

## MOSSIES SET RCAF RECORD

Edmonton Kites Strike At Munich Drome

In a surprise thrust that carried them further into Germany than any other RCAF Mosquitos have so far penetrated by daylight, two of the City of Edmonton squadron's aircraft recently blasted an air-drome in the vicinity of Munich. In their effort they damaged three and destroyed three enemy kites and returned safely to their base in Britain.

S/L R. G. Gray, Edmonton and Ottawa, with his navigator F/L N. J. Gibbons, DFC, Vancouver, led the sortie. F/L P. R. Brook, Hamilton, pilot and his navigator F/O A. D. McLaren, told them in the second aircraft.

The sortie, which established a distance record for RCAF Mosquitos, was made possible due to the fact that they were able to refuel at an advanced base in France.

"There was no opposition on the way over," said Gray, "and you might say the trip to the target was uneventful. We came in low over the target and as I swept by the airdrome I spotted an enemy kite coming in for landing. Phil Brook in his kite came in across the drome and got a burst in passing beneath the enemy. I swung around, let him have a squirt and he blew up."

"There were several kites on the deck," said Brook, "as we came over it and I let a burst go. One was taxied and blew up. We damaged two more. The whole operation was over in about three minutes, but it was an hectic three minutes. The flak was bursting around us. Gray had a tire blown, caught some in the tail plane and took another fragment in his mainplane."

## SPITFIRES SHOOT UP NEBELWERFERS

Italy.—Formation of six City of Windsor Spitfires led by S/L C. C. Kallio, DFC, Ironwood, Mich., recently bombed a nest of fast-firing German field pieces about 10 miles south of Rimini, scoring one direct hit and a very near miss with other bombs close to the target.

The aircraft dived from 8000 feet to 1500 to make the attack and followed immediately by a strafing attack in which all pilots scored strikes.

It is believed the attacks disabled all six of the Nebelwerfers. Medium to light ack-ack was encountered but only one machine was hit and the pilot, F/O James Wasylk, Toronto, nursed it back to base.

## Washington Pilot Finds French Furlough Hectic

RCAF Flier Visits Family Hunting Lodge, Enters Paris With U.S. Forces

F/L de la Paule, Washington, D.C., RCAF pilot with RAF Coastal Command, made his way to France on a 10-day leave, spent part of his holiday capturing four German soldiers and entered Paris with the American army of liberation.

### Busy Start

He hitch-hiked to Caen. He borrowed a bicycle, rode to his family hunting lodge and found the property undamaged. While pedalling alone down a road four armed Germans rushed out of a nearby wood and surrendered. He turned them over to the FFI.

Then de la Paule joined the American army of liberation and entered Paris. He booked a room in an hotel and was about to enjoy a meal when ordered to leave because the roof was occupied by Nazi snipers.

He slept all night in an armored car parked in a Paris side street, leaving the French capital the day General de Gaulle entered the city.

At a recent investiture this



His Eminence Cardinal J. M. Rodrigue Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec, last week visited the RCAF Wing of a plastic surgery hospital in England. He was accompanied by Air Commodore J. E. A. Charest and G/C W. V. McCarthy, principal RCAF chaplains. The Cardinal was received by W/C A. R. Tilley, OBE, Toronto, commanding officer and

chief surgeon of the RCAF wing. W/C Tilley is shown with the Cardinal and G/C McCarthy.

Among those patients with whom the Cardinal exchanged a few words were: F/L Paul Weber, Toronto; Sgt. Art Doyle, Ottawa; F/L Gerald Bernier, Montreal.

Cardinal Villeneuve visited England on his way to Rome.

(Official RCAF Photograph.)

## Gunner Earns Award For Saving Crewmate

MBE, Three DSOs Feature Impressive List Of Decorations for Canadians

For the rescue of a fellow crew member after their Baltimore broke in two when it crashed on the shore of the Adriatic near Termoli last May, W/O Donald Grant Brownlee has been awarded an immediate MBE.

Other members of the RCAF received three DSOs, 11 DFCs and three DFMs during the past week.

### Kite Spilt

## HIGH HONOR GIVEN WINNIPEG OFFICER

Air Vice-Marshal V. H. Tait, Winnipeg, high ranking Canadian serving with the RAF and Director-General of Signals at the Air Ministry since 1942, has been made a KBE and heads a list of seven men recognized by awards for their services in planning the Normandy landings.

Brownlee's kite was returning from a night reconnaissance operation when it crashed on a beach. The aircraft broke in two between the turret and the wireless operator's cabin. The front part caught fire. With the assistance of an army officer who happened to be on the beach, Brownlee climbed out of the turret.

Regardless of the risk of exploding petrol tanks they managed to extricate the WOP/AG and carry him clear of the exploding ammunition. One petrol tank blew up, but Brownlee returned to try and rescue the pilot. Owing to the fierceness of the fire he was forced to abandon the attempt.

### Fighter Attack

Members of a RAF crew, S/L William LeRoy Foote received the DSO and F/S Robert Alexander Smith the DFM for an action over enemy territory.

The aircraft captained by Foote with Smith as a gunner was attacked by an enemy fighter. The rear-gunner was killed and Smith was blown out of his turret into the fuselage. He returned to the turret. The rear of the fuselage caught fire, the light making the bomber an easy target for nightfighters.

Five more times the big kite was attacked. By brilliant evasive action and manoeuvring Foote put Smith in a position to return enemy fire. A Nazi fighter was seen to fall in flames.

Member of the Lynx night-fighter squadron, F/O Clarence John Kirkpatrick, observer, who shares four destroyed, receives the DFC.

S/L Geoffrey Wilson Northcott, DFC and Bar, adds the

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## BOMBER GROUP HEAVIES STRIKE THREE TIMES IN ALL-OUT CALAIS ATTACK

### WANTED!

Belgium—G/C Paul Y. Davoud, DSO, DFC, Kingston, Ont., moved his Typhoon dive-bomber wing into an airfield with a model-housing development attached and declared "It's like Old Home Week."

When he was CO of a Mosquito night intruder squadron in Britain, he and his men used to chase Jerry back to this fancy drome and destroyed many. He discovered, on his arrival, there had been a price of 1,000 francs offered by the German commandant to any gun crew to bring down a dreaded Mossie. The Nazi boss never had to pay off.

## CLOUD AIDS SUB ATTACK

A carrier pigeon, several pieces of wood and some whitish froth were all that visibly remained of a U-boat, after depth charges dropped from a Coastal Command Sunderland flying-boat with a part Canadian crew, had straddled the sub and blown its stern out of the water.

A RAF second pilot first spotted the enemy and the Sunderland closed in, descending under cover of a low layer of cloud. At the last moment the Huns saw the aircraft and the U-boat attempted to crash-dive.

Four Canadians among the crew were Sgt. J. R. Beck, Sardinia, B.C., third pilot, F/O R. H. Little, Victoria, B.C., navigator; Sgt. W. K. Weese, Ontario, AG; Sgt. E. Swanson, Big River, Sask., AG.

## TIFFIE CAB RANK DESTROYS HOUSE

France.—As pilots of a Typhoon formation attacked "a longish house on a by-road" during the battle for Boulogne, they were operating under the "cab rank" system and were in direct communication with Army officers.

F/L L. Victor Kirsch, Yorkton, Sask., led the formation on this particular attack.

"The army observation officers were very quick," he said on his return. "As soon as we appeared over the area they gave us our target. I went down and hit it with rockets and then called on the radio telephone: 'Was that the target you wanted?'"

"They replied, 'That's the one,' and the rest of the formation went down and banged their rockets into it. Then we went round again and sprayed it with cannon fire. All we could see was flying roof timbers and a great cloud of smoke and dust."

"The controller came on to the radio again to say, 'Nice work, boys. Thanks a lot,' which we all felt was ample reward for our efforts."

On the cab rank system aircraft fly up and down an area until ordered to a specified target by radio telephone.

## LA BELLE BRAWLE

Belgium—Dancing one recent week-end, for the ground crew of G/C G. R. McGregor's RCAF airfield, was some reward for the exhaustive job the men have been doing since the Second Front opened.

Sunday night was the senior NCO's big do, while the Saturday evening saw the airman and junior NCO's entertaining approximately 600 Belgian Belles.

