

Appendix II to Form 540  
 Reports from the Field Relative to 357 (S.D.) Sqdn.

3/3/45	Otter 5.6.7	Excellent drop last night, but only three Libs.	W/O Hodges W/O Bain W/O Seed
2/3/45	Donkey 4	Arrived safely two men 4 containers 13 packages. Second plane did not turn up.	P?/O Black
5/3/45	Squirrel 10	Personnel arrived O.K. Once container rifles dropped without chute and smashed. One container stores candled.	W/O Bain
6/3/45	Wolf 7	19 packages received. Thank R.A.F. 5 'chutes failed to open due to faulty static line tie ups. Both W/T sets completely smashed.	W/O Wheelhouse
5/3/45	Hippo 6	Perfect sortie perfectly dropped. All found. Thanks to all.	S/L O'Brien
23/2/45	Bazaar 71 80	The operations were disastrous from a security point of view, and from their results. Even though there was no reception c'tee the airmen dropped bodies, containers and packages on to native houses. The whole neighbourhood is in commotion over this event and it has led to the Japs. making an enquiry. We remind you that you must observe most meticulously the rules for dropping. The recognition letter is most important and so is the signalling system with an electric light. We repeat that wood fires lead to mistakes as the natives light many just like them.	W/O Seed and 358 Sqdn.
28/2/45	Bazaar 73 119 120 121 122	1. A/Cs 119, 120 carried out their dropping from too great a height, picking up was then disorganised because we detail one party per plane. 2. Nothing dropped above centre fire. 3. We found the dispersal far too widespread lengthwise. 10 packages land among trees in spite of D.Z's large dimensions. 4. Have the dropping carried out by one a.c after another. drop at low altitude right on top of centre fire or Eureka, and if possible group the dropping at each flight.	W/O Seed W/O Petley F/L Lee W/O Hodges W/O Bain
26/2/45	Cello 1 2	All personnel and half stores received. It was a grand show thanks to you all and R.A.F. 4	W/O Petley and 358 Sqdn.

		packages missing (not on a/c)	
18/2/45	Rhino 3	Drop not received. Reception ready.	P/O Collister
17/3/45	Cornet 2	Plane came over target at 1140 G.M.T. By turning off ½ mile upstream could not see fires for high trees. Plane must follow river. Position now serious no food.	
20/3/45	Cornet 2	Good bombing R.A.F. we thank you only one in three (Cornet 1 dropped 3miles from D.A. and lost food as load hung in trees. Cornet 2 unsuccessful.) Dave considered renaming this operation Skeleton.	F/L Lamb
30/3/45	Mongoose 1	Wireless st out of action last few days. Now O.K.	F/O Smith
20/3/45	Antelope 1. 2.	5 packages lost. two slight leg injuries, otherwise everything O.K. Please convey thanks to crews.	P/O Black P/O Collister
23/3/45	Opponent 1.	Maj. Baume and Capt. Bluejob arrived safely. Ground good.	S/L O'Brien
22/3/45	Labour 1.2.	Arrived safely.	F/L Powell F/O Coy
24/3/45	Hyena 26. 27.	Party arrived here safely. Picked up 15 containers and 19 packages.	F/O Kindred and 358 Sqdn.
30/3/45	Ferret 4	All personnel down safely.	W/C Hodges
28/3/45	Piano 3. 4.	Successful.	F/L Lamb and 358 Sqdn.
30/2/45	Walrus 8. 11. 14. 4. 17.	What went wrong with droop – one Lib only dropped last night but 3 containers found 5 miles away. 2 Daks came, one dropped 5 packages only.	F/L Lewis P/O Collister and 358 Sqdn.
30/3/45	Yak 1.	Unable to show lights in race on Japs.	F/O Stockwell
28/3/45 30/3/45	Wolf Red 1.	Drop failed again. Flew in as before over point 6040 ie 2 miles S of D.Z. down ridge S of our valley. Plainly visible to us. The went up Nam Lam into China. Not heard again. D.Z. is 2 miles from Talam.	F/S Bush W/O Smith
28/3/45	Walrus 2. 3.	Bodies and one Lib arms arrived safely. Bods fell 300 yds short of D.Z.	P/O Collister and 358 Sqdn.
26/3/45	Hare 1	Arrived safely. One package missing	F/O Stockwell
26/3/45	Trombone 5.	Drop successful.	S/L Lee
20/3/45 22/3/45 24/3/45	Lynx 3. Lynx 2. Lynx 3. 4.	Have been standing by for 3 nights this week. As each plane fails so do levies spirits.	F/S Thorne F/L Powell F/L Smith and 358 Sqdn.
28/3/45	Lynx 3. 5.	Magnificent drop. All bodies safe. Thank pilot and all concerned. All stores found. Reckon lack of joy between Rebecca and Eureka my fault as situated in valley.	F/L Hewson P/O Black
30/3/45	Nation/Pig 1.	Both R.A.F. crews did well. One man	F/L Smith

	Nation/Reindeer 1	with broken leg.	S/L Lee
30/3/45	Nation/Rabbit 1	Both safe.	F/O Stockwell
27/3/45	Mint 3	Drop O.K. Bodies arrived safe.	W/C Hodges
27/3/45	Evidence	Drop colossal. R.A.F. did very fine job in very tricky weather. Thank them all.	W/O Seed P/O Cooke