

September 1945: Form 540

357 Squadron, China Bay Detachment

Place	Date	Time	Summary of events		
Section 1			Operational Flying		
R.A.F. China Bay	1.9.45	Operation	Evidence 1	F/O. Mercer	Successful
"	1.9.45	"	Humour 26	F/Lt. March	Successful
"	2.9.45	"	Fighter 12	W/O. Brondum	Successful
"	2.9.45	"	Hebrides 34	F/Lt. Emmott	Unsuccessful. Weather over D.Z.
"	3.9.45	"	Mastiff/Singapore	S/Ldr Sims	Successful
"	5.9.45	"	Mastiff/Penang	F/Lt. March	Successful
"	5.9.45	"	Sergeant 36	W/O. Raynor	Successful
"	5.9.45	"	Mastiff/Palembang	F/Lt. Powell	Successful
"	5.9.45	"	Mastiff/Benkoelen	P/O. Tuddenham	Successful
"	6.9.45	"	Mastiff/Medan	Mastiff/Rantauparapat	F/Lt. Emmott Successful
"	8.9.45	"	Mastiff/Bahau	F/O. Roberts	Successful
"	8.9.45	"	Mastiff/Papabita?	F/Lt. March	Successful
"	9.9.45	"	Mastiff/Rantauparapat	W/O. Raynor	Successful
"	9.9.45	"	Mastiff/Pakenbaroe	F/Lt. Powell	Successful
"	10.9.45	"	Mastiff/Bankinang 30	P/O. Tuddenham	Successful
"	10.9.45	"	Mastiff/Padang 32	F/Lt. Emmott	Successful
"	12.9.45	"	Mint 2	F/Lt. Forrest	Successful
"	12.9.45	"	Mastiff/Padang	F/Lt. March	Successful
"	12.9.45	"	Mastiff/Pakenbaroe	F/O Mercer	Successful
"	13.9.45	"	Status 4	W/O. Raynor	Successful
"	16.9.45	"	Mastiff/Pakenbaroe	F/Lt. Emmott	Successful
"	17.9.45	"	Fighter 16	W/O. Raynor	Successful
"	17.9.45	"	Fighter 17	F/Lt. March	Successful
"	19.9.45	"	Beacon 16	F/Lt. Forrest	Successful
"	20.9.45	"	Mastiff/Bahan 49	P/O. Tuddenham	Successful
"	21.9.45	"	Mastiff/Madan	F/Lt. Coker	Successful
"	23.9.45	"	Mastiff/Madan 58	W/O. Raynor	Successful
"	24.9.45	"	Pontoon	F/Lt. Emmott	Successful
"	23.9.45	"	Mastiff/Madan 57	W/Cdr Gaskell	Successful
"	27.9.45	"	Funnel 96	F/O. Williams	Successful
"	29.9.45	"	Galvanic 57	W/O. Raynor	Successful
"	29.9.45	"	Status 5	P/O Tuddenham	Successful
"	29.9.45	"	Tether 4	F/Lt. Forrest	Successful
"	30.9.45	"	Padang/Seal 4	F/Lt. Emmott	Successful
Section 2			Non Operational Flying		
R.A.F. China Bay	5.9.45		Transit Cocos Islands – Base	Hrs. 10	Mins. 20 (Night)
"	5.9.45		Transit Cocos Islands – Base	10	33 (Night)
"	8.9.45		Transit Cocos Islands – Base	10	11
"	11.9.45		Air Test	1	00
"	17.9.45		Base – Ratmalana – Minneriya – Base.	3	50
"	20.9.45		Consumption Test	7	35 (Day)
				3	50 (Night)

"	20.9.45		Base – Ratmalana – Base.	1	00 (Day) 50 (Night)
"	23.9.45		Air Test.	2	00
"	26.9.45		Base – Ratmalana – Base.	2	30
"	27.9.45		Base – Ratmalana – Base.	3	00
"	28.9.45		Base – Ratmalana – Base.	3	00
"	28.9.45		Air Test.	1	00
"	29.9.45		Base – Santa Cruz	6	15
"	30.9.45		Santa Cruz – Base.	6	15
"	30.9.45		Air Test.	1	00
"	30.9.45		Local Check and Practice Flights	5	00
Section 3			(i) Welfare Entertainments		
			<p>There has been little to report during the month of September. Social activity among personnel has been quiet, but every one has been content and the morale of the Detachment is high. Following slackening of operational effort airmen have had much more time for sport and this factor alone has helped considerably. There have been a number of good Ensa Shows in Trincomalee which upwards of 40 persons each evening from this Camp have been able to attend. The E.V.T Scheme at China Bay is well patronised and airmen are benefiting by the training. A special request from the C.S.H Trincomalee on the 20th to provide a aircraft to transport a patient to Colombo was approved by the Commanding Officer and within 30 minutes of receiving the call W/O. Raynor and crew were ready at the aircraft awaiting the arrival of the patient. This "mercy" mission was successfully carried out. Padre's of various denominations have called on personnel from time to time and established good contact resulting in most satisfactory relationships.</p>		
			(ii) Sports		
			Results of football matches are as follows:-		
			7.9.45 Armoury V "A" Flight. 1 – 2		
			12.9.45 N.C.Os V Airmen 1 – 3		
			15.9.45 Airmen V Trinco Rangers 0 – 0		
			18.9.45 Airmen V Odds 0 – 2		
			20.9.45 Squadron 1st V HMS Kinney 2 – 1		
			24.9.45 Airmen V HMS ? ¹ 1 – 1		
			25.9.45 Squadron V HMS Kinney 1 – 1		
			27.9.45 Sqdn 2nd V HMS Kinney 0 – 6		
			30.9.45 Sqdn 1st V RAF China Bay 0 – 4		
			Results of Hockey matches are as follows:-		
			5.9.45 Squadron V RAF China Bay. 2 – 1		
			Results of Cricket matches are as follows:		
			11.9.45 Squadron V RAF China Bay. Lost by 3 runs.		
			28.9.45 Officers & Aircrew V Maintenance. Officers & Aircrew won by 14 runs.		
			(iii) Health		
			During the month of September 370 airmen reported sick, giving an approximate average of 12 per diem. The majority of these cases were		

¹ The "?" mark is in the original record.

		<p>simple skin diseases. the number of admissions to hospital during the month of September was 14 (fourteen). This figure includes Officers and airmen. Approximately one Officer reported sick per diem during the month. The sickness of the Squadron Detachment remains at a low level and as usual, the vast majority of the complaints suffered from are skin complaints. Malaria and Dysentery remain at a very low level, no case of Dysentery for this month was contracted on the Station, the personnel involved had either relapsed or returned from leave or duty elsewhere. There were no cases of flying fatigue or stress during the month. Conditions were satisfactory for the month of September, 1945.</p>
Section 4		<p>(i) Movements In and Out Officers.</p> <p>F/Lt. A. B. Coy. F/O. R. E. Jorgenson. F/O. C. S. Campbell F/O. G. McGregor. F/O. C. R. Stearns. F/O. I. A. Palumbo. F/O. J. A. King. F/O. K. M. Oddson. F/O. W. Stevens. F/O. D. K. Jordan. F/O. M. F. Wagner. F/O. R. Sanderson. F/O. W. O. MacDonald. The above named Officers departed on 16.9.1945.</p> <p>P/O. A. E. Thomarat. P/O. J. H. Stott. P/O. R. M. Cartman. P/O. E. E. Draper. P/O. J. M. Hercus. F/O. A. G. Buzza. P/O. A. Fitzmaurice. P/O. J. Flanagan. S/Ldr. E. D. Wilson. F/O. J. L. Beirnes. S/Ldr. O. A. H. Sims. F/O. A. E. Duff. P/O. G. F. MacKelvie. P/O. E. M. Mercer. P/O. W. H. Edwards. P/O. K? McNoughton. The above mentioned Officers departed on 20.9.1945.</p> <p>P/O. D. N. Floyd. P/O. D. J. K. Lycett. P/O. J. W. Rogers. P/O. D. C. Langley. P/O. R. G. Hughes. F/O. J. M. R. Jones. F/O. E. G. Reynard. F/Lt. E. A. Hames. F/O. R. J. Thomson. The above named Officers arrived on 18.9.1945.</p> <p>F/Lt. R. W. G. Vaughan. F/Lt. J. C. H. Cole. F/O. D. H. Chapman. F/O. H. C. Chapman. F/O. S. W. Hall. F/O. C. W. Huxley. the above named Officers arrived on 29.9.1945.</p>
		(ii) Tour Expired Aircrew. N/A.
		(iii) Visitors. Nil.
		(iv) Statement of Strength
		53 Officers 171 S.N.C.Os 230 Airmen
		(v) Commanding Officer's Resume
		<p>Morale and health on the Camp are of a high order and a direct result of this has been observed in the highly successful month of September from a flying point of view. Entertainments are reasonable and no complaints except of a very minor nature have come to my ear.</p>
		{Note: there is no form 541 for September in the "Official Records". There are no further records of this detachment in the "Official Records of the Squadron"}