

(*) 2005-0505 WL 2452-5518 150M 11/48 T.S. 700
 (*) 2005-0505 WL 2452-5518 150M 11/48 T.S. 700

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 39 Squadron, R.A.F. C.M.F. SECRET PAGE No. 1.

FOR THE MONTH OF September 1944.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
2.9.44.	Beaufighter Mk.I. "N". N.V. 273.	F/L. R.H. Pitman. F/S. Mitchell. N.W.	Attack on 400 Railway Trucks at SUNJA.	1230.	1525.	24 out of a possible 32 R.P. hits were scored with 60 lb heads - cannons were also used. Target left in clouds of smoke. Aircraft "N" hit by flak in cannon bay and hydraul- ic tank. Navigator plugged hole in tank with rubber and paper. Aircraft "N" - top 1 of fin and rudder blown away by flak. Flak was extremely accurate and intense and was being fired from a large number of single 20 m.m. guns.	
	"P". N.T. 889.	F/S. Cooper. F.A. F/S. Taylors A.		"	"		
	"A". N.V. 218.	W/O. Pryce. W.J. F/S. Potts. E.M.		"	"		
	"G". N.E. 584.	F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F.		"	"		
3.9.44.	"W". N.E. 724.	F/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T.	Shipping Bover POLA to SALVORE POINT.	1015.	1230.	No sightings made and no incidents. Thunderstorms and heavy rain in area of patrol.	
	"X". L.X. 788.	F/O. W.G. Wren. P/O. C.T. Orme.		"	"		
	"H". N.V. 209.	F/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J.24819).		"	"		
	"O". N.V. 250.	F/O. A.R. Mettam. F/S. Mullens. H.W. F/S. Robson. R.G.		"	"		
5.9.44.	"B". N.V. 271.	F/O. D.A. Derby. F/O. J.V. Marmers.	Attack on Pontoon Bridge	0830.	0940.	F/O. Derby returned with engine trouble before reaching the Yugoslav coast.	
	"P". N.T. 889.	P/O. I.D. Wallace. F/O. D.A. Andrews.	4514N. 163DE. & 4523N. 163DE.	"	1140.	P/O. Wallace took over lead but very thick haze in the valleys made the job difficult and no targets were seen.	
	"K". L.X. 877.	W/O. Pryce. W.J. F/S. Potts. E.M.		"	"		
	"I". L.Z. 460.	F/S. Cooper. F.A. F/S. Taylor. A.		"	1200.		
6.9.44.	"W". N.E. 724.	F/O. C.B. Igon. F/S. Cathro. D.D.	Attack on Pontoon Bridge at DOBERLIN.	0755.	1030.	Target not located - 1 railway bridge attacked instead and claimed destroyed.	
	"R". N.V. 124.	F/O. W.G. Wren. P/O. C.T. Orme.		"	"		
	"O". N.V. 250.	F/S. Kyke-Smith. V.J. F/S. Campbell. S.S.		"	"		
	"S". N.V. 123.	F/S. Mullens. H.W. F/S. Robson. R.G.		"	"		
6.9.44.	"B". N.V. 271.	W/O. A.R. Imias. W/O. Grevalius. D.J.	Intruder S.E. of SISAK.	0826.	1110.	2 Locomotives destroyed - 25 box cars and 44 trucks damaged. 4 hits from small arms on "B" causing injuries to navigators right shoulder.	
	"I". L.Z. 460.	S/L. P.A.S. Payne. F/L. H.V. Webb.		"	"		
7.9.44.	"P". N.T. 889.	P/O. I.D. Wallace. F/O. D.A. Andrews.	Intruder ZIVAJA Area.	0700.	0950.	1 Locomotive destroyed - 1 girder railway bridge, 10 trucks and 2 box cars damaged.	
	"K". L.X. 877.	F/O. E.E. Horwill. F/S. Taylor. A.		"	"		

118

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

AIR 27 / 408

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE		1	2	3	4	5	6
AIR		27	408				
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION							