German Defence Installations Take Pounding As Ground Assaults Mount Against Beleaguered Garrison

## SMALL RCAF FORCE HITS DOMBURG

Heavies of RCAF Bomber Group swung into the attack on Calais this week, following their contribution to the fall of Le Havre and Boulogne. Three times Group hammered targets near the key channel port, making the last two attacks on Sunday and Monday.

### First Blow

The RCAF assault opened the previous Wednesday when Group Lancs and Hallies joined with an RAF force to pound a target in the Calais area during the afternoon.

More German defence positions around Calais were hammered by daylight on Sunday. Despite a considerable quantity of light flak over the target, the low-level raid was pressed home.

Monday's blistering attack on the Calais garrison was carried out in part by a large force of RCAF bombers. The action came before noon.

On Saturday a small force of RCAF Halifaxes hit at Domburg. All Canadian aircraft returned safely.

The weather was bad for the Monday attack but the heavies delivered the punnelling on schedule, and from a low level. S/L F/S Marcel Arsenault, Bonaventure, Que., "The attack was delivered from such a low altitude that the Germans were using machine guns in a futile attempt to destroy the waves of bombers."

### Hit Fortress

"I saw our bombs dropping," he added, "and we hit our corner of the target, a fortress, causing two of the side walls to collapse."

The bombing was concentrated in a very small area in the Sunday attack. Said S/L Lou Nelly, DFC, Gifford, Ont., flight commander with the Bison squadron, "We were so low that the bomb explosions were banging on the bottom of the kite."

To Sgt. Jimmy Logan, Kenora, Ont. and Winnipeg, in the rear turret of a Lion kite, the bomb flashes looked like "polka dots" with the target area as a background.

The low-level bombers got excellent views of their work. F/O Dave Lynch, St. John, N.B., a Bison bomb-aimer, reported that two of his bombs blew up what appeared to be two oil tanks.

"We were at 2,000 feet and I

## SPITS BOUNCE MOB, GET ONE

Belgium.—The squadron led by S/L Charlie Trainor, DFC and Bar, Charlottetown, bounced between 25 and 30 FW 190s five miles west of Venlo recently, shot down one and damaged another without loss to themselves.

This ended a month-long search for a scrap with Hun aircraft for Canadian Spitfire pilots under W/C Dal Russell, DSO, DFC and Bar, Westmount.

The destroyed went to F/O R. M. Davonport, Russellville, Ark., while the damaged was recorded by Lt-Commander A. Wallace, member of the RN Fleet Air Arm and presently attached to Trainor's squadron. It was his first flight with the Canadians.

could see my bombs. There were two big orange flashes."

### Debris Plume

F/O Jack K. Smith, Toronto, saw the bombs of four aircraft going down. "Debris mixed with smoke came up about 1,000 feet when the bombs hit," is his report.

A Bison rear-gunner, F/S David Hodson, silenced one anti-aircraft gun. "At the height we were bombing from I could see it pooping light tracer flak up at our Halifax," he said. "I gave it one long burst and it didn't fire another shell."

Some of the Canadians who participated in the Wednesday attack are: W/C F. W. Ball, St. Thomas and Belleville, Ont.; F/L J. F. D. Bell, Belleville, Ont.; F/L Harold McVicar, Otterburne, Man.; F/L N. G. E. Nickerson, Fort William, Ont.; S/L W. R. Moseley-Williams, North Bay, Ont.; P/O Pete Engbrecht, CGM, Whitewater, Man.; F/O G. L. Craig, Fitzroy Harbor, Ont.; P/O W. T. Watson, Toronto.

## Navigator Plays Mole Role for Four Months

Sequel to four months of being alternately a fugitive from the Germans and a prisoner held by them came for F/O Leon Panzer, Toronto, navigator, when he and five USAAF officers were the subject of a tremendous ovation as Allied troops liberated Brussels.

Shot down over Belgium, Panzer parachuted into an agricultural area where he evaded search parties and after burying his chute hid in a pile of grain stocks. When the search parties moved away, Belgians supplied him with food. After removing all insignia from his uniform, he started a trek for France.

He travelled at night and slept in barns by day, fed by Belgian patriots. Arriving in a small town on the frontier, a French family fixed him up with civilian clothes and finally got him back to Belgium, where, with the aid of a frontier inspector, he was able to find refuge in a monastery.

He was moved to another village, where he spent two months, until he was supplied with an identity card and other documents and taken to Brussels, from whence he was to try to reach Switzerland.

"But somewhere in the chain was a traitor," Panzer recalls

fully. "We were betrayed to the Gestapo and then taken to Luftwaffe headquarters." From there he went to St. Geles prison in Brussels, where he was put in a cell with the five American officers. They were there five weeks.

Three days before the fall of Brussels the prisoners were put into a cattle car and an attempt was made to move them to Germany. Train movements were impossible, and the Germans finally set the civilian prisoners free but held the airman. They were three days in the cattle car.

When British artillery commenced firing on the train the guards ran for cover. Panzer and his companions broke out of the car and walked into Brussels. Here they found that some Allied tanks had been through the night before and that all Germans had left. They were hailed as the liberators of Brussels.



# A/G SUFFERS SEA ORDEAL

## Cornwall Flier Lives In Dinghy for 2 1/2 Days

Paralysed from the spine down and with a fractured pelvis, W/O Euclide Contant, Cornwall, Ont., WOP/AG with a RAF Liberator crew, spent 2 1/2 days in a two-man dinghy 150 miles at sea without water and with scanty rations. The Liberator crashed in the sea and broke up after being holed with flak while attacking a U-boat.

Contant, an Irishman and an Englishman were in the rear part of the plane when they ditched. Contant was the only one of the three to come through alive. He was carried down beneath the surface of the water and, in his own words, "swam up through the aircraft." They managed to salvage the dinghies from the wreckage, which might easily have been lost with the Lib.

"They were a God-send," said Contant. "We grabbed them as they came by, tied them together so that we wouldn't be separated, and two men got into each dinghy. Then we set sail for land, 150 miles away, using a compass and the little sails supplied."

"We would never have made it, of course. It was too far, the weather was too cold and we had only one package of emergency rations for each two men. We had no drinking water, though we tried to catch some when it rained. We suffered most from the awful leanness of the sea water, which kept coming over the dinghy side and soaking us where we sat."

At last they were sighted by a Liberator. Rations and a radio were dropped to them but unfortunately the rations broke up and were lost. So they had to put up with terrible thirst and hunger until a Catalina came to pick them up. Among the crew of the Cat was P/O L. W. McGuinty, Toronto.

# ACES HANDY WITH BLUNDERBUSSTOO

France.—The airmen of a Canadian fighter wing here are out game-hunting in the versatile little jeep. Within a radius of three miles of the camp the Canadians find partridge, pheasant and hare. Recently a tasty Sunday dinner of 60 partridge gave ample evidence that some of the officers are handy with a shotgun.

F/L Tommy Hoare, Winnipeg, is the ace marksman and W/C Johnny Johnson, DSO and two Bars, DFC and Bar, is not far behind. Johnson spends much of his free time in the fields with his black bird-dog, Sally. Others naming this sport in their list of pastimes are S/L H. W. McLeod, DSO, DFC and Bar, Regina, S/L Dick Whalley, Sydney, N.S., F/L Frank Ninton, Seba Beach, Alta., and F/L M. R. Sharun, St. Paul, Alta.



**HER SHOES HAD THEIR NUGGET**

*this morning!*

**THE SHINE for EXTRA SMARTNESS**

**SUPREME for QUALITY**

# SILENCED



An RCAF City of Windsor Squadron convoy, moving the unit to a new location in Italy, passes a German self-propelled gun lying in a ditch.

(Official RCAF Photograph.)

# PROPS POPULAR

Belgium.—The current fad among the girls in Brussels is that of wearing Allied badges. The RCAF's blue and white insignia has been noted on many a feminine shoulder, while brass buttons, polished to suit even a SWO, have also been prominent.

A casual census reveals that LACs have "suffered" more than any other rank, for the little prop insignia outnumbers corporals' or sergeants' stripes about five to one. Which, on second thought could be significant.

