombing ad gunnery practice on smoke float 4 x 250 lb M.K.8 D.Cs and 180 x 303 ammunition fired.
St. Thomas Mount	3.5.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.V. ? 200 BZ825 Capt P/O McKeen – Local air test.
			Liberator Mk. VI. P 200 EV818 Capt W/Cdr. Thomas – Radar Shadowing exercise with motor launch and practice bombing and gunnery. 4 x 250 Mk 8 DCs dropped on flame float, 200 x 5 and 1200 x 303 ammunition fired.
St. Thomas Mount	4.5.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator Mk.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O. Griffin – bombing and gunnery practice and trial QGH procedure with local flying control. Bombs dropped 4 x 250 MK 8 DCs on smoke floats. Ammunition fired 300 x 5 and 300 x 303.
			Liberator MK.V. BZ828 Capt. P/O McKeen – practice air firing and Navy application R/T and V/X practice with launch.
			The sea party of 120 airmen under F/O. Harbot arrived at St. Thomas Mount, after disembarking at Bombay on 26.4.44. Up to this time the Squadron had been operating extremely short of ground personnel, with a resultant low serviceability on aircraft.
St. Thomas Mount	5.5.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.V. U? 200 BZ825 Capt. F/O Kelly. Affiliation with naval launch practice R/T and V/S.
			Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. P/O Cook – Practice submarine attacks on naval launch at night.
St. Thomas Mount	5.5.44		Three Operational Sorties.
		042328Z	Liberator Mk.V. A 200 BZ829 Capt. P/O Smith airborne on escort duty to Convoy CJ.26. No. 4 engine caught fire on take off Capt attempted to feather propellers and proceed on three engines, but propeller would not feather. Capt then proceed out to sea with No. 4 engine still on fire, but producing some power, dropped his bomb load of 8 x 250 MK.XI. torpex depth charges and returned to base.
		042355Z	Landed at St. Thomas Mount with some flames still coming from No.4 engine. This engine was switched off immediately and fire died down. Ground personnel used fire extinguishers. Considerable damage done – and aircraft was placed in Command reserve pending repairs.
		050204Z	Liberator MK.VI. T 200 BZ994 Capt P/O. Smith airborne for escort duty to Convoy

			CJ.48. Weather fair – duty completed.
		05112Z ¹¹	Landed at base.
		051037Z	Liberator Mk.V. N 200 BZ884 Capt F/Lt. Mills airborne for escort duty to Convoy CJ.26. Duty completed.
		052133Z	Landed at base.
St. Thomas Mount	6.5.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. P/O. Henderson – Co-operation with a motor launch – radar shadowing and R/T and V/S practice.
			Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. F/Lt. Jamison – Navy – Affiliation practice night submarine attack.
			The Adjutant F/Lt. Ward arrived by air from Karachi and Delhi with F/Lt. Wescombe and F/O. Whiles after turning over Aircraft Liberator L 200 BZ826 to India Command Reserve.
St. Thomas Mount	8.5.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. P/O. Lomas airborne to do compass swing, but landed immediately due to minor unserviceability of wing flaps.
			Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. S/Ldr. Reid airborne on a naval affiliation exercise – radar shadowing and practice. Night submarine attacks in Moonlight with Naval launch.
			A lecture was give to all aircrew by 3 Command Navigation Officers on the principles and operation of latest aircraft navigational equipment.
St. Thomas Mount	9.5.44		Two non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe airborne on local air test – landed immediately since flaps would not retract.
			Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O. Hickman airborne on local air test.
St. Thomas Mount	10.5.44		Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O W?altman airborne on non-operational flight compass swings and calibration of ground radar station.
			Advised by ACSEA of the granting of Commissions as Pilot Officers to 9 aircrew NCOs – W/O Onlinger, W/O. Heighington, W/O. Mains, W/O. Orloff, Sgt. Robinson, F/S. Freemark, F/Sgt. MacAdam, W/O. Cole(?), and W/O. Mclean.
St. Thomas Mount	11.5.44	102103	Liberator MK.V. N. 200 BZ884 Capt. P/O. Lomas airborne to escort tanker 7 CU. Weather fine, with scattered cloud.
		110905	Duty completed – landed at base.
			A lecture was given to all aircrew on the operation and handling of Liberator Aircraft by the India representative of Consolidated Aircraft Corp.
St. Thomas Mount	12.5.44		Two non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O. Waltman airborne on local air test.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. W/Cdr. Thomas airborne on local air test.
St. Thomas Mount	13.5.44		Two non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. P/O. Hickman airborne on training Bombing and Gunnery. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs on smoke float Fired 700 x .5 and 700 x 303 rounds of ammunition.
			Liberator MK.VI. X 200 EV869 Capt. P/O. Henderson airborne on local air test, but landed immediately due to unservicable undercarriage retraction gear.
St. Thomas Mount	14.5.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe airborne on practice Bombing and gunnery. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs Fired 400 x .5 and 700 x 303 ammunition.

¹¹ As in original – 541 may have correct time.

			Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O Henderson airborne on practice Bombing and gunnery. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs and fired 420 x .5 and 700 x 303 ammunition.
			Signal received from Group H.Q. that S/Ldr. D. T. Macpherson had been appointed as Commanding Officer of 354 Squadron, and promoted to acting rank of W/Cdr.
St. Thomas Mount	15.5.44		Five non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/Lt. Jamieson and Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. F/Lt. Mills airborne on air-air firing practice on Vengeance-towed drogue target. Each aircraft fired 300 x .6 and 750 x 303 ammunition.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington. Airborne on practice submarine attacks.
			Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O. Smith. Airborne to carry out practice submarine attacks.
			Liberator MK.VI. X 200 EV869 Capt. P/O. Cook. Airborne on local air test and gunnery practice. Fired 800 x .5 and 250 x 303 ammunition.
St. Thomas Mount	16.5.44		Three non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.VI. X 200 EV869 Capt. P/O. Cook. Airborne on local compass swing.
			Liberator MK.V. BZ825 Capt. F/O. Kelly. Airborne on a co-operation exercise with naval motor launch. R/T and V/S signalling.
			Liberator Mk.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O. Griffin. Airborne and co-operation exercise with naval motor launch. R/T and V/S.
			F/Sgt. Rice RCAF was granted a commission as Pilot Officer.
St. Thomas Mount	17.5.44		One training flight.
			Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O. McKeen. Airborne on Bombing and gunnery exercise. Dropped 4 x 250 Mk.8 DCs and fired 225 x .5 Ammo.
			F/Sgt. D. Mossman, RNZAF granted a commission as a Pilot Officer.
St. Thomas Mount	18.5.44		One non-operational flight.
			Liberator MK.VI. Y 200 EV836 Capt. P/O McKeen. Airborne on local air test.
		180335Z	Liberator MK.V. N 200 BZ884 Capt. W/Cdr. Thomas. Airborne, St. Thomas Mount in transit to Cuttack on a shipping traffic patrol and A/S patrol.
		180755Z	Landed at Cuttack.
			Liberator Mk.V. N ¹² 200 BZ826 flown from Command reserve by a ferry crew to replace damaged A 200 and taken on Squadron establishment.
St. Thomas Mount	19.5.44		No flying due to aerodrome unserviceability by crashed Liberator on runway.
St. Thomas Mount	20.5.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.VI V 200 EV831 Capt. P/O. Lomas. Airborne air to air firing on a Vengeance towed drogue 200 rounds fired.
			Liberator MK.VI V 200 EV831 Capt. F/Lt. Jamieson. Airborne on local air test.
Cuttack	20.5.44	200346Z	Liberator MK.V. N 200 BZ884 Capt. W/Cdr. Thomas. Airborne Cuttack on a shipping patrol while in transit to St. Thomas Mount.
		200835Z	Landed St. Thomas Mount.
St. Thomas Mount	23.5.44		BZ825 Capt. P/O. Smith. Airborne on practice QGH procedure with local flying control.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe. Airborne on local night flying, three circuits and landings.
		222300Z	Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. F/Lt. Jamieson. Airborne on operational escort to convoy JC.49A. Escort completed and returned to base and landed 231223Z

¹² Record says "N", but this was BZ884 – this may have been the code on the aircraft when it went to Command Reserve.

St. Thomas Mount	24.5.44		Liberator MK.VI. X 200 EV869 Capt. F/O Kelly. To Yellahanka and return to pick up F/O. Lamb and crew who proceeded by air transit from Shaibah after delivering Liberator W 200 EV866 to that station from West Africa. The second Pilot Sgt. K. Harris was hospitalized in Shaibah, and the aircraft was delivered to India Command from Shaibah by a transport Command crew. F/O. Lamb and F/O. Cudworth returned in Liberator X 200 from Yellabanka.
			Liberator MK.V. Y 200 EV836. Capt. P/O. Waltman. Airborne on a training Bombing and gunnery exercise. Dropped 16 x 11 ½ lb practice bombs on smoke floats and fired 600 x .5 and 700 x .303 ammunition.
		240308Z	Liberator Mk.VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. P/O Griffin. Airborne at St. Thomas Mount to escort tanker XYCJ. Escort supplied for 10 hrs. Returned to base and landed at 241442Z.
St. Thomas Mount	24.5.44		Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. P/O. Cook. Airborne to Yellahanka and return to transport an emergency patient to British Military Hospital at Bangalore.
			Liberator MK.VI. Y 200 EV836 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington and P/O McKeen airborne to do practice bombing on Guindy range, from 6000' using 11 ½ lb practice smoke bombs.
		250520Z	Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe. Airborne St. Thomas Mount on Shipping sweep in transit to Cuttack.
		251025Z	Sweep completed landed, Cuttack. Radar used throughout. Crew and aircraft remained on detachment.
		242353Z 251553Z	Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O Lomas. Airborne St. Thomas Mount on shipping sweep in transit to Cuttack. Sweep completed and landed at Cuttack. Radar used throughout. Aircraft and crew remained at Cuttack on detachment.
St. Thomas Mount	25.5.44		Notified by Command H.Q. that Commissions as Pilot Officers had been granted to W/O B. Dalton, W/O W. Campbell, Sgt. B. Dunban, all RCAF.
St. Thomas Mount	26.5.44		Non-operational flight. Liberator Mk.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/O. Kelly. Airborne in transit to Ratmalana, Ceylon to collect spares for RAF station Ulunderpet.
Ratmalana	27.5.44		Liberator Mk.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/O. Kelly. Airborne in transit to Ulunderpet with 2000 lbs Barracuda spares.
Ulunderpet	28.5.44		Liberator Mk.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/O. Kelly. Airborne in transit to Ratmalana to collect more Barracuda spares. Tyre change necessary on landing delaying aircraft one day.
St. Thomas Mount			Liberator MK.V. L 200 BZ826 Capt. P/O. Cook. Airborne on local air test and compass swing.
St. Thomas Mount	29.5.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.VI. X 200 EV869 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington. Airborne on practice bombing flight – 6000 ft. on Guindy range using 11 ½ lb practice smoke bombs.
			Liberator Mk.V. B 200 BZ830 Capt. P/O. Smith. Airborne on local air test.
St. Thomas Mount	30.5.44		Liberator MK.VI. X 200 EV869 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington. Airborne on practice high level bombing – 6000 ft. on Guindy range using 8 x 11 ½ lb practice smoke bombs.
Ratmalana			Liberator Mk.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/O. Kelly. Airborne Ratmalana in transit to Ulunderpet carrying 2000 lbs Barracuda spares. Airborne Ulunderpet in transit to base at St. Thomas Mount.
St. Thomas Mount	31.5.44		Liberator MK.VI. X 200 EV869 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington. Airborne on practice high level bombing trip 6000 ft. on Guindy range. Dropped 8 x 11 ½ lb practice bombs (smoke).
Remarks			The Squadron aircrew followed a daily programme of training lectures throughout the month, in aircraft and ship recognition, gunnery navigation and tactics. The operational activity of the Squadron was very limited and although Form Green were received for several more trips than were carried out, they were cancelled promptly by Group for reasons unexplained. During the latter weeks of the month, members of 146 Squadron moved from the Officers Mess, and were replaced by 123 Squadron members.

May 1944: Form 541

200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks
Liberator MK A 200 BZ829	P/O. G. D. Smith Capt.	Escort to Convoy CJ26.	042328Z	042355Z	Aircraft airborne St. Thomas Mount to escort duty convoy CJ.26 – No.4 engine caught fire on take off, and could not be controlled, feathering switches would not operate so Capt kept power on since with increased drag from a windmilling airscrew, aircraft would not have maintained height when fully loaded. Proceeded out to sea, dropped bomb load of 8 x 250 Mk.XI Torpen Depth Charges then returned to base and landed. Engine was still emitting flames on landing, but died down when switched off and fire extinguishers were used. Aircraft sustained Considerable damage.
	F/O J. P. H. Roderique Nav.				
	W/O. W. G. Campbell				
	P/O. P. G. Burrows				
	F/S. D. R. Mossman				
	P/O. C. K? Weinberg				
	F/S. N. Skeet				
	Sgt. P. Green				
Liberator MK VI T 200 BZ994	As Above	Escort to Convoy CJ26.	050204Z	051120Z	Aircraft airborne St. Thomas Mount and set course for position RBTW 4734. Met convoy and carried out standard recognition procedure. Composition 4 E/V and 13 Merchant vessels Course 180.0 at 6 knots. V/S was exchanged, aircraft sent code word "Hungry". E/v replied "carry out normal patrol, I am proceeding independently. SOE is on starboard column". Aircraft commenced Viper patrol 050645Z Position RBTW 2833 – 4 M/V left convoy and put into Madras 051000Z Position RBTW 0830 – 3 M/Vs from Madras joined convoy. Convoys' course 190.0 051030Z Position RTBW 0530 V/S to SOE "IGO-30 Relief Liberator at 1730. 051104Z – Relieved – Left convoy Composition 3 E/Vs, 12 M.V.x Course 190/6 ½ knots. Returned to base and landed. Bomb load – 8 x 250 MK.XI. Torpen DCs.
Liberator MK.V. N.200 BZ884	F/Lt. A. C. L. Mills Capt.	Escort to Convoy CJ26.	051037Z	052133Z	Aircraft airborne St. Thomas Mount and set course to intercept convoy in position RBTW 0729 at 051056Z. Composition 3 E/Vs – 12 M/Vs Course 185 6 knots. Recognition procedure carried out and signalled to SOE v/t and R/T call signs "I remain 10 Catalina taking over at Dawn" Acknowledged. 051234Z V/S from SOE "Test R/T" No response until 051248Z then from SOE "Receiving strength 3 Have you any message for me Y" Reply "No". 052100Z Left convoy in position ZGTW 0824. Composition same course and speed 185/6 ½ knots. Returned to base and landed.
	Sgt. D. T. Dreach Nav.				
	F/O. H. Swift				
	P/O R. L. McLaughlin				
	Sgt. J. O. Nott.				
	Sgt. R. J. Ratcliffe				
	Sgt. G. Robinson				
	Sgt. R. L. Sheperd				

Liberator Mk V. N.200 BZ884	P/O. L. V. Lomas. Capt.	Escort to Tanker Yenang Yaung XYCJ	102113	110905	Aircraft airborne at St. Thomas Mount and set course to intercept tanker Yenang Yaung (XYCJ) in position RBTW 1150. Ship picked up by radar and met at 102153. Recognition procedure carried out, and ship passed by V/S "Speed 11knts Course 004.o. Aircraft flashed "Remaining 10 hrs" and at 102210 Commenced Viper patrol at 110710 aircraft passed by V/X "I go – 50 Whats your course and speed" Ship replied "Speed 12 knots" aircraft passed "Being relieved by a Catalina" at 110743 A/C left ship in position NPTW 0240 and set course for base. At 110820 altered course to investigate Radar Blip – a Motor Torpedo Boat in position RBTW 3736 Course 160.o Speed 12 knots. Proceeded to base and landed. Bomb load 8 x 250 MK.XI. Torpen Depth Charges. Weather fine with moderate cloud.
	F/O J. R. Coulson				
	Sgt. P. H. Blake Nav.				
	Sgt. J. P. Irvine				
	W/O W. A. Nichols				
	F/S H. K. Black				
	F/S. J. J. Belanger				
Sgt. K. G. Rose					
Liberator Mk V. N.200 BZ884	W/Cdr. J. P. B. Thomas Capt.	Shipping Patrol and A/S Sweep	180335Z	180755Z	Aircraft airborne St. Thomas Mount and set course on A/S sweep up to Cuttack. ASV switched on at 180345Z on patrol in position 1308N 8020E 180559Z sighted hospital ship in position 1700N, 9306E on course 225.o speed 10 knots 180655Z Radar contact on convoy in position 1840N 8450E. 180725Z Radar switched off position 1940N 8540E. Off patrol and set course for Cuttack and landed.
	P/O. W. J. Smith				
	F/Lt. A. R. McAra Nav.				
	P/O. G. Rice				
	W/O. W. A. Nichols				
	Sgt. H. Parkhill				
	W/O. B. Dalton				
W/Cdr. D. T. Macpherson					
Liberator Mk V. N.200 BZ884	W/Cdr. J. P. B. Thomas Capt.	Shipping Patrol Cuttack to St. Thomas Mount	200346Z	200835Z	Aircraft airborne Cuttack on shipping patrol while in transit to St. Thomas Mount. On patrol 200410Z in position RXZD 4236. At 200508Z sighted 1 MV position DBNJ 1925 course 230/8 at 200509Z sighted 1 MV DBNJ1138. Course 230/8 at 200458Z sighted 1 MV position HOUJ 0801 course 250/7 knots. At 200615Z in position HOEH 3218 sighted 1 larger MV approx 6000 tons, stationary on a sandbank at 200622Z in position HOEH 2118 sighted 1 small MV course 230. At 200651Z in position GDHZ 4208 sighted a convoy of approx 12 ships 16 miles to starboard. Sighted one small tender at 200708Z in position GDKP 2147 on course 180. Off patrol at 200815Z position WVKP and set course for base. Radar was used throughout patrol Bomb load 8 x 250 Mk.XI. Torpen depth charges. Weather fine, visibility 16 miles. Landed St. Thomas Mount 200835Z.
	F/Lt. A. R. McAra Nav.				
	P/O. G. Rice				
	P/O. W. V. Smith				
	W/O. W. A. Nichols				
	W/O. B. Dalton				
	Sgt. H. Parkhill				
Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828	F/Lt. P. W. Jamiason. Capt.	Escort to Convoy JC49A	222300Z	231223Z	Airborne St. Thomas Mount set course to intercept convoy JC49A in position NMKP 4030. Met at 222356Z. Composition 6 M/Vs and 4 E/Vs. Course 360 speed 10
	F/O. G. Henderson				
	F/O. G Ball. Nav.				

	P/O. G. Maines				knots. Recognition procedure carried out by V/Z. Aircraft to SOE "As remaining 7 hrs What Patrol" E/V to aircraft "Normal Patrol" Aircraft commenced patrol Viper. At 230037Z in position NMKP 5725 sighted one hospital ship course 180/8 knots at 230340Z in position WJKP 1035 sighted one minesweeper trailing 2 floats. Course 250/8. At 230410Z Message from base "You are not being relieved, stay until PLE". V/S from SNO "Test R/T", Test O.K. and message passed by R/T to SNO – "We are not being relieved. We are remaining another 7 hrs Acknowledged. At 231100Z in position GBKP 0040 aircraft sent to SNO by V/S "IGO-30" R/T Test carried out. Left convoy at 231128Z in position GDKP 0440. Composition unchanged Course 055.0 at 10 ½ knots. Landed St. Thomas Mount 231223Z. Radar used throughout escort, Bomb load carried 8 x 250 MK.X Torpen DCs. Weather fair with slight haze.
	W/O. G. Pitman				
	P/O. J. Orloff				
	Sgt. L. Winston				
	P/O. R. H. McLean				
Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818	P/O. J. A. Griffin. Capt.	Escort to Tanker XYCJ	240308Z	241432Z	Airborne St. Thomas Mount to intercept tanker XYCJ in position WJKP 2338 Met at 240343Z on a course 360/12 knots V/S recognition procedure carried out. Aircraft sent "Remain 10 hrs Catalina A/C at dawn. What is your course and speed ?" Ship replied by V/S "Course 360 speed 12 knots" Commenced Viper patrol at 230400Z in position WJKP 2838. At 241114Z tanker altered course to 030/12 knots in position RLKP 5438. Aircraft sent V/S at 241230Z "IGO – 60 What is your course and speed?" Reply Course 055 speed 12 knots Left ship at 241330Z in position GDHZ 1500 and set course for base. Landed St. Thomas Mount 241432Z. Weather fine with haze. Visibility 7 miles. Radar used throughout patrol. Bomb load 8 x 250 MK.XI. Torpen DCs.
	P/O. A. D. Dixon. Nav.				
	P/O. T. F. Freemark				
	P/O. R. S. MacAdam.				
	F/S. W. A. Ryder				
	Sgt. C. A. Hutshinson				
	Sgt. J. C. Faulkner				
Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828	P/O. Lomas L. J. Capt.	Shipping Sweep St. Thomas Mount to Cuttack	243353Z	250553Z	Airborne St. Thomas Mount on a shipping sweep while in transit to detachment at RAF Station Cuttack. On patrol 250003Z in position 13000N 8016E Radar and IFF on. Sighted tanker at 250027Z in position 1411N 8045E course 360.o speed 12 knots. Signals not identified at 250113Z in
	Sgt. P. Blake Nav.				
	F/O. J. R. Coulson				
	W/O. H. D. Hoobin				
	F/S. J. Belanger				
	F/S. H. E. Black				
	Sgt. J. Irvine				

	Sgt. K. Rose				position 1516N 8030E sighted 1 MV (VDQB) c/s 180/10 at 250306Z in position 1742N 8343E sighted 1 M/V c/s 020/6 kts at 250339Z in position 1756N 8356E sighted convoy. Composition 8 M/Vs 2 EVs course 020/7 kts. At 250400Z sighted 1 MV in position 1822N 8429E not identified. Switched off Radar at 250500Z and went off patrol in position 2023N 8653E. Set course for Cuttack and landed. Bomb load carried 8 x 250 lb MK.XI. Torpen DCs. Weather fair with 8/10 Alti cm and St Cm at 7000 ft.
Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818	F/Lt. R. C. Wescombe Capt.	Shipping Sweep St.	250530Z	251025Z	Airborne St. Thomas Mount on a shipping sweep while in transit to Detachment at RAF Station Cuttack. On patrol at 250548Z in position 1300N 8030E at 250833Z. Sighted convoy of 8 MVs and 3 EVs in position 1806N 8405E. Course 030.0 speed 8 knots. Off patrol at 250945 in position 2030N 8648E and set course for Cuttack. Radar and IFF on throughout. Bomb load 8 x 250 lb MK.XI. Torpen DCs.
	F/O. C. J. Whiles Nav.	Thomas			
	F/S. D. F. Hunt	Mount to			
	Sgt. R. S. Angell	Cuttack			
	W/O. G. Berry				
	P/O D. Dunham				
	Sgt. G. Chipps				
Sgt. C. H. Johnson					

June 1944: Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
St. Thomas Mount	2.6.44		Three training flights.
			Liberator MK VI X 200 EV869 Capt. W/Cdr Thomas airborne for local flying and air test.
			Liberator MK. VI X 200 EV869. Capt P/O. MacKeen airborne for practice bombing from 6000 ft. dropping 11 ½ lb smoke bombs.
			Liberator MK. VI. S 200 EV832 Capt. F/O. Lamb airborne on local air test.
Cuttack			One training flight from Cuttack detachment.
			Liberator MK. VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe airborne for practice bombing dropped 12 x 11 ½ lb practice bombs.
St. Thomas Mount	3.6.44		One non-operational flight.
			Liberator MK. VI. S 200 EV832 Capt. P/O. Hickman airborne for compass swing. Diversion to Arkonan due to local thunderstorm settling over base.
Arkonan	4.6.44		One transit flight.
			Liberator MK. VI. S 200 EV832 Capt. P/O. Hickman returned from Arkonan to St. Thomas Mount.
St. Thomas Mount			A large stock of photographic equipment was received by the Squadron to augment stocks already on hand. Shipment included 16 x T35 control units, 10 Cameras (F24), with mountings, 12 motor units, 6 x G45 Cine camera guns with mountings and various spares.
St. Thomas Mount	5.6.44		Two operational flights.
			Liberator MK.V. B 200 BZ830 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington airborne St. Thomas Mount, to escort convoy JC50A. Escort provided for 10 Hours, during which Cobra patrol was flown. Relieved by A/C T 200.
			Liberator MK.VI. T 200 BZ994 Capt. F/O. Kelly airborne to relieve B 200 on escort to convoy JC50A.
St. Thomas Mount	6.6.44		Two Non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.VI. T 200 BZ994 Capt. P/O. Cook airborne on local air test.
			Liberator MK. VI. S 200 EV832 Capt. P/O. Griffin airborne on practice low level bombing attacks (50 ft) on dummy submarine. Dropped 16 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs.
Cuttack	6.6.44		One operational trip from Cuttack detachments.
			Liberator Mk.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe airborne to escort convoy JC50A. A/C went through a very severe Monsoon storm immediately after take off, but met convoy and provided escort for 9 ½ hrs.
Cuttack	6.6.44		Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. P/O. Lomas airborne at Cuttack to sector convoy JC50A. Aircraft developed a fuel leak immediately after take off and Capt decided to return to base. He proceeded out to sea and dropped his depth charges 8 x 250 lb Mk.XI Torpens. One depth charge exploded immediately on contact with the water, but no damage was done to the aircraft. Returned to Cuttack and landed.
St. Thomas Mount	7.6.44		Three non-operational trips.

			Liberator Mk.V. X 200 EV869 Capt. P/O. Smith airborne on local flying and air test.
			Liberator Mk.V. N 200 BZ884 Capt. P/O. Griffin airborne on air test and practice low level bombing. Dropped 9 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs from 50 ft on a flame float.
			Liberator MK.VI. T 200 BZ994 Capt. P/O. MacKeen airborne on a combined operation exercise with Torpedo Beaufighters. Liberator A/C was to arrange a rendezvous with torpedo Beaufighters, then illuminate a naval launch with flares so the strike fighter could attack. Naval launch was located and shadowed on Radar, but the co-operating Beaufighter became unserviceable and returned to base. Liberator proceeded to drop flares as a practice illumination exercise and dropped a series of 19 x 4.5 in Recco Flares. Results were satisfactory, the motor launch was clearly outlined.
St. Thomas Mount	8.6.44		Three non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.VI X 200 EV869 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington airborne to do competition medium level bombing from 6000 ft. The competition is detailed in Appendix II to this return. Dropped 4 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs.
			Liberator MK. V. N 200 BZ884 Capt P/O. Griffin airborne to do competition low level bombing from 50 ft. Minor ¹³ camera photographs are attached in Appendix II. Dropped 9 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs.
			Liberator MK.VI. T 200 BZ994 Capt. P/O. Waltman airborne to do combined strike exercise with Torpedo Beaufighter. Liberator dropped 20 x 4.5" recco flares and 4 Wiley flare to illuminate a naval launch so that strike aircraft could carry out night practice torpedo attacks.
St. Thomas Mount	9.6.44		Three training flights.
			Liberator MK.VI X 200 EV869 Capt. F/O. Lamb airborne for bombing and gunnery practice. Dropped 16 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs on a flame float from 50 ft. Fired 600 rounds .6 and 1000 rds x .303 ammunition.
			Liberator MK. V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. P/O Hickman airborne on local air test and compass swing.
			Liberator MK.VI. X 200 EV869 Capt. P/O. Hickman airborne for local night flying, circuits and landings.
St. Thomas Mount	10.6.44		Two non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.V. S 200 EV832 Capt. P/O. Cook airborne on local bombing and gunnery practice. Dropped 14 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs and fired 405 x .5 and 800 x .303 ammunition.
			Liberator MK.VI. S 200 EV832 Capt. P/O. Cook airborne on local night flying circuits, and landings.
St. Thomas Mount	11.6.44		Three non-operational trips.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. P/O. MacKeen airborne on a transit trip to Cuttack carrying ground service personnel to Squadron detachment at Cuttack.
			Liberator MK.V. N 200 BZ884 Capt. F/Lt. Mills airborne on local bombing and gunnery practice. Dropped 11 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs on flame floats, and fired 430 rounds .5 and 80 rds .303 ammunition.
			Liberator MK.V. S 200 EV832 Capt. F/Lt. Charrington airborne in transit Kolar and return to pick up replacement crew for the Squadron. Capt. F/O. Hobbs F/O. Markley F/O. Lakin and four NCO aircrew.

¹³ Minor typed in copy, but this is probably "Mirror".

St. Thomas Mount	12.6.44		One Transit trip
			Liberator Mk.VI S 200 EV832 Capt. F/O Kelly proceeded to Kolar and return to collect F/O Andrews and crew. F/O Andrews had ferried aircraft from West Africa to India Command reserve at Karachi and proceeded from there by air to Kolar. Details of the West Africa – India transit flight are given in appendix ??? attached. The following officers arrived on the Unit with F/O Andrews – F/O. B Rolf(?) and F/O. Harber.
Cuttack	12.6.44		Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe proceed from Cuttack to Salbani and return with the Squadron Engineering Officer F/O. Taylor to collect spares and tools for Liberator.
St. Thomas Mount	13.6.44		Two Non-operational flights.
			Liberator Mk.VI S 200 EV832 Capt. F/O. Treleaven and P/O. Smith airborne on local flying circuits and landings done by each pilot.
			Liberator MK.VI T 200 BZ994 Capt. P/O. Waltman airborne for bombing and gunnery practice. Dropped 16 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs on smoke floats and fired 500 rds .5 and 800 rds .303 ammunition.
Cuttack	13.6.44		Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe returned to St. Thomas Mount from detachment at Cuttack He was replaced by F/O MacKeen at Cuttack.
St. Thomas Mount	14.6.44		Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/Lt. Jamieson was airborne in transit to Arkonan and Bidar with P/O. Cook and crew, to collect Liberator BZ867 and deliver it to Command reserve at Kolar. Liberator BZ867 (old G 200), (forced down at Bidar en route from Karachi to St. Thomas Mount) was still unserviceable so both crews returned to base.
			F/O. H. Swift left by air for Ceylon to attend a course on Ship recognition instruction.
St. Thomas Mount	15.6.44		Two non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington was airborne with (17) air cadets as passengers on an air familiarization flight.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. P/O. Hickman was airborne with (17) air cadets as passengers on an air familiarization flight.
St. Thomas Mount	16.6.44		One non-operational flight.
			Liberator MK.VI. T 200 BZ994 Capt. F/O. Lamb airborne for local air test and gunnery practice.
			One operational flight – Convoy escort.
			Liberator MK.V. N 200 BZ884 Capt. P/O. Cook airborne at 152250Z to escort Convoy JC52. Remained with convoy 10 hours returned to base and landed 161008Z. Radar used throughout.
St. Thomas Mount	17.6.44		One non-operational trip.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe airborne on a transit flight to Yellabanka and Kolar to collect F/Lt. McLellan and crew who had arrived from West Africa with Liberator (C 200 – BZ831) which was turned over to India Command reserve. A synopsis of the trip is attached as appendix IV.
			F/Lt. Redhead returned from British Military Hospital Bangalore.
Cuttack	18.6.44		Two coastal and shipping Recco's
			Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. P/O. MacKeen airborne at Cuttack in transit to St. Thomas Mount on a shipping patrol.

			Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O. Lomas airborne at Cuttack in transit to St. Thomas Mount in a shipping patrol. These two aircraft were returning from detachment at R.A.F. Station Cuttack.
St. Thomas Mount	19.6.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt. F/O Kelly
			Liberator MK.VI. T 200 BZ994 Capt. F/Lt. Jamieson. Both aircraft airborne to participate in a fighter control exercise. The Liberators approached Madras from the sea at a height of 6000 ft. on a mock bombing raid. Fighter ops control scrambled two flights of Hurricanes of 123 Squadron to intercept the bombers. Interception was successful and made before the bombers had reached the mainland.
St. Thomas Mount	20.6.44		One training flight and two local flights.
			Liberator MK.VI. P 200 EV818 Capt. S/L Reid airborne with Brigadier McGregor ??? local defence area and Army locations from the air.
			Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. P/O Cook airborne on local air test and compass swing.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 BZ825 Capt P/O Waltman airborne on local night flying circuits and landings.
St. Thomas Mount	22.6.44		Two Operational sorties
		212148Z	Liberator MK.V. N 200 Capt. P/O Waltman airborne St. Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC52A. Escort provided for 8.45 hrs.
		220940Z	Landed Cuttack.
		220718Z	Liberator MK.VI. S 200 Capt. P/O Hickman airborne St. Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC52A. Escort provided for 5.08 hrs.
		221420Z	Returned to base and landed.
			Three non-operational flights.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 Capt. F/O Lamb airborne in transit to Bidar and return, to deliver A/C spares.
			Liberator MK.VI T 200 Capt F/O Hobbs airborne for local flying familiarization.
			Liberator MK.V. M 200 Capt. P/O Cook airborne for air test and compass swing.
St. Thomas Mount	23.6.44		Two operational sorties.
		230010Z	Liberator MK.VI. P 200 Capt. F/O Lamb airborne to escort convoy C32A. Escorted convoy for 7.20 hrs and relieved by
		230725Z	Liberator Mk.V. N(?) 200 Capt. F/O Andrews to provide escort to C32A until last light.
			Three non-operational trips.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 Capt. F/Lt. McClellan airborne in transit to Bidar and return to deliver Liberator parts.
			Liberator MK.V. M 200 F/O MacKeen airborne on local air test.
			Liberator MK.VI. S 200 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe airborne on local air test.
St. Thomas Mount	24.6.44		Two operational sorties.
		232309Z	Liberator MK.V. M 200 Capt. F/O MacKeen airborne to escort convoy CJ32A. Provided escort for 7.45 hrs. Returned to base and landed.
		240622Z	Liberator MK.V N 200 Capt. F/O Treleaven airborne to relieve M 200 as escort to convoy CJ32A.
			Two training flights.

			Liberator MK.V. J 200 Capt. F/Lt. McClellan airborne to do low level bombing practice. Dropped 4 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington airborne to do a photographic exercise mosaic of bombing range at Guindy, and of aerodrome St. Thomas Mount.
St. Thomas Mount	26.6.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.V. H 200 Capt. F/O Lamb airborne to do air test.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 Capt. P/O Cook airborne for bombing and photographic exercise. Dropped 3 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs.
			H.Q. 172 Wing took over 200 Squadron Transport Section. Squadron handing over the following equipment.
			16 – 3 Ton Tenders. 1 – Station Wagon.
			1 – ambulance 2 – Case Tractors
			4 – 15 Cwt Tenders 1 – Power Trailer
			1 – Fire Crash Tender 3 – Motor Cycles
			1 – Workshop Trailer 7 – Petrol Bowsers
			It is anticipated this move might make Squadron Transport somewhat more difficult on station provided equipment.
St. Thomas Mount	27.6.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator Mk.V H 200 Capt. P/O. Cook airborne on bombing training flight. Dropped 7 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs from 50 ft on bombing range.
			Liberator MK. V J 200 Capt F/O. Hobbs airborne on local night familiarization flight.
St. Thomas Mount	28.6.44		Four training flights.
			Liberator MK.V. H 200 Capt. P/O. Hickman and Liberator MK.VI T 200 F/O. Waltman airborne on fighter interception exercise with Hurricanes of 123 Squadron. The bombers approaching the coast as hostile A/C, the fighters were scrambled, to practice interception and attacks as part of local defence exercise.
			Liberator MK.VI. P 200 Capt. F/Lt. McClellan airborne to do practice gunnery and turret manipulation. Fired 500 rds ammunition.
			Liberator MK.VI T 200 Capt P/O. Smith airborne to do local night circuits and landings.
St. Thomas Mount	29.6.44		Two training flights.
			Liberator MK.V. J 200 Capt. F/O McKeen airborne on local bombing exercise. Dropped 11 ½ lb smoke bombs from 50 ft on bombing range.
			Liberator MK.V. C 200 BZ831 which has been turned over to Command Reserve, was delivered to the Squadron as a reserve a/c by a replacement crew for tour expired personnel on the Squadron. Crew was Captained by F/O. G. Banner with F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens as copilot and P/O. J. H. Broodhead as Navigator.
			Liberator MK.V. J200 Capt. F/Lt. Jamieson airborne on training Night circuits and landings with his copilot F/O. Dear.
St. Thomas Mount	30.6.44		Two Squadron aircraft and crews left on detachment to Sigiriya, Ceylon, and carried out an operational shipping sweep en route.
			Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828 Capt. F/Lt. Cherrington.
			Liberator MK.V. H 200 BZ868 Capt. F/O. Lamb.

			A replacement crew arrived by air to relieve Tour expired personnel. Capt. P/O. T. C. Seabrook ¹⁴ , F/O. J. V. McAloney and six N.C.O.s.
			During the month instructions were received from 225 Group to replace MK II N IFF with MK III IFF. This modification was completed on all Squadron aircraft by June 28th. Previous to this time some difficulty had been experienced by H.M. Ships and ground stations in receiving IFF transmissions from our aircraft.
			Squadron flying totals for the month are attached as appendix 5 along with details of training carried out.

¹⁴ In the Australian Records the name is spelt "Seabrooke". The 200 Squadron Records consistently use "Seabrook"; the spelling has not been "corrected" in this transcript.

June 1944: Form 541

200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks
Liberator MK.V. B 200 BZ830	F/Lt. Cherrington. G.	Capt.	042245Z	051148Z	Aircraft airborne to Escort Convoy J.C.50A. A Radar contact was made and at 042354Z in position MKRX 5640 a MV was sighted on a course 180/10. Convoy was met at 050004Z in position LNRX 0856. Composition 4 EVs and 5 MVs. Course 000/11 ½ knts. Standard recognition procedure was carried out and Cobra 20 patrol began. At 050100Z Convoy changed course to 060/11 ½ knts. At 05155Z the SNO contacted A/C on R/T and advised IFF was not being picked up by ship. A/C checked and IFF was serviceable the SNO advised MK II IFF was not being picked up. A/C received permission to proceed 30 miles from Convoy and send message to base advising them MK II IFF was not being picked up and to fit MK III on relief A/C. SNO requested a/c on R/T to approach Convoy from 40 miles at heights of 6000 ft. 10000 ft and 15000 ft. A/C carried out instructions. At 050440Z in position LNBX 5855 met a convoy of 4 E/Vs and 12 M/Vs on a course of 240/7 kts. At 050700Z one escort vessel began to drop D.Cs but message by R/T from SNO indicated it was an exercise. SNO was advised by V/S at 050910Z that aircraft was leaving but being relieved by another Liberator. Left Convoy at 050952Z and set course for base. Weather report was received from base, and a/c landed at 051148Z. Bomb load 8 x 250 lb Torpen D.Cs.
	F/O. Cole R.				
	P/O. L. S. Jarrett	Nav.			
	P/O. D. T. Hyde.				
	P/O. N. G. Green				
	Sgt. T. Harper.				
	Sgt. W. Ketley				
	Sgt. L. R. H. Lord				
Liberator MK.VI. T 200 BZ994	F/O. R. C. Kelly.	Capt	050810Z	051758Z	Airborne to relieve B 200 as escort to convoy JC50A. At 050945Z in position LNGX 2915 a radar was made, and one unidentified M/V was sighted. At 050957Z in position LNGX 4708 convoy CJ30 was sighted, composition 12 ships speed 7 kts. Convoy JC50A was met at 051039Z in position EBCH 0939 composition 4 E/Vs and 5 M/Vs course 050/11 kts. Recognition procedure was
	P/O. P. S. Turner				
	F/Sgt. R. Wingate				
	P/O. J. L. A. Cote				
	P/O. C. Weinberg				
	Sgt. Dresch				
	Sgt. Edwards				
	Sgt. J. Jones				
F/Sgt. F. Taylor					

					carried out. SNO passed to A/C "Test R/T and keep continuous watch". R/T tested and found efficient. Patrol Cobra began. At 051505Z A/C passed to SNO "I go 10 Lib takes over at dawn" A/C left convoy same composition course and speed 000/11kts. A message was sent to base "Early 75 petrol consumption abnormally high". Landed at St Thomas Mount at 051758Z. Bomb load 8 x 250 lb MK XI Torpen D.Cs. Weather was fine high cloud 7/10 Alto cu. base 8000 ft. Slight haze – visibility 9-10 miles.
Liberator MK.V. M 200 BZ828	F/Lt. R. C. Wescombe	Capt.	052215Z	061030Z	Airborne from Cuttack to escort convoy J.C.50A. Immediately after take off A/C ran into a severe Monsoon which rendered some of the instruments unserviceable until they emerged from the storm an hour later. Proceeded to convoy and met JC50A 052345Z in position 1752N 8401E. Composition 4 E/Vs and 5 M/Vs. Course 060/12 kts. Recognition procedure carried out and SNO requested Viper patrol. At 060300Z A/C sent a weather report to base. At 060320 message from base to remain with convoy until 060930Z due to relief A/C becoming unserviceable. At 060700Z second weather report sent to base. At 060825Z a contact was picked up and one MV Identification signals VF?JM was sighted on course 220/10 kts. Photographs were taken of the convoy. A/C left convoy at 060930Z in position 1903N 8537E, composition same, and set course for base. Radar and IFF were switched on throughout. Bomb load 8 x 250 lb MK XI Torp D.Cs. The weather was generally poor, visibility four miles, with frequent thunderstorms. Cloud base descending to 500 ft.
	F/Sgt. D. F. Hunt				
	F/O. C. J. Whiles	Nav.			
	Sgt. R. S. Angell				
	Sgt. S. Chipps				
	Sgt. C. H. Johnson				
	W/O C. Berry				
P/O. R. B. Dunham					
Liberator MK.V. N 200 BZ884	P/O. R. H. Cook..	Capt	152250Z	161008Z	Airborne from St. Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC42. Met convoy in position HBRX 0222 at 152330Z on course 360° at 9 kts. Composition 2 EVs 15 MVs one a straggler. Recognition procedure carried out and aircraft sent by V/S "Remaining 10 hrs." SOE requested R/T check then told A/C to carry out patrol "Adder". Radar contact and at
	P/O. W. R. Hickman				
	Sgt. R. G. Huie	Nav			
	Sgt. T. C. McEwan				
	W/O R. H. Neil				
	F/S. C. D. Lawrence				
	Sgt. K. M. Spiller				
Sgt. C. R. Speirs					

					160215Z sighted "Martand" in position BNKS 2322 course 180/14. At 160230Z in position BNKS 4122 sighted a cruiser on course 180° at 23 kts. Three ships left Madras harbour to join convoy at 160453Z. Convoy altered course to oil at 160530Z. One MV left Madras Harbour to join convoy at 160557Z. MVs left Madras harbour to join convoy at 160600Z and the eleven ships from Madras joined convoy at 160700hrs. Five MVs left convoy for Madras at 160900Z A/C signalled "I go 20" and SOE passed course and speed 000/6kts. Composition 2 EVs, 21 MVs. A/C left convoy at 160930Z and returned to base. Radar used throughout IFF on. Bomb load 8 x 250lb MK XI Torpen D.C.s. Weather fine.
Liberator MK. VI. P 200 EV818	P/O. C. D. MacKeen	Capt.	180200Z	180640Z	Airborne at Cuttack returning to St. Thomas Mount from detachment and a shipping sweep en route. At 180554Z in position NZKS 5030 sighted MV "Saidja" BRWS on a course 360°/10 kts. At 180620Z motor launch sighted off Madras. Off Patrol and landed at base at 180640Z. Radar used throughout. Carried a bomb load of 8 x 250lb MK XI Torpen D.Cs. Weather fine with 7/10 AS cloud at 10000 ft. Visibility 10-15 miles.
	P/O. W. Hayes				
	P/O. W. J. Saunders.	Nav			
	Sgt. F. W. Davidson				
	Sgt. R. Lyons				
	Sgt. C. E. Sillence				
	Sgt. P. Jordan				
	F/S. J. Defir				
Liberator MK. V. M 200 BZ828	P/O. L. J. Lomas	Capt.	180205Z	180719Z	Airborne at Cuttack returning to St. Thomas Mount from detachment and a shipping sweep en route. On patrol at 180224Z. Sighted convoy JC58 at 180346Z. Composition 18 MVs and 3 EVs northbound at 8 kts. At 180624Z sighted MV "Saidja" BEVS in position RZKS 4535 course N/10kts. Off patrol at 180658Z in position NZKS 0037 returned to base and landed. Landing was made with unserviceable altimeter and airspeed indicator. Radar used throughout. Bomb load 8 x 250lb MK XI Torpen D.Cs. Weather fine, slight haze.
	Sgt. R. H. Blake	Nav.			
	F/O. J. Coulson				
	W/O H. Hoobin				
	F/S. J. Belanger				
	F/S. H. E. Black				
	Sgt. K. P. Rose				
	Sgt. P. J. Irvine				
Liberator MK. V. N 200 BZ884	P/O. A. D. Waltman	Capt.	212145Z	220940Z	Airborne at St. Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC 52A. At 212249Z during patrol en route to convoy challenged by V/S by naval vessel believed to be HMIS Omristar. Replied to challenge position RLKK 4837. Convoy contacted by Radar at 212337Z and met at 212351Z in position VNKS 5953.
	P/O. K. A. Montgomery				
	P/O. H. J. Weedon	Nav.			
	P/O. L. G. Robinson				
	W/O. D. F. Campbell				
	Sgt. G. Knott				
	Sgt. R. Ratcliffe				

	F/S. L. Edwards				Composition 4 EVs and 5 MVs. Course 322° at 10 kts. Full visual recognition procedure carried out and asked SOE course and speed. Reply "Course 323 speed 10 kts, check R/T". Test on R/T was successful and on instruction of SOE commenced Viper patrol. At 220357Z in position CFKS 3223 investigated a radar blip which proved to be a tramp steamer on course 240/10kts, which gave call sign YOI IVQ. Informed SOE of ship call sign and position. Tramp passed convoy at 220450Z in position CFKS 3021. Convoys position was pinpointed by land at 220747Z as RLKS 1510. Returned to convoy at 220800Z and signalled by V/S "I go 30, relief Liberator, what is your course and speed?" Reply course 000 speed 11kts, thanks for escort". Left convoy in position RLKS 1410 and returned to base. Radar and IFF used throughout. Bomb load carried 8 x 250lb MK XI Torpen DCs. Weather fair and hazy visibility 6 to 7 miles.
Liberator Mk. VI. S 200 EV832	P/O W. R. Hickman Capt.		220718Z	221420Z	Airborne at St. Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC.52A. On patrol out to convoy message received from base "Switch on IFF" since ground were not picking up the transmission although IFF was on. Message sent to base "Cockerel on MKIII". Convoy was picked up by radar at 220815Z bearing 030/35 miles from position RLKS 5323. At 220830Z met J.C.52A in position RLKS1910. Composition 4 EVs and 5 MVs course 000/11kts. Recognition procedure carried out but no reply from SOE until 220933?Z. Aircraft signalled to SOE may I close to photograph" reply "yes, test R/T". Test was satisfactory and SOE ordered patrol Cobra 12. at 221310Z in position BNKS 0528 aircraft returned to convoy and signalled "I go 30 What is your course and speed" Reply "course and speed 025/11kts" Left convoy at 221338Z ¹⁵ in position BNKS 1227 and returned to base. IFF used throughout. Bomb load carried 6 x 250lb MK XI torpen DCs. Radar was used for brief periods only since batteries were overheating.
	P/O L. C. Pryce				
	P/O P. S. Turner Nav.				
	P/O J. R. Trembley				
	F/O. MacLaughlin Screen Wop				
	W/O J. C. Robichaud				
	Sgt. D. R. Smith				
	Sgt. F. W. Wilkinson				
	Sgt. A. Forsythe				
Liberator MK. VI. P 200 EV818	F/O. P. Lamb Capt.		230010Z	230955Z	Airborne at St. Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC 32A. On shipping patrol after crossing coast Radar on at 23040Z in position MXKS 3731 sighted one MV on course 270/8. Identification XMBT. Convoy CJ32A met at 230152Z in position FCKS 3052. Composition 5 MVs and 4 EVs course 200/10
	F/O. C. G. E. Harbor				
	F/O. J. H. W. Lakin Nav.				
	Sgt. D. Mitchell				
	Sgt. C. W. L. Jankins				
	Sgt. T. M. Canmock				

¹⁵ Record gives time as 211338Z, an obvious error.

	Sgt. G. T. Suddaby Sgt. J. C. Sorenson				kts. Recognition procedure carried out and received instruction from SOE to use R/T. Contact not established on R/T until 230355 and instructed to do "Cobra 20" patrol. At 230245Z in position FCKS 0744 sighted northbound convoy of 5 MVs and 4 Evs on course 000/10kts. At 230728Z sighted one MV in position CVKS 3237 on course 000/8kts. It did not reply to challenge and SOE informed. Investigated by one E/V. At 230810 A/C passed by V/S to SOE "I go 30. What are your course and speed" SOE to A/C "UHJ5 31R6 KSDA GQWU CIEE" Message was not understood by A/C who had syko card for 22nd. Relief A/C arrived at 230913Z so P200 returned to base. Bomb load carried 5 x 250lb MK XI Torpen DCs. Visibility 10/15 miles, weather fair with high cloud.
Liberator MK. V. N 200 BZ884	F/O. F. T. W. Andrews	Capt.	230725Z	231412Z	Airborne at St. Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC 32A. Set course due north in position MZKS0028. Radar u/s and did not meet convoy on sweep north. Turned south in position FCKS 1535 and met convoy at 230912Z in position GVKS 0831. Composition 4 EVs and 5 MVs course S/10kts. Recognition procedure carried out by V/S and passed "I remain 4". R/T check on instruction of SOE and W/T call sign passed. Commenced patrol "Cobra 20" at 230935Z. Radar still u/s so returned to convoy at 231030Z and advised SOE by V/S and then by R/T. Flew 30 miles from convoy and advised base by W/T that Radar was u/s. Sighted MV Tallso at 231123Z in position NZKS 3035 on a course N/13kts. Two EVs went ahead of convoy at 231240Z in direction of Madras. Passed to SOE "I go 30" at 231303Z and left convoy in position NXKS 2037. Returned to base. Bomb load carried 8 x 250Lb MK XI torpen DCs. Weather fine visibility 10-15 miles.
	F/O. R. A. Hobbs				
	P/O. B. Rolf	Nav.			
	Sgt. B. E. Martin				
	W/O G. Haily				
	Sgt. M. Fay				
	Sgt. J. R. Rowe				
	Sgt. E. W. Cummings				
Liberator MK. V. M 200 BZ828	F/O. C. D. MacKeen	Capt.	232309Z	240926Z	Airborne at St. Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC 32A. Proceeded on shipping sweep from base to convoy which was met at 232357Z in position RLKS 3014 composition 4 EVs 5 MVs. Recognition procedure carried out and R/T tested. Course and speed of convoy 180/10kts. Instruction by SNO to do
	P/O. W. Hayes				
	P/O. W. J. Saunders				
	Sgt. P. Jordan				
	F/S. R Lyons				
	Sgt. J. Defir				
	Sgt. F. N. Davidson				

	Sgt. C. E. Sillence				patrol "Cobra 20". At 240022Z investigated a contact in position RLKS 1030. A northbound convoy of 14 vessels at 230115 SOE called A/C on R/T and asked "Have you seen Rally?" A/C replied "Rally 200° 35 miles". At 240700Z message from SOE "ZEBZ ZWGH 3505 7YJ6 AXWR IMEQ MCUY 53 ER Too 1245/G" Message was not understood since A/C was using Rekoh card for June 23rd but passed on when returned to base. Relief A/C arrived at 240735 and left convoy in position CFKS 1014. Composition unchanged. Sighted on MV in position RLSE 5050 identified by hoist N8M. Radar and IFF used throughout. Bomb load 8 x 250lb MK XI Torpen DCs. Weather fair and Visibility 10-15 miles.
Liberator MK. V. N 200 BZ884	F/O. D. H. Treleven	Capt.	240622Z	241507Z	Airborne to relieve M 200 escorting convoy CJ32A. Shipping sweep en route to convoy which was met at 240738Z in position CFKS 1025. Composition 4 EVs and 5 MVs. Standard recognition procedure carried out and R/T tested on request of SOE. Message from SOE "Patrol Cobra 20070??10 TOO 1425" Patrol commenced. At 240735 convoy changed course from 180 to 140°. Radar contact investigated at 2412057Z in position VHKS 2940 which proved to be a buoy about 10 miles off the coast. Returned to convoy at 241240Z and passed by V/S "I go 45 any message" Reply "NO". R/T was again tested on request of SOE. Left convoy at 241321Z in position VNXH 2800. Composition unchanged. Weather was getting bad as darkness closed in. Many local Monsoon storms in vicinity. Early signal sent to base since too much time had been allowed for return trip. Radar and IFF used throughout but IFF not picked up on return trip by coastal stations. Bomb load 8 x 250lb MK XI Torpen DCs.
	F/O. W. J. Smith				
	F/Lt. A. H. Boyd	Nav.			
	P/O. M. F. J. Olinger				
	P/O. A. H. Heighington				
	W/O. F. T. Walsh				
	Sgt. B. Wilcock				
	Sgt. L. A. Edwards				
Liberator MK. V. M 200 BZ828	F/L. Cherrington	Capt.	300936Z	301230Z	Airborne at St. Thomas Mount to do a shipping patrol en route to detachment at Sigiriya Ceylon. Set course from position 1300N 8030E at 300952Z. 180° T SE and IFF on at 301101Z altered course to 139° T position 1010N 8020E. Altered course to 225° T at 301145Z in position 0845N 8135E. Reached Sigiriya at 301222Z. SE and IFF off and Landed. No enemy sighted or contact throughout trip. Radar sweep flown at 2000 ft. Bomb load 4 x 250 lb MK XI Torpen DCs. Weather fair, scattered low cloud, visibility 15-20 miles.
	F/O. R. Cole				
	P/O. L. Jarratt	Nav.			
	P/O. G. Green				
	P/O D. W. Hyde				
	F/O C. Weinberg				
	Sgt. E. Harper				
	Sgt. W. Dobson-Ketley				
Liberator MK. V.	F/O. P. S. Lamb	Capt.	300948Z	301240Z	Aircraft flew in company with M 200 above, and narrative of courses and turning points as
	F/O. C. G. E. Harber				

H 200 BZ868	P/O. T. S. Turner				listed. IFF and SE used throughout sweep. No sightings or enemy contacts. Bomb load carried 4 x 250lb MK XI Torpen DCs.
	F/S. J. C. Sorenson				
	Sgt. H. Harrisford				
	F/S. G. T. Suddaby				
	Sgt. C. W. L. Jenkinson				
	W/O W. R. Skeet				

June 1944: Appendix III

Synopsis of movement of Liberator Mk.V. F 200 BZ824 from West Africa to Air Command South East Asia.

Crew.	Capt. F/O F. W. T. Andrews	W.O. C. Hally
	Nav. P/O B. Relf	Sgt. J. Rowe
	F/O C. Harber	Sgt. M. Fay
	P/O. J. Tuttle	Sgt. B. Cummings.

Passengers. Cpl. Johnson (Acting as Flt/Engineer.)
 AC. Langford
 AC. Lenon.

F/O. Andrews had remained at Yundum in charge of 200 Squadron personnel until the last crew and passengers were ready to leave.

June 1st . Airborne Yundum in transit to Takoradi.

June 2nd. Transit Takoradi to Maiduguri. At Maduguri AC. Lenon was detained for Yellow Fever injection, and AC Swan was taken as a passenger from aircraft K.200, stranded there awaiting an engine change.

June 3rd. Transit from Maduguri to Khartoun.

June 4th. Transit Khartoun to Cairo West.
 A stop of two days was authorised here for minor servicing of aircraft, and a rest for the crew. It was necessary to proceed on the next leg at night in order to arrive at Shaibah shortly after dawn before dust storms made landing impossible..

June 6-7th.. Transit from Cairo West to Shaibah.

June 8th. Transit from Shaibah to Karachi.
 The aircraft was taken over here by India Command reserve, and crew proceeded by air to Unit, arriving at St. Thomas Mount June 12th..

June 1944: Appendix IV

Synopsis of movement of Liberator Mk.V. C 200 BZ831 from West Africa to Air Command South East Asia.

Crew.	Capt. F/Lt. R. J. McClellan	Sgt. D. Bates
	F/O G. W. Jackson	W.O. J. J. Smith
	Nav. P/O. M. Needon	W.O. G. W. White
	Sgt. W. Tampion	

Passengers. Cpl. Lord
 AC. Ballentine
 AC. Ashdown.

Airborne at Yudun West Africa June 4th in transit to Takoradi carrying 1000 lbs of mail and spares. This was the last crew of the Squadron personnel to leave Yundum, one aircraft remaining for a ferry crew to bring to India.

June 5th. Transit Takoradi to Maiduguri.

June 6th. Transit Maiduguri to Khartoun.

June 7th. Transit Khartoun to Cairo West.
 No. 2 engine became unserviceable during this trip, and a 3 engine landing was made at Cairo West. Aircraft was put unserviceable to have No. 2 engine repaired (filters cleared) No. 1 Booster pump replaced and a new auxiliary power unit installed.

June 12-13th. Proceeded in transit during the evening of June 12th from Cairo West to Karachi direct. Weather conditions made Shaibah and Habbaniya unsuitable for landing. On arrival at Karachi the aircraft was taken over by Command reserve and the crew and passengers proceeded by air to St. Thomas Mount, arriving June 17th.

July 1944: Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
Siguriya	1.7.44		Two Operation Sorties
			Liberator Mk. V. M/200, BZ828, Capt. F/L. Cherrington.
		010001Z	Airborne at Siguriya on anti submarine patrol.
		011100Z	Landed Siguriya. No enemy sightings or contacts.
			Liberator Mk.V. H/200, BZ868, Capt. F/O. Lamb.
		010015Z	Airborne at Siguriya on anti submarine patrol. No enemy sightings or contacts.
		011102Z	Landed Siguriya.
St. Thomas Mt.	2.7.44		Two non-operational flights.
			Liberator Mk.V. J/200, BZ825, Capt. P/O. Henderson. F/O. Cook's crew were flown to Bidar to ferry ex 200 Squadron aircraft (BZ867 ¹⁶) now allocated to Arkonar. Both crews flew from Arkonar to Base in J/200.
			Liberator Mk.VI. S/200, EV832, Capt. P/O. Griffin. Airborne on radar demonstration.
	3.7.44		One non-operational flight.
			Liberator Mk.V. C/200, BZ831, Capt. F/L. Wescombe. Air test carried out.
			One operational sortie.
		032203Z	Liberator Mk.VI. S/200, EV832, Capt. P/O. Smith, airborne St. Thomas Mt. at 032203Z to escort GUJC54A.
		040913Z	Landed. No enemy sightings or contacts.
	4.7.44		Four non-operational flights.
			Liberator Mk.VI. T/200, BZ994, Capt. P/O. Hickman. Airborne en route for Armada Road. Captain decided to land immediately due to defective engine.
			Liberator Mk.VI. D ¹⁷ /200, EV818, Capt. P/O. Cook airborne for Armada Road. Crew detached for Fighter Affiliation Course.
			Liberator Mk.V. J/200, BZ825, Capt. F/O. Banner. Airborne for Cawnpore where major inspection will be carried out.
			Liberator Mk.VI. T/200. BZ994. Capt. P/O. Hickman. Airborne for Armada Road. Crew detached for Fighter Affiliation Course.
			One operational sortie.
		040721Z	Liberator Mk.V. C/200. BZ831. Capt. F/O. Hobbs. Airborne at St. Thomas Mt at 040721Z to relieve S/200 on C/u escort JC54A.
		041936Z	Landed at St. Thomas Mt. No enemy sightings or Radar contacts.
	5.7.44		Three non-operational flights.
			Liberator Mk.V. N/200 BZ884. Capt. P/O. Seabrook airborne for Cawnpore where major inspection will be carried out.
			Liberator Mk.V. L/200. BZ826. Capt. F/O Kelly airborne for air test.
			Liberator Mk.V. C/200. BZ831. Capt. F/O. Henderson airborne for air test.
Siguriya	6.7.44		Anti Submarine Patrol
		061155Z	Liberator M/200. Capt. F/L. Cherrington. Airborne at Siguriya on an anti submarine patrol at night. Radar used throughout but no enemy contacts or sightings. Returned to Siguriya and landed at 072205Z
Armada Road	6.7.44		One Training Flight.
			Liberator Mk.VI. P/200. Capt. P/O. Hickman airborne at Armada Road on first Fighter Affiliation Flight. The cine camera guns were found to be unserviceable and 200 Squadron aircraft discontinued further training until camera guns had been

¹⁶ This was coded "G" while on the Squadron.

¹⁷ The record shows "D" as the code, but other entries show EV818 was coded "P".

			correctly installed.
			One non-operational Flight
			Liberator Mk.VI. P/200 Capt. P/O. Cook was airborne to carry out an air compass swing.
St. Thomas Mt.	6.7.44		The commanding Officer, Wing Commander J. B. F. Thomas left by air from St. Thomas Mount to Ceylon on temporary duty. Squadron Leader J. A. R Reid assumed command of the Squadron in the absence of Wing Commander Thomas.
Armada Road	7.7.44		Liberator Mk.VI. T/200. Capt. P/O. Hickman, and Liberator Mk.V. P/200 Capt. P/O. Cook were airborne at Armada Road in transit to St. Thomas Mt. to have cine camera guns serviced preparatory to continuing Fighter Affiliation Course.
Siguriya	8.7.44		Anti Submarine Sweep.
			Liberator M/200 Capt. F/L. Cherrington airborne from Siguriya to carry out an anti submarine sweep. Radar used throughout. No enemy contacts or sightings. Returned to Siguriya and landed 090308Z.
St. Thomas Mt.	8.7.44		F/O. Hobbs and crew were airborne in Liberator Mk. V. L/200 on a bombing and gunnery training flight. Expended 1150 rounds .5 ammunition.
			Wing Commander Thomas returned from temporary duty in Ceylon, and assumed command of the Squadron.
	9.7.44		Liberator Mk.V. C/200 Capt. F/O. Waltman airborne on a training gunnery exercise. Fired 800 rounds .5 ammunition.
Siguriya			Anti Submarine Sweep
		101155Z	Liberator H/200 Capt. F/O. Lamb airborne at Siguriya on a night anti submarine patrol south of Ceylon. There was no enemy sightings. Weather was poor. Visibility approximately 8 miles. Landed at Siguriya at 110100Z.
St. Thomas Mt.	10.7.44		The squadron participated in a training programme with a submarine of the Royal Netherlands Navy based temporarily at Madras. The following affiliation exercises took place.
			Liberator Mk.V. C/200, Capt. F/L. Wescombe carried out night flare attacks on the submarine. Contact was made by Radar, flares dropped and attack carried out by means of this illumination.
			Liberator Mk.V. L/200 Capt F/O. Henderson
			Liberator Mk.V. C/200 Capt. F/O. Hobbs
			Liberator Mk.V. L/200 Capt. F/L Jamieson
			Liberator Mk.V. C/200 Capt. P/O Waltman
			These four exercises were carried out during hours of daylight. Contact was originally obtained by Radar in each case, and attacks carried out with submarine on the surface, at conning tower and periscope depth, and while evasive action was being taken.
	10.7.44		Liberator Mk.VI P/200 Capt. P/O. Cook. Liberator Mk.VI. T/200 Capt. P/O. Hickman carried out fighter affiliation exercises with Hurricanes of 123 Squadron based at St. Thomas Mount.
St. Thomas Mt.	11.7.44		Liberator Mk.VI. S/200, Capt. F/O. Hobbs airborne on a gunnery exercise. Fired 1000 rounds of .5 and 800 rounds of .303 ammunition.
			Liberator Mk.VI. T/200 Capt. P/O. Hickman. Liberator Mk.VI. P/200 Capt. P/O. Cook. Carried out fighter affiliation exercises with 123 Squadron Hurricanes to test operation of cine camera installation.
St. Thomas Mt.	12.7.44		Squadron aircraft again carried out exercises with the Dutch submarine based at Madras. A night flare attack was carried out by F/O Waltman in Liberator Mk.VI. S/200 after establishing contact by Radar.
			Liberator L/200. Capt. F/O. Hobbs.
			Liberator S/200. Capt. F/L. Wescombe.
			Liberator L/200 Capt. P/O. Kelly.
			Carried out daylight attacks while submarine took evasive action, and cruised at full buoyancy, at conning tower and periscope depth.
St. Thomas	12.7.44		Liberator Mk.VI P/200 Capt. P/O. Cook. Liberator Mk.VI. T/200 Capt. P/O.

Mt.			Hickman. Airborne in transit to Armada Road to continue fighter affiliation course, after installation of cine camera guns.
Siguriya	13.7.44	131607Z	Anti submarine sweep. Liberator H/200 Capt. F/O. Lamb airborne at Siguriya to carry out an anti submarine sweep by night. No enemy contacts. Landed at Siguriya at 140642Z.
		131608Z	Liberator M/200 Capt. F/L. Cherrington airborne to carry out a night anti submarine sweep. No enemy contacts. Returned to Siguriya and landed at 140342Z.
St. Thomas Mt.	13.7.44		Liberator Mk.VI. S/200 Capt. F/O. Seabrook airborne in a gunnery exercise. Fired 1200 rds .5 and 1150 rds of .303 ammunition.
			Liberator Mk.VI. V/200. Capt. F/O. Waltman airborne for flight air test.
			The squadron Aircrew were addressed by the Commander of the submarine with which affiliation exercises had been carried out. Comments of the attacks were made, tactics discussed and questions answered on submarine equipment and performance. The discussion was valuable in the information it yielded to crews engaged on anti submarine warfare.
St. Thomas Mt.	14.7.44		Liberator Mk.VI. V/200 Capt. F/O. Kelly airborne in transit to Yellahenka on temporary duty to 225 Group Headquarters.
			Liberator Mk.V. L/200 Capt. F/O. Banner airborne on bombing and gunnery exercise. Dropped 8 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs and fired 800 rds .5 ammunition.
			The Squadron received a new aircraft. Liberator Mk.VI. KG849 from Command Reserve to replace one aircraft J/200 despatched earlier in the month to Cawnpore for a major inspection. The aircraft was a newer mark than any on the Squadron, with electric supercharger and twin .5 nose and tail turrets of a new design put out by Motors Products.
St. Thomas Mt.	15.7.44		Liberator Mk.V. L/200 Capt. P/O Henderson airborne on a bombing and gunnery exercise. Dropped 8 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs and fired 5000 rds. .5 ammunition.
			A second new aircraft was received today to replace Liberator Mk.VI. EV321. Is a similar mark to the one received on 14.7.44, with new nose and tail turrets and electronic superchargers. The arrival of this aircraft brought our strength back up to normal establishment of 12 Liberators.
St. Thomas Mt.	16.7.44		F/O. K. R. Holmes No. 153343, Pilot, RAFVR, arrived on the Unit from U.K. as a replacement aircrew for operational duties.
			Two training flights were carried out.
			Liberator Mk.V. L/200 Capt. P/O Seabrook was airborne on a bombing and gunnery exercise. Dropped 8 x 11 ½ lb smoke bombs and fired 500 rds .5 and 800 rds. .303 ammunition.
			Liberator Mk.VI S/200 Capt. F/O. Hobbs airborne on a practice bombing and gunnery flight. Dropped 3 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs and fired 550 rds .5 and 800 rds .303 ammunition.
			Authority was received for various Officers and airmen of the squadron to wear the ribbon of the 1939-43 Star. A list of those entitled to wear the ribbon is attached as appendix 7 to this record.
			Four crews of No. 354 Squadron arrived on detachment to St. Thomas Mt to participate in a submarine hunt to exhaustion. They were billeted around No. 200 Squadron Domestic Camp and ate in our messes. Due to limited accommodation available billeting was extremely difficult and very temporary.
St. Thomas Mt.	17.7.44		Three operational sorties. Hunt to Exhaustion.
		170047Z	Liberator Mk.V. C/200 BZ831. Capt. F/O. Waltman airborne at St. Thomas Mount to proceed to the west coast of India to join in a hunt to exhaustion for a U-boat. Patrol was carried out without contact and aircraft returned to base at St. Thomas Mount. Landed at 171127Z.
		170150Z	Liberator Mk.V. L/200. Capt. F/O. Kelly airborne at St. Thomas Mount on U-boat hunt to exhaustion. No contact made with the enemy. Returned to base and landed at 171149Z.

		17100Z	Liberator Mk.VI. S/200 Capt. F/O. MacKeen airborne at St. Thomas Mount on U-boat hunt to exhaustion. Proceeded to patrol area and carried out search but no enemy contacts obtained. Returned to base and landed at 172015Z.
			Weather was bad in patrol area, 10/10 cloud down to 1000 ft with local monsoon storms. Sea visibility in daylight 8 – 10 miles decreasing as night approached.
			Two non-operational flights.
			Liberator Mk.VI. EV827 was received from Command Reserve as a Squadron reserve aircraft, bring squadron strength to one aircraft above establishment. This aircraft was the original R/200 Liberator ferried out from Africa by Squadron personnel.
St. Thomas Mt.	18.7.44		Four operational sorties. Hunt to Exhaustion.
		171515Z	Liberator Mk.V. C/200 BZ831 Capt. F/Lt. Wescombe airborne at ST. Thomas Mount to carry out search for reported U-Boat begun previous day. Proceeded to patrol area and carried out a search for 5 ½ hours. No contact with enemy or sighting obtained. Returned to base and landed at 180057Z.
		171820Z	Liberator Mk.V. L/200 BZ836. Capt. P/O. Henderson airborne to carry out search for reported U-Boat. Proceeded to patrol area of West Coast of India and carried out search for 4 ½ hours and made no contact with enemy Landed at base 180425Z.
		180405Z	Liberator N/354. Capt. F/O. Hobbs and crew of 200 Sqdn airborne to carry out U-Boat hunt. Proceeded to patrol area and commenced search. Recalled after 2 ½ hours due to bad weather in the patrol area. Landed at base 181250Z.
		180442Z	Liberator U/354 Capt. P/O. Lomas and crew of 200 Sqdn airborne on U-Boat search. Proceeded to patrol area and carried out a search for 4 hours in bad weather. Failed to make contact with submarine. Landed at base 181430Z.
			One Non-operational Flight.
			Liberator Mk.VI. N/200 Capt. W/C. Thomas airborne to carry out air acceptance test of this new aircraft in preparation for operational employment.
St. Thomas Mt.	19.7.44		F/O. H. N. Bosomworth, Can C.14357 attached temporary to receive instruction on airborne radar equipment.
St. Thomas Mt.	20.7.44		Shipping Sweep.
		200703Z	Liberator Mk.VI. V/200 Capt. F/O. Hobbs airborne in transit Siguriya on detachment to relieve F/O. Lamb and Crew. F/O. Banner accompanied to bring back Liberator H/200 with F/O. Lamb's crew, the latter having been hospitalized in Ceylon. A shipping sweep was done en rout with no enemy sightings.
			Liberator Mk.VI R/200 Capt. W/C Thomas proceed in transit to Cholavarum and return.
Siguriya	21.7.44		Shipping Sweep.
		210242Z	Liberator Mk.V. H?/200 Capt. F/O. Banner, airborne at Siguriya, Ceylon, in transit to St. Thomas Mount, ordered to do a shipping sweep en route.
		210514Z	Liberator landed at St. Thomas Mount with no enemy contacts or shipping to report. The undercarriage would not retract so radar was not used to avoid further drag.
St. Thomas Mt.			Liberator Mk.VI. R/200 Capt. F/L. Jamieson was airborne at St. Thomas Mount to carry out a fighter affiliation exercise with 123 Squadron Hurricanes and dummy bombing attack on Madras harbour while fighter intercepted.
St. Thomas Mt.	22.7.44		One training flight carried out. Liberator Mk.VI. R/200 F/L. McLellan airborne in a bombing exercise. Dropped aluminium sea markers and bombed them with 8 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs.
St. Thomas Mt.	23.7.44		Liberator Mk.VI S/200 Capt. F/O. Seabrook carried out an air test and local flying.
			Liberator Mk.V. N/200 Capt. F/O. Henderson airborne to do a bombing and gunnery exercise. Dropped two aluminium sea markers and bombed them with 8 x 11 1/s lb. smoke bombs. Fired 40 rds. .5 ammunition.
			Liberator Mk.VI S/200 Capt. F/L. Jamieson did local night circuit and landings with

			captains of the two new crews. – F/O. Banner and F/O. Seabrook, to check these out as night qualified for operational trips.
			P/O. J. P. McMurphy arrived on attachment from 225 Group to instruct on latest radio altimeter equipment.
St. Thomas Mt.	24.7.44		Liberator Mk.V. N/200 Capt. P/O. Griffin airborne in transit to Armada Road to bring back ground crews from our detachment upon the completion of a fighter affiliation course by F/O. Hickman and P/O. Cook.
			Liberator Mk.VI. R/200 Capt. F/O. McKeen carried out a bombing exercise with 6 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs dropped on target towed by a naval launch.
			Liberator Mk.VI. R/200 Capt. P/O. W. J. Smith carried out a bombing exercise with 6 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs dropped on target towed by a naval launch.
St. Thomas Mt.	25.7.44		Non Operational Flights only.
			Liberator Mk.V. H/200 Capt. F/Lt. Jamieson airborne to carry out an air test.
			Liberator Mk.VI. S/200 Capt. F/O. Waltman carried out a bombing exercise, low level, on Guindy Range, dropping 7 x 11 ½ lb. practice bombs.
			Liberator Mk.VI. S/200 Capt. F/Lt. McLellan airborne to do practice low level bombing. Dropped 7 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs.
			Liberator Mk.VI. O/200 Capt. F/O. MacKeen airborne to do an air test.
			Liberator Mk.VI. P/200 Capt. P/O. Cook airborne at Armada Road in transit to St. Thomas Mount on completion of the detachment to attend a fighter affiliation course.
St. Thomas Mt.	26.7.44		The Squadron Commander, Wing Commander J. B. P. Thomas proceeded by air to 225 Group Headquarters, Bangalore, on temporary duty, to preside at a Court Martial. Squadron Leader J. R. Reid assumed command of the Squadron in his absence.
			Shipping Sweep
		260335Z	Liberator Mk.V. H/200 Capt. F/L. McLellan airborne in transit to Squadron detachment at Siguriya, and order to do a shipping sweep en route. No sightings or enemy contacts. 260625Z landed at Siguriya
			Return of Detachment
			Liberator T/200 Capt. P/O. Hickman returned from Armada Road where the aircraft and crew had been detached on a fighter affiliation course.
			Liberator N/200 Capt. P/O. Griffin returned from Armada Road where he had proceeded to collect ground servicing crews of the Squadron on temporary detachment during the fighter affiliation course.
			Training
			Liberator S/200 Capt. F/O. Banner airborne on practice low level bombing on Guindy Range. Dropped 8 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs.
			Liberator S/200 Capt. F/O. Seabrook airborne on practice low level bombing on Guindy Range. Dropped 8 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs.
			Liberator C/200 Capt. P/O. Cook airborne to carry out a flight serviceability test.
St. Thomas Mt.	27.7.44		Training Flights.
			Liberator L/200 Capt. F/L. Mills airborne to participate in mock raid on Madras Harbour defences and fighter affiliation with intercepting Hurricanes of 123 Squadron.
			Liberator L/200 Capt. F/O. McKeen did vertical photograph of the aerodrome and vicinity from 3500 ft.
			P/O. J. P. McMurphy ceased to be attached to 200 Squadron and proceeded by air to Cuttack.
St. Thomas Mt.	28.7.44		Training Flights.
			Liberator N/200 Capt. P/O. Henderson airborne to carry out a photographic exercise.
			Liberator T/200 Capt. F/L. Wescombe participated in a fighter affiliation exercise with Hurricanes of 123 Squadron.
			P/O. C. Coleman, No. 153377 A.A.S.D. (Intel) RAFVR posted from 172 Wing to

			assume the duties of Squadron Intelligence Officer.
			F/O. R. C. Wescombe was promoted to the War Substantive rank of F/Lt. effective 24.10.43.
			P/O. L. C. R. Pryce NZ422088 GD. RNZAF promoted to rank of F/O effective 28.11.43.
			Convoy Escort.
		272307Z	Liberator S/200 Capt. F/O. Banner airborne to carry out an air escort to convoy JC58. Escort provided for 8.30 hours. No enemy contacts. Radar used throughout.
		280905Z	Landed St. Thomas Mount.
			Convoy Escort.
		280721Z	Liberator C/200 Capt. F/L. Mills airborne to relieve S/200 as escort to JC58. Convoy met and patrol Cobra carried out. No enemy sightings or contacts.
		281443Z	Landed at Base.
Siguriya	28.7.44		Shipping Sweep.
			Liberator V/200 Capt. F/L. Cherrington returned from detachment in Ceylon ordered to carry out a shipping sweep en route.
		290245Z	Airborne Siguriya and commenced patrol from Point Pedro Ceylon. No sightings or enemy contacts. Radar was u/s and sweep done visual only.
St. Thomas Mt.		290458Z	Landed St. Thomas Mount.
			Training
			Liberator T/200 Capt. F/L. Jamieson carried out fighter affiliation training with Hurricanes of 123 Squadron.
St. Thomas Mt.	29.7.44		Training (Continued)
			Liberator T/200 Capt. F/O. Seabrook airborne on a transit trip to Yallahanka but landed immediately when No. 4 engine had a runaway airscrew, necessitating feathering and aircraft landing was completed on three engines.
			Liberator V/200 Capt. F/O. Seabrook airborne on a transit trip to Yallahanka and return, collecting W/C. Thomas, detached on temporary duty to 225 Group Headquarters.
St. Thomas Mt.	30.7.44		Training
			Liberator S/200 Capt. P/O. Hickman carried out a bombing and gunnery exercise. Fired 750 rounds .5 and 600 rds. .303 ammunition and dropped 8 x 11 ½ lb. smoke bombs.
			Liberator T/200 Capt. P/O. Smith carried out a gunnery affiliation exercise with local aircraft defence posts.
			Liberator T/200 Capt. P/O. Griffin airborne on an air serviceability test.
St. Thomas Mt.	31.7.44		Transit Flights.
			Liberator V/200 Capt. F/L. Jamieson airborne in transit to Yallahanka and return returning W/C. Thomas detached on temporary duty to 225 Group Headquarters.
			Training.
			Liberator S/200 Capt. F/O. Banner carried out a bombing and gunnery exercise.
			Liberator X/200 Capt. F/O. Waltman airborne to carry out an affiliation exercise with air sea rescue units at Madras. Liberator dropped a dinghy and homed A.S.R. launches to the position to effect a rescue.
			During the month word was received of a posting to the Squadron of six crews to relieve tour expired personnel. Due to the extreme shortage of domestic accommodations on the camp, 225 Group was requested to delay the arrival of the new crews until the tour expired personnel had left. Six crews have been nominated for repatriation to U.K. at the request of Air Command S.E.A. but since their posting has not yet been effected, the new crews have not arrived.
			A large shipment of Squadron stores was received from West Africa during the later

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200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks
Liberator Mk.VI. S/200 EV832	P/O. W. J. Smith, Capt. Can.J.85393	Convoy Escort	032203Z	040913Z	Convoy Escort Airborne St. Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC.54.A. at 032350Z in position 1008N 8835E. Met one M/U north bound at 040002Z. Met JC54A in position 0950N 8106E. Composition 5 M.Us, 4 E.Vs Course 320/11. Recognition procedure carried out and R.T. tested. Aircraft ordered by S.O.E. to carry out Cobra Patrol 20.045°ZZ. At 040630Z met 2 E/Vs south bound in position 1020N 8040E speed 10 knots. At 040817Z left JC53A in position 1115N 8115E. Composition same course 360/11. At 040913Z landed at St. Thomas Mount. Cockrell and radar used throughout. S.O.E. queried whether cockrell was crowing aircraft replied "My cockrell is crowing" Bomb load 8 x 250 Mk. XI. Torp D.C.s. Weather, low cloud, visibility fair, wind velocity 310/15. Sea calm.
	P/O. A. D. Dixon, Nav. Aus. A421185				
	P/O. G. C. Henderson Aus. A409917				
	P/O. W. A. Nichols Can. J. 85994				
	F/O. B. D. Dalton Can. J.85894				
	P/O. G. N. Rice Can. J. 83696				
	F/S. A. W. Parkhill Can. R.99785				
Sgt. D. H. Mitchell					
Liberator Mk.V. C/200 BZ831	F/O. R. A. Hobbs, Capt. 144783	Convoy Escort	040721Z	1926	Convoy Escort. Airborne St Thomas Mount to escort convoy JC.54A to relieve S/200. At 040804Z in position 1/49N 8031E. Unidentified M/U sighted course 000/10. aircraft flashed O.E and received G from M/U at 040817Z radar contact on convoy. At 040822Z in position 1132N 8011E. Sighted JC54A (also Liberator S/200) consisting of 5 M/Vs and 4 E/Vs North bound. 11 knots. Recognition procedure carried out and R/T tested. Patrol Cobra 20-090°XZ.10 ordered by S.O.E. at 041305Z. S.O.E. orders Cobra 10 at 041313Z. Balance of escort carried out in heavy ran in position 1310N 8046E. Same composition course and speed. Cockrell and radar used throughout. Landed St. Thomas Mt. 041926Z. Bomb Load 8 x 250 lb. Mk. XI Torps D.C.s. Weather deteriorated. Scattered Cu. Base 3000 ft. visibility 20-25 except in showers. Light wind.
	F/O. J. W. Lakin Nav. 153615				
	P/O. H. J. Markley				
	Sgt. C. K. Ewers 1601462				
	Sgt. J. Roantree 1084648				
	Sgt. W. Lockhart 1118510				
	Sgt. E. W. Spiller 1198758				
Sgt. B. L. Harvey 1329640					
Liberator Mk.V. C/200 BZ831	F/O. A. D. Waltman Can. J.21200	Submarine Hunt	170047Z	171127Z	Submarine Hunt. Airborne at St. Thomas Mount to participate in a submarine hunt to exhaustion. Set course from Base to
	F/O. K. Montgomery 13947				

	Sgt. P. H. Blake 1158337				Mangalore on West coast of India, climbing to 8000 ft. over mountain. Pin pointed H?angalore at 170415Z and proceeded to patrol area. At 170433Z sighted a Catalina on the water in position 1228N 2432E. At 170444Z sighted a tanker of 6000 tons on a course 120° 9 knots in position 1155N 2447Z. Sighted a patrolling sloop at 170522Z. Radar contact at 170704Z in position 1324N 2412E which proved to be a 4000 ton tanker. Course and speed 170/10 knots. Two vessels, 3000 ton tanker and a 3000 ton M/V subsequently sighted in the patrol area. At 170830Z left patrol and set course for M?angalore en route to base. The area searched was as follows:- Search 5 No.3 for one hour in area bounded by 1217N 7409E, 1212N 7359E, 1320N 7332E, 1322N 7342E. after one hour this was followed by remainder of patrol covering area 1202N 7402E, 1158N 7354E, 1326N 7318E, 1330N7328E. There were no unidentified radar contacts and no enemy sightings. Bomb load 8 x 250 lb. Mk. XI. Torpex D.Cs. Radar used throughout patrol.
	Sgt. L. A. Edwards A426068				
	Sgt. R. Ratcliffe 1802391				
	W.O. H. E. Black Can.R151153				
	F/S. H. W. Parkhill Can.R.99786				
	P/O. M. F. J. Olinger Can.J.85661				
Liberator Mk.V. L/200 BZ826	F/O. R. C. Kelly Capt. 128368	Submarine Hunt	170150Z	171149Z	Submarine Hunt. Airborne St. Thomas Mount to participate in U/Boat Hunt to exhaustion. Proceeded from Base to West Coast of India and at 170442Z pin pointed position over Calicut (1115N 7546E). Proceeded from Calicut to position 1255N 7350E and commenced a patrol at 170559Z, covering area enclosed by positions 1259N 7350E, 1258N 7940E, 1218N 7419E, 1215N 7410E. At 170601Z sighted and was challenged by a sloop on a zigzag course in position 1245N 7348E. Aircraft flashed identification letter and fired cartridges of the period. A tanker was sighted in position 1253N 7407E at 170624Z. There were no further sightings or radar contacts and aircraft left patrol at 170928Z and set course for base. Bomb load carried 8 x 250 lb. Mk. XI Torpex D.C.s.
	F/S. R. Wingate 1388962				
F/S. E. George A428793					
F/O. R. L. McLaughlin A420255					
P/O. J. L. A. Cote J85599					
Sgt. I. M. Jones Can.R.126408					
W.O. G. Berry Can. R119286					
Sgt. L. A. Edwards ¹⁸ A.426068					
Liberator Mk.VI. S/200 EV832	F/O. C. D. MacKeen Capt. Can.J.23216	Submarine Search	171000Z	172015Z	
	P/O. W. Hayes A.410055				
	P/O. J. W. Saunders Nav. Can.J.22238				
	F/S. J. Defir R.171819				

¹⁸ Edwards is also shown as being on Waltman's crew – airborne at the same time.

	Sgt. F. W. Davidson A.425430				171436Z in position 1240N 7350E, which proved to be two patrol vessels on a zigzag course. Patrol was resumed, with no further radar contacts. Left patrol at 171716Z in position 1202N 7352E and set course for base. Weather was poor in the patrol area, with 10/10 cloud at 800 to 1200 ft. and numerous heavy showers. On return to base it was necessary to climb to 12500 ft to cross the mountains and get above the monsoon thunder showers. Bomb Load 8 x 250 lb. Mk. XI. Torlpex D.C.s.
	Sgt. C. E. Sillence 1439057				
	Sgt. P. Jordan 1604261				
	P.O. D. R. Mossman NZ414333				
Liberator Mk.V. C/200 BZ831	F/Lt. R. C. Wescombe Capt. 111104	Submarine Search	171515Z	180057Z	Submarine Search. Airborne St. Thomas Mount to carry out a search for an enemy submarine. Proceeded from base to patrol area, and commenced patrol at 171827Z in position 1232N 7308E. At 171909Z homed on radar contact in position 1230N 7310E, a flare was dropped, but no sighting was made. Resumed patrol at 171930Z. Second contact was made on radar at 172038Z and aircraft homed in position 1225N 7311E. Two flares were dropped, but nothing seen. Resumed patrol at 172045Z. Left patrol at 1722?14Z in position 1235N 7256E and set course for Base, landing at 180057Z. There was 7/10 cloud at 1000 to 1500 ft. with scattered showers. Bomb load 8 x 250 lb. Mk. XI Torpex D.C.s.
	F/S. D. Hunt 1236454				
	Sgt. R. S. Angell 958942				
	W.O. H. W. Benstead Can.R.92954				
	W.O. W. S. Esdon R111176				
	Sgt. V. Elwick 1023260				
	Sgt. J. Pirie 5?73710				
Liberator Mk.V. L/200 BZ826	P/O. G. C. Henderson Capt. A409917	Submarine Search	1718120 Z ¹⁹	180425Z	
	P/O. W. J. Smith J85393				
	P/O W. A. Nichols J85944				
	P/O. B. D. Dalton J85894				
	Sgt. D. W. Mitchell 1639813				
	Sgt. T. M. Cammock NZ422686				
	P/O. D. M. Rice J.85596				
Liberator Mk.VI N/354	F/O. R. A. Hobbs Capt. 144783	Submarine Search	180405Z	181250Z	
					P/O. J. W. Lakin Nav. 153615
	F/O. J. Merkley 153110				

¹⁹ 1718120 is obvious an error in the original record.

	Sgt. E. Spiller 1198738				7331E a radar contact was made which proved to be a patrolling sloop. Recognition procedure was carried out. Commenced patrol in position 1258N 7331E at 180740Z. A message from base was received at 180753Z "Return not later than 181330Z" Left patrol in position 1226N 7321E at 181022Z and set course for Mangalore, ant hen on to base, landing at 181250Z. Weather in the patrol area was deteriorating with 8/10 low cloud at 1000 ft. and numerous thunderstorms. No contact made with enemy submarine or suspicious contacts during the patrol. Flour aircraft of 354 Squadron were at St. Thomas Mt. and two were used by crews of 200 Squadron during the search, while maintenance was being carried out on our own aircraft.	
	Sgt. C. Ewers 1601482					
	Sgt. A. Roantree 1084048					
	Sgt. D. J. Claircourt 1216127					
	Sgt. J. Taylor 1581569					
Liberator Mk.VI. U/354	P/O. R. J. Lomas Capt. Can.J.19093	Submarine Search	180442Z	181430Z ²⁰	Submarine Search. U/354 airborne at St. Thomas Mt. with a 200 Squadron crew to continue to search for an enemy submarine. Proceeded from Base to Mangalore on the west coast. A message was received form Base en route "Return to Base before 183030Z" ²¹ . At 1807452Z{sic} pinpointed position at Mangalore and proceeded to position 1240N 7336E where patrol was commenced at 180807Z. At 180912Z homed on a radar contact in position 1253N 7342E, which proved to be a sloop proceeding south at 10 knots. Recognition procedure was carried out. There were several radar contacts during the remainder of the patrol, all of which proved to be storm cloud contacts when the distance was reduced. Left patrol area at 181153Z in position 1245N 7335E and set course for base, landing at 181430Z. Weather steadily deteriorated in patrol area with 8/10 low cloud, Cu, C6 and stratus at 1000 ft. Frequent thunderstorms with visibility falling to 500 yards.	
	F/O. J. Coulson 151439					
F/O. J. P. M. Roderique Nav. Can.J.13980						
W.O. N. E. Black R151153						
W.O. H. T. Hoobin R104978						
Sgt. K. G. Rose 1600417						
Sgt. P. J. Martin 1702069						
W.O. C. A. Hutchinson Can.R.141371						
						The hunt was abandoned after this trip, so far as 200 Squadron was concerned at any rate, due to bad weather in the area. No further contact had been obtained with the enemy submarine during the two days of search.
Liberator Mk.V. H/200	F/O. G. Banner Capt. 126162	Shipping Sweep	Siguriya	St. Thomas Mt.		Shipping Sweep. Airborne at Siguriya, Ceylon, in transit to St. Thomas Mount and ordered to carry out

²⁰ Record says 161430Z, this has been corrected to 181430Z.

²¹ Record say 183030Z, but this probably should be 181330Z; see previous sortie.

BZ868	P/O. P. S. Turner Can.J.27449		210242Z	210514Z	a shipping sweep en route. The undercarriage could not be retracted after take off, and as a result, to prevent further drag, the radar spinner was not lowered. Consequently a visual sweep only could be carried out. Nothing was seen during the trip. Sky was 10/10 overcast during trip with slight rain, visibility fair. Landed at St. Thomas Mt. at 210514Z. Nothing to report. Bomb load carried 4 x 250 lb. MK.XI. Torpex D.C.s.
	F/O. C. Harbor				
	F/S. J. C. Sorenson NZ422730				
	F/S. C. D. Suddaby NZ422732				
	Sgt. H. Beresford 1622873				
	Sgt. C. W. L. Jenkinson 1314763				
Liberator Mk.VI. S/200 EV832	F/O. G. Banner Capt. 126162	Convoy Escort	272307Z	280905Z	Convoy Escort. Airborne St. Thomas Mt. to escort convoy JC58, crossed coast and set course for convoy position. At 272355Z a merchant ship was contacted in position 1202N 8047E, course north at 12 knots. M/V did not reply to challenge. Convoy met at 280003Z in position 1146N 1847E{sic}. Composition 11 M/Vs, 2 E/Vs course and speed 348/8 knots. Aircraft called on R/T at 10 miles range, to carry out recognition procedure, but no reply received. Recognition then carried out by V/S and patrol commenced around convoy. Contact were made by Radar on 5 independent ships and photographs taken. There were no enemy sightings or contacts. Convoy was left at 280830Z in position 1300N 8032E, upon being relieved by C/200. Returned to base and landed. Weather was good, visibility 10 miles. Sea calm. Radar used throughout. Bomb Load carried 8 x 250 lb. Mk. XI. Torpex D.C.s.
	P/O. J. H. Broomhead Nav. 154192				
	F/O. A. R. Digby- Ovens 153508				
	Sgt. J. Griffiths 1432534				
	Sgt J. Taylor 1581569				
	Sgt. J. Smith 1533685				
	Sgt. D. J. Claircourt 1216127				
Liberator Mk.V. C/200 BZ831	F/L. A. C. Mills Capt 74722	Convoy Escort	280731Z	281443Z	Convoy Escort. Airborne at St. Thomas Mt. to relieve S/200 as escort to convoy JC58. At 280748Z in position 1308N 8027E, sighted 5 M/Vs southbound to join convoy. Convoy met at 280827Z in position 1242N 8032E, composition 11 M/Vs, 2 E/Vs, course 010/5 knots. Recognition cartridge fired and S.O.E. called immediately on R/T. Cobra 15 patrol was begun. The five M/Vs referred to above joined convoy at 281000Z. Patrol continued until 281338Z when convoy was left at last light in position 1320N 8043E. Returned to Base and landed. Radar and IFF used throughout. No enemy sightings or contacts. Weather was good, visibility 15 miles. Bomb load carried 8 x 250 lb Mk. XI D.C.s.
	Sgt. D. J. Dreach Nav. 1892663				
	F/O. H. Swift 131453				
	Sgt. G. J. Knott				
	Sgt. R. Shepherd 1387311				
	F/S. C. E. Sillence 1439057				
	Sgt. K. Rose 1600417				
	Sgt. R. A. Brown				
Liberator Mk.VI. V/200	F/L. G. H. Cherrington 43831	Shipping Sweep	Siguriya	St. Thomas Mount	Shipping Sweep. Airborne at Siguriya in transit to St. Thomas Mount, and ordered to carry out a

EV831	P/O. L. S. Jarratt Nav. Aus.A410987		290245Z	290458Z	shipping sweep en route. Set course for Point Pedro at 190250Z. IFF on but radar equipment was unserviceable. Consequently only a visual sweep was possible. Patrol commenced at 290331Z in position 9949N 8016E. No Sightings were made during the trip. Left patrol at 290449Z in position 1300N 8016E, and set course for St. Thomas Mt. landing at 290458Z. Weather was fine, visibility 20 miles. No cloud. Carried 4 x 250 lb. Mk.XI D.C.s.
	F/O. R. J. Cole 152267				
	P/O. D. W. Hyde A423128				
	P/O. N. G. Green A423102				
	P/O. C. E. Weinberg NZ421304				
	Sgt. K. Harper 1573603				
	Sgt. W. Dobson-Ketley 1685942				
200 Squadron Detachment, Siguriya, Ceylon.					
Liberator Mk.V. M/200 BZ828	F/L. G. Cherrington Capt. 43831	Anti- Submarine Patrol	010001Z	011100Z	Anti Submarine Patrol. Airborne Siguriya to carry out an anti submarine patrol Tract 231 Cockrell and Radar on. At 010038Z crossed coast ht. 1100 ft and commenced patrol. At 010106Z in position 0615N 7925E saw force bearing 090/12 miles on course 160/15 knots. Homed on two radar contact which were found to be cloud returns. At 010938Z position 0940N 7953E saw force previously mentioned bearing 090/15 miles course 090 speed unknown. At 01124Z off patrol and passed over Negambo at 1500 ft. Radar and Cockrell off 011100Z. Landed Siguriya. No enemy sightings nor contacts throughout patrol. Bomb Load 6 x 266 lb. D.C.s. Torpex Mk.XI 25 ft. settings. Weather hazy at 2000 ft, cloud 5/10 cu at 10000 ft. visibility 6 miles.
		F/O. R. Cole 152267			
	P/O. L. Jarratt Nav. A.410987				
	P/O. N. G. Green A423102				
	P.O. D. W. Hyde A423128				
	P/O. C. Weinberg NZ421304				
	Sgt. E. Harper 1572602				
	Sgt. Dobson-Ketley 1695942				
Liberator Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	F/O. T? S. Lamb Capt. 15226	Anti- Submarine Patrol	010015Z	011102Z	
	F/O. G. Harber				
	P/O. P. S. Turner J.27449				
	F/S. J. G. Soresnen ²² NZ422730				
	Sgt. H. Beresford 1522877				
	F/S. C. T. Suddaby NZ422732				
	W.O. W. H. Skeet NZ417420				

	Sgt. G. W. Jenkinson 1314763				7955E. Radar contact dead ahead, range 15 miles at 010932Z in position 0524N 9951E Force sighted course 135/12 at 010953Z in position 0604N 7946E. Radar contact 150/3 miles believed to be another aircraft. S/C for Siguriya track 050 radar and cockrell off 011102Z Landed Siguriya. No enemy sightings or radar contacts throughout the patrol. Bomb Load 6 x 266 lb. D.C. Mk.XI Torpex 25 ft setting. Weather 4/10 F.R.S.T. 5/10 A.C.S.T. S.T.C.U. 1200 feet vision 10/12 miles.
Liberator Mk.V. M/200 BZ828	F/L. C. Cherrington Capt. 43831	Anti Submarine Sweep	061155Z	070025Z	Anti Submarine Sweep. Airborne at Siguriya to carry out an anti submarine sweep. Crossed coast at Negambo at 1000 ft. S.E. turned on, but found to be U/S. Orders had been given to continue search in case of S/E failure, so carried out. Commenced patrol at 061543Z in position 0600N 7735E, and set course on track 180 degrees. At 061748Z in position 0512N 7746E set course due north and returned to starting position. No enemy sightings – returned to base. Patrol was flown throughout at 1000 ft. Weather was fair with scattered low cloud at 600 to 1500 ft. Bomb load carried 6 x 266 lb. Torpex Mk.XI. D.C.s.
	P/O. L. Jarratt Nav. A.410987				
	P/O. R. J. Cole 152367				
	P/O. D. W. Hyde A.423128				
	P/O. N. G. Green A.423102				
	P/O. C. E. Weinberg NZ421304				
	Sgt. E. Harper 1373603				
	Sgt. Dobson-Ketley 1685942				
	F/O. T. Lees				
Liberator Mk.V. M/200 BZ828	F/L. C. Cherrington 43831	Anti Submarine Patrol	081539Z	090305Z	Anti Submarine Patrol. Airborne at Siguriya to carry out an anti submarine patrol. Proceeded from base to position 0549N 7952E and commenced patrol at 081659Z. IFF and Radar on. Patrol took form of a hunt to exhaustion search from starting point above and around a rectangle due south, 30 miles in length and 10 miles wide. Homed on a radar contact at 081726Z to 0542N 8005E, proved to be a patrolling aircraft. Commence to home on two contacts which proved false and carried on patrol. At 081753Z ordered by base to move 16 miles south and continue patrol from position 0539N 8028E. At 081620Z
	P/O. L. Jarratt Nav. A.410987				
	P/O. R. J. Cole 152367				
	P/O. D. W. Hyde A.423128				
	P/O. N. G. Green A.423102				
	P/O. C. E. Weinberg NZ421304				
	Sgt. E. Harper 1373603				

²² As in the original record, but correct spelling may be Sorenson.

	Sgt. Dobson-Ketley 1685942				commenced to home on S.E. contact which proved to be a destroyer in position 0532N 8030E. Homed on a second contact to position 0540N 8030E which was a second destroyer. Resumed patrol. Ordered by Base at 081930Z to carry out search 4 from datum 0527N 8028E. Homed on two contact, one a convoy, on a single M/V not identified. Commenced new patrol 50 miles in length on tracks 10 miles wide at 082108. There were further contacts which were followed up which proved to be allied convoy above and an independent escort vessel. Relieved by Catalina at 091444Z, left the patrol area and returned to base. No enemy sightings. Weather was good generally, some low cloud. Bomb load carried 6 x 266 lb. Topen Mk.XI D.C. Radar used throughout patrol.
Liberator Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	F/O. P. S. Lamb Capt 15226	Anti Submarine Sweep	101155Z	110110Z	Anti Submarine Sweep. Airborne at Siguriya to carry out an anti submarine patrol. Proceeded to position 0702N 7946E and commenced patrol. At 101303Z a radar contact was followed to position 0542N 8010E and a single M/V was sighted, not identified, course northerly 10 knts. Patrol continued until 101550Z when a radar contact was made and followed to position 0535N 8047E. Flares were dropped, and a patrolling destroyer identified. Patrol resumed. Homed onto a freighter at 102109Z in position 0556N 8013E. Not identified, course 100/8 knts. Left patrol at 102246Z in position 0528N 8055E and returned to Base. No enemy sightings or contacts. Weather was generally poor with low cloud 5/10 cu and st cu at 2000 ft. Bomb load carried 6 x 266 lb. torpex D.C.s. Radar and IFF used throughout.
	F/O. G. C. E. Harber				
	P/O. P. S. Turner Nav. J27449				
	F/S. J. G. Sorenson NZ422730				
	Sgt. S. Baresford 1522877				
	W.O. W. R. Skeet NZ417240				
	F/S. C. T. Suddaby NZ422732				
	F/S. C. W. Jenkinson 1314763				
Liberator Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	F/O. P. S. Lamb Capt 152026	Anti Submarine Sweep	131607Z	140342Z	Anti Submarine Sweep. Airborne at Siguriya to carry out an anti submarine patrol. Proceeded from base to position 0426N 7920E and commenced to patrol at 131803Z. Patrolling area bounded by 0426N 7920E, 0412N 7907E, 0622N 7674E, 0637N 7700E. aircraft completed 2? circuits of this area. No enemy sightings or radar contacts made. Radar used throughout. Off patrol at 140200Z and returned to base. Weather generally fair with showers. Bomb load carried 6 x 266 lb Torpen D.C.S.
	F/O. G. C. E. Harber				
	P/O. P. S. Turner Nav. J27449				
	F/S. J. G. Sorenson NZ422730				
	Sgt. S. Baresford 1522877				
	W.O. W. R. Skeet NZ417240				
	F/S. C. T. Suddaby NZ422732				
	F/S. C. W. Jenkinson				

	1314763					
Liberator Mk.V. M/200 BZ828	F/L. C. Cherrington 43831	Anti Submarine Sweep	131608Z	140355Z	Anti Submarine Sweep. Airborne at Siguriya to carry out an anti submarine patrol. Proceeded from base to position 0455N 7948E and commenced patrol at 131747Z. Patrol carried out in area bounded by positions 0454N 7948E, 0441N 7935E, 0650N 7715E, 0706N 7728E. Aircraft completed 2 x circuits of the area. No enemy sightings or contacts. Radar used throughout. Left patrol at 140227Z and returned to base. Weather was generally fair with scattered heavy showers. Bomb load carried 6 x 266 lb. Torpex D.C.s.	
	P/O. L. S. Jarratt Nav. A.410987					
	P/O. R. J. Cole 152267					
	P/O. D. W. Hyde A.423218					
	P/O. N. G. Green A.423123					
	P/O. C. E. Weinberg NZ421304					
	Sgt. E. Harper 1573603					
	Sgt. Dobson-Ketley 1685942					
Liberator Mk.VI. V/200 EV831	F/O. R. Hobbs Capt. 144783	Shipping Sweep.	St. Thomas Mount	Siguriya		Shipping Sweep. Airborne at St. Thomas Mt. in transit to Siguriya detachment, and ordered to carry out a shipping sweep on route. On patrol at 200718Z in position 1300N 8042E Radar on. Radar became unserviceable at 200830Z. Patrol continued. At 200912Z in position 0834N 8115E sighted a force of 1 battleship, 3 cruisers and seven destroyers. Reached Foul Point at 200914Z and set course for Siguriya. There were no enemy sightings or contacts. Weather was good throughout. Bomb Load carried 4 x 266 lib Torpex D.C.s.
	F/O. H. J. Markley 153110		200703Z	200955Z		
	F/O. J. H. W. Lakin Nav. 153615					
	Sgt. E. Spiller 1198738					
	Sgt. B. Harvery 1339660					
	Sgt. C. Ewers 1601462					
	Sgt. A. Roantree 1081048					
	F/O. G. Banner 126143					
Liberator Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	F/L. R. I. McLellan Capt. 121912	Shipping Sweep.	St. Thomas Mount	Siguriya	Shipping Sweep. Airborne at St. Thomas Mt. in transit to Siguriya detachment, and ordered to carry out a shipping sweep on route. Commenced patrol at 260344Z from position 1300N 8040E. S.E. and IFF on. No sightings or contacts en route. Left patrol at 260537Z in position 0857N 8123E and proceeded to Siguriya. Weather fair with scattered low clouds. Bomb load 4 x 266 lb. Torpex D.C.s.	
	F/O. G. W. Jackson 55082		260335Z	260625Z		
	P/O. H. J. Weaden Can.J.26419 Nav.					
	Sgt. W. H. Tampion A410573					
	W.O. E. O. Norman R134114					
	W.O. J. J. Smith R133371					
	W.O. G. W. White R113931					
	Sgt. J. Irvine 1801697					
	F/S. D. Bates 1575374					

Appendix No. 7 to July 540 Operations Record Book. No. 200 Squadron.

The undermentioned officers and airmen are authorised, subject to confirmation, to wear the ribbon of the 1939-43 Star.

Officers

W/C. J. B. P. Thomas.	S/L. J. A. R. Reid.	F/O. R. Dear.
F/O. R. C. Kelly	F/O. G. Ball	F/O. C. J. Whiles
F/L. P. W. Jamieson	F/O. P. R. Harbot	F/L. R. C. Wescombe
P/O K. A. Montgomery	P/O J. T. Peake	F/L. C. Cherrington
F/L. K. C. L. Mills	F/O. H. Swift	F/O. J. R. Coulson
P/O. B. Relf	P/O. P. C. Burrows	P/O. C. R. Weinberg
P/O. D. R. Mossman	P/O. J. W. Ramsden	P/O G. A. Mains
P/O. W. A. Nicholls	P/O. J. Orloff	P/O. G. M. Rice
P/O. W. G. Campbell	P/O. B. D. Dalton	P/O. A. Heighington
P/O. K. Harkness	P/O. R. MacLean	P/O. M. F. Orlinger
P/O. R. B. Dunham	P/O. H. S. MacAdam	P/O. T. E. Freemark
P/O. E. A. Cote	F/O. D. E. Treleaven	F/O. J. A. Griffin
P/O. L. J. Lomas	F/O. G. D. Smith	F/O. J. P. M. Roderique
F/O. A. D. Waltman	F/L. A. H. Boyd	F/L. J. Redhead
F/O. D. P. Fetherston ²³	P/O. W. J. Smith	P/O. C. D. McKeen
P/O. J. Saunders	P/O. A. D. Dixon	F/O. G. C. Henderson
F/O. R. H. Meyer	F/O. R. L. McLaughlin	P/O. L. S. Jarratt
P/O. W. G. Green	P/O. D. W. Hyde	F/O. F. W. T. Andrews

Airmen

W.O. Berry G.	W/O. Haly G.	W.O. Pitman J.
F.S. Doyle J.	Sgt. Hutchinson C. A.	Sgt. Jones K. M.
Sgt. Campbell K. F.	W.O. Hoobin H. D.	W.O. Walsh F. T.
Sgt. Robinson L.G. (now Pilot Officer.)		Sgt. Parkhill H. W.
F.S. Belanger J.	F.S. Defir J.	F.S. Skeet M. R.
Sgt. Edwards L.	Sgt. Nott J. G.	Sgt. Lord L. R. H.
Sgt. Lyons H.	Sgt. Hayes W.	Sgt. Davidson F. W.
F.S. Cocks S.	F.S. Hunt D. F.	F.S. Spiers L. G.
Sgt. Casey A. E.	Sgt. Chipps S. G.	Sgt. Gregory J.
Sgt. Johnston G. E.	Sgt. Ryder W. A.	F.S. Wingate R. S.
Sgt. Wilkinson T. W.	Sgt. Harwood W.	Sgt. Morton H. T.
Sgt. Taylor F.	Sgt. Shepherd R.	Sgt. Dresch D. T.
Sgt. Winston L.	Sgt. Blake P. H.	Sgt. Rose K.
Sgt. Sillence C. M.	Sgt. Harper W. E.	Sgt. Rowe J.
Sgt. Wood D.	W.O. Craddock H.	Sgt. Spiller
Sgt. Lockhart	Sgt. Gadd P. T.	Cpl. Copland J. A.
Cpl. Coxhead D	Cpl. Bromfield A.	Cpl Hooper H. L.
LAC. Colen W.	LAC Austin F. T.	LAC Clark R.
LAC. White C. H.	AC1. Yeates H. R.	

²³ Name is spelt "Featherstone" elsewhere in the records.

August 1944: Form 540

Air 27/1174

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
St. Thomas Mt.	1/8/44		F/O K. A. Montgomery proceeded to B.R.D. Worli pending repatriation.
			Training. S/200 F/O McKeen (Capt) Airborne on Bombing and Gunnery exercise.
		011239Z	Operations: F/O J. A. Griffin (Capt) airborne in N/200 on Anti-submarine search. No sightings. Landed 011734Z. Three other aircraft O?/200 (F/L Jamieson Capt) C?/200 (P/O T. C. Seabrook) and V/200 (F/L Wescombe) were employed in the submarine search but no enemy contacts were made.
	2/8/44		W/Cdr. J. B. P. Thomas returned from Temp. Duty at Yellahanka and re-assumed command of the Squadron. S/Ldr. J. A. R. Reid having deputised in his absence.
Sigiriya ²⁴		021017Z	Operations: Aircraft H/200 (F/L McClellan & crew) on detachment at Sigiriya carried out an uneventful C.L.A. sweep and landed at 022055Z.
		02042 Z	P/O. Hobbs (Capt) in M/200 also carried out a similar search without enemy sighting, landing at 022112Z.
St. Thomas Mt.	4/8/44		Operations: The two aircraft "H" and "M" (F/L McClellan and F/O. Hobbs Captains) concluded their detachment at Sigiriya and carried out a traffic patrol on their return to St. Thomas Mount. No enemy contacts were made by either aircraft.
			F/O A. W. Jackson, F/L. R. I. McClellan, F/O. R. Hobbs, F/O J. W. Lakin P/O H. J. Markley rejoined the Squadron as a result of the termination of the detachment.
			F/O. F. S. Lamb also returned to the unit from Hospital.
St. Thomas Mt.	5/8/44		Training: P/O Waltman and crew in aircraft "C" carried out a bombing exercise.
			The Group Discussion Course at Bangalore was attended by P/O. D. R. Mossman who returned to the Squadron on August 9th.
St. Thomas Mt.	6/8/44		F/O. C. L. Read (Unit Radar Officer) left to attend a course at No.51 Radio School.
			F/L. C. Cherrington left for Delhi to attend a Squadron Commanders Short Course from which he returned on August 29th.
			F/O J. Coulson and F/O C. R. Cudworth flew aircraft P to Cawnpore for a major inspection and returned to the Unit by rail on August 11th.
St. Thomas Mt.	7/9/44	1000Z	Operations: N/200 captained by F/O Waltman airborne on convoy escort. Aircraft landed at 2237Z.
		1745Z	Continuing the convoy escort V/200 was airborne (P/O. G. C. Henderson Capt.) and landed at 080447Z.
			Training: Two Fighter affiliation flights on exercise with Beaufighter aircraft were made, aircraft "T" being flown and P/O Seabrook and F/L McClellan being the respective Captains. P/O. Banner and crew in "C" also carried out a Bombing and Gunnery exercise.
St. Thomas Mt.	8/8/44	080145Z	Operations: At this time "O" the first of three aircraft escorting a convoy to Madras was airborne, F/O McKeen (Capt). Later "S" (P/O R. C. Kelly Capt.) relieved but as engine trouble developed he was in turn relieved by "V" (F/O. R. Hobbs Capt.) who landed at 09014Z ²⁵ .
			Training: An Ant????-co-operation training was carried out by F/O. R. C. Kelly and crew in "T?"
	9/8/44		Six officers posted for fighting duties to this Squadron arrived today. They are: P/O

²⁴ Note the spelling has changed from Sigiriya to Sigiriya, the latter being the spelling used in the 160 Squadron Records.

²⁵ Record gives 090147Z, an obvious error. Form 541 gives 090148Z.

			N? R. Creed(?), P/O. D. ? Coutts, P/O. D. J. MacKee, F/O. L Waterfield(?) P/O A. M. Banner(?) P/O R? A. Pettus.
	10/8/44		Training: Four training flights: (i) F/L Wescombe & crew in "?" fighter affiliation. (ii) F/O Henderson & crew in "X?" exercise to test fighter defences of Madas. (iii) P/O Griffin & crew in "?" photography exercise. (iv) F/O Kelly and crew in "?" Co-pilot training.
			F/L. A. C. Mills proceeded to B.R.D. Worli pending repatriation
	11/8/44		Training: Aircraft "N?" (F/O. McKeen Capt.) Airborne on Co-pilot training.
			F/O A. M? Boyd left for B.R.D. Worli pending repatriation.
			P/O S. ? Smith reported to this Unit for flying duties: arrived today.
			P/O J. A. Griffin and F/O R. S? MacAdam left to convey Secret equipment to Bombay. These officers returned on August 19 th .
			The following tour expired personnel today proceeded to B.R.D. Worli pending repatriation. F/O. F? ? Andrews, F/O. G. Hall, F/O S? Dear, F/L G. ? Jamisson??, P/O. C. J. Willams??, P/O ? Rolf?, P/O L. J. Lomas?, P/O G. A. Mains?, P/O J. Orloff, W/O. N? G. Pitman, W/O. G. H?ally and F/O. W. J. Ramsden.
			Training: Two Flights today one on the 14/8/44 and another on 15/8/44 were made as Shadowing Exercises in conjunction with an Aircraft Carrier and a cruiser of the R.N. Excellent results were obtained the Radar contact Range being 85 miles.
			Aircraft "M" was transferred to 160 Squadron.
			Administration(?): F?/O A. A. Heighington and P/O ? R? MacLean attended a District Court Martial at Trangore(?) as Officers Under Instruction. Returned 17 th August.
	14/8/44	132240Z	Operations: Aircraft "H" (F/O R. Cook, Capt.) took off on convoy escort duties and was relieved by "C" which developed engine trouble and returned to base early at 141005Z. "N" (F/O McKeen, Capt.) which was airborne to substitute for "C" failed to contact the convoy and was later recalled to base.
	15/8/44	150804Z	Operations: N/200 (P/O. Seabrook Capt.) was airborne on anti-sub sweep. No enemy sightings were made.
		151354Z	H/200 (F/O R. C. Kelly Capt.) also sweeping the shipping lanes made no enemy contacts and landed at 160215Z.
			Aircraft "L" was transferred today to 160 Squadron.
	16/8/44		Air Commodore P. H. Mackworth O.B.E. D.F.C. A.O.C. 225 Group, paid a farewell visit to the Squadron prior to relinquishing his command.
		161220Z	Operations: Continuing the anti-sub sweep N/200 (F/O Henderson Capt.) was airborne but returned at 1440 Radar being unserviceable.
		161513Z	X/200 (F/O Cook, Capt.) also on an anti-sub sweep was forced to return after 5 hours having been struck in a violent lightning storm.
		161420Z	F/L. McClallen and crew in S/200 relieving "N" 200 experienced a failure of flame-floats and flares when investigating a blip. The flares released from 50 ft plunged into the sea. Visibility was down to ¼ mile.
			P/O W. L. Saunders left for Colombo to attend a Ship Recognition Course.
			Training: Two aircraft O/200 (F/O Cook Capt.) and S/200 (F/O Bannar Capt.) participated in a successful exercise with submarine K.11.
St. Thomas Mt.	17/8/44	173040Z	Operations: F/O Hobbs and Crew in "Z/200" continued the dust-dawn anti-sub sweep but patrolled throughout without making any enemy contacts. Weather was good and visibility 3 miles.
		171218Z	F/O Seabrook and crew in "H" making the southward sweep flew through bad weather with 10/10 th low cloud and heavy rain. No enemy sightings.
			F/O G. D. McKeen and P/O W. Hayes left for Cawnpore on Temp. Duty (Night Photo trials) and returned on 30/8/44.
	18/4/44	172352Z	Operations: P/O. R. C. Kelly and crew in X escorted A.M. 6 on a southerly course for six hours until it entered Madras harbour.

		181235Z	N/200 (F/O Cook Capt) was airborne to search for possible craft in distress, An SOS message having been received. Faint signals were read on W/T but no sighting made.
	19/8/44	190213Z	Operations: Continuing the search for a craft in distress V/200 picked up call-signs transmitted by a ground station and the aircraft was ordered back to base as it was apparent that the original signals were transmitted by ground operators practising.
		191307Z	Operations: Resuming the nightly anti-sub sweep S/200 (F/O Banner Capt) swept the southward shipping lanes without incident. Weather was overcast but visibility was 10 miles.
			P/O W. G. Campbell and P/O G. D. Smith left for 1673 H.C. Unit on Instructor duties. The former returning on August 28th.
	20/8/44	201230Z	Operations: The Northward anti-sub sweep was flown by "H" (F/L McClallan Capt) and was continued to dawn. No enemy contacts.
		202155Z	Flying the southward anti sub sweep "T" (P/O Kelly Capt) patrolled till dawn without incident. There were slight showers though visibility was 15 miles.
	21/8/44	211318Z	Operations. O/200 (P/O Griffin Capt) swept the southward shipping lane until 1930Z when a relief aircraft arrived in accordance with W/T Messages. "O" returned early owing to high fuel consumption.
			Training: X/200 (F/O Banner Capt) carried out a bombing and gunnery exercise.
	22/8/44	221306Z	Operations: (F/O Hobbs, Capt in "V" flew the southward anti-sub sweep and beyond. Several blips which faded were assessed to be clouds. Patrol was uneventful. Weather was showery and 3 miles visibility.
	23/8/44		Training: Aircraft X (F/O Henderson Capt) and "O" (F/L MacLellan, Capt) took part in an exercise with submarine K.11.
	25/8/44		Training: A fighter affiliation exercise in conjunction with Beaufighter aircraft was flown by P/O Hickman and crew in "V"
	26/8/44		S/Ldr J. A. R. Reid assumed command of 200 Squadron during the absence of W/Cdr. J. B. P. Thomas on leave.
			P/O Griffin and crew in "V" carried out a bombing and gunnery exercise.
St. Thomas Mt.	28/8/44		W/Cdr. J. B. P. Thomas re-assumed command of 200 Squadron vice S/L. J. A. R. Reid.
		280413Z	Operations: Escorting C.J.39 F/O Cook (Capt) in aircraft "S" remained with the convoy 6 ½ hours. There were no enemy sightings.
			Notification was received the F/O G. Banner has been granted the Air Efficiency Award.
	29/8/44		Training: F/O Lamb and crew in "H" carried out a fighter affiliation exercise with Beaufighter aircraft.
			As the aircraft in which H.E. Sir Henry Twynam, Governor of the Central Provinces and H.E. Sir Arthur Hope and their secretaries met with a slight accident just before taking off for Delhi, F/O. G. Banner and his crew flew Aircraft "O" as substitute for the flight. The aircraft landed at Nahpur{ sic} en route. On the following day "O" returned landing at Nagpur as on the outward journey.
			The following flying personnel today proceeded to B.R.D. Worli pending repatriation:- F/L. D. H. Treleaven, F/O. J. Redhead, P/O. R. R. MacLean, P/O. A. Heighington, P/O. W. G. Campbell, F/O. J. P. Rodrigue, F/O P/O{sic} Harbot, P/O. K. Harkness, F/O. J. T. Peek, P/O. J. L. Cote, P/O. W. A. Nicholls, P/O. R. D. Dalton, P/O. J. H. Tuttle, P/O. R. S. Macadan, P/O. T. F. Freemark.
			P/O. T. O. Seabrook and F/O. MacAloney left to join 159 Squadron on posting. The remainder of P/O Seabrook's crew will follow later.
	30/8/44	292230Z	Operations: "C" (F/O Henderson Capt) airborne to escort convoy A.M. 7 on a southerly course. Remained for 8 hours until relieved by H/200.
		300705Z	F/L. McClellan and crew in "H" continued to escort to A.M.7 for 7 hours before returning to base.
			Training: Two aircraft V (P/O Hickman Capt) and X (F/O Cook Capt) carried out an exercise in Wide Wide Homing procedure.

	31/8/44		Two new aircraft were delivered to the Squadron today. "J" EV824, MK.VI from 160 Squadron and "M" KG847 MK.VI. from 352 M.U.																				
			During the course of the month notification of the following promotions was received:- P/O N. G. Green (R.A.A.F.) to F/O w.e.f. 14/12/43 P/O D. W. Hyde (R.A.A.F.) to F/O w.e.f. 14/12/43 P/O L. S. Jarratt (R.A.A.F.) to F/O w.e.f. 7/7/43 P/O R. H. Meyer (R.A.A.F.) to F/O w.e.f. 5/10/43 P/O R. H. Cook to F/O w.e.f. 28/11/43 P/O C. D. McKeen to F/O w.e.f. 5/8/43 P/O W. J. Saunders to F/O w.e.f. 18/6/43 P/O R. W. Youngblud to F/O w.e.f. 25/12/43 F/O D. H. Treleaven to F/Lt. w.e.f. 27/3/44 P/O C. Coleman to F/O w.e.f. 18/5/44 P/O J. Broomhead to F/O w.e.f. 12/3/44																				
			There was a considerable increase in operational flying during the month and 34 sorties were carried out.																				
			The analysis of flying is as follows:-																				
			<table> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Day</th> <th>Night</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Operational (13 sorties)</td> <td>82.36</td> <td>199.59 (21 Sorties)</td> <td>282.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non operational</td> <td>45.20</td> <td>-</td> <td>45.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Training</td> <td>73.35</td> <td>-</td> <td>73.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>201.31</td> <td>199.59</td> <td>401.30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Day	Night	Total	Operational (13 sorties)	82.36	199.59 (21 Sorties)	282.35	Non operational	45.20	-	45.20	Training	73.35	-	73.35	Total	201.31	199.59	401.30
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200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks
Lib. Mk.VI. N/200 KG849	Can. J20958 P/O J. A. Griffin Capt.	Anti-Sub Search	011239Z	011731Z	Airborne St. Thomas Mount to patrol area from 13.32.N 80.58.E through 13.41.N 80.58.E through 13.32.N 81.59.E to 13.41.N 81.59.E. ASV proved unsatisfactory and was useless after 1420Z. No enemy sightings. The patrol was carried out at 700 ft and weather was good with nil cloud.
	Aus.A421185 P/O A. D. Dixon				
	W/O. W. A. Ryder				
	Can.J85660 P/O R. McAdam				
	F/O J. T. Peek				
Lib. Mk.VI. O/200 EW321	F/L. P. W. Jamieson (Capt)	Anti-Sub Search	011345Z	012350Z	Airborne at St. Thomas Mt. to carry out patrol 4 D at height 500 ft. (I.OG.R. Tac Instructions No. 22 App. B) Received W/T message at 1535. "Search 5D 1710 to 2110, 6D to 2345 or P.L.E." These orders were carried out but no Radar contacts were made nor enemy sightings obtained. Weather and visibility were good but cloud 9/10th St.Cu and Cu was present. The patrol was terminated 23 min early owing to high fuel consumption.
	Sgt. P. Blake (Nav)				
	P/O Coulson J.				
	Can.R104978 W/O H. D. Hoobin				
	Can.R90988 W/O H. J. Pitman				
	Sgt. K. Rose				
	Sgt. D. Claircourt				
	Sgt. J. P. Griffiths				
Lib. Mk.V. C/200 BZ831	Aus A428579 P/O T. Seabrook (Capt.)	Anti-Sub Search	011135Z	020032Z	This aircraft was engaged in the same search as O/200 above and was detailed to carry out searches 4B, 5B and 6B. Flying height was 1300 ft. Several A.S.V. contacts were made two of which faded during investigation and were believed to have been heavy clouds. Weather conditions were the same as O/200 above.
	Aus A423705 F/S E. George (Nav)				
	Aus A424979 F/O J. W. MacAloney				
	Can.R180342 Sgt. W. V. Donnelly				
	Sgt. J. Pirie				
	Can.R186758 Sgt. S. Drysdale				
Lib. Mk.VI. V/200 EV831	F/L R. C. Wescombe (Capt)	Anti-Sub Search	020240Z	021303Z	The fourth aircraft combining in the search, V/200 obtained blips of friendly shipping but the sortie was otherwise uneventful Cloud experience was 5/10th Cu and visibility was down to 5 miles.
	Can.J27447 F/O R. W. Youngblud (Nav)				
	Can.R121807 W/O E. J. Penfild ²⁶				
	Can.R92954 W/O H. W. Benstead				
	Can.R160736 R/S H. W. Lucking				
	Sgt. V. Elwick				
	Sgt. C. Jenkinson				

²⁶ Record says Penfild, but this probably should be Penfield.

	Sgt. R. F. Angell				
Lib. Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	F/L. R. R. McClellan (Capt.)	C.L.A. sweep	021017Z	022055Z	H/200 still on attachment at China Bay, was airborne from that airfield. After 1 hour the A.S.V. spinner became unserviceable and the sweep was carried out without A.S.V.
	Can.J26419 P/O H. J. Weedon (Nav)				
	F/O G. W. Jackson				No sightings were made. The weather was good.
	Can.R134114 W/O E. O Norman				
	Can.R133371 W/O J. J. Smith				
	Can.R113931 W/O G. W. White				
	F/S. D. Bates				
	Sgt. J. P. Irvine				
	Aus.A410572 F/S W. D. Tampion				
Lib. Mk.V M/200 BZ828	F/O R. A. Hobbs (Capt)	C.L.A. sweep	021042Z	022112Z	This aircraft was also engaged with H/200 at China Bay on a C.L.A. sweep. Two Radar contacts were investigated and proved to be friendly shipping but at 1845 the Radar was no longer serviceable. Later the Inter Com also failed owing to the output valve becoming defective. Weather was showery and visibility good outside cloud which was 4/10ths Cu. with base at 1000 ft.
	F/O J. H. Lakin (Nav)				
	F/O M. J. Markley				
	NZ417240 W/O. M. R. Skeet				
	Sgt. K. W. Spiller				
	Sgt. A. Roantree				
	Sgt. C. H. Ewers				
Lib. Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	F/L. R. R. McClellan (Capt)	Traffic patrol China Bay to Madras	040330Z	040545Z	On termination of its detachment to China Bay this aircraft carried out a traffic patrol whilst returning to St. Thomas Mt. Flying at 500 ft to bring it below cloud base. The aircraft carried out its mission uneventfully. Visibility was 5 miles.
	Can.J26419 P/O H. J. Weedon (Nav)				
	F/O G. W. Jackson				
	Can.R134114 W/O. E. O. Norman				
	Can.R113931 W/O G. W. Smith				
	Can.R113931 W/O. G. W. White				
	F/S Bates				
	Sgt. J. P. Irvine				
	Aus.A410572 F/S. W. D. Tampion				
Lib. Mk.V M/200 BZ828	F/O R. A. Hobbs (Capt)	Traffic patrol China Bay to Madras	040420Z	040725Z	This aircraft also carried out traffic patrol on conclusion of its detachment at China Bay. Flying at 5000 ft it sighted a number of friendly merchant vessels but made no enemy contacts.
	F/O J. H. Lakin (Nav)				
	P/O J. Markley				
	NZ417240 W/O. M. R. Skeets				
	Sgt. K. W. Spiller				
	Sgt. A. Roantree				
	Sgt. C. H. Ewers				
Lib. Mk.V. N/200 KG849	Can.J21200 F/O A. G. Waltman (Capt)	A/S Escort AM.5	071000Z	072237Z	A.M.5 a southbound convoy was escorted by N/200 for six hours until it was due to be relieved by "V". No enemy contacts or sightings were made, the weather being fine throughout and visibility 10 miles.
	Can.J23143 F/O D. P. Fetherstone				
	NZ422088 F/O L. C. L. Pryce				

	Can.J85617 P/O L. G. Robinson				
	Can.R135745 W/O. J. Doyle				
	Aus.A426068 F/S L. Edwards				
	Sgt. H. Ratcliffe				
	Aus.A425704 F/S H. Lyons				
Lib. Mk.VI V/200 EV831	Aus.A409917 P/O G. C. Henderson (Capt)	A/S Escort	071745Z	080447Z	V/200 was relieving aircraft N/200 and continuing the escort to A.M.5. On arriving in the area given as a position of meeting nothing was seen of the convoy. Eventually a Radar contact resulted in a sighting of what was considered to be the convoy although 110 miles astern of the position given. However as no response was given to R/t Calls or shaded lamp signals the aircraft left and resumed search for A.M.5. (it was later learned that this actually was A.M.5 and that her R/T was u/s) A "Not met" signal was sent at 2126Z. At 080047Z a W/T message was received from base stating that A.M.5 was 100 miles astern of position. She was contacted at 0118Z and eventually answered V/S signals. Visibility was very bad owing to rain. From this point the escort proceeded smoothly.
	Aus.A421185 P/O A. D. Dixon (Nav)	A.M.5			
	NZ421304 P/O C. E. Weinberg				
	NZ414323 P/O D. R. Mossman				
	NZ412319 P/O P. C. Burrows				
	NZ417240 W/O M. R. Skeet				
	Sgt. T. J. Maxwell				
	Sgt. L. Winston				
Lib. Mk. VI O/200 KW321	Can.J23216 F/O C. D. McKeen (Capt.)	A/S Escort	080145Z	081355Z	This aircraft continued the escort to Convoy A.M.5. Other friendly independent ships were met and challenged. After eight hours S/200 took over the escort and "O" returned to base. The weather was overcast and visibility ½ mile to 1 mile.
	Can.J2238 F/O W. J. Saunders (Nav)	A.M.5			
	Aus.A410055 P/O W. Hayes				
	Can.R171819 W/O J. Defir				
	Aus.A425430 F/S W. R. Davidson				
	F/S C. E. Sillence				
	Sgt. P. J. Jordan				
	Sgt. R. C. Sheperd				
Lib. Mk. VI S/200 EV832	F/O R. C. Kelly (Capt)	A/S Escort	081050Z	081422Z	25 Min after taking over from O/200 No. 1 engine of S/200 began cutting and the aircraft was forced to return to base.
	Sgt. D. T. Dresch (Nav)	A.M.5			
	Can.J85335 P/O K. Harkness				
	Can.R126408 W/O I. M. Jones				
	W/O R. Wingate				
	Sgt. F. Taylor				
	Sgt. W. F. Edwards				
Lib. Mk. VI V/200 EV831	F/O R. A. Hobbs (Capt)	A/S Escort	081453Z	090148Z	Taking off 30 min after the return of S/200 which came back owing to engine trouble "V" resumed the convoy escort and remained for 9 ½ hrs and left when A.M.5 was about to enter Madras Harbour. When
	F/O J. H. Lakin (Nav)	A.M.5			
	P/O J. Markley				
	Sgt. H. W. Spiller				
	Sgt. A. Roantree				

	Sgt. W. F. Lockhart				leaving several photographs of the convoy were taken. Weather was fine and visibility five miles.
	Sgt. B. L. Harvey				
	Sgt. V. Elwick				
Lib. Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	Can.J26768 F/O R. H. Cook (Capt)	A/S Escort J.C.59	132240Z	140840Z	The convoy was met at 140020Z and escorted uneventfully until 0747Z by which time "C" had taken over the escort duty. Photographs of the ships comprising JC.59 were taken.
	F/O J. R. Coulson (Nav)				
	Sgt. C. R. Spiers				
	Sgt. V. Elwick				
	Can.R95509 W/O R. K. Neil				
	Can.R134114 W/O E. O. Norman				
Lib. Mk.V. C/200 BZ831	F/O G. Banner (Capt)	A/S Escort J.C.59	140550Z	141005Z	Continuing the escort to JC.59 taking over from Aircraft "H" this aircraft had been with the convoy nearly 2 ½ hours when smoke began to pour from No.1 engine. A message was sent to base and the aircraft left JC.59.
	P/O H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	Sgt. J. Taylor				
	Sgt. T. Smith				
	Sgt. H. C. Sheperd				
	Sgt. J. P. Griffiths				
	Sgt. D. J. Claircourt				
Lib. Mk.VI. N/200 KG849	Can.J23216 F/O C. D. McKeen (Capt)	A/S Escort J.C.59	141007Z	141455Z	The aircraft took off to provide a substitute for C/200 which was returning owing to engine trouble. The convoy however was not in the position given and a thorough search of the shipping lanes with the use of A.S.V. failed to produce any result. At 1257Z a "Not Met" signal was sent and at 1445Z instructions were received for the aircraft to return to base. Weather conditions were good and visibility 12 to 15 miles.
	Can.J2238 F/O W. J. Saunders (Nav)				
	Aus.A410055 P/O W. Hayes				
	Can.R171819 W/O J. Defir				
	Aus.A425430 F/S W. R. Davidson				
	F/S C. K. Sillence				
	Sgt. P. J. Jordan				
	Aus.A425704 F/S R. Lyons				
Lib. Mk.VI. N/200 KG849	Aus.A428579 P/O T. Seabrook (Capt)	A/S search on shipping lanes	150801Z	151400Z	During this sweep 4 photographs of merchant shipping were taken. At 1015Z the A.S.V. became u/s and a signal was sent informing base, at 1200Z. Normally this sortie would have lasted till P.L.E. but the aircraft landed after 6 hours owing to the A.S.V. failure.
	Aus.A423703 F/S E. George (Nav)				
	Aus.A429979 P/O J. W. MacAloney				
	Can.R180342 Sgt. W. V. Donnelly				
	Sgt. J. Pirie				
	Can.R186758 Sgt. S. Drysdale				
	Can.R192574 Sgt. R. Blatta				
	Sgt. G. A. Richards				
Lib.Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	F/O R. C. Kelly (Capt)	A/S search on shipping lanes	151354Z	160215Z	H/200 patrolled until 160001Z when a blip was obtained which faded at 27 miles. As the A.S.V. was faulty throughout the sortie this blip was considered unreliable. The remainder of the flight passed uneventfully.
	Sgt. D. T. Dresch (Nav)				
	W/O R. Wingate				
	Aus.A425704 F/S R. Lyons				

	Sgt. P. Taylor				Weather was fine but 10/10ths low cloud prevailed.
	Sgt. V. Elwick				
	Sgt. W. Harwood				
	Sgt. W. F. Edwards				
Lib.Mk.VI. N/200 KG849	Aus.A409917 P/O G. C. Henderson (Capt)	A/S sweep of shipping lanes between 12.30N & 15.00E	161220Z	161440Z	One hour, 30 min after taking off the A.S.V. failed whilst the automatic pilot and artificial horizon had been u/s throughout. As a result the aircraft was forced to return to base. There was a great deal of rain the visibility was bad.
	NZ421304 P/O C. K. Weinberg				
	F/L A. R. McAra (Nav)				
	NZ412319 F/O P. C. Burrows				
	NZ414323 P/O D. R. Mossman				
	NZ417240 W/O M. R. Skeet				
	Sgt. L Winston				
	Sgt. T. J. Maxwell				
Lib. Mk.VI. X/200 EV869	Can.J26768 F/O. R. H. Cook (Capt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes between 12.30N & 15.00E	161515Z	162030Z	This aircraft replaced N/200 which returned early owing to A.S.V. failure. Violent lightning storms were encountered and A.S.V. contact which faded were believed to be heavy clouds. At 1918 the aircraft was struck by lightning and the airspeed indicator and W/T receiver were affected. A message was sent to base and the aircraft returned early.
	Sgt. R. G. Huie (Nav)				
	Can.R160736 F/S H. W. Lucking				
	Can.R134114 W/O E. O. Norman.				
	Can.R99611 W/O. G. D. Lawrence				
	Can.R95509 W/O R. E. Neil				
	Sgt. C. R. Spiers				
	Sgt. T. C. McEwen				
Lib. Mk.VI. S/200 EV832	F/L R. R. McClellan (Capt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes 10.00N & 12.30E	161420Z	162350Z	During this sortie a blip was obtained which faded. Flares and flame floats were dropped but the former went straight into the sea (Aircraft being at 500 ft) and the flame floats failed to operate. Nothing was seen. Weather was good but visibility no more than ½ m.
	Can.J26419 F/O J. H. Weedon (Nav)				
	F/O G. W. Jackson				
	Can.R133371 W/O. J. J. Smith				
	Can.R113931 W/O. G. W. White				
	Sgt. J. P. Irvine				
	Aus.A410572 F/S W. Tampion				
Lib. Mk.VI. V/200 EV831	F/O R. A. Hobbs (Capt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes 10.00N to 12.30E	171340Z	180027Z	Blips of our own shipping were obtained during this sortie but no enemy contacts were made. Weather was good throughout and visibility three miles.
	F/O L. H. Lakin (Nav)				
	F/O J. Markley				
	Sgt. A. Roantree				
	Sgt. W. F. Lockhart				
	Sgt. B. L. Harvey				
	Sgt. C. E. Ewers				
Lib. Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	Aus.A428579 P/O T. Seabrook (Capt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes	171218Z	180020Z	During this sortie one friendly Merchant Vessel was sighted, but otherwise the flight was uneventful. 5 Mk.I Flame floats were dropped for wind direction but all failed to
	Aus.A425703 F/S E. George (Nav)				

	Aus.A429979 F/O J. W. MacAloney	12.30.N to 15.00.N			operate.
	Can.R180342 Sgt. W. V. Donnelly				
	Sgt. J. Pirie				
	Can.R186758 Sgt. S. Drysdale				
	Can.R192574 Sgt. R. Blatta				
	Sgt. G. A. Richards				
Lib. Mk.VI. X/200 EV869	F/O R. C. Kelly (Capt)	A/S escort A.M.6 to Madras Harbour	172352Z	180641Z	The convoy was met at 0024Z and at about 0641Z when the ships were about to enter Madras Harbour the aircraft left and returned to base. At 0401Z the A.S.V. had been switched off as only one generator remained serviceable.
	Sgt. D. T. Dresch (Nav)				
	W/O R. Wingate				
	Can.J85596 P/O G. M. Rice				
	Can.J855074 F/O. R. S. Dunhan				
	Can.R99785 W/O H. W. Parkhill				
	Sgt. W. F. Edwards				
	Sgt. F. Taylor				
Lib. Mk.VI N/200 KG849	Can.J26768 F/O R. Cook (Capt)	Search for raft or other craft in distress between 14.30N 10.00N	181253Z	182315Z	During the flight two messages were received faintly, one being an SOS call. Bearing could not be obtained with the radio compass and a message on the distress frequency could not be read despite use of trailing aerial and AVC. The A.S.V. was unreliable. It was subsequently learned that operators on a ground station had been practicing on the operational frequency and the distress signals had almost certainly emanated from them.
	Sgt. R. G. Huie (Nav)				
	Can.R160736 F/S H. W. Lucking				
	Can.R134114 W/O E. O. Norman.				
	Can.R99611 W/O. G. D. Lawrence				
	Can.R95509 W/O R. E. Neil				
	Sgt. V. Elwick				
	Sgt. T. C. McEwen				
Lib.Mk.VI V/200 EV831	Aus.A409917 P/O G. C. Henderson (Capt)	Search for craft in distress between 14.30N 10.00N	190213Z	190815Z	At 0404Z a W/T transmission of call signs (VWM) was received but it faded whilst the aircraft was homing on to it. Base was informed by W/T and at 0630 a message was received recalling the aircraft for the reason as stated for the previous sortie.
	NZ421304 P/O C. E. Weinberg				
	F/L A. R. McAra (Nav)				
	NZ412319 P/O R. C. Burrows				
	NZ414323 P/O D. R. Mossman				
	NZ41724?0 W/O M. R. Skeet				
	Sgt. L. Winston				
	Sgt. T. J. Maxwell				
Lib.Mk.VI S/200 EV832 ²⁷	P/O G. Banner (Capt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes 12.30N	191307Z	200015Z	The patrol was carried out as laid down but beyond blips of a friendly convoy no contacts or sightings were made. Weather was overcast and visibility 10 miles.
	P/O H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	P/O A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	Sgt. J. Taylor				

²⁷ Original record gives EX832; this has been corrected to EV832.

	Sgt. T. Smith	to			
	Sgt. R. C. Shephard	10.00N			
	Sgt. J. P. Griffiths				
	Sgt. D. J. Claircourt				
Lib.Mk.V H/200 BZ868	F/L R. R. McClellan (Capt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes	201230Z	210100Z	One blip resulted in a friendly merchant vessel sighting but otherwise the sortie was uneventful. Weather was very hazy although visibility was 15 miles.
	Can.J25419 F/O H. J. Weedon (Nav)	15.00N			
	F/O G. W. Jackson	to			
	Can.R133371 W/O J. J. Smith	12.30N			
	Can.R113931 W/O G. W. White				
	F/S D. Bates				
	Sgt. J. R. Irvine				
	F/S W. D. Tampion				
Lib. Mk.VI. V/200 EV831	F/O R. C. Kelly (Capt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes	202155Z	210128Z	One friendly merchant vessel was sighted during this sortie but no contact made with enemy forces. Weather was good with slight showers visibility being 15 miles.
	Sgt. D. T. Dresch (Nav)	12.30N			
	W/O R. Wingate	10.00N			
	Can.J85596 P/O G. M. Rice				
	Can.J85594 P/O R. S. Dunham??				
	Can.R99785 W/O H. W. Parkhill				
	Sgt. W. R. Edwards				
	Can.R126408 Sgt. I. M. Jones				
Lib. Mk.VI O/200 EW321	Can.J20978 P/O J. A. Griffin (Capt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes	211318Z	212012Z	At 1500Z the wake of a surface vessel was seen after flame floats had been dropped and recognition cartridges fired. Base were informed by W/T that the vessel was not identified and that instructions were awaited. At 1620 base was informed that fuel consumption was high and an earlier ETA was given. A reply giving the probable identity of the vessel was received at 1745Z and a few minutes later a further message advising that a relief aircraft was taking over at 1930Z was received. In view of this "H" {sic} left patrol at 1940Z
	Aus.A421185 P/O A. D. Dixon (Nav)	from			
	W/O D. F. Hunt	12.30N			
	Can.J85660 P/O R. S. MacAdam	to			
	Can.J85639 P/O J. Freemark	10.00N			
	Can.R141371 W/O C. A. Hutchinson				
	Sgt. J. C Faulkner				
	Sgt. A. Jarvis				
Lib. Mk.VI. T/200 BZ994	F/O R. A. Hobbs (Capt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes	221306Z	230015Z	During this sortie two separate blips were obtained from which no visual sighting resulted. In each case heavy clouds were assumed to have been responsible. Weather throughout was showery and visibility three miles.
	F/O L. H. Lakin (Nav)	12.30N			
	F/O J. Markley	to			
	Sgt. A. Roantree	10.00N			
	Sgt. W. F. Lockhart				
	Sgt. B. L. Harvey				
	Sgt. C. E. Ewers				
Lib. Mk.VI. S/200 EV832	Can.J26768 F/O R. H. Cook (Capt)	A/S Escort	280413Z	281445Z	The convoy was not found in the given position but an S.E. contact at 40 miles when investigated proved to be C.J.39. Escort was given for 6 ½ hours during which time photographs of the units comprising the
	Sgt. R. G. Huie (Nav)	CJ.39			
	Can.J35840 P/O E. R. Creed				

	Can.R134114 W/O E. O. Norman				convoy were taken. Photographs of the hospital ship Koroa(?) were also taken when she was met at 0729 hours. The aircraft radio compass was unreliable throughout the sortie.
	Can.R95509 W/O R. E. Neil				
	CanR99611 W/O G. D. Lawrence				
	Aus.A425430 F/S R. Lyons				
	Sgt. T. C. McEwen				
Lib. Mk.V. C/200 BZ831	Aus.A409917 F/O G. C. Henderson (Capt)	A/S escort A.M.7	292230Z	301015Z	The convoy was met at 16.40.N 82.50.E and escorted on a southerly course for 8 hours. There were no incidents, the weather remaining fair and visibility at 8 to 10 miles throughout.
	NZ412319 P/O C. E. Weinberg				
	F/L A. R. McAra (Nav)				
	NZ412319 P/O P. O. Burrows				
	NZ414323 P/O D. R. Mossman				
	NZ417240 W/O M. R. Skeet				
	Sgt. L. Winston				
	Sgt. T. J. Maxwell				
Lib. Mk.V. H/200 BZ868	F/L R. R. McClellan (Capt)	A/S escort A.M.7	300705Z	301650Z	This aircraft relieved C/200 above and continued the escort to A.M.7 1501 hours. A W/T message was received from base recalling the aircraft as weather conditions at the airfield were worsening. "H" consequently was off patrol 3 ½ hours early and landed at 1650Z.
	Can.J26419 F/O H. J. Weedon (Nav)				
	F/O C. W. Jackson				
	F/O K. R. Holmes				
	Can.R133371 W/O J. J. Smith				
	Can.R113931 W/O G. W. White				
	F/S D. Bates				
	Sgt. J. R. Irvine				
	Aus.A410572 F/S W. D. Tampion				

September 1944: Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
St. Thomas Mt.	1.9.44		Training: F/L G. Cherrington and crew, in V – circuits.
	3.9.44	022230Z	Operations: Aircraft S. F/O Banner Capt escorting convoy CJ.40 landed 030902Z
		022320Z	P/O W. R. Hickman (Capt) in P on escort to convoy JC.62 landed 1030Z.
	4.9.44	032245Z	Operations: Convoy JC.62 was escorted by A/c P F/L G. Cherrington (Capt) A/C landing at 040944Z.
		032344Z	F/O P. S. Lamb and crew in T continued the escort to CJ.40, landing at base at 041013Z.
			Training: F/L R. McClellan and crew and F/O R. A. Hobbs and crew were each airborne on bombing and gunnery exercises.
			F/L C. B Scholey A.C.S.E.A. gave a lecture to aircrew on "Escaping and Evading".
	5.9.44		Training: F/O G. C. Henderson (Capt) in S carried a fighter affiliation exercise with Beaufighter aircraft.
			F/O W. H. Hickman (Capt) and crew and F/O G. Banner (Capt) and crew bombed splash targets at sea on a naval co-operation exercise.
			F/O McKeen (Capt) and Crew were engaged for 1 ½ hrs on night circuits.
	6.9.44		Training: Aircraft X – (F/O Cook and crew) carried out an ASR exercise in conjunction with an A.S.R. Launch.
	7.9.44		Training: P/O A. D. Waltman and crew airborne on bombing and gunnery.
			F/O. G. D. McKeen (Capt) on circuits.
	8.9.44		Air Commodore N. L. Desoer, who recently assumed command of 225 group, paid a visit of inspection to the Squadron. The A.O.C. continued his inspection on the following day.
		080512Z	Operations: F/O G. D. McKeen (Capt) in T provided air escort to convoy MA32. The aircraft returned to base at 1453.
			Training: F/O G. Banner & crew and F/O. R. H. Cook and crew carried out an exercise in bombing splash targets.
			F/O W. R Hickman and crew were airborne on co-pilot training.
	9.9.44		Training: F/O R. K. Hobbs (Capt) exercised with Beaufighter aircraft on fighter affiliation.
			F/O P. S. Lamb (Capt) was airborne on bombing and gunnery.
	10.9.44		Training: F/L R. C. Wescombe and crew carried out a low bombing exercise
			Aircraft N. F/L R. I. MacClellan (Capt) was airborne to carry out circuits.
	11.9.44		Training: A bombing and gunnery and splash target bombing exercise was carried out by P/O A. D. Waltman and crew.
		110740Z	F/O R. H. Cook, Capt in J. was engaged in circuits when he was instructed by R/T to carry out a search at sea east of Madras for an aircraft which was reported to have crashed in the sea. No sightings were made and J landed at 1230Z.
		110125Z	Operations: F/O W. R. Hickman and crew carried out a shipping patrol from Madras to Amarda Road landing at the latter airfield at 110725Z.
	12.9.44		Training: Exercises in bombing and gunnery and on circuits were carried out by F/O A. D. Waltman and crew and F/O G Banner and crew respectively.
			Thirty A/Gs arrived on posting to the squadron, two will be added to each crew bring each aircraft strength to ten.
	13.9.44	130320Z	Operations: F/O W. R. Hickman and crew returned to base and carried out a shipping patrol en route from Amarda Rd.
			Training: F/O P. S. Lamb and crew and F/O G. D. McKeen and crew were each airborne for bombing and gunnery practice and F/L Wescombe and crew on circuits.
	14.9.44		Training: F/O McKeen and F/L R. I. McClellan with their respective crews were

			engaged in bombing and gunnery, whilst F/O R. A. Hobbs and crew flew on circuits and bumps.
15.9.44			Battle of Britain Commemoration Parade: Four flights of Squadron personnel attended the Station Parade to commemorate the fourth anniversary of the Battle of Britain.
		15050?Z	Operations: Air escort to AM8 was provided by aircraft H F/O A. D. Waltman (Capt) aircraft landed at 1448Z.
			Training: Aircraft O and X were engaged on a formation flying exercise, the respective captains being F/O. R. A. Hobbs and F/O R. H. Cook.
16.4.44		160015Z	Operations: The first met flight flown by the Squadron in India was carried out by F/O R. A. Hobbs and crew. The aircraft flew across the Bay of Bengal to a point 18 deg. N. 19. E and returned to land at 1120Z.
17.9.44			Training: A bombing and gunnery exercise was carried out by F/O F. H. Charlton and Crew. Whilst night flying circuits were made by F/O R. H. Cook.
18.9.44		172315Z	Operations: Aircraft T F/L R. O? Wescombe and crew provided air cover to convoy JC 62-B and returned to base at 0855Z
			Training: F/O W. R. Hichmound? and crew were airborne for a photograph exercise.
19.9.44			Training F/L McClellan and crew carried out a Radar exercise in J and aircraft V F/O A. D. Waltman and crew were airborne on circuits.
20.9.44		200749Z	Operations: A Martinet aircraft was reported missing overland between 09.10N and 10.W. F/L ? G? Wescombe and crew carried out a search in the area. No sightings resulted.
			Training: The following training flights were made:- F/O F. H. Charlton and crew bombing and gunnery F/O R. A. Hobbs and crew Bombing and gunnery. F/O G. D. MacKeen and crew Radar Exercise. F/O R. H. Cook and F/O R. A. Hobbs and their crews formation flying.
21.9.44		0755Z	Operations: Convoy MA35 was met and escorted by aircraft S? (F/O R. H. Cook and crew) S landed at 1423Z.
			Training: The aircraft Captained by F/O F. M. Chalton and F/O A. D. Waltman were engaged on a wide wide homing exercise and a third F/O P. S. Lamb and crew on bombing and gunnery.
22.9.44			Training: An A.S.R. Exercise in which an aircraft was homed to a launch was carried out by F/O G. D. McKeen and Crew. F/L McClellan and crew in M were engaged on bombing and gunnery.
			Aircraft C – BZ831 Mk.V. and aircraft H? – Mk.V. were transferred to 160 Squadron.
			Two Mk.VI Leigh light aircraft arrived from 352 M.U. as substitutes, one L – KG854 arriving on 21.9.44 and the second K – KG853 on 22nd Sept.
23.9.44		0950?Z	Operations: A Liberator ²⁸ of 1673 H.C.U. failed to return after a night exercise and a search was instituted between Madras and 17.N to Visagepatam and also in the area South of Madras as far as 12.N?. The following aircraft took part:-
			0930Z – F/L R. I. McClellan and crew in X Landed 1434Z
			1046Z – F/O A. D. Waltman and crew in P Landed 1442Z
			0957Z – F/L R. C. Wescombe and crew in O Landed 1456Z
			0925Z – F/O R. H. Cook and crew in N Landed 1505Z
			No sighting of the missing aircraft was made.
			Training: P/O W. R. Hickman and F/L R. I. McClellan and their crews on Radar exercise and gunnery.
24.9.44			Operations: Continuing the search for the missing Liberator the following were airborne:-
			0207Z F/O P. S. Lamb and crew in M Landed at 1004Z
			0200Z F/O F. H. Charlton and crew in O. Landed at 0957Z

²⁸ This was KG841.

			0213Z F/O G. D. McKeen and crew in P landed at 1010Z
			These aircraft searched in conjunction between Madras and 12N with five miles between tracks.
			0306Z F/O R. H. Cook and crew in J landed 1315Z.
			0338Z F/O W. R. Hickman and crew in C landed 1428Z.
			These latter aircraft search northwards and at 1215Z C intercepted W/T message which read "Three K type dinghies no survivors light wreckage at 14.40N 80.40E" later the crew sighted { frame on microfilm cut off partially here } which may have been from ships.
	25.9.44	242325Z	Operations: F/L McClellan and crew airborne to investigate reported wreckage. A through search in which F/L Wescombe and crew, airborne at 0507Z later joined, produced nothing beyond a sighting of a patch of phosphorescence at 0342Z in position 14.40.N 80.49.E M landed at 1128Z and N at 1347Z.
			Training: F/O R. H. Cook and crew on Radar Exercise.
	26.9.44		Training: F/O W. R. Hickman and crew airborne on circuits and F/O F. H. Charlton on the same exercise by night.
	27.9.44		Training: F/L Wescombe in V on an ASR exercise with the launch followed by bombing and gunnery.
	28.9.44		Training: P/O A. D. Waltman and F/O R. H. Cook airborne for Gunnery Practice for the new air-gunnery and F/O F. H. Charlton on a gunnery and Radar exercise.
	29.9.44		Training: Further training flights for Air Gunnery exercises were flown by F/O G. D. McKeen and F/L R. I. McClellan. F/O Lamb carried out an exercise in Photography, Bombing and gunnery and Air/Sea firing.
	30.9.44	0001Z	Operations: A met flight to 17.N 90.E was flown by F/O A. D. Waltman and crew. The aircraft landed at 0958Z.
			Training: Aircraft L F/O F. H. Charlton airborne for gunnery practice.
			Personnel:
			On September 14th F/O F. H. Charlton (Capt) F/O C. D. G. Davidson (Nav) F/O A. W. Saunders, F/O R. C. Camm together with 6 N.C.Os arrived at St. Thomas Mt. Their journey from W. Africa had been delayed by engine trouble at Maidaguri (West Africa) and by minor inspection and sickness amongst the crew in Cairo. F/O Charlton flew aircraft "K" BZ827.
			The following officers attended courses as shown against their names:
			F/O L. S. Jerratt – Aircraft Recognition course at Ranchi 24.8.44 to 13.9.44
			F/O C. L. Read (Radar) Refresher course at 51 Radio School 6/8/44 to 9/9/44.
			F/O W. Saunders Ship Recognition course at Colombo from 16.8.44.
			F/O J. W. Lakin " " " " " 10.9.44.
			F/O C. Coleman (Int) Unit Security course 25/9/44 to 26/9/44.
			F/L P. J. Morrissey (Med) Aviation Physiology at Ponna from 3.9.44 to 9.9.44
			Postings:
			P/O W. J. Smith to B.R.D. Worli pending repatriation.
			14.9.44 P/O D. B. Coutts, F/O S. R. Smith F/O L. Waterfield posted to 160 Squadron.
			F/O J. A. Griffin, P/O M. F. Olinger P/O G. M. Rice on T.D. to I No.1. A.G.S. pending posting.
			16.9.44 F/O H. Swift, F/O R. J. Cole, P/O W. Hayes, posted ex India to Nassau for Liberator Captains Course.
			F/L G. Cherrington posted to 1673 H.C.U.
			F/L P. J. Morrissey (Med) attached to 200 Squadron on T.D.
			F/L A. R. McAra reposted to 200 Squadron to fill Staff Navigation (P) Post.
			F/O P. D. Fetherstone reported to 200 Squadron to fill Staff Navigation B Post.
			F/O R. H. Meyer reposted to 200 Squadron to fill F/L Gunnery post.
			Promotions:
			P/O W. J. Smith to F/O w.e.f. 30/6/44

September 1944: Form 541

200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks
Lib. Mk. VI. S/200 EV832	F/O G. Banner (Capt)	A/S Convoy Escort CJ.40	022230Z	030902Z	The convoy was met at 0100Z hours and escorted for 7 ½ hrs without incident. Weather was fair with some rain showers and visibility 15 to 20 miles.
	F/O J. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/O K. R. Holmes				
	Sgt. T. Smith				
	Sgt. J. Griffiths				
	Sgt. M. Tapsell				
	Sgt. R. C. Shephard				
Lib. Mk. VI P/200 EW317.	Can.J26667 P/O W. R. Hickman (Capt)	A/S Convoy Escort J ²⁹ 62	022320Z	031030Z	After joining the convoy at 030004Z hours the escort proceeded smoothly until at 0700Z hours off Madras 1 m/v detached to enter the harbour and 6 others left Madras to join the convoy. JC62 then continued northwards at 8 knots and the aircraft left at 1006Z hrs. The ASV had been unserviceable after 0445Z owing to excessive crystal current. Weather was overcast, 10/10 A/Cu and AS with visibility 15.
	Can.J27449 P/O R. C. Turner ³⁰ (Nav)				
	NZ422088 P/O L. C. Pryce				
	Can.R96738 W/O J. A. Robichaud				
	Can.R101978 W/O H. Hoobin				
	Can.J30670 P/O J. R. Tremblay				
	Sgt. D. Forsyth				
	Lib. Mk. VI P/200 EW317.				
F/O D. J. McKee (Nav)					
Can.J36945 F/O R. J. Cole					
F/S W. E. Harper					
Sgt. L. R. Lord					
Sgt. R. G. Rose					
Sgt. A. R. Brown					
Lib. Mk. VI. T/200 BZ994	F/O P. S. Lamb (Capt)	A/S Convoy Escort CJ.40	032344Z	041013Z	The convoy was met at 040014Z and escort provided during the following 9 ½ hours. All went well although the ASV became unserviceable at 0823Z hours. Signalling between the SOE and the aircraft was particularly good and the SOE being most co-operative.
	F/O G. R. Cudworth (Nav)				
	P/O A. Swift				
	NZ422722 F/S G. Suddaby				
	NZ522730 F/S J. C. Sorensen				
	NZ422688 F/S T. M. Cammock				
Sgt. C. W. Jenkinson					
Sgt. N. Beresford					

²⁹ Record says J62, but this should be JC62.³⁰ Initials on this entry are "R. C." but this is probably "P. S." Turner.

Lib.Mk.VI. T/200 BZ994	Can.J23216 F/O G. McKeen (Capt)	A/S Convoy	080512Z	081453Z	At 0528 MA32 consisting of 1 m/v & 2 e/vs was met. The aircraft carried out normal identification procedure but received no acknowledgement from the S.O.E. who subsequently flashed "Identify yourself". Even after 4 repetition by the aircraft no acknowledgement was made by the SOE. However at 1225 when permission to photograph was requested the SOE began to reply in the normal way. "T" left the convoy at 1342. A W/T message instructing the aircraft to return to base before 1430Z could not be acknowledged as the W/T Transmitter had become unserviceable. Weather was fine and visibility 25 miles.
	Sgt. P. H Blake (Nav)	Escort			
	A410055 P/O W. Hayes	MA.32			
	F/O J. R. Coulson				
	A420255 F/O R. L. McLaughlin				
	NZ.421304 P/O C. E. Weinberg				
	F/S C. E. Sillence				
	A.4212447 Sgt. J. G. Nott				
Sgt. P. J. Jordan					
Lib. Mk.VI. J/200 EV824	Can.J26768 F/O R. H. Cook (Capt)	ASR search	110845Z	111230Z	Whilst on circuits and bumps "J" was instructed by R/T to carry out a search for an aircraft which had been reported by civilians to have crashed into the sea off Madras. On instructions from an ASR Launch the air craft carried out a square search from a point 10 miles off Madras and followed with a parallel sweep to the coast. No sightings were made. No reports of any missing aircraft were recorded.
	Can.J35840 P/O E. R. Creed				
	Sgt. R. G. Huie (Nav)				
	Can.R99611 W/O G. D. Lawrence				
	Can.R95509 W/O R. E. Neill				
Sgt. D. W. Mitchell					
Lib. Mk.VI. O/200 EV??231	Can.J26667 F/O W. R. Hickman (Capt)	Traffic Patrol off Madras to Amarda Road	110125Z	110725Z	"O" carried out a traffic sweep whilst in transit to Amarda Road. More than 20 friendly ships were sighted during the sortie, the majority proceeding independently. No enemy sightings were made.
	Can.J27449 F/O P. S. Turner (Nav)				
	NZ.422088 F/O L. C. Pryce				
	Can.R96738 W/O J. A. Robichaud				
	Can.J20670 P/O J. R. Tremblay				
	Can.R10497 W/O H. O. Hoobin				
	Sgt. D. Forsyth				
	Sgt. I. D. Smith				
Lib. Mk.VI. O/200 EV??231	Can.J26667 F/O W. R. Hickman (Capt)	Traffic Patrol Amarda Road to Madras	130320Z	130900Z	Return to base and carrying out a traffic patrol "O" sighted 4 independently routed allied Ships. No enemy contacts or sightings were made. Weather remained fine with visibility 20 miles.
	Can.J27449 F/O P. S. Turner (Nav)				
	NZ.422088 F/O L. C. Price				
	Can.R96738 W/O J. A. Robichaud				
	Can.J20670 P/O J. R? Tremblay				
	Can.R10497 W/O H. O. Hoobin				
	Sgt. D. Forsyth				
	Sgt. I. D. Smith				

Lib.Mk.VI H/200 BZ868	Can.J21200 F/O A. D. Waltman (Capt)	A/S Escort	150300Z	151448Z	A.M.8 was met at 0519Z hours and escorted for the next 8 hours without incident. Scattered rainstorms were encountered during the sortie. Weather remained cloudy though visibility was at times as much as 30 miles.
	Can.J23143 F/O P. D. Fetherstone (Nav)	A.M.8			
	Can.J85617 P/O L. G. Robinson				
	Can.J20670 P/O J. R. Tremblay				
	Can.R135148 W/O J. L. Doyle				
	A.426068 F/S L. A. Edwards				
	Sgt. R. J. Ratchiffe				
	Sgt. J. J. Maxwell				
Lib.Mk.VI. J/200 EV824	F/O R. A. Hobbs (Capt)	Met flight to 18.00.N 90.00.E	160015Z	161120Z	No shipping was met during this sortie. The aircraft set course for 18.00.N 90.00.E and made a weather report at that point at a height of 1200 ft. Intermittent showers were experienced, there being 7/10th Cu and 1/10 As with a base at 1500 feet. Visibility was 10 miles.
	F/S D. T. Dresch (Nav)				
	F/O H. J. Markley				
	A.425704 F/S R. Lyons				
	A.425430 F/S F. W. Davidson				
	Sgt. D. W. Mitchell				
	Sgt. R. Lord				
	Sgt. K. G. Rose				
Lib.Mk.VI. T/200 BZ994	F/L R. C. Wescombe (Capt)	A/S Convoy escort JC62B	172315Z	180855Z	At 180021Z hours JC62B was met and the aircraft commenced its escort patrol which lasted 7 ¾ hrs. A number of other ships were met during the sortie and two e/vs proceeding together challenged the aircraft which replied. No enemy contacts were made and "T" landed at 0855. Cloud was 7/10th and weather showery with visibility often more than 25 miles.
	Can.J27447 F/O R. W. Youngblud (Nav)				
	Can.R460736 W/O H. W. Lucking				
	Can.R121807 W/O E. J. Penfold				
	Can.R92954 W/O H. W. Banstead				
	F/S V. Elwick				
	F/S F. Davidson				
	Sgt. B. Willcock				
Lib.Mk.V H/200 BZ868	F/L R. C. Wescombe (Capt)	Search for overdue Martinet area	200741Z	201510Z	Search in the patrol area was commenced at 0912. Just before leaving at dusk a yellow object was seen for a second but then lost to view. This position was reported. As the aircraft was leaving the patrol area (it now being quite dark) a W/T message was received from Control instructing the captain to investigate 09.37.N 78.37.E as a report of an aircraft crashing there had been received. This message had apparently been passed twice before but as it was each time in the Ferry Rekoh code it could not be decoded. The aircraft returned and landed at 1510Z.
	Can.J27447 F/O R. W. Youngblud (Nav)				
	Can.R460736 W/O H. W. Lucking	09.45N 78.10E			
	Can.R121807 W/O E. J. Penfold	1018N 78.39E			
	Can.R92954 W/O H. W. Banstead	09.10N 78.36E			
	F/S F. W. Davidson	10.00N			
	F/S V. Elwick	79.13E			
	Sgt. B. Willcock				
Lib.Mk.VI O/200 EW321	Can.J26768 F/O R. H. Cook (Capt)	A/S Escort MA.33	210755Z	211425Z	M.A.33 was picked up as an ASV contact at 45 miles and sighted at 0843Z. The escort proceeded without incident. At 1035 a large American m/v was met and challenged. In view of her second hoist
	Sgt. P. G. Huie (Nav)				
	Can.J35840 P/O. E. R. Creed				

	Can.R95509 W/O R. E. Neill				disagreeing with that supplied she was challenged again and this time ran up the correct hoist. At 1303Z (last light) O left MA.33 which continued her northerly course at 12 knots. Weather was overcast and visibility 15 miles.
	A.425704 W/O R. Lyons				
	Can.R134114 W/O E. O. Norman				
	Sgt. C. R. Spiers				
	Sgt. T. C. McEwan				
Lib.Mk.VI. X/200 EV869	F/L R. I. McClellan (Capt)	Search for missing Liberator of 1673 H.C.U.	230930Z	231434Z	The missing aircraft had been lost during a night exercise between Madras and 17°N or possibly between Madras and 12°N. X {sic} searched an area between Madras and 17°N but with no result, landing at 1434Z.
	F/O C. R. Cudworth (Nav)				
	P/O G. W. Jackson				
	Can.R133371 W/O J. J. Smith				
	Can.R113931 W/O G. W. White				
	A.410572 F/S W. D. Tampion				
	F/S D. Bates				
	Sgt. J. P. Irvine				
Lib.Mk.VI. P/200 EW317	Can.J21200 F/O A. D. Waltman (Capt)	Search for missing Liberator of 1673 H.C.U.	231045Z	231442Z	"P" Carried out a search south of Madras as far as 11.53.N 4 sightings were made of merchant ships but nothing was seen of the aircraft. ASV was used throughout.
	Can.J23143 F/O P. D. Fetherstone (Nav)				
	Can.J85617 P/O L. G. Robinson				
	Can.R135722 W/O J. F. Campbell				
	Can.R135148 W/O J. L. Doyle				
	A.426068 F/S L. A. Edwards				
	Sgt. H. J. Ratcliffe				
	Sgt. J. J. Maxwell				
Lib.Mk.VI. O/200 EV321	F/L R. C. Wescombe (Capt)	Search for missing Liberator of 1673 H.C.U.	230937Z	231456Z	Carrying out a similar search as aircraft X above and using A.S.V. "O's" flight was without incident and no sightings or contacts were made. Weather was fine, cloud nil and visibility 15 miles.
	Can.J27447 F/O R. W. Youngblud (Nav)				
	Can.R160736 W/O H. W. Lucking				
	Can.R121807 K. J. Penfold ³¹				
	Can.R92954 W/O H. W. Banstead				
	F/S V. Elwick				
	F/S F. Davidson				
	Sgt. B. Willcock				
Lib. Mk. VI N/200 KG849	Can.J26768 F/O R. H. Cook (Capt)	Search for missing Liberator	230929Z	231505Z	On a Northerly search through 16.20.N and thence to 17.00.N A/C "N" sighted two merchant ships but saw nothing of the
	Sgt. P. H. Blake (Nav)				

³¹ No rank given on record, but previous entries give it as W/O.

	Can.J35840 P/O E. R. Creed	as above			missing aircraft or crew. ASV was unserviceable. Weather was overcast with 10/10th cloud at 8000. Visibility 8 miles.
	Can.R95509 W/O R. E. Neill				
	Can.R134114 W/O E. O. Norman				
	Sgt. C. R. Spiers				
	Sgt. T. C. McEwan				
Lib.Mk.VI M/200 KG847	F/O P. S. Lamb (Capt)	Search for missing Liberator as above	240207Z	241004Z	These three aircraft carried out a search along parallel tracks 090 and reciprocal, 5 miles between tracks between 12.50.N and 11.58.N. With the exception of sighting the ASR Launch nothing else was seen. Weather was fine and visibility 18 to 20 miles.
	F/O G. Harber				
	A.410987 F/O L. S. Jarratt (Nav)				
	NZ522730 F/S J. C. Sorensen				
	R.121807 W/O E. J. Penfold				
	F/S W. L. J?enkinson				
	NZ422722 F/S G. Suddaby				
	Sgt. H. Beresford				
Lib.Mk.VI. O/200 EW321	P/O P. H. Charlton (Capt)	Search for missing Liberator as above	240200Z	240957Z	
	NZ424531 P/O C. D. Davidson (Nav)				
	NZ422437 P/O A. W. Saunders				
	NZ422985 F/O R. C. Camm				
	W/O S. S. Carpenter				
	R141073 W/O W. M. Rye				
	Sgt. D. B. Deeley				
	Sgt. P. F. Martin				
Lib.Mk.VI. P/200 EW317	Can.J232216 F/O G. McKeen (Capt)	Search for missing Liberator as above	³²		
	F/O J. R. Coulson				
	Can.J22238 F/O W. J. Saunders (Nav)				
	A.421868 F/O R. H. Meyer				
	A.420255 F/O R. L. McLaughlin				
	A.417?447 F/S G. Nott				
	F/S C. E. Sillence				
	Sgt. P. J. Jordan				
Lib.Mk.VI J/200 EV824	Can.J26768 F/O R. H. Cook (Capt)	Search for missing Liberator as above	240306Z	241315Z	"J" carried out a CLA search 4 miles between tracks, between 14.27.N and 15.40.N. 2 merchant ships were met but no sightings made of the missing aircraft. Weather was overcast and visibility 6 miles.
	Sgt. P. C. Huie (Nav)				
	Can.J35840 P/O E. R. Creed				
	Can.R95509 W/O R. E. Neill				

³² No take off or landing times given in original document.

	A.425704 W/O R. Lyons					
	Can.R134114 W/O. E. O. Norman					
	Sgt. C. R. Spiers					
	Sgt. T. C. McEwan					
Lib.Mk.V. C/200 BZ831	Can.J26667 P/O W. R. Hickman (Capt)	Search for missing	240338Z	241428Z	This aircraft carried out a CLA search between 15.03.N and 16.18.N at 1215Z intercepted a W/T message from a Catalina aircraft "Three K Type dinghies no survivors light wreckage at 14.40.N 80.40.E" At 1319Z in darkness the aircraft was over a light possibly a flame in position 14.35.N 81.16.E the aircraft flashed but received no answer the light continuing to burn fairly steadily. A similar light was observe 10 miles to the S.W.	
	Can.J27449 P/O P. S. Turner (Nav)	Liberator as above				
	NZ422088 P/O L. C. Pryce					
	Can.R96738 W/O J. A. Robichaud					
	Can.J20670 P/O J. R. Tremblay					
	Can.R10497 W/O H. O. Hoobin					
	Sgt. D. Forsyth					
	Sgt. I. D. Smith					
Lib.Mk.VI. M/200 KG847	F/L R. I. McClellan (Capt)	Search for missing	242325Z	251128Z		"M" set course for the position in which the dinghies and wreckage were reported but nothing was sighted on arrival. The ASR launch was sighted and contacted by v/s signals but it too had seen nothing. At 14.40.N 80.49.E a patch of phosphorescence was seen by M and also by N. A CLA search with vis 1 mile was carried out over an area 30 miles square, followed by a similar search outside the first area with visibility 2 miles but no sightings resulted. There was no cloud and visibility 15 miles.
	Can.J24619 F/O H. J. Weeden (Nav)	Liberator as above				
	F/O C. W. Jackson					
	Can.R133371 W/O J. J. Smith					
	Can.R113931 W/O G. W. White					
	A410572 F/S W. D. Tampion					
	F/S D. Bates					
	Sgt. J. P. Irvine					
Lib.Mk.VI. N/200 KG849	F/L R. C. Wescombe (Capt)	Search for missing	250507Z	251347Z	Aircraft M having requested an additional aircraft to assist in the search N was despatched and instituted a C.L.A. search in an area immediately N of that which M was covering. This was maintained for eight hours but no sightings or contacts were obtained.	
	Can.J27447 F/O R. W. Youngblud (Nav)	Liberator as above				
	Can.R1460736 W/O H. W. Lucking					
	Can.R171819 W/O J. Defir					
	Can.R92954 W/O H. W. Banstead					
	W/O F. W. Davidson					
	F/S V. Elwick					
	Sgt. B? Willcock					
Lib.Mk.VI. N/200 KG849	J21200 F/O A. D. Waltman (Capt)	Met. Flight	300001Z	300958Z		A course was flown for 17°N 90.E and thence to 16.90.N weather reports being made at each of these positions. There was 5/10th Cu. and 2/10th As with base at 1000 ft. Weather was fine and visibility 15 miles. No sightings of shipping were made.
	J23143 F/O P. D. Fetherstone (Nav)					
	J85627 P/O L. G. Robinson					
	R135722 W/O J. P. Campbell					

	R135148 W/O J. L. Doyle				
	A416088 F/S L. A. Edwards				
	Sgt. R. J. Ratcliffe				
	Sgt. J. J. Maxwell				

			The Discussion Group meetings are well under way and subjects have been listed weekly for discussion by the various sections. Post-war reconstruction forms the basis of all these meetings.
			Regular Parades are held by the Station Commanding Officer and 3 flights from the Squadron are detailed for each Parade, amounting to 10 officers and 100 men.
			Annoyance and serious discomfort were caused during the last 3 days of the month by failure of the water system and the inability of the P.W. Department to put the matter right quickly.
			Personnel
			(a) Promotions
			The following promotions were authorised during the course of the month :-
			F/Lt. R. C. Westcombe to S/Ldr. w.e.f. 16th Oct. 1944
			F/O. G. Banner to F/Lt. " 3rd July 1944
			F/O. R. C. Kelly to F/Lt. " 22nd June 1944
			P/O. C. E? Weinberg to F/O. " 30th June 1944
			P/O. P. C. Burrows to F/O " " " "
			P/O. R. B. Durham to F/O " 23rd August 1944
			P/O. L. G. Robinson to F/O " 28th August 1944
			P/O. D. J. McKee to F/O " 15th April 1944
			P/O. K? R. Creed to F/O " 3rd March 1944
			(b) Movements
			F/Lt. T. E. Wade, F/O. A. D. McIntyre, and F/O. F. S. Rae all of the R.A.A.F. and P/O. W. W. Reid (RCAF) arrived on posting to the Squadron on 17th Oct. 44.
			F/O. H. J. Weeden (R.C.A.F.) left to attend a Ship Recognition Course at Colombo on 4th October 1944, F/O. J. W. H. Lakin returning from a similar course on 5th Oct.
			F/O. A. D. Dixon (RAAF) was attached on the 7th Oct. to 1673 H.C.U. pending posting for Instructor duties.
			F/O N. G. Green returned from a Gunnery Leaders' Course at Armada Road on 8th Oct, whilst P/O A. M. Beamer left for Ranchi on 12th to attend an Aircraft Recognition Instructors; Course.
			F/O. C. R. Cudworth and F/O. P. S. Lamb left the Unit to attend a Jungle Training Course at Poona on 19th and F/O J. C? Simpson arrived on posting to the Squadron on 17th Oct.
			(c) Morale
			The morale of the Squadron is good, an upward trend always being noticeable when Operations are being carried out.
			(d) Sports and Entertainment
			Sports are becoming increasingly popular. Teams from the Officers' Mess, the Sergeants' Mess and from the Airmens' Mess are competing in the Station Cricket League, whilst a Squadron Soccer Eleven is entered in the Inter-Unit Competition. During this month the organisation for starting off a Rugby sidge has been set a foot. Swimming at the new Madras Pool continues and Liberty runs operate from the Squadron three times a week to convey the swimmers to the Pool. Three Liberty runs each week also enable Squadron personnel to attend the free cinema shows and enjoy the other amenities of the Y.M.C.A. at Saidapet. A weekly Gramophone recital of light classical music is given and, although audiences are small, those who attend are very appreciative. The Station Cinema, a reasonably good one, accommodated in a hanger, provides a change of programme each evening and is very popular. Two Dances were held during the course of the month, one on the Station, and one in Madras.
			Wing Commander, Commanding
			No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.