Page 2.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
7.9.44.	Beaufighter Mk. I. "I". L.Z. 460.	F/L. R.H. Pitman. F/S. Mitchell. N.W.	Intruder Patrol SALONIKA AREA.	1410.	1820.	This patrol saw 1 armoured train (2 armoured loco's, flak trucks in the centre and either end) leave a station, and stopping about 2 miles out in open country proceed to blow off clouds of steam obviously trying to draw an attack. Our aircraft left well above. They also flew in the circuit of GORGOPI aerodrome and the enemy flying control officer fired a "Red". 1 loco and an undetermined number of trucks were damaged on this sortie. Aircraft "A" was slightly damaged by flak.	
	"A". N.V. 248.	F/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T.		"	"		
	"S". N.V. 123.	W/O. Pryce. W.J. F/S. Potts. E.M.		"	"		
	"J". N.E. 581.	F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F.		"	"		
7.9.44.	"O". N.V. 250.	F/O. D.A. Derby.	Strike against	1840.	2000.	All aircraft report hits in the target area. A very great concentration of light and medium flak was encountered - "K" being hit in both engines and finally ditching off BRAC Island.	
	"P". N.E. 297.	F/O. J.V. Manners. F/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J. 24819)	landing barges in position 4313N. 1639E.	1830	"		
	"K". L.X. 877.	F/O. A.R. Mettam. F/S. Kyrie-Smith. V.J.		"	1918.		
	"T". N.V. 209.	F/S. Campbell. S.S. F/S. Mullen. H.W. F/S. Robson. R.G.		"	2000.		
8.9.44.	"W". N.E. 724.	F/O. C.B. Iyon. F/S. Cathro. D.D.	A.S.R. Search VIS area for crew of "K"	0610.	1435.	Area covered thoroughly but nothing seen.	
	"P". N.E. 297.	F/O. W.G. Wren. P/O. C.T. Orme.	lost last night.	"	"		
8.9.44.	"I". L.Z. 460.	F/L. R.H. Pitman. F/S. Mitchell. N.W.	Strike 51,000 ton liner "REX" in CAPODISTRIA HARBOUR.	1700.	1945.	Target attacked with 25 lb. R.P's, a total of 48 hits being scored. Light and medium flak from shore. Target left lying on its port side and burning from stern to stern.	
	"P". N.V. 209.	F/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J. 24819)		"	"		
	"P". N.E. 297.	F/O. A.R. Mettam. F/O. D.A. Derby.		"	"		
	"S". N.V. 123.	F/O. J.V. Manners. F/S. Mullen. H.W.		"	"		
	"A". N.V. 248.	F/S. Robson. R.G. P/O. I.D. Wallace. F/O. D.A. Andrews.		"	"		
	"J". N.E. 581.	F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F.		"	"		
9.9.44.	"W". N.E. 724.	P/O. C.B. Iyon. F/S. Cathro. D.D.	Intruder ACRINTON to ARTA.	0630.	1020.	The first pair refuelled at BRINDISI after the operation and the second pair before the operation. 1 Road bridge was damaged, 5 armoured cars and 9 M.T. vehicles while 1 armoured car and 5 other vehicles were completely destroyed.	
	"S". N.V. 123.	F/O. W.G. Wren. P/O. C.T. Orme.		"	"		
	"A". N.V. 248.	F/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T.		1150.	1520.		
	"I". L.Z. 460.	F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F.		"	"		

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

FORM 541.

SECRET

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

By No. 39 Squadron, R.A.F. C.M.F.

SECRET

PAGE No. 3.

(*12761-5511) WL 22220-2224 70M 8/45 T.S. 70"