# KITE SENDS FIXES TO HELP HALIFAX

Two hours after they had abandoned their heavily damaged bomber, the seven-man crew of a Bison squadron Halifax, including four Canadians, were picked out of the Channel by a Walrus aircraft. They were transferred to an ASR launch and returned to this country.

Pilot of the RCAF Halifax was F/O J. M. Prentice, Toronto. The rear gunner was F/S J. C. Copeland, Dundalk, Ont., and the navigator, F/O T. A. Wilshon, Swansea, Ont.

The bomber was on the run into the target—a concentration of enemy guns at Boulogne—when flak rendered one engine useless, holed a fuel tank and set a wing on fire.

When the kite hit the water another Hally, from the same squadron, piloted by P/O Max Lavin, Winnipeg, circled over the crew while his WOP, F/O J. G. Munnoch, Smooth Rock Falls, Ont., sent out signals to enable the ASR service to pick them up.

# NEW FLYING CONTROL TOWER IS PUKKA JOB

France.—A far cry from the commodious control towers in England is the glassed-in compartment where the flying control officer keeps constant watch over a stream of fighter aircraft on a landing strip.

The compartment is a built-on section of a van, and is mobile. On the RCAF field commanded by G/C W. R. MacBrien, Ottawa, S/L R. C. Fisher, Toronto, handles the control officers' job. He has two assistants, F/L Ivan Tinkens, Orangeville, Ont., and F/O Lou Alde, Hardisty, Alta.

When the outfit arrived in France it had an up-to-date van, only one of its kind to cross the Channel at that time. S/L Fisher describes his compartment as a "pukka mobile job for field conditions."

# ERKS' REWARD

France.—There's excitement and speed everywhere, as the boys pour their energy into the job of moving their stations in the wake of the advance. The good news has shown the ground crews, who for years have slugged out a tough war, the direct result of their efforts. They're doing better than ever—and that's quite a job.

# WAR PRISONERS RETURN TO U.K. FROM GERMAN CAPTIVITY

## Swedish Liner Gripsholm Lands RCAF Fliers In Exchange for Enemy Wounded

Sixteen RCAF fliers arrived in England recently from Germany, part of the last group of injured and sick prisoners of war, in exchange for enemy soldiers held by the Allies. They returned on the liner "Gripsholm."

### Repatriates

Among the Canadians were W/O C. Lunny, Montreal; W/O H. J. Copeman, Toronto; F/S E. F. Seabolt, Cloverdale, B.C., and Edmonton, Alta.; W/O D. L. Thompson, Cornwall, Ont.; W/O J. S. Murray, Thorburn, N.S.; W/O A. J. Cockaday, London, Ont.; W/O J. L. Boyd, Regina, Sask.; W/O Tracy Hatfield, Yarmouth, N.S.; F/O C. E. Heggtveit, Ottawa; F/O A. M. Fellmer, Weyburn, Sask.; F/O H. H. Lee, Toronto; P/O H. A. Brown, Lumsden, Sask., and Trail, B.C.; P/O W. R. Matheson, Toronto; W/O J. H. Watson, Chilliwack, B.C.

W/O Lunny was shot down over Nuremberg in August, 1943, when his Halifax was knocked out by an enemy night-fighter. He lost a foot when hit with a shell, but managed to bail out and land safely near a village.

### Lit Fag

"First thing I did was to light a cigarette," Lunny said. "My left leg felt funny, as if it had a big pillow on the end of it, and then, when the match flared up for the cigarette, I saw what had happened to my foot. I panicked a bit. So I lit another match and had an inspection. It wasn't too bad and I calmed down."

"After a while I saw some German civilians going by and shouted to them. They were a little timid about it. They came towards me and stopped about 15 yards away, obviously afraid I might have a gun and start shooting. When they decided I wasn't too dangerous, they took me in to one of the cottages and looked after me until the soldiers came and took me in charge."

# FLYING OVER EUROPE AFTER PACIFIC TRIPS

S/L R. L. Bolduc, Dauphin and Port Arthur, after taking part in the war on one side of the world, is now taking part on this side as a flight commander with the Bison squadron.

Before coming overseas S/L Bolduc flew bomber reconnaissance kites over the Pacific from an Alaskan base, on the lookout for Jap subs. Prior to that he had hundreds of hours flying Venturas and Beauforts from Pat Bay and Sea Island. He had logged seven trips to targets in Europe when he was appointed a flight commander.

"The weather is much more favourable for flying over here than it was in Alaska," he said. "Sometimes for weeks on end we would be grounded because of fog. It closed in very quickly out there and quite often one had to make quick decisions in order to get back to base."

# OIL LINE KAYOED BY FLUKE SHOTS

Three million-to-one hits in the radiator of the rocket-and-bomb Typhoon he was flying in the assault on Germany's West Wall nearly ended the dive-bombing career of F/O Fred Wakeman, Weston, Ont.

He had just dived to rake some enemy transport with cannon fire when the instruments showed that the oiling system had ceased to function. He peeled away from the formation and began a long glide back to our own lines.

When Wakeman's kite was taken back to his base, three bullet holes, either from an enemy machine gun or German infantry rifle fire, were found in the radiator.

# FIGHTER PILOT GETS FRENCH HOMECOMING

France.—A Spitfire pilot from the Canadian prairies has the distinction of a homecoming on French soil. F/L Don Walz, Moose Jaw, recently visited a village where the townfolk accorded him a celebration he will long remember.

While attacking enemy aircraft on June 16, Walz found himself on the receiving end of fire from a FW190. He bailed out at 2,500 feet and landed in a field where he spent the night. The next day some French people, who had seen him come down, brought him food and civvy clothes. They kept him hidden until the Americans arrived to liberate the village.

When Don re-visited the little town he was accompanied by the squadron adjutant, F/O Claude Glover, Fort William, F/O Gordon Ockendon, Edmonton, and F/O Art Horrell, Windsor, Ont. "You'd have thought the war was over," remarked Glover.

# LETHBRIDGE ADOPTS BISON BOMBER UNIT

Official word has been received by the RCAF Bomber Group's Bison Squadron of its adoption by the City of Lethbridge. Notification arrived in a letter to the squadron commander, W/C Al Avant, DFC, Hughton, Sask., from Mayor A. W. Shackleton. The squadron was formed in November, 1942, and on August 27th this year completed its 2,000th sortie on four-engined bombers. This emblem, a line bison head presented by the CNR, occupies a place of honor in the officers' mess.

# DEPTH CHARGE DENTS DECK IN SUNDERLAND-SUB SCRAP

## Believe Blast Sinks Sub But Plays Havoc With Kite Crockery, Circuits

An RCAF Sunderland flying boat crew, led by F/L F. G. Fellows, Sarnia, Ont., scored a Coastal Command victory during a recent North Atlantic patrol when a depth charge dropped directly on to the deck of a U-boat and exploded with such force that it severely damaged the aircraft, knocked the rear gunner unconscious and threw another gunner from his seat in the astrolome. It is believed the U-boat was sunk.

### Spot Sub

The Sunderland crew were on escort duty with an Allied Atlantic convoy, during daylight, when F/L Fellows spotted what he believed to be a U-boat. As they headed for the target, this was confirmed by the second pilot, F/O Howard Niblett, Edmonton, Alta.

As the flying-boat approached, the enemy sub took evasive action and the Nazi gunners put up a box barrage of intense flak through which the Sunderland was forced to fly in order to press home its attack.

The aircraft was repeatedly hit as it lost height and roared down to the target. Its hull and wings were holed and its tail badly damaged. But hits were also scored all over the U-boat's superstructure when the Canadian gunners replied, firing 600 rounds from the front turret and 1000 rounds from the fixed gun in the kite's nose.

So accurate was their shooting that all enemy opposition was completely silenced by the time the Sunderland got near to its target.

### Dead Centre

As F/L Fellows brought the flying-boat over the sub, a stick of depth charges was dropped from an extremely low level and it was one of these charges that landed flat on the U-boat's deck. There was a violent explosion, so great that the force of it played havoc with the entire moveable contents aboard the Sunderland. Dishes and crockery, cooking utensils and even the floorboards were hurled into the air.

