

302 (Polish) Squadron

Fighter Command records state at Fairlop

19 August to 20 September 1943

ORB's state: from Perranporth

19 August to 21 September 1943



Aircraft

Spitfire Vb & Vc (not specifically mentioned otherwise)

Some text difficult to read.

AA730, AA730, AA909 (lost 8 September 1943), AA928, AA928 (lost 8 September 1943), AB374, AB812, BL600, BL748, BL848, BL905, BM409, EE600, EE617, EE618, EE626, EE642, EE679, EE683, EP130, EP227, EP346, EP362, EP363, EP558, KE600 KE662, KE 679, KP346, KP362, KP546, KP558, KP558, W3605, W3623, W3631, W3823,

Pilots

Andersz, S	F/O	
Baranski. W	S/Ldr	
Bednarozyk, K	Sgt	
Benzinski, K	F/Sgt	
Brzeski, T	P/O	
Brzeski. S	F/O	
Bzowski, J	F/Sgt	
Czarnecki, Z	F/Sgt	
Durys, J	Sgt	
Ebenrytter. E	F/Lt	
Gierycz, C	F/O	
Gladych, B	F/Lt	
Gretkierewicz, W	F/Sgt	
Jaszczak, M	F/Sgt	
Jedliczko, B	P/O	
Kanick, R	Sgt	
Krajewski, J	P/O	
Krzystofinski, J	Sgt	Shot down by flak north of Bethune. Pilot safe and rescued by ASR. (Claimed but not mentioned in ORB)
Kwiatkowski, T	F/Sgt	
Lanowski. J	F/Sgt	
Loska. E	F/Sgt	
Lucyszyn, E	F/Sgt	

Maciejewski, S	Sgt	
Malinowski, B	W/O	Shot down by a fighter 18 September 1943. Pilot safe, evaded capture.
Muth, B	F/O	
Nosowski, S	F/Sgt	
Nowak, C	P/O	
Olender, R	Sgt	
Pietrzak, A	Sgt	
Powierza, T	F/O	
Rogowski, J	F/Sgt	
Rzyski, T	F/O	
Sniec, C	P/O	Shot down by a fighter 18 September 1943. Pilot safe, evaded capture.
Sowinski, S	Sgt	
Wardzinski, E	F/O	
Zak, W	W/Comdr	
Zdzitowiecki, T	F/O	
Zeindalski, J	F/Sgt	

Notes. (

The narrator starts most days at 0800 with a weather report. In this document, to avoid repetition, this is shown for the month of August unless the weather is extreme.)

19 August 1943. At 1240 hours, 10 A/C were airborne (from Perranporth) to our new home at Fairlop, landed at 1410 hours.

20 August. 0800. Weather fair to fine, wind light, S to SE increasing from 10 to 20 mph. Cloud small amount visibility 2 – 4 miles. Sector recce and formation flying were practised most of the day. Pilots settling down in their new surroundings. Non-op flying 10hrs 5 mins 9 sorties.

21 August. 0800. Weather very wet, visibility 2/4 miles. Non-op flying 24hrs 55 mins 23 sorties.

23 August. 0800. Weather good occasional thundery showers. At 0740 hrs, 12 aircraft airborne acting as escort cover to 23 Mitchell Bombers attacking St. Omer Marshalling yards. (Ramrod 214)

24 August. 0800 Weather fine. Visibility 6 miles. At 1730 hrs, 12 A/C airborne acting as escort cover to 72 Marauders. No Combats. Diversion near enemy coast. Landed at 1915 hrs.

Operational times 21hrs. 12 sorties. Non-op 19hrs 2mins. 23 sorties.

27 August. 0800 Weather fair WSW 10/15 mph. Cloud 5 to 8/10ths at 2,000 ft, visibility 6/12 miles. At 0650 hrs 13 a/c airborne to Redhill landing at 0710 hrs. At 0830 hrs Squadron airborne acting as Escort cover to 18 Boston's attacking Beaumont Le Roger A/F. (Airfield) Ramrod 5.6 Part 1v. Land at Fairlop at 0945 hrs. At 1335 hrs Squadron airborne acting as escort cover to 60 Fortresses attacking St. Omer a/f. Ramrod 5.8. Landed at 2005 hrs.

Operational times. 7 hrs 45 mins 24 sorties. Non-op 21hrs 20 mins. 35 sorties.

29 August. 1245 hrs. 4 a/c did a Rhubarb over France (Yvetot) attacking 2 goods trains in a siding.

30 August. 1830 hrs. 11 a/c airborne acting as escort cover to 36 Marauder Bomber bombing an ammunition dump in a forest N of St. Omer. (Ramrod No S.14)

31½ (sic) August. 0630 hrs. 10 a/c airborne acting as escort cover to 36 Marauder bombers bombing factories near Bethune, France. Ramrod No. S.16. Landed at 0810 hrs.

1 September. 0830 hrs. 12 a/c led by S/Ldr Baranski airborne from Manston, but operation cancelled.

2 September. 1800 hrs. 12 a/c were airborne acting as escort cover to 30 Marauder bombers attacking Lille A/F's – Ramrod S 24 part I. Landed at 1920 hours.

3 September. 0815 hrs. 12 a/c airborne acting as escort cover to 36 Marauder bombers bombing targets at Beauvais (Lille). – Ramrod S.26. Landed at base at 10:15 hours. 1245 hours. 13 aircraft airborne acting as escort covers 12 Venturas bombing target is the Forêt d'Eperlecque (Forêt d'Eperlecques near St Omer) – Ramrod S.27 part II. Landed at 1350 hours. 1700 hours. 14 aircraft airborne acting as escort cover to 7 Marauder bombers bombing targets at Hazelbrook (Hazelbrouck, Belgium) – Ramrod S.28, but were recalled and operation cancelled at 1720 hours.

4 September. At 0820 hours Squadron of 14 aircraft were acting as close escort to 18 Mitchell bombers bombing target is Z435 near Rouen. Landed at 10:10 hours. 1430 hours 30 aircraft airborne acting as escort to 18 Mitchell bombers attacking targets south of Boulogne. Landed at

1530 hours. 1745 hours. 12 aircraft airborne acting as a school cover 236 broader bombers attacking Hazelbrucke (Hazelbrouck, Belgium) airfield. Landed at 1915 hours.

5 September. 0740 hours 12 aircraft were airborne acting as close escort to 7 Marauder bombers attacking targets at Ghent (Gent, Belgium). Landed at 0930 hours.

6 September. 0640 hours 12 aircraft airborne as escort cover but operation was cancelled owing to U/S weather conditions and they returned 07:05 hours. 13 aircraft were airborne acting as escort cover to 72 Marauders attacking marshalling yards at Amiens. Landed at 1900 hours.

7 September. 0745 hours. 14 aircraft airborne acting as escort cover to 72 Marauder bombers attacking targets near Arras. Landed 0940 hours.

8 September. 0835 hours. 12 aircraft airborne acting as escort cover to 72 Marauders attacking targets at Lille/Nord. Landed at 10:10 hours, minus 2 aircraft, W/O Malinowski and P/O Sniec having been lost in enemy combat (i).

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| (i) | W/O B. Malinowski | Spitfire V AA928 Shot down by a fighter. Pilot safe, evaded capture. |
| | F/O Sniec | Spitfire V AA909 Shot down by a fighter. Pilot safe, evaded capture. |

1705 hours. Squadron airborne acting as a medium cover to 18 Mitchell bombers attacking targets near Boulogne – Ramrod S.42. Landed 1845 hours.

9 September. 0935 hours 30 aircraft airborne on beach patrol over Boulogne as operation exercise.

1215 hours 11 aircraft airborne for convoy patrol and air sea rescue.

1715 hours. 13 aircraft airborne as escort cover but were recalled in 1800 hours.

11 September. 1300 hours. 'A' flight at readiness, 'B' flight 15 minutes.

1600 hours 30 aircraft airborne acting as Escort cover to 21 Mitchell bombers bombing targets at Rouen - Ramrod S216 part 1.

12 September. No flying due to u/s weather.

14 September. 1300 hours Squadron at readiness. 1645 hours 11 aircraft airborne acting as close cover to 36 Marauders bombers bombing Woensdrecht, Holland. (Woensdrecht, North Brabant, The Netherlands) – Ramrod 218. Landed at 1805 hours.

15 September. 1700 hours. 13 aircraft airborne close escort to 72 Marauder bombers bombing Merville A/F. Ramrod 220. Landed 1840 hrs.

16 September. 1730 hrs. 12 a/c airborne acting as escort cover to 18 Mitchell bombers attacking targets at Serquex. Ramrod 223. Landed at 1915 hrs.

18 September. 0950 hrs. 14 a/c airborne as close escort to 72 Marauder attacking Beauvais A/F. Landed 1150 hrs. 1635 hrs. 13 aircraft airborne as close escort to 72 Marauder bombers attacking Beaumont –le-Roger, Ramrod 230 - but they were recalled 15 miles from the French coast landed Fairlop at 1745 hrs.

19 September. 1645 hrs. 12 a/c airborne acting as escort cover to 12 Mitchell bombers bombing Lievin (Ammonia works) Ramrod 233. Landed at 1835 hrs.

20 September. Cloudy heavy rain at times.

21 September. 1556 hrs. Squadron airborne to their new aerodrome at Northolt.