

(*20830-17020) Wt. 45118-3152 30M 3/49 T.S. 700
(*21506-17020) Wt. 28555-2813 20M 9/49 T.S. 700

24 Squadron, South African Air Force.

*Dec 1940
to Aug 1941*

1940.
Nakuru, Kenya. 4/12.12.00

The authority to form No.14 Squadron was published in D.G.A.S 24/14/7/35 dated September 1940 and it was decided that the Squadron H.Q. be at Nakuru Air Station, East Africa. Major C.E.Martin, D.F.C. arrived at Nakuru at 12.00 in a Glen Martin to report to Major Preller, D.F.C. A second Glen Martin accompanied Major Martin and one J.U.86. Most of the Officers posted at this date arrived in the machines. A second J.U.86 crashed on taking off at Nanyuki - probably overloaded . Officers anxiously awaiting their kit. Capt.C.R.Thompson, D.F.C. the newly appointed Adjutant made the necessary arrangements re accomodation. Three Offices on the Aerodrome and Hangars Nos.11 and 12 allocated to No.14 Squadron without any furniture. Major Martin requests that a signal be sent to enquire if J.U.86 was arriving with kit or not. At 18.00 approx. a lorry

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BY EDWARDS' HOUSE WILTSHIRE WIL LONDON

24 Squadron, South African Air Force.

Nakuru, Kenya. 1940
4/12

arrived with balance of Kit. It was then only we learnt
of the crash of the JU 86.

Party was met by Major Preller, D.F.C. (Station C.O.), Capt.
Douglas Mail, A.F.C., (O.C. Training) and Capt. C.R.Thompson,
D.F.C. (Adj. No.14 Squadron).

The nominal roll at this stage was as follows:

Major C.E.Martin, D.F.C.

Capt. C.R.Thompson, D.F.C.

" T.A.R.Terreblanche

Lt. Miles Barnby,

" B.Brain.

" J.N.Robbs,

" F.W.J.Maxwell,

" H.A.Launder,

" O.G.Davies.

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RE BANGOR* BOON VILLOSH VIL BOLOG*

24 Squadron, South African Air Force.

Kenya, 1940
 4/12 Lt. R. Tennant.

Nakuru, Kenya. 5/12.07.15 Major Martin, Lt. Launder and W/Op Farr left for Nanyuki, Nairobi etc., for special recce. Photos and report of Kismayo, Jelebe were retained by A.H.Q.E.A. Following Officers passed out on Glen-Martin under supervision of Lt. D.G. Davies:-

Capt. J.A.B. Terreblanche
 Lt. Miles Barbby
 " F.W.I. Maxwell.

ditto 6/12 All take off and landings 100% O.K.
 Following officers passed Glen Martin Test today - Lt. B. Brain, Lt. Robbs, and Lt. Tennant. Major Preller also had flight.

7/12 During normal flying this morning Glen Martin piloted by Lt. Brain when taking off, was crashed into by an Audax

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24 Squadron, South African Air Force.

Nakuru, Kenya. 7/12 piloted by P/O Tallent R.A.F. Audax completely written off
 Pilot - Concussion and Hospital. Glen Martin badly damaged
 Lt. Brain unhurt.

In late afternoon Major Martin and crew returned a report
 of his Recce, which was retained by A.H.Q.E.A. Photos of
 Kisumu Harbour and to cover bombardment of Harbour by H.M.S.
 Southampton and to keep C.R.42 away from Fleet spotting
 machines and keep bombers away from H.M.S. On return flight
 first night landing in Glen Martin was made.

"Conférence" Major Preller, Major Martin, Adjutant and pilots
 was held in Maj.Martin's suite, which however did not adjourn
 until many "Dead Marmies" lay around. Dinner was finally
 held at "Micks" in Nakuru.

8/12. Sunday.

9/12. Major.Martin phoned for by A.H.Q. Left Nakuru accompanied

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OF BRITAIN'S ROYAL AIR FORCE

24 Squadron S.A.A.F.

by Lt. Lauder (LAUNDIE R) at 1400 hrs. by Car.
 10th Dec: Practice Landings.
 11th " " Lt. GLEN DAVIS in charge. Major
 Martin returned 1500 hrs. Lt. LAUNDIE remained NAKURU.
 12th 13th 14th Flying Practice (Landings).
 11th " Cricket Match against NAKURU, Athletic Club
 1454:20 & all out. Mils Barry 86 not out. Lt. R.
 Tennant 38. Capt: THOMPSON 32.
 NAKURU 138 for 8 time up 18.30 hrs. Major
 Martin 5 wickets. A very pleasant day. Mr Cook
 H.A.C. Captain made all arrangements for Sqd.
 comfort. The Bar at 18.30 hrs being open a pleasant
 evening was spent.
 16th Major Martin Lt Davis and the Adj. also M. Barry
 visited Rumuruti our proposed new aerodrome.

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17th.

24 Squadron S.A.F.

- 17th Flying as usual. Capt. TERRIE BLANCHES and Lt. ROSS in NAIROBI.
- 18th Major Martin & O.S. Davis visited NAIROBI.
Major TRULTIER & MAJOR MARTIN. Have a competition Hurricane v. Spitfire
1st Event. Climb from standing start to 6000 ft
S.M. beats Hurricane by 1200 ft.
2nd Event. Dive from 6000 ft. past 4000 ft
S.M. beat Hurricane by 1 1/2 sec.
19. Practice Flying
20. O.S. Davis & TARRANT to NAIROBI instructions re REECE.
- 21st Davis & Tarrant Reccé to Kenia some good pictures taken of the ship in the Bay from 4000 ft. TERRIE BLANCHES & ROSS return from Kampala.

} Pictures at
AHQ.E.A.

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24 Squadron

22/12/40.

22/12. to Flying. During this period certain members of the Squadron definitely blotted the Sqd's Copy Book, aided and abetted by ~~some~~ certain senior officers, who should have known better. The episode reads as follows. At 09.30 hrs all concerned were warned by the adjutant "To Behave" - as he was taking the "day off". Anyway by about 1000 hrs the party journeyed to the NAKURU CLUB, and the odd "fun and-" was put away. This continued till closing time 1430 hrs, when the party returned to the Aerodrome, and "quietly" moved to their quarters. Unfortunately one of the party happened to lean against one of the pillars supporting a shingled roof.

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23rd Continued

24 Sunday S.A.F.

affair leading from the Officers' quarters to
 the Bathrooms, he suddenly stood to attention
 - and declared that the pillar moved. A
 meeting was held and the decision came
 to was that it did move. A demonstration
 was made to prove it could move & more
 it did. A further meeting was held where
 the column lay and it was decided that
 a "5th Columnist" was about. Therefore
 every (5th) should be pushed down,
 and as there were not enough (5th)
 to go round the 6th, 7th & 10th were pushed
 down. Lt Keary happened to arrive during
 this demonstration and when asked if
 he was joining 14 Sqd. He replied "yes".

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23rd24th

24 Squadron. S.H.A.F.

He was immediately ordered to push his column down which he promptly did. Unfortunately Maj Keller, O.C. O.T.U. did not see the funny side of the episode until much later. Punishment (all officers concerned were confined to Barracks for 6 days, doing all duties. Balance of the flight remains in camp in full support.

24th

At Request. Col Brinkshott, from HQ 15 A. Major Mark, Capt Davis and the Adjutant. ordered to Rummert's Aerodrome to look over and get all details with a view to making this aerodrome our H.Q. Quarters, as soon as the Squadron was completed.

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24 Squadron S.A.F.

25th Xmas

- 25/26th Xmas Day & Boxing Day No flying.
- 27th/28th Machine dispatched to Nairobi special Recce over Kisumu etc. Lt Saunders, Brian Brain, Cpls. Nipton & Farr. Spends a further 24 hrs retained by A.M.R.E.A.
- 29th Above pilots returned full of a splendid Recce. (Congratulations came thru from Brig: H. Daniels. personally). X.
- 30th Lt Keny & Maxwell left for Nairobi for another Recce. over Bardera. They however subsequently were replaced by Lt Saunders & Lt Brown.
- 31st Major Martin & Capt. Thompson sent back to the Union to collect Personnel & Equipment for the Squadron arriving 1st Jan 1941. at Genetia.

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Jan: 1st 41

44 Squadron S.A.F.

NAIROBI.

1st 1. 41.

Lt. Davis took over the running of this flight.
 No Real Details given as to why.
 Flight continued to operate over Somaliland and
 Abyssinia doing Recce and spotting for
 fleet which was bombarding coast.
 About 15th Lt. Lander, Maxwell & Kearney,
 were sent back to the Main, and ATQIA
 decided that remainder of the flight
 should continue to operate from NAIROBI.
 For 2 months Lt Davis now Capt., Lt Brian
 Robt Barnby & Tennant, acted as Pilots
 and observers, for all the (O.P.'s) down in E.A.
 by what was known as the G.M. Flight.
 our crew consisted of Sgt. Hipkins & Farr,
 with the addition of a Photographer.

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24 Squadron SAAF.

Continued 1st Jan. It was during this period that the flight did a great deal of survey work up as far as MUGADISHU following the main roads and the battle front. In all these flights Capt. Scott of 50 Sqd. was detailed to operate the camera from the observer's cockpit. Part of the flight at one time was operating from Garissa and later part from Kisumu. March 2nd Lt. Braun + Barnby were released to report to Major Martin to collect new machines for 14 Sqd. in C. Town. AtHQ then decided to attach the glen/martin and the 3 remaining pilots to #12 Sqd during above period about 40/50. Recces. were done for AtHQISA.

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24 Squadron S.M.A.F.

Waterbury
Air Station

- Jan 1st/6th New Year Day: Major Martin & Lt. Sheehan
the adjutant arrived at 1800 hrs at Gumbur
and took a few days holiday.
- 7th/13th Major and adj. reported to H.Q. Portoven
and arranged schedule for Squadron with
Major Wilton A.D.A.S.
Capt. Lippiat (chief engineer) Lt. Viljoen (Stores)
reported and work in earnest was commenced.
- 14th Maj. adj and Capt. Lippiat at maintenance
comm and all day re equipment.
- 15th 21. Gunners & observers arrived and reported.
Lectures on Wireless arranged with Lt. Millen of W.A. Station.
- 16th Major & adj. interviewing Col. Marais, Z.A.S.
re Twin Engine Training. Lt. Viljoen at
H.Q. re Indents. Much business encountered.

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24 Squadron SAAF.

Jan 17thMajor & adj. and Capt. Lifford interview 11.4 A.M.
men at S.T.T. (Germany).

18/19.

ditto. Mr Harvey advised of the men selected.

20

W.A.S. examining new mechanics so Ported.
 Much amusement during these examinations
 and dozens of foolish replies too numerous
 to mention. For example: Q. How long have
 you been at S.T.T. (R) 3 months. (Q) What
 do you know about Radical Engines. (R)
 O.H. I'm not sure because I always had
 to sit at the back and could not see.
 Another Q. What are you C 3. (R) Piles &
 flat feet Sir! - Anyway the best were
 selected and Capt. Lifford set about lecturing
 and training them as hard as possible

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24th Squadron SAAF.

21st Jan 1941.

- 21st Intimney Col McQueen & O'Key arranged Elections.
- 22nd Freed and interviewed Elections at #1. Air Depot.
- 23rd All Stores cancelled for Squadron. Stores to be sent up to Front by RAAF to Mombasa. Intimney details for Squadron.
- 24th Examination of Pilots from Pilot's Pool of 2nd and 5th only 1st Pilot. Later instructions thru no second Pilot for Glen Martinis.
- 25th/26 Capt. Lippitt at germental
- 27 Major Martin at B.T. Wang.
- 28 " " Adj. arranging posting of Air Gunner. with Col Lowe at germental.
- 29th Glen Martin Training Machine delivered to WAF by Major Wilson. 5th New Officers signed on details attached.

X. attached list.

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24 Sqd S.A.A.F.

3rd

30th Major Martin and Capt. Meaker fly to Germany to pick up another G/M (No. 2)

31st Capt. Meaker collected an Oxford Flying machine and giving dual to all flying officers

1st Feb. Interview with Brig. Daniels. All matters were discussed, in favour of 2nd Pilots, 14 machines for Sept. agreed to. All 14 Sqd. Pilots in EA. Also recalled probably attached to B.T.W. for training in "loadstones" + 52nd would all G/M crew. Ventage, beds, invited in ^{tea to} quite S.M.S. instructions, most matters dismissed and agreed to:

3rd Lt Maxwell, Lamden + Capt. Du Toit reported from the north. Capt. Meaker continues instruction.

4th Lt Maxwell on duty. Lt Lamden posted B.T.Wing. Capt. Du Toit on leave. B.T.Wing send out 14 of new old 12 Sqd. Mechanism. x.

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24 Sqd: S.A.A.F.

4th Jan.

- 6th Lt Hart, Rose. Kelly to remain at P.Tid. until we definitely get our own machines information (Capt McBlain)
- 5th Lt Ford, Genis, Hempt. De la Cour solo on Ospreys. under instruction Capt Meakes.
- 6th Clarkson. Solo Osprey.
- 7/8th In fly-in;
- 9. Army Church Parade. 14 Sqd (~~14~~) completed by Capt Jack Davis on show smartness.
- 10/11th Lt Maxwell flies to Gernishi to fetch Maj. Martin.
- 12th Maj. Martin returning men at Gernishi. Dinner in Osprey. continues. Adj. Collett's further men from Porting's island.
- 13th Dinner continues.
- 14th Interview with Col. Wilms on new establishment.
- 15th D^r PATTICK. Ported to Sqd. 2nd Osprey on strength
Col. Davis Parade. Maxwell leaves for Cairns. Landed at Do Donn 16.15.44

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24 Squadron SAAF

- 16 Feb. Lt Maxwell returned MAF 1031 0745
- 17 all men permitted to be sent on Embarkation Leave.
- 18. Inspection of new 2nd Pilots, 15 chosen.
- 19. Lt Maxwell returns with Sgt Davidson,
& Photographers arrival. 7 Officers despatched to
Cape Town for training
- 20. Lt Maxwell parties to H. S. Wing.
Lt Buchanan appointed navigation Officer
lectures to Pilots.
- 21
- 22. Dual on S/M but had to be stopped "Tail wheel" gone
Arrival of Medical men, not accepted arrangements,
replacement with Col Welsh. Much work of health
machines ordered to stand by special mission
24th. Capt. Dan Tait of the Wallabies on the job.
- 25. Flying Training.

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24 Squadron. S.A.A.F.

Feb 26.

26th Most men on leave now. Final Bodes being portia. } 'Bodes' this time were
27th H.Q. & Porting Board down, all they possible, } ^{most} as men not trained at all.
can't assist. We cannot understand this

sudden enthusiasm - as we have met
with little but opposition all along the line.

28. ^{March} 1st 2nd 3rd Assistance from H.Q. re personnel.
Major Martin. Capt. Meeks & Capt. Lippard for C Town.
Instruction show re movement of all men
other than those at C Town. NORTH.

S/Sgt. Pieterman promoted to 2nd Lt. leaves for
SWAKOMING

4th Sgt. Larkman & Mitchell promoted to 2nd Lt.
Lt. Sgt's - granted commission and all
formalities completed inside 3 hrs. (Record.)
All men ready to leave for Darton.

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March 5th

24 Squadron S.A.A.F.

5th

163 Other Ranks, 1 WO II, & 2 Officers leave
W.A. Station for Durban en route to E.A.
Lt. Buchanan in charge. Complaints:
from H.Q. via Col Douglas & the R.T.O
Pretoria on the speed & smoothness of 14
Squadron entraining at Pretoria.
Whole job completed in 7½ minutes whereas
45 minutes was allocated. Train left
after short delay awaiting engine 15 mins
before time.

A. Hickson sent to C. Town
G.A. Patrick granted few extra days
Honeyman leave.

6th

Adj. arranged G/H machine at Johannesburg
to be sent to Cape Town for Training Purposes.

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March 7th

24 Sqd. S.A.A.F.

7th/11th All matters arranged. ^{adj.} ~~capt.~~ Capt. C. Thompson.
Take 4 days leave.

12th General ~~arrived~~ being packed up for
shipment to Lanka. Several officers reporting
from hotel granted 5 days leave and then
to report to Cpt. Toms. among them Keary,
Barney B. Brown + soon. Party despatched
by Boat arrives Mombasa, and informed
they were to remain there till further instructions
are and M.O. leave by air for Nairobi.

13th One aeroplane at Nairobi to suit of the future
now. Incidentally adj. was not sick all
the way. Much to the joy of the Party and
Pilots The Cook & Steward.
14 Broken Hill.

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24 Squadron S.A.M.F.

15 March

15/1/18³ Adj. & P. Puttick arrived safely at NKIRORI.
 Next few days arranging stores, transport etc.
 etc. experiencing tremendous difficulties in every direction and stores etc. at a premium.
 Managed to get transport such as it was and shipped to Mombasa where our men spent days reconditioning.
 Capt. Siskind of the Transport Regiment did all in his power to get us up to strength.
 Col. Bickelhart & Maj. de Vos in particular were most helpful. As Adj. I thank HQ EN.
 was glad when I departed for Mombasa. In arriving Mombasa by train found heat & humidity terrible. Was glad to be back with the men attached to my unit.

Humal Roll
 X Mombasa
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Continued

24 Jan 5 A.M.F.

Port Reitz
Mombasa. 19th

Lt Buchanan, who was in charge of party must be congratulated in the excellent way he handled the whole party from Durban to Mombasa.

Adj. & Lt Puttick arrived from Nairobi, and found 3 men had been sent to (Hospital Busch) A/M Campbell gold dabbled & hurt. Col Braun and his colleagues did all they could for Sqd. Casualties. A/M Smith, Hewart and Junker sent from Nairobi to Mombasa. Goldblatt finally wormed his way out of Squadron with flat feet.

21.

More M.T. now on hand from J.J.S + T. Mombasa. 64 men put thru U.S. 15 former recruits.

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24 Squadron S.A.A.F.

22.

- 22 March. Lorry 28171 U (3 Ton) Truck capsized en route.
to a Bathing Parade. 7 men badly injured A/Sgt's
Rogers, Hart. A/Pls Westwood, Eison, Cooper, Davis
& Pullock. Driver of Vehicle at time of accident
A/Sgt. Van Dyke. Inquiry etc: will be ~~conducted~~ held.
23. Capt. Thompson left for Nairobi to chase up spares.
24. A/Pl Campbell discharged from Hospital A/Sgt. Finberg
& Pl Sheppard & Carson admitted. Court of Inquiry
re accident 22 March. conducted by R.A.F. at Port Reitz.
2 Wireless Vehicles arrived from Mombasa road station
26. A/Pl Davis & Pullock discharged from Hospital.
- 27/29. 1st 36 cases stores etc Union arrived much relief.
30. Sgt. Solomon and 4 Details arrive from Union
via Nairobi. In sorting out cases of personal kit
& stores, find D. Pullock's "Little Black Box" was missing.

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24 Squadron. SAAF.

April 1941

1st Lt. Craigie J. D. admitted to Hospital
 2nd Lt. A/Sgt. Head A/MS Cooper sent to No 2 General Hospital
 Mawsoni. 1 Bedford Ambulance received
 en Mawsoni. Rather a joke. We wired the
 S.M.S. if they could provide us with 1 Bedford
 Ambulance. as the regular light ambulance we
 considered unfit for Rough Desert Work. Four
 days after we received a reply, to the effect that
 our signal was not quite clear. Did we require
 Bedford stretchers for our ambulances. Another instance
 how difficult some telegrams appear. Anyway
 after sending a Reply to the S.M.S. Department
 as follows. "We require Bedford repeat Bedford
 Type Ambulances. not repeat not regular type (etc)
 and an interview with Brig Abertin: clear the air. and we got what we wanted

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24 Squadron S.H.A.F.

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Governor General for Kenya inspecting R.A.F.
Station Port Reitz.