A quick survey of the damage caused to the aircraft showed that all electrical circuits had become unserviceable, the seams had opened and the port flaps would no longer work. The principal damage, however, was done to the elevator, which needed the combined skill and strength of both Fellows and Niblett to counteract its effect.

It was while the skipper and the second pilot were bringing the flying-boat under control that the RAF gunner regained consciousness and reported being able to see the U-boat, stern down and appearing to list. Then it disappeared and a few minutes later a large patch of light blue oil covered the ocean surface.

Other Canadians in the crew were F/O H. M. Calvert, Castle Point, Mon.; W/O J. A. Caslake, Chatham, N.B.; W/O S. A. Cowan, Nakusp, B.C.; F/S G. J. Stevenson, Kilburn, N.B.; and F/S J. Edwards, Regina, Sask.

# NINE BOMBER FLIERS FETE 740-TRIP TOUR

Nine young men, among them F/O Forbes Graham, Edmonton, an air-gunner, gathered in a Sussex hotel recently to celebrate the end of an operational tour on Mitchell medium bombers that brought their total of sorties to 740, an average of 82 trips per man.

Graham was the youngest of them all in operational experience, he had only 50 trips. Top man was S/L Leslie Spong, RAF, who has 109 ops.

# SPIT BOMBERS SLASH TROOPS

Italy.—Five City of Windsor Spit-bombers scored direct hits on 20 to 30 closely grouped buildings housing enemy troops and equipment in the town of Montescudo recently.

Led by F/L R. R. Evans, Kirkland Lake, Ont., the pilots jumped these infantry strong-points in the heart of Gothic line positions, dropping their 500 pounders from 2,500 feet. No anti-aircraft fire was experienced.

P/O T. R. Wilson, Toronto; W/O D. H. A. Mackay, Beverley, Sask.; F/L Dave Goldberg, Hamilton, Ont., and P/O J. M. Walton, Brandon, Man., were the other members of the team on this mission.

Later the same day the powerhouse quints added W/O A. D. Gibson, Toronto, to their team to pour a concentration of bombs on a railroad bridge near Castel S. Pietro.

Two direct hits were scored on the tracks south-east of the bridge and tracks on the south-east approach also received a direct hit. It is believed the bridge was damaged.

Machine gun posts and infantry strongpoints near Coriano were the objectives for a formation of six aircraft led by F/L T. P. McElhanney, Toronto, just before the bridge attack. Five bombs went into the target area from 3,500 feet.

# MASSEY VISITS RCAF AIRFIELD IN BELGIUM

The Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, High Commissioner for Canada, recently spoke over the BBC following completion of his tour of Canadian units in France and Belgium.

He said in part: "Last Sunday we flew to a great Belgian airfield occupied by the RCAF. A week before the Germans had been on that airfield and had obviously intended to remain there permanently. The airfield was strewn with derelict Heinkels and Messerschmitts destroyed by our air force."

"At noon I attended a conference where Typhoon pilots, as keen, resourceful and determined a group of Canadians as you could imagine, were briefed for the afternoon's work. Soon afterwards the air was screaming with Typhoons taking off in a seemingly endless stream."

"I saw, too, another Canadian monument that had been looked after single-handedly by a devoted Belgian. He told me that a few months ago, while he was at work, a figure in a dusty light blue uniform had emerged from the shrubbery. It was a Canadian pilot who, after being shot down, had been in hiding for three days. The gardener took grave risks to give him shelter and that pilot is now safe."

Northampton for Boots.

Dover for Soles —

Weston for Biscuits



P/O J. C. Christian, Nelson, B.C., navigator, and W/O E. K. Hall, Summerside, P.E.I., bomb-aimer, have been screened from further operations after completing a tour in which they were never attacked by enemy fighters and the most damage sustained by their aircraft was a couple of flak holes. Among their targets were such hot spots as Stuttgart, Mainz and the Ruhr Valley. They contributed to the laying of mines in enemy waters.

The excellent judgment of F/O L. R. Norton, Regina, Sask., saved the crew of a Halifax bomber when RAF Bomber Command attacked Nuremberg, the shrine of Nazism, and 94 Lancasters and Halifaxes plunged to destruction at the hands of enemy nightfighters and ack-ack. By smart evasive action, Norton managed to lose a FW190 that came within 50 feet of his kite, cannon and machine-guns blazing.

Both F/O Norton and his bomb-aimer, F/S Ken Murphy, Toronto, are now screened from operations. On one occasion, while attacking the Ruhr Valley, their kite was coned by searchlights for 23 minutes and badly smashed up by enemy flak, but they managed to get to base. On three different missions they have had one engine shot up, but have always reached home safely.

F/O Gibb Goucher, Nelson, B.C., pilot with a Stirling squadron, set out as part of the great airborne armada in the recent Holland landings, but he never reached the English coast. Without warning, his kite twisted over to port and started a spiral dive. The glider, which apparently had hit the slipstream and gone out of control, had dragged the tow ship's tail so much to starboard that she was momentarily uncontrollable.

The strain on the tow rope was too much and the glider broke loose, but landed safely in a corn field. F/O Goucher managed to pull the bomber out of the dive just a few hundred feet above the ground and brought it back to base. A few hours later the glider crew turned up, driving one of the jeeps intended for Holland. Flying with Goucher as tail gunner in the Stirling was F/O E. T. Williams, Vancouver.

Flying in a RAF Halifax, three Canadians, including F/Ss R. M. Kirkman, Edmonton, Alta., and G. D. Bruce, Winnipeg, emerged safely from their peppered kite which crash-landed with 188 flak holes. On a mission to German synthetic oil installations near Essen, they ran into a flak area 10 miles from the target which knocked out one engine and smashed the port aileron.

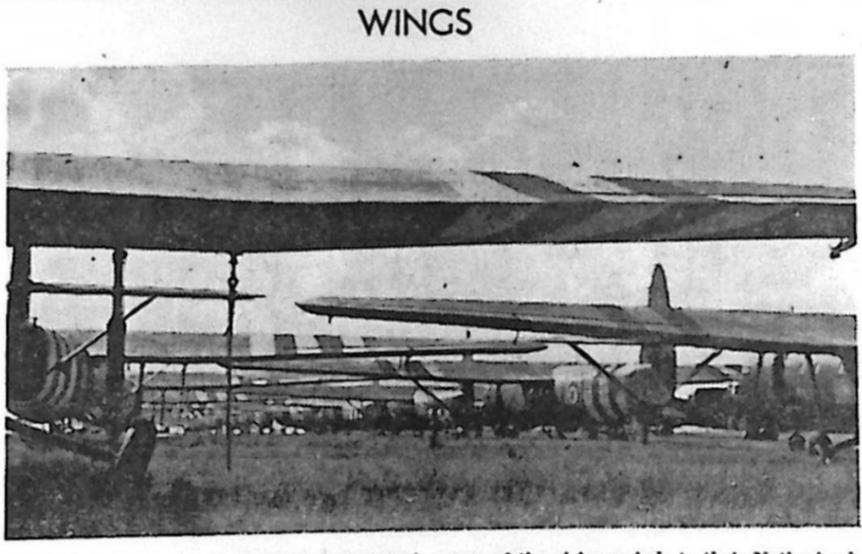
The pilot managed to make a flat turn to starboard to get into the bombing run and Kirkman, the bomb-aimer, gave the orders that kept him on a straight and level course until he had dropped his cargo on the target. The Halifax continued to lose height and as they crossed the enemy coast they were down to 8,000 feet. By the time they reached England they were at 1,000 feet. The hydraulic system was kayoed but the undercarriage came down by its own weight, also bringing the bomber down to 600 feet. Before losing any additional height they reached base.

**FLYING MOUNTIE CO OF SUNDERLAND UNIT**

P. J. Grant, Assiniboia, Sask., has been promoted to the rank of wing commander, and appointed officer commanding an RCAF Sunderland flying-boat squadron which operates from a base in Northern Ireland. In peace-time W/C Grant was a "flying policeman" and one of the most experienced pilots serving with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. His job was to fly up and down the Eastern Canadian seaboard searching for rum smugglers who were operating along the coastal areas of the Maritime Provinces. W/C Grant's favourite recreation is horseback riding. Now the former Mountie devotes most of his off duty hours giving free riding lessons to Canadian air-crews on his squadron, which operates a riding club of its own.