FOR THE MONTH OF September 1944.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
10.9.44.	Beaufighter Mk. I. "N". N.V. 273.	F/L. R.H. Pitman. F/S. Mitchell. N.W.	Shipping Rover ISTRIAN Coast.	0900.	1045.	1 Hospital ship sighted South of CAPE PROMONTORE, and of course, not attacked - no other incident.	
	"P". N.T. 889.	F/O. I.D. Wallace. F/O. D.A. Andrews.		"	"		
	"O". N.V. 250.	F/O. C.B. Lyon. F/S. Cathro, D.D.		"	"		
	"T". N.V. 209.	F/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J.24819)		"	"		
	"B". N.V. 124.	F/O. A.R. Mettem. F/O. W.G. Wren.		"	"		
	"P". N.E. 297.	F/S. Mullen, H.W. F/S. Robson, R.G.		"	"		
11.9.44.	"A". N.V. 218.	F/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse, T.	Attack on Coastal Guns	0932.	1107.	A large explosion and consequent clouds of grey and black smoke was caused - all R.P.'s entered the gun pits. One aircraft "P" was slightly damaged by flying debris while at 500 ft.	
	"P". N.T. 889.	F/O. I.D. Wallace. F/O. D.A. Andrews.	Position 4335N 1555E.	"	"		
	"P". N.E. 297.	F/S. Berg, H.G. F/S. Kirk, H.F.		"	"		
11.9.44.	"I". L.Z. 440.	F/L. R.H. Pitman. F/S. Mitchell, N.W.	Attack on Coastal Guns	0945.	1150.	Guns could not be distinguished - all R.P.'s fired into the target area.	
	"T". N.V. 209.	F/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J.24819)	in position 4411N 1510E.	"	"		
	"B". N.V. 271.	F/O. A.R. Mettem. F/S. Mullen, H.W.		"	"		
	"O". N.V. 250.	F/S. Robson, R.G. F/S. Smith, J.B.		"	"		
		(AUS. A.422073) F/S. Jones, D.L.		"	"		
	"N". N.V. 273.	F/O. C.B. Lyon. F/S. Cathro, D.D.		"	"		
12.9.44.	"X". L.I. 788.	F/O. G.B. Lyon. F/S. Cathro, D.D.	Shipping Rover PREVEZA to	1325.	1725.	Stebel ferry attacked in position 3830N 2040E. Vessel left smoking - One of four 19 S.A.A.F. Squadron anti- flak Beaufighters was shot down and one of our aircraft (P) was damaged in the starboard wing making a crash landing at GROTTAGLIE necessary.	
	"O". N.V. 250.	F/S. Smith, J.B. (AUS. A.422073)	ZANTE.	"	1840.		
	"T". N.V. 209.	F/S. Jones, D.L. F/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J.24819)		"	"		
	"P". N.E. 297.	F/O. A.R. Mettem. F/S. Mullen, H.W. F/S. Robson, R.G.		"	1730.		

119

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

AIR

27

408

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE		1	2	3	4	5	6
AIR 27 / 408							
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION							

Page 4.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
13.9.44.	Bombing 22.1. "A". N.V. 218. "F". N.T. 889.	P/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T. P/O. I.D. Wallace. P/O. D.A. Andrews.	Armed Recon along railway 4403N 1612E to 4422N 1608E.	0552.	0800.	One road/rail bridge attacked and slightly damaged. Gun post in position 4335N 1555E again attacked and aircraft "F" again hit by flying debris - fires in gun pits scored. Camouflage greatly improved since 11.9.44.	
14.9.44.	"O". N.V. 250. "E". N.V. 124.	P/O. G.B. Igon. F/S. Cathro. D.D. P/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J.24819) P/O. A.R. Hutton.	Intruder Patrol DEBUS to BILAC.	0530.	0815.	One railway bridge over a road in position 4404N 1607E was attacked with R.P.'s - both the railway line and road were damaged. Numerous signs of Partisan activity were seen, consisting mainly of damage to railway lines, trucks and roads.	
14.9.44.	"B". N.V. 271. "I". L.Z. 460. "J". N.E. 581. "X". L.I. 788.	S/L. P.A.S. Payne. P/O. C.T. Orme. P/O. D.A. Derby. P/O. J.V. Manners. P/O. E.E. Horwill. F/S. Taylor. A. F/S. Smith. J.B. (AUS. A.422073) F/S. Jones. D.L.	Intruder Patrol BROD TO NOVE- GRADSKA.	0755.	1100.	One train with two flak trucks was sighted and obviously not attacked. Railway trucks were damaged by R.P. attacks. P/O. Orme, flying as leading navigator, was badly wounded by a rifle bullet during these attacks and later died through loss of blood.	
16.9.44.	"T". L.Z. 460. "F". N.T. 889. "A". N.V. 218. "J". N.E. 581.	F/L. R.H. Pitman. F/S. Mitchell. N.V. P/O. I.D. Wallace. P/O. D.A. Andrews. P/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T. F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F.	Strike against Barracks at KNIN.	1030.	1220.	The attacks resulted in a large column of smoke from the buildings. (All storage tanks reported in the target area could not be found. Right accurate moderate flak - no aircraft damaged.	
17.9.44.	"W". N.V. 273. "A". N.V. 218. "J". N.E. 581. "X". L.I. 788. "W". N.E. 724. "T". N.V. 209. "S". N.V. 123. "O". N.V. 250.	P/O. D.A. Derby. P/O. J.V. Manners. P/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T. P/O. E.E. Horwill. F/S. Taylor. A. F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F. P/O. G.B. Igon. F/S. Cathro. D.D. P/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J.24819) P/O. A.R. Hutton. F/S. Williams. H.W. F/S. Robson. R.G. F/S. Smith. J.B. (AUS. A.422073) F/S. Jones. D.L.	Attack on Barracks at VALJEVO.	1410.	1733.	The West end of the barrack block was seen to be burning when the aircraft left, but maximum destruction could not be wrought as the R.P. aircraft could not obtain sufficient speed for accurate rocket firing owing to the slow flying of the leader. 19 S.A.A.F. Squadron provided two anti-flak and two R.P. aircraft, and led the strike - one of their aircraft flew into the ground in the target area and burned immediately - a message from the Partisans states there is no hope for the crew, they also congratulate us upon our attack which was apparently successful.	