Our soccer team beats "A.K." Team from Montreal.
3 trucks & party of 12 men were despatched to
Malindi at request of Squadron Leader Poulter
to fetch ammunition & bombs. At Malindi
the official in charge handed one bomb over
and declared it was fully loaded and
as no one in the party knew how to unload
same, it was carried carefully and placed
on the knees of one of the men sitting next to
the driver, where it remained for 50 miles of
rough road. Only to find at their ~~destination~~
destination that it was not loaded at all.
Jokes of this nature certainly keep Squad swinging.

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24 Squadron S.H.A.F.

April 3rd

- 3rd Mtn Ingle + Harding ^{and Carson} admitted to Hospital.
Remainder of stores arrives at Monrovia.
Sgt. Craige and Van de Car discharged Hospital
while Mtn Sgt. B. de. admitted:
4. 'AA' Soccer team again beaten.
5. Capt. Roper admits to Hospital Mtn Van Tigh discharged
Squadron Officers play Soccer against 34 Flight.
Score 1-1. Injuries approx. equal. - also.
6. Adjutant returns from Nairobi
8. Lt. Rankin Mitchell, a/gunner B. Thoma
Dun Rana, Ellis, Marig, Requillet, Riddell
Larkin + Wright leave for Nairobi to
join G/Marine paratroopers then to Egypt.
9/10th. Nothing of importance to report.

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24 Squadron. S.A.A.F.

11thMombasa.11th

An Instruction Squadron then loaded into boxes
and taken to docks for loading on "City of Athens"

12th/20th

Squadron never been so "hungry" about ever.
Orders for embarkation were cancelled and
then cancelled again - at least 4 times.

Finally we were ordered not to go aboard
the Missouri Zealand but to get aboard the
"Sealanden" and told we were off to Durban.

All the arguing with H.Q. did no good.
and finally we sailed for Durban with

#2 Squadron personnel on Board with us.
All our Transport, Tentage, + stores on "City of Athens"
Anyway a very pleasant voyage, no troubles and
8 days leave agreed to which all much
appreciated. (so much for the Personnel side)

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Backal. Haluklof
with Maj. Martin 9 March
 (9. April)

24 Squadron S.A.F.

9. March Two flights each of Marylands under command
 of Capt. P.A. du Toit & J.A. TERRIEBLANCH. left
 Haluklof. Destination for the north en route for Egypt
 Aircraft 1608-9-10-11. Second flight numbers
 1612-14-15-16. Severe weather conditions
 experienced Capt. du Toit remained at Maseya.
 Capt. Terrieblanch remained overnight at Lusaka.
 10. Capt. Du Toit proceeded to Nairobi all safely landed
 Capt. Terrieblanch left Lusaka and encountered
 severe weather entering Maseya. bad visibility
 aircraft 1612.1614. Pilots by Lt. Roumanin & Lt Haupt
 resp. collided but fortunately both landed safely
 1612 was left at this station 1614 being repaired
 proceeded with rest of the flight and
 all landed at Nairobi

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11th April
11th April.

24 Summary S. A. A. F.

- 11^a/13. Various snags on the Aircraft - and bad weather. Two flights remained at NAIROBI for few days. It was suggested that "old lady friend" was the main snag.
- 14^g B.M. flights proceeded to KISumu, due heavy rain. 3 aircraft bogged. Two more flights #3, 4. commanded by Major C.E. MARTIN. D.F.C. & Capt. Ken Jones left Waterloos for the north. The 3 flights #5, 1607, 1617, 1618, 1619, 1620. remained at MUSEYA. Capt. Ken Jones. 4 Aircraft 1623-25-26-28 remained at Lusaka. no losses at all.
- 15^g No 1 & 2 flights proceeded to Malakal. No 2 & 3 to NAIROBI. no excitement. except Lt. Keyes & Lt. Roseburgh ended up in the mud at Eastleigh Aerodrome.

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15th Mars.

24 Squadron S.A.F.

- 16th/17. No 1+2 proceeded from Malakal. to
Khartoum no trouble except heat. No 1+2.
flights remain at NAIROBI due to Mags?
18th. No 1+2 left Khartoum for Heliopolis.
arriving minus Lt BRAIN. (Burnt Tail Wheel
on his machine) at WADI HALIFA.
No 3+4 flights left for Khartoum for Malakal
No 4. under Capt Ken Jones reached Malakal.
No 3 Maj Martin landed at Khartoum at 1700 hrs
19th. No 1+2 flights flew from Helio: to Soudan
No 4 from Malakal to Khartoum (Boys Hit
Khartoum Cabaret a 'Bang' that night.
20th. # 1+2 flights at Soudan. # 3. flight Wadi Halfa.
and on to Soudan arriving 1740 hrs
(Back now to Mombasa.)

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Reference:-

AIR 27 / 298

Mombasa
20.4.41.

24 Squadron S.A.A.F.

20th April. Squadron Personnel under the adj. Capt. CR Thompson.
ably assisted by Capt. Green, Lt. Buchanan &
Sgt. Major Norman left for Docks to sail for
Suez via repeat via Durban. 150 strong
(7 Officers + 173 OR). Unfortunately on the way to
the Docks one lorry - driven by a native got
out of control & 3 tanks injured. S/M Howe
M. Davis suffered a dislocated fracture
of ankle and was detained at Mombasa
Hospital. At 4pm Sqd: on Board unit # 2
Squadron and party of Royal Artillery. Sailed 6pm.
Capt. Thompson was made (Ship OC). Two
Colonels travelling refused to take the job.
A really very pleasant run down and
nothing to report arriving 25th April 1941

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24 Squadron S.A.A.F.

April 20.

- 21st April to 1. 2. 3. Flights at Shander (no flying just
 "high life" such as it is at Suq. No flight
 left Khartoum without Lt. Roseburgh (tail wheel broken).
 Flights proceeded to Wadi Halfa, but due to a
 "Havoc" the formation became separated. Capt. Jones
 wisely returned and landed at ATHARA in the mts.
 Lt. KEARNEY forced landed at Wadi Dylis in the Red Sea.
 Lt. Haupt crashed near Wadi Halfa. Lt. Cronin
 the plane was killed & Haupt badly injured.
 Lt. Roseburgh sustained a broken arm & fractured
 back Lt. Haupt sustained cuts and bruises.
 Aircraft 1526 written off.
22. Search Party went out from Shander, Capt. Terrance
 Du Teil & Lt. Bamby also to investigate the crash.
23. Lt. Kearney returned ~~with~~ OK.

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Reference:-

AIR

27

298

April 23.

24 Sqd. S.A.A.F.

- 23 Lt B. Brain also returned. Lt Bamby proceeded to Kanton and shore land where for machine piloted by Lt. Roxburgh. Lt. Roxburgh in Hospital (sick)
24. Capt. de Toit arrived back at Kanton and reported Capt. Jones at Kanton Halpa and that he and Capt. Verblanché would proceed following day. Both arrived Capt Jones now the worse for "beard" experience
- 25/26. No flying, endeavouring get used to "Sunday flies" 39 Squadron assisted all the end. "Good lads".
- 28 Engineering staff working over this.
- 30 Flight Training, started several practice bombing flights were made.
1. May. Bombing Practice
- 2 " Roxburgh arrives relieved to be back with Squadron.

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Reference:-

AIR 27

298

25th April

24 Squadron SAAF.

25th April Arrived Durban 7 am. disembarked at noon.
 & reported to Transit camp. When after much
 phoning and great assistance from Brig. & Daniel.
 leave was granted by Pretoria H.Q. till May 11th
 Much difficulty was again encountered as
 accommodation in train impossible. After
 further strapping by the Adjutant a special
 train was arranged for to take all
 concerned to Johannesburg accommodation
 which movement entire considered impossible.
 was arranged and all men on their way
 to C.T. P.O. E.L. and Johannesburg before 200 hrs.
 At the end of 7 days leave 5 Officers and 17 OR's
 joined Squadron in Z.A.S. All on leave
 reported back on 1.5.41. following casualties (P.O.)

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Reference:-			AIR 27 / 298		

1st May.24 Sqd: SAAF.

1st May
 Carnellin: (A/pt. Hook, Influenza). (A/cpl. 50 Pper
 -absentee) (Mr. R. Haight gr-a C3. degree.)
 A/cpl. A. M. Matheys. Claimed C3. "B.M." disease.
 A/cpl. Van Zijl (In Hospital) JAF Baker (malaria).
 A/cpl. Booyse (absentee) H. J. Smith (absentee).
 J.S. Wales (gr-a C3) J. Mulder of F.W.I.E.R.T
 both absentees.

2.5.40. Squadron left for Doctor # 2 Squadron
 joining us again on the return trip to Suez.
 A real fine voyage fine weather & no troubles
 apart from the fact that a Raider was
 lurking in the distance which was finally
 settled by H.M.S. Cornwall. there was no excitement.
 The Capt. & his wife charming couple.
 Capt. Thompson OC Troop. Capt. Featherstone of # 2 Squad. Adj.

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Reference:-

AIR

27

298.

14th May. 24 Squad S.A.A.F.

14 May. Arrived Bay of Suez and anchored.
 15/16th Furious as no one had been out to see us and arrange our getting ashore.
 Finally party arrived with my surprise (my = adj).
 Col Pearn J.C. Tom W. Chardwick plus
 a RAF Officer and on finding our papers
 100% we went ashore to arrange ^{dis}embarkation
 which was arranged for 20 Oct. and finally
 arrived by transport at Soudan at 1800 hrs.

17th Air Raid Our 1st Alarms Bomb
 machine passed over by did not
 drop any bombs as the 1st the
 machine was shot down at Ismailia
 by Lt Schooner we believe and another
 at Alexandria by "AA".

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Reference: AIR 27 / 298					

Shandur

May 1944.

24 Sqd. S.A.A.F.

- 18th/23rd 12th Sqd. Parade to be held in Egypt. Capt. Jimmy Thompson specialises in lookouts. surprised at the smoothness of the Sarcaden. Only one in the Desert properly trained from a Parade point forward. Next few days left for Sqd. to settle down. Flight being arranged + camp put in order.
- 24th/27th Air Raid again. at 0300 hrs, no bombs dropped.
- 28th Shandur aerodrome ground defences prepared.
- 29th Nothing to report.
- 30th No 12 Squadron under Maj. Bates arrived.
- 31st News has come from our flight in Desert. They have bombed Crete while being landed and generally making a nuisance of themselves as far as possible. H. Ford H. Sill & 2 gunners were forced to make a return to Crete and "Force landed".

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Reference:-

AIR 27 / 298

24 Squad: SAAF.

31 May.

31st: We are given to understand they are OK. HQ ME. were advised that we had no details Mess^{rs} of these people due papers not up for IEA. and various other conversations regarding the Band Luck. You can imagine our consternation when after all above "palava" with HQ we received a signal. Reading "Please give full details of damage to machine, whether Pilot. ~~Pilot~~ or any crew wounded etc and to give name of Hospital they were put into". We see just saw. Red.

The loss of the Ford was bad luck, particularly as information had come thru to us at Shander that Beasley & Beasley had each shot down a Ju 88 and Jim Williams had picked up a ME 110.

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1 2					

Shander

24 Sept. S. A. A. F.

3 May.

- 3 Flight standing by to move to the Desert.
 4 Bombing Practice
 5 Maj. Martin + Capt. Jones proceeded to Cairo
 Conference re move to Desert.
 6 Capt. Terriblanch detailed to take charge of
 8 machines for Desert.
 7. Specific Alert + Post-interfer with night flying.
 10 Air Raid Warning 23 20 hrs. 4 Junkers III's bombed
 the Canal close to us. No damage done. Searchlights
 picked him up + 4 Bren 'AA' guns had to go
 Pretty slow to watch (from a trench).
 11th. Only night flying. a 'Wimpy' (Willington Bomber)
 nearly wiped off searchlights and crew.
 12 night flying at Karnak. 1st Newbrom-Lanasa
 shot and took away half a Petrol Pump + wire fence.

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Reference:-

AIR

27

298

13th May. 24 Squadron. S.A.A.F.
13.5.41

13th May. At last orders to move Capt. Tennant and his "band" left for the Western Desert. Operating as flight attached to 39 Sqd. On the way Squadron got separated, & landing at Fuka. Suitable as intended and at Fuka man, real dust storm pilots as follows. Rosemarie Jacobs. Genis. Brian Miles Burnley. Kearney Ford.

Following operations of interest occurred during time 13th May onwards.

At. Fuka (Sat) 14th
" " 15th
Amandun 15th
Sharmak 16th

Lt. Kearney & Genis. carried out 1st Recce on Border area. M. Burnley made 1st Recce on Crete. leading 3 Hurricanes to supplement the fighter strength on the Island. Lt. Newborne operating as pilot on 15th Sept. handed over 15 Martin to the "Free French" at Helioptis. Major Martin handed over another machine to 4 French.

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Reference:- AIR 27 / 298					

Huska Salcedo
 attacked 39 Sqd
 17 May.

24 Sqd: S.A.A.F.

- 17th Roemartin - did a deep Recce. into the desert:
 toward 150 Mi: CHILI. at a high altitude and that
 was our 1st day with Dorygo^{Tank}. Same day Barnby
 repeated Kearny's job. taking Hurricanes to Cete.
- 18th 6 Marylands were detailed to Bomb troops. in
 the Capuzco area. Barnby had Tyre trouble &
 711th Lewis led the Raid. Terriblanche, Kearny
 & Roemartin were our pilots and the raid was
 was successful, destroying 20 M.T., 5 Tanks, landed 21.15 hrs.
19. B. Brian did Border Recce.
- 23rd Capt. Paul Tail, Genie. Jacobs. set off to Bours.
 Melme in Chile where the Germans had landed
 many aircraft. Only 4 Bombs being carried. as no
 winches available. Unfortunately this flight turned
 back "inches" leading aircraft broke down.

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Reference:- AIR 27 / 298

23 May 1940

24 Sqd. S.A.F.

- 23 Next formation Brain, Bamby & Keary were on their way to some target. But Brain's machine came trouble and he returned, Keary bombed in the ground struffed the aerodrome, doing damage and killing motor cyclist who foolishly tried to ride across the aerodrome during the struffing. Bamby then arrived and bombed finishing the Home's nest well stirred. Lt Williams, Jacobs & Jones went over in formation bombing in Pattern causing considerable damage to E.A. They actually saw enemy close Bombs in action in Suda Bay Harbour etc.
- 24th This crucial day was wasted due to severe sandstorm which prevented all bombers getting off and harassing the enemy who thus had a whole day's grace uninterrupted.
- 25th Capt Dick Torr & Brain successfully bombed Malena.

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Reference:-

AIR 27

298

Fulka

May 25'

24 Sqd. S.A.A.F.

25th entires Lt. William Ford & Jacobs. took off to hunt same target. Jacobs was obliged to turn back and forced landed at Sadi Berrani. Ford & William hunted their target and when leaving the island black smoke was seen issuing from one engine of Ford's machine. He decided to return to Crete and was escorted over the mountains by Williams but Ford decided that the South Coast was better and crash landed (later heard no injuries). Williams returned to Base. The above formation was escorted by 2 Hurricanes. They were unfortunately both shot down. Received urgent message for protection for the S.E.T. late that afternoon Blake & Barnby set off the the point indicated but searched till dark without success. Landed 21.15 hrs. (Blake 1st shot + did not see)

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Reference:-

AIR 27 / 298

29. May.

24 Squadron S.A.A.F.

29.

Williams Genie Brain factors. + Barnley went out
on Escort to Navy. Each aircraft led 3 Hurricanes
as additional fighter protection

Lt. Barnley and his formation of 3 Hurricanes were circling
2 Cruisers & 4 Destroyers heading S.E. when at 1200 hrs
Barnley spotted another aircraft heading S.W. at same
altitude as he was. He turned immediately to investigate
& finding it to be a Ju 88 Dive Bomber. He immediately
-attacked with a series of 1/4 attack from stem.
Engagement started at 13,000 ft. & Barnley broke
off at 6,000 ft. with E.A. losing height rapidly.
Due speed of Maryland it was only aircraft to
engage the enemy during this period. Black
smoke coming from starboard engine when Barnley
broke off. 1 Hurricane was observed approaching from behind.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 / 298

29th continuation. 24 Squadron SAAF.

29th. and it was he who informed that the I.E.A. crashed into the sea, observer 2Lt. Alessandro. and Barnby had a 'nearly moment' when a large explosive bullet exploded in the former cockpit - filling both cockpits with smoke. Alessandro secured several snaps of the enemy craft.

} 1st I.E.A. (JULIO)
Shut down by
24 Squadron

31st Lt. Kearney took 2 Hurricanes to escort the flat. at 0800 hrs. he spotted 2 Ju 88s - and gave chase. one Hurricane Pilot (Pilot Officer #1 SAAF) got in the 1st burst, and smoke was seen coming from one engine. Kearney then overhauled the Hurricane & the Ju 88, and poured all his ammunition into the I.E.A. Both he and the Hurricane then broke away. The I.E.A. crashed into the sea and was credited to Kearney. one more for the Bag

} 2nd I.E.A.
Shut-down
by
24 Sqd.

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Reference:-		AIR 27		298	

31st May. / 1st June. 24 Squadron S.A.A.F.

31st Williams went out to escort the Fleet and at 1900 hrs. he sighted 2 Aircraft. also circling the fleet. the 1st he recognised as a Maryland. the 2nd MIE.110. Williams attacked at alt. 1500 yds. opened fire - and immediately after 2nd burst. the 110 burst into flames. - and spelted down into the sea. No more E.A. observed. This (110 MIE) was the 1st to be shot down from the Western Desert. on 3rd Victory.

MIE 110
3rd Victim
to
Squadron

1st June. Genie, Jacobs, Keeney escort fleet, no excitement.

2nd . An machine detailed for a secret mission Palestine side. Barnby pilot and he reported on time Aboussou to D.O.C. ("Beau Fifties Sqd") the idea to do a low level attack on Beirut in Syria escorted by fighter HQAF. cancelled the job. as it involved Pilot ^{fly} over Africa.

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Reference:- **AIR 27 / 298**

5th June

Squad. 24. S.M.A.F.

- 8th June. 4 aircraft. Pilots: Fontoil, Brown, Williams, Blake
were detailed to land and spend night at Sidi Barrani.
(Hydes: System failed in various machines)
- 9th " at 0430 hrs. Capt. ~~Dutton~~ with escort of 4 Hurricanes.
Blake with 3, Williams with 6. set off to Bams.
ELBAZAGA. N, 4 Saucel, + DERNIA. respectively.
Bamby took off from FAKA (Satell) to pick up Brown
3 Hurricanes at Sidi. to proceed to MARTUBA.
He circled flashing his signal but then some
misunderstanding his escort joined on Williams.
and went off. Bamby landed then returned
to base. Confusion was caused on the ground
by an I.E.A. dropping bombs on the aerodrome
beneath him. This whole operation was a
series of misfortunes I ~~Capt. Dutton~~ ^{escape} lost him in the dark.

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AIR 27

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Unit. Sata...

9th June.

24 Sqd. S.H.A.F.

after about 1/2 hr. and as he approached his target he was so heavily fired on by Heavy AA. he dropped his bombs in the sea.

II Blake had engine trouble off Sidi Barrani and forced back.

11th III Williams made 3 runs over the Target but Bomb. doors refused to open so he returned. Brain, Genis, & Blake operating from Sidi Barrani. Bontea and machine gunned the main roads between MARRAWA (i.e. Barca) and EL SU BBA. doing great deal of damage and returned safely.

13th Barnby & Jacobs operating from Sidi Barrani i.e. hunted machine gunned Road Barca & El Surra much damage done. Jacobs got a 'fright' when I.A. appeared on his tail. his Observer Barink.

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13 June Continued

24 Squad: S+AT

mission here and dropped his bombs.
 13:14 was successfully loaded. Shortly on
 his return was congratulated on being promoted
 to Captain as he stepped out of his machine
 by Capt. Dan Tait. B. Brown's proposition also
 came thru. "What a Party".

A flight - does its 1st Recce along the Border.
 Newcome & Clarkson the 2 Pilots, Lt Kealey
 took off for Sidi Barrani followed by Capt. Bateman
 Clarkson & Newcome. Bateman crashed on landing.
 Remaining 3 were up at dawn to lead Hurricanes
 over various targets. Clarkson crashed taking off.
 Kealey led 6 Hurricanes over Gazala M., He dropped
 2 sticks of 4 each but was then chased by an MiG 109.
 Kealey did evasive actions and is still with us. His bomb destroyed 12M.

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13 June Continued

24 Squad: S + AT =

mission here and dropped his bombs.
 P.A. was successfully loaded. Shortly on
 his return was congratulated on being promoted
 to Captain as he stepped out of his machine
 by Capt. Dan Todd. B. Brown's proposition also
 came thru. 'What a Party'.

A flight - does its 1st Recce along the Border.
 Newcome & Clarkson the 2 Pilots, Lt Kearey
 took off for Sidi Berauni followed by Capt. Bateman
 Clark and Newcome. Bateman crashed on landing.
 Remaining 3 were up at dawn to lead Hurricanes.
 over various targets. Clarkson crashed taking off.
 Kearey led 6 Hurricanes over Gazala M., He dropped
 2 sticks of 4 each but was then chased by an ME109.
 Kearey did evasive action and is still with us. His bomb destroyed 1 EA.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

13th June.

24 Sqd. S.A.A.F.

1st newsome at this time was over SOZALA "S"
but unfortunately was shot down.

17th

"B" flight sent 4 aircraft. (Brain Genus Blake
& Williams to Bombs Concentration of Enemy M.T. City Omar. area.
to do Pattern Bombing with "A" flight. results very favourable.

"B" flight Capt In Tent Brain & Bandy were over again
that afternoon and Williams & Jacobs. next morning.

25th

24 Sqd Cooperating with 113 & 14 Sqd. some 30
aircraft. objective was SOZALA "S" "B" flight

Capt. Bandy Jacobs. Williams & Blake. The leaders 113 Sqd
lost the whole formation and all finally returned
with Bombs empty. "A" flight Capt Jones broke off
on his own found the target and very successful
bombing was done. Next day whole job was
repeated and done properly

Custom
Shannon
from OC
113.
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Reference:- AIR 27 - 298

Shan...

24 Squadron S.A.A.F.

2 June.

- 2.3.4. Getting machines together for the final move into the Desert. Capt. Kiffart and his men working hard at Genappa putting machines together as fast as possible. Grand Work... 3 new Marylands - arrive from the Museum. very welcome. Capt. Meates with party from former endeavours to round up balance over transport, not returned from Alexandria yet. Capt. P.S. Towler delivers 17 Glen Martins from the Museum.
- 5th News thru Alexandria Bombed 15's dead 200 wounded.
- 6th General Repair Work going on. For R.A.F. men put in temporary. Arranging Air Basis practice, (taking over) at present men not taking Air Basis seriously.
- 7 Capt. Ballman joins his old Squadron after many months of his air.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

Shander

8. Jun

24 Squadron S.A.F.

8. ~~14~~

Arranging to get 'B' flight personnel into Beirut.
 Capt. Freeman will be in charge. All our machines
 in Beirut will be service now by our own men
 Lt Ford & Lt Gill are safe, unfortunately taken
 prisoner by Italian submarines - during an attempt
 to escape from Crete on a barge. Bad luck.

9 ~~14~~

Capt. Freeman leaves with party for Fuksa.
 Capt. Meade putting pilots thru their training.
 Lt Harley goes solo. May: Sgt. Taylor & Capt.
 Leathem of #2 Sqd: pay us a visit.

10.

Capt. Meade doing well - gets Lt Buchanan solo.
 Lt Roubrough returns from Port Said with Balance
 of Transport. Unfortunately Staff car stolen and machine
 being repaired in Cairo. Capt. Douglas back ATC.
 -delivers Mayland Shander. Glad to see him.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

Shander

11. June

24 Sept 41. S.A.M.I.

- 11.6.41. Major Martin. Capt's Lippin Thompson and Lt
Leane for Fuka. Col Hingston comes & returns to Cairo.
- 12.6.41. Capt. Galfellan A.D.C. visits us regarding matters
of Personnel. Col. Hingston calls again.
Incident on Col Stallard arriving unit party.
Col Stallard arrives and goes on message from Gen. Smith.
Matter of pay, allowances, etc. discussed with Brig. Blain.
- 13.6.41. Capt Jones, Capt Protheroe, Lt Newson & Lt Clark
event off into the Desert with their respective Teams.
- 14.6.41. Lt Rochmartin, Lt Williams & Lt Rosburgh leave
for the Desert. Arranging advance Party for Wadi Natuna.
- 15.6.41. Capt Meaker & Lt Roulston left for Fuka with full
teams. Capt Meaker will return with 4 Men for further training.
Since then 3 of our machines have done very good
ground strapping burnt up about 20 hours. (12.6.41)

S.P.

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Reference:-

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Shander

18 June 1941

24 Sgd. S.A.A.F.

also 2 of our machines had blown aerodrome
from 1100 ft & burnt 3 enemy machines also
smashed several others 1 of our machines
missing believe it to be Lt Newson.

16.6.41.

W's in a low. Karkin & Mitchell notified to
Col. Hingrich C.A.F. for return to town all night.

17.6.41

Capt. Thompson & 16 details left Shander for Nachikatum
as advanced party. H.Q. flight. He found it impossible
to join hands on same aerodrome with 39. B.L.G.
due to inopportune morning transport, and after 3 days
delay was told to find better landing ground
if possible. Finally picked up Lt Sp. Urrall
Dress' skin came up and a terrific struggle
ensued between I.P.I's and the small band of 11 men
Having off-loaded the 12 tonnes and returned them to Shander.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

Wade

17. June.

24 Sept: S.A.M.F.

and with only an E.P.P. Tent on its legs' tempers were a little frayed. especially the adjutant. 'Old man' Meyerson + De Beer were instructed to get food ready. We then proceeded to erect another tent. and with the wind blowing harder & harder and we just about exhausted, when a lorry arrived and sent down a dapper T.A.F. Officer. who wished to see the Officer in charge. He was brought before Capt. Thompson. who was hanging on to the end of a ~~rope~~ Rope. and calmly but cheerfully announced that he was the signals officer - and "where would we like the Telephone put" He "definitely" was told, and incidentally did not appear again for 2 days. The above incident apart from calls from Group Capt. King, Commander all helped to make forming a B.L.G. an interesting episode.

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Reference:-

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17.6.41.

24 Squad. S.A.A.F.

On the incident rather amusing occurred one evening shortly after we were established. A long distance call was put thru to us and unfortunately one of the lesser A.C. Hands answered, and on being asked "Why the Mayfly had not been sent in", he replied "He did not know what a "Bluddy" May fly was." and put the phone down. Unfortunately again it was the adj. who was asked for, and a tremendous number of phone calls had to be put thru to clear the matter. As in the meantime it had been reported back to HQMIS. Rpt: R HQ. Adv. and 204. Rm 204 etc etc "that the adjutant of 24 Sqd: S.A.A.F. did not know what a "May fly" was.

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Reference: AIR 27 - 298

Wadi. No.



24 Squadron. S.A.F.

18.6.41.

18th

Capt. Kippard & Lt. Vignoe with Lt. Col. H. G. Hoff left Shander and arrived at Wadi and were severely harassed after a great struggle with the soft sand.

19/20th

Arranging camp. Workshops, etc. and getting settle down.

24th

In the eve evening Major Martin landed 1st Machine at B.C.G.

25th

Nothing to report. The other H.Q. staff, with the adjutant left for Fida train when the real work began.

Ka main: 28th

Daylight Raid by 10 of our machines. ordered to bomb.

SAZACH in formation with Blenheim Sqd; but boys found it very difficult to keep formation due to their greater speed.

The Blenheim Sqd, ^{#113} leading, unfortunately lost its way and failed to find the target. Most of our machines had to return fully loaded with disgorged wasted effort.

Lt. Col. Hoff, ^{#113} coming up apologized "Balls up"

Capt. Jones. broke formation with his flight and

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Reference: - **AIR 27 - 298**

Jan

28.6.41/July

24 Sept: S.A.A.F.

28th

managed to find the target and straddled it with his formation flight pattern bombing with good results. Photos being taken, 28 bombs dropped.

2.7.41.

2 machines from 'B' flight, Capt du Toit, & Lt Jacobs. Bombed Matrua landing ground just after dark. Night Raid over Derna by 2 machines Lt Kearney & Buchanan unfortunately Lt Buchanan in machine #1615 did not return. Buchanan was great favourite in Squadron known only as "Buck" to his mechanics "Shep" the Dutch word for Scorpion due to his method of take off "tail well up".

6th.

Night Raid by 8 machines over Bardia very successful. all 8 machines returned. As the last machine was just landing a Borch machine flying high dropped a stick of bombs which fell fortunately on the east side of some buildings.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

July 6. (Continued) 24 Squadron S.A.A.F.

Luka

- 6th. This was our first ^{experience in a} direct attack. The excitement putting out "Flares" etc was tremendous machines being dispersed later in the dark after "all clear".
- 7th. Borch raided our camp from 21.30 hrs till after 01.00 hrs. then quit arriving again at 03.30 hrs. and no rest till after 05.30 hrs. Our home was target and there were no casualties while camp. Packed in slit trenches.
- 8th. Arrangements to disperse personnel with the least to enable the mechanics to get some sleep. About 6/8 lorries leave each night the men taking blankets etc are driven to areas full about 10 miles into the "Blue" returning early next morning for duty. All our machines are flown to a dispersal aerodrome about 30 miles inland taking complete crews. Only essential personnel (including Adj) remaining at O.B.G. (No rest for night's)

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Reference: AIR 27 - 298

July.

24 Squadron. S.A.A.F.

Fuka

- 8th Camp again Raided but Bomb etc. fell wide.
5th of our machines detailed to take of me at a time
at intervals of 1 hr to go on a "Maintenance" Raids.
- 9th Another Raid. 3 of our machines were sent out
and when Lt Blake was circling round to make
his approach a Bosch dropped incendiaries and Bombs (H.E.).
from a low fast glide but just missed the home
his incendiaries which fell on the home were extinguished by "Fire Crew"
Lt Blake had to fly off into the desert to lose time but due to
shortage of petrol had to force land and crashed. Next morning
had to walk 20 odd miles for Relief. his crew picked up late in P.M.
- 10th Had fairly peaceful night until 03.30 hrs. when a surprise
attack from the sea upset good night's rest. This time
the Bosch mistook the dummy flare path for us. No damage
done not even to the path.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

July 11th

24 Squadron S.A.F.

- 11/12. 2 Peaceful nights.
13th Free from raid but alarm given at 03.10 hrs.
Borch did not drop any bombs.
- 14th. Adj. attended conference at 204 H.Q. re disposal landing grounds.
(Cpl. Wright (cook) Baker (AM) & Stone (AP) arrived.
Borch to "dig in" will start tomorrow. Disposal Area
changed Borch were anti our locality. Rumour strong
Borch evacuating Western Desert.
- 15th. HQ ME advise us Lt Newson prisoner (crew killed) X.
Uneventful day (no stand by) all to bed early but
in the early hours "an Raid" all back to the trenches but
the Borch bombed runway flare path again.
16. Normal day alarm at about 0200 hrs. but aircraft
did not drop bombs. Capt. Jones & Capt. Thompson (adj)
promoted to Majors. Ken Jones on leave. Party that night.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 / 298

July (continued) 24 Sept: S.A.A.F.

of Lake

on the adj. During the process of change
 over from 3 Pops to Crow and while the his
 shoulders were free of all weight he of the smallest
 Pilot's a real packet of dynamite (~~the~~ Mr. Jacobs) heeded.
 the adj's Pumps Road, stating it would be "his only & last chance".
 It was a great night, spoiled by an air Raid early next
 morning. The ^{trumpet or} "head" actor in the old trenches took all records.
 Digging in all tents going strong. Engineers doing
 all they can to assist the operations at all.
 Normal day. No operations. Lt. Alexander admitted to
 hospital with "Collapsed Lung" Tom fooling while bathing.
 Adj. writes for HQ in an endeavour to arrange
 lectures by Officers in the Tank Corps or Army of interest.
 Capt. Bartlett also. as usual's news daily. No air Raid.
 All quiet. No operations so far. Visit from Sqd/Ldr Drumming.

17th

18th

19th

20th

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Reference: AIR 27 - 298

27/298

July 21.

24 Squad S.A.A.F.

Luka

21. Wing Commander Reed of Rev 204 group visited us as an endorser to ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~signatures~~ ^{signature} Signatures.
22. Tail wheel trouble becoming serious.
Capt Baleman & adjutant 'Cocktail Party' at H.Q. 204.
Farewell to the AOC. Colleagues. Good show.
23. Mr. Draper arrives to relieve Capt Freeman in the 'S' Department. Brig. Stokes called to see position regarding digging in. Left for Cairo.
After a very strenuous day, 6 mechanics were sent out to escort Fleet and put up a real good job.
Unfortunately, Jim Williams' ~~one of~~ defective ~~instrument~~ crashed short of aerodrome. Benjamin his observer broken arm on ~~repeated~~ broken track, other set OK.
24. All last night's casualties comfortable today.
Brig. Galehouse of the 7th Arm. Division gave us full lecture on the Battle of Sollum.

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27/298

July 25th

24 Squad: S.A.A.F.

Luka

25. Wrote our patients at Hospital at W. Benson + A/Sgt. feeling OK. will probably be evacuated tomorrow to CHICO.
26. No excitement. Soccer match against 12 Sgd: result 1-1.
27. Experiment arranged with Signal Sect of Tank Corp thru Brig: Gatehouse for R.T. between machine + ground. A great success. Our machine was in touch by RT at 8000 ft 50 miles away. Report to G. Capt. Guest.
- 28th No operations. Hint from Col. of the R.I.C. regarding digging in operations.
Sg/leader of Signals section Rear 204. investigated nonreceipt of all our signals. Finds our signal section had not reported to them. Bad show.
Squadron Heads in 1st "Bravest Hand" a great success. 6 Buck were shot by one of our Men Lt. Peterson and the meat well prepared

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

July. 25. / Aug. 24 Sqd: S.A.A.F.

Fuka.

- 28th and worked over the HQ coals in the open. Squadron Commander - and some of their senior & junior officers - were invited to join us. Major Wellst. of #1 Sqd: #2. Capt. Kallert, Capt. Hflus, 21 MRS Sgt. Potter. 121 A.P. Sgt. Leake, Capt. Officer from 174. - and other units' nearby.
- 29th Lt. Roster's parties to 21 Sq. Sorry to lose the fine young Pilot.
30. Major Martin + Flt. Commanders. over to HQ. Big jobs in
- 31st Arrangements completed for Big show.
- 1st S. 41. All set for Big jobs. men briefed. Col. Dorrans of 1st A. S. G. grand old man visited us and spent the night.
2. Big show (on Crete) worked out. no Reasons given much disappointed.
3. Machines left at 06.30 hrs. for a target East of TORRENT. A successful (Pattern) Bombing was done unfortunately we missed the target by 100 yds. All machines led by Maj. Martin returned.

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Aug. 4th 24 Sqd. S.A.A.F.

- 4.541. April Day. Machine order in "Worry Worry" jobs. at night. (1 machine leaves 2000 hrs - another at 2100 hrs and so on. Capt Bamby Lt Halse, Blake & Jacobs. all returned OK.
5. Major Hughes (Inspector Air Personnel) visited us and discussed (nomenclature) Maryland 1660. Lt Overton returned from Raid. a Derna - and unfortunately crashed. no one hurt. Lt Clarkson on same job. missing.
6. Special jobs. 3 machines. Capt Bamby Lt Halse & Hawley. Capt. Bamby. engine trouble could not get off. A good job done by the other 2 officers. Major. Hughes (S.A.P.) leaves for 12 Sqd. nothing at all to report.
- 7/8. 9. Machine under Capt. Boteman and Mr Overton to find name. OK.

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24 Sqd. SAAF.
9 August.

Fuka.

9. Lt. Halse sent to find Tanker. (No Tanker found).
 10. Machines with Capt Barnby leading, Lt Harley
 Lt Jenin & Lt Jacobs, went to Bardia to do 1st low
 level attack. On the Tanker supposed to be in Harbour
 The machines arrived at (0 ft) comm: in from the
 Sea but no Tanker. so all that was left to do
 was to bomb what everything in sight. Great material. Much damage
 to harbour etc done.
 11. 4 machines sent to locate submarine but after
 4 hours search nothing seen.
 12. Great Dist. Storm in operation. (No Raids):
 13. Pilot & crew called suddenly to stand by
 submarine supposed to be moving up coast. As usual last minute Washout.
 14. Arranged Guard of Honour to be sent over to Baginbala.
 General Hunt arriving at 1200 hrs. Small town out.

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Aug. 14th cont. 24 Sqd. S.A.A.F.

Fraka

and general hunt's compliments the Troops.
 The General arrived about 1215 hrs. and
 shook hands with the Officers etc &
 S.A.A.F. Sqd: in the Desert. We then adjourned
 to the mess and had light lunch.
 After lunch the General addressed us and
 impressed on us the seriousness of the position
 and so on. He was accompanied by Air Comd. Va Rymond,
 Brig. de Haat. & Col Plum-Lewis. General
 Cunningham & Lt. Col. Cunningham R.A.F. also Cunningham
 were present.

15. 1st Division Major Martin being replaced by Major Durant. D.F.C.
 Major Martin D.F.C. going back for long deserved rest.

16. Saturday morning Co. Parade. Rifle inspection.
 (2) Parachute Packer to instil confidence do double parachute jump.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

Juka.

1st Sept. 1941

24 Sept. S.A.A.F.

2764
3 OCT. 1941
RE 7

- 1st Sept. Inspections. Col. Willmott, S/C. Suer R.A.F. and matters in general discussed. Particularly the subject of Times Patrols and Munition Levees.
- 2nd Major Demand & Adjutant Jones at HQ. 204. with the A.O.C. Cunningham S/C. Suer & Col. Willmott.
- 3. Hard storm. Seaman Cox 13549. Came to Col. Willmott.
- 4. Maj. Demand Capt. Burdett visit Army HQ. (Tanks). Dist. them were there.
- 5. News from No 12 Squadron about down 7 ground strapping. Possible night flying practice.
- 6. Lt. Tennant at Sidi Beni with armoured car section going there his training for the future. Army Bombing Scheme. What Sqd has undertaken 2 armoured car officers attached in meantime.
- 7. Maj. Demand leading 6 machines leave for Helioptis for special duty. Maj. Saljeet arrives spends night. Matter of Policy discussed. Heavy determined Air Raid. No damage. Other than broken Telephone wires.
- 8. Cricket match against A.M.C. result in favour of Officers. Air Raid again. Times able to fly round to the "Hembi" and "no opposition" whatsoever.

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Reference: - AIR 27 - 298

Fuka

9th Sept: 41

24 Squadron S. A. A. F.

- 9th News that Squad. "Stand By" return to Delta Area to reequip.
Borch Bombed us again 8 Bombs near station. Then done Bombed us no damage.
May. Durrant still in CAIRO arranging matters Increments etc.
- 10th May. Durrant finished Col/B Lt/Col - all very pleased. Returned
by air. With A.O. visited 204 advance who have promised
we return to our camp. Increments & Promotions fixed dated 1.4.41.
Nothing has pleased men more than this, some fellows accidentally omitted
3 Air Ranks no Bombs dropped at all. Lt Orentine returned to base
In the early hours a large E Aircraft overhead, but intercepted
by Blenheim and shot down in flames Wonderful sight.
- 11th Col Durrant endeavouring to straighten out our move.
204 HQ (advance) has decided we remain at Fuka and only
send mechanics & Pilots away to Base. 204 Rear has also decided
253 Wing - differs HQ ME has not decided. So here's hoping.
- 12th Col Durrant reported 204 R. has fixed our move to Fayid. by 18th 1/2
maintenance party remain at Fuka.

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

13 Sept- 41.

24 Squad: SAAF

13. Went Saturday Am. 'OC' Parade. Arrangements made for stand by at dusk and dawn possibility of Am. ground "straffe". Arrangements for Raid in Progress. Lt/Cot position dated 2nd Sept.
14. No ground "straffe" after all. Hum on nuisance Road only. Operations 1st Raid 6 machines led by May Jones. Bombing Tanks & Transport (Vehicles well dispersed, all return safely).
- 2nd Raid. Same Target. 1750 hrs met strong opposition in form of fighters. Good jobs done, but we lost Lt Ham and his crew. Lt Harley's machine badly hit but landed OK. Good bombing done.
15. Squadron arranging to withdraw to Base. No news of Lt Ham.

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Reference:-			AIR	27	- 298

24 Sqd: S A H F

16th Sept.

- 16. Personnel Lt. Hunt had been picked up, but badly burnt in Hospital. Balance of crew killed Lt. Batspin, Sgt. Tomlin & MAC Ginterch. Not confirmed. Visited 204 (adv) met Brig. Yentler ~~RAF~~. discussed all matters of administration.
- X 17. Moving off (Mechanics & Pilots) at 1300 hrs. Signal first received appears all Topsy Turvey, somehow Rear 204 not advanced & ground of H.M.I.E. at Cross purposes. All flying personnel & 90.0.R. left by Road & air for STANDUP prior to scaling for Port Indian where the new machines Bortons are to be assembled. Balance of Squadron and A.D. remaining at FUKA.
- 18. Advanced Party of 5's Sqd R.A.F. under P/O Boxall arrived and housed well as. 21 Squadron tried to get a number of our lorries re-erected, in view mutual agreement: only 2 1 Tonners & a Petrol Buses exchange.

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Fulka

24 Sqd: SAAF.

19 Sept 41

- 19 Sq/leader Young + W/C. Recd 204. Comply with our request to investigate all R.A.F. "moans".
- 20 "Bria & leis" and - at 12 Sqd: Food Party. Signal now received that remainder of Sqd. here also now to STANBUR.
- Brig. Kentis accompanied by Col Hingston Col Thorpe + Col Willott. also Major Galgut. arrived and spent the night. Pleasant evening spent.
- 21 Making arrangements for move but not certain yet. Some Tents struck & stores packed. Great news this m/dy from Col Durrant we remain Fulka tents to be re-created.
- 22 Transport sent to Shander to bring back fuel no request for the 5000 lbs loaned to 12 Squadron Air Services to be considered. Lt McSweeney McPherson P/O Harding Lt Dodds Lt Foryth.

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Reference: AIR 27 - 298

22 Sept/30th

24 Squad: S.A.F.

- 23rd 5th Officer (obscure) sent over on loan to 12 Squadron.
Lt: McSayer, McKeown, Hodder, P/O Harding, Austin.
- 26th Col. Dewart returns from CAIRO with 3 other Officers. Lt: Fawcett, Lt: Malan & Crowther. News, Tinker found Kellie (rumour nothing authentic come thru. Lt. Balfour Capt Macdonald no news yet.) Information regarding Pilots etc. who down in the forward area drifts thru to H.Q. and seldom reported to Squadron concerned. This should be rectified.
- 25th Col. Dewart (mentioned in Despatches F.A) just come thru.
- 26th Terrific dust storm. Personnel BLS arrives also transport party, Capt Kilyse in charge.
- 27. DC Parade getting settled in.
- 28. Capt. Miles Bamber & Lt. David Jacobs. both awarded D.F.C.
- 29. Homecoming Day.
- 30th Nothing to Report.

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Reference:- AIR 27 - 298					

74ka

1st October

2nd Squad SAAF

4 NOV. 1941

- 1st Operational mailbag allotted to Sqd for communication
Mag Jones signalled from Post Sudan held up no tools.
- 2nd P/O Faraday & FPL Styles from HQ 204 arrive to straighten out
all troubles pertaining RAAF attached
- 4th Early hours of morning reported loss that Wellington Bomber
was crashed just out to sea near our base. Search party
sent party brought to camp men parcel W/Commander Mark reported thanks.
S/S Squadron invited to dinner S/L Hutchinsons P/O Sumner and
several others Good cheerful evening.
- 5th Col Stewart at HQ (Bomber King) Arrived early morning
Rand. 5 Bombs dropped - no damage.
- 6th 60 Squad has 4 new RAF gunners posted to them.
Col Wilbur (OC no 74) has lunch with us this
- gave us wonderful exhibition of aerobatics. MARK II Hurricane
- 7th Col Durant plus to Geneva to inspect 1st Boston III delivered by H Williams.

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Reference:- **AIR 27 - 298**

*Fuka

24 Sept: S.A.A.F

7th Continuum

- 7th Dinner at #1 Soma: Air Raid Bombs directed at Petive
dumps. One stick across corner of aerodrome 1. Blenheim written Π .
- 8th Colonial Dist. from Rugh along whole Western Desert.
- 9th/10th Early this morning determined Dive Bombing attack at 0.5.15 hrs.
by Juss. 1 stick of 10 Bombs across our camp. 3 Casualties
Cpl McDonald. Apr Tarker. both hit in face. Apr Murphy (RAF)
hit in back and considered dangerous. Consider these
casualties were due to men not taking to the trenches in time or
did not remain flat down in their tents. Squadron 5's next
to us had a lucky escape. no casualties. 5 Bombs dropped.
- 11th Quiet Day. P/O Finlay RAF endeavouring to unroll RAF Tents.
Air Raid early this morning East side of aerodrome. Further damage
to Blenheim 5's Sqd. We say goodbye to Essex Reg. and welcome
U.M.R. (South Africans) Maj. NIEL (PHIL) old Springfield Regt
in charge. Real pleasant evening spent.

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Reference:- AIR 27 - 298

Fulda

12 Oct

24. Semadeni SAAF.

12. In the early hours 7 E.A. were ordered and about 70 Bombs dropped. One lucky Bomb hit petrol truck at Station and caused terrific blaze. Naturally down came the flares and after another and endeavored to destroy the other line of trucks in the Station. The Petrol Train burst furiously and flames ~~burst~~ rose to 300 ft. A magnificent sight. Finally after repeated attacks the E.A. departed. 10 Officers of the Squadron were down to the Station (1) Curiously (11) Endeavored to separate some trucks which were not burning. In arriving at the scene and only 140 yds from the Blaze a truck load of Bombs (50 x 500 lbs) blew up the concussion was terrific, parts of truck rails splinters flying in all directions. The scene of 10 Officers all lying under a car was really funny, all waiting for the pieces to stop falling. Bombs singly continued for next hour + half

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Fuka

12. Oct.

24. Sqd. SAAF.

Continued.

The A.O. after pulling himself out from under the car decided that it was best to run and run he did. The N. lay low crouching himself with shades. Now known as the "Ace of Spades" G. Marshall actually put his head into an empty Tin Barrel for protection from splinters. All had a miraculous escape when we afterwards heard that 1 1/2 miles away an officer was knocked over into a truck by blast only. The large pieces of Rail & jagged metal were strewn all over the aerodrome rendering some N.S. for 4 hrs. At 8.15, 2 further trucks blew up 30 Tons and again at 9.30 and the truck load. Finally the excitement was all over and the engineers cleared the line and all live Bombs. Undoubtedly biggest show W. Desert. Operational Summary Reported. "Some damage resulted to stores for slight casualties"

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

13 October

24 Squadron SAAF.

13. No Air Raid, all had peaceful night's rest.
Detachment under Capt. Ascham from 12 Squadron with us doing M/R. Lt. Aitchison posted to us from 12 Squadron
14. Australian Ambulance Unit (7/4 Macdonald) in charge. Total 2 Officers and 22 O.R. arrangements made to put them under command
15. Terrible dust storm
16. Signal received 1 Squadron to return to Thander CO at HQ. W.D.
17. Further Terrible dust storm. Awaiting final instructions move.
18. CO's Parade. All ranks parade in new "Battle Dress" which issue.
19. Our move to take place 20th but rumours here it we might not move at all.
20. As expected we remain here. 1st Bn B. III arrived. (Maj Jones & Capt. Lippert) neither very pleased with RAF methods at Port Sudan.
21. Dust storm!! Lt. Durnant, Maj Jones visit HQ R.A.F. W.D. then to Helipolis 20th May. Capt. Lippert making up working party for Thander. Col. Williams & Jack Davis visit us and have lunch.

08

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Reference:-

AIR 27 - 298

Tutka

24 Squadron S.A.H.F.

22 Oct.

- 22 Normal Day.
- 23 Working Party of 50 O/Rs incl Capt Riffiatt. Capt. Valoen leave at 0500 hrs for Gemifa to fit out new Bortins. Lt. Wm Cook (net Sect) returns to Union.
- 24 Major Jones continues with instructions on Bortins
- 25 Major Tromper leave for CAIRO on Duty. Cricket match v. men Officers severely trounced.
26. W/Co: Wapellin arrives early Sunday morning, issues instructions re ~~disposal~~ dispersal of all aircraft & personnel into the Desert. Another signal arrives re move to Shander (the game is on again)
27. Definite instructions from A.H.Q. (W.) by Phone to send Air crew to Shander, 19 Officers and 22 Sgt/ leave for Shander at 1330 hrs 10 Drivers sent to Helwan to collect 6. 3 Ton lorries telephone instructions from F/M. Samaway. 1 Sgt. Officer. A.H.Q. (W.). Red alarm ^{but} no Raid.
- 28 Two Bortins flown by Maj Jones + Lt. Leingang leave for Shander Col. Wilnot. H. Sqd. goes on dispersal with Sqd.

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Reference:-

AIR

27

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Handwritten notes:
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24 Squadron SAAF.

29 Dec:

- 29. Col Howard with AHQ WD. done with AOC in C. About 5.15 A. Juss' came over early from SE at 18.45 hrs. dropped incendiaries in the dispersal area. followed by parachute flares about 15' in approx the same area burning for 7 minutes. Bombing was wide of the mark, majority falling well SE of our zone. 4 Bombs dropped between zone and dispersal area. Total 32 Bombs dropped. Machines fly very low could be clearly seen. No damage, no casualties and again no night fighters. all clear 20.30 hrs.
- 30. May Thompson return and dispersed with Sqd. No Raid.
- 31. No incident. Dispersal as usual. Col Howard D.F.C. leaves for Standard for 2/3 days.

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Reference:- **AIR 27 - 298**

Fuka

November 1941

24 Squadron SAAF

9 DEC. 1941

HEADQUARTERS
SECRETARY GENERAL

1st
2nd
~~3rd~~
3rd

Quiet day.

Again quiet day. A.O. decides disposal to be Voluntary + AHQM. agreed.

S.R.U. 7/4: WALKER. P/O Pearce + 6 OR's attached for indefinite period. 21 Rand.

November. Discussed disposal with men all pleased made Voluntary.

Unfortunately at about 17.35 hrs. 4 Huns surprised camp dropping stick of Bombs which caught south end of camp and shaddled the station, the rear gunner was able to put a burst across the camp, but no casualties.

We had hardly recovered from this upset when 10 Ju 88 came from the sea and set about Fuka - good and solid. One machine very cleverly dropped 3 flares South 3 flares East + 3 West of the camp. They then started dropping clear bombs for the station incendiaries were fowed down just South of the station, another lot on Southern $\frac{1}{2}$ of the dome, another lot over 5th Squadron. Big Bombs 500 Kilo + smaller dropped all over the area. Terrible den +

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Reference: - **AIR 27 - 298**

8 DEC 2011

1928

F. W. K. C.

24 Sept S.A. #15
November. 3rd (Cont)

3rd The 15 A.S. were out for nearly 3 hrs. Once again no fighters
 of our army were to be heard let alone seen. Total damage. Several
 machines temp: US of 55 Sgt., 2 men blast shocked, 1 German
 no real damage. 84 Bombs dropped excluding incendiaries.
 2nd Lt. P. M. M. had rather an amusing experience. While
 driving up from the station he heard & saw the 1st Bombs ^{plum} dropped
 at 17.30 hrs about a km S of his. He immediately stopped and
 took cover under his car. He then observed a lorry travelling
 towards him he yelled to the "Driver" to stop. But to his astonishment
 there was no driver. The driver boiled out 2 minutes before, and
 his lorry just carried on till it came to a standstill.
 Most German men in camp suffering from skinned knees & elbows
 4th Quiet day and no Raid. Plenty of fighters overhead until
 about @ 21.30 hrs. Hospital made compulsory for real safety.
 5th Nothing to report.

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Reference: AIR 27 - 298

127/000

Fuka

6th November

24 Squad. S.A.A.F.

- 6th Unsuccessful day, dispersed as usual. Signalled for all executive officers to return from Shander. Maj. Treadwell R.T.C. with us for few days.
- 7th "Co" expected back + returns with Maj. Rowley, Capt. Velfou, + Lt. Pope from Shander.
- 8th Col. Durnant visits A.H.O.W.D. This very active in the north Bagush area & well east of Fuka. Again no fighter protection.
- 9th Col. Durnant + Col. Willenst. visit forward to Lt. Col. No Rand
- 10th Wire received announcing Capt. Du Plessis to exchange Maj. Thompson
- 11th Bosch over again but did not locate us - altho very low. no bombs. Co attends Brig conference with A.H.O. At exactly 1100 hrs with 1041 our 1st & 3rd Bn III arrived over Shander lovely formation Grand li have all the Boys back.
- 12 Weather colder. This over well east early dinner interrupted 3 times. About 5:30 further Raid and 8 bombs dropped near station.

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1/298

Amys

24 Sqd. S.A.M.F.

Fuka

13 months

24 Sqd. S.A.M.F.

13⁴

2/A. Human support by H/H. Patterns leave for the front as advanced guard and training for more of our Borden III forward. All fit & well the Raid.

14

Exercises with new Borden III Free Raid night

15

Air Raid warning but no bombs dropped.

16

4 ill by desert storm.

17

Col. Dewart + 4 machines leave for desert or wire.

x

Our new works about to commence. Officers now on ahead as per

American Engineer Movement order.

18

Major John Capt. Lippitt returned from Sudan.

19

Definite instructions to mail to 21 B.C.G. Maj. Thompson's departure cancelled.

20

More to B.C.G. 21. Des. Transport (90% in East Africa) to use. Had to call on

53rd Sqd: who kindly lent us 12 lorries.

21

Capt. Lippitt had pressed Borden engines - giving lot of oil when troubles.

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OLG-21

24. Sqd. S.A.A.F

21. Continued.

- 21st. Air Raid. Altho not actually on 21 OLG we watched 3 Ju 88's cruise around and Bombs dropped on DABA. one machine dived and ground strapper the Wellington. Drone adjacent managed to fire the Wellington which was ready loaded for its night Raid. DABA was Banted again at 2100hrs
- 22. Balance Party return from FUIKA. Lt Jim William & also an air return for OLG giving mail the news. Underline Lt Chalkley overdue also Lt Blake.
- 23. Ration orders for OLG in precarious state we send up all ration orders possible in Berlin Aircraft. Capt Puttick & medical party also Wireless Van sent up to OLG which we now understand is at air aerodrome East of Madeline.
- 24. Col Durat Cpt. ^{Tarrant} Ritchie's support return from OLG. May Dolly to Hazel jobs
- 25/26. Notes to Report.
- 27. Col Huggins arrives and arranges for Thompson to be Camp Commandant. 01621

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24 SQUADRON. (S.A.) BLG 21.

O.L.G 21. 28.

Major Kowally returned from Cairo. Postal Truck arrived with a load of parcels & gifts & comforts which is very welcome.

29.

a Draft of over 300 men arrived at El Daba Station for various Squadrons. Capt Dick accompanied them.

30 Details posted to this Squadron.

30.

4 Pilots left for Minoufa to collect Post and Unwrapped. Ray Parade held. Lt Col Murrant left by air for O.K. 122 on official visit.

John Lewis Gaffan
Ray 17th Squadron
S.A.F.
2/12/41

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Reference:- **AIR 27 - 298**

Party for ...

24 Sqd: S.A.A.F

16th Sept.

16. Capt. Kiffell - Party leave for CAIRO en route for Port Sudan.
 full body of men send down to Genifa. Finally only
 8 officers short, Pilots = 12 (Sqs) on the lugoncum, will
 will send to Port Sudan by Boat. A very pleasant trip.
 We'll tell 2nd Oct. was the machine taken up by Major
 Jones. Our people surprised ^{that they} R.A.F. ^{were} operating on Peace Time Basis.
 Eventually most of the spec go solo on Bostons III.
 Machines gradually delivered to Delta area and
 reequipped fitted out and eventually delivered to us
 in the Desert.
 The Officers and men were very disappointed conditions in
 Egyptian Trans. Trip from Cairo to Shellal Terrible.
 The 2 day River trip by steamer was P.K. as far as the spec
 were concerned. But our Sqs were issued with Rations and
 expected to make tea by going into the Boiler Room whereas

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Reference: - **AIR 27 - 298**

Port Sudan

24. Sqd. S.A.F.
Sept. 16 - Nov 1942

Cairo

The R.A.F. Agts were allowed to dine in the Saloon.
Why South African - are treated this way nobody knows.
The Agts on board subsisted and were able to make
the last of our lives more comfortable.
Our officers & men got on very well indeed with
the American representation stationed at Port Sudan
Generally health good few cases of Dysentery

Nov 19th Whole party now at Freetown Major Jones in charge

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Reference:- **AIR 27 - 298**

2077:10 - memo 10/11
 24 207 2V81E

Operating from O.K. 112.

17th November 1941

2nd Squadron (O.K. 112)

30th November 1941.

- L.O. 112 17. 18.00 Two Bostons took off to carry out reconnaissance of enemy landing grounds at Casr-d-Aryad, Bir Chulta, Bir-Et-Gubi & Madulena. No aircraft seen but 300/400 M.T. near Bir-Chulta. Large concentrations of camp near Sidi Assiz of tanks were moving east. Own troops seen advancing west to Bir-Et-Gubi.
18. 08.00 3 Bostons probed an area over enemy HQ's, most of which were waterlogged. 6 enemy aircraft observed at Gambut & 10 at Bir. u. Bahina. Large numbers of M.T. dispersed between Bahina & Gambut. Large concentrations of tanks, AFV's & M.T. observed near Sidi - Assiz. Battle raging at Sidi Guay. Intense shell fire & circumstances AFA. Large concentrations of tanks etc observed along escarpment.

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- K.G. 112
19. Nil
20. 1 aircraft proceeded on succ. At Bir. Hamman a fierce tank battle was in progress. Our APC attacked by 9 fighters, all eight being shaken off in various directions northwards.
21. Three Boston's proceeded on succ over Sed. Rugh & Gumbur. & Madena. Our troops moving north. One of our aircraft failed to return.
22. One Boston carried out 2 succ's. over Bir. Hachien Bir. & Aslagh. Convoys moving east. 12 Eumms Aircraft encountered and made out.
23. 2 aircraft proceeded on succ. over Gubbi, Bir. Hachien Gohales & El Madem. Battle raging & - 20 tanks north of Gubi & uncounted numbers of vehicles south of Gubbi.

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- L 9112
23. One of our aircraft failed to return from the above occurrence
24. 3 Aircraft proceeded on a succ. over Bor-a-Gubi, Bor Mauchin, Achona, el Gubi etc. Encountered 2 enemy fighters, large concentrations of tanks, M T etc. over el Gubi. Vehicles stationary & well dispersed. All vehicles stationary in Battal area. Blunkens bombing north of escarpment. One of our aircraft failed to return.
25. 3 Aircraft carrying out succ over enemy L.Y.'s at 4-5000 ft. nothing of importance to report.
26. 5 Bombers proceeded at various times on low succ. over enemy landing grounds etc.

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L 9112	26.		Troop movements observed at Sidde Omer. 50-100 M.T. near Sidde Omer. No M.T. had any 30 Tanks in arrow head formation 10 miles moving Eastward to Sidde Omer.	
	27.		3 aircraft left on 9.00. Over Sumbat de Omeria 2 Enemy columns of M.T. of 200 vehicles each with trailers 4 25 to 30 Trucks encountered heavy AFA fire but no damage.	
	28.		3 Bystones on Rec over Sidde Omer 4 other M.T.'s. Heavy AFA fire encountered N.E. of Sidde Omer. Chased by 2 enemy fighters without success. Saw amount of M.T. at E. side, mostly stationary. 5 Tanks due South of B.M. el. Chelba. 30 vehicles at Sumbat 4 of which tanks. No aircraft in H.	

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L. 112	29.		Aircraft again came out low over enemy concentrations Gumbat, Bunt-Clutta, Menaster, Sidde Omar. Aircraft chased by unidentified fighters & also bombed by 109's, thus chasing bombers off their targets.	
	30.		Aircraft escorted by 2 Hurricanes proceeded over low Juccie's over Sidde Omar. 3 Tanks & 12 M.T. moving 5 miles N.W. of Sidde Omar & 6 more M.T. were dispersed near Bunt-Clutta. 30 Vehicles west of Duda, badly dispersed - very nice target. Bombing Gama El Duda. 100 or more bombs dropped.	

J. D. [Signature] Capt Coy 24 Squadron
S.A.F.

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01-472
0087022-2000000-1000 01/21/41

No 24 SQUADRON SAAF

1st December 1941 31st December 1941.

- BK.9. 21
- 1 - Boston operating from Advance Landing Ground
L. 9. 130. Carried out reconnaissances over Demna.
Observed 30-40 large & small enemy aircraft.
Very little movement west of Demna. Unable to
disc. Urataba. owing to being chased by enemy
fighters but wasted them.
 2. Reconnaissance carried out over Gumbut Area, some
aircraft observed. Our aircraft chased by
5 enemy fighters but wasted them & returned safely.
 3. "B" Flight moved off in convoy of 19 vehicles
for Op. 130. (Movement order enclosed).
 4. "B" Flight pilots & crews took off in 9 Boston's
for Op. 130. (Movement order above refers)

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Blk 21	5.		5 Boston proceeded on a line. Rec. from Hq 130 of Ber- d. Yubi - El Adun - Acrona areas. Observed some tanks & M.T. on escapement west of El Adun.	
	6.		3 Jac Rec to broadcast weather reports over El Adun & Acrona Areas. Observed tanks & M.T. moving towards Ber. d. Yubi.	
	7.		Received a report from Ch 4 130 that one Boston failed to return. Pilot Lt Kargon. Sgts Rudge, Hendricks & Lucas. Casualty signal Sgt. Maj Jones returned from Ch 4 130, a further signal received that Lt Adenbach, Sgts Wieg, Brand & Thomas failed to return from a base over Gazala area.	
	7.		Wajfous proceeded to Cairo for medical board. Casualty signals sent in connection with missing aircraft. A bombing raid by 20 bombers on Panama	96

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	7/1/41		<p>failed due to low clouds, the aircraft returned to base with bombs. No A/A was encountered.</p> <p>Two bombing raids were carried out over Barrovia by the Boston. First raid, bombs fell short of target. Duration of operation 06.35 - 09.50.</p> <p>Second raid, all bombs fell within 100 yds of target area. Smoke was seen from buildings & vehicles. Night A/A was encountered, but no damage was caused.</p> <p>Air Boston proceeded on a raid but was called back owing to bad weather conditions.</p> <p>Air Boston proceeded on a raid to bomb retreating enemy columns near Pt. 370 W.S. Height 7000 ft.</p> <p>Formation encountered 12-16 enemy fighters, asubor missed. Leader only returned with damaged.</p>	

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			<p>Spannaars argue & force landed near N. 76. The missing crews are as follows. <i>Porters 2191.</i></p> <p><i>N^o 103285</i> N. C. Lussell - Stewart. Pilot. Safe <i>N^o 102156</i> P. O. Harding. Observer missing 90333. C/ Sgt van Rijk J. H. Missing (Crew member) 751329 " Handley J. Gunner (Missing)</p> <p><i>Porters 2190.</i></p> <p><i>N^o 103155.</i> Hunt. Lewis G. Pilot. Killed 21040 " McPherson D. Observer. Safe. 90989 Sgt. Bowdman D. E. Gunner. Killed 951850 " Ross D. C. W. " Killed</p> <p><i>Porters 2187.</i></p> <p><i>N^o 47012</i> M. Williams J. A. Pilot. Safe 90294 " Alexander B. J. Observer. Missing 102010 " Jones R. A. Gunner. Wounded</p>	

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			10-102257. Sgt. Newall R. Gunner	Accounted
			Boston L. 2182	
			102662 Captainis Hoeb L.W. Pilot. Killed	
			94279 Nr. Raw. H. Gunner. Safe.	
			102292 Sgt. Stanley B.H.S. Gunner Killed	
			102115 " " Clivic W. " "	
			Boston L. 2201.	
			48060 Nr. Haupt. A.V. Pilot. Missing	
			48068 " " Benjamin A.B. Gunner.	
			102119 Sgt. Black V.S.C. Gunner Killed	
			94480 " " Venter A.S. " Accounted.	
			For full report see postscriptum attached dated 12/2/44.	
			Operations - Nil.	
			Operations - Nil.	

11/4
12/4

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	13.		Operations Nil.	
	14.		Operations Nil.	
	15.		Operations Nil.	
	16.		Operations Nil.	
	17.		Offc visited B.F. 6 news stations arrived & also 5 complete air crews. Six stations with a fighter escort proceeded from Sidi-Rasigh to bomb aircraft on Derna aerodrome. The wrong target was attacked & bombs dropped near some buildings. Total flying hours 29 hrs 10 mins.	
	18.		Six stations with a fighter escort proceeded from Sidi-Rasigh to bomb retreating enemy columns between Ghoris Saunali and El-Nawama. About 1000 vehicles were observed moving westward.	1000

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	19.		<p>24 x 500 lbs bombs were dropped & considerable damage was inflicted. Total flying hours 13. One Boston proceeded to Lagana for repairs. They proceeded from there under fighter escort to bomb & retreat enemy columns. on Marana - Bance road. Only 100 vehicles observed & formation turned east and attacked Marana where from 5000 ft on which about 80 mixed aircraft were observed. 24 x 500 lbs dropped but the damage was not observed, but estimated damage to be heavy.</p>	
	20.		<p>Two Bostons left Sui Resep for Lagana to receive Operational instructions. No targets were indicated & the aircraft returned</p>	
	21.		<p>Operations - Nil</p>	

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	22		Nine Bostons bombed aircraft on Side - Round- a - program unknown. 60 to 70 aircraft including (30 J452's) dispersed on N.W. of airbase. 8 x 500 lbs were dropped but fell slightly short of dispersed aircraft. 20 x 250 fell in dispersed area & two fires were observed. Damage considered heavy.	
	23		Operations - Nil. Squadron withdrawn from operations owing to excessive oil consumption of engines.	
	24			
	25			
	26			
	27			
	28			
	29			
	30			
	31			

Andreas Squadron
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2588
27 FEB. 1942

OE-VAN
No 20 Squadron SAAF
31. 1. 42
Vau/From 1. 1. 42 (Band/Volnme.)
Aau/To

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Joni-Rough	1		Operations - Nil.	
	2		Operations - Nil. Instructions received from C/O 2. (SA) Wing to move squadron to K.G. 21. On 3.1.42.	
	3		The aircraft left at 11.00 hrs for K.G. 21. Ground Party left for K.G. 21. at 15.00 hrs. Documents enclosed.	
	4		2 of the Portbans that left Joni-Rough the previous day, crashed near Fort. Magdalena owing to weather conditions. Herewith particulars of crew.	
			No. J. Daniels Pilot - Superficial Injuries	
			No. 40066 Sgt R.E. Gilbert Observer - Broken Collar Bone.	
			No. 402205 K.A. Mooney Gunner - Uninjured.	
			No. 942370 W.B. Davis " - Uninjured.	
			The aircraft was damaged beyond repair	

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Plak.
Plaas.

Datum.
Date.

Uur.
Hour.

5.
6.

Boston A. Av. Wm. Kinsley - Pilot. - *Umsjwaad*
 No 112071 Sgt Hanson A. Observer - *Umsjwaad*
 No 111776? Bomber *Umsjwaad*
 No 112541? Guards G. " "

This aircraft was also damaged beyond repair.
 The observer bailed out, when the aircraft
 was in difficulties & landed safely nearby the
 crash. The personnel of the crashed aircraft
 were picked up by a salvage unit & taken to H. 122.
 where they were attended to.
 Quiet day. Nothing to report.
 Instructions received for Squadron to move to
 Kasparus for the purpose of modification &
 engine changed to Boston aircraft. Advance
 party left by road.

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	7.		<p>Convooy arrived from Soc. Rights & proceeded immediately to Kasparub. 3 Bostons proceeded to H.Q. 122 to collect personnel of crashed aircraft. Arrangements made to move balance of Squadron to Soc. Rights Kasparub. 3 Bostons arrived with personnel from H.Q. 122 Boston. Noe Wheel collapsed while landing. Damage aircraft irreparable. Particulars of crew's whereabouts:</p> <p>1st Lt W. Hanley Pilot. Uninjured Lt W. McHughes Observer. Slight injury No. 40220 Sgt K. M. Munn. Uninjured No. 40066 Sgt Robert. Abrasion scalp & was admitted to St. Dava Hospital. Casualties equals sent in crashed aircraft.</p>	

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	8		Quiet day - nothing to report.	
	9		" " " " " "	
	10.		6 Aircraft complete with crews left for Kasparret at 10.00 hrs. One Boston proceeded to H.G. 122 to Salvage parts of crashed aircraft & return that same day. The balance of the aircraft left for Kasparret at 16.00 hrs. The road party left for Kasparret at 15.00 hrs. Movement again unobscured.	
	11		Convoy still on road. All aircraft arrived safely the previous day.	
	12.		Convoy arrived at Kasparret. Busy pitching tents & fixing up the Camp. The unaccompanied personnel having completed one month's operations are proceeding on leave to the barracks	

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			<p>Mr. G.S. Keany, Mr. G.W. Hanley. At A.E. Halse At H.F. Jeagan " A.S. Crowther " A.W. Beuk " R.J. Water " H. Raw Sgt. A.W. Macman Sgt. D.P. Flook Sgt. W. Furburg Sgt. J. Adair " A.F. Wray " G. Biddle " H.W. Wright Sgt. R. Quillet. Mr. Barragan Mr. M.E. Napier Mr. R.H. Pearson Mrs. M. D. Kalkbauer</p>	
	13		All flying crews proceeded on 14 days leave.	
	14		Progress on aircraft & in camp very satisfactory.	
	15		<p>Sgt. van Vollenhoven, Ryan & Apm Kuiser left for Cairo for transmission to the Union 7 Pilots & Observers & 9 Air Gunners arrived here for duty. 30 Officers & 28 other ranks arrived here for transit camp awaiting transmission to the Union</p>	

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	16.		a very dusty & windy day. 2 departs changed for creating a disturbance in the N.P.A.F.I. at Kraspan. Cars examined. Details warned against Kraspan. All activities resumed. Camp placed out of hand & details changed for reasons of attempted acts of violence. Cases prepared for further evidence.	
	17.		A very dusty day. Approximately 15 tents blown down.	
	18.		Troop Party busy pitching tents. Progress on aircraft satisfactory. Practically the whole Squadron is now in camp except the wireless staff.	
	19.		a clear day. Nothing to report.	
	20.		Nothing to report.	
	21.		The Adjutant proceeded to camp to clear certain queries regarding personnel.	

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	21.		a Minute received that no Cape Corps detachments were to proceed on leave to any city, village or town. This was fully discussed with the N.A. DEPT.	
	22.		Quiet day. Nothing to report.	
	23.		Quiet day. Nothing to report.	
	24.		a message received from HQ R.M.F. for a number of personnel immediately and urgent operations in the Gabbie Area. Difficulties were experienced as all aircraft were under repair & the state of transport was such that we were unable to carry out the move. The majority of personnel was still on leave in Cairo & Palestine. 14 new trucks were allotted to us for the move.	

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	25		<p>Busy preparing for the move. At 10.00 sent to MTR S. Helwans to collect 12 new trucks. Our two Petrol Drivers sent to MTR S. for complete overhaul. We received instructions to take over all aircraft allotted to 12 Squadron. 11 new crews posted to Squadron in completion of O.T.U. course. Assistance received from 114 Maintenance Unit is very much appreciated. Formis arrived late that afternoon from Helwan. Received a signal that Command Party is to proceed to T'Mini, the R.H. to R.E. 76. Everybody very happy & pleased that the Squadron is going on operations</p>	
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Convoy ready to move off under Captain
H.K. [unclear]. Convoy consisting of
60 vehicles, movement under enclosed
permits. The convoy moved off at
12.00 hours & picked up Reserve Force
12 miles further out. Everybody was
fully instructed on Convoy Regulations.
Owing to an accident on the road the
convoy stopped for the night about 5 miles
outside Heliopolis. A fire started on
a truck, but we were unable to extinguish
same as a very strong wind was blowing
at the time. The load of the truck consists of
all our Anti-Air Equipment & personal
excess kit of flying personnel. A few odd

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	28.		Items were salvaged from the wreckage. Convoy left at 0700 hours but owing to an accident at the Mulikamp. Trucks that was delayed for several hours. At the truck Post two of four trucks damaged. The one trucks was badly damaged & towed in to Camp where a replacement was obtained & also one for the burnt out truck. Our next staging point was Amiriya. The mobile kitchen came in very handy & a hot meal was prepared.	
	29.		All vehicles were repaired & a further Reserve Stock of petrol taken on each vehicle. Another vehicle broke down & was handed	

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			<p>in the report but was unable to obtain a replacement. For a week the officer i/c POWs, Captain du Plessis reported to 2nd Wing for forward instructions. No further news available & a signal was sent to Kaspanco that whole convoy is proceeding to T'mini. We camped the night at Bagis. Two more vehicles broke down & was exchanged for a new 6 wheel GMC truck from 234 Wing. The state of our transport has increased considerably since we left, owing to break down which were exchanged for new vehicles. Morale & spirit of personnel excellent.</p>	

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	30.		Convoy left Maarten Baguats early that morning 9 without further mishaps arrived at Sidi-Barami where we camped for the night. On morning Having heard about our withdrawal Captain de Plessis contacted Rear AMC Lt Adams who instructed him to report to 3 Squadron for onward transmission as it was most likely that we would not be able to proceed to T'mini	
	31.		The convoy left Sidi-Barami early that morning. At Sollum pass the convoy was delayed for several hours owing to traffic congestion. Whilst waiting at the pass a Suban Lt Lloyd attached to our	

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			<p>American picked up a German man ^{man} who ^{who} ordered ^{ordered} to move on the side ^{side}. The man ^{man} was ^{was} carried ^{carried} to ^{to} the ^{the} hospital ^{hospital} at ^{at} Singapore ^{Singapore} where ^{where} he ^{he} was ^{was} buried ^{buried} by ^{by} the ^{the} U.S. ^{U.S.} who ^{who} promised ^{promised} to send ^{send} off ^{off} the ^{the} body ^{body} to ^{to} the ^{the} nearest ^{nearest} hospital ^{hospital} as ^{as} if ^{if} the ^{the} casualty ^{casualty} occurred ^{occurred} in ⁱⁿ hospital ^{hospital}.</p> <p>In the above connection I may mention that all personnel were warned on several occasions against the dangers of playing with enemy weapons, ammunition and grenades etc. They always proceeded to ^{to} the ^{the} hospital ^{hospital} at ^{at} Singapore ^{Singapore} where ^{where} he ^{he} was ^{was} buried ^{buried} by ^{by} the ^{the} U.S. ^{U.S.} who ^{who} promised ^{promised} to send ^{send} off ^{off} the ^{the} body ^{body} to ^{to} the ^{the} nearest ^{nearest} hospital ^{hospital} as ^{as} if ^{if} the ^{the} casualty ^{casualty} occurred ^{occurred} in ⁱⁿ hospital ^{hospital}.</p>	<p>Man ^{Man} buried ^{buried} at ^{at} Singapore ^{Singapore} where ^{where} he ^{he} was ^{was} buried ^{buried} by ^{by} the ^{the} U.S. ^{U.S.} who ^{who} promised ^{promised} to send ^{send} off ^{off} the ^{the} body ^{body} to ^{to} the ^{the} nearest ^{nearest} hospital ^{hospital} as ^{as} if ^{if} the ^{the} casualty ^{casualty} occurred ^{occurred} in ⁱⁿ hospital ^{hospital}.</p>

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	31.		Other side of Cambout. Captain ^{and} and proceeded to 3 Wing where he received instructions to proceed to the ^{the} high ^{high} as the ^{the} enemy ^{enemy} was then to close to the enemy lines.	

A. P. Gray
24 SQUADRON

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	1		<p>Battalion Air Base reported to O/C 3 Wing at Bu. Ancond for onward transmission & was instructed to proceed to Sidi-Risigh. The convey arrived at Sidi-Risigh at 12.00 Hrs. a Parade was called & personnel warned against the danger of playing with un- exploded bombs, hand grenades etc. By 18.00 Hrs the camp was pitched, slit trenches dug, a Raid by the enemy was expected as it was full moon & they hearded St Adair the previous night several aircraft arrived from Et Haur for dispersal 3 Blenheims arrived to practice night flying but this was cancelled by O/C 3 Wing as it was considered dangerous to put out a flare path.</p>	

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			<p>At approximately 12.00 hours the Commandant received a phone message to stand by to move at 2 hours notice a complete black-out was observed that night. The water drawn from Foulmoult was very salty, but a fresh water well was discovered by 3 Wing at Gamber and we went to draw water from there. Rabbits only had Ouly Bully Bif + Biscuits. We were however told that meat was obtainable twice a week. At 23.30 hours that night a telephone message was received from O/C 3 Wing for the whole Squadron to move back to 76 immediately. The evan was immediately carried out & 2 hours later the vehicles were loaded & dispersed on the</p>	

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			<p>arrangements ready to move off. We were also warned to exercise the utmost care regarding Raids & Ground Strapping by means Aircraft. All personnel were instructed what to do in the event of an Raid. All drivers were instructed to observe a distance of not less than 300 yds between vehicles.</p>	
	2		<p>At 03.00 hours that morning all the heavy equipment were sent of under Captain Veljeer. It was bright moonlight. At 04.30 hours all the old & bad vehicles were sent of under Mr Pijama. Refueling arrangements were made at Gambia.</p> <p>At 05.30 hours the balance of the convoy</p>	

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			<p>mean Captain du Plessis left Staff of this Squadron were only 12 hours at Sid. Beaghe and everybody was joking about our successful withdrawal from Sid Beaghe. Everything went well & we camped that night 10 miles outside Sid Beaghe on our way to R.Y. 76.</p>	
	3.		<p>We left early that morning & encountered the worst dust storm we ever experienced. The desert route from Beaghe was very bad. We arrived safely that afternoon at R.Y. 76. I was rather worried about our aircraft as nobody could give us information regarding their whereabouts. Later that afternoon we learned that</p>	

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			<p>seems to bad weather conditions the aircraft were unable to get through. A severe dust storm was still blowing. I received a phone call from my Co. at R. 4.10 & was instructed to send a party of 30 men off to Rasfarach. This was done. A very severe dust storm was still blowing & we were unable to pitch a camp.</p>	
			<p>4. I received with 2 more baskets from R. 4.10 & received instructions to send 1 aircraft with 2 pilots to El Aden to collect & abandoned Marylandas. The aircraft left but I remained unable to locate the 2 Marylandas. I received</p>	

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			instructions to return the following day to Kasparuk for further modifications to the aircraft. The ground personnel to proceed to Reg. 21 Edebas Captain in Ussis the Captain proceeded to Major.	
	6/12		a Very bad day Aircraft unable to return to Kasparuk. After Walker placed in close contact for unborodation a Very severe dust storm blowing all day	
	7/12		a Clear day. After Walker sentenced to 21 days detention by the Co. Aircraft left for Kasparuk at 10.00 hours Ground party left for Reg. 21 at 11.00 hours & camped that night 60 miles from Uursa - Urapauk	

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	8/42		<p>On the road between Jan Broun & Manna Makub vehicles collided with an oncoming vehicle. No body was seriously injured. The Wreless Van was very badly damaged & abandoned. All mechanical parts were salvaged. The other 2 ton truck was also abandoned. A fire started on one of the trucks but was smothered before much damage was done.</p>	
	8/42		<p>The convoy left camp that morning & without any further mishaps arrived at L.V. 21 at 16.00 hours & a camp was pitched on the old site. All the wooden buildings that were there</p>	

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			before, have been taken down for the engines	
	9/42		a Quiet & clear day. Busy packing the	
			camp	
	10/42		Mr's Servant & Messop arrived by	
			air. Quiet day, nothing to report	
	11/42		a severe dust storm blowing all day.	
			unable to do any work.	
	12/42		Mr's Servant & Messop returned to	
			Kasparuk. Nothing to report.	
	13/42		Campant & Campment Officer proceeded	
			to Camp on General administrative	
			& equipment matters.	
			Seven aircraft complete with crew	
			arrived from Kasparuk.	
	14/42		Quiet day. Nothing to report	

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	15/4/42		Alles normaal uit by air for the Union	
			Woe message abandoned off 21 Squadron	
	16/4/42		Capitain & Bombardier Officer returned	
			from Radio. 3 Capt Coops details in	
			close arrest for striking their superior	
			officer	
	17/4/42		New O/C arrived with 4 more aircraft	
			from Kasparov	
	18/4/42		A quiet day. Working to report	
	19/4/42		Orice's day. Working to report	
	20/4/42		We received a phone message from	
			3 Wing Rear at 2000 hrs to build up	
X			a band us to proceed on a scale	
			at dawn the next morning. Every	
			thing was ready but early the next	

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			<p>morning we were ordered to stand down clear & quiet day. Awaiting instructions from wing regarding operations</p>	
	21/42		<p>The last sent aircraft arrived. We from Kasparich a Party of 25 men proceeded to Ber-d. Bahina to receive our aircraft when we arrived three</p>	
	22/42		<p>Eight aircraft with bombs proceeded to Ber-d. Bahina to operate from there for a period of 3 days under 3 wing Advance</p>	
X	23/42		<p>We received notification that 8 of our aircraft proceeded on a mission near Ber. Bahina to O.K. unable to locate their target.</p>	
	24/42			

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	25/1/42		Quiet day. No news sent out.	OK. 9
X	26/1/42		7 Aircraft proceeded to El Behema aircraft at present operating from El Behema.	
X	27/1/42		7 Aircraft returned from El Behema. One machine was shot down. The formation appear taking off was attacked by 2 B-24's & shot down one of our planes in flames. The crew as follows: Lieut. J.P. Botha Pilot Killed 2 nd Lieut. J.P. Baker Obs. Uninjured Crew Sgt. Matthews J.R. Gunner Uninjured Sgt. Collender W.K.F. Uninjured P.O. Botha was injured that same afternoon.	

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Date.

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Hour.

28/40

*in the Officers' Mess at Tientsin. Sgt Matthews
was badly injured by flames down to
5th Cervical Spine. The machine was
completely destroyed by fire.
Quiet day. Nothing to report.*

J. H. Major

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Ee Daba & Bor-el-Bekuria	1.		a Dull day. 8 Aircraft left for operational landing ground at 09.35 but returned to base at 10.30 hours owing to bad weather conditions	
	2.		a Fine Day. 8 Aircraft left at 07.30 hrs for O.R.G. & landed them safely.	
	3.		Advance party of No 12 Squadron arrived & pitched camp on the west side of the aerodrome. Operations Nil.	
	4.		Fine Day. 10 Aircraft of No 12 Squadron arrived. Received a visit from Col Bennett of 2. S.A. wing. Operations - Nil.	
	5.		a bold rainy day. Daylight hard over Ee Daba by enemy bombers. J.W. 58's. No bombing or ground strafing over the landing ground. Operations - Nil.	

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6.

7.

bold windy day. Adyphant proceeded on 8 days sick leave after a period of few days in bed with influenza. Captain Veltje appointed acting Adyphant during his absence. A message received from Wing to send up a further 9 aircraft to O.K. at 10.00 hrs on 7.3.42. a fine day. 8 aircraft left for O.K. at 10.00 hrs and landed safely at O.K. 10 more Portenos of No 12 Squadron arrived here. No 12 Squadron should be going on operations any day now. 6 aircraft returned from O.K. 2 aircraft damaged on landing at O.K. Nose wheels collapsed whilst taxiing. Nobody injured. Pilots Major Donnelly & Mr. Morrow.
Operations - Nil -

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	8.		<p>Five Day - Nothing to report. Operations Nil</p>	
	9.		<p>Five Day - Terrible air raid attack by enemy aircraft on Wellington widespread damage to ours. Enemy aircraft were flying very low over our dome on their circuits to bomb the Wellingtons. One of the gunposts of No 12 Squadron opened fire on an E/F but missed it & thus giving his position away. The enemy aircraft returned & ground strafed the aircraft of No 12 Squadron & hit our machine which went up in flames. The fire tender of this Squadron endeavoured to extinguish the fire but managed to save the tail part only. Bombing reports submitted by A.I.O. Operations - Nil</p>	

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	10.		Friday - Nothing to report - Operations Nil	
	11		Friday. Formation practices & bombing practices carried out under Mapt oon Pittius. Operations - Nil	
	12.		Friday - Nothing to report - Operations - Nil	
	13.		Friday. Crews on Stand by to proceed to O.H. at 09.00 hrs tomorrow. Operations. Nil	
	14.		Friday. 8 Aircraft left for O.H. at 09.00 hrs. 12 Aircraft proceeded on a raid over Mantuba. under leadership of W.C. Messop. Operational Orders & Results attached.	
	15.		Friday. 12 Aircraft of No. 8 Squadron & No 12 left on a raid over Mantuba landing ground under leadership of W.C. Messop. Operational Orders & Results attached. a beautiful Sports meeting held. Program enclosed.	

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	16.		Dusty Day. 8 Aircraft of 12 9 3 of 74 under leadership of Captain Tennant proceeded on a raid over Bonn area. Operational Order & Results enclosed. A signal of congratulations received from Air Officer Commanding on grand bombing of this Squadron during the 2 preceding days. Copy of above signal enclosed with Operational Summaries.	
	17.		Dusty Day: Major Donnelly posted to No 3 SA. Wing. Captain Tennant promoted acting major & appointed C. Flight Commander. Captain Orster posted to this Squadron as sub flight commander. Operations - Nil.	
	18.		Dusty cloudy day. Nothing of importance to report. Operations - Nil.	

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	19.		<p>Two days. Crews on immediate stand by for whole day. Started down in evening but to proceed to O.K. the next morning. Operations - Nil</p>	
	20.		<p>Two days. 7 aircraft left for O.K. & landed safely. Operational order enclosed but was cancelled on account of bad weather conditions.</p>	
	21.		<p>Five days. 6 bombers under leadership of W.D. Moscrop proceeded on a raid of W.T. movements on Macchelli. German tracks. After successfully bombing base area some the formation was attacked by 2 109FS. 4 aircraft returned safely but the following were shot down</p> <p>102606 W.Coe. A.J. Moscrop. Pilot. Boston A.L. 733. Seriously wounded.</p> <p>402186 P.O. S.A. Colborne. Observer " " " " Safe. Slight injuries</p> <p>102090 W.S. Canby. R.Y. Gunner. " " " " Safe. Wounded</p> <p>102100 W.S. Hague. R.O.W. " " " " " " " "</p>	

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Aan/To

Plek. Place.	Datum. Date.	Uur. Hour.	Opzetting van voorvalle en inlichting. Summary of Events and Information.	Opmerkingen en verwijzing na aanhangsels. Remarks and references to Appendices.
			<p>N^o 12251 Capt. J. J. Voster. Pilot. Boston 2225. Uninjured. Safe.</p> <p>103555 3rd Lt. J. P. Bester Observer. " " " "</p> <p>Hobbs 10345 1st Lt. J. M. Liffroy. Gunner. " " " "</p> <p>20548 " " " " " " " " Killed</p> <p>1st Lt. Messer, P.O. Colborne Sgt van der Veen & Hague was present in hospital. P.O. Colborne despite his injuries walked a considerable distance to call assistance. Captain Voster & 2 of his crew were picked up by four French & were back with the Squadron. In this connection I would like to mention that Mr. Bester has only been on one operation & has been shot down twice. (as far as I should say). For full details see attached Operational Order & Incident & Composite Bombard Report compiled by W. Barton our A.I.O.</p>	

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Opsomming van gebeurtenissen en Inligtingen.
Summary of Events and Information.

Opmerkingen en verwijzingen na aanhangels.
Remarks and references to Appendices.

Plak.
Place.

Datum.
Date.

Uur.
Hour.

22.
23.

Nothing to report. Operations ~~22~~ ²³. - Everybody shaken about our losses on the previous day. Fine day. 12 Bostons to proceed on a raid of Maituba area under leadership of Major R. Tennant. This was another bad day for our Squadron. The formation en-Counter was severe and aircraft fine over the target. 48-250 lbs GP instantaneous bombs dropped. Some aircraft was then damaged by Aja 9 formation attacked by 109 F's. One aircraft was shot down in flames & one person was seen to bail out, the crew follows 102745 Major R. Tennant Pilot. Boston Pl. Sec. Missing
 8722 Sgt. G. Bennett Observer " "
 173328 Sgt. W. Kenneth Gunner " "
 28837 " Lt. Johnston " "

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DE-AYZ
 OOKTOSPYGROEK - AYK DLYKA
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			3 more aircraft were damaged	by Aja Luch
			managed to crash land in our lines.	
			103405 Lt. G.P. O'Donovan Pilot. Boston	72287. Uninjured Safe.
			40606 Sgt. R.H. Kelly Observer	-
			402255 " G. Batchelor Gunner	- Wounded
			205387 " G.B. Harvey	- Uninjured Safe.
			47516 Lt. N.K. Elliot-Purson Pilot. Boston	72353 Uninjured Safe.
			94471 " R. Cameron Observer	-
			33994 Sgt. G.A. Burgess Gunner	-
			102392 " G.B. Wilson	-
			103344 Lt. J.B. Stuyvesant Pilot. Boston	72206 Uninjured Safe.
			94474 " J. Dellow Observer	- Missing
			206756 Sgt. C.O.D. Gray Gunner	- Uninjured Safe.
			102477 " S.F. Cunningham	-
			At Gray lost control of aircraft which dived	

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	22.		<p>I gave orders to his crew to bail out, but he managed to fight as aircraft, force being used on the controls. He was then attacked by a 107F ^{by gunner Sgt Cooper} managed to get a few bursts in & reported that the 107F disappeared on fire & Dellow bailed out & is still missing. The av- Gyps forced landed in our line. The av- craft a complete write-off. All over other aircraft returned safely to base. Full particulars of hard on attached Operational order & result to Composite Combat Report compiled by avn A.I.O. 6 aircraft under Major von Ribbins proceeded on a hard over Bomb. line. Full details on attached Operational orders & results.</p>	

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01-113
 OOKLOOBYGROEK - MYK DYKA

OF-VAN

Van/From

(Band/Volume.)

Aan/To

Plak. Place.	Datum. Date.	Uur. Hour.	Opsomming van voorvalle en inligtinge. Summary of Events and Information.	Opmerkinge en verwysings na aanhangels. Remarks and references to Appendices.
	24.		<p>Fine day. Nothing of importance to report. a Agincourt was received from Cape Town H.A. conveying their sympathy to us in the loss of Major Lemman & crew & over aircraft. Ammunition badly shaken after the last raid but their morale is still good. Copy of Signal enclosed. Operations - Nil.</p>	
	25		<p>a very bad day. The worst dust storm raging all day we ever experienced in the desert. Unable to do any work & consequently nothing to report.</p>	
	26.		<p>a fine day. Surely a country of extremes. 4 of our aircraft returned from O.T. 4. having been released by 12 Squadron. Operations Nil.</p>	

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	27.		Five day. Balance of aircraft O.K.'s. Operations - Nil.	Returned from
	28.		Five day formation flying new crews. Operations Nil. Captain returned from hospital & resumed duties.	practised by
	29.		Five day. Nothing to report. Squadron received a visit by Col Wilmoth.	
	30.		Nothing to report. Operations - Nil. Aircraft on immediate standby. a Raid along the coast reported. Crews ordered to stand down at sunset.	
	31.		8 Aircraft left for O.K.'s. to relieve N-12 Squadron. Aircraft landed safely at O.K.'s. Operations - Nil.	

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OPMERKINGEN
OPREKENINGEN
CORRESPONDENTIE - WAAK - DIENST

OF - VAN

No. 20 Squadron

Van/From 1.4.42

(Band/Volume.)

Aan/To 30.4.42

Plak. Plaats.	Datum. Date.	Uur. Hour.	Omschrijving van voorvallen en inlichtingen. Summary of Events and Information.	Opmerkingen en verwijzingen na aanhangsels. Remarks and references to Appendices.
L.Y. 21 4 Bom. d. Bahuvia	1		a windy & windy day but in spite of that 7 of our aircraft proceeded to advance landing unaccompanied	
	2.		a fine day but nothing to report except that we received a radio warning that about 4 enemy aircraft came over to bomb the Wellingtons aerodrome adjacent to ours.	
	3.		a fine day. Squadron evaded by Major McBlain. Assistant S.P.O.A. Another raid by enemy bombers at night but no apparent damage. 12 of our bombers proceeded on a raid from Bahuvia. Target. To bomb dispersed aircraft on Berra aerodrome. Results. No direct hits. claimed but many near misses. The formation	

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X	4.		<p>Incumbent very light Afa over target but severe Afa over Wastuba. All our aircraft returned safely. a fine day. 2 complete circuits left by road to visit the 1st Division in the forward areas. A Rugby match between A+B. Thursts were played. B flag the winners. Our aircraft returned from O.C.</p>	
X	6.		<p>a fine day. Nothing to report. a fine day. 3 of our Porters accompanied a formation of 9 aircraft of No 12 Squadron on a bombing raid. Targets dispersed aircraft on Alana Avodome. Results All bombs fell in target area with good results. 2 direct hits claimed & 1 direct hit</p>	

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			<p>on a hangar. The formation encountered heavy fog over the hangar but no damage done & all our aircraft returned safely.</p> <p>Quint day nothing to report.</p> <p>" " " " " " " " " " " "</p> <p>" " " " " " " " " " " "</p> <p>The American Aircraft Representative Mr. Row showed an instruction film of Boston Aircraft, Engines & Airshows, which was very interesting but unfortunately was the performance disturbed by an air raid. Several bombs were dropped on the Wellington Airshow.</p> <p>7 of our aircraft left for Ob. 4. to relief no. 12 Squadron. Nothing to report.</p>	

7.
8.
9

X

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DOORLOGDAGBOEK - WAR DIARY.
 OORLOGSDAGBOEK. - WAR DIARY.
 OF - VAN

Van/From

(Band/Volume.)

Aan/To

Plek. Place.	Datum. Date.	Uur. Hour.	Opsomming van voorvalle en inligting. Summary of Events and Information.	Opmerkinge en verwysings na aanhangels. Remarks and references to Appendices.
	11		Quiet day.	
	12.		Quiet day. A soccer match was played between 12 & 24 Squadrons. 12 Squadrons the winners.	
	13.		Quiet day	
	14.		a very dusky day. Nothing to report.	
	15.		a fine day. 1st Lt Watson visited the Squadron. Lt Jordan tried to loop a P-51 & get into an inverted spin. The Observer Lt Wiseman bled out & landed safely by parachute near the airfield. Lt Jordan managed to right the aircraft & came into to land, but the tail wheel collapsed being fouled by the observers hatch. Lt Jordan made under flow arrest.	

X

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	15.		a Tennis tournament was played between the officers of this Squadron & No. 12. & they stayed over for a well prepared dinner & party which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. There exists a very fine spirit of co-operation between the 2 Squadrons.	
	16.		Operations - Nil Lt Col Rademan the new CO arrived here.	
	17.		Quiet day. Operations. Nil a very warm day. Heat almost unbearable.	145.
	18.		Operations Nil. Another very hot day. Operations. Nil.	
	19.		a Quiet Day. Operations - Nil.	
	20.		a Wellington crashed near our aerodrome.	

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	21.		but the crew escaped unhurt. Colonel Welmost of 38 wing visited the Squadron & inspected the camp & messes. Very pleased with the cleanliness & organization. 7 of our trucks left for O.K. U.	Operations - Nil.	
	22		Quiet day	Operations - Nil.	
	23		Quiet day	Operations - Nil.	
	24.		Quiet day	Operations - Nil.	
	25		Quiet day. Received the following & 4 enemy bombers came over to bomb the Wellington airbase. No bombs dropped on this landing ground.	Operations - Nil.	
	26		Major Trudwell visited the Squadron.	Operations - Nil.	

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	27.		Quiet day - Operations - Nil	
	28.		Quiet day - Another enemy air attack on Wellingtons. Operations - Nil.	
	29.		Quiet day. Another air raid. Many bombs dropped on Wellingtons but no direct hits. Operations - Nil.	
	30.		Quiet day - Major van Rensburg & Captain J. Veevers left by air for L499 for Detonon to Alverton. Operations Nil.	

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OF-VAN
No 24 Squadron S.A. Air Force.

Van/From *1. 5. 42*

(Band/Volume.)

Ass/To *31. 5. 42.*

Plek. Place.	Datum. Date.	Uur. Hour.	Opsomming van voorvalle en inligtings. Summary of Events and Information.	Opmerkinge en verwysings na aanhangsels. Remarks and references to Appendices.
<i>Et Aaba + Ber-el. Bahwa</i>	1.		<i>a Very dusty & bad day. 7 Air Gunners & 3 Observers posted to the Squadron. Operations - Nil -</i>	
	2.		<i>a Fine day. 6 bombers left K.G. 21 for O.K.G. One aircraft overshoot runway in taking off & ran into the culc. no damage or injuries sustained. Our Raid alarm sounded at 21.45 hours & a few minutes later 4 enemy aircraft overhead & dropped flares all round our aerodrome. 11 bombs were dropped on the west side of the landing ground but no damaged caused.</i>	
	3.		<i>Another fine day. Nothing to report. Operations - Nil.</i>	

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	4.		a Very dusty day. 1 Aircraft proceed to O.F. on account of conditions. An enemy Recon aircraft seen over aerodrome at a very great height. Operations - Nil.	unable to
	5.		a Fine day. Swimming parades in the afternoon organised. A body of an unidentified R.A.F. Sergeant found on the beach. Matter reported to the Town Major Daba, who made the necessary arrangements for burial & report to the authorities concerned. Operations - Nil.	bad weather
	6.		10 Aircraft returned to R.F. 21 from O.F. 4. Aircraft are getting crowded off as they are	

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			<p>sitting at Bahura for days without a thing to do. They are all dying to go on operations & we hope that they will get a target in the near future.</p> <p>Operations - Nil</p> <p>7. Lt Col Rademan flew to H.Y. 99 to start night flying practices. Notion considered suitable for night operations without a flame-trap. 3 crews also started training on seaward reconnaissance.</p> <p>Operations - Nil</p> <p>8. A fine day. An raid alarm sounded at 21.00 hrs. One enemy aircraft came over and dropped a stick of bombs on Daba Station. A further 2 enemy aircraft came over & one was</p>	

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	9.		<p>Shot down by Aja of the Wellington Squadron Operations - Nil. A clear day. 4 aircraft left for O.K.G. in the morning & 4 in the afternoon. Last night's Raid on Elzaba Station caused a lot of damage. An ammunition train & petrol dumps were hit. One enemy aircraft was shot down. The whole crew killed. Sgt. Ken. Featherbarrow arrived for to give instructions for Sawana Reconnaissance work. 2 aircraft proceeded over the sea at 14.00 hrs & returned at 16.00 hrs.</p>	
	10.		<p>Operations - Nil A quiet day. Nothing to report. Operations - Nil</p>	

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	11.		a Fine day. Sea training continued. One aircraft picked up by Jumbo at Alex causing some confusion. Aircraft returned safely. Operations - Nil.	
	12.		a clear day. Two boats proceeded on sea training & observed one oil tanker & 3 smaller boats which were reported.	
	13.		a Fine day. 9 aircraft left for O. V. C. Operations - Nil.	
	14.		a Fine day. One of 12 Squadron's aircraft made a belly landing. Unsuccessful. Busy making preparations for reception of Lt Col Woodhall Dumb on 15/5/47. It was decided that the show to held at 12 ¹⁵ Squadron but that 21 Squadron to supply the	

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	15.		<p>Guard of Honours. a 100 selected men received rifle training for this occasion. Difficulties experienced in obtaining rifles & bayonets.</p> <p>Operations - Nil</p> <p>The great day has arrived. Everyone is walking around in their "Sunday" suits awaiting the arrival of our Field Marshal. The Guard of Honours was formed up at the edge of the Avenue. The remainder of the Squadron was formed up in a square on the Squadron where a platform & loudspeaker was erected. At 16.45 hours the aircraft arrived escorted by fighters. Just before their arrival 7 of our bombers departed.</p>	

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			<p>from O.K. The Guard of Honour commanded by Major de Plessis was inspected by the Field Marshall accompanied by the G.S. & High Commissioners. After the inspection he was driven over by car to deliver his speech & messages to the boys. The Field Marshall congratulated the Air Force for the fine work they've done & success achieved. At 17.15 hours after three cheers from all of us the Field Marshall departed for No. 99. Photographs of the event are enclosed. In the morning 12 Bostons proceeded on a raid over a wadi in T'nnini area. The formation encountered heavy AFA over the target</p>	

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			<p>but no damage sustained. The bombing results were very poor, all bombs fell wide of target. Our heavy fighter formation was engaged by our own Aja (Bombers). Operational report enclosed.</p>	<p>The bombing results were very poor, all bombs fell wide of target. Our heavy fighter formation was engaged by our own Aja (Bombers). Operational report enclosed.</p>
16.			<p>a few days. a signal received from ANA that bombing of both Squadrons are very poor & that intensive bombing training be carried out immediately. Bombing practices carried out during the morning & afternoon on Fuka Hots. Operations - Nil.</p>	
17.			<p>Clear Day. Both bombing & sawance practices carried out. Operations - Nil.</p>	

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	18.		a clear day -	Drinking & hand practice
	19.		continued. Operations - 11d. a fine day. Received a message from 3 wing to prepare for a push. To get everything in readiness. He visited visited the squadron to explain the procedure to be adopted. The Squadron is to be divided into 3 parties. A & B. parties to move forward & must be able to service & maintain 14 aircraft at forward landing ground. C. Party comprising Administrative, Ty & a Sections, the main repair Section for wings repairs. A Schedule of personnel & equipment required for each party	

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			<p>was drawn up & submitted to C of 3 SA. Wang for approval (Copy attached) Bombing & seaward practices continued.</p> <p>Operations - Nil.</p> <p>20. a Quiet day. Phone message from 3 SA Wang to the effect that the advance party to move tomorrow morning to Ba. Bahua. Bombing & seaward practices continued.</p> <p>Operations - Nil.</p> <p>21. a Fine day. In the morning 6 Porters under the leadership of Major Williams proceeded on a raid of a camp in a wadi at 785409. The formation succeeded in securing a few over the target & four aircraft secured stragglers but of minor importance.</p>	

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	22		<p>Boatbuilding results were very good. Arctic report enclosed. At 14.4. all preparations for the convoy have been made. At 14.00 hrs the convoy of 12 vehicles under Lt Duncan moved off. Movement order enclosed.</p> <p>a Fine day. In the morning 9 bombers under the leadership of Major Williams proceeded on a high level boatbuilding raid on bomb dispersal area Kwerbeba. Observed 13 single & 15 twin engine aircraft in the dispersal areas. The bombs were dropped in sticks of four & all fell in the target. Heavy after five encounters on return flight, 4 aircraft slightly damaged. Enemy fighters</p>	

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			<p>attacked our fighter escort. Two enemy fighters were shot down & one of our fighters failed to return. Bombing for the day considered good. At 21:00 hrs a few minutes later 4 enemy aircraft came over & dropped flames, a few bombs were dropped in the vicinity but no damage caused. Troops flying practice commenced at 19:00.</p> <p>a clear day. In the morning 9 porters under leadership of Major Williams proceeded from O.K. on a bombing raid of dispersed aircraft on Banca Sabellere Ais de scene. Bombing results. 31 bombs fell in target area.</p>	<p>Two enemy fighters were shot down & one of our fighters failed to return. Bombing for the day considered good. At 21:00 hrs a few minutes later 4 enemy aircraft came over & dropped flames, a few bombs were dropped in the vicinity but no damage caused. Troops flying practice commenced at 19:00.</p> <p>a clear day. In the morning 9 porters under leadership of Major Williams proceeded from O.K. on a bombing raid of dispersed aircraft on Banca Sabellere Ais de scene. Bombing results. 31 bombs fell in target area.</p>

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	24.		<p>3 bombs fell in camp & 2 in wadi near H.Q. 3 Direct hits on Stakas observed. Two fires observed. Heavy APC fire encountered but no damage caused. (Berne report attached) At Base the air raid alarm was sounded & 2 eja came over & dropped planes & a few bombs but without causing any damage. Operations. Nil. At base the air raid alarm was sounded at 21:00 hrs & shortly afterwards 4 enemy aircraft came over & dropped planes all round the landing ground & camp. One aircraft dropped 2 x 500 lbs & 1 x 2500 lbs bomb on the edge of the east side of the aerodrome</p>	160

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			<p>near our dispersed aircraft. received holes from strapping. Another aircraft dropped 4 bombs also heavy stuff on the east side of the camp, but no damage was caused. Another aircraft dived over the camp & dropped 17,500 lbs 15 yds from the CO's tent, 25 yds from the Adjutant's tent & quite close to the Officers mess. Nobody was injured but a few vehicles ^{4 tents} suffered badly. Everybody were badly shaken but their morale remain good. One or two details suffered from shell shock, but otherwise things are all right.</p>	<p>4 Aircraft of Muse bombs, a stick of 4 bombs on the east side of the camp, but no damage was caused. Another aircraft dived over the camp & dropped 17,500 lbs 15 yds from the CO's tent, 25 yds from the Adjutant's tent & quite close to the Officers mess. Nobody was injured but a few vehicles ^{4 tents} suffered badly. Everybody were badly shaken but their morale remain good. One or two details suffered from shell shock, but otherwise things are all right.</p>

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	25		<p>a Fine day. a search party was sent out to look for unexploded bombs & they found a few lug ones, which were reported to the bomb disposal squad. Another air land alarm was sounded & enemy aircraft came over & dropped planes & bombs all round us without causing any damage.</p> <p>Operations - Nil.</p>	
	26		<p>a Fine day. Another visit from Jerry but without any damage. These air raids are becoming a nuisance & are called "Nusana Raids".</p> <p>Operations Nil.</p>	
	27.		<p>Fine day. a few bombs were dropped.</p>	

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			around us, but causing no damage. Operations - Nil.	
	28.		12 Bostons under leadership of Capt Berkus proceeded from O.H.G. at 12.30 hrs on a raid of enemy concentrations south west of Roudinon. The target was attacked from North to South in loose formation, individual bombing. All bombs fell on target area & several fires were observed. For full report see enclosed sortie report. All our aircraft returned safely. At base another air raid but no damage caused.	
	29.	11.45	12 Bostons under leadership of Lt Col. Rodman D.F.B. proceeded on a raid on enemy concentrations	

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			<p>South of E. Yohi + Ben Hachiam. Very little activity observed & the whole formation returned with bomb load. Report enclosed. At base air raid is becoming a real nuisance, no damage caused, but playing on the nerves. Monall + Spool good. That Captain Venster promoted to Major. 12 Bombers under leadership of Major Venster proceeded on a raid of enemy concentrations of tanks & M.T. at A.P. 380 425. The following results were observed. 7 Lives started, several direct hits & numerous near misses on M.T. & Tanks. Bombing results considered good.</p>	<p>Very little activity observed & the whole formation returned with bomb load. Report enclosed. At base air raid is becoming a real nuisance, no damage caused, but playing on the nerves. Monall + Spool good. That Captain Venster promoted to Major. 12 Bombers under leadership of Major Venster proceeded on a raid of enemy concentrations of tanks & M.T. at A.P. 380 425. The following results were observed. 7 Lives started, several direct hits & numerous near misses on M.T. & Tanks. Bombing results considered good.</p>

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		21.00.	<p>Sophie Report enclosed.</p> <p>8 Bostons under leadership of Lt Col Radman proceeded on a night raid to bomb shipping in Derna Harbour. This is the third raid carried out by us on that day. Bombs were dropped in the Harbour but no direct hits claimed but near misses were observed. Heavy anti aircraft were encountered over the target after the first bombs were dropped. One of our aircraft was attacked by a enemy night fighter but was shot down in flames by N° 94535 (confirmed). Another aircraft received a hit in the port engine but the pilot managed</p>	<p>165</p>

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			<p>to fly on over the sea on one engine & turned inland near Beuna when the other engine cut & he was forced to land at PP 515389. The pilot was knocked unconscious on landing but received no injuries. The observer sustained a fractured wrist & minor facial cuts. The Gunners escaped uninjured. Particulars of the crew are as follows.</p> <p>Crew:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 103552 Lieut. M. Butler Pilot. 103852 ~ G. Vesque Observer. 26418 Avt Sgt Kap. B. Avt Gunner 205434 ~ Berkowitz Avt Gunner. 	
			<p>Of the above operation another aircraft</p>	

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			<p>failed to return a new news Aircraft Boston 7 2176 103453 Kumb. Lt. Morrow " 102223 " Lt. Waking Palmer " 406145 Sgt. Kepray J.M. Anderson " 21202 Avt. Sgt. King E.S.</p>	<p>are available Plak. Messing " " " " These were the first casualties or suffered during the present push. The necessary parade signals have been sent. Major Williams unable to proceed on these operations suffering from sore eyes, but left for C.H.Q. this morning to resume operations. Lt. Anderson an observer has been grounded as he is frightened of flying & has been sent to the medical branch for accommodation</p>

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	30.	11.45 A.M.	<p>Explosions under leadership of Major Paul Col J.A. Radmann proceeded on a raid to bomb Putrekening tanks & m.T. at P.P. 353413. (Individual bombing) The formation encountered severe air over the target but no damage was caused. All bombs fell in the target area. For full particulars see enclosed Serbie Report. At base Gene is carrying on with his nuisance raids without causing any damage. The wireless & ground personnel are having a very busy time but are carrying out parts of duties to wear Sabotage. Major and the Captain visited the Squadron at O.H.</p>	

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	31.	1300	6 Bostons under leadership of Major Beacher proceeded on a bombing raid on enemy tanks and M.T. in Et-Gobi & Bar. Machine area. Tanks & M.T. were dispersed & several direct hits observed but mostly near misses. For full particulars see enclosed sortie report.	
		2200	4 Bostons under leadership of Major Radman D.F.C. proceeded on a night raid to bomb dispersed aircraft on Markuba No 3 landing ground. (Inadequate bombing). Toxic gas fire & searchlights encountered over the target but without any damage. Most of our bombs fell in the target.	169

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		0330.	<p>4 one four started. Tall details Sortie report.</p> <p>4 bombers under the leadership of Capt Lichtenburg proceed on a night raid to bomb the water point at T. Mimi (Individual Bombing). The 14 searchlights bladed observers. The formation encountered heavy AFA over the target. Bombing successful. One large four started by first strike. One bomb fell within a few feet from a AFA Post. Sortie report attached. At baseERRY is still carrying on with his nuisance raids. Two signals of congratulations & appreciation</p>	in attached

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			<p>Received from the A.C.G. 40pc 3 SA amsig for the good work rendered by all ranks. Copies attached.</p>	
			<p><i>J. P. Major</i> <u>Adjutant General</u></p>	

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L.G. 21 + Bon. d. Bahura	1.		At base we were paid another visit by enemy aircraft but no damage was done. Flares & bombs were dropped all round us. Operations - Nil.	
	2.		Another air raid at L.G. 21. A number of bombs were dropped but no damage caused. Operations - Nil.	
	3.		4 Bostons under leadership of Capt Hase proceeded from Bahura on a bombing raid of dispersed aircraft on Berua area. Bombs were dropped in and around the target area. All aircraft returned after having been forced at by two enemy fighters. At base we were given a rest by Jervis & were able to spend a restful night.	172

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	4. 02.15		<p>which we all thoroughly enjoyed. 7 Borchers under leadership of Major Ventur proceeded on a bombing raid on dispersed aircraft at Denna Main Airfield. Bombs were dropped in the target area but owing to poor visibility no results were observed. One aircraft returned with 3 hung up bombs due to failure of electrical system. High altitude fuel encountered. All aircraft returned safely. At base we experienced a severe air raid. Flares & bombs were dropped around & over us but no damage was caused. Morale & spirit of air crews & ground staff very high. A severe dust storm blew all day but cleared up in the evening</p>	173

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	5.	0305	Our Squadron is now being used for night bombing. It has proved to be very satisfactory. 2 Boston units first proceeded on a raid over Derna Main Airbase. Bombs dropped in 4 near the target. No results observed.	
	04.25.		6 Boston units under leadership of our Commanding Officer Lt Col J. Rademan proceeded on a bombing raid of an enemy strong point at Hill 182. Target to be bombed before 05.30 hours. Results of bombing very good & we were congratulated by our Army on our high standard of bombing. One of our aircraft was attacked by an enemy fighter but through evasive action the pilot continued for 100 rounds, took him off.	17A

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			<p>All aircraft returned safely except one who landed at an adjacent aerodrome due to shortage of petrol. The armoured & ground staff are performing their duties in a highly satisfactory manner under difficult conditions. At Bas Jerve is a regular visitor with his nuisance bombing raids. The last part of the night are spent in sleep trenches. Quite a number of anti-personnel bombs were dropped but no damage caused. 6.13.50. 9 British main leadership of Major Williams occurred on a bombing raid of armoured M.T. and Tanks. The formation returned due to poor visibility & low clouds</p>	

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	6	1730	<p>Major Williams took off again with 9 Portons to bomb dispersed M.T. & Tanks at P.P. 368413. Bombing results considered good. 2 Direct hits one fire & several near misses were observed. Heavy & fairly accurate fire encountered over the target, but no damage caused. The engines of one of our aircraft cut & the pilot did a steep spiral dive which caused the one airman to bail out, without having received instructions to do so. He landed safely in our lines. The pilot managed to land at our aerodrome. Another aircraft returned with his panel being on fire. They managed to extinguish the fire.</p>	<p>with 9 Portons at P.P. 368413. 2 Direct hits one fire & several near misses were observed. Heavy & fairly accurate fire encountered over the target, but no damage caused. The engines of one of our aircraft cut & the pilot did a steep spiral dive which caused the one airman to bail out, without having received instructions to do so. He landed safely in our lines. The pilot managed to land at our aerodrome. Another aircraft returned with his panel being on fire. They managed to extinguish the fire.</p>

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			In spite of these two mishaps the raid was very successful. Another musard raid covered out over H. 21 but without causing any damage.	
	7. 10. 20.		A Boston under leadership of W. C. Rademan proceeded on a raid of a concentration of M. T. and Tanks at PP. 364101. Bombing results very good. Two direct hits & several near misses observed. One of our aircraft was attacked by a ME 109F which broke through our fighter escort. It was driven off by one of the our numbers who fired 150 rounds.	
	1630		A Boston led by W. S. K. Blake proceeded to bomb concentration of 500 M. T. at 364115.	177

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			<p>This was a rather unsuccessful raid as the heavy bombs hung up due to electrical failure & consequently no bombs were dropped except one with good results. The formation returned with bombs to landing ground. The nuisance raids at Hls 21 are becoming a real nuisance & it is about time that we get some heavy & light anti aircraft guns to defend the aerodrome. Heavy bombs dropped all round us without results.</p> <p>8 Boston lead by Major Williams proceeded to bomb a concentration of M.T. & Tanks at PP 375408. near Knightbridge. All bombs dropped in target area with good results.</p>	

8. 11.30

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			<p>Several fires started, many aircraft hits and several near misses were observed. One very large fire started which could be seen 10 miles away. One aircraft returned with engine trouble. At 18.21 we had another air raid but no material damage was inflicted. A couple of delayed action bombs were dropped.</p> <p>9. A search party was sent out to look for unexploded bombs & found four very heavy ones about 1000 kilos & also an unexploded case of anti personnel bombs in the vicinity of the camp & landing ground. These were reported to the Bomb Disposal Squad.</p> <p>Operations - Nil</p>	

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	10	2015	5 Bombers lead by Major Vanster proceeded on a night raid to bomb dispersed aircraft on Deona Main Airbase. All bombs fell in the target area with good results as the surprised attack enabled the pilots to concentrate on the target undisturbed. Bombing results concerned good. At 9.24 the evening is carrying on with his mission raids without causing any damage. Lots of flames were dropped over & around us, but no bombs.	
II.			18 Bombers under leadership of Major Williams proceeded to bomb a concentration of M.T. at PP. 365419 and 363417. All bombs fell in the target area with remarkable results.	180

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			<p>This was one of the outstanding raids carried out by this Squadron. Bombing results as follows were accompanied by the army 83 tons started & many near misses observed. The formation encountered heavy AFA fire & many aircraft holes but no serious damage caused. All aircraft returned safely.</p> <p>1925. 9 Bostons under Capt Halse proceeded to bomb M.T. on Sugar Capuzo Head. All bombs fell in the target area with good results & we were again congratulated by the army on our high standard of bombing. The ground staff maintain a 100% serviceability which is very excellent. At R. 21 the runway</p>	181

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			<p>Retaliated & we experienced a very severe air raid by 11 B 25 bombers at approx. 22.00 hours. About 15 planes were dropped over & around us. 18 Heavy bombs were dropped through the camp but we suffered no casualties. One bomb hit & set alight two E.P.P. Tents used as a M.T. Store & workshops. The whole area was now lighted up by the fire & planes. One aircraft came back & dropped four bombs through the camp near the fire. In spite of the bombing our fire crew proceeded to the scene of the fire and succeeded in extinguishing same after about half an hour. The damage caused</p>	<p>182</p>

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			<p>was considerable as all our tent spaces & equipment were destroyed. Our ground defence opened fire but without results as the aircraft was out of their range. A bomb was dropped between two tents in the domestic quarters damaging a lot of private property. Everybody was badly shaken but their morale & spirits remained high. I contacted the Station Commander & also Mr. Martin with a view of obtaining Civil Aircraft Guns for protection as the bombing was becoming dangerous & might result in severe damage & casualties. He promised to take the matter up with the Authorities concerned.</p>	<p>183</p>

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	12.		<p>A Search party was again sent out & found 5 delayed action bombs close to some of our aircraft.</p> <p>This was a second day for our Squadron as no less than 9 sorties were carried out at regular intervals as depicted hereunder.</p> <p>06:30. 6 Boston's under Major Conster bombed M.T. on Fugh Capuzzo Road. Unfortunately the formation had to return due to bad weather conditions.</p> <p>06:45 6 Boston's under Capt Halse bombed a concentration of M.T. at Pt. 418408. All bombs fell in the target area. Lots of near misses, but no fires observed. Very little if any fire over target.</p>	

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	07.10.		6 Bostonian Major Williams bombed a concentration of M.T. at P.P. 418408. All bombs fell in the target area & two fires started, several near messes & three aircraft hits were observed. All own aircraft returned.	
	07.10.		4 Bostonian Major Venster bombed a concentration of M.T. at P.P. 418408. Several near messes & seven aircraft hits scored. Bombing considered very good.	
	11.14		6 Bostonian Capt Stalae bombed M.T. at P.P. 418408 with good results. One large & 4 small fires started & many near messes observed.	
	12.07.		9 Bostonian Major Venster bombed M.T. at P.P. 417402 with excellent results.	

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			All bombs fell on the target area & several near misses were observed. All aircraft returned.	Several near	
		14:20	9 Boston under command of Major Rademan proceeded to bomb MT at PT 377406 on the west side of the road. All bombs fell in the target area, three fires were started & many near misses observed. A few fire over the target was very light & no damage to any aircraft. The formation observed a few tank battle in progress at PT 402415 and 406412.		
		14:53	4 Boston under Major Webster bombed MT at 412400 with good results.		
		19:00	12 Boston under Major Williams as leader bombed MT at 412406 with excellent.		

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			<p>Results. No fire started but many birds missed observed in all our counts for the length area. All our coverage was very safe. This was the end of a most successful day. A very busy in spite of the heavy days work were slipping in high spirits. The ground staff performed their duties during our presence with utmost accuracy & satisfaction as can be seen from our continuing results. All areas are now still being scanned by the insurance firms. Keep all areas open for our we started a new day. All areas are now no targets were available under case that afternoon. At 20.15 hours began</p>	

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	14.		<p>took off with 9 bombers to bomb dispersed aircraft on Berna main landing ground. The formation encountered severe & heavy anti aircraft fire but dropped their bombs with good results, in fact the whole dispersed area was covered with bombs & several four were started & many near misses occurred. All our aircraft returned safely. At base we spent a quiet night with no storms overhead. a very bad day & we were unable to proceed on any operations owing to severe dust storms. Nothing of importance to report. At Base a minor air raid was experienced without any results</p>	188

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This was the place
 on 16th according
 to 3 SAFF logs
 Daily Intelligence Summary
 WDAF

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	15.	1108.	9 Bostons under Major Williams proceeded to bomb about 150 M.T. at PP. 415407. Two fires, several man houses & some aircraft hits were scored.	
	15.	1815.	8 Bostons under leadership of Maj Vanster bombed M.T. at 400405 & 402402 with very good results. All bombs fell in the target areas, four fires started & many man houses. The formation attacked the Spaniards of the column of houses & M.T. The formation encountered severe but inaccurate & light & heavy fire over the target but no damage caused to our aircraft which returned safely. At base nothing of importance happened.	189

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	16	13:00	6 Bombers under Major J. B. Rademan, bombed M.T. at 424405 and 420404 with good results. The target was considered poor as all vehicles were well dispersed but all bombs fell in the target area & two fires were started.	
		17:00	11 Bombers under Captain Wake bombed dispersed M.T. at 424408 with excellent results. 4 fires started, several aircraft hits & many small fires were observed. Light A/C gone over the target.	
		22:00	At Base we experienced a number of severe raids by 4 enemy bombers. Flares & bombs were dropped above & around us but no damage was caused.	

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	17.	600	9 Bostons under Major Williams bombed 400 well dispersed M.T. at H22408 with good results. All bombs fell in the target area, two large fires, two small fires & several near misses observed. A few over target lights.	
		400	9 Bostons under Major Conster bombed dispersed M.T. at H18408. One large fire started visible 30 miles away & 8 near misses observed. Bombing for the day considered good. The last formation was followed all the way back by enemy fighters but we suffered no losses. Our advance party returned back from San el Bahina to H.Q. 07. We were unable to fly our aircraft away from Bahina & it was consequently	191

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	18.		<p>damaged so that it could not be used by the enemy. In spite of our withdrawal the spirit & morale of everyone remain very high & they carried on with more determination to defeat the sea. At base nothing of importance happened. We were busy organizing everything, at 1407 but no operations were carried out that day.</p>	
	19.		<p>All crews on standby but no targets available & consequently no operations were carried out. The movie film unit arrived & took photographs of Col. Karaman's briefing all crews for a raid, mechanics repairing aircraft & numerous bombings.</p>	192

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	20	1200	<p>9 Boshous under M Col Kadunan bombed MT concentrations with good results. All bombs except 3 fell in the target area & one large fire was started a number of small fires & several near misses seen. Anti aircraft fire over the target was light & all our aircraft returned safely.</p> <p>6 Boshous under leadership of Major Spencer bombed enemy Tent & MT. concentrations with good results. All bombs fell in target area & 4 small fires started. At daylight. At base we experienced another severe raid by 3 or 4 enemy night bombers but no damage or casualties caused. At Barton our "I" Officer recommended for promotion</p>	

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			<p>to Captain for excellent work rendered during our present operations. A number of pilots & observers were also recommended for awards of the D.F.C. A number of the ground staff & were nominated for recommendation for some recognition of their services rendered. Weather left us abundant. So far the Squadron has been extremely lucky & has had no casualties during the current month. Thanks to our good fighter protection.</p> <p>21. 18.00 9 bombers under leadership of Major Webster bombed concentrations of enemy tanks & W.T. with excellent results. 1 large fire visible for 60 miles & 4 small fires started.</p>		

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		2000	3 Boshous under Mloc Radaman bombed M.T. on the road to Pandia at dusk. One fire started & one of our aircraft came down to 60 ft & ground straggled but flames not observed. At Pand nothing of importance happened.	
	22.2000		Another dusk show was carried out by Mloc Radaman with 10 Boshous. Bombed enemy transport on the Tobroek - Pandia road. Several fires were started but it was considered to late to see the traffic clearly. The formation encountered heavy fire north of Gambut but no damage was caused to any of our aircraft. & they all returned safely.	

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	23.	11:30.	<p>11 Bostons under leadership of Major Venster bombed concentrations of enemy tanks & M.T. with good results. All bombs fell in the target area & 13 direct hits, one very large fire & 20 near misses were observed. Afa fire over the target was very light and inaccurate.</p>	
	700		<p>11 Bostons under Major Rademan proceeded to bomb concentrations of enemy M.T. at 460368 & 490317. Bombs fell among dispersed M.T. but owing to bad weather conditions results not observed. Afa fire over the target very light & inaccurate. At Base nothing of importance happened & we had a few placid nights.</p>	

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	24.	300.	10 Bostons under Major Williams bombed and dispersed enemy transport at 545315 with good results. One fire started many near misses observed. No a/c fire.	
		400	10 Bostons under Major Oerscher bombed a concentration of enemy transport at 605304 with very good results. One fire was started, many near misses & 30 aircraft who were observed. A/c light over target.	
		400	3 of our Bostons accompanied 9 aircraft of No 12 Squadron on a raid of U.T. concentrations. Results good. A/c fire light. One fire was started & numerous near misses scored.	
		2000	6 Bostons under Captain Hale bombed air	

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	25.		<p>enemy column advancing towards Napruks. The formation bombed & ground stopped a long column of vehicles with good results. At base nothing to report.</p> <p>The Squadron has for the last 2 days been operating from A.G. 21 having withdrawn from A.G. 07. The Squadron is now very active & started operating from early in the morning until late in the evening.</p> <p>9 Bostons under Major Rademan bombed enemy transport column at 605328 with excellent results. Two prizes, one direct hit & many near misses seen. No 2nd prize</p> <p>6 Bostons under Major Williams bombed enemy</p>	

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			<p>Column advancing on Matruh with good results. Two bombs dropped on H tanks, one fire & many near misses seen. We experienced some difficulties with refuelling owing to unsupplied bowsons but that was soon overcome when we procured 2 more refuelling bowsons.</p> <p>1300 6 Bostons under Major Venker bombed enemy transport advancing on Matruh with excellent results. Two fires, one direct hit & many near misses seen. On none of these raids did we meet with any fire.</p> <p>1500 6 Bostons under leadership of Capt Halse bombed large concentrations of enemy M.T. advancing east along the railway line to Matruh.</p>	

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Reference: - **AIR 27 - 298**

To : 12, 24, 223 Squadrons, 3 SAAF Wing
From : A.H.Q. (W.D.)
Date : 26/6/42.

PERSONAL FROM A.O.C. TO ALL SQUADRON COMMANDERS

"Congratulations from us all on record day's bombing. Your attacks clockwise with the Wellingtons have been going on for almost 48 hours non-stop causing definite damage to the enemy and must be slowing him down. The ground-work of personnel has been outstanding and I hope you are all proud of the way the Hun has been hit. Well done."

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[Faint, illegible text on a separate piece of paper, possibly a memo or report fragment.]

Datum. Date.	Uur. Hour.	Opsomming van voorvalle en inligtings. Summary of Events and Information.	Opmerkinge en verwysings na sahangsels. Remarks and references to Appendices.
		<p>All bombs fell in the target area with good results.</p>	
	1700.	<p>9 Bostons under Lt. Blake bombed 300-400 M.T. at 663242 with good results. Two fires, a number of aircraft hits & many near misses seen. No other fire. This was the end of a very busy day but every body was pleased with our good bombing results.</p>	
Le 21.	26	<p>This was another record day for our Squadron as no less than 6 raids were carried out as indicated hereunder.</p>	
	0730	<p>8 Bostons under Lt Col K. Rasmussen bombed 150 Japanese vehicles at 674343 with good results. Two fires & several near misses seen.</p>	

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K.G. 21	26	0930	7 Bomben under Major Williams banded concentration of 1000 M.T. at 678313 with excellent results. Eight direct hits & many man misses scored.	
		1130	8 Bomben under Major Visser banded long column of M.T. & tanks from 653325 to 665325 with good results. All bombs fell in the target area & one direct hit & 7 man misses scored.	
		1330	9 Bomben under Capt Stakel banded 100 to 500 indifferently dispersed Stationary M.T. with good results. One fire & many man misses scored.	
		1530	7 Bomben under Mr Stakel banded well dispersed M.T. in 662342 with fair results	

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			<p>Several direct hits & three near misses were observed.</p> <p>1130 to 1140 to 1150 to 1200 to 1210 to 1220 to 1230 to 1240 to 1250 to 1300 to 1310 to 1320 to 1330 to 1340 to 1350 to 1400 to 1410 to 1420 to 1430 to 1440 to 1450 to 1500 to 1510 to 1520 to 1530 to 1540 to 1550 to 1600 to 1610 to 1620 to 1630 to 1640 to 1650 to 1700 to 1710 to 1720 to 1730 to 1740 to 1750 to 1800 to 1810 to 1820 to 1830 to 1840 to 1850 to 1900 to 1910 to 1920 to 1930 to 1940 to 1950 to 2000 to 2010 to 2020 to 2030 to 2040 to 2050 to 2100 to 2110 to 2120 to 2130 to 2140 to 2150 to 2200 to 2210 to 2220 to 2230 to 2240 to 2250 to 2300 to 2310 to 2320 to 2330 to 2340 to 2350 to 2400 to 2410 to 2420 to 2430 to 2440 to 2450 to 2500 to 2510 to 2520 to 2530 to 2540 to 2550 to 2600 to 2610 to 2620 to 2630 to 2640 to 2650 to 2700 to 2710 to 2720 to 2730 to 2740 to 2750 to 2800 to 2810 to 2820 to 2830 to 2840 to 2850 to 2900 to 2910 to 2920 to 2930 to 2940 to 2950 to 3000 to 3010 to 3020 to 3030 to 3040 to 3050 to 3100 to 3110 to 3120 to 3130 to 3140 to 3150 to 3200 to 3210 to 3220 to 3230 to 3240 to 3250 to 3300 to 3310 to 3320 to 3330 to 3340 to 3350 to 3400 to 3410 to 3420 to 3430 to 3440 to 3450 to 3500 to 3510 to 3520 to 3530 to 3540 to 3550 to 3600 to 3610 to 3620 to 3630 to 3640 to 3650 to 3700 to 3710 to 3720 to 3730 to 3740 to 3750 to 3800 to 3810 to 3820 to 3830 to 3840 to 3850 to 3900 to 3910 to 3920 to 3930 to 3940 to 3950 to 4000 to 4010 to 4020 to 4030 to 4040 to 4050 to 4100 to 4110 to 4120 to 4130 to 4140 to 4150 to 4200 to 4210 to 4220 to 4230 to 4240 to 4250 to 4300 to 4310 to 4320 to 4330 to 4340 to 4350 to 4400 to 4410 to 4420 to 4430 to 4440 to 4450 to 4500 to 4510 to 4520 to 4530 to 4540 to 4550 to 4600 to 4610 to 4620 to 4630 to 4640 to 4650 to 4700 to 4710 to 4720 to 4730 to 4740 to 4750 to 4800 to 4810 to 4820 to 4830 to 4840 to 4850 to 4900 to 4910 to 4920 to 4930 to 4940 to 4950 to 5000 to 5010 to 5020 to 5030 to 5040 to 5050 to 5100 to 5110 to 5120 to 5130 to 5140 to 5150 to 5200 to 5210 to 5220 to 5230 to 5240 to 5250 to 5300 to 5310 to 5320 to 5330 to 5340 to 5350 to 5400 to 5410 to 5420 to 5430 to 5440 to 5450 to 5500 to 5510 to 5520 to 5530 to 5540 to 5550 to 5600 to 5610 to 5620 to 5630 to 5640 to 5650 to 5700 to 5710 to 5720 to 5730 to 5740 to 5750 to 5800 to 5810 to 5820 to 5830 to 5840 to 5850 to 5900 to 5910 to 5920 to 5930 to 5940 to 5950 to 6000 to 6010 to 6020 to 6030 to 6040 to 6050 to 6100 to 6110 to 6120 to 6130 to 6140 to 6150 to 6200 to 6210 to 6220 to 6230 to 6240 to 6250 to 6300 to 6310 to 6320 to 6330 to 6340 to 6350 to 6400 to 6410 to 6420 to 6430 to 6440 to 6450 to 6500 to 6510 to 6520 to 6530 to 6540 to 6550 to 6600 to 6610 to 6620 to 6630 to 6640 to 6650 to 6700 to 6710 to 6720 to 6730 to 6740 to 6750 to 6800 to 6810 to 6820 to 6830 to 6840 to 6850 to 6900 to 6910 to 6920 to 6930 to 6940 to 6950 to 7000 to 7010 to 7020 to 7030 to 7040 to 7050 to 7100 to 7110 to 7120 to 7130 to 7140 to 7150 to 7200 to 7210 to 7220 to 7230 to 7240 to 7250 to 7300 to 7310 to 7320 to 7330 to 7340 to 7350 to 7400 to 7410 to 7420 to 7430 to 7440 to 7450 to 7500 to 7510 to 7520 to 7530 to 7540 to 7550 to 7600 to 7610 to 7620 to 7630 to 7640 to 7650 to 7700 to 7710 to 7720 to 7730 to 7740 to 7750 to 7800 to 7810 to 7820 to 7830 to 7840 to 7850 to 7900 to 7910 to 7920 to 7930 to 7940 to 7950 to 8000 to 8010 to 8020 to 8030 to 8040 to 8050 to 8100 to 8110 to 8120 to 8130 to 8140 to 8150 to 8200 to 8210 to 8220 to 8230 to 8240 to 8250 to 8300 to 8310 to 8320 to 8330 to 8340 to 8350 to 8400 to 8410 to 8420 to 8430 to 8440 to 8450 to 8500 to 8510 to 8520 to 8530 to 8540 to 8550 to 8600 to 8610 to 8620 to 8630 to 8640 to 8650 to 8700 to 8710 to 8720 to 8730 to 8740 to 8750 to 8800 to 8810 to 8820 to 8830 to 8840 to 8850 to 8900 to 8910 to 8920 to 8930 to 8940 to 8950 to 9000 to 9010 to 9020 to 9030 to 9040 to 9050 to 9100 to 9110 to 9120 to 9130 to 9140 to 9150 to 9200 to 9210 to 9220 to 9230 to 9240 to 9250 to 9300 to 9310 to 9320 to 9330 to 9340 to 9350 to 9400 to 9410 to 9420 to 9430 to 9440 to 9450 to 9500 to 9510 to 9520 to 9530 to 9540 to 9550 to 9600 to 9610 to 9620 to 9630 to 9640 to 9650 to 9700 to 9710 to 9720 to 9730 to 9740 to 9750 to 9800 to 9810 to 9820 to 9830 to 9840 to 9850 to 9900 to 9910 to 9920 to 9930 to 9940 to 9950 to 10000 to 10010 to 10020 to 10030 to 10040 to 10050</p>	
	27.		<p>The bombing results for the day considered of a high standard. The Squadron maintained a 95% serviceability, thanks to our reliable ground staff, who worked very hard. The rear parties of our Squadron have moved to R.G. 97 & we are preparing to</p>	203

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			<p>move the balance of the Squadron to R. 497 as a result of the enemy advance on Mena Matruh. In spite of morning we carried on with operations & bombing the enemy.</p>	
		640	<p>9 Bombers under Major Williams bombarded enemy column advancing on Matruh. One fire, 5 direct hits & several near misses observed. A few lights.</p>	
		1510	<p>12 Bombers under Major Weston bombed dispersed M.T. on the campment at 670325 with excellent results. Fuel tanks, many direct hits & several near misses were scored. Bombs blew target to pieces.</p>	204

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	28.		<p>The enemy was now too close & we left K.G. 21 to K.G. 97. The aircraft left that afternoon & the convoy early the next morning. We left no equipment behind.</p> <p>We have just arrived at K.G. 97 & 11 aircraft are being prepared to go on a raid. K.G. 97 considered un- suitable for operations & we were in- structed to use K.G. 99.</p>	
	2030.		<p>11 Boshers under our O.C. Fred Radman proceeded on a night raid to bomb landing grounds OS & 121 now occupied by the enemy. Bombing results unobserved but considered good. All our aircraft returned.</p>	205

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			<p>We are experiencing difficulties in obtaining fuel ration, water & fuel, owing to congestion caused by the withdrawal. In spite of all these drawbacks & severe dust storms the morale & spirit of everyone remain high & the ground staff are carrying on magnificently.</p> <p>Rear party comprising main repair workshops, T & G stores proceeded in convoy to Mt. Bis on our new B.V.G. we experienced severe dust storms & were unable to proceed on operations until it cleared up.</p> <p>2028. 6 Postons under Major Williams proceeded on a night march to town</p>	

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	30.		<p>Concentration of M.T. on Sollum Barrage Road. Bombing results unknown but considered to be good. All our aircraft returned safely.</p> <p>Received instructions to move from N.Y. 94 to N.Y. 99. I found a nice camp site with 3 brick buildings for messes, I carried out the move during a severe dust storm.</p>	
	0920.		<p>9 positions under major German bombs concentration of 1500-2000 Stationing M.T. and tanks between road & railway. with excellent results. 5 tanks, many direct hits & 20 man messes were seen. Very little life & no enemy life encountered.</p>	207

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			<p>This is the beginning of another very busy day for our Squadron under extremely difficult conditions.</p>	
		1200	<p>3 Bostons under Capt Halse bombed 200 to 300 M.T. on main road in the Daba area. One direct hit & several near misses scored.</p>	
		1300	<p>7 Bostons under Major Williams bombed concentration of Sabonemy M.T. on main road in Daba area with excellent results. All bombs fell in the target area & five direct hits & several near misses were observed.</p>	208
		1500	<p>9 Bostons under MacRae bombed enemy concentrations on escarpment.</p>	

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Aan/To

Plek. Place.	Datum. Date.	Uur. Hour.	Opsomming van voorvalle en inligtings. Summary of Events and Information.	Opmerkinge en verwysings na aanhangels. Remarks and references to Appendices.
			<p>One bomb fell in a concentration of 20 trucks but the truck undamaged due to dust storm. One of our aircraft crash - landed due to aerial collision in dust storm but no one was hurt. The aircraft crash landed about a mile south of A.4.99. We've come to the end of a most successful month for this Squadron apart from our losses. We've been extremely lucky as we suffered <u>no</u> casualties during the month, thanks to our good fighter work. The morale & fighting spirit of everyone was high as can be expected. The health of the men, good.</p> <p><i>Major</i> Major J. J. [unclear] Staff.</p>	

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Reference:- AIR 27 - 298