

November 1945 Form 540

203 Squadron

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
Kankesanthurai			I. Operations
			The first half of the month was fairly quiet and during that period flights were made to Cawnpore, using Chakeri airfield to obtain passenger seats for the Liberator aircraft. These flights were mainly between 1st. and the 9th. of the month.
			This task was well worth the efforts expended, in view of the ferrying of released and repatriated personnel to Bombay using Santa Cruz airfield. Eighteen flights in all were made to Santa Cruz, the normal load consisting of 13 passengers with baggage. This commitment still continues.
			Flying Times
			Santa Cruz 146 hrs. 56 mins.
			Chakeri 68 hrs. 19 mins.
			Non-Operational.
			Flying training was carried out in the early part of the month with Navigation Exercises and Low Level Bombing, But this was very much curtailed owing to the heavy release programme.
			Night circuits and bumps were carried out by four crews.
			Technical.
			The quiet period during the first half of the month enabled 7203 Servicing Echelon to get on top of the job.
			The main snags of the month seemed to be engine failures. Aircraft C blew a cylinder in No. 3 engine on the way to Cawnpore, and had to have a new Power Unit fitted on arrival. Aircraft M was found to have an ancillary bearing failure on No. 2 Engine. The Engine had to be changed. Aircraft S fell due for a Minor and a very considerable amount of work had to be done to render her serviceable. Hold-u[s] are still being experienced due to rain.
			All this caused a slower Minor Inspection turnout than during October.
			Two of the Squadron's veteran aircraft, H and B have now completed their time and are being prepared for dispersal, probably to an Maintenance Unit in India, for onward transmission to the U.S.A.
			Administration.
			The Squadron is taking part in the Soccer activities on the Station. Two Soccer teams are being formed in conjunction with the Station Armoury, by our own squadron Armoury
			The Squadron Christmas Card was an immense success, depicting the squadron crest in brown and gold.
			Personnel and Movements
			Several new crews arrived from the U.K. to replace the Releases and Repats among the Squadron flying personnel.
	7?th. Nov.		F/Lt. L. Smith 112250 left for Worli on Class A. Release, his place being filled temporarily by F/Lt. R. L. Young.
	24th. Nov.		F/O. Williams arrived from No. 8 Squadron and assumed the duties of Squadron Adjutant, relieving F/Lt. R. L. Young.

			Casualties.
			There were no casualties this month.
			W/Cdr.
			Commanding No. 203 Squadron. R.A.F.