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

SECRET

FORM 541.

FORM 341.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT

SECRET

PAGE No. 5

BY No. 39 Squadron, R.A.F. C.M.F.

FOR THE MONTH OF September 1944

(*12761-5112) WL 22220-1124 70W 843 TS 70*

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				UP	DOWN		
18.9.44.	Beaufighter Mk. X. "N". N.V. 273.	F/O. D.A. Derby. F/O. J.V. Manners.	Attack on train and railway line in position 2 miles East of NOVIGRADISKA.	0900.	1210.	Railway line damaged - loco damaged beyond repair and strikes seen on 6 box cars. Flak seen in BROD area.	
	"I". L.V. 460.	F/O. E.E. Horwill. F/S. Taylor. A.		"	"		
	"A". N.V. 218.	F/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T.		"	"		
	"S". N.V. 123.	F/S. Mullens. H.W. F/S. Robson. R.G.		"	"		
	"F". N.T. 889.	F/O. I.D. Wallace. F/O. D.A. Andrews.		"	"		
	"J". N.E. 581.	F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F.		"	"		
19.9.44.						No operational flying.	
20.9.44.	"W". N.E. 724.	F/L. A.A. Settle. (AUS. A.420280) F/L. H.V. Webb.	Strike against coastal guns at NOVI.	0936.	1210.	60 lb. H.B. R.P. heads were used - 2 gun pits and the ammunition store are claimed as destroyed and 1 further gun pit damaged. A terrific explosion was caused and smoke rose to a height of 200 ft.	
	"T". N.V. 209.	F/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J.24819) F/O. A.R. Mettam.		"	"		
	"R". N.V. 124.	F/O. W.P. Clifford. F/O. S. Williams.		"	"		
	"S". N.V. 123.	F/S. Mullens. H.W. F/S. Robson. R.G.		"	"		
	"K". N.E. 291.	F/S. Smith. J.B. (AUS. A.422073) F/S. Jones. D.L.		"	"		
	"X". L.X. 788.	W/O. Standen. A.C. F/S. Chippendale. A.		"	"		
20.9.44.	"P". N.T. 889.	F/O. I.D. Wallace. F/O. D.A. Andrews.	Photo recon of damage M.T. park. AMONTAION.	1300.	1645.	Spitfires of 253 Squadron had previously damaged and destroyed about 50 tanks and M.T. vehicles. Our aircraft took photographs of the resultant chaos and themselves accounted for a further tank and two troop transports.	
	"J". N.E. 581.	F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F.		"	"		
21.9.44.	"W". N.E. 724.	F/L. R.H. Pitman. F/S. Mitchell. N.W.	Strike against railway line East of DUBROVNIK.	0900.	1035.	Bad weather and low cloud made it necessary to return to base before the target had been reached. A friendly landing barge and 1 800 ton M.V. were seen proceeding towards Italy.	
	"K". N.E. 291.	F/O. D.A. Derby. F/O. J.V. Manners.		"	"		
	"A". N.V. 218.	F/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T.		"	"		
	"P". N.T. 889.	F/O. I.D. Wallace. F/O. D.A. Andrews.		"	"		

120

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference:-

AIR

27

408

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE		1	2	3	4	5	6
AIR 27 / 408							
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION							

Page 6.

DATE	AIRCRAFT TYPE & NUMBER	CREW	DUTY	TIME		DETAILS OF SORTIE OR FLIGHT	REFERENCES
				Up	Down		
22.9.44.	Beaufighter Mk. I. "P". N.T. 905.	F/L. A.A. Sattle. (AUS. A.420280) F/L. E.V. Webb. W/O. Standen. A.C. F/S. Chippendale. A. F/O. W.P. Clifford. F/O. S. Williams. F/S. Smith. J.B. (AUS. A.422073) F/S. Jones. D.L. F/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J.24819) F/O. A.R. Mettam. F/S. Mullens. H.W. F/S. Robson. R.G.	Strike against railway line East of DUBROVNIK.	1400.	1620.	One railway junction and 12 box cars in position SA.4467 (grid ref) were completely destroyed and a siding and a further number of assorted railway trucks were damaged. Aircraft "X" was hit in port engine by 20 mm flak and returned safely to base with the formation.	
	"X". L.I. 788.			"	"		
	"R". N.V. 124.			"	"		
	"O". N.V. 250.			"	"		
	"T". N.V. 209.			"	"		
	"S". N.V. 123.			"	"		
24.9.44.	"O". N.V. 250.	F/O. C.B. Lyon. F/S. Cathro. D.D. F/O. B. Harris. (CAN. J.24819) F/O. A.R. Mettam. F/S. Mullens. H.W. F/S. Robson. R.G. W/O. Standen. A.C. F/S. Chippendale. A.	Shipping Rover in Islands of FIUME.	1415.	1656.	Patrol completed - no incident.	
	"T". N.V. 209.			"	"		
	"S". N.V. 123.			"	"		
	"R". N.V. 124.			"	"		
25.9.44.	"N". N.V. 273.	S/L. P.A.S. Payne. F/S. Potts. E.M. F/L. R.H. Pittman. F/S. Mitchell. N.W. F/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T. P/O. I.D. Wallace. P/O. D.A. Andrews. F/O. W.P. Clifford. F/O. S. Williams. F/S. Mullens. H.W. F/S. Robson. R.G. F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F. W/O. O'Neil. A.R. (CAN. R.99236) F/S. Long. C.W.A.	Attack on Gun positions. AIKATERINI.	1012.	1325.	60 lb. R.P. heads were used - a large explosion was seen but smoke rising to 1000 ft obscured the target and therefore it was not possible to make an accurate report of damage.	
	"I". L.I. 460.			"	"		
	"A". N.V. 218.			"	"		
	"P". N.T. 889.			"	"		
	"R". N.V. 124.			"	"		
	"O". N.V. 250.			"	"		
	"J". N.E. 581.			"	"		
	"K". N.E. 294.			"	"		
27.9.44.	"A". N.V. 218.	F/O. G.R. Elliott. F/S. Whitehouse. T. F/S. Cooper. F.A. F/S. Hubbard. D.S. F/S. Berg. E.C. F/S. Kirk. H.F. W/O. O'Neil. A.R. (CAN. R.99236) F/S. Long. C.W.A.	Armed Recon. PODGORSKI CHANNEL.	0840.	1115.	No sightings were made - no incidents.	
	"P". N.T. 889.			"	"		
	"J". N.E. 581.			"	"		
	"K". N.E. 294.			"	"		

FORM 541.

By No. 39 Squadron, R.A.F. C.M.F.

PAGE No. 7.

(*0511) WL 9255-56 60,000 5/42 T.S. 700
(*10054-0511) WL 36331-2345 105M 12/42 T.S. 700

FOR THE MONTH OF September, 1944

121

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE										1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:-															
AIR															
27 / 408															
COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION															