

From: F/Lt. Almack, O.C. 'E' Flight, Drigh Road, Karachi.

To: Wing/Commander Starling, O.C. No. 292 Squadron, Jessore

Date: 14th August, 1944.

Ref:

Progress Report Week Ending 12th August, 1944.

There is still no sign of the dual sets that had highest priority by air from the United Kingdom or our radio equipment through various unimportant items such as 2 obsolete dinghys, 1 sextant and 1 K20 camera all of which could have waited have arrived by air:

2. Delhi still refuse to sanction the removal even of ASV which we cannot use at our operational height and which must be removed to make room for the VHF. Has action been taken by S/Ldr. Pollock to explain the position to Delhi?
3. The rudder modifications as I anticipated have not proved adequate and the modified rudders have warped on the ground. Further strengthening is being carried out.
4. Doing an initial air test on Sea Otter JM771 on Friday I found full RPM and boost at 3/4 throttle after which there was considerable falling off in both boost and RPM. The undercarriage worked like a saxophone and either one leg locked up and the down or the other way round. This relieved the monotony for a little but we got up and down safely.
5. Owing to nearly all the ASR Boat crews in Karachi being sick, work on our floating target and also sea going trips are temporarily suspended.
6. A signal has been received by Station Headquarters here today to say the 'E' Flight 292 Squadron will be forming her instead of Chittagong so we are 'expected any time now' :
7. It is a good thing that we are 1000 miles from our Group Headquarters and have no hack Aircraft?
8. Nominal role unchanged.
9. I have not yet been able to accept any Sea Otters as fit for allotment to us.
10. However the arrival of dual sets would alter this state of affairs. I keep pressing for Radios. Mechanics?.
11. We have still no Fitters Eng.
12. Our first fighter Affil has been carried out successfully.

Flight Lieutenant, Commanding.  
'E' Flight, No. 292 Squadron.