October 1944: Form 541

200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	P/O. P. H. Charlton (Capt)	A/S Convoy escort MA34	030433Z	031328Z	Convoy MA34 was met and air escort commenced at 0500Z. At 1140Z the aircraft received instructions by W/T to land at Base not later than 1330Z. MA34 was left at 1218Z, its composition being 1 liner and 2 E/Vs. Weather was fine, with 7/10 cloud at 10,000 ft., visibility being 20 miles.
	NZ422437 F/O. A. W. Saunders				
	Sgt. P. H. Blake (Nav)				
	F/O F. R. Holmes				
	NZ422585? P/O R. Camm				
	C10808 W/O S. S. Carpenter				
	Can.R141075 W/O Rye, W. M.				
	Sgt. Deeley D?				
	Sgt. Martin, P. J.				
Sgt. A. McNaught					
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	Can.J16768 F/O R. H. Cook (Cpt)	Search for Naval Launch DP63	041040Z	041545Z	Naval Launch DP63 being overdue, aircraft "V" took off to search South from Pondicherry as far as 09.10N. 79.28E. Radar blips on two independent M/Vs were investigated by no sighting of the launch was made. Weather was good, with visibility 25 miles.
	F/Sgt. P. G? Huie (Nav)				
	Can.J35840 F/O R. H? Ceed ³³				
	Can.J39814 P/O. A. H. Beamer				
	Can.R134114 W/O E? O. Norman				
	Can.R95509 W/O R. E. Neill				
	F/Sgt. H. S. Claymore				
Sgt. T. C. McEwan					
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Can.J23216 F/O. G. D. McKeen (Cpt)	Search for Naval Launch DP63	050332Z	051330Z	Continuing the search for the overdue launch, aircraft "M" sighted it being towed towards the shore by three fishing vessels in position 10.15N. 79.30E. The crew of the launch were informed by V/S signals that help was coming. "M" then set course Southward to contact a naval launch that was searching to bring it to the spot. At 0706Z the position of DP63 was signalled by V/S to the searching launch and the aircraft returned to DP63, which was now being towed into a small inlet (10.20N 79.30E). Base had been informed of these
	Can.J22238 F/O. W. J. Saunders (Nav)				
	NZ422347 P/O. A. W. Saunders				
	Aus.420255 F/L R. L. McLaughlin				
	Aus.421868 F/L. R. H. Meyer				
	F/S. C. E. Sillence				
Aus.421447 F/S. J. G. Nott					

³³ On record this is Ceed, but probably should be Creed.

	Sgt. P. J. Jordan				developments by W/T. A request from Base for news of the condition of launch could not be answered immediately and the second launch was asked by R/T to convey this information via Mandapam to 225 Group when the crew of DP63 had been taken off. At 1206Z "M" left and set course for Base, landing at 1330Z.
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EV?321	F/O. P. S. Lamb (Cpt)	Met. Flight to 16N.90E	070024Z	070930Z	An area of bad weather and heavy electrical storms caused aircraft "O" to set course for a point N of 14°N. 90°E., which was the original turning point. At 14.47N. 90.00E. course was set for base in view of high fuel consumption. Weather at this point was fair with 5/10 Cu, & Cu/Nimb, visibility almost unlimited and estimated at 50 miles.
	Aus.410987 F/O. L. S. Jarrett (Nav)				
	NZ.422730 W/O. J. C. Sorensen				
	NZ.422732 W/O. G? T. Suddaby				
	Can.R1718101? W/O J. Defir				
	F/Sgt. C. Jenkinson				
	Sgt. N. Baresford				
	Sgt. K? Purdy				
	Sgt. R. Moore				
Liberator MK.VI. N/200 KG849	F/Lt. R. I. McClellan (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort JC63.	062236Z	070910Z	
	Sgt. P. H. Blake (Nav)				
	F/O. C. W. Jackson				
	P/O. F. R. Holmes				
	Can.R113931 W/O. G. W. White				
	Can.R133371 W/O. J. J. Smith				
	F/Sgt. D. Bates				
	Aus.410572 F/Sgt. D. Tampion				
	Sgt. J. P. Irvine				
	Sgt. R. Riddell				
	Sgt. D. T. Roache				
	Sgt. F. Spearpoint				
Liberator MK.VI. N?/200 EV824	F/Lt. G. Banner (Cpt)	Met Flight to 16°N. 90E.	140025Z	141005Z	The furthest point reached was 15.45N. 89.00E., the aircraft then turning back owing to heavy fuel consumption. At 0855Z at this point weather was fair and visibility 50 with 2/10 scattered Cumulus cloud.
	P/O. J. Broomhead (Nav)				
	P/O A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/Sgt. R. C. Shepherd				
	Sgt. ? Taylor				
	Sgt. ? T. Smith				
	Sgt. J. Griffiths				
	Sgt. D. Claircourt				
	Sgt. D. B. Miller				
	Sgt. P. V. Dear				
Liberator MK.VI.	F/Lt. R. I. McClellan (Cpt)	U-Boat search	141209Z	141806Z	A suspected U-Boat sighting have been made by a W.O.U. post, aircraft "O" set

O/200 EV321	Sgt. P. H. Blake (Nav)				course for the position, 12.10N, 80.10E, and then instituted a square search around it. 2 Radar blips were obtained but proved on investigation to be friendly shipping. Search was maintained for 5 hours with ASV but no sightings or enemy contacts were made.
	F/O. G. W. Jackson				
	Can.R113931 W/O. G. W. White				
	Can.R133371 W/O. J. J. Smith				
	F/Sgt. D. Bates				
	Aus.410572 F/Sgt. D. Tampion				
	Sgt. J. P. Irvine				
	Sgt. R. Riddell				
	Sgt. F. Spearpoint				
Liberator MK.VI. J/200 EV824	F/O R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes between 13.07N and 18°00N	180257Z	181330Z	The anti U-Boat patrol was maintained for 10 ½ hours but no enemy contacts or sightings were made. 4 independent friendly M/Vs were met. Weather remained fair with 5/10 low cloud and 9/10 high cloud and visibility 10 miles.
	F/Sgt. D. T. Dresch (Nav)				
	F/O H. J. Markley				
	Sgt. C. E? Ewers				
	Sgt. J. A. Roantree				
	Sgt. ? W. Spiller				
	Sgt. W. F. Lockhart				
	Sgt. B. I. Harvey				
	Sgt. G. C. Phillips				
	Sgt. B. S. McDermott				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	Can.J26667 P/O W. R. Hickman (Cpt)	Anti U-Boat patrol on shipping lanes between 13°N and 18°N.	190243Z	190348Z	33 minutes after taking off a fuel leak in No.3 engine was suspected. "V" sent a W/T message informing base that the aircraft was returning and landed 28 minutes later.
	Can.J27449 P/O. P. S. Turner (Nav)				
	NZ422088 F/O. ? C. Pryce				
	Can.J28?670 F/O. J. R. Tremblay				
	Aus.428932 F/O. F. S. Rae				
	Can.R96738 W/O. J. A. Robichand				
	Can.R104978 W/O. H. D. Hoobiin				
	F/Sgt. D. W. Mitchell				
	Sgt. I. D. Smith				
	Sgt. D. W. Pelling				
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EV321	F/Lt. R. C. Kelly (Cpt)	Anti U-Boat patrol on shipping lanes between 13°N and 18°N.	190437Z	191248Z	Aircraft "O" was airborne as substitute for "V" above. ASV was used throughout the 8 hours patrol but nothing was seen except a number of sightings of friendly shipping. Weather was overcast with 8/10 cloud at 1300 ft, visibility being 10 miles.
	Aus. 410987 F/O. L. S. Jarratt (Nav)				
	F/O D. H? Wright				
	Aus.423128 F/O. D. W. Hyde				
	F/Sgt. W. ? Harper				
	F/Sgt. A. R. Brown				
	Aus.422804 F/Sgt. L. R.				

	Lord				
	Sgt. R. T. Winstone				
	Sgt. J. P. Wilson				
Liberator MK.VI. S/200 EV832	Can.J26768 F/O. R. H. Cook (Cpt)	Anti U-Boat patrol between 13°N and 18°N along shipping lanes.	200236Z	201335Z	A large number of friendly ships were met in the course of this patrol but no enemy contacts or sightings resulted. Weather was cloudy and visibility 25 miles.
	Can.J36845 F/O D. J. McKee (Nav)				
	Can.J35840 F/O. E. R. Creed				
	Can.J39153 P/O. F. A. Pettus				
	Can.R134114 W/O. E. O. Norman				
	Aus.425704 W/O. R. Lyons				
	F/Sgt. H. S. Claymore				
	Sgt. M. W. Tapsell				
	Sgt. H. W. Marnie?				
	Sgt. B. S. McDermott				
Liberator MK.VI. L/200 KG854	F/Lt. D. F. Redrup (Cpt)	A/S patrol outer shipping lane Cuttack to 13°N.	210442Z	210905Z	Having conveyed supplies and essential personnel to Cuttack with the 3 aircraft detached there "L" returned on the following day and carried out an A/S en route. The sortie was uneventful. Weather was good and visibility 15 miles.
	Aus.414711 ³⁴ F/O. J. A. Crawford				
	F/O. G. G. Harper				
	F/O H. W. Scalton				
	F/O. F. B. Richardson				
	F/Sgt. Thomas				
Liberator MK.VI. K/200 KG853	F/Lt. R. I. McClellan (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes from Cuttack to 13°N.	210451Z	210902Z	Aircraft "K" had gone to Cuttack on a similar mission as "L" above and, returning, also carried out an A/S patrol. No enemy sightings were made.
	Sgt. P. H. Blake (Nav)				
	F/O. G. W. Jackson				
	Can.R171815 W/O J. Defer??				
	F/Sgt. J. P. Irvine				
	Sgt. D. B. Deeley				
Liberator MK.VI. S/200 EV832	S/Ldr. R. C. Wescombe (Cpt)	Met. Flight to 14°N 90°E. thence 13°N 90°E. and to Base.	220044Z	220945Z	The full sortie was flown, weather at furthest point being fine, with 2/10 Sc.Cu, visibility 20/30 sea miles, and wind 086/6 Knots.
	Can.J27447 F/O. R. W. Youngblud (Nav)				
	Can.R160736 W/O. H. W. Lucking				
	Can.R92954 W/O. H. W. Benstead				
	Can.R.111176 W/O. W. S. Esdon				
	Can.R121807 W/O. R. J. Penfold				
	F/Sgt. V. Elwick				
	F/Sgt. R. Willcock				
	Sgt. K. Ramsdale				
Liberator MK.VI.	Can.J23216 F/O. G. D. McKeen (Cpt)	Met. Flight to 14°N	230035Z	231003Z	Nothing except one friendly M/V was seen throughout this flight. Weather was

³⁴ Crawford's service number was 414771, not that shown here on the record.

S/200 EV832	Can.J22238 F/O. W. J. Saunders (Nav)	90°E. thence			fine, visibility 15, and wind 067/10 knots.
	NZ.422347 F/O. A. W. Saunders	16°N			
	Aus.420255 F/O. R. L. McLaughlin	90°E. and to Base.			
	Aus.421868 F/Lt. R. H. Meyer				
	F/Sgt. G. E. Sillence				
	Aus.421447 F/Sgt. J. G. Nott				
	Sgt. P. J. Jordan				
	Aus.428932 F/O F. S. Rae				
	Sgt. H. O. Normington				
	Sgt. H. R. Nash				
Liberator MK.VI. L/200 KG854	S/Ldr. R. C. Wescombe (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes between 13°N and 10°N.	270034Z	271055Z	Aircraft "L" maintained an A/S patrol for 10 ½ hours during daylight using ASV but no enemy contacts or sightings were made. Weather remained fine with visibility 20 to 30 miles.
	Can.J27447 F/O. R. W. Youndblud (Nav)				
	Can.R160736 W/O. H. W. Lucking				
	Can.R92954 W/O. H. W. Benstead				
	Can.R111176 W/O. W. S. Esdon				
	Can.R121807 W/O K? J. Penfold				
	Aus.425430 W/O. F. Davidson				
	F/Sgt. V. Elwick				
	F/Sgt. B. Willcock				
	F/Sgt. K. Ramsdale				
Liberator MK.VI. S/200 EV832	Can.J26768 F/O. R. H. Cook (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes between 10°N to 17.40N.	272359Z	281108Z	After investigating 4 Radar blips which proved to be friendly shipping, "S" at 0553Z obtained a blip at 5 miles in position 16.32N. 82.34E. and proceeded to investigate. The blip, a sharp small one, faded although a dark streak appeared to show on the surface of the water. The captain began a Cobra 5 patrol around the position and reported the disappearing blip to W/T control. At 0658Z the small clear blip reappeared again and once again faded. Baiting tactics were employed and a Cobra 8 began at 0846Z in accordance with W/T instructions from Control. "S" left patrol at 0903Z and returned to Base.
	F/Sgt. P. C. Huie (Nav)				
	Can.J35840 F/O E. R. Creed.				
	Can.J36845 P/O. D. J. McKee				
	C10808 W/O S. S. Carpenter				
	Can.J39153 F/O F. A. Pettus				
	Aus.425704 W/O. R. Lyons				
	F/Sgt. H. S. Claymore				
	Sgt. J. F. Kappes				
	Sgt. K? Purdy				
Liberator MK.VI. N/200	F/Lt. R. O. Kelly (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes Puri	280133Z	280654Z	Returning to base from Cuttack aircraft "N" carried out an A/S patrol en route. 8 friendly ships were seen but no enemy
	Aus.410987 F/O. L. S. Jarrett ³⁵ (Nav)				

KG849	F/O. D. ? Wright	to 13°N			sightings made, ASV was used throughout. Weather was stormy and visibility not more than 5 miles.	
	F/Sgt. W. E. Harper					
	Aus.423128 F/O D. W. Hyde					
	F/Sgt. A. R. Brown					
	Sgt. R. T. Winstone					
	Sgt. J. P. Wilson					
	Aus.423102 F/O. N. G. Green					
Liberator MK.VI. H/200 KG859	Can.J23216 F/O. G. D. McKeen (Cpt)	U-Boat hunt to exhaustion (datum 15.28N 90.15E)	280505Z	281550Z	At 0856Z whilst proceeding to the given datum the beam gunner reported a sighting of a submerged object, larger and darker than a whale, in position 14.55N, 88.25E. Flame floats were dropped but nothing seen. After some difficulty with the W/T transmitter Groups 445 and 472 were sent to Control – Colombo acknowledging. Later on instructions from base the aircraft informed the Naval Task Force in the area, and set course for base at 1224Z.	
	Can.J22238 F/O. W. J. Saunders (Nav)					
	Aus.420255 F/O. R. L. McLaughlin					
	Aus.421868 F/Lt. R. H. Mayer ³⁶					
	F/Sgt. C. ? Sillence					
	Aus.421447 F/Sgt. J. G. Nott					
	Sgt. P. J. Jordan					
	Sgt. H. O? Normington					
	Sgt. H. R. Nash					
	F/O J. R. Coulson					
Liberator MK.VI. H/200 KG851 ³⁷	F/Lt. R. C. Kelly (Cpt)	U-Boat hunt to exhaustion	291054Z	292104Z	Following a U-Boat sighting report, these four aircraft took off to sweep an area bounded by 14.25N, 15.35N, 86.00E, 91.40E., along parallel tracks 20 miles apart. At 291410Z aircraft "S" picked up 3 blips which subsequently disappeared in position 14.16N, 85.55E. This was reported to base and further investigation made by "S" failed to produce a visual sighting. Weather remained fine with bright moonlight. Cu. varying from 3/10 to 8/10 with base 1500/2000 ft. was present. Aircraft "S" experienced a failure of ASV, 17 minutes after obtaining the three blips mentioned above, but the other 3 aircraft used their ASV throughout.	
	Aus.410987 F/O. L. S. Jarrett (Nav)					
	F/O D. E. Wright					
	F/Sgt. W. H? Martin???					
	Aus.423128 F/O. D. W. Hyde					
	F/Sgt. A. R. Brown					
	Sgt. R. T. Winstone					
	Sgt. J. P. Wilson					
	Aus.423102 F/O. N. G. Green					
Liberator MK.VI. S/200 EV832	Can.J26768 F/O. R. H. Cook (Cpt)	U-Boat hunt to exhaustion	291048Z	292050Z		
	Can.J36845 F/O. D. J. McKee (Nav)					
	Can.J35?840 F/O. E. R. Creed					
	Sgt. H. W. Marnie					
	Can.J39153 P/O. F. A. Pettus					
	Sgt. M. W. Tapsell					
	NZ.422688 W/O. T.					

³⁵ Name spelt Jarrett in record, but Australian records give it as Jarratt.

³⁶ Name spelt Mayer in record, but Australian records give it as Meyer.

³⁷ Both this and the previous entry are listed as "H" but serial numbers differ.

	Cammock				
	Sgt. J. McDermott				
	NZ.422732 W/O. G. T. Suddaby				
	Sgt. H. S. Claymore				
Liberator MK.VI. L/200 KG854	S/Ldr. R. C. Wescombe (Cpt)	U-Boat hunt to exhaustion	291045Z	292145Z	
	Can.J27447 F/O. R. W. Youngblud (Nav)				
	Can.R160736 W/O. H. O. Lucking				
	Can.R92954 W/O. H. W. Benstead				
	Can.R111176 W/O. W. S. Esdon				
	Can.R121807 W/O. E. J. Penfold				
	Aus.425430 W/O. F. Davidson				
	F/Sgt. V. Elwick				
	F/Sgt. B. Willcock				
	Sgt. K. Ramsdale				
Liberator MK.VI. J/200 EV824	Aus.400162 F/Lt. T. E. Wade (Cpt)	U-Boat hunt to exhaustion	291130Z	292248Z	(4th aircraft as mentioned)
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)				
	Can.J38087 P/O. W. Reid				
	Aus.429013 R. W. Kelly (Sgt)				
	Aus.423523 Sgt. B. A. Charters				
	Sgt. M. F. McGonigle				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. A. G. Royce				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. C. B. Rimar				
	Sgt. D. W. Bunkell				
	Sgt. R. W. Riddell				
Liberator MK.VI. N/200 KG845	Can.J23216 F/O. G. D. McKeen (Cpt)	A/S Convoy escort CJ41	300558Z	301625Z	Aircraft "N" relieved "V" and provided air escort to convoy CJ41 on a southerly course for 6 hours. The sortie was uneventful, a number of friendly ships being sighted but no enemy sightings were made. Weather was fair and visibility 15 miles. ASV was used throughout.
	Can.J22238 F/O. W. J. Saunders (Nav)				
	Aus.420255 F/O. R. L. McLaughlin				
	Aus.421868 F/Lt. R. H. Mayer				
	F/Sgt. C. E. Sillence				
	Aus.421447 F/Sgt. J. G. Nott				
	Sgt. P. J. Jordan				
	Sgt. H. O. Normington				
	Sgt. H. R. Mash				
	F/O. J. R. Coulson				

					Detachment at Cuttack
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/Lt. G. Banner (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes from 13°N to 20.20N.	200100Z	200712Z	Proceeding on Detachment to Cuttack Aircraft "V" carried out an uneventful traffic patrol en route. There was 10/10 St. Cu. at 1000 ft, and visibility was down to ½ mile.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/Sgt. R. C. Shepherd				
	Sgt. T. Smith				
	Sgt. J. Taylor				
	Sgt. J. Griffiths				
	Sgt. P. Dear				
	Sgt. D. A. Miller				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Can.J26667 F/O. W. R. Hickman (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 13.07N to 21.00N	192133Z	200815Z	Maintaining an A/S patrol for more than 9 hours "M" sighted nothing beyond a friendly convoy and 3 small naval craft.
	Can.J27449 F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav)				
	NZ422088 F/O. L. C. L. Price				
	Can.J20670 F/O. R. Tremblay				
	Can.R96738 W/O. C. Robichand				
	Can.R104978 W/O. H. D. Hoobin				
	Sgt. I. D. Smith				
	F/Sgt. D. W. Mitchell				
	Sgt. D. W. Pelling				
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 13.07N to 20.43N	200057Z	211058Z	Also en route to detachment at Cuttack, aircraft "O" maintained an A/S patrol for nearly 10 hours during which ASV was used. No enemy contacts or sightings resulted. As a result of 10/10 cloud at 800 feet and also rainstorms visibility was frequently down to almost zero.
	Can.J23143 F/Lt. P. D. Fetherstone (Nav)				
	Can.R135745 W/O. J. L. Doyle				
	Can.R135722 W/O. J. F. Campbell				
	Aus.426068 W/O. L. A. Edwards				
	F/Sgt. R. J. Ratcliffe				
	F/Sgt. T. J. Maxwell				
	Sgt. D. Wolfrey				
	Sgt. R. R. Reilly				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/Lt. G. Banner (Cap)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 18.40N to 21.00N thence 90.30E	³⁸		1 ½ hours after take off the ASV became U/S and a signal was sent to base requesting instructions. A reply was received with orders to continue to PLE. A convoy and several independent M/Vs were sighted but no enemy sightings were obtained. The weather was stormy with 10/10 Cu. and Cu. Niab. at 1000 ft.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/Sgt. R. C. Shepherd				
	Sgt. T. Smith				
	Sgt. J. Taylor				
	Sgt. J. Griffiths				
	Sgt. P. Dear				
	Sgt. D. A. Miller				
	Sgt. D. Claircourt				

³⁸ No times given in record.

Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	A/S sweep through 17.40N 83.40E to 17.32N. 83.49E. to 18.18N. 84.50E. to 18.25N 84.50E	211415Z	22031Z ³⁹	Early in the patrol two separate M/Vs were homed on to, following blips, and flares dropped revealed their identity. Later two further M/Vs were discovered through the same means. This sweep was completed without enemy sightings being obtained, ASV being on throughout.
	Can.J23143 F/Lt. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)				
	Can.R135745 W/O. J. L. Doyle				
	Can.R135722 W/O. J. F. Campbell				
	Aus.426068 W/O. L. A. Edwards				
	F/Sgt. R. J. Ratcliffe				
	F/Sgt. T. J. Maxwell				
	Sgt. D. Wolfrey				
	Sgt. R. R. Reilly				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Can.J26667 F/O. W. R. Hickman (Cpt)	A/S sweep through 16.26N, 83.00E. 16.31N, 82.55E. 17.40N, 83.40E. 17.32N, 83.49E.	211402Z	220047Z	Two flares were dropped to investigate a Radar blip which proved to be a friendly M/V. The sweep was continued for 9 ½ hours and ASV was used, but no enemy contacts or sightings resulted.
	Can.J27449 F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav)				
	NZ422088 F/O. L. C. L. Price				
	Can.J20670 F/O. R. Tremblay				
	Can.R96738 W/O. C. Robichand				
	Can.R104978 W/O. N. D. Hoobin				
	F/Sgt. D. W. Mitchell				
	Sgt. I. D. Smith				
	Sgt. D. W. Pelling				
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	F/Lt. G. Banner (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes between 17.40N, & 21.00N. to 90.30E.	220330Z	221407Z	At 0617Z the aircraft turned to investigate a blip at 8 miles in position 18.57N. 85.06E. The contact disappeared and the starboard beam gunner sighted a suspected swirl at 1 ½ miles. A marker was dropped and a Cobra 5 commenced. W/T reports were sent to Base and at 0845 the aircraft began a Cobra 8. At 0936Z a message from Base was received stating that a relief aircraft would arrive at 1330Z. At 1140Z in accordance with further instructions from Base a CLA search was begun with visibility 5 miles. PLE being reached at 1245Z, the aircraft set course for base.
	F/O. H. J. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/Sgt. R. C. Shepherd				
	Sgt. T. Smith				
	Sgt. J. Taylor				
	Sgt. J. Griffiths				
	Sgt. D. A. Miller				
	Sgt. D. Claircourt				
Liberator MK.VI. X/200 EV869	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S sweep through 18.23N. 83.18E. 18.45N. 86.29E. 19.41N. 86.35E.	220937Z	222005Z	Airborne from base, aircraft "Z" carried out an A/S sweep and proceeded to join the detachment at Cuttack. At 1338Z in position 19.02N. 85.29E. a disappearing ASV contact was obtained. This blip appeared again and disappeared each time the aircraft homed. Reports were sent to W/T Control and, at 1828Z, PLE was
	F/Sgt. V. T. Dresch (Nav)				
	F/O. H. ? Markley				
	Sgt. C. ? Ewers				
	Sgt. W. F. Lockhart				
	Sgt. K? Spiller				
	Sgt. A. Roantree				

³⁹ As entered in the record.

	Sgt. D. L. Harvey	18.07N.			reached and the aircraft was forced to return.
	Sgt. G. C. Phillips	83.30E.			
	Sgt. J. Page	19.32N. 86.10E.			
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	Sweep shipping lanes 17.40N to 21.00N.	221842Z	230440Z	This sortie, in which ASV was used throughout, proved uneventful, no enemy contacts or sightings being obtained. Weather was fine with visibility 15 miles.
	Can.J23143 F/Lt. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)				
	Can.R135745 W/O. J. L. Doyle				
	Can.R135722 W/O. J. F. Campbell				
	Aus.426068 W/O. L. A. Edwards				
	F/Sgt. R. J. Ratcliffe				
	F/Sgt. T. J. Maxwell				
	Sgt. D. Wolfrey				
	Sgt. R. R. Reilly				
	Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831		Can.J26667 F/O. W. R. Hickman (Cpt)	A/S Patrol shipping 17.40N to 21.00N.	
Can.J27449 F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav)					
NZ422088 F/O. L. C. L. Price					
Can.J20670 F/O. R. Tremblay					
Can.R96738 W/O. C. Robichand					
Can.R104978 W/O. H. D. Hoobin					
F/Sgt. D. W. Mitchell					
Sgt. I. D. Smith					
Sgt. D. W. Pelling					
Sgt. S. L. Parsons					
Liberator MK.VI. X/200 EV869	F/Lt. G. Banner (Cap)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 17.40N. to 21.00N. thence to 90.30E.	232316Z	240927Z	Maintaining a patrol of the shipping lanes for 8 ½ hours, during which ASV was used continuously, aircraft "X" made no enemy sightings, although 14 friendly ships were met during the course of the flight.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/Sgt. R. C. Shepherd				
	Sgt. T. Smith				
	Sgt. J. Taylor				
	Sgt. J. Griffiths				
	Sgt. P. Dear				
	Sgt. D. A. Miller				
	Sgt. D. Claircourt				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 17.40N. to 21.00N. thence to 90.30E.	242323Z	250945Z	Aircraft "O" carried out a day patrol for 9 hours. 20 mins., using ASV, but nothing beyond friendly merchant ships was seen. Weather remained fair, with visibility 10 miles, and at 2000 ft. a wind bearing 039 with a velocity of 20 knots was experienced.
	F/Sgt. V. T. Dresch (Nav)				
	F/O. H. J. Markley				
	Sgt. C. E. Ewers				
	Sgt. W. F. Lockhart				
	Sgt. E. Speller?				
	Sgt. A. Roantree				
	Sgt. B. L. Harvey				

	Sgt. G. C. Phillips				
	Sgt. J. Page				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 17.40N. to 21.00N. thence to 90.30E.	252328Z	260939Z	This 8 ½ hours daylight patrol was completed without incident, ASV being on continuously. Weather was thundery with visibility 15 miles.
	Can.J23143 F/Lt. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)				
	Can.R135745 W/O. J. L. Doyle				
	Can.R135722 W/O. J. F. Campbell				
	Aus.426068 W/O. L. A. Edwards				
	F/Sgt. R. J. Ratcliffe				
	F/Sgt. T. J. Maxwell				
	Sgt. D. Wolfrey				
	Sgt. R. R. Reilly				
Liberator MK.VI. N/200 KG849	F/Lt. R. C. Kelly (Cpt)	A/S patrol outer shipping lane Madras to 20.30N.	270220Z	270743Z	Taking off from St. Thomas Mt. with supplies for the detachment aircraft "N" carried out a shipping patrol en route and landed at Cuttack. The sortie was uneventful. ASV was on throughout. Weather was thundery with 10/10 Cu. Nimb. at 1000 ft. and visibility 3? miles.
	Aus.410987 F/O. L. S. Jarrett (Nav)				
	F/O. D. E. Wright				
	Aus.423128 P/O. D. W. Hyde				
	Aus.423102 F/O. N. G. Green				
	Aus.422804 F/Sgt. L. R. Lord				
	F/Sgt. A. Brown				
	F/Sgt. W. E. Harper				
	Sgt. J. P. Wilson				
	Sgt. R. J. Winstone.				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	F/Lt. G. Banner (Cap)	A/S sweep through 18.00N. 88.55E.	272140Z	280748Z	The patrol proceeded uneventfully until 0355Z when a W/T message from Control was received. This read "Attack enemy submarine in position 15.28N. 90.15E." The aircraft was then at 18.00N. 89.17E. and in view of the fact that it had already been airborne 6 ½ hours had to send a W/T reply to the effect that insufficient fuel remained. Having completed three circuits of the sweep, course was set for base at 0549Z. ASV was used throughout.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. Digby-Ovens				
	F/Sgt. R. C. Shepherd	16.00N.			
	Sgt. T. Smith	88.55E.			
	Sgt. J. Taylor	16.00N			
	Sgt. G. Griffiths	89.05E			
	Sgt. P. Dear	18.00N			
	Sgt. D. A. Miller	89.05E			
	Sgt. D. Claircourt				
Liberator MK.VI. X/200 EV869	Can.J26667 F/O. W. R. Hickman (Cpt)	A/S sweep through 18.00N. 88.35E.	272145Z	280910Z	In conjunction with "O" above, "X" swept an area immediately West of that covered by "O". This aircraft also received the message from Control and set course for the position given. Radar contacts and sightings of other search aircraft and the Naval Task Force were obtained but nothing of the enemy.
	Can.J27449 F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav)				
	NZ422088 F/O. L. C. L. Pryce	16.00N 88.35E.			
	Can.J20670 F/O. R. Tremblay	16.00N. 88.45E.			
	Can.R96738 W/O. C. Robichand	18.00N. 88.45E.			
	Can.R104978 W/O. H. D. Hoobin				
	F/Sgt. D. W. Mitchell				

	Sgt. I. D. Smith				
	Sgt. D. W. Pelling				
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	Square A/S Search with datum 15.28N 90.15E.	280343Z	281343Z	1 ½ hours after being airborne a W/T message from Control gave instructions for a search through an extended area from 0930Z to 1130Z. The patrols as laid down were completed but no enemy sightings resulted. Visibility remained at 15 miles.
	Can.J23143 F/Lt. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)				
	Can.R135745 W/O. J. L. Doyle				
	Can.R135722 W/O. J. F. Campbell				
	F/Sgt. R. J. Ratcliffe				
	F/Sgt. T. J. Maxwell				
	Sgt. D. Wolfrey				
	Sgt. R. R. Reilly				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S hunt with datum 15.28N 90.18E.	280507Z	281607Z	A W/T message received at 0615Z instructed that a Cobra 16 patrol should be carried out till 0930Z and the area extended from 0930Z till 1230Z. The searches were completed, ASV being used throughout, but no enemy sightings resulted.
	F/Sgt. V. T. Dersch (Nav)				
	F/O. H. J. Markley				
	Sgt. C. E. Ewers				
	Sgt. W. F. Lockhart				
	Sgt. A. Roantree				
	Sgt. E. Spiller				
	Sgt. B. L. Harvey				
	Sgt. G. C. Phillips				
	Sgt. J. Page				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW?321	Can.J26667 F/O. W. R? Hickman (Cpt)	CLA search 20 miles either side 15.36N 90?.25E	290643Z	291755Z	A Southbound convoy was sighted during this patrol and, later, other searching aircraft. No Radar contacts or sightings of the enemy were made.
	Can.J27449 F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav)				
	NZ422088 F/O. L. C. L. Pryce				
	Can.J20670 F/O. R. Tremblay				
	Can.R96738 W/O. C. Robichand				
	Can.R104978 W/O. H. D. Hoobin				
	F/Sgt. D. W. Mitchell				
	Sgt. I. D. Smith				
	Sgt. D. W. Pelling				
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	F/Lt. G. Banner (Cap)	A/S hunt 15.55N. 86.00E.	291030Z	292055Z	ASV was used throughout this 10 hour Night patrol, but no enemy contacts or sightings resulted.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens	15.55N. 91.55E.			
	F/Sgt. R. C. Shepherd	14.29N. 91.45E.			
	Sgt. T. Smith	15.45N. 91.45E.			
	Sgt. J. Taylor	15.45N. 91.45E.			
	Sgt. G. Griffiths	15.45N. 91.45E.			
	Sgt. P. Dear	15.45N. 86.00E.			
	Sgt. D. A. Miller				
	Sgt. D. Claircourt				
Liberator	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S	292225Z	301027Z	Air escort to CJ41 provided by aircraft

MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/O. J. H. Lakin (Nav)	Convoy CJ41.			"V" during 8 ½ hours. The sortie was without incident, ASV being used throughout. Weather was showery and at times restricted visibility to 5 miles.
	F/O. J. H. Markley				
	Sgt. C. E. Ewers				
	Sgt. W. F. Lockhart				
	Sgt. E. Spiller				
	Sgt. A. Roantree				
	Sgt. B. L. Harvey				
	Sgt. G. C. Phillips				
Sgt. J. Page					

November 1944: Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
St. Thomas Mt.	11th November 1944		W/Cdr. G. McKenzie today assumed command of No. 200 Squadron, vice W/Cdr. J. B. P. Thomas who has been repatriated.
			Training
			The accent this month has been entirely on Leigh Light Training to the necessary exclusion of other air training, which will be resumed when the position becomes more settled. Six crews are at present engaged on L.L.T. and it is anticipated that a further two will have started by December 7th. The programme has gone through fairly well with some hold-ups due to weather and the non-availability of the target vessel. The two most advanced crews are scheduled to begin night training on December 1st. The Squadron is now completely equipped with Leigh Light aircraft and a number of hours have been inevitably lost while the old aircraft were being prepared for allotment away, and before the new aircraft were available for flying after a full acceptance check.
			Analysis of Flying for November 1944 (St. Thomas Mt.)
			Sorties Hrs. Day Hrs. Night Total
			Operational 14 95.54 15.14 111.08
			Training and Non-Operational Flying 229.20 11.50 241.10
			Flying at Cuttack (Squadron Detachment).
			Sorties Hrs. Day Hrs. Night Total
			Operational 30 265.07 38.17 303.24
			Non-Ops 7.44 Nil 7.44
			General
			Anti-Gas Training was carried out during the month, six men attending the course each week. Discussion Groups have met, and in some sections discussion on post-war reconstruction themes has been intelligent and keen. Regular Parades have been held by the Station Commander, for which the Squadron has detailed 3 Flights amounting to 10 Officers and 100 Men. The Education Officer has been particularly active this month, encouraging personnel on the Squadron to take advantage of Correspondence Courses available to them. 14 applications for various courses were received from all ranks.
			A letter in appreciation of the work of the Squadron detachment at Cuttack was received from the Officer Commanding No. 173 Wing. It's contents reflected considerable credit on all Squadron personnel – both flying and ground crews. The letter was quoted in full in Squadron Routine Orders and did much to lift the general morale of the station.
			Personnel "A" Promotions
			P/O. W. W. Reid to F/O. w.e.f. 14.5.44
			P/O. R. G? Shepperd. Commissioned from F/Sgt. w.e.f. 21.6.44
			P/O. H. B? Hoobin " " W/O w.e.f. 10.11.44
			"B" Movements
			F/Lt. G. D. H? Cha????????? – arrived on posting w.e.f. 9.11.44
			F/Lt. L. R. Davidson " " " 7.11.44
			F/O. W. Dobbie " " " 7.11.44
			F/O. T. K? Eldon " " " 7.11.44
			F/O. ?? W. Smith " " " 12.11.44
			F/O. G. D. Temple???
			F/O. J. A. Pitt " " " 30.11.44
			P/O. K. O. Kri??san " " " 10.11.44

			The last named, electrical Officer is the first Indian A.F. Officer posted to this Squadron.
			Posting from 200 Squadron
			F/O. P. D. F???????????? – posted to No. 252 Squadron w.e.f. 21.11.44
			F/O. L. G. Robenson? " " " " " "
			F/O. A. D. Wal????n " " " " " "
			F/Lt. R? I? McLellan? posted to B.R.D. Worli " 10.11.44
			S/Ldr. J. A. R. Reid " " " " " 13.11.44
			W/Comdr. J. B. P. Thomas " " " " " 14.11.44
			F/Lt. R. C. Kelly posted to No. M.U. pending posting
			F/O. D. F. Wright " " " " " "
			F/O. G. Gouch? posted to No. 152 Wing, H.Q. w.e.f. 29.11.44
			F/Lt. L. R. Davidson posted to No. 160 Squadron " 29.11.44
			F/O. H? Dobbie " " " " " 29.11.44
			F/O. R? G? Smith " " " " " 29.11.44
			Return from Courses and Detachments etc.
			P/O. A. W. ????????? – returned from A/C Recoh. Course at Ranchi w.e.f. 11.11.44
			F/Lt. ? B? Ward – attended an Air Force Law Course at ?dta?iri from 5.11.44 to 20.11.34
			F/O. J. Coulson "
			F/O. G? R. C????????son – returned on 12.11.44 from Temporary Duty at R.A.F. Jungle School, Poona.
			F/O. ? S. Lamb? "
			F/Lt. ?? D. M? Chapmind?? (Med) detached on 9.11.44 to 225 Group.
			C. Morale
			The morale on the Squadron is reasonably good – an improvement is always noticed when operations are being carried out.
			"D" Sports and Entertainment
			The increasing popularity of sports on the Squadron has become even more pronounced during the month. The Squadron Soccer team has met with considerable success, and while the Rugby team has not been quite so fortunate their enthusiasm and enjoyment of games played is evident. Unfortunately the weather has put a temporary stop to the Station Cricket League. Liberty Runs continue, allowing personnel to go swimming, and visit the free Cinema and other amenities of the Saidapet Y.M.C.A. The nightly Cinema held in a Hanger still retains its popularity for all personnel. An E.N.S.A. Show, "To Your Liking", given in a Hanger on November 18th., drew a large and highly appreciative audience.
			Operations. (All references to Appendix 10)
			From St. Thomas Mt. this month a total of 14 sorties was flown, made up of 5 C/V Escorts, 7 A/S Shipping Lane patrols, and 2 Met Flights. On 6.11.44 while escort aircraft "J" received a message "Ship Torpedoed". On arrival at the position given, "J" found the sea strewn with wreckage, and 4 lifeboats afloat, 3 under sail. There appeared to be about 50 survivors in all. A Catalina was also in the vicinity so after sending W/T reports to base, "J" set course to rejoin the convoy. At 1030Z however, No. 2 engine failed – consequently the aircraft returned directly to base. On 13.11.44 aircraft "S" carried out a Met Flight which was to be followed by an A/S escort. After successfully carrying out the Met Flight, "S" was forced to send a "Not Met" signal following a fruitless 2 hr. search for the convoy. This was due to bad weather with cloud base 400 ft., visibility nil to ½ mile and heavy rain. Many ASV contacts were investigated but turned out to be heavy clouds. These were the only incidents in an otherwise uneventful month of operations.
			Cuttack
			This detachment during the month flew 30 sorties, comprising 15 C/V escorts, 14 A/S Shipping Lane patrols, and 1 ASR search. On 4.11.44 Aircraft "X" on convoy escort met with some difficulty in establishing the identity of the convoy, as the convoy call

			<p>signs and those of the aircraft did not agree, but this was overcome and escort given for 6 ½ hours. 10.11.44. Aircraft "O" on escort duty to convoy CJ43, met a convoy, but as no replies were received to her recognition signals, the aircraft continued southwards to search for CJ43. No other convoy being sighted "O" returned to the convoy previously seen, and this time after some delay received answers to her signals indicating that this was CJ43. Thereafter an uneventful patrol for 7 ½ hours was carried out. 25.11.44. Aircraft "M" on escort duty to HMIS "Ahmedabad" reported jamming by presumed enemy W/T on 6666 Kcs., sending V's and dashes. The convoy was met and patrols flown. No other notable incidents occurred during the other sorties flown by this detachment.</p>
			Wing Commander, Commanding
			No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.

November 1944: Form 541

200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks	
Liberator MK.VI. H/200 KG851	Aus.400162 F/L. T. E. Wade (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort JC65	010428Z	011450Z	The Convoy was met at 0631Z and air escort maintained until 1232Z. Nothing of note occurred, no enemy contacts being made, ASV was on throughout. Weather was fair, with visibility 30.	
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)					
	Can.J38087 P/O. W. W. Reid					
	Sgt. McGonigle, M. F.					
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.					
	Aus.423523 Sgt. Charters, V. A.					
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.					
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. B.					
	Sgt. Bunkell, D. W.					
	Sgt. Riddell, R. W.					
Liberator MK.VI. J/200 EV824	S/Ldr. R. C. Wescombe (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort JC66	052318Z	061056Z	At 060036Z aircraft "J" met the convoy and commenced air escort. This proceeded without incident until 0617Z when "J" received the following signal from Control: "Ship torpedoed 10.40N. 81.10E. Continue south by shipping lane". The SOE was informed and the Captain set course for the position given. Arriving at 10.00N. 81.05E. "J" found the sea strewn with wreckage and 4 lifeboats afloat, 3 under sail. There appeared to be about 50 survivors in all. A Catalina was also in the vicinity. Aircraft "J" sent W/T reports to base and at 0911Z set course 350 back towards the convoy. At 1030Z however No. 2 engine cut and consequently "J" set direct course for base, landing at 1056Z.	
	Can.J27447 F/O. R. W. Youngblud (Nav)					
	Can.R.160736 W/O. Lucking, H. W.					
	Can.R111176 W/O. Esdon, E. S.					
	Can.R121807 W/O. Penfold, E. J.					
	Can.R92954 W/O. Banstead, H. W.					
	F/Sgt. Elwick, E.					
	F/Sgt. Willcock, B.					
Liberator MK.VI. J/200 EV824	128364 F/L. R. C. Kelly (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort JC42	070247Z	071343Z		17 minutes after take off CJ42 was met and "J" began its escort patrol, which was maintained for almost 9 hours. No incidents occurred. The weather remained fine although there was 7/10 Cumulus and Cumulo-Nimbus cloud at 2500 ft. Visibility was 15 miles.
	Aus.410987 F/O. L. S. Jarratt (Nav)					
	153389 F/O. D. K. Wright					
	Aus.423128 F/O. D. W. Hyde					
	Aus.423102 F/O. N. G. Green					
	Aus.422804 F/S. Lord, L. R. H.					
	F/S. Harper, W. E.					

	F/S. Brown, A. R.				
	Sgt. Winstone, D. J.				
	Sgt. Wilson, J. B?				
Liberator MK.VI. K/200 KG853	S/L. C. B. Robinson (Cpt)	A/S Patrol shipping lanes 13.16N to 17.40N	081514Z	090110Z	This Leigh Light aircraft took off on a night patrol and ASV was used throughout the sortie. Contacts with friendly shipping were obtained, but not with the enemy. There were occasional showers with some lightning; visibility in showers being 5 to 10 miles.
	Aus.414771 F/O. J. A. Crawford (Nav)				
	Can.J26768 F/O. R. H. Cook				
	F/O. F. H. Richardson				
	F/O. H. W. Scallon				
	Can.R164516 W/O. Belanger, J. J.				
	F/S. Thomas, R.				
	F/Sgt. Cooney				
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
Liberator MK.VI. J/200 EV824	Can.J37584 P/O. A. W. Craighead (Cpt)	A/S escort to tanker "Saidja"	112320Z	120745Z	A contact on the tanker was picked up at 25 miles and she was sighted at 120023Z. Air escort was maintained during the following 7 hours. There were no incidents. Weather remained fair with visibility 10 miles.
	Can.J38701 F/O. H. T. Cluff (Nav)				
	Can.J37984 P/O. N. Mozel				
	NZ.422985 P/O. R. Camm				
	Sgt. Franklin, G. W.				
	Can.R131298 Sgt. Lucore, W. B.				
	Can.R208775 Sgt. Lot, D. F.				
	Can.R163460 Sgt. Koury, J.				
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
	Sgt. O'Callaghan, M.				
Liberator MK.VI. N/200 KG849	Can.J21445 F/O. R. M. Bowdery (Cpt)	A/S escort to CJ43	122347Z	131130Z	For a period of 10 hours and 20 minutes aircraft "N" provided air escort to CJ43 and having then reached PLE was forced to set course for base. Aircraft "S" which was returning from a Met flight and was to take over the escort until dusk had not then put in an appearance. No enemy sightings were made. Weather was overcast, with visibility 12 miles.
	S/L. R. C. Wescombe				
	Can.J12953 F/O. W. H. Dray (Nav)				
	F/L. A. R. McAra				
	Aus.423102 F/O. N. G. Green				
	Can.R121807 W/O. Penfold, E. J.				
	Sgt. Bowers, J.				
	Can.R213312 Sgt. Lisson, T. A.				
	Can.R203114 Sgt. Jarrett, L. H.				
	F/Sgt. Green, P. F.				
Liberator MK.VI. S/200 EV832	Can.J26667 F/O. W. R. Hickman (Cpt)	Met Flight to 13.30N. 89.00E.	130216Z	131335Z	The Met flight was successfully carried out and aircraft "S" arrived at the position given for CJ42, 8 hours, 43 minutes after being airborne. The weather was bad, cloud base at
	Can.J27449 F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav)				

	NZ.422088 F/O. L. C. Price	the A/S escort CJ43			400 ft., vis., nil to ½ mile, and raining heavily. Many blips were investigated but turned out to be heavy clouds. "S" set course Southwards for 50 miles and then returned on a reciprocal course, later finding herself west of the shipping lanes. After 2 hours a "Not Met" signal was sent and the aircraft set course for base.
	Can.J20670 F/O. J. R. Tremblay				
	F/S. Mitchell, D. W.				
	Can.J89927 P/O. H. W. Hoobin				
	Sgt. Smith, I. D.				
	Sgt. Pelling, D. W.				
	Sgt. Parsons, D. L.				
Liberator MK.VI. X/200 EV869	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	Traffic patrol shipping lanes Puri to Madras	170520Z	170858Z	One convoy and two independently routed M/Vs were sighted during this patrol which was otherwise uneventful. There was a good deal of rain and visibility was never more than 6 miles.
	Can.J23143 P/O. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)				
	Can.R1357457? W/O. Doyle, J. J.				
	Can.R135722 W/O. Campbell, J. F.				
	Aus.426086 W/O. Edwards, J. L.				
	F/S. T. J. Maxwell				
	F/S. Ratcliffe R. J.				
	Sgt Reilly, R. R.				
	Sgt. Woolfrey, D.				
Liberator MK.VI. S/200 EV832	Can.J21385 F/O. T. E. Eli??n (Cpt)	Met Flight to 12N. 90E. through 14N. 90E. to base	180128Z	181059Z	The ASV was unserviceable for the first hour of the flight but functioned satisfactorily afterwards. There was 7/10 Cumulus cloud at 1000 ft., weather being showery and visibility, out of rain, 10 miles.
	Can.J8734 F/O. F. Stokes (Nav)				
	F/O. J. A. Pitt				
	Sgt. Lodge, J.				
	Can.R224734 Sgt. Tufford, W. A.				
	Sgt. Blake, P. H.				
	Sgt. Willis, J. V.				
	Can.R213373 Sgt. Sterns, J. A.				
	Can.R21330 Sgt. Hannah, D. M.				
	F/S. Elwick, E.				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S Patrol outer shipping lane from 19N. to 13N.	190455Z	190820Z	2 small convoys, an independent tanker, and an M/V were sighted during this flight but no contacts or sightings obtained of the enemy.
	F/O. J. W. H. Lakin (Nav)				
	F/O. M. J. Markley				
	Sgt. Harvey, D. I.				
	Sgt. Roantree, J. A.				
	Sgt. Spiller, E. W.				
	Sgt. Lockhart, W. F.				
	Sgt. C. E. Ewers				
	Sgt. Page, P.				
	Sgt. Phillips, G. C.				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Aus.400162 F/Lt. T. E. Wade. (Cpt)	A/S Patrol inner shipping	190454Z	190854Z	Sightings were made of 5 independent friendly ships and 2 small convoys. Otherwise the flight was without incident. Weather was fair and visibility 15 miles.
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)				

	Can.J38087 P/O. W. W. Reid	lane from			
	Sgt. McGonigle, M. F.	19°N. to			
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.	13°N.			
	Aus.423523 Sgt. Charters, V.A.				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. B.				
	Sgt. Bunkell, D. W.				
	Sgt. Riddell, R. W.				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/L. G. Banner (Cpt)	A/S Patrol inner shipping lane	190458Z	190857Z	Weather was fine but hazy during this trip. 9 independent M/Vs were sighted and Radar contacts of 2 friendly convoys obtained at a distance of 20 miles in each case. There were no enemy sightings.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)	from			
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens	19N. to			
	P/O. R. C. Shepherd	13N.			
	Sgt. Claircourt, D. J.				
	Sgt. Taylor, J.				
	Sgt. Smith, E. T.				
	Sgt. Griffiths, J. P.				
	Sgt. Dear, P. M.				
	Sgt. Miller, D. B.				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Aus.400162 F/L. T. E. Wade (Cpt)	A/S Patrol traffic lane	300455Z	300959Z	Completely uneventful patrol of inner shipping lane. Weather remained fair with layer of stratus about 2000 ft. Visibility – 7 miles. ASV in use throughout.
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)	from			
	Can.J38087 P/O. W. W. Reid	20N. to			
	Sgt. McGonigle, M. F.	13N.			
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.				
	Aus.423523 Sgt. Charters, V.A.				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. B.				
	Sgt. Bunkell, D. W.				
	Sgt. Riddell, R. W.				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	Can.J37584 P/O. A. W. Craighead (Cpt)	A/S Patrol outer traffic lane	300435Z	301137Z	Rather bad weather conditions were encountered during this trip. Hazy with visibility 10 – 15 miles but in some places becoming zero in heavy rain. One M/V and one convoy and 2 E/Vs were seen.
	Can.J37984 P/O. Mozel	from			
	P/O C. D. G. Davidson	20N. to			
	Sgt. Franklin	13N.			
	Can.R163460 Sgt. Koury, J.				
	Can.R208775 Sgt. Lot, D. F?				
	F/S. Bates, D.				
	F/S. Deeley, D. B.				
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
	Sgt. O'Callaghan, M.				

					Detachment at Cuttack	
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort to HC76	020441Z	021337Z	Aircraft "M" met convoy HC7c at 0552Z and commenced an air escort that lasted 6 ½ hours. Other Liberator aircraft were sighted during the sortie, but otherwise the flight was uneventful. There was a great deal of haze, visibility being never more than 10 miles.	
	Can.J23143 F/L. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)					
	Can.J20670 F/O. J. R. Tremblay					
	Can.R1357457 W/O. Doyle, J.					
	Can.R135722 W/O. Campbell, J. P.					
	F/S. Maxwell, T. J.					
	F/S. Ratcliffe, R. T.					
	Sgt. Woolfe I. D.					
	Sgt. Reilly, R. R.					
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	Can.J26667 F/O. W. R. Hickman (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort JC65	022343Z	031057Z		More than 10 hours air escort was given by aircraft "V" to this convoy, which consisted of 23 M/Vs and E/Vs. No enemy contacts or sightings were made. Weather was fair and visibility 20 miles.
	Can.J27449 F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav)					
	NZ.422088 P/O. L. C. Price					
	Can.J20670 F/O. J. R. Tremblay					
	Can.J89927 P/O. H. W. Hoobin					
	F/S. Mitchell, D. W.					
	Sgt. Smith, I. D. R.					
	Sgt. Parsons, S. L.					
	Sgt. Pelling, D. W.					
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	F/L G. Banner (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort CJ42	032310Z	041105Z	Aircraft "O" began escort at 040030Z. At 0525 a W/T signal from Control advised the arrival of a relief Liberator at 1030Z. The Sortie proceeded uneventfully until 1028Z, when M/200 arrived to take over the air escort. There was 6/10 Cumulus at 1500 ft. and vis. was 10 miles.	
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)					
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens					
	F/S. Shepherd, R. C.					
	Sgt. Smith, T.					
	Sgt. Taylor, J.					
	Sgt. Griffiths, J.					
	Sgt. Dear, P. M.					
	Sgt. Miller, D. A.					
	Sgt. Claircourt, D.					
Liberator MK.VI. X/200 EV869	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S escort convoy HC77	040330Z	041350Z	At 0543Z convoy HC77 was met and escort begun. Some initial difficulty was experienced as the convoy callsigns and those of the aircraft did not tally but it was eventually established that this convoy was HC77. Nothing of note occurred during the 6 ½ hours period of air escort. Weather remained fair with visibility 20 miles.	
	F/O. J. W. Lakin (Nav)					
	P/O. H. J. Markley					
	Sgt. Ewers, C. E.					
	Sgt. Lockhart, W. F.					
	Sgt. Phillips, G. C.					
	Sgt. Page, J. P.					
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort CJ42	040922Z	041458Z		Taking over air escort duties from O/200, aircraft "M" remained with the convoy for 4 hours and then set course for base. Twenty-two minutes later a message was received instructing "M" to continue the sortie until PLE. As the aircraft was then near base,
	Can.J23143 F/L. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)					
	Can.J20670 F/O. J. R. Tremblay					

	Can.R1357457 W/O. Doyle, J.				further instructions were then requested from the Controller, and the aircraft was told to land.
	Can.R135722 W/O. Campbell, J. P.				
	F/S. Maxwell, T. J.				
	F/S. Ratcliffe, R. T.				
	Sgt. Woolfey D.				
	Sgt. Reilly, R. R.				
Liberator MK.VI. X/200 EV869	Can.J26667 F/O. W. R. Hickman (Cpt)	A/S escort convoy HC78	070256Z	071358Z	Air escort to HC78 was provided for 7 ½ hours, until dusk. The flight was uneventful, no enemy sightings resulting. ASV was used throughout.
	Can.J27449 F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav)				
	NZ.422088 P/O. L. C. Price				
	Can.J20670 F/O J. R. Tremblay				
	Can.J89927 P/O. H. W. Hoobin				
	F/S. Mitchell, D. W.				
	Sgt. Smith, I. D. R.				
	Sgt. Parsons, S. L.				
	Sgt. Pelling, D. W.				
	W/O. Edwards, L. A.				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/L G. Banner (Cpt)	A/S escort JC66	082251Z	091100Z	This air escort to JC66, which was maintained for 10 ½ hours, proceeded without incident. ASV was on throughout. Weather was fine with some haziness, and visibility 20 miles.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/S. Shepherd, P. C.				
	Sgt. Smith, T.				
	Sgt. Taylor, J.				
	Sgt. Griffiths, J.				
	Sgt. Dear, P. M.				
	Sgt. Miller, D. A.				
	Sgt. Claircourt, D.				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	A/S escort to tanker "Saidja"	092225Z	101026Z	Air escort to the tanker was maintained for nearly 10 hours, a W/T message having instructed "M" to continue until PLE, as a relief aircraft would not be arriving. There were no enemy sightings.
	Can.J23143 F/L. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)				
	Can.J20670 F/O. J. R. Tremblay				
	Can.R1357457 W/O. Doyle, J.				
	Can.R135722 W/O. Campbell, J. F.				
	F/S. Maxwell, P. T.				
	F/S. Ratcliffe, R. T.				
	Sgt. Woolfey D.				
	Sgt. Reilly R. R.				
	W/O. L. A. Edwards				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S escort to convoy CJ43	092250Z	101100Z	At 100015Z Aircraft "O" met a convoy which appeared to be CJ43, but as no replies were received to her recognition signals, the aircraft continued Southward to search for CJ3. No other convoy being seen "O"
	F/O. J. W. Lakin (Nav)				
	P/O. H. J. Markley				
	Sgt. Ewers, C. E.				
	Sgt. Lockhart, W. F.				

	Sgt. Phillips, G. C.				returned at 0230Z to the convoy previously sighted and this time after some delay received answers to her signals indicating that this CJ43. Thereafter an uneventful patrol was flown for 7 ½ hours during which the ASV was switched on. Weather was fair and visibility 15 miles.
	Sgt. Page, J. P.				
	Sgt. Roantree ⁴⁰ , J. A.				
	Sgt. Spiller, E. W.				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/L G. Banner (Cpt)	A.S.R. search for aircraft dinghy	100610Z	101318Z	Course was set for 18.58N. 88.04E. in which position a possible sighting of an aircraft dinghy had been reported. A Square search was then commenced around this point but no sightings resulted. Weather remained fair and visibility 10 miles.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/S. Shepherd, R. C.				
	Sgt. Smith, T.				
	Sgt. Taylor, J.				
	Sgt. Griffiths, J.				
	Sgt. Dear, P. M.				
	Sgt. Miller, D. A.				
	Sgt. Claircourt, D.				
Liberator MK.VI. X/200 EV869	Aus.400162 F/L. T. E. Wade (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort HC79	100305Z	101326Z	At 0424Z convoy HC79 was met and air escort begun. At the end of 7 hours uneventful patrolling "X" left HC79 and set course for base. Although fair, the weather was hazy, visibility being 7 miles.
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)				
	F/O. K. R. Holmes				
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.				
	Sgt. Charters, V. A.				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. B.				
	Sgt. Bunkell, D. W.				
	Sgt. McGonigle, M.				
	Sgt. Riddell, R. A.				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt) ⁴¹	A/S escort to tanker "Saidja"	102255Z	110843Z	At 0047Z "Saidja" was met 60 miles ahead of her estimated position, during the air escort two convoys were seen but nothing else of note occurred. At 0646Z aircraft "V" arrived as relief and "O" returned to base.
	Can.J23143 F/L. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)				
	Can.R1357457 W/O. Doyle, J.				
	Can.R135722 W/O. Campbell, J. P.				
	F/S. Maxwell, T. J.				
	F/S. Ratcliffe, R. T.				
	Sgt. Woolfey D.				
	Sgt. Reilly, R. R.				
	W/O. L. A. Edwards				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S escort to tanker "Saidja"	110445Z	111430Z	Continuing the air escort to the tanker "Saidja" aircraft "V" remained in company for nearly 6 hours, during which there were no incidents of any kind. Weather was
	F/O. J. W. Lakin (Nav)				
	P/O. H. J. Markley				
	Sgt. Ewers, C. E.				

⁴⁰ Record has name spelt "Rontree" on this entry; correct spelling has been used in transcript.

⁴¹ Trembley, who is believed to be the second pilot with this crew is not listed, W/O Edwards is listed at the end, and may be his replacement, or has his name accidentally been left off?

	Sgt. Lockhart, W. F.				somewhat hazy, with visibility 8 miles.
	Sgt. Phillips, G.				
	Sgt. Page, J. P.				
	Sgt. Roantree, J. A.				
	Sgt. Spiller, E. W.				
Liberator MK.VI. X/200 EV869	Aus.400162 F/L. T. K? Wade (Cpt)	A/S escort to convoy HC80	130555Z	131315Z	At 0712Z the convoy was met and air escort commenced and continued for 4 ½ hours. No other shipping was seen, no enemy contacts made. Weather was fair and visibility 10 miles.
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)				
	F/O. K. R. Holmes				
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.				
	Sgt. Charters, V. A.				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. B.				
	Sgt. Bunkell, D. W.				
	Sgt. McGonigle, M.				
	Sgt. Riddell, R. A.				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/L G. Banner (Cpt)	A/S convoy escort JC66B	132252Z	140827Z	Radar contact on JC66B was obtained at 30 miles and the escort was begun at 2358Z. At 0355 the SOE informed the aircraft that he was about to drop depth charges and that the escort vessels would lay a smoke screen. This was then carried out. At 0727Z the aircraft left JC66B and set course for base. ASV was used throughout. Weather was fair and visibility 15 miles.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/S. Shepherd, R. C.				
	Sgt. Smith, T.				
	Sgt. Taylor, J.				
	Sgt. Griffiths, J.				
	Sgt. Dear, P. M.				
	Sgt. Miller, D. A.				
	Sgt. Claircourt, D.				
Liberator MK.VI. X/200 EV869	Can.J21200 F/O. A. D. Waltman (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes landing at St. Thomas Mt.	142339Z	150942Z	At 0530Z a message was received instructing the aircraft to land at Cuttack. The patrol was completed uneventfully, 2 convoys being sighted and a small number of independent M/Vs. ASV was on throughout.
	Can.J23143 F/L. P. D. Fetherston (Nav)				
	Can.R1357457 W/O. Doyle, J.				
	Can.R135722 W/O. Campbell, J. P.				
	F/S. Maxwell, P. T.				
	F/S. Ratcliffe, R. T.				
	Sgt. Woolfey D.				
	Sgt. Reilly R. R.				
	W/O. L. A. Edwards				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	A/S patrol of shipping lanes thence escort to HC81.	160222Z	163037Z	The patrol was carried out without incident, one convoy and several independent M/Vs being sighted. At 0948Z the convoy was met and air escort which lasted for 2 ½ hours began. No enemy sightings were made.
	F/O. J. W. Lakin (Nav)				
	P/O. H. J. Markley				
	Sgt. Ewers, C. E.				
	Sgt. Lockhart, W. F.				
	Sgt. Phillips, G.				
	Sgt. Page, J. P.				
	Sgt. Roantree, J. A.				
	Sgt. Spiller, E. W.				

Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Aus.400162 F/L. T. E. Wade (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 13N. to 19N.	200503Z	200955Z	Aircraft "M" took off to rejoin the detachment and carried out a patrol en route. Nine independent M/Vs were sighted during the flight but there were no other incidents. Weather was fair and visibility 10 miles. ASV was used throughout.
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)				
	F/O. K. R. Holmes				
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.				
	Sgt. Charters, V. A.				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. B.				
	Sgt. Bunkell D. W.				
	Sgt. McGonigle, M. F.				
Sgt. Riddell, R. A.					
	Can.J38087 P/O. W. W. Reid				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/L G. Banner (Cpt)	A/S patrol outer shipping lanes 13N. to 19N.	200458Z	201003Z	A large number of independently routed M/Vs were seen during this trip and also one tanker in convoy. There were no enemy sightings. Haze restricted visibility to 5 miles.
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/S. Shepherd, R. C.				
	Sgt. Smith, T.				
	Sgt. Taylor, J.				
	Sgt. Griffiths, J.				
	Sgt. Dear, P. M.				
	Sgt. Miller, D. A.				
Sgt. Claircourt, D.					
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Aus.400162 F/L. T. E. Wade (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes to 90.30E. thence to 16N. & to base.	202242Z	200951Z ⁴²	One small convoy, an independent tanker, and three single M/Vs were met during this patrol. No ASV contacts nor sightings were obtained of the enemy.
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)				
	F/O. K. R. Holmes				
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.				
	Sgt. Charters, V. A.				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. B.				
	Sgt. Bunkell D. W.				
	Sgt. McGonigle, M. F.				
Sgt. Riddell, R. A.					
	Can.J38087 P/O. W. W. Reid				
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	F/L G. Banner (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes to 17N. thence	212254Z	220900Z	During a patrol lasting nearly 8 hours, aircraft "V" met a large number of independent friendly M/Vs and also one tanker escorted by 2 E/Vs. ASV was in constant use, but no contacts or sightings of the enemy were obtained. Weather remained
	F/O. J. H. Broomhead (Nav)				
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/S. Shepherd, R. C.				
	Sgt. Smith, T.				

⁴² These times do not make sense.

	Sgt. Taylor, J.	19.30E. 43			fine with visibility 30 miles.
	Sgt. Griffiths, J.				
	Sgt. Dear, P. M.				
	Sgt. Miller, D. A.				
	Sgt. Claircourt, D.				
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW321	Can.J37584 P/O. A. W. Craighead (Cpt)	A/S sweep shipping lanes Madras to Puri	220458Z	220938Z	This sweep proved quite uneventful. A small number of friendly M/Vs were sighted but no ASV contacts or sightings of the enemy resulted. There were several rain squalls which reduced visibility to nil
	P/O C. D. G. Davidson (Nav)				
	Can.J37964 P/O. N. Mozel				
	F/S. Bates, D.				
	F/S. Deeley, D.				
	Can.R16340 Sgt. Koury J.				
	Can.R208775 Sgt. Lot, D. F.				
	Sgt. Franklin				
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
	Sgt. O'Callaghan, P.				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 KG847	Can.J37584 P/O. A. W. Craighead (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 17N. to Western Channel Light Vessel thence to 90.30E.	222257Z	231053Z	This 10 ½ hour patrol resulted in no enemy sightings, although a fairly large number of friendly M/Vs were seen. ASV was in constant use. Weather remained fair with visibility 10 miles.
	P/O C. D. Davidson (Nav)				
	Can.J37964 P/O. N. Mozel				
	F/S. Bates, D.				
	F/S. Deeley, D.				
	Can.R16340 Sgt. Koury J.				
	Can.R208775 Sgt. Lot, D. F.				
	Sgt. Franklin, G.				
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
	Sgt. O'Callaghan, P.				
Liberator MK.VI EV831 ⁴⁴	Aus.400162 F/L. T. E. Wade (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 18°N. through 09.30E to base.	232245Z	241057Z	During the course of this patrol one small convoy was sighted and also 6 independently routed M/Vs. The flight was otherwise without incident. ASV was on throughout and at times haze limited visibility to 7 miles.
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)				
	F/O. K. R. Holmes				
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.				
	Sgt. Charters, V. A.				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. N.				
	Sgt. Bunkell D. W.				
	Sgt. McGonigle, M.				
	Sgt. Riddell, R. A.				

⁴³ Should this be 90.30E as in previous entry?

⁴⁴ Code not given, but EV831 was "V" previously.

	Can.J38087 P/O. W. W. Reid				
Liberator MK.VI. KG847 ⁴⁵	F/L G. Banner (Cpt) ⁴⁶	A/S escorts to H.M.I.S. Ahmeda had and 42 CTs.	242210Z	251020Z	During this patrol W/OP reported jamming by presumed enemy W/T Station on 6666 Kcs, sending V's and dashes. The convoy was met and A/S patrol done. ASV used throughout trip. Weather remained fair.
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/S. Shepherd, R. C.				
	Sgt. Smith, T.				
	Sgt. Taylor, J.				
	Sgt. Griffiths, J.				
	Sgt. Dear, P. M.				
	Sgt. Claircourt, D.				
	Sgt. Miller, D. A.				
Liberator MK.VI. EW321	Can.J37584 P/O. A. W. Craighead (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 1800N. to Western Channel along to 90.30E.	242248Z	251055Z	A 10 ¾ hour patrol which was uneventful. Several independent M/Vs were sighted also the Convoy with Lib.KG847 in escort. ASV was used throughout. Weather remained fair with visibility about 10 miles.
	P/O C. D. Davidson (Nav)				
	Can.J37984 P/O. N. Mozel				
	F/S. Bates, D.				
	F/S. Deeley, D.				
	Can.R16340 Sgt. Koury J.				
	Can.R208775 Sgt. Lot, D. F.				
	Sgt. Franklin, G.				
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
	Sgt. O'Callaghan, P.				
Liberator MK.VI. EW321	Aus.400162 F/L. T. E. Wade (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 18.00N to WCLV along Rumble Route to 90.30E.	252246Z	261049Z	Several independent M/Vs and one Convoy were sighted on this 11 ¾ hours patrol on shipping lanes. Weather was quite good with visibility of 10 miles.
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)				
	F/O. K. Holmes				
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.				
	Sgt. Charters, V.A.				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. N.				
	Sgt. Bunkell D. W.				
	Sgt. McGonigle, M.				
	Sgt. Riddell, R. A.				
	Can.J38087 P/O. W. W. Reid				
Liberator MK.VI. KG847	F/L G. Banner (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 18.00N to WCLV along	262250Z	271115Z	An uneventful A/S patrol along shipping lanes for 10 ¾ hours. Numerous M/Vs were sighted – ASV in use throughout. Weather excellent with visibility 6 – 8 miles.
	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/S. Shepherd, R. C.				
	Sgt. Smith, T.				
	Sgt. Taylor, J.				
	Sgt. Griffiths, J.				
	Sgt. Dear, P. M.				
	Sgt. Claircourt, D.				

⁴⁵ Code not given, but KG847 was "M" previously.

⁴⁶ F/O Broomhead was the usual Navigator for this crew but is not listed, nor is a replacement.

	Sgt. Miller, D. A.	Rumble Route to 90.30E.			
Liberator MK.VI. EW321	Can.J37584 P/O. A. W. Craighead (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 18.00N to WCLV along Rumble Route to 90.30E.	272243Z	281048Z	21 independently routed M/Vs were sighted, no convoys, otherwise this 10 ¾ hours patrol was completely uneventful. ASV used throughout and weather remained good with haze, visibility, 8 – 10 miles.
	P/O C. D. Davidson (Nav)				
	Can.J37984 P/O. N. Mozel				
	F/S. Bates, D.				
	F/S. Deeley, D.				
	Can.R16340 Sgt. Koury J.				
	Can.R208775 Sgt. Lot, D. F.				
	Sgt. Franklin, G.				
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
	Sgt. O'Callaghan, P.				
Liberator MK.VI. EV831	Aus.400162 F/L. T. E. Wade (Cpt)	A/S patrol shipping lanes 18.00N to WCLV thence along Rumble Route to 90.30E.	282245Z	291041Z	1 convoy and 10 independently routed M/Vs were sighted on this 12 hours Shipping Lane patrol. The trip was otherwise without incident. Weather was very good with slight cloud, visibility 20 miles.
	Aus.426373 F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav)				
	F/O. K. R. Holmes				
	Aus.429013 Sgt. Kelly, K. W.				
	Sgt. Charters, V. A.				
	Aus.419675 Sgt. Royce, A. G.				
	Can.R216096 Sgt. Rimar, C. N.				
	Sgt. Bunkell D. W.				
	Sgt. McGonigle, M.				
	Sgt. Riddell, R. A.				
					Wing Commander, Commanding,
					No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.

December 1944: Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events																																			
			Operations																																			
St. Thomas Mount.	5th Dec.		Aircraft "Z" "H" and "M" were airborne from Cuttack to carry out a night Anti-U-boat sweep. Three ASV contacts obtained which subsequently disappeared. There were no sightings.																																			
St. Thomas Mount.	5th Dec.		Three aircraft "V" "G", and "O" took off from base on an Anti-U-Boat sweep. "V" obtained an ASV contact which disappeared at 6 miles, but nothing further resulted.																																			
St. Thomas Mount.	7th Dec.		Four aircraft in company "W", "T", "C" and "H", flew an Anti-U-Boat sweep. No enemy contacts or sightings were made.																																			
			Operations (Detachment)																																			
Cuttack	3rd Dec.		Aircraft "H", "Z" and "M" airborne from base to carry out a night Anti-U-Boat sweep had an eventful night. "M" (P/O. R. A. Hobbs) homed on a contact at 8 miles and attacked a fully surfaced U-Boat in position 12.27N. 88.40E. One D.C. was seen to explode within 5 yards of the U-Boat. "Z" and "H" then appeared on the scene and searched with Leigh Lights but no wreckage or survivors were seen. A dull green glow was sighted in the position of attack ten minutes later.																																			
Cuttack	9th Dec.		3 aircraft "G", "L", and "W" patrolled the Shipping lanes from Madras to Puri. No incidents occurred.																																			
Cuttack	10th Dec.		"G" provided air escort to convoy HC-88A during daylight hours. "L" escorted convoy HC89 during daylight.																																			
Cuttack	11th Dec.		An Anti-U-Boat search on the shipping lanes was carried out uneventfully by aircraft "W".																																			
Cuttack	13th Dec.		Convoy HC90 was escorted without incident by "L".																																			
Cuttack	15th Dec.		An Anti-U-Boat search by aircraft "G" was flown without incident.																																			
Cuttack	16th Dec.		Air escort during 8 daylight hours was provided to convoy JC70A by aircraft "W"																																			
Cuttack	18th Dec.		Convoy JC70A was further escorted by aircraft "L"																																			
Cuttack	19th Dec.		An Anti-U-Boat sweep was flown by aircraft "G". No enemy sightings were made.																																			
Cuttack	22nd Dec.		Aircraft "W" patrolled the shipping lanes during daylight. No enemy contacts or sightings resulted.																																			
St. Thomas Mount.			Training																																			
			Leigh Light Training has continued throughout the month with S/L. C. R? Gavin-Robinson, F/L. D. F. Redrup and crew instructing, with effect from 27th December, for a period of 5 weeks the Squadron became non-operational, so that intense Leigh Light training could be proceeded with. The detachment at Cuttack returned to base. At the end of the month 10 crews were under instruction, two of whom were almost finished. The weather has improved considerably this month and little interference with the scheduled programme has occurred.																																			
			Analysis of Flying (December 1944)																																			
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Operations</th> <th>Sorties</th> <th>Hours Day</th> <th>Hours Night</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>St. Thomas Mount</td> <td>10.</td> <td>8.30.</td> <td>88.24.</td> <td>96.54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cuttack (Detachment)</td> <td>15.</td> <td>89.15</td> <td>56.24</td> <td>148.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>25.</td> <td>97.45.</td> <td>144.48.</td> <td>242.33.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Training & Non-Op.</td> <td></td> <td>Hours Day</td> <td>Hours Night</td> <td>Total</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>291.40</td> <td>75.55</td> <td>367.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Grand Total of Hours Flown for Month</td> <td>610.08.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Operations	Sorties	Hours Day	Hours Night	Total	St. Thomas Mount	10.	8.30.	88.24.	96.54	Cuttack (Detachment)	15.	89.15	56.24	148.39	Total	25.	97.45.	144.48.	242.33.	Training & Non-Op.		Hours Day	Hours Night	Total			291.40	75.55	367.35	Grand Total of Hours Flown for Month				610.08.
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			Postings to 200 Squadron																																			

			F/L. R. A. Colleaux - arrived on attachment on 27th Nov. 1944.
			F/O. R. F. O'Connell - arrived on attachment on 27th Nov. 1944.
			F/O. G. I. Roldan - arrived on attachment on 27th Nov. 1944.
			F/O. L. L. Smith - arrived on attachment on 27th Nov. 1944.
			S/L. G. M. Mil???, D.S.O., arrived on posting on 25th Nov. 1944.
			F/L. R. A. G. Jenkins. (Med), arrived on T.D. on 24th Nov. 1944.
			P/O. K. W. R. Davidson, arrived on posting on 13th Dec. 1944.
			Movements from 200 Squadron.
			P/O. D. R. Mossman(???) and F/O. G. ? Wod??ng left for BRD. Worli pending repatriation on 13th Dec. 1944.
			F/L. R. A. G. Jenkins (Med) proceeded to 337 M.U. on T.D. on 15th Dec. 1944.
			F/L. P. J. Morrisky(???) (Med) left on posting to Vizag on 27th Nov. 1944.
			Promotions
			P/O. A. W. Craighead to F/O. w.e.f. 20th April 1944.
			P/O. H. T. Cluff to F/O. w.e.f. 16th May, 1944.
			F/O. R. A. Colleaux to F/L. w.e.f. 15th June, 1944.
			F/O. W. H. Dray to F/L. w.e.f. 1st September, 1944.
			P/O. N. Mozel to F/O. w.e.f. 12th May, 1944.
			P/O. R. P. O'Connell to F/O. w.e.f. 10th June, 1944.
			P/O. G. L. Roldan to F/O. w.e.f. 23rd June, 1944.
			P/O. L. L. Smith to F/O. w.e.f. 14th August, 1944.
			Courses
			F/O. K. R. Holmes proceeded to Colombo on 14th Dec. to attend a Ship Recognition Course.
			Education
			Applications for various Correspondence Courses continued to come in throughout the month and it is very evident that there is a prevalent enthusiasm amongst a large number to prepare themselves for the post-war world. Unfortunately an average of 5 months elapse before the applications are finally approved and the course commences.
			Sports & Entertainment
			Preparations for the celebration of Christmas proceeded throughout the month and all agreed that the result achieved was a great credit to all concerned. The Christmas morning Carnival football match was an outstanding success and the dinner which followed no less so. A Sports Meeting was arranged for the afternoon of Boxing day and this too produced very keen and lively competition.
			Soccer, Rugby, and Swimming retained their popularity and Liberty Runs continued to enable all those who desire to visit the free Cinema Show and other amenities. The nightly Camp Cinema show, although lacking really efficient sound reproduction, continues to draw a large number of patrons.
			Squadron Establishment and Strength as at 31st December, 1944.
			Officers W/O's and N.C.O's Airmen
			Establishment 48 228 244
			Strength 64 211 284
			Wing Commander, Commanding,
			No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.

December 1944: Form 541

200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks	
Liberator MK.VI.LL. Z/200 KG992	F/L. D. F. Redrup (Cpt)	Anti-U- Boat parallel track sweep (20 miles between tracks) from 13.20N. to 15.28N bounded by longitudes 84.41E. and 86.39E	051209Z	052000Z	These three aircraft took off from Cuttack to carry out a parallel track night sweep. All used ASV throughout. Aircraft "Z" obtained two contacts, one at 4 ½ miles and the second at 11 miles, but each was lost as the aircraft turned to investigate. "H" also experienced a disappearing contact and sea markers were dropped in the appropriate position. Aircraft "M"'s flight was without incident. Weather was fair with visibility up to 10 miles in moonlight. All three aircraft landed at St. Thomas Mount.	
	W/O. Willis, L. F.					
	F/S. Blake, P. H. (Nav)					
	R.164516 W/O. Belanger, J. J.					
	F/S. Thomas, R.					
	NZ.391696 F/S. Cooney J. L.					
	R.201072 F/S. Dick, G.					
	F/O. H. W. Scallon					
Liberator MK.VI.LL, H/200 KG851	S/L. C. R. Gavin- Robinson	{ditto}	051205Z	05214?0 Z		
	J.26768 F/O. R. H. Cook					
	Aus.414771 F/O J. Crawford (Nav)					
	F/O. F. B? Richardson					
	A425704 W/O. R. Lyons					
	R.99619 W/O Lawrence, G. D.					
	Sgt. Spiers, C. R.					
	R.95509 W/O. Neil, R. E.					
Liberator MK.VI.LL, M/200 KG847	F/O R. H. Hobbs (Cpt)	{ditto}	051210Z	05225?0 Z		
	F/O. H. J. Markley					
	F/S. R. G. Huie (Nav)					
	F/S Ewers C. E.					
	Sgt. Lockhart, W. F.					
	Sgt. Roantree J. A.					
	Sgt. Spiller, E. W.					
	F/S. Harvey, B. L.					
Liberator MK.VI. V/200 EV831	S/L. R. C. Wescombe (Cpt)		051521Z	060051Z		
	F/O. C. G. Harper					
	F/O. C. R. Cudworth (Nav)					
	NZ422730 W/O. Sorensen, J. C.					

	NZ422732 W/O Suddaby, G. T.				
	NZ422688 W/O. Cammock, T. W.				
	F/S Beresford, N.				
	F/S. Jenkinson, C. W.				
	Sgt. Parry, J. M.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. G/200 KG912	J.26667 F/O. W. R. Hickman (Cpt)	Anti-U- Boat parallel track sweep (20 miles between tracks) from 12.26N. to 14.40N bounded by longitudes 85.39?E and 88.06E.	051533Z	060058Z	Airborne at St. Thomas Mount, these aircraft swept an area immediately South of that covered by the aircraft from Cuttack. Aircraft "V" obtained an ASV contact which disappeared at 6 miles. A marker was dropped and a Cobra 5 carried out around the position (12.52N. 85.28E.) for 2 hours, but nothing further resulted. Nothing of any significance occured during the sweep made by aircraft "G" and "O". These latter aircraft experienced a failure of SE equipment, "G" after 4 hours, 35 minutes in operation, and "O" after 6 hours, 25 minutes. There was 6/10 to 8/10 Cu. at 1500 feet and visibility was 3 to 5 miles.
	F/O. J. C. Simpson (Nav)				
	NZ422088 F/O. L. C. Pryce				
	NZ414323 P/O D. R. Mossman				
	J.89927 P/O. H. D. Hoobin				
	J.20670 F/O. J. R. Tremblay				
	F/L. A. R. McAra				
	F/S. Mitchell, D. W.				
	Sgt. Smith I. D.				
	Sgt. Parsons, S. L.				
Sgt. Pelling, D. W.					
Liberator MK.VI. O/200 EW?321	J.23216 F/O. G. D. MacKeen (Cpt)		051517Z	060107Z	
	P/O. J. R. Coulson				
	NZ424531 F/O. G. D. Davidson (Nav)				
	Aus.420255 F/L. R. L. McLaughlin				
	Aus.412868 F/L. R. H. Meyer				
	F/S Sillence C. E.				
	Aus.421447 F/S. Nott, J. G.				
	F/S. Fordam, P. J.				
	Sgt. Normington, H. O.				
	Sgt. Nash, H.				
Liberator MK.VI. W/200 KH220	J.21445 F/O R. M. Bowdery (Cpt)	U-Boat search sweeping tracks 20 miles apart from 13.23N to 17.39N between longitudes 82.42E and 86.10E	071555Z	080120Z	Each of these 4 aircraft completed the patrols as laid down but the night's flying was uneventful, no enemy contacts or sightings resulting. Aircraft "T" experienced a failure of its ASV equipment 16 minutes after bringing it into operation, but the remainder used their equipment throughout the night. There was very little cloud and visibility generally was 10 miles.
	F/O. G. D. Temple				
	J.12953 F/L. W. H. Dray (Nav)				
	Aus.423102 F/O. G. Green				
	F/S. Green P. F.				
	R.223540 Sgt. Spence, C. R.				
	R.213312 Sgt. Lisson? T. A.				
	Sgt. Bowers, J.				
	Sgt. Reilly, R. R.				
Sgt. Woolfrey, D. M?					

Liberator MK.VI. T/200 KH142	F/L. G. Banner (Cpt)		071535Z	080145Z	
	P/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens				
	F/S. Huie, R. G. (Nav)				
	P/O. R. C. Shepherd				
	Sgt. Smith, E. T.				
	Sgt. Taylor, J.				
	Sgt. Miller D. B.				
	Sgt. Dear, P. V.				
	F/S. Claircourt, D.				
	Sgt. Griffiths, J. P.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. C/200 KH141	F/L. D. F. Redrup (Cpt)		071539Z	080136Z	
	W/O. Willis, L. F.				
	F/O. J. C. Simpson (Nav)				
	F/O. H. W. Scallon				
	F/S. Blake, P. H.				
	Aus.424176 F/O. R. E. Greenwood				
	R.201072 F/S. Dick, G. J.				
	Sgt. Round, F.				
	R.193840 F/S. Fulton, E. O.				
	Aus.425430 W/O. Davidson, F. W.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. H/200 KG851	S/L. C. B. Gavin- Robinson		071546Z	080216Z	
	J.26768 F/O. R. H. Cook				
	Aus.414771 F/O J. A. Crawford (Nav)				
	F/O. F. B. Richardson				
	A425704 W/O. R. Lyons				
	R.99619 W/O Lawrence, G. D.				
	Sgt. Spiers, C. R.				
	R.95509 W/O. Neil, R. R.				
	F/S. Irvine, J. P.				
					Detachment - Cuttack
Liberator MK.VI.LL. KG851 H/200	S/L. C. B. Gavin- Robinson	Anti-U- Boat sweep through 12.58N 89.43E, 11.22N, 89.55E, 11.07N, 89.40E, 12.43?N, 87.40E.	031233Z	032255Z	Airborne from St. Thomas Mount this aircraft picked up 2 Radar blips at a distance of 7 miles and 10 miles. These contacts converged and then disappeared. Two flame floats were seen in the area. 40 minutes later M/200's W/T message stating that she was about to attack a U-Boat was received and course was set for the position, 12.43N, 88.44E. On arrival another Liberator was seen in the area and a sea marker on the water but nothing beyond. "H" then set course to return and landed at Cuttack.
	J.26768 F/O. R. H. Cook				
	F/S. Huie, R. G. (Nav)				
	F/O. F. B. Richardson				
	Aus.414771 F/O. J. A. Crawford				
	R.99619 W/O Lawrence, G. D.				
	R.95509 W/O. Neil, R. R.				
	Sgt. Spiers, C. R.				

	A425704 W/O. Lyons, R.				
	F/S. Irvine, J. P.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. Z/200 KG992	F/L. D. F. Redrup (Cpt)	Anti-U-Boat sweep through 12.43N 87.40E, 11.07N, 89.40E, 10.51N, 88.27E, 12.27N, 87.27E.	031237Z	032323Z	Aircraft "Z" also intercepted M/200's U-Boat signal and proceeded to the position. "M" asked aircraft "Z" by R/T to search with Leigh Light the area West of the flame float and to drop sea markers. This was carried out and aircraft "H" was also seen searching with the Leigh Light. Nothing was seen however, and course was set for Cuttack after 30 minutes searching.
	W/O. Willis, L. F.				
	F/S. Blake, P. H. (Nav)				
	F/O. H. W. Scallon				
	R.164516 W/O. Belanger, J.				
	R.201072 F/S. Dick, G. J.				
	NZ.391696 F/S. Cooney J. L.				
F/S. Thomas, R.					
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
Liberator MK.VI. M/200 EW321	F/O R. A. Hobbs (Cpt)	Anti-U-Boat sweep through 13.14N 88.07E, 11.40N, 90.07E, 11.22N, 89.55E, 12.58N, 87.55E.	031227Z	040013Z	Aircraft "M" was airborne at St. Thomas Mount. At 1635Z in position 12.43N, 88.44E, when at 1250 feet obtained a Radar contact at 120° 8 miles. The pilot homed, making a circuit 5 to 6 miles south and west of the contact to approach up moon. At 1710 in position 12.37N 88.40E, the aircraft being at 800 feet, a fully surfaced U-Boat was sighted 030 red at 2 miles on a course of 350 at 6 Knots. "M" attacked from astern at 50 feet, 2 D.Cs dropped unfused but the target was straddled by 6 D.Cs with 60 feet spacing and 25 feet depth settings. The nearest D.C. exploded 5 yards to port from the hull by the conning tower and a sea marker was also dropped. The U-Boat was completely hidden in spray and nothing further was subsequently seen except the heavy disturbance of the water. Nothing of wreckage, oil or air bubbles was seen. The front gunner had attempted to fire at 1000 yards during the run-up but his guns jammed. All members of the crew saw the U-Boat before attack. The Flight Engineer standing by the Bomb door utility valve saw the points of entry. The Rear Gunner and Port Beam Gunner saw the explosion of D.Cs on either side of the U-Boat. The flash W/T report was transmitted but no acknowledgement received until 40 minutes later. By this time the transmitter had been retuned and was slightly off
	F/O H. J. Markley				
	F/O J. H. W. Lakin (Nav)				
	F/S Ewers C. E.				
	Sgt. Lockhart, W. F.				
	F/S. Harvey, B. L.				
	Sgt. Raontree ⁴⁷ J. A.				
	Sgt. Spiller, E. W.				
	Sgt. Page, J. P.				
	Sgt. Phillips, C. G.				

					had been retuned and was slightly off frequency beforehand. Moreover the original low altitude was probably responsible for non-reception of signals. Aircraft "H" and "Z" of 200, both Leigh Light aircraft had intercepted the messages and arrived on the spot, and in response to R/T calls from "M" commenced searching with their lights. "Z" saw a possible patch of oil, though it was suggested that this might have been cloud shadow. Ten minutes after the attack the rear gunner sighted a dull green glow on water in the position of attack, this faded after 2 seconds and was not seen again. The hazy conditions in the moonlight were not conducive however to accurate and detailed observation, though it is virtually certain that the U-Boat was unaware of the aircraft's approach and it appeared to take no evasive action or make any attempt to dive. The Squadron C.O. considers that the U-Boat must have been seriously damaged and possibly sunk. He comments that H/200 was also manoeuvring to attack when "M" attacked, and did in fact observe the two contacts on the ASV screen converge and meet. No further contact was made following the attack.
Liberator MK.VI.LL. L/200 KG854	S/L. R. C. Wescombe (Cpt) R.160736 W/O. Lucking, M. W. J23447 F/O. R. W. Youngblud (Nav)	A/S patrol inner shipping lane Madras to Puri.	090330Z	090817Z	Aircraft "L" carried out an A/S patrol whilst on route to join the Detachment. A number of friendly ships were seen but otherwise the sortie was uneventful. Weather was fair with visibility 15 miles.
	R.111176 W/O. Esdon, W. S.				
	R.92954 W/O. Benstead, H. W.				
	R.12807 W/O. Penfold, E. J.				
	F/S. Elwick, V.				
	F/S. Willcock, B.				
	Sgt. Price, J. M.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. W/200 KH220	J.37584 F/O. A. W. Craighead (Cpt) J.37984? F/O. N. Mozel J.38701 F/O. H. T. Cluff (Nav)	A/S patrol outer shipping lane Madras to Puri.	090340Z	090840Z	This aircraft also patrolled the shipping lanes without incident and made contact with a number of friendly ships. ASV was used throughout.
	F/S. Bates, D.				

⁴⁷ Usually spelt Roantree in records.

	F/S. Deeley, D. B.				
	R.209471 F/S. Ferguson, E. W.				
	F/S. Harper, W. E.				
	Sgt. Franklin, G.				
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
	R.163460 Sgt. Koury, J.				
	Sgt. O'Callaghan, M.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. G/200 KG912	J.6808 F/L. Colleaux (Cpt)	A/S patrol outer shipping lane Madras to Puri.	09034Z	090850Z	"C" flew the same patrol as "W" above and left the shipping lane after 3 ¾ hours. There was nothing to report of enemy contacts or sightings, ASV was on throughout. Weather was fair though hazy and visibility 16 miles.
	J.39613 P/O. R. P. O'Connell				
	J.41094 P/O. G. L. Roldan (Nav)				
	R.171819 W/O. Defir, J.				
	Sgt. Cole, S. B.				
	R.216547 Sgt. Doherty, W.				
	R.219140 Sgt Kane, C.				
	Sgt. Robinson, J.				
	Sgt. Pearson, E. W.				
	Sgt. Picker, C. E.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. G/200 KG912	J.6808 F/L. Colleaux (Cpt) ⁴⁸	A/S escort to Convoy HC88A	092230	100935Z	Convoy HC88A was met at 100006Z, recognition procedure satisfactorily carried out, and a Viper patrol begun. The aircraft searched with ASV throughout the sortie. No incidents occurred, and the aircraft set course for base after patrolling around the convoy for nearly 7 ½ hours. On the way bask another convoy was sighted. Weather was fair, visibility 9 miles, and sea calm.
	J.39613 P/O. R. P. O'Connell				
	J.41094 P/O. G. L. Roldan (Nav)				
	R.171819 W/O. Defir, J.				
	Sgt. Cole, S. B.				
	R.216547 Sgt. Doherty, W.				
	R.219140 Sgt Kane, C.				
	Sgt. Robinson, J.				
	Sgt. Pearson, E. W.				
	Sgt. Picker, C. E.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. L/200 W?/200 KG??854	S/L. R. C. Wescombe (Cpt)	A/S escort to convoy HC89.	100348Z	101353Z	After meeting HC89 at 0507Z, aircraft "L" remained with the convoy during 6 ½ hours, during which time nothing of special note occurred. No enemy sightings or contacts were obtained. Weather was hazy, restricting visibility to 5 to 8 miles.
	R.160736 W/O. Lucking, H. W.				
	J23447 F/O. R. W. Youngblud (Nav)				
	R.111176 W/O. Esdon, W. S.				
	R.92954 W/O. Benstead, H. W.				
	R.12807 W/O. Penfold, E. J.				
	F/S. Elwick, V.				

⁴⁸ Note that this is the same crew as the previous flight, which landed less than 14 hours before this one took off.

	F/S. Willcock, B.				
	Sgt. Price, J. M.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. W/200 KH220	J.37584 A. W. Craighead (Cpt)	Anti-U- Boat Search in shipping lanes	110330Z	111300Z.	A parallel track search was carried out at the northern end of the shipping lanes as far as 90°E. No enemy contacts were made on ASV and no sightings were obtained. Weather was fair but hazy, and visibility 6 to 8 miles.
	J.37984 F/O. N. Mozel				
	J.98701 F/O. H. T. Cluff (Nav)				
	F/S. Bates, D.				
	F/S. Deeley, D. B.				
	R.209471 F/S. Ferguson, E. W.				
	F/S. Harper, W. E.				
	Sgt. Franklin, G.				
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.				
	R.163460 Sgt. Koury, J.				
	Sgt. O'Callaghan, M.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. L/200 KG854	S/L. Wescombe (Cpt)	A/S escort to HC90	122239Z	131044Z	An ASV contact on HC90 was obtained at 25 miles and the convoy was met at 2350Z. Throughout the following 9 hours air escort was maintained. There were no incidents.
	R.160736 W/O. Lucking, H. W.				
	J23447 F/O. R. W. Youngblud (Nav)				
	R.111176 W/O. Esdon, W. S.				
	R.92954 W/O. Benstead, H. W.				
	R.12807 W/O. Penfold, E. J.				
	F/S. Elwick, V.				
	F/S. Willcock, B.				
	Sgt. Price				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. G/200 KG912	J.6808 F/L. Colleaux (Cpt)	Anti-U- Boat search in Northern Shipping lanes.	141844Z	150624Z	A parallel track search with visibility 10 miles was carried out and ASV was switched on. Beyond sighting a Hospital Ship and 2 independent M/Vs there was nothing to report. Weather was fair but hazy, and visibility 9 to 10 miles.
	J.39613 P/O. R. P. O'Connel				
	J.41094 P/O. G. L. Roldan (Nav)				
	R.171819 W/O. Defir, J.				
	Sgt. Cole, S. E.				
	R.216547 Sgt. Doherty, W.				
	R.219140 Sgt Kane, C.				
	Sgt. Robinson, J.				
	Sgt. Pearson, E. W.				
	Sgt. Picker, C. E.				
Liberator MK.VI.LL. W/200 KH220	J.37584 A. W. Craighead (Cpt)	A/S escort to convoy JC70A	162300Z	171010Z	Difficulty was experienced in finding JC70A as the convoy was considerably in advance of its Form white position. Eventually it was obtained on ASV at 20 miles distance. The subsequent patrol lasted almost 8 hours before "W" set course to return to base. No enemy sightings were made.
	J.37984 F/O. N. Mozel				
	J.98701 F/O. H. T. Cluff (Nav)				
	F/S. Bates, D.				
	F/S. Deeley, D. B.				
	R.209471 F/S. Ferguson, E. W.				
	F/S. Harper, W. E.				

	Sgt. Franklin, G.					
	Sgt. Ramsdale, K.					
	R.163460 Sgt. Koury, J.					
	Sgt. O'Callaghan, M.					
Liberator MK.VI.LL. L/200 KG854	S/L. R. C. Wescombe (Cpt)	A/S escort to convoy JC70A	172302Z	181105Z	This convoy was 45 miles ahead of the D.R. position given and in consequence some delay resulted, before the aircraft made contact. From that moment, i.e. after picking the convoy up at 32 miles on ASV, everything proceeded smoothly. ASV was used throughout, but there were no enemy contact or sightings.	
	R.160736 W/O. Lucking, H. W.					
J23447 F/O. R. W. Youngblud (Nav)						
R.111176 W/O. Esdon, W. S.						
R.92954 W/O. Benstead, H. W.						
R.12807 W/O. Penfold, E. J.						
F/S. Elwick, V.						
F/S. Willcock, B.						
Sgt. Price, J. M.						
Liberator MK.VI.LL. G/200 KG912	J.6808 F/L. Colleaux (Cpt)	Anti-U- Boat sweep through 17.17N. 87.30E. 13.28N. 83.59E. 14.22N. 82.57E. 18.10N. 86.28E.	191324Z	192200Z		Throughout this sweep ASV was switched on. No contacts of a suspicious nature were obtained however during the 5 1/1 hour patrol. Weather was fair with visibility 6 to 8 miles.
	R.170736 W/O. Lucking, H. W.					
J.41094 P/O. G. L. Roldan (Nav)						
R.171819 W/O. Defir, J.						
Sgt. Cole, S. B.						
R.216547 Sgt. Doherty, W.						
R.219140 Sgt Kane, C.						
Sgt. Robinson, J.						
Sgt. Pearson, E. W.						
Sgt. Picker, C. E.						
Liberator MK.VI.LL. W/200 KH220	J.37584 A. W. Craighead (Cpt)	Patrol shipping lanes 1900N. to Western Channel Light vessel & Rumble Route to 90.30E.	212320Z	221105Z	Patrolling for 10 ¼ hours, aircraft "W" made no enemy contacts or sightings although a large amount of friendly shipping was seen. ASV search was maintained throughout the patrol. Weather was fair but hazy and visibility 9 miles.	
	J.37984 F/O. H. Mozel					
J.98701 F/O. H. T. Cluff (Nav)						
F/S. Bates, D.						
F/S. Deeley, D. B.						
R.209471 F/S. Ferguson, E. W.						
F/S. Harper, W. E.						
Sgt. Franklin, G.						
Sgt. Ramsdale, K.						
R.163460 Sgt. Koury, J.						
Sgt. O'Callaghan, M.						
					Wing Commander, Commanding,	
					No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.	

January 1945: Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events								
St. Thomas Mount	January 1945		Operations and Training								
			Remarks								
			No Operations were carried out by this Squadron during the month of January. The non-operational period commenced on 27th December, 1944, for a span of 5 weeks, during which intensive Leigh Light training under S/L G. B. Gavin-Robinson, F/L. D. F. Redrup, and their crew was maintained. At the end of the month 4 crews were fully trained, and it was anticipated that, of the remaining 11, 9 further crews would have completed their training by 7th February, 1945. In addition to Radar Homing Exercises in conjunction with H.M.I.S. minesweepers "Poona" "Abandahad", "Amritsar", and "Cuttack" and R.A.F. Pinnacle 1326, and also practice bombing with the Mark III, Low Level Bombsight, an experiment in Night Bombing and Gunnery was carried out. Using a Marine Marker as target, a full scale Leigh Light attack was carried out and proved most successful. It will form the basis of future night training exercises.								
			The hours flown were as follows:-								
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Aircraft</th> <th>Hours (day)</th> <th>Hours (night)</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Liberator MK.VI. (Leigh Light)</td> <td>400.35</td> <td>217.55</td> <td>618.30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Aircraft	Hours (day)	Hours (night)	Total	Liberator MK.VI. (Leigh Light)	400.35	217.55	618.30
Aircraft	Hours (day)	Hours (night)	Total								
Liberator MK.VI. (Leigh Light)	400.35	217.55	618.30								
			The intensive training programme undertaken revealed four difficulties of maintenance:-								
			(a) Obtaining a supply of charged L.L. Batteries for Training needs.								
			(b) Corrosion of aircraft caused by battery fumes.								
			(c) Damage to aileron fabric by the buffeting of the slipstream past the rather crudely streamlined Leigh Light housing.								
			(d) Difficulties associated with the methods of employing Radar in conjunction with Leigh Light involving a highly accurate alignment of the whole installations. Action is now being taken to overcome these difficulties.								
			Five aircraft have now been fitted with V.H.F. R/T, a decided asset. The advantages of this equipment over the equipment previously in use should greatly assist the Squadron in future operational and training commitments.								
			One of the Squadron navigators, F/O. F. Stokes (Can.J.8734) has invented a Leigh Light Homing Protractor for use with Mark V. Radar Screen. It is a single protractor which gives the bearing against a fixed electrically illuminated scale marked in two degree divisions. The protractor is secured and centred by three screws, is easily installed or removed, and does not cover any part of the screen. When the Squadron begins Leigh Light operations the new protractor will be tested out and it is believed that it should prove very successful.								
			Part II. Administration.								
			The outstanding event of the month has been the rapid success of the new Club for Corporals and Airmen. Officers and airmen have combined to decorate the interior of the building, a radio set has been contributed from P.S?I. Funds, a substantial library and an excellent selection of indoor games provide. The Club gained instantaneous popularity and all members have agreed that it is well worth the one rupee initial fee and subsequent rupee monthly subscription. Since its opening on December 20 th , 1944, there has been a marked decrease in the numbers of men who go to Madras in the evenings for their amusement.								
			Soccer has maintained the popularity throughout the month, and the Liberty Runs to the new Marina Swimming Pool continue to be well patronized. The Station Cinema								

			maintains a change of Programs nightly, but no longer gives a show on Saturday night owing to the difficulty experienced in maintaining an adequate supply of good films. R.A.F. "Gen" films always receive a great welcome.
			Weakly Gramophone concerts of popular classics have steadily increased their audiences during the last few weeks. A new venture, The Choral Society, already bids fair to become a popular feature of Squadron entertainment.
			The E.N.S.A. concert "Red, White and Blue" which was given on 16th January, played to a packed house and was very enthusiastically received.
			Part III. Personnel
			W/O. H. W. Lucking was granted a Commission (G. D.) in the R.C.A.F. w.e.f. 17th Jan. 1945.
			Sgt. I. D. Smith (WOM/AIR) and Sgt. O? R. Spiers (WOM/AIR) were both Commissioned as Pilot Officers in the R.A.F.V.R.
			F/O. J. R. Tremblay was promoted F/Lt., w.e.f. 9th November, 1944.
			F/O. G. R. Cudworth was promoted Acting F/Lt. whilst filling the Nav 'B' Leader Post.
			F/O. H? J. Markley left for a Liberator Captain's Course at 111 O.T.U.
			F/O N. Dupre arrived on posting as Electrical Officer on 28th December, 1944.
			Pilot Officers J. Hutchins and E. W. Osmond (Radar) returned form No. 20 Bomber Command on 5th January.
			P/O. R. C. Shepperd attended No. 20 Aircraft Recognition Instructors Course at RAF Ranchi.
			F/O. F. A. Pettus left for Karachi, en route to Cairo, on January 13th to attend a Signal Leaders' Course.
			F/O. R. Camm returned on 20th January from a Course at A.F.T.U. at Amarda Road.
			Visits
	10th January, 1945.		W/Cdr. Williams (IOGROPS Tactics) and S/L. Dickford (IOGROPS INT.) visited the Squadron to discuss policy matters with the Commanding Officer and Staff Officers.
	12th January, 1945.		The A.O.C., Air Vice Marshall N. A. Desoer paid a visit of inspection to the Station.
	19th January, 1945.		A/Cmdre, Wragg (IOGROPS) and G/Cpt. Watson visited the Squadron to discuss policy matters.
	29th January, 1945.		S/L. Higgins, R.C.A.F. Padre, paid a visit to contact all R.C.A.F. personnel, and discussed welfare matters.
			Part IV. General
			Morale on the Squadron remains good. General optimism prevails about the war situation, the great onward sweep of the Russians holding pride of place.
			All ranks of flying and non-flying personnel have combined to produce the very utmost from the intensive Leigh Light programme and results are gratifying.
			It is hoped that ample opportunities will be provided to put this training into effect when the Squadron again becomes fully operational.
			Wing Commander, Commanding,
			No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.

February 1945: Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events												
St. Thomas Mount			Compiled by F/O. C. Coleman.												
			Part I. – Operations.												
			Following the 5 weeks intensive Leigh Light training period which ended on 5th February, the Squadron again became operational, but owing to the damage to Starboard ailerons by the buffeting of the slipstream past the Leigh Light installation, a further non-operational period from 15th to 25th February was ordered during which repairs and modifications were made. The affected portion of the aileron was given a metal covering and since then no further trouble has arisen. The Squadron resumed its operational state on 26th February.												
St. Thomas Mount	27th February.		Today two Met. Flights into the Bay of Bengal were made. F/L. Banner and crew in 'T' experienced a failure of the starboard outer engine at 87.10E sent a "S.O.S." and successfully landed at China Bay 2 hours 40 minutes later. A series of fixes on the aircraft had been obtained and a Catalina was despatched to search in care of ditching.												
			Training												
			The period of Leigh Light training ended during February, all crews being fully trained with the exception of two new crews who arrived during the course of the month.												
			S/L. C. B. Gavin-Robinson, Officer Commanding Leigh Light Training Unit commented very favourably on the co-operation he received during the Leigh Light Training.												
			Radar Homing continued to occupy the greater proportion of Training flights, although much more time was given this month to Bombing at the Guindy Range, using the MK.III. Low Level Bombsight. Air/Sea firing also received our attention.												
St. Thomas Mount	27th February.		Three aircraft today collaborated with the local Ground Radar Stations by dropping "Window". This is the first time that the Squadron has taken part in Anti-Radar exercises.												
			The Ground Training programme was greatly intensified during February. F/O. Beamer, acting Radar Leader, organised visits to the A.M.E.S. at Pallavaram and the crews were able to see the Ground Radar organisation at work. Lectures on Ship Recognition, Navigation, Photography, Tactics, Safety Equipment, Bombing, Signals Procedure, Radar and Pyrotechnics have been given. "Quizzes" on IOGROPS Tactical Instructions and Clay Pigeon Shooting have also figured prominently in the Programme.												
			Monthly Flying Analysis (Feb. 1945)												
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Day</th> <th>Night</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Operational</td> <td>18.29 hours.</td> <td>-</td> <td>18.29 hours.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Training & Non-Op.</td> <td>240.10</td> <td>103.15 hrs.</td> <td>343.25 "</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Day	Night	Total	Operational	18.29 hours.	-	18.29 hours.	Training & Non-Op.	240.10	103.15 hrs.	343.25 "
	Day	Night	Total												
Operational	18.29 hours.	-	18.29 hours.												
Training & Non-Op.	240.10	103.15 hrs.	343.25 "												
			Part II. Administration												
			(i) Health.												
			The incident of enteritis which in January was unduly high has been reduced by vigorous attention to the cleanliness of the Cook houses. The completion of the Airmens' Club is welcomed by the Medical Section and will in time help to reduce the incidence of venereal disease, at the moment regrettably high. An accidental explosion of a practice bomb produced the only serious casualties during the month. One Senior N.C.O. will be in hospital for 2 months and a second for a possible period												

			of 6 months.
			(ii) Welfare and Recreation.
			The new Aimens' Club has maintained the great success that greeted its opening. All members continue to speak very highly of the new venture and the amenities it provides, and the numbers attending each evening are as large as at its inauguration. There is consequently a marked falling off in the numbers of those who nightly visit Madras for its varied forms of entertainment. The Choral Society has foregathered weekly to signify musically their appreciation of the charm of "Bonny Mary of Argyle" and the delights of "Coming to the Fair". A Camera Club has been suggested and already a number of keen prospective members have met together to set the Club in motion. The Camp Cinema gives a show each night except on Saturday and is usually well attended. An "ENSA" show entitled "Scats" roved generally disappointing but it is hoped that another show due next month will restore the balance. A very successful Squadron Dance was held at the Banqueting Hall, Government House, Madras, on 23rd February. An Orchestral Concert presented by Cpt. Beachem and 25 Italian musicians in the Station Cinema on Saturday 24th February was only sparsely attended but thoroughly enjoyed by those who were there.
			The Squadron Football League has continued its matches throughout the month and its popularity is as keen as ever. Liberty runs to the Marina Swimming Pool and to Y.M.C.A. Saidapet, which provides the amenities of a Club and an open-air Cinema in addition, have been regularly maintained.
			Part III. Personnel
			(i) Changes of Command
		2nd Feb.	S/L. J. M. Milburn D.S.O. assumed Command of the Squadron during the absence of W/C. G. McKenzie.
		10th Feb.	S/L. R. C. Wescombe assumed Command of the Squadron vice S/L. J. M. Milburn D.S.O. absent on Temporary Duty.
		15th Feb.	S/L. J. M. Milburn D.S.O. assumed Command of the Squadron from S/L. R. C. Wescombe.
		22nd Feb.	W/C. G. McKenzie returned to the Squadron and resumed Command.
			(ii) Movements and Visits
		29th Jan.	F/O. P. S. Lamb left on posting to 222 Group.
		1st Feb.	F/O. N. G. Green, P/O. D. W. Hyde, and P/O. F. W. R. Davidson (all RAAF) proceeded to 160 Squadron on posting.
		1st Feb.	F/O. L. C. L. Pryce (NZAF) attended a Jungle Course at Colombo, returning 11th Feb.
		7th Feb.	F/O. A. R. Digby-Ovens and F/O. E. R. Creed (RCAF) left to attend Liberator Captains' Course at 111 O.T.U.
		9th Feb.	P/O. R. C. Shepherd left on posting to 203 Squadron.
		10th Feb.	P/O. E. Osmond (Radar) left on posting to 159 Squadron. F/O. A. Batey (RAAF) and his crew arrived on posting to the Squadron from U.K. Crew as follows:- F/S. K. J. Zimmerle (RAAF), Sgt. E. P. Smith, Sgt. L. H. Wilson, Sgt. J. Birkett, F/S. T. A. Rooney, and Sgt. L. A. Scott.
		11th Feb.	G/Capt. Morden, Command Radar Officer, visited the Squadron and expressed satisfaction with what he saw. S/L. D. C. Bagalkot, 225 Group Radar Officer, visited the Squadron to make arrangements for Radar "Window" exercise.
		15th Feb.	W/C. C. B. Gavin-Robinson (promoted from S/L) ceased attachment on posting to 240 Squadron.
		21st Feb.	P/O. J. H. W. Lakin proceeded to Amarda Road for a Bombing Leaders' Course.
		25th Feb.	P/O. C. Wild. (Pilot) arrived on posting for Flying Duties.
		26th Feb.	F/L. R. N. Meyer (RAAF) proceeded to Calcutta on Temporary Duty pending repatriation.
		28th Feb.	F/L. A. C. Burrige and crew arrived on posting to the Squadron

			Crew as follows:- F/S. D. J. Sindrey (RAAF), Sgt. C. Harper, F/S. R. D. Maddock (RAAF), F/S. J. Lawson (RAAF), Sgt. A. R. Flynn ⁴⁹ , and Sgt. J. R. Speers.
			Part IV – General
			Now that the intensive Leigh Light Training has ended all flying personnel are hoping that ample opportunities will be provided for the Squadron to put it to good use in operation. The keenness shown both by flying personnel and ground crews has been very gratifying, but it is strongly felt that operational activity is required to maintain this level of enthusiasm and a generally good standard of morale. With the great successes that are at present being achieved in the European War the comparative inactivity in this area is felt all the more keenly in contrast.
			Squadron Establishment and Strength as at 28th February, 1945
			Officers W/Os & NCOs Airmen
			Establishment 57 218 275
			Strength 64 226 292
			Wing Commander, Commanding,
			No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.

⁴⁹ Spelling in record is Flynn.

Letter

The following occurs in the records after the February, 1945 Form 540

Leigh Light Training

Below is published a letter received from S/L. C. B. Gavin-Robinson, Officer Commanding, Leigh Light Detachment, 200 Squadron.

"At the conclusion of the Leigh Light training of your Squadron, I would like to take the opportunity of thanking all the technical departments concerned for their excellent co-operation during the last three months.

It was entirely due to their unsparing efforts that no less than 900 flying hours were completed with a very small percentage of cancellations caused by unserviceability, and that during the month of January the exceptional total of over 500 hours was obtained.

These great efforts will undoubtedly meet with their just reward when the Squadron resumes operations against the enemy.

C. B. Gavin-Robinson,
Squadron Leader,
Officer Commanding,
Leigh Light Training Unit.

February 1945: Form 541

200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks
Liberator MK.VI.LL. W/200 KH220	S/L R. C. Wescombe (Cpt)	Met. Flight to 1330N, 8935E. through 13.55N, 18.35E. and to Base.	270042Z	270938Z	This Met. Flight was successfully carried out. Weather was fair and visibility 10/15 miles.
	J.92741 P/O. H. W. Lucking				
	J.27447 F/O R. W. Youngblud				
	R.111176 W/O Esdon, W. S.				
	F/S. W. Edwards				
	R.93954 W/O. Benstead, H. W.				
	R.121807 W/O. Penfold, E. J.				
	F/S. Elwick, V. Sgt. J. Price				
Liberator MK.VI. L/200 KG854 ⁵⁰	F/L. G. Banner	Met. Flight to 0630N 89°E. through 0800N 89°E to base	270032Z	271005Z	In position 0910N, 87.10E, aircraft 'L' experienced a failure of the starboard outer engine. An S.O.S. was sent, and later the four D.Cs were jettisoned. The Captain managed eventually to maintain height and set course for China Bay. Fixes were constantly taken on the aircraft and a Catalina from China Bay despatched in case the Liberator should be forced to ditch. 'L' landed safely at China Bay 2 hours 40 minutes after the engine failure.
	F/O. K. R. Holmes				
	F/O. J. Broomhead				
	F/S. Claircourt, D. J.				
	F/S. Griffiths, J. P.				
	Sgt. Taylor, J.				
	Sgt. Smith, E. T.				
	Sgt. Rose, K. G.				
Sgt. Dear, P. V. Sgt. Miler, D. B. A.					
					Wing Commander, Commanding, No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.

⁵⁰ On the record this is shown as KG834; this is considered a typing error on the original, and has been changed to KG854.

March 1945: Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
			March 1945. Compiled by F/O. C. Coleman
			Part I. Operations
St. Thomas Mount			Two aircraft flew Met. flights into the Bay of Bengal on 2nd. March, and similar flights were repeated on the 5th., 8th., and 10th., of the month.
St. Thomas Mount	11th. Mar.		Aircraft "B" flew a range test into the Bay of Bengal & returning, patrolled the shipping lanes.
St. Thomas Mount	14th. Mar.		Two further Met. flights into the Bay.
St. Thomas Mount	14th. Mar.		An Anti-Shipping sweep combined with a Consumption Test was flown in the area of the small islands North of the Andamans. No enemy sightings were made.
St. Thomas Mount	17th. Mar.		Two aircraft flew Met. flights into the Bay of Bengal.
St. Thomas Mount	15th. Mar.		Today 4 aircraft left for Ondal to transport mines from that Station to Minneriya. Other aircraft left Base on the same mission on succeeding days until the last of the 128 mines had been transported. All aircraft had returned to Base by the 25th. March.
			Training.
			Flights were made for practice in low-level attacks on shipping and two naval launches provided the required targets. On March 28th. three Leigh Light aircraft "B", "C?", "Z", left for Cuttack on detachment, and preparations were well under way for the remaining 9 aircraft to Jessore where they will be engaged on special duties.
			Flying Summary for March, 1945.
			Analysis of Flying.
			Operational Sorties
			12 Met Flights. 1 Range Test. 1 Anti-Shipping & Consumption Test. 1 Anti/U patrol & Consumption Test. 51 Mine ferrying flights.
			Operational Hours
			Day: 369.20 mins. Night: 50.20 mins. Total: 419.40 mins.
			Non-Operational Hours
			Training:- Day 168.20 Night 9.50 Total 178.10
			Non-Op. Flying Day 26.05 Night 4.00 Total 30.05
			Grand Total of Flying for March 1945 627 hours 55 mins.
			Part II. Administration.
			Health & Welfare -
			The popularity and success achieved by the Airmens' Social Club during the last three months continued throughout March. Its anticipated beneficial effect on the health of the Squadron has been realized and a welcome drop in the figures for Venereal disease has resulted. The Medical Officer, Lt. J. S. Hesketh gave lectures to Aircrew on First Aid in the air and the use of First Aid outfits in aircraft. A natural result of the advent of the warmer weather has resulted in a increase in the incidence of skin infections, but the general health of the Squadron is otherwise very good.
			Sports -
			The Squadron Soccer League, by organizing games for a considerable proportion of Squadron personnel, has contributed much to its general fitness. A large stock of new Sports equipment, both indoor and outdoor, was received during the month. The Liberty

			runs, which were arranged tri-weekly to convey airmen to the Madras Swimming Pool and to the Y.M.C.A. Saidapet, with its outdoor cinema continued throughout the month, and were, as ever, heavily patronised.
			Entertainment -
			A really excellent "ENSA" show "Sunrays", was presented in the Hart hanger Theatre on March 8th. and was generally voted the best ever. The hanger was packed with a very enthusiastic audience. The Station cinema makes no improvement & the sound reproduction is extremely poor, so that it is hardly possible to make out the greater portion of the dialogue. The audiences naturally, are steadily dwindling.
			Part III. Personnel
			Air Marshal Sir Keith Park, A.O.C. South East Asia Air Command, paid a short visit of inspection on 31st. March.
			Change of Command
			S/Ldr. R. C. Wescombe assumed Command of the Squadron on the 4th. March whilst W/Commander. C. McKenzie was absent on Temporary duty. W/Commander. C. McKenzie reassumed Command on 7th. March. S/Ldr. J. M. Milburn, D.S.O. commanded the Squadron in the absence of W/Commander. C. McKenzie on Temporary duty from 23rd. March to 25th. March.
			Movements
			A/F.Lt. R. L. McLaughlin, F/O. J. R. Coulson, F/O. C. D. McKeen and F/O. W. J. Saunders proceeded to B.R.D. Worli pending repatriation on 10th March. F/O J. A. Crawford, F/O. F. Richardson, F/O. A. W. Scallon left on posting to 240 Squadron. F/O. R. J. Silvester arrived on posting on 15th. March. P/O. J. Hutchings left for Radar Course at Bangalore on 18th. March. F/O. A. H. B??mer proceeded to Middle East for Radar Leaders Course on 20th March. F/Lt. C. D. Channing (Med) left for B.R.D. Worli on 26th March pending repatriation. S/Ldr. R. C. Wescombe proceeded to Malta for a Junior Commanders Advanced Administration Course on 27th. March. F/O. M. N. Page? and F/O. C. G. E. Harper? left for No. 111 O.T.U. for a Liberator Captains' Course also on the 27th. March.
			Commissioning -
			W/O. E. O. Norman was commissioned in the rank of P/O. R.C.A.F. wef. 4th March.
			Short Leave to U.K.
			LAC Tenwick was the first man on the Squadron to go to the U.K. under the new Leave scheme. His name came out in the ballot on March 8th. and he emplaned at Karachi on March 18th.
			Part IV. – General
			Following the Leigh Light training the news that the total absence of U/Boats in this War Theatre would probably continue resulted in a considerable depression of spirits. No operational activity appeared likely. "Consequently the decision of 222 Group to employ our aircraft on Anti-Shipping Strikes in the Andamans/Mingui Archipelago/Sumatra area theatre was received with no little enthusiasm, and the requisite training was at once begun. The consequent decision to send detachments of the Squadron to other Bases, one detachment of three Leigh Light aircraft to Cuttack and the remaining nine aircraft to Jessore for Special duties was also a most welcome one. All personnel are hoping for a period of intensive operational activity in contract to the extremely dull spell that has recently been experienced. Those expectations have been responsible for a noticeable upward trend in the general Squadron spirit.
			Strength and Establishment as at 31st March 1945.
			Officers W/O's and SNCO's Airmen
			Establishment 65 162 339
			Strength 63 158 335
			Wing Commander, Commanding
			No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.

March 1945: Form 541

200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks
Lib. MK. VI. W/200 KH220	F/O. F. F. H. Charlton (Cptn)	Met. flight to 12°30N 90°E through 14°N 90°E and to base	020036Z	021036Z	Radar was used throughout this flight but no contacts were obtained and the aircraft returned to base without incident. Weather was fine, with visibility 15 miles, and sea calm.
	Sgt. K. Lock				
	F/O. C. D. G. Davidson (Nav) NZ424531				
	F/S. Martin P. F. J.				
	F/S. Deeley, D. B.				
	W/O. W. N? Rye (Can.R141073)				
	W/O J. J. Belanger (Can.R164516)				
	Sgt. McNaught A. W.				
	Sgt. Pearson E. W.				
Sgt. Colton D.					
Lib. MK. VI. L/200 KG854	F/O. R. H. Cook (Capt) Can.J26768	Met. flight to 06.30N 89E through 08.00N 89E and to base	020038Z	021118Z	Nothing of special event occurred during this Met. flight which was successfully carried out. Radar watch was maintained throughout the flight.
	F/O. M. N. Bagg?				
	F/S. P. H. Blake (Nav)				
	P/O. F. S. Rae (Aus.428932)				
	W/O. R. E. Neil (Can.R95509)				
	W/O. G. D. Lawrence (Can.R99611)				
	F/L. J. R. Trembley (Can.J20670)				
	P/O. C. R. Spiers				
	F/S. T. C. McEwan				
Sgt. J. F. Kapper					
Sgt. E. Purdy					
Lib. MK. VI. Y/200 KG990	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Capt)	Met. flight to 12.30N 90°E through 14°N 90°E thence to base	050907Z	050930Z ⁵¹	This flight was carried out successfully, there being no special incident to record. The A.S.V. became U/S after 5 hours. Weather was fine and visibility 10 miles.
	F/S. M? L. Loughlin				
	F/L. G. R. Cudworth (Nav)				
	F/S. C. E. Ewers				
	F/S. W. F. Lockhart				
	F/S. J. A. Roantree				
	F/S. ? W. Spiller				
	Sgt. C. C? Phillips				
	Sgt. J. P. Page				
Lib. MK. VI. Z/200 KG992	W/O. L. S? Willis (Capt)	Met. flight to 06.30N 89E through 08.00N	050001Z	051000Z	This 10 hour Met flight passed off successfully, A.S.V. being on throughout, but no enemy contacts or sightings being made. At 89°E heay
	F/O. R. E. Greenwood (Aus.424176)				

⁵¹ These are the times in the record, but one must be wrong since the flight was over 5 hours based on the remarks.

	F/O. J. G? Simpson (Nav)	89.00E thence to			rain was encountered, reducing visibility to ½(?) mile.
	F/S. K. Benley	base			
	F/S. P. Bozowsky (Can.R196597)				
	F/S. E. O. Fulton				
	F/S. C? J. Dick (Can.R211072)				
	F/S. P. Round				
	Sgt. J. Peace				
	Sgt. V. Parker				
Lib. MK. VI. A/200 KH139	F/L T. E. Wade (Capt) (Aus.400162)	Met. flight to 06.30N 89E	080003Z	080936Z	A successful Met. flight Weather was fine and visibility 10/15 miles A.S.V. was not used.
	F/O. W. W. Reid (Can.J38087)	through 08.00N			
	F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav) (Aus.426373)	89.00E thence to			
	F/S. G. B. Rimar (CanR210096)	base			
	F/S. B. A. Charters (Aus.423523)				
	F/S. P. Travell				
	Sgt. D. T. Bunkell				
	Sgt. M R. McGonigle				
	Sgt. R. R. Riddell				
	Lib. MK. VI. Z/200 KG992	F/O. T. E. Elden (Capt) (Can.J21383)			
F/O. G. D. Temple		through 14.00N			
F/O. F. Stokes (Nav) (Can.C8734)		90.00E thence to			
F/S. J. Lodge		base			
F/S. W. A. Tufford					
F/S. J. F? Willis					
F/S. J. A. Stearns (Can.R213373)					
F/S. G. M. Hannah (Can.R1335?)					
Sgt. R. T. Winstone?					
Lib. MK. VI. A/200 KH139	F/O. W. R. Hickman (Capt) Can.J26667)	Met. flight to 06.30N 89E	100027Z	100940Z	No enemy sightings resulted from this Met flight which was successfully carried out. A.S.V. was not used. Weather was cloudy, restricting visibility to 5 miles. Wind was 085 at 20 knots.
	F/O. F. S. Rae (Aus.428932)	through 08.00N			
	F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav) (Can.J27449)	89.00E thence to			
	F/L. J. R. Trembley (Can.J20807)	base			
	P/O. H. D. Hoobin (Can.J89927)				
	P/O. I. D. R. Smith				
	F/S. D. W. Mitchell				
	Sgt. D. W. Pelling				
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons				

Lib. MK. VI. Z/200 KG992	P/O. G. W. Jackson (Captn)	Met. flight to 12.30N 90E through 14.N 90.E and to base	100036Z	101001Z	4 Torpex Mk. IX D.C.'s were dropped for practice at the turning point of the patrol and each exploded. There was no incident to record. Slight rain was experienced, visibility being 10 miles base of low cloud being 1500 ft.
	F/S. H. R. M?elvin				
	P/O. D. J. McKee (Nav) (Can.J36845)				
	F/S. M. W. Tapsell				
	P/O. A. H. Beamer (Can.J35934)				
	F/S. J. A. Carse (Can.R199560)				
	F/S. H. S. Claymore				
	Sgt. A. W. Marnie				
	Sgt. B. S. McDermott				
Lib. MK. VI. B/200 KH127	S/L. D. F. Lredrup (Captn)	Range test Track 090T to 91.E thence 0945N 87.E thence patrol shipping lanes Madras to 15.30N & back to base to complete 12 hours sortie	110028Z	111238Z	This flight was carried as planned, the aircraft being airborne for 12 hours, 10 minutes. A.S.V. was not used. Weather was fine but a haze on the sea restricted visibility to 1/6 miles.
	F/L. C. G. Burrige				
	Sgt. G. Harper (Nav)				
	F/S. Maddock (Aus.434891)				
	F/S. J. Lawson (Aus41209)				
	Sgt. D. Flynn				
	W/O. W. S. Esdon (Can.R111176)				
	Sgt. R. Spiers				
	Sgt. R? Moore				
Sgt. J. Parry					
Lib. MK. VI. C/200 KH141	F/O. M. Batey (Captn) (Aus.410207)	Met flight to 12.30N 90°E thence 14.00N 90E and to base	140040Z	140941Z	No incidents occurred during this Met flight which was flown as scheduled. Weather fine vis., 5/10, with low cloud base at 900 ft.
	F/S. K. J. Zimmerle (Aus.429421)				
	F/L. G. R. Cudworth (Nav)				
	F/L. J. R. Trembley (Can.J20670)				
	F/S. T. A. Rowney (Aus.428441)				
	F/S. W. Edwards				
	Sgt. L. A. Scott				
	Sgt. H. R. Nash				
Sgt. H. O. Normington					
Lib. Mk. VI. F?/200 KG912	F/O. R. M. L. Bowdery (Captn) (Can.J21445)	Met flight to 06.30N. 89E. thence to 08.00N 89E. & to base	140028Z	141055Z	During this 9 ½ hour flight no enemy sightings were made. Weather was fair, visibility 20 miles and sea moderate.
	F/O. G. D. Temple				
	F/L. W. M. Dray (Can.J12953)				
	F/S. J. Bowers				
	F/S. P. Foley				
	F/S. T. A. Lisson (Can.R213312)				
	F/S. C. R. Spence (Can.R223540)				
	Sgt. R. P. Harrison				
Sgt. R. R. Riley					

	Sgt. D. Woolfrey				
Lib. Mk. VI. B/200 KH127	F/O. R. H. Cook (Capt) (Can.J26768)	Consumption test & Anti shipping sweep. Base to Preparis Islands to Northern tip of the Andamans thence direct to base.	145221Z ⁵²	141716Z	This Anti-shipping sweep was flown as planned but no enemy shipping was encountered. Low oblique photographs of Preparis Island, the lighthouse on Table Island, and the Radar installation on Great Coco Island were obtained. Weather remained good throughout.
	F/O. M. N. Bagg				
	F/S. P. S. Balke (Nav)				
	F/O. K. ? Ramsden				
	P/O. C. R. Spiers				
	P/O. F. O. Norman (Can.J93413)				
	W/O. R. E. Neil (R.95509)				
	W/O. G. D. Lawrence (R.99611)				
	F/S. T. C. McKwan				
	Sgt. J. F. Kappes				
Sgt. E. Purdy					
Lib. Mk. VI. C/200 KH141	F/O. A. W. Craighead (Capt) (Can.J37584)	Met flight to 12.30N 90.E. thence 14.00N 90.E. & to base.	170045Z	170930Z	There were no incidents to record during this Met flight which was flown as planned. Weather was fine but hazy restricting visibility to 5/6 miles.
	P/O. M. Mozel (Can.J37594)				
	F/O. H. T. Cluff (Nav)				
	P/O. C. Wild				
	W/O. S. S. Carpenter (Can.R10808)				
	F/S. J. Koury?? (R.163460)				
	F/S. W. Franklin				
	F/S. D. F. Lot (Can.R208775)				
	Sgt. M. O'Callaghan				
	Sgt. K. Ramsdale				
Lib. Mk. VI. B/200 KH127	F/L. R. A. Colleaux (Cap) (Can.J.6808)	Met flight to 06.30N 89.E. thence 08.00N 89.E. & to base.	170040Z	171018Z	This Met flight was successfully flown and no enemy sightings were made. Weather remained fair, with visibility 12/15 miles and wind 027 at 26 knots.
	F/O. R. F. O'Connell (Can.J39613)				
	F/L. W. H. Dray (Nav) (Can.J12953)				
	F/O. R. Silvester				
	F/S. C. Kane (R.219148)				
	F/S. W. Doherty (R216547)				
	Sgt. J. Robinson				
	Sgt. S. B. Cole				
	Sgt. C. B. Picker				
	Sgt. E. W. Pearson				
	All times FG				
Lib. Mk. VI. T/200	F/L. G. Banner (Capt)	Transporting mines from Ondal to	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	There was no incident to record during this flight.
	F/O. K. R. Holmes		150410	150940	
	F/S. D. J. Claircourt		Ondal	Minneriya	

⁵² Time entered, but obvious error.

KH142	F/O. J. Broomhead (Nav)	Minneriya	161040	161705	
	F/S. J. P. Griffiths		Minneriya	Ondal	
	Sgt. J. Taylor		170940	171635	
			Ondal	Minneriya	
			180920	181615	
			Minneriya	Ondal	
			191040	191205	
Lib. Mk. VI. Z/200 KG992	F/L. C. G. Burrige (Capn)	Transporting mines from	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	There was no incident to record during this flight.
	Sgt. C. Harper	Ondal to	150505	150950	
	F/S. R. D. Marddock	Minneriya	Ondal	Minneriya	
	F/S. J. Lawson		160200	160810	
	F/S. D. J. Sindrey (A.434884)		Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
	Sgt. J. R. Spiers?		171545	171750	
Lib. Mk. VI. L/200 KG854	F/O. R. A. Hobbs	Transporting mines from	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	No incident to record.
	F/S. H. L. Loughlin (Nav)	Ondal to	150410	150940	
	F/S. B. Harvey	Minneriya	Ondal	Minneriya	
	F/S. W. F. Lockhart		161100	161720	
	F/S. E. W. Spiller		Minneriya	Ondal	
	F/S. C. K. Ewers		170935	171700	
			Ondal	Minneriya	
			181005	181710	
			Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
			191005	191500	
Lib. Mk. VI. J/200 KH136	F/O. P. H. Charlton (Cap)	Transporting mines from	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	No incident to record.
	F/O. C. D? C. Davison (Nav) (NZ.424531)	Ondal to Minneriya	170720	171210	
	F/O. R. Camm (NZ4229875)		Ondal	Minneriya	
	W/O. W. N. Rye (R.141073)		181045	181705	
	F/S. P. F. Martin		Minneriya	Ondal	
	F/S. Lock		190810	191425	
			Ondal	Minneriya	
			200850	201500	
			Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
			201717	201922	
Lib. Mk. VI. V/200 KG990	W/O. L. F. Willis (Cap)	Transporting mines from	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	No incident to record.
	F/O. R. E. Greenwood (Aus.424176)	Ondal to	190045	190615	
	F/O. J. C. Simpson (Nav)	Minneriya	Ondal	Minneriya	
	F/S. P. Round		200210	200910	
	P/O. E. O. Norman (J.93413)		Minneriya	Ondal	
	F/S. J. Speirs		210300	211015	
			Ondal	Minneriya	
			220325	220935	
			Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
			221820	222025	

Lib. Mk. VI. F/200 KG912	F/O. T. E. Elden (Capt) (Can.J21383)	Transporting mines from Ondal to Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	No incident to record.
	F/O. J. A. Pitt		190720	191255	
	F/O. F. Stokes (Nav) (Can.C8734)		Ondal	Minneriya	
	F/S. J. V. Willis		200910	201605	
	F/S. J. A. Tufford (R.244734)		Minneriya	Ondal	
	F/S. J. Lodge		210920	211600	
			Ondal	Minneriya	
			221100	221715	
			Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
			231020	231235	
Lib. Mk. VI. L/200 KG854	F/O. M. Batey (Capt) (Aus.410207)	Transporting mines from Ondal to Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	No incident to record.
	F/S. K. J. Zimmerle (Aus.429412)		210700	211200	
	F/L. J. R. Cudworth		Ondal	Minneriya	
	F/S. W. F. Edwards		221015	221630	
	F/S. W. T. Stacey		Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
	Sgt. L. A. Scott (R.211762)		230945	231200	
	Sgt. J. Birkett				
Lib. Mk. VI. A/200 KH139	F/L. T. E. Wade (Capt) (Aus.400162)	Transporting mines from Ondal to Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	This aircraft developed engine trouble on the return flight to Ondal, landed at Cuttack & returned to base on March 24 th .
	F/O. W. W. Reid (J.38087)		150400	150940	
	F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav) (Aus426373)		Ondal	Minneriya	
	F/S. K. W. Kelly (Aus.429013)		170923	171535	
	Sgt. D. W. Bunkell		Minneriya	Cuttack	
	F/S. C. B. Rimar (R.216096?)		180800	181345	
Lib. Mk. VI. Y/200 KG990	F/L. C. G. Burrige (Cap)	Transporting mines from Ondal to Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	No incident to record.
	F/S. D. J. Sindrey (Aus.434884)		231130	231700	
	F/O. G. L. Roldan (J.41094) (Nav)		Ondal	Minneriya	
	F/S. R. D. Maddock (Aus 434891)		240830	241500	
	F/S. J. Lawson (Aus.44295?9)		Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
	Sgt. J. R. Spiers		241650	241850	
	F/S. J. N? Tindle				
Lib. Mk. VI. J/200 KH136	F/O. A. W. Craighead (Cap) (Can.J37584)	Transporting mines from Ondal to Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	No incident to record.
	F/O. N. Mozel (J.37984)		220030	220540	
	P/O. H. T. Cluff (J.38701)		Ondal	Minneriya	
	F/O. C. Wild		230220	230830	
	F/S. E. W. Ferguson (Can.R209471)		Minneriya	Ondal	

	F/S. D. F. Lot (R.208775)		240125	240800	
			Ondal	Minneriya	
			250150	250805	
			Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
			251005	251205	
Lib. Mk. VI. H/200 KH196	F/L. R. A. Colleaux (Cap) (Can.J6808)	Transporting mines from Ondal to Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	No incident to record.
	F/O. R. P. O'Connell (Can.J39613)		220715	221230	
	Sgt. C. Harper (Nav)		Ondal	Minneriya	
	Sgt. S. B. Cole		230835	231455	
	F/S. W. Doherty (R.216547)		Minneriya	Ondal	
	F/S. W. Filling		240800	241440	
	Sgt. J. Robinson		Ondal	Minneriya	
			250820	251430	
			Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
			251705	254705 ⁵³	
Lib. Mk. VI. C/200 KH141	F/O. W. R. Hickman (Cap) (Can.J26667)	Transporting mines from Ondal to Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	Ondal	No incident to record.
	P/O. F. S. Rae (Aus.428932)		240645	241155	
	F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav) (Can.J27449)		Ondal	St.T.Mt.	
	P/O. I. D. R. Smith		250745	251235	
	P/O. H. D. Hoobin (J.89927)		St.T.Mt.	Minneriya	
	F/L. J. R. Trembley (J.20670)		251340	251545	
			Minneriya	St.T.Mt.	
			251640	251845	
Lib. Mk. VI. LL Z/200 KG992	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Cap)	A/L. L. patrol shipping lanes and Consumption test.	310025Z	311230Z	During this 12 hour patrol no enemy sightings were made. Weather was stormy though visibility was 15 miles.
	F/S. H. L. Loughlin				
	F/O. F. Stokes (Nav) (Can.C.8734)				
	F/S. C. E. Ewers				
	F/S. B. L. Harvery				
	F/S. W. F. Lockhart				
	F/S. E. W. Spiller				
	F/S. A. Roantree				
	Sgt. G. Phillips				
	Sgt. J. Page				
					Wing Commander, Commanding, No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.

⁵³ Time shown on record is 254705, an obvious error.

April 1945: Form 540

200 Sqn

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
			April 1945. Compiled by F/O. D. P. Newport
			Part I. Operations
Jessore			As from the beginning of April the Squadron was moved to Jessore to assist other squadrons in carrying out S.D. operations. The move of aircraft was completed by April 5th and training for the new work commenced at once.
			On April 15th the new type of operations were carried out for the first time when three aircraft went out, a number that was increased to six on the eighteenth and seven on the twentieth. The peak was reached on the twenty fourth, when nine aircraft went out and eight of them completed their missions successfully.
			The carrying out of nine operations in one day was facilitated by the arrival of a detachment from Cuttack with three aircraft on the 22nd April.
			On the twenty sixth, seven aircraft went out and six were successful, the seventh having to return to base owing to incorrect signals being shown at the target. Subsequently it became policy to fly four aircraft per day.
			In all fifty five operational missions were completed, forty seven of them being S.D. work and the remaining eight being anti-shipping sweeps from Cuttack.
			Of the forty seven S.D. operations, thirty four were successful and thirteen unsuccessful, nine for weather reasons and the other four because of incorrect reception over the target.
			Abortive missions for weather reasons were mainly at the end of the month when a marked deterioration in conditions in the target areas was experienced.
			On April 29th very bad weather caused five aircraft out of seven to return to base without delivering their loads. In several cases, crews reported actually sighting their targets but being unable to approach them because of the presence of mountain peaks obscured by heavy Cumulus cloud.
			Three sorties of duration of approximately twenty hours were carried out and it was unfortunate that two of them, both fling to the same target were forced to return to base as no reception or signals were available over the D.Z.
			Summary of Flying for April 1945.
			Hours for Period Day Night Total
			Operations 47 Sorties 415.30 85.40 501.20
			Training & Non-op 304.15 11.30 314.45
			Part II. – Administration.
			Movement of Squadron.
			By the 4th of the month 9 of the Unit's aircraft plus about 350 personnel had been moved by air from Madras to the Squadron's new location Jessore. 60 other personnel were en route on this day either by rail or by road escorting essential equipment in each case. The remainder of the personnel remained at St. Thomas Mount Madras.
			Health and Welfare.
			Both the ingenuity, and patience of Officers and men concerned was severely taxed in establishing 400 personnel at Jessore. Innumerable difficulties had to be faced, difficulties which it is considered, should have been smoothed out before the Unit arrived, particularly in view of the 12 days' notice of our arrival which had been given.
			Accommodation, mostly tentage was being erected as the first aircraft came into the circuit on 2nd April. Tentage for 200 airmen had been erected in a Paddy field, which fact with the advent of a small monsoon between 11th and 15th April, caused the

			27	20	9
			Officers, R.A.A.F.	W/O's & S.N.C.Os, R.A.A.F.	
			4	8	
			Officers, R.N.Z.A.F.	W/O's & S.N.C.Os, R.N.Z.A.F.	
			2	3	
			Total Strength.	61	159
					371
			Wing Commander, Commanding,		
			No. 200 Squadron, R.A.F.		

April 1945: Form 541

200 Squadron

Aircraft type and No.	Crew	Duty	Time up	Time Down	Remarks
			All times	I.S.T.	April 1945
Lib. MK. VI. W?/200 KH331	F/O. F. H. Charlton (Capt)	Operation Conclave	Jessore	Chiringa	The first operational sortie carried out by the Squadron after the change over from Coastal to Special Duties Operations over the Burma Area, operation from Jessore. This was in the nature of a Decoy Operation on which fighting equipment was dropped on a road 20.17N 98?.21E. Decoy operations of this type are proving most successful. This equipment is deliberately dropped within reach of the enemy, who, as a result is led to believe that our troops are in the area.
	F/O. C. D. G. Davidson (Nav) (NZ.424551)		151455	152115	
	F/S. K. J. Lock				
	F/O. R. Camm (NZ422989)				
	W/O. W. N. Rye (R.141075)				
	F/S. K. Bently				
	F/S. D. B. Deeley				
	F/S. D. Bates				
	F/S. P. F. Martin?				
Lib. MK. VI. V?/200 KG990	F/L. C. G. Burrige (Capt)	Operation "Chutney"	151520	160159	Eighty packs of nickels were carried on this sortie on which only eight were dropped owing to extreme weather conditions within the area. The target area was Mokpalin and southwards within 60 miles of the coast through Bilin, Paung, Moulmein, Mudon? to Taudy.
	W/Commandr. G. McKenzie				
	Sgt. C? Harper				
	F/O. D. P. Newport				
	F/O. R. D. Maddock (A.434981)				
	F/S. D. J. Sindery				
	F/S. J. Lawson (A.41209)				
	Sgt. A. R? Flynn				
	Sgt. A. R? Speers				
	Sgt. J. M. Parry				
Lib. MK. VI. J/200 KH137	F/L. T. E. Wade (Capt) (Aus.400162)	Operation "Conclave 2"	151428	152219	A successful Decoy operation in which equipment was dropped within reach of the enemy on a roadway 20.48N 97.12E. The aircraft, which was flying at 9,000 ft was hit by flak near Yenangyaung. The port mainplane and tail plane were both holed in two places
	F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav) (Aus426373)				
	F/O. W. W. Reid (J38087)				
	F/S. P. V. Travell				
	F/S. D. W. Bunkell				
	F/S. A. G. Royce (A.419675)				
	F/S. B. A. Charters (A.42353)				
	F/S. C. B. Rimar (R.216096)				
Lib. MK. VI. T/200 KH142	F/O G. Banner (Capt)	Operation "Conclave"	171330	172155	Another Decoy operation just to deceive the Jap. Five "Parafix" were dropped in positions 35 distant ENE and W.S.W. of Lake P?ule 40 packs of nickels dropped along a 60 mile
	F/O. H. J. W??d??n (Nav) (Can.J26419)				
	F/O. K. R. Holmes				
	F/S. J. N? Ti??e				

	F/S. D. J. Claircourt				stretch of road running across the North and down East of Lake Pule, and along the western shores of the lake.
	F/S. J. F. Griffiths				
	F/S. K. G. Rose????				
	Sgt. E. T. Smith				
	Sgt. J. Taylor				
Lib. MK. VI. H?/200 KH196	F/O. G. W. Jackson (Capt)	Operation "Hyena 42"	180754	181513	A successful mission carried out in good weather conditions. On the return journey flak was in evidence, burst ½ mile from the aircraft. And 500 feet below. Position Schwedaung (18.42W 95.13E)
	F/O. D. J. McKee (Nav) (Can.J36845)				
	F/O. F? A. Pettus (J.39553)				
	F/S. ? W. Tapsell				
	F/S. N? F. Claymore				
	F/S. J. A. Carse (R.199560)				
	F/S. W. N. Filling				
	F/S.H? E? Melvin				
	Sgt. B. S. McDermott				
Lib. MK. VI. Y?/200 KG990	F/O. R. H. Cook (Capt) (Can.J26768)	Operation "Hyena 48"	180800	181603	This eight hour trip, which took place in rather good weather conditions (for Burma) was not without incident. Mechanical trouble was experienced with the bomb release mechanism over the DZ. In addition, the pilot, F/O. Cook, on return made a very successful landing with a burst nose wheel tyre. This apparently burst on take off.
	F/S. P. N? Balie???	(Nav)			
	F/O. K. Ramsden				
	P/O. C. R. Spiers				
	W/O. G. D. Lawence (R.99611)				
	W/O. R. ? Reid (R.95509)				
	F/S. T. C. McEwan				
	P/O. ? O. Norman (J.93413)				
Lib. MK. VI. V?/200 KH331	W/O. A. F. Willis (Capt)	Operation "Hyena 49"	180758	181549	The weather was fine over the area and no difficulty was experienced in locating this target. All containers were dropped on the area except one container. Unfortunately, this was a mechanical "hang up" which dropped off as the bomb doors closed. The aircraft returned to base with the starboard front bomb door badly damaged.
	F/O. J. C. Simpson (Nav)				
	F/O. R. E. Greenwood (A.424176)				
	F/S. J. M. Mitchell				
	F/S. F. Round?				
	F/S. D. Colton??				
	W/O. P. Bozowsky (R196597)				
	W/O. S. J. Dick (R201072)				
	W/O. ? O. Fulton (R193840)				
Lib. MK. VI F/200 KG912	F/L. R. A. Colleaux (Capt) (J.6808)	Operation Heavy Calf 3.	181110	182110	Rather a difficult D. Z. target with hills of 6500 and 7000 feet surrounding the area. Three runs were made on the target in reasonably good weather all containers and packages being
	F/O. C. L. Roldan (Nav) (J.41084)				
	F/O. A. P. O'Connell				
	Sgt. S. D. Cole				

	F/S. W. Don??y (R216547)				dropped successfully. This 10 hour sortie was to the Kengtong(?) area, the target being situated in rough country position 21.01N 99.34E.
	F/S. J. Robinson				
	F/S. C. Kane (R219140)				
	Sgt. C. ? Picker				
	F/S. W. T. Stacey				
Lib. MK. VI. A/200 KH139	S/L. D. F. Redrup (Capt)	Operation Character Mongoose 14	1811050	181955	A successful mission carried out under favourable weather conditions. The target was located, signals were correct, two runs were made and 11 containers and 5 packages were dropped successfully on the target. Sixteen packs of nickels dropped over Papon.
	F/O. W? J. Weeden (Nav) (Can.J26419)				
	F/O. D. R. Newport				
	P/O. J. P. Irvine				
	F/S. D. Bates				
	W/O. A. W. White (R113931)				
	W/O N? R. Black (R151153)				
W/O. J. J. Smith (R133371)					
Lib. MK. VI. U/200 KH144	F/O. W. R. Hickman (Capt) (Can J.2667)	Operation "Character Walrus 35"	181135	181925	This operation was carried out after a D.R. run of 27 ½ miles in cloudy conditions over hilly country. The D.Z. was located and apart from one container which momentarily "hung up" and consequently overshot the target, the mission was quite successful. Sixteen packs nickels dropped over Th?gon.
	F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav) (Can.J.27449)				
	F/O. F. S. Rae (A.428932)				
	F/L. J. R. Tremblay (CanJ20670)				
	P/O. H. D. Hoobin (Can.J.89927)				
	P/O. I. D. R. Smith				
	F/S. D. W. Mitchell				
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons				
F/S. J. A. S??s (R213375)					
Lib. MK. VI. L/200 KG854	F/L. C. G. Burrige (Capt)	Operation "Conclave 1 & 2"	191350	192235	This was a Decoy Operation on which 5 – 250 lb G.P. Bombs were dropped in two areas (NE and NW of Lake Tule) in jungle country. These bombs were filled with delays of 6 – 36 hours with the object of deceiving the enemy into the presence and likelihood of demolition operations.
	Sgt. C. Harper (Nav)				
	F/S. D. J. Sindery				
	F/S. R. D. Maddock (A434891)				
	F/S. J. Lawson (A41209)				
Sgt. D. R. Flynn					
Sgt. A. W? Parry					
Lib. MK. VI. F/200 KG912	F/L. R. A. Colleaux (Capt) (Can.J6808)	Operation "Character Otter 46"	200800	201620	This successful operation was carried out in adverse weather conditions. Six tenths Cb. Cloud surrounded the target area making the D.Z. run through cloud and precipitation rather a difficult one. First drop overshot and fell on S.W. corner. Two packages dropped
	F/O. G. L. Roldan (Nav) (Can J41094)				
	F/O. R. P. O'Connell (J39613)				
	F/O. L. L. Smith (J41963)				

	F/S. W. Donnety (R216547)				without chutes. The target was 50 miles E. S. W.(?) of Toungoo.		
	F/S. J. Robinson						
	F/S. C. Kane						
	F/S. W. T. Stacey						
	Sgt. S. B. Cowe						
	Sgt. C. E. Picker						
Lib. MK. VI. W/200 KH331	F/O. F. F. N? Charlton (Capt)	Operation "Character Walrus 38"	200749	201650	A first D.R. run of 35 miles was made on this target from a pinpoint. Owing to low cloud and heavy precipitation over the area the target was not then located. A. Second D.R. run was made. The target was located and verified, but signal reception was incorrect. Remained in target area for some 12 minutes, but signals remained unchanged, so aircraft set course for Base. No containers dropped.		
	F/O. C. ? C. Davidson (Nav) (NZ.424551)						
	F/O. R. Camm (NZ424985)						
	W/O. W. N. Rye (R141073)						
	F/S. D. Bates						
	F/S. D. B. Deeley						
	F/S. K. J. Lock						
	F/S. K. M. Bentley						
	F/S. P. J. F. Martin						
	Lib. MK. VI. A/200 KH139		F/L. T. E. Wade (Capt) (A.400162)	Operation "Walrus Red 1"		200751	201634
F/O A. D. McIntyre (Nav) (A.426373)							
F/O. W. W. Reid (J.38087)							
F/S. C. M. Rimar (R.216096)							
F/S. B. A. Charters (A42353)							
F/S. A. C. Royce (A419675)							
F/S. P. V. Travell							
F/S. D. W. Buckell							
Lib. MK. VI. T/200 KH142	F/O. W. R. Hickman (Capt) (Can J.26667)	Operation "Character Otter 47"	200742	201534	On arrival at the target, reception signals were incorrect. In the meantime, Dakota (357 Sqdn) arrived and immediately commenced to drop. This Dakota was contacted over R/T, whereupon the target was verified, and all containers and packages were dropped only after the correct ground signal was received.		
	F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav) (Can.J.27449)						
	F/O. F. S. Rae (A.428932)						
	F/L. J. R. Tremblay (Can.J20670)						
	P/O. H. D. Hoobin (Can.J.89927)						
	P/O. I. D. R. Smith						
	F/S. D. W. Mitchell						
	F/S. R. F? Stearns						
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons						
	Lib. MK. VI. N?/200 KH196		F/O. G. W. Jackson (Capt)	Operation "Character Mongoose 19"		201147	202049
F/O. D. J. McKee (Nav) (J.3????)							
P/O. P? A. Pettus (J.39553)							

	F/S. H? R. Melvin				the target was completely enveloped. Nothing was dropped on this area but 16 packs of nickels were dropped over Papon.	
	F/S. M? W. Tapsell					
	F/S. H? S. Claymore					
	F/S. J. A. Carse (R199560)					
	F/S. W. N? Filling					
	Sgt. B. S. McDermott					
Lib. MK. VI. U/200 KH144	F/L. G. S. Banner (Capt)	Operation "Character Walrus 6"	201330	202215	Weather conditions on this trip made operations difficult. The target was obscured by heavy ground haze, the approach to target was a difficult one, but 11 containers and 3 packages were all dropped successfully in the area, which was 35 miles N.E. of Toungoo.	
	F/O. H. J. Weeden (Nav) (J.26419)					
	F/S. J. H? Tindle					
	F/O. K. R. Holmes					
	F/S. D. J. Claircourt					
	F/S. J. P. Griffiths					
	Sgt. J. Taylor					
	F/S. ? T. Smith					
	F/S. K. G. Rose					
Lib. MK. VI. N?/200 KH196	F/O. R. H. Cook (Capt) (J.26768)	Operation "Character Hyena 51"	240543	241327	Much Cu and Cb cloud was experienced en route with tops up to 15000 feet. At the target cloud base was down to 3000 feet but the D.Z. was found and all equipment was dropped. The target was 25 due west of Pyu on the Mandalay railway.	
	F/S. P. N? Blake (Nav)					
	F/O. K. Ramsden					
	P/O. C. R. Speirs					
	W/O. G. D. Lawrence (R99611)					
	W/O. R. B? Neil (R95509)					
	F/S. T. C. McEwan					
	P/O. H? O. Norman (J93413)					
Lib. MK. VI. L/200 KG854	W/O. L. F. Willis (Capt)	Operation "Character Otter 55"	240540	241340	This mission was unsuccessful owing to extreme weather conditions within the target area. The target was 6,000 feet A.M.S.L. and although the aircraft remained in the area for some 20 minutes, the heavy blanket of Cu and Cb cloud (10/10 cloud, base 5000 feet) showed no sign of clearing.	
	F/O. J. C. Simpson (Nav)					
	P/O. R. E. Greenwood (A.424176)					
	F/S. J. ? Mitchell					
	F/S. P? Round					
	F/S. D. Colton					
	W/O. P. Bozowsky (R196597)					
	W/O. G. J. Dick (R201072)					
	W/O. ? O. Fulton (R193840)					
Lib. MK. VI. W/200 KH331	F/O. P. P. S? Charlton (Capt)	Operation "Walrus White One"	240751	241515	A successful trip carried out in deteriorating weather conditions over the Burma area. There was a local storm and precipitation North of the DZ but the target was located immediately. All containers and packages were dropped on the target, two runs being made. The aircraft returned to Base via the Southern route to avoid thunderstorms inland	
	F/O. C. O. G. Davidson (Nav) (NZ424551)					
	F/S. K. Lock					
	F/S. K. ? Bentley					
	P/O. R. Camm (NZ422985)					
	W/O. W. W. Rye					
	F/S. D. B. Deeley					

	Sgt. B. S. McDermott				over the Chinds.	
	F/S. P. J. Martin					
Lib. MK. VI. F/200 KG912	F/L. T. E. Wade (Captn) (Aus.400162)	Operation Character Walrus White 3	240744	241608	A D. R. run of 22 miles was made on this target from the Salween River. There was a heavy storm within the area but the target was successfully located and all containers and packages landed on the D.Z. The target was 50 miles ENE(?) of Toungoo as was aircraft W/200 (above)	
	F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav) (Aus426373)					
	F/O. W. W. Reid (J.38087)					
	F/S. O? N? Rimar (R215094?)					
	F/S. B. A. Charters (A.423523)					
	F/S. A. G. Royce (A.419675)					
	F/S. P. V. Travell					
	F/S. D. W. Bunkell					
Lib. MK. VI. V? /200 KH142	F/L. G. Banner (Captn)	Operation Nation Chimp 3	241110	241825		A D.R. run of 8 miles was made from Peirmana(?) to this target. When the aircraft arrived, there were no reception signals. After remaining in the area some twenty five minutes, fires and ground strips appeared and all supplies were dropped forthwith.
	F/S. J. S. Tindle (Nav)					
	F/S. R. P? Stearn					
	F/S. D. J. Claircourt					
	F/S. J. P. Griffins					
	F/S. K. G. Rose					
	Sgt. T. Smith					
	Sgt. J. Taylor					
	P/O. K. R. Holmes					
Lib. MK. VI. C/200 KH141	F/L R. A. Colleaux (Capt) (J.6808)	Operation "Character Mongoose 26"	241145	241955	No signals were laid when the aircraft arrived but signals appeared soon after. All the parachutes opened and landed on the D.Z. Weather fair with occasional cloud. The target was 20 miles west of Pyu.	
	F/O. G. L. Roldan (Nav) (J.41094)					
	F/O. R. P. O'Connell (J39613)					
	P?/O ?, L. Smith (J.41963)					
	F/S. W. Doherty (R216547)					
	F/S. J. Robinson					
	F/S. W. T. Stacey					
	Sgt. S. B. Cowe					
	Sgt. C. E. Picker					
Lib. MK. VI. Y/200 KG990	F/L. C. G. Burrige (Capt)	Operation "Character Walrus White 2"	241115	241900		Although severe Cumulus cloud conditions were encountered over the Aralman Hills on route, weather over the target was reasonably favourable. There was a thunderstorm north of the D.Z. down to ground level. The target was quickly picked up, and after the appropriate signals were laid, all supplies were dropped.
	Sgt. C. Harper (Nav)					
	F/S. D. J. Sindery					
	F/S. R. D. Maddock (A434891)					
	F/S. J. Lawson (A41209)					
	Sgt. D. R. Flynn					
	Sgt. A. H. Parry					
Lib. MK. VI. U/200 KH144	F/O. W. R. Hickman (Capt) (J.26667)	Operation "Character Hyena 47"	241355	251000	Equipment and supplies were again dropped on this mission in the Toungoo area where our troops are pushing forward a very successful	
	P/O. P. S. Turner (Nav) (J.27449)					

	F/O. F. S. Rae (A428932)				drive at the moment. This aircraft encountered severe storms on the return journey. Aircraft landed at Cox's Bazaar, and returned to base next day.
	F/L. J. R. Tremblay (J20670)				
	P/O. H. D. Hoobin (J89927)				
	P/O. I. D. ? Smith				
	F/S. D. W. Mitchell				
	F/S. R. F. Stearns				
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons				
Lib. MK. VI. A/200 KH139	S/L. D. F. Redrup (Capt)	Operation "Character Hyena 54"	241400	242035	This sortie took place as do most of these operations, about 30-40 miles in advance of our own troops. This took place in a similar area to those above, east of the main Mandalay-Rangoon railway where there a terrific wedge is being forced by our troops, just south of Toungoo at the moment. All supplies were dropped successfully in the area 30 miles east of Pyu. The aircraft was diverted to Cox's Bazaar on return owing to bad weather bur returned to base next day.
	F/O. H. J. Weeden (Nav) (J.26419)				
	F/O. D. P. Newport				
	P/O. J. P. Irvine				
	F/S. D. Bates				
	W/O. G. W. White (R113932)				
	W/O. H. E. Black (R151153)				
W/O. J. J. Smith (R133374)					
Lib. MK. VI. L/200 KG854	W/O. L. F. Willis (Capt)	Operation "Character Ferret 21"	260559	261435	The sortie was carried out successfully and supplies were dropped in hill country south east of Toungoo. Cumulus cloud was experienced over the target causing some difficulty and owing to that and fuel shortage two packages had to be brought back. Eleven containers and two packages were dropped successfully on the D.Z.
	F/O. J. C. Simpson (Nav)				
	W/O. G. J. Dick (R201072)				
	W/O. P. Bozowsky (R186597)				
	W/O. K. O. P?ulson (R193840)				
	F/S. J. M? Mitchell???				
	F/S. F. Round				
F/S. D. Colton					
Lib. MK. VI. T/200 KH142	F/L. G. Banner (Capt)	Operation "Character Mongoose 25"	260609	261420	This sortie was carried out successfully in the foothills north east of Rangoon. The correct signals were not displayed on the ground and a message was dropped to that effect. A signal was displayed on the ground "Wireless U/S" and after the aircraft had flown low over the target and recognised the ground personnel as B.O.R.S., the drop was made.
	F/S. K. Bentley				
	F/S. J. H. Tindle (Nav)				
	F/S. R. F. Stearn				
	F/S. D. J. Claircourt				
	F/S. J. P. Griffiths				
	F/S. K. C. Rose				
Sgt. T. Smith					
Sgt. J. Taylor					
Lib. MK. VI. A/200 KH139	F/L. T. E. Wade (Capt) (Aus.400162)	Operation Character Ferret 21	260554	261438	This sortie was carried out over the hills south east of Tongoo in fine weather and all supplies were dropped on the target.
	F/O. A. D. McIntyre (Nav) (Aus.426373)				
	F/S. J. A. Inglis (Aus.434638)				
	F/S. C. N. Rimar (R.216095)				

	F/S. B. A. Charters (Aus.42353) ⁵⁴					
	F/S A. G. Royce (A419675)					
	F/S. P. V. Travell					
	F/S. D. W. Bunkell					
Lib. MK. VI. C/200 KH141	P/O. G. W. Jackson (Capt)	Operation Dilwyn/Squirrel 18	260705	261543	This operation was carried out in mountain country east of Mandalay and was unsuccessful. The DZ was located but although the aircraft remained in the vicinity for one and a quarter hours, there was no sign of reception and the supplies had to be brought back to Base.	
	F/O. D. J. McKee (Nav) (Can.J36845)					
	P/O. P. A. Pettus (J.39553)					
	F/S. H. F. Melvin					
	F/S. M. W. Tapsell					
	F/S. H. S? Claymore					
	F/S. J. A. Carse (R.199560)					
	F/S. H. W. Felling					
	Sgt. B. S. McDermott					
Lib. MK. VI. W/200 KH331	P/O. F. H. Charlton (Capt)	Operation Character Mongoose 21	280554	261552		This operation was carried out in hill country north east of Rangoon. Two DZ's were to be visited and in spite of difficult cloud conditions both were located. Over the first reception was at hand and supplies were dropped but the second target showed every sign of having had to be abandoned and although the aircraft circled for over an hour there was no sign of activity on the ground and the load was brought back to Base.
	F/O. C. D. G. Davidson (Nav) (NZ424551)					
	F/O. R. Camm (NZ.422985)					
	W/O. W. N. Rye (R141073)					
	F/S. K. S.Lock					
	F/S. P. F. Marvin					
	F/S. D. Bates					
	F/S. D. B. Deeley					
	P/O. H. J. Weeden (J.26419)					
Lib. MK. VI. U/200 KH144	F/O. R. H. Cook (Capt) (J.26768)	Operation "Character Hyena 55"	261257	271003	A successful sortie carried out in the hills east of the Sittang river. All supplies were dropped on the D.Z.	
	F/O. K. H. Ramsden					(Cox's)
	F/S. P. H. Blake (Nav)		262039	270840		
	P/O. C. R. Speirs		(Cox's)			
	W/O. G. D. Lawrence (R99611)					
	W/O. R. E. Neil (R95509)					
	F/S. T. C. McEwan					
	P/O. E. O. Norman (J93413)					
Lib. MK. VI. Y/200 KG990	F/L. C. C. Burridge (Capt)	Operation "Character Hyena 56"	261315	262035		Some trouble was experienced with weather over the hills but the D.Z. was located and all supplies were dropped successfully.
	Sgt. C. Harper (Nav)					
	F/S. D. J. Sindery					
	F/S. R. D. Maddock (A434891)					
	F/S. J. Lawson					

⁵⁴ This service number does not match the Australian records; correct service number is 423523.

	(A41209)				
	Sgt. D. R. Flynn				
	Sgt. A. H. Parry				
Lib. MK. VI. A/200 KH139	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Capt)	Operation "Character Ferret 19"	280525	281330	A successful mission in the mountain country east of Toungoo. Eleven containers and five packages were dropped in the D.Z.
	F/O. J. H. W. Lakin (Nav)				
	F/S. W? L. Loughlin				
	W/O. H? E. Black (R151153)				
	W/O. G. W. White (R113031)				
	F/S. C. E. Ewers				
	F/S. B. L. Harvey				
	F/S. E. W. Spiller				
	F/S. J. A. Inglis (A434638)				
Lib. MK. VI. Y/200 KG990	P/O. G? W. Jackson (Capt)	Operation "Character Mongoose 24"	280630	281433	A successful sortie carried out over the foothills South East of Pyu.
	P/O. D. J. McKee (Nav) (J.398?45)				
	F/O. F. A. Mey??s (J39553)				
	F/S. H. R. Melvin?				
	F/S. M. V? Tapsell				
	F/S H? S. Claymore				
	F/S. H. W. Phillips				
	Sgt. ? S. McDermott				
Lib. MK. VI. Z/200 KG992	F/O. W. R. Hickman (Capt) (J.26667)	Operation "Character Walrus 47"	280555	281350	A successful mission carried out in mountain country east of Toungoo. Eleven containers and five packages (total weight 4120 lbs) were dropped on this D.Z.
	F/O. P. S. Turner (Nav) (J.27449)				
	F/O. F. S. Rae (A428932)				
	F/L. J. R. Tremblay (J20670)				
	P/O. H. D. Hoobin (J89927)				
	P/O. I. D. R. Smith				
	F/S. D. W. Mitchell				
	Sgt. S. L. Parsons				
Lib. MK. VI. W/200 KH331	F/O. F. F. H. Charlton (Capt)	Operation "Pirate Banjo 2"	280905	281030	The longest sortie so far carried out by the Squadron . The D.Z. was in the Malay Peninsular in the region of 0400N. Considerable bad weather was met on the route but the D.Z. was located and 1900 lbs of supplies were dropped.
	F/O. C. D. D. Davidson (Nav) (NZ424551)			(Cox's)	
	P/O. R. Camm (NZ422985)		281330	290900	
	P/O. H. J. Weeden (J26419)		(Cox's)		
	W/O. W. J. Smith (R133371)				
	F/S. M. J. Lock				
	F/S. P. J. F. Martin				
	F/S. D. Bates				
	F/S. D. L? Deeley				

Lib. MK. VI. U/200 KH144	F/O. R. H. Cook (Capt) (J.26768)	Operation "Character Otter 63"	290557	291410	A D.Z. at an altitude of 7000 ft and heavy Cumulus cloud covering the hills made it impossible for the aircraft to approach the target and the cargo had to be brought back to base.
	F/O. K. H. Ramsen				
	F/S. P. H? Blake (Nav)				
	P/O. C. R. Speirs				
	W/O. G. D. Lawrence (R99611)				
	W/O. R. E. Neil (R95509)				
	W/O. G. W. White (R113931)				
	F/S. T. C. McEwan				
Lib. MK. VI. L/200 KG854	W/O. L. F. Willis (Capt)	Operation "Character Otter 51"	290535	291410	Once again it was found impossible to reach the target owing to heavy cumulus cloud. The aircraft followed a devious route to the target as it had been detailed to collect met information at various points. The Captain reported that had he been able to proceed direct to the target he considered that it might have been possible to complete the operation successfully.
	P/O. J. C. Simpson (Nav)				
	W/O. G? J. Dick (R201072)				
	W/O. P. Bozowsky (R196597)				
	W/O. H. E. Black (R151153)				
	F/S. J. H. Mitchell				
	F/S. F. Round				
	F/S. D. Colton				
Lib. MK. VI. L/200 KG854 ⁵⁵	F/L. C. G. Burrige (Capt)	Operation "Character Ferret 25"	290610	291500	This operation which was carried out in mountain country east of Tougoo was unsuccessful owing to the target being obscured by cloud.
	Sgt. C. Harper (Nav)				
	F/S. D. J. Sindery				
	F/S. R. D. Maddoch (A434891)				
	F/S. J. Lawson (A41209)				
	Sgt. D. R. Flynn				
	Sgt. A. H. Parry				
Lib. MK. VI. C/200 KH141	P/O. M. Batey (Capt)	Operation "Character Ferret 20"	290615	291500	This operation was carried out in the same area as above, 9/10 cumulus cloud was encountered in the target area but although the D.Z. was identified through a break it proved impossible to drop the supplies owing to the proximity of mountain peaks. The aircraft remained circling for one hour but cloud conditions deteriorated and it was necessary to return to base.
	F/O. D. P. Newport (Nav)				
	F/S. K. J. Zimmerle (A429412)				
	F/S. W. T. Stacey				
	F/S. T. A. Rowney				
	F/S. W. F. Edwards				
	Sgt. J. Birkett				
	Sgt. H. O. Normington?				
Lib. MK. VI. B/200 KH127	F/L. R. M. L. Bowdery (Capt) (J21445)	Operation "Character Walrus White 5"	290603	291448	This sortie was carried out in the area east of 40 – 41 and in spite of somewhat difficult conditions, all supplies were dropped on the target.
	F/L. M? B?ray (Nav) (J12953)				
	F/O. F. S. Rae (A428932)				
	F/S. D. J. Foley				

⁵⁵ Either this entry or the one previous is wrong – same aircraft, similar times.

	W/O. C. R. Spence (R223540)				
	F/S. J. P. Bowers				
	F/S. T. A. Lisson? (R213312)				
	F/S. L. A. Jarratt (R203114)				
	Sgt. R. F. Harrison				
Lib. MK. VI. Y/200 KG990	F/O. R. A. Hobbs (Capt)	Operation "Character Otter 55"	291428	292125	Very severe weather conditions with thunderstorms and heavy rain were experienced in the region covering the target area and the aircraft was forced to return to base after penetrating as far as the Toungoo region.
	F/O. J. H. W. Lakin				
	F/S. M. L. Loughlin				
	F/S. C. E. Ewers				
	F/S. E. W. Spiller				
	F/S. J. A. Roantree				
	F/S. B. Harvey				
Lib. MK. VI. F/200 KG912	F/O. T. E. Elden (Capt) (J.21383)	Operation "Character Mongoose 30"	300525	301325	This operation was carried out in the Pegu area and all supplies were dropped on the target area.
	F/S. W. A. Tufford (R244734)				
	F/S. J. A. Sterns (R213375)				
	F/S. G. M. Hannah				
	F/S. J. V. Willis				
	F/S. J. Lodge				
Lib. MK. VI. A/200 KH139	F/L. T. E. Wade (Capt) (A.400162)	Operation "Fighter Tambourine 4"	300448	300622	This operation was carried out on the Malay Peninsular in the region of 0606N and was unsuccessful owing to the fact that there was no reception at the D.Z. The aircraft had to fly through bad weather conditions to reach the target.
	P/O. A. D. McIntyre (A426573)			(Cox's)	
	F/S. J. A. Inglis (A434638)		300841	010235	
	F/S. C. N. Rimar (R216096)		(Cox's)		
	F/S. B. A. Charters (A42353)				
	F/S. A. G. Royce (A419675)				
	F/S. P. V. Travell				
	F/S. D. W. Bunkell				
	F/S. J. Lot (R208775)				
Lib. MK. VI. T/200 KH142	F/L. G. Banner (Capt)	Operation "Ration Jackal 3"	302210	010610	The operation which was carried out in the area south of Prome was unsuccessful as the entire target area was covered with low cloud.
	F/S. K. Hentley				
	F/S. J. H. Tindle (Nav)				
	F/S. R. F. Stearn?				
	F/S. D. J. Claircourt				
	F/S. J. P. Griffiths				
	F/S. K. G. Rose				
	Sgt. T. Smith				
	Sgt. J. Taylor				
Lib. MK. VI. Z/200 KG992	F/L. R. A. Colleaux (Capt) (J.6808)	Operation "Mandate"	300455	300620	This operation was carried out in the Malay Peninsular in the region of 0600N and was unsuccessful owing to the fact that there was no reception at the D.Z. The aircraft had to fly through bad weather to reach
	P/O. G. L. Roldan (Nav) (J.41094)			(Cox's)	
	F/L. R. M. L. Bowdery (J21445)		300830	010205	

	F/O. L. L. Smith (J41963)		(Cox's)		the target.
	F/S. W. Doherty (R216547)				
	F/S. J. Robinson				
	F/S. C. Kane (R219140)				
	F/S. W. T. Stacey				
	Sgt. S. B. Cowe				
	Sgt. C. E. Picker				
			Total weight of stores dropped during month = 125,087 lbs		
			Total weight of Nickels dropped during month = 3800 lbs.		
					Wing Commander, Commending
					No. 200 Squadron R.A.F.

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