**NEW FLIGHT LEADERS ON THREE SQUADRON**

Six pilots of Canadian heavy bomber squadrons have been promoted to the rank of squadron leader and appointed flight commanders, it was announced at Group HQ recently. Heading the list is S/L Max Strange, DSO, Duncan, B.C., Lion squadron flight commander. S/L Lou G. Nelly, DFC, Gilford, Ont., assumes a similar position with the Lion squadron. Two new flight commanders have been appointed for the Moose squadron. They are S/L W. F. McKinnon, Winnipeg, and S/L W. C. McGuffin, Calgary. The Tiger squadron's new flight leaders are S/L Norman Loudoun, Victoria, B.C., and S/L A. E. Fentiman, Ottawa.



Parked row on row are the gliders that took many of the airborne lads to their Netherlands battlefield. (Official RCAF Photograph.)

**BEAVER BASE**

**Drew Visits Beavers**

Heading the list of visiting firemen recently was Colonel the Hon. George A. Drew, KC, Premier of Ontario. The Queen's Park boss, who was accompanied by Major J. P. S. Armstrong, Agent-General for Ontario in the U.K., arrived and departed by air. While here he was the guest of the base station commander, G/C Clare Annis, OBE, and attended an operational briefing and interrogation.

**New Chief**

The welcome mat is out for G/C J. L. Hurlley, who formerly commanded the station from which the Snowy Owl and Alouette squadrons operate. He has been appointed commander of bomber group's gen base.

Back from a siege with the medical department and looking fit as a fiddle is Winco Don Carr Harris. New arrival is Cpl. "Red" Cameron, who previously decorated O/S HQ. Local Woles were very disappointed to learn that "Red" has a husband on the base station.

Qualifying for her operational wings (cycling division) is LAW "Jennie" Jensen, Grand Falls, N.B., who is piling up an impressive total of pedalling hours.

Working a holiday through the MO is F/L "Huck" Walker, Thunderbird squadron adj. According to reports, his room at sick quarters resembles Frank Sinatra's dressing room.

Returning penguins this week, who brought joy to the hearts of some people hereabouts, were W/O Wally Morgan and Sgt. "Mac" McLean.

—Sgt. J. Gunn.

**TWO-BIT LUXURY**

Belgium—For the majority of Canucks at this base, commanded by G/C G. R. McGregor, OBE, DFC, Montreal, ice cream has been a thing of the corner drug store back home since they departed for overseas. But not since they came to Belgium.

Raisin pie and ice cream, strictly a four-color magazine advertisement since 1940, became a reality on mess tables. And strawberry flavoured at that.

Also obtainable on the outskirts of the field from civilians, with push-carts, the desert is more of a sherbet than true ice cream and vendors have as many flavors as Jack Benny. They sandwich the scoops between tasty wafers. Price? Roughly 25 Canadian cents for a helping the size of a baby's fist!

But it's cold and you don't have to take just vanilla.

**Women's Division**

A treat is in store on Friday next, October 6, for the winners of the RCAF House League softball, both sexes, and the runners-up. They are having a dinner, where the prizes will be presented, followed by a dance to the music of the RCAF band.

Leaves would seem to be the order of the day, now that autumn is here. The Isle of Wight was recently graced by the presence of two WDs and their husbands. Sgt. Jill and F/L Bill Blakeney of Nelson and Toronto respectively spent an enjoyable week there as did Sgt. Jeannie Inglis and husband Charlie.

Among the lucky girls who could visit home were LAW Lucelle Sparks, Aberdeen, and LAW Pat Young, Newcastle. Sgts. Louise MacBride, Victoria, and Marion McLeod, Winnipeg, went to the seashore.

Two of the girls spent their week in a more serious but evidently interesting way. LAW Helen Lee, a Montrealee, was the only Canadian girl attending the Oxford course last week, while LAW Anne Harrison, of Toronto, a schoolteacher in civilian life, was the first WD to go to University Hall at St. Andrew's, near Dundee. Having taught in Manchester on the exchange basis, LAW Harrison was more than pleased to have an opportunity to study teaching methods in Scotland.

A recent draft of WDs from Canada brought a number of medical clerks, among them Sgt. Mary Sinclair, of Perth, Scotland, and St. Catharines, Ont.; LAWs Doreen Pratt and Joan Williams, Toronto; LAW Evelyn Grace, of North Cobalt, Ont.; LAW Orlean Boroway, Prince Albert, Sask., and AWI Alma Wuori, of Rossland, B.C. Also included were three mechanical audit operators, Cpl. Dorothy Jared, Montreal, and LAWs Violet Eburne and Faith Marshall, both of Ottawa.

Sgt. Marjorie Carew-Gibson, Vancouver, is reported safely back in Canada.

**FOUR SCOTSMEN TO STICK WITH CRICKET**

During the RCAF softball tournament at Murrayfield, Edinburgh, an argument cropped up between four Scottish cricketers and some Canadian airmen as to the relative prowess of the players. Right then and there the Scotsmen took on a wager that each of them could clout the ball easily.

As expected, there were plenty of takers. The first two whiffed the ozone on three called strikes and the other two dribbled weak infield hits to the pitcher's box. The cricketers have decided to stick to their own game.

**IROQUOIS SQUADRON**

**Missing Men Turn Up**

F/O Dick Garrity, Verdun, Que., navigator, recently returned to the squadron after being missing on an operation against Sterkrade in Germany. Also back in Blighty after a spell on the missing list are F/O Wes Knowlton, Amherst, N.S., and P/O J. L. Leyne, Edmonton, Alta.

**FLIGHT LEADER FOR IROQUOIS SQUADRON**

Rising from pilot officer to squadron leader in 11 months, Frank Gullewin, Montreal, was recently promoted, and appointed to command a flight of the Iroquois Squadron.

A veteran heavy bomber captain now, with 31 trips over enemy territory behind him, Gullewin was no newcomer to flying when he enlisted. At Montreal's Curtis Reid Flying Club he learned the ways of planes, taking up Tiger Moths and Aeronaacs.

S/L Gullewin has weathered half a dozen night-fighter attacks and some flak damage in operational flights, but has always manoeuvred in time to avoid a real flying battle.

Characteristically he gives all the credit to his two RAF gunners, whose directions for evasive action, he says, have kept the fighters out-jockeyed every time.

**MASONS MEET**

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Frank Newson-Smith, will perform the ceremony at the installation meeting of Canada Lodge, No. 3527, to be held on Friday, October 27, at 3.45 p.m., in the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.2. Personnel of the RCAF are invited to attend and should communicate with the Secretary, Sir Ernest Cooper, PGD, Gillette Corner, Great West Road, Isleworth, Middlesex.

**Tours Over**

F/O Russ Dorland, DFM, Islington, Ont., has been screened from further operations after completing his second tour. Also screened, each with a tour in the log book, are F/O Fetherstone, Toronto, P/O Graham Brittain, Winnipeg, F/O Jimmy Hynds, Toronto, and P/O Renaldo Bianco, Kelowna, B.C. Fetherstone, Hynds and Bianco completed their ops in the squadron's veteran Halifax "X for X-ray." This dowager among bombers has a history of 46 sorties.

The squadron's favourite community, Simcoe, Ont., has come through with a new shipment of chocolate bars, gum and cigarettes. Besides thanking the town on behalf of every Iroquois man, F/L Bob Mickles, Toronto, adjutant, has a word to say from the CO, W/C Eric Mitchell, Wolfville, N.S., and the air crew.

"We think it only fair to share these donations with the ground crew. It is through their unrelenting and unpublicised efforts that the aircraft are maintained always in readiness for flight."

The ground crew have been doing so good a job that the station commander G/C Bobby Turnbull, DFC, AFC, DFM, Govan, Sask., has sent his compliments to them. The squadron is almost up to its 1,800th sortie, which is not bad for so young a unit.

The officers' mess is the latest spot to be adorned with the Indian head, the unofficial crest of the squadron. A profile portrait of the brave, complete with headdress, is painted on a shield, while underneath runs the Latin for "Spirit and Faith."

**SOFTBALL**

Six men's teams and two squads of WD softballers took part in the all-RCAF overseas softball championships held recently at Murrayfield Park, Edinburgh. Following is the list of players who took part.

No. 4 District: F/L D. H. Callaghan, c, Detroit; F/L S. Bruce, p, Brooks, Alta.; Sgt. T. C. Pearson, 2b, Montreal; F/O J. Moran, ss, Toronto; P/O H. Whitcombe, 3b, Toronto; F/L J. Vallance, lf, Atwood, Ont.; Sgt. G. Logan, cf, Chicago; Sgt. G. Hardwick, rf, Toronto; Spares: F/L J. K. Goldie, Regina; Sgt. E. Burns, Outremont, F/S E. Cunningham, Boston.

No. 6 District: Capt. J. Lebof, cf, Montreal; LAC Paul Kojochinski, p, Niagara Falls, Ont.; Sgt. F. Adams, rf, Winnipeg; LAC Tom Dickson, cf, Winnipeg; LAC Bill Jewett, 1b, Fredericton; LAC John Patterson, 2b, Toronto; LAC O. Davies, ss, Windsor; LAC M. Lamy, 3b, Montreal; LAC Jim Maxwell, lf, Windsor; LAC Bill McCarthy, c, Montreal; W/O Al Coldwell, Toronto, spare.

O/S HQ: LAC J. Popowski, rf, Montreal; W/O G. Artichuk, cf, Ottawa; Sgt. G. Alexander, ss, Vancouver; LAC W. Anderson, 1b, Parry Sound; Cpl. W. Streich, c, Arnprior; F/O A. G. Cochran, 2b, Leamington, Ont.; Sgt. K. L. Groves, rf, Stratford, Ont.; F/L R. E. McKibbin, cf, Ottawa; Cpl. H. G. McDonald, p, Vancouver.

**Male Winners**

PRC: F/O N. F. Maves, utility, Niagara Falls, Ont.; Cpl. J. P. Gordon, 2b, Toronto; Sgt. H. Moss, 1b, Brantford; Cpl. R. A. Ashton, ss, Montreal; LAC E. Buves, lf, Crowland, Ont.; Cpl. F. Falconer, 3b, Toronto; W/O C. J. Kelly, c, Kingsville, Ont.; Sgt. R. Rignall, p, Toronto; F/S Tom Whitney, rf, Toronto; F/S F. H. Thompson, p, Toronto; LAC L. Chimnoski, cf, Wilkie, Sask.; P/O J. L. Reid, p, Toronto; F/L R. M. Nicholson, mgr, London, Ont.

Bomber Group: LAC Irwin Stepak, lf, Toronto; LAC Arnold Tobin, 2b, Toronto; LAC Don Forrester, 1b, Regina; Cpl. Lorne Hutton, 3b, Hamilton; LAC Emile Genge, cf and p, Windsor, Ont.; Cpl. Bob Strickland, p, Peterborough, Ont.; LAC Andy Christie, ss, Toronto; Sgt. Jack McKellar, rf, Radisson, Sask.; LAC Harry James, 2b, Windsor, Ont.; LAC Ed Dalgety, lf, London, Ont.; LAC Ed McAvey, cf, Montreal; Cpl. Larry Lemaine, ss, Montreal; Cpl. M. Cook, c, Oshawa.

No. 3 District: LAC S. Chikofsky, c, Toronto; Cpl. J. Whiteby, 1b, London, Ont.; LAC J. Leduc, 2b, Farnham, Que.; Sgt. "Buddy" Hellyer, 3b, Montreal; LAC H. Bedford, ss, Montreal; LAC M. Lafleur, lf, Hull, Que.; Cpl. H. C. Jolly, cf, Toronto; Cpl. Paul Lemieux, rf, Three Rivers, Que.; LAC W. E. Crisp, p, Winnipeg; Spares: LAC J. Ratte, Farnham, Que.; LAC D. B. Switzer, Duff, Sask.; LAC D. Smith, Ottawa; F/L Stew Mitchell, mgr.

O/S HQ WDs: Cpl. Peggy Kayser, Montreal; LAW Mary Hall, Weyburn, A/S/O Norah Botterill, Rocanville, Sask.; Cpl. Olive McBride, Montreal; Cpl. Alice Dalgleish, Vancouver; Cpl. Eileen Moore, Saskatoon; LAW Edna Harrison, Lloydminster; LAW Pat Hogue, Vancouver; Cpl. Adele Grant, Sanford, Man.; LAW Violet Davidson, Tisdale, Sask.; LAW Elizabeth Archibald, Biggar, Sask.; Cpl. Marion Winter, Jedburgh, Sask.

**Lady Champs**

Bomber Group WDs: Cpl. Mary Harvey, Ottawa; Cpl. Alice Torpy, Calgary; Cpl. A. E. Savage, Brampton, Ont.; LAW Gertrude McKay, Balcarres, Sask.; LAW Edna Poulous, Holbright, Ont.; LAW Eileen Wall, Eston, Sask.; LAW Caroline Kemp, Edmonton; LAW Mary Hebert, Cornwall, Ont.; LAW Helen Boal, Almonte, Ont.; LAW Mildred Davies, Montreal; LAW Evelyn Smith, Dafoe, Sask.; LAW P. Fife, Hamilton; LAW Margaret Leitch, Kamloops.

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### INDIA

The sergeants' mess basha collapsed on Sgt. A. Tronsgaard, Saskatoon, Sask., the roof of the technical building looked as if it would be ripped off, and outside torrential rain was falling. Life of a radio mech. doesn't usually bristle with excitement in India, or anywhere else, but when a tornado hit one radio camp in the forward area of Assam, it was interesting to say the least.

#### Foiled

"The funny thing about the storm was that we knew it was coming but not with such force," said Sgt. John Greenaway, Winnipeg. "It was expected at 10 miles per hour, but it ripped down on us at something nearer 100."

Along with Tronsgaard and Greenaway and a group of mechs. was Sgt. Bob Hald, Saskatoon, Sask., all standing about the door of the cookhouse waiting for what might happen. When it did the building was roofless. The mechs. slept that night in lean-tos made from a collapsed basha wall, supported a few feet above the ground by short props. The men's quarters were in chaos, and they dug among the debris with their kukris—curved Gurkha war-knives.

This was Sgt. Greenaway's second experience of the barbaric side of the elements in the Indian war theatre. While stationed at Dimapur, in Northern Assam, terminus of the Manipur Road, he was awakened one night to find the basha shaking and his belongings tumbling down from the shelves. Next day he learned that Dimapur had been somewhere near the centre of what the met. people called a "seismological disturbance."

"It was just an earthquake to me," he grinned.

### RADIO ROUNDUP

Cpl. Fred Floud, Montreal, spending part of his leave in London and wondering how he can wangle the remainder of it here, gives a good report of the mechs at a South Wales APU. There are eight happy joes serving here under the boss, F/O Hoyt, Sydney, N.S.

The recent marriage of LAC Bill Ellis, Charlottetown, P.E.I., and LACW Phil Brooks, Bristol, means a living-out pass, and that's where the happy part comes in. LAC Les Hoss, Hamilton, Ont., has gone north to Glasgow on his first leave in England. Cpl. Joe Dupuis, Arnprior, Ont., has taken up the hobby of collecting precious stones. The APUs are a little puzzled as to how this is accomplished on a corporal's pay.

A recent posting from the section was LAC Jack Heslton, Vancouver, who has gone to Warwickshire. Other Canadians here are LAC "Doc" Livingston, Lindsay, Ont.; LAC George Downes, Toronto; LAC Art Strook, Winnipeg; LAC Del Valteau, Saskatchewan.

### WILTSHIRE M.U.

The WYM boys are on the leave rampage again. LAC Ken Spread has been in Torquay and LAC Al Pyatt in Paignton. LACs Al Loeble and Don Wilson are due for a holiday soon and Al is hoping to meet his cousins Bryan and Grieve in Edinburgh. Cpl. Joe May is just back from Bournemouth and "Vic" Vickery has been in London.

Recent visitors about here were Val Vallcourt and Cpl. Lawlie. Lawlie would like to hear from his UBC playmates, Al Gauthier and "Goldie" Goldsmith.

—LAC Louis Ziff.

### FINISH TOUR

Two Chinese-cooking connoisseurs, recently screened after a tour in Hallys, are bomb-aimer P/O Paul Verry, Norwood, Man., and navigator P/O Grant Yeoman, Toronto.

### WING POSTS NEW BOMBING RECORD

Italy.—One Desert Air Force wing here hit an all-time high recently in missions and sorties as aircraft hunted down enemy targets, of both major and minor importance, serving Kesselring in his defence of his Italy line.

The RCAF City of Windsor squadron had its biggest day by dropping 10½ tons of bombs in 44 sorties, and followed this up the next two days by flying 38 and 43 sorties respectively.

In the final phases of the Italy fighting the Allies are leaving nothing to chance. If the army suspects a village is harboring German troops or equipment, the call goes out for fighter bombers to scatter them.

Public buildings suspected of housing German guns or being used as observation posts have been on the victim list for the Windsor kites.

Vecellano was one village which got rough treatment when six City of Windsor aircraft scored five direct hits. Just in case the Germans should make use of a target previously bombed, four Windsor aircraft were detailed to finish off a buckled railway bridge south of Ferrara. A direct hit on the south-west end and another on the tracks to the north-east sagged the bridge in the centre, making it useless.

### CANADIANS RECEIVE AWARDS FROM KING

RCAF personnel were among those honored recently when His Majesty the King held his first investiture at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh.

The Bar to the DFC was awarded to F/L J. R. Hughes, Worthwood, Ont. P/O W. F. Beals, Vernon, B.C., was invested with the DFC. F/L R. E. Hart, Midland, Ont., received the AFC from His Majesty.

A Canadian in the RAF, F/O W. H. Holden, Winnipeg flight engineer, also received the DFC. F/L Hughes was accompanied at the investiture by his brother, LAC J. T. Hughes, mechanic in RCAF Bomber Group.

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### INTRUDER ANTICS

## Edmonton Kicks In

Pay parade, always an event in itself, recently had unusual glamour. Beside the flash bulbs of photographers and questions of the Press, the boys lined up for their parcels, and this was one queue no one seemed to mind. The City of Edmonton had again packed the post office with parcels for the lads.

#### Genii

What an enterprising squadron! From soup to bolts! Many of the lads fix bicycles, cars, yep, even aeroplanes. Now, besides bartering, games of chance, tin-smithing, welding, we possess the team of Bergman and parent, shingle and all, announcing their trade on site seven, "Fant Pressing Shop." Speedy service! Much speedier when broke!

Sgt. Kenworthy, finding that the hours of the air force do not quite agree with him, has suggested the mess hall be open until 0830 hours. A change has been noted in LACs Stevenson and Ross LeBeaus. They had been invited to a pub where all sorts of good things were in store for them and (would you believe it?) they didn't turn up. We hear LAC Delance Nippewas is in training for hockey. He loses 10 pounds a night running around in a manner no coach would approve.

#### Missing

"Cherchez la Femme?" Maybe! But the champagne and gum F/O Bruce and S/L Bannock brought home for their ground crew must have been wonderful stuff. The boys haven't been seen since. Our ribbon-winning friend paid the squadron a visit recently. It's always nice to have the navigating and personality of F/L Finlayson.

LAC Tannhauser, Vancouver, spends his Sunday afternoons learning English customs. Tea and crumpets, old chap? LAC Scotty Kaye, Moose Jaw, Sask., has been studying his papers to see if he is eligible for repatriation. Reason is, he's lonesome for breaded veal cutlets and Ramsbottom drawing his bawth, Tuesdays and Fridays.

LAC Don Jackson, Toronto, recently met his friend, Don Munro, Toronto. The last time they had seen one another was on a Canuck station. They spent a week here on the same drome before they realised they knew each other. Don misses Cpl. Chuck Bears of Prince Edward Island, now on leave, as Chuck used to help him go to sleep with his nightly arguments.  
—LAC Goldberg.

### MORE CATERPILLARS WITH WINDSOR UNIT

F/L James O'Brian, Toronto; P/O Jack "Happy" Doyle, Hillside, N.J.; F/O Bert Doyle, Montreal; and W/O J. P. Hart, Point Anne, Ont., with the City of Windsor outfit in Italy, are new members of the Caterpillar Club. Luckiest was Bert Doyle, who bailed out over the sea off the Anzio beachhead from two hundred feet, believed the lowest successful jump on record.

### BOMBER GROUP SHOW SENDS BRITISH CATS

The RCAF Group's own entertainment unit, "Bomber Wolves and A Girl," has been playing before thousands of Canadian airmen and soldiers in the British bush country. LAC Dave Davies, Winnipeg, CBC crooner with the Percy Faith show from Toronto, does

### CARDINAL ATTENDS SOLEMN HIGH MASS

Headed by the RCAF band, 1,200 members of the Canadian Navy, Army and Air Force paraded to Westminster Cathedral last Sunday to attend Solemn High Mass in the presence of His Eminence Cardinal Villeneuve, Archbishop of Quebec.

Mass was celebrated by Hon. Air Commodore J. E. A. Charest, Director of RC Chaplains Services, RCAF. Rev. M. MacIsaac, RCN, command chaplain, CNMO, was deacon, and Hon. S/L M. Laplante, O.M.I., was sub-deacon. Assistant deacons at the Throne were Hon. Col. M. C. O'Neill, MM, principal RC chaplain overseas, and Hon. G/C V. W. McCarthy, RCAF chief RC chaplain overseas. Air Vice-Marshal N. R. Anderson, CB, attended as representative for Air Marshal L. S. Bredner, CB, DSC, AOC-in-C, RCAF Overseas. S/L S. F. Hanlon was in charge of the RCAF parade.

### BLACK BULL BOYS

## Popular FCO Departs

With regrets and fond memories we said good-bye to S/L Bill Sellers, Montreal. Bill left recently after a long session as flying control officer here, during which time he became one of the most popular men in camp. He was as popular with Joe erk as with the fried egg men.

#### R.I.P.

In commemoration of Bill, there remains out by the control tower a tiny well-kept grave, lined with bottles and an epitaph: "Here lies the soul of a guy named Bill; His body went home against his will."

Back again, to convert for their second tour are F/O Jack Price, Indian Head, navigator, and P/O Bill Joy, North Bay, flight engineer. Both were instructors at this unit for many months. They say they enjoyed their leave in Canada.

#### Walked Back

Also converting for a second time is F/O W. E. Fell, Hamilton, who is reported to be a first-class gravel agitator—he walked back after bailing out on his first tour.

Sgt. "Chat" Chatfield, Winnipeg, is our idea of a versatile fellow. Besides doing his duty as rigger, "Chat" took on the right time job of keeping the snooker cues tipped and a fine job he did of it. But the high spot came when he purchased a dozen geese for the sergeants' mess Sunday dinner.

well with a voice lighter than F/S Fred Phillips, Saskatoon, who gives in the manner of an heroic baritone. Both sing duets with WAAF Sgt. Pam Rich, an attractive brunette. The patter by Sgt. Don Angel, Winnipeg, the ventriloquism and

### TAF TYPHOON UNIT GETS FRENCH CO

France.—One of the first to fly Typhoons, S/L J. M. G. Plamondon, DFC, Quebec, has taken command of a TAF squadron which has played a major role in the rout of the enemy in France.

Flying with one of the first long-range fighter squadrons, Plamondon took part in scores of sweeps, some as far as Paris in one operation he destroyed a Ju88 and an Arado 96 near Les Andelys.

When Typhoons were equipped with rockets, he made approximately 50 sorties against enemy radio stations, V-bomb sites and other targets in occupied France in the weeks preceding D-Day.

Since D-Day he has been making two or three sorties a day in close support of Allied armies. On an armed reconnaissance in July he knocked down a Me109.

Though not primarily concerned with enemy fighters, S/L Plamondon's Typhoons have since D-Day destroyed three and a half and damaged five Me109s and FW190s. In the same period their bag of tanks, motor vehicles and horse-drawn artillery is nearly 250.

#### ENDS TOUR

P/O H. A. Larivee, Timmins, Ont., rear gunner with the Lion Squadron, has completed a tour without once having to fire his guns.

### CREWS MAINTAIN EMPIRE GOOD WILL

"They're a generous, good bunch of fellows. If you briefed them to go to Hell, they'd go!"

That is the opinion of Canadians held by one Englishman, P/O K. P. White, Thorpe Bay, Essex, formerly with the Moose Squadron and now attached to the Porcupine. His seems to be no exception to other Britons' thoughts. Apparently it works both ways.

P/O D. T. Gandier, Fort William, Ont., AG with the Tiger Squadron and veteran of 37 sorties, says of his crewmate, F/S William Summers, Kent, "He's a damned good engineer. We go around together all the time."

Sgt. G. R. Read, London, England, flight engineer with the Goose Squadron, thinks well of the Canucks after four months flying with them. "They work as hard as they play," was the way he summed it up.

impersonations by LAC Cy Leonard, meet with riotous approval of the audiences. Music is provided by F/O Harry Lewis, Toronto, former Royal York orch. leader; a RAF string quartet and the electric guitar played by LAC Art Sorge, Toronto



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GUNNER EARNS

(Continued from page 1)

DSO to his row of ribbons. He was active, as a fighter pilot, over the Normandy beachhead and later French operations. He has nine kills to his credit.

One More

The other DSO went to S/L Henry Tilson, DFC, and DFCs to F/O John Oswald Birch, whose RAF a u a d r o n bomber was shot up over Stuttgart; F/O Thomas Lloyd Steele, Moose squadron; P/O Ralph Gordon Bullivant, Okotoks, Sask., Leaside squadron gunner, who with his co-gunner nailed a Ju.88 during July; two Cougar squadron nightfighters, S/L Ian Anderson March and F/L Kristjan Martinn Eyolfson; F/L Frank Edgar Emery; F/L Bruce Kenneth McDonald and F/O Antoine Andre Duchesnay.



P/O Bullivant.

Two Spit pilots flying with the RCAF Falcon squadron received DFCs. F/L William John Banks, Leaside, Ont., and F/O D. R. C. Jamieson, Toronto, got hot in a big fighter action over France on July 24. Banks nailed three and Jamieson a pair. Each had three kills previous to that fight.

DFMs were awarded to F/S Douglas Richard Penny, Leaside squadron, who shared in the destruction of a Ju.88, and P/O Jack Albert Phillips, Moose squadron.

FILM LOG

"MAKE YOUR OWN BED" (Warner)

A comedy of ludicrous situations in which a couple of old Warner Bros. stalwarts, Alan Hale and George Tobias, steal what little there is to swipe from the "stars."

Jack Carson, who generally holds down a supporting role as a husky tackle in college pics, is the male lead and a private dick at that.

Women involved are Jane Wyman, who looks pretty, and Irene Manning, who is amusing.

"THE HAIRY APE" (New Gallery)

The spoilt darling of the sophisticated upper set, Susan Hayward, is expected to be repulsed and terrified of the Hairy Ape, William Bendix, but unfortunately, he just isn't ugly enough. In fact, he's a likeable sort of fellow and that rather spoils the point. But in spite of poor casting he does a good job. The only other mentionable is Alan Napier as the first engineer. Eugene O'Neill's play is given a slow start and a very feeble "lived happily ever after" ending. A fair picture, but not on the don't miss list.

"BATHING BEAUTY" (Empire)

Lots of color and tall Esther Williams will be the main attraction for squadron types on leave in London. Miss Williams is very beautiful and a swimming champ. She can't act a lick; so what! Red Skelton works hard, gets a few laughs, most of them in one hilarious scene in which he does a ballet routine in a girls' eurythmics class. Old but funny.

There is a Pete Smith short on the same program. It should have you rolling in the aisles, unless you're one of the types he's talking about. Don't miss the Pete Smith opus, even if you have to miss the feature.

FINISHES FIRST

Skipper of a Lion squadron Halifax, F/L M. G. Marshall, Ancaster, Ont., has completed his first tour with more than 20 operations to his credit.

SOME COKES



SCENE: Stage Door Canteen, London. CAST: Sgt. W. L. Kenny, Toronto, and cinemactress Constance Cummings. Doesn't your mouth water . . . for cokes.

(Official RCAF Photograph.)

RADIO

GFP (General Forces Program) 342 m., 877 kc. AAFP (Allied Exped. Forces Program) 514 m.; 1050 kc. AFN (American Forces Network) 207-218 m.; 1375-1447 kc.

Combat Diary, 0901-0915. Mark Up the Map, 1745-1755. Sun, Oct. 1. Calling All Canadians, 1030-1100; The Western Five, 1545-1600; Canada Show—AEF Special, 1805-1845.

Home News from Canada: Nightly, 2010-2015. Canadians also contribute regularly to the following daily programs of the AAFP: Rise and Shine, 0601-0700 and 0720-0800.

Tues, Oct. 3. Morning After, The Canada Show (Repeat), 1001-1030; RCAF Bomber Group Band, 1430-1500; Canadian Army Military Band, 1715-1745; Canadian Sports Roundup, 1905-1915.

Parachute Bails Out But AG Stays Behind

A crash landing in France in which he suffered a broken leg and capture by German troops came to F/O Charles M. Walkden, Norwood, Man., when his parachute bailed out without him.

Enemy flak had put the Mitchell bomber on fire and ruined the hydraulics causing the wheels to drop into position. The skipper ordered the crew out, and one gunner got away.

"I thought my number was up when I climbed down from the upper turret just in time to see my parachute disappear into the blue," Walkden, also a gunner, related from a cot in a Canadian hospital in Britain where he arrived by air ambulance.

"I went forward and told the pilot, who said he would try to crash land in a field. This was going to be difficult because of the damage to the kite." But the skipper got the bomber down although Walkden remembers nothing of it.

His leg had been broken in the crash, and the skipper and F/O T. Good, navigator, Toronto, pulled him out of the burning plane into a field, where he vaguely remembers seeing

German troops around the aircraft.

He was taken in a horse-drawn wagon to St. Pierre to a small hospital where the Jerries put a splint to his leg. Later he was moved by motor ambulance to Amiens, to a hospital badly understaffed. For two weeks he tried to persuade somebody to look at his leg which had him in agony. But it was not until a field unit moved in that it was put in a cast.

Walkden was moved from Amiens to Lille and finally to Brussels, where he was left in a ward with another fellow when the Germans cleared out and British troops arrived. During his captivity he had an interesting encounter with an 18-year-old SS trooper, who said he learned English at school and studied it later so he would be able to ask for food when he arrived in England with the invading Germans.

Poona's Hue Changes When Fliers Move in

India.—Once India's posh military social centre, Poona has been redecorated and fliers of the RCAF have helped, in red-paint retouching, to change the picture.

Joke (?)

They tell a story in Poona. A visitor, intrigued by tales about the place, had the temerity to approach a monocled colonel. "Tell me," he pleaded, "is it true that Poona colonels always begin a sentence with 'Gad, sir'?" The colonel, hurt, replied, "Gad, no sir!"

In face of this convincing denial, Canada's 12 million inhabitants and most well-read people of the civilized world harbor a peculiar picture of Poona. Mention of the word conjures up visions of choleric colonels, red-faced and ribboned, who stand on tiger skins and roar for "chota pegs" (short drinks).

But the minority have no such illusions. They comprise RAF and RCAF personnel, also American and British servicemen, who have visited Poona, for to-day airmen outnumber

officers and corporals outnumber colonels.

Students

Most RCAF newcomers to India attend a Refresher Flying Unit near Poona, while others already flying in the country come for conversion courses on other types of aircraft. Connected with the RCU is a nearby jungle school of self-preparation, where air crew are given training to prepare them for jungle conditions if they are forced to bail out.

One of the sights always visited by Canadians at Poona is the Aga Khan's marble palace, in which Gandhi was held as a political prisoner until his recent release. Behind the palace is the grave of Gandhi's devoted wife.

Among Canadians you might meet if you casually strolled about Poona some evening are F/L Bias Lewin, Toronto; F/O Bill Parnett, Wetaakiwin, Alta.; F/O Ron Thompson, Weyburn, Sask.; F/O Grant Graham, Montