

December 1944 Form 540

292 Squadron, Ratmalana  
original very hard to read.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events
	Dec. 1944		
Ratmalana	1		Squadron Sports Committee re-arranged. Now consists of 5 members ( 1 Officer, S.N.C.O. and 3 airmen). This should improve the standard of both selection and playing. Aircraft State B, V, D, detached P? unserviceable.
Kankasanturai	1	18.00	Walrus Serviceable. W/Cdr. Carr flew Tiger Month EN365???. Duration 25 minutes.
	2	18.00	Walrus HD808 <sup>1</sup> ?? flew for 1 hour 25 minutes. Crew F/O. Dixon, W/O Wilson F/S. ??????son for float test and sea landings. F/O. Davis? F?/O ??c??rs flew in Catalina to ?????ey? to Collect 2 Walrus.
Ratmalana	2		One Liberator Aircraft allotted from 352 M.U. Aircraft State B, V, D. detached P? unserviceable.
	3		Nothing to report. Lack of Aircraft ???its of us? no operational flying. Aircraft as previous.
Kankasanturai	3	18.00	Walrus Serviceable. F/O. Davis returned from Co??tore with Walrus W2992???. Time taken from Co??itore by F/O. Davis in Walrus W2994 2 hours 45 minutes.
China Bay	3		Walrus W3033 F/O. Smith, pilot, F/L. Cadman?? Nav. W/O. Davies, WOP/Air. Walrus W3033 was collected from the Navy at Co??itore, India and flown via K.K.S. to China Bay. Flying time for the trip was 4 hours 45 minutes. Aircraft ferried safely.
	4		Walrus W3033 F/O. Smith Pilot. F/L. Cadman? Nav. W/O. Davies WOP/AG. Walrus W3033 was flown to Squadron Headquarters, Ratmalana for acceptance check. Modifications were carried out, making aircraft also suitable for the Air Sea Rescue duties. Trip to Ratmalana lasting 2 hours.
Kankasanturai	4	18.00	Nil Flying Walrus HD808? serviceable. Walrus W2794? on acceptance check.
Ratmalana	4		F/O Smith and F/L. Cadman? arrived in new Walrus, one collected from Co??tore. Aircraft state as previous.
	5		F/O. Lindsay, ? ? F?/O ?????? returned from Campore but not with aircraft. Only to attend District Court-Martial. F/O. Funri? A? C? promoted Flight Lieutenant. 1993589 A. C. R?ider?? Nursing Orderly posted on the strength. Aircraft state as previous.
Kankasanturai	5	18.00	Walrus HD808? serviceable. Walrus 2794? on acceptance check. Nil flying.
			F/O. Dixon reported sick.
	6	18.00	Walrus 806? serviceable. W?/O BI???? returned from Com??tore in Walrus V308?6. Time taken 1 hour 15 mins. F?/O Dixon admitted to 24 Mobile Field Hospital. W/O Blackmore flew Walrus 3096 to Ratmalana via China Bay.
Ratmalana	6		New Liberator arrived (Mark VI. KH368). Air craft state B. V. D. detached P unserviceable. Liberator unknown.
	7		Another new Walrus Aircraft arrived for acceptance check. Aircraft status as previous.
Kankasanturai	7	18.00	Nil Flying, Walrus 808? serviceable. Walrus W?2794 on acceptance check.
	8	18.00	F/O. Davis, W?/O Wiley, F/S. Mall????ige flew Walrus 806?, local and sea landings for 35 minutes. Walrus W2794 on acceptance check.
Ratmalana	8		F/O. F??air, A. C. a Second-Pilot, posted to India. This leaves vacant the job

<sup>1</sup> this may be HD806

			of Jungle Officer. This is temporary performed by the Adjutant, F/O ??????n. No definite policy on the Liberator aircraft, therefore Squadron is still not on an operational footing.
	9		F/Lt. Do??? k. W. and F/O. M????y F? K? left on 14 days leave. Liberator aircraft are only here temporarily to replace Warwicks (while being fitted). Warwicks will take over again as soon as they return. Warwick 'P??' still waiting on A.O.C. before being detached to India.
Kankasanturai	9	18.00	Nil flying. Walrus 808 serviceable. Walrus W2794 on acceptance check.
	10	18.00	F/O. Davis W/O Wilson, P/O. Wall??son flew Walrus 808 on W.T. test for 40 minutes. Walrus W2794 on acceptance check.
Ratmalana	10		F/Lt. Bins?? K. T. and F/O Frater?? R. embarked for repatriation (these belonged to 292 Walrus detachment.)
	10		Owing to scarcity of work, due to lack of aircraft and crews (ie Digri?? as detachment), Our squadron is doing a staggered form of duties, with only the necessary personnel requirements present? in the afternoons.
	11		A second Liberator (EV967?) arrived from 352?? M. U.
			Squadron's first League Match in Colombo? (????) . All personnel are taking great i??? in all forms of sport, e.g; Soccer, Hockey, swimming, badminton, cricket and many features are arranged each week.
Kankasanturai	11	18.00	W/O. ???ore? flow Walrus 3064?? from Ratmalana to K. K. S. via China Bay. Flying time 3 hours 5 minutes. Walrus 808? and 2704?? serviceable.
	12	18.00	Nil flying. Walrus 808? and 2784?? serviceable. Walrus 3086?? on acceptance checks?
Ratmalana	12		It has been agreed that the Liberators would be detached to Kankasanturai, w.e.f. 13?th December.
			Unsuccessful Air Test on Warwick 'P?'. Port engine loses power after reaching full revs.
			Sgt. ??atdale? returns from Aircraft Recognition Instructors Course at ?????ni, India. F/O. Lindsay?, S? R? now being given dual instruction on Walrus aircraft, prior to temporary detachment to Kankasanturai.
Ratmalana	12	18.00	Walrus 3033?? F?/O. Smith Pilot, F?/O Lindsay 2nd Pilot, W/O. Davies WOP/AIR took off on circuits and bumps. Dual was given to F/O. Lindsay. A sea landing was made for practice. Flying time 3?0 minutes.
Ratmalana	13		P/O. ??????on and F/S ??con posted on Squadron strength for pilot duties on Walrus aircraft.
			Soccer? match at Jesiar?? Flatt? Club against the Wrean?? team of Dand????ke House, Colombo.
Kankasanturai	13	18.00	Walrus 808?, and W2794 and 300?6 serviceable.
	14	18.00	Walrus 808?, 2794 and 300?6 serviceable.
Ratmalana	14	11.00	F/O. ???n, R?. airborne in Warwick EV465?? ('P') on Air Test. Duration 1 hour 25 minutes.
	14		F/O. Lindsay, ? S? passed out as pilot, day (land only) on Walrus aircraft.
	15		On checking Liberator EV967, supplied to us recently, found many ??????? requirements missing, e.g. tools, rations, dinghies. And also much gear was faulty.
			Tiger Moth NL?726 handed over fully serviceable, to Station Engineer Officer, and flown off by Naval pilot (transferred by us to Fleet Air Arm).
China Bay	14	11.30	Walrus W3033 – F/O. Smith Pilot, W/O. Davies WOP/AIR, Aircraft flew back to China Bay. Walrus W3033 put on 30 minutes availability.
	15	14.20 ?	Walrus W3033 – F/O. Smith Pilot, W/O. Davies WOP/AIR, and S/Ldr. Patternal? passenger. Sea Landings were carried out on the Catalina strip for practice for Pilot. Flying time 1 hour.
Kankasanturai	15	18.00	F/O. Davis, W?/O ???son, F/S. Mailingson??, W/O. Slatterey?? flew Walrus 808? 1 hour 30 minute on local flying and Sea Landings. Walrus 2794 and

			3086? serviceable.
	16	18.00	F/O. Davis W/O Blackmore F/S. Mallinson? flew Walrus 3086 for 1 hour 10? minutes, on local flying and Sea Landings.
Ratmalana	16		Nothing to report.
China Bay	16	11.40	Walrus W3033 – F/O. Smith Pilot, W/O. Davies WOP/AIR. A W/T test was carried out. W/T. set was calibrated on appropriate frequencies. Equipment fully serviceable. Flying time 30 minutes.
	17	09.55	Walrus W3033 – P/O. Smith Pilot, W/O. Davies WOP/AIR S/Ldr. Dixon passenger. Sea Landings were made for practice purposes. Three landings were made successfully. Water surface good.
Kankasanturai	17	18.00	Nil Flying, Walrus 808? and 2794? serviceable, Walrus 3086? on 40 hour inspection.
Ratmalana	17	09.25	F/O. Fulton??, R. airborne in Warwick BV??468 on Compass Swing. Duration 2 hours 5 minutes.
			Signal from Headquarters Jessore, India that 2 lifeboats are ready for collection at 143 R.& S.U. these are being brought down with other Warwick's when serviceable.
			W/O Wallace R. ??????? commission.
	18		Rifle practice. This is a regular feature on Squadron agenda.
			Second League Soccer Match vs 'Flashers' (Lost 0-4)
Kankasanturai	18	18.00	Nil flying. Walrus 808? and 2794 serviceable. Walrus 3086 on 40 hour inspection.
			W/O. Blackmore? had interview with Station Commander W/Cdr. Carr for commission.
China Bay	18	10.00	Tiger Moth F/O Smith, Pilot, W/O Davies passenger. Local flying was carried out. Three take-offs and landings were made. Dual was given to passenger to add to 2 ½ hours link instructions per month for airmen.
		10.50	Tiger Moth – F/S. Jarvis Pilot, Sgt. Peel passenger. Aircraft took off on local flying. Flight duration 10 minutes.
	19	10.10	Walrus W3033 – F/O. Smith Pilot, F/O. Netitt?? Nav. P/O. Wilson passenger. Aircraft took off to make practice Sea Landings. Three Sea Landings were carried out and one sea strip successfully. After 30 minutes flying aircraft landed.
		11.15	Tiger Moth F/S. Jarvis Pilot, W/O. Davies passenger. Local flying was carried out, Aircraft landed after flying 45 minutes.
		14.30	Tiger Moth F/O. Smith Pilot F/Lt. ?mite passenger. Aircraft took off for 1 hour local flying.
Ratmalana	19		F/O. Fulton, R. and crew airborne in Warwick BV465. To India on detachment. First Liberator (KH368) despatched to Kankasanturai. All the Liberators are, in future operating from there.
Kankasanturai	19	18.00	Walrus 808? and 2794 serviceable, Walrus 3986 unserviceable 40 hour inspection.
			Warwick arrived from Ratmalana with F/O. Lindsay to replace W/O. Blackmore who proceeded on leave.
			Liberator KH368 arrived from Ratmalana with F/O. Gleson? P/O. Hodgeson, W/O. Christen? F?/O Muir??, F/S. Roberts??, F/S. Bak??, F/S. Hogg?. R/O Oirkon? relieved F/O. Davis of duties as Flight Commander.
	20	18.00	Walrus 808 2794 and 3086 serviceable. Liberator EV967 arrived from Ratmalana with P/O. ??????, P/O. ?????e, W/O. Taylor, W/O. Friesen?, W/O. George, W/O. ?????en? F/S. H????ines? and F/O. Walter???
China Bay	20	10.34	Walrus W3033 – F/S. Jarvis Pilot, F/O. ???itt Nav., W/O. Davies WOP. 1 homing exercise was carried out with 235 H.M.L?S. A dummy was dropped out to sea. Walrus circled dummy while H.S.L. homed on to it. Unfortunately dummy sank and was lost. More exercises like these are planned in te future. Flying duration was 1 hour 45 minutes.

Ratmalana	20		Second Liberator EV967 despatched to Kankesanturai.
			Further Rifle Range practice.
	21		Nothing to report.
Kankesanturai	21	18.00	Walrus 808 2794 3086 serviceable. Liberators EV967 and KH368 serviceable.
	22	18.00	F/O. Davis, F/S. Nallenson??? flew for 55 minutes in Walrus 808 for Air Test and local.
			Walrus 3086 serviceable Walrus 2794 unserviceable. Liberators EV967 and KH368 serviceable.
Ratmalana	22		F/Lt. ?y??? F? E? and P/O. M???? K? A. returned from leave. Another Hockey Match verses Air Formation Signals.
			No aircraft are now on this Station which belong to 292 Squadron. Lack of operational work is now, therefore very noticeable.
	23		W/O. Holloway? K? R. returned from India to attend a Court-Martial as a witness.
Kankesanturai	23	18.00	P/O. Davies, P/O. Lindsay?, F/S. Millinson?? on local flying and investigate L.G.I. at D??? Del???g in Walrus 3086. airborne 1 hour 10 minutes.
			Walrus 808 serviceable, Walrus 2794 unserviceable. A.O.G. Liberators EV967 and KW368 serviceable.
	24	18.00	P/O. ????? and crew proceeded to Ratmalana with F/O. Lindsay in Liberator EV967. Airborne 1 hour 30 minutes. Liberator KH368 serviceable. Walrus 808 and 3086 serviceable.
China Bay	24	09.15	Tiger Moth F/S. Jarvis? Pilot, LAC ?????s passenger. Local flying was carried out Air experience for passenger and practice landings. Duration 20 minutes.
Ratmalana	24		Rife Firing competition v No.7 (India) Formation Signals.
			Several Christmas Eve celebrations in the Messes.
	25		Christmas Day General holiday. Officers entertained S.N.C.O.'s in Officers Mess until 1300 hours.
			Officers and S.N.C.O.'s served Airmen's Christmas dinner in their Mess.
Kankesanturai	25		Nil flying. Walrus 808 and 3086 serviceable, Walrus 2794 unserviceable. A.O.G. Liberators serviceable
	26		Nil flying. Walrus 808 and 3086 serviceable, Walrus 2794 unserviceable. A.O.G. Liberator KH368 serviceable.
Ratmalana	26		General holiday
			Sgt. Lonsdale, R. C. (Squadron Member on Court-Martial) eventually traced in Colombo and put under close arrest.
	27		General work resumed. Sgt. Lonsdale, R. C. Court-Martial postponed for 7 days.
Kankesanturai	27	18.00	Nil flying. Walrus 808 and 3086 serviceable, Walrus 2794 unserviceable A.O.G. Liberator KH368 serviceable. W/O. Slattery? arrived on Unit. WOP/AG from S.H.Q. K.K.S. W?/O Chri??? proceeded to Delhi for interview with Australian Liaison Officer.
	28	18.00	P/O. ???ko? and crew returned from Ratmalana in Liberator EV967. Airborne 1 hour 45 minutes.
			Liberator KH368 serviceable, Walrus 808 and 3086 serviceable, Walrus 2794 unserviceable A.O.G.
China Bay	28	13.00	Walrus W3033 F/S. Jarvis Pilot, F/S? Hew?itt A.G. LAC Cameron? passenger. Walrus W3033 took off to carry out Sea Landings on sea strip. Three Sea Landings were made and practice taxiing was carried out between each landing. Trip lasting one hour 15 minutes. Walrus W3033 landed in a serviceable state. Air crews on thirty minutes readiness.
Ratmalana	28		Nothing to report.
	29		Commanding Officers Jeep allotted away to 332 M.U. Replacement seems unlikely, so efforts are being made to keep it.

			F/O. Lindsay, S? S? promoted to F//LA.
Kankasanturai	29	18.00	F/O. Gleason?, and crew flew for 55 minutes in Liberator KH368 for acceptance Test. Liberator EV967 unserviceable oil change. Walrus 3086 serviceable, Walrus 2794 unserviceable A.O.G.
			F/L. Lindsay arrived from Ratmalana in 'Vengeance' aircraft. Flew Walrus 808 to R.S.? Vavuniya.
	30	18.00	Nil Flying Walrus 3086 serviceable, Walrus 2794 unserviceable A.O.G. Liberator KH368 serviceable, Liberator EV967 unserviceable oil change.
Ratmalana	30		Nothing to report.
	31		Nothing to report.
			General Remarks.
			Operational activity this month has been Nil. Our Warwick aircraft are still being refitted in India, and despite rumours to the contrary, will not all be back until at least the middle of January. All the crews, except one, are in India, and therefore the personnel of the Squadron has been rather depleted. As much sport as possible has been encouraged to keep everyone occupied and interested. A more satisfactory and fuller report should be supplied by the end of next month. The sooner operational work is recommenced, the keener all personnel will become, although in the circumstances mentioned, their morale and conduct has been excellent.
			Health
			Few personnel have reported sick; of all those who have, the great majority have been affected by Foot-Rot.
			Squadron Personnel Strength
			Airmen: Officers 2?0 SNCO 15 Dominion Personnel 12.
			Ground Crew: Officers 1? SNCO 3 Dominion Personnel 1.
Kankasanturai	31	18.00	F/O Davis, W/O. Wilson, W/O. Slattkery?? F/S. Malligon??, local flying for 1 hour 35 minutes in Walrus 3086. Walrus 2794? unserviceable. A.O.G. Liberator KH368 serviceable Liberator EV967 unserviceable.
			Squadron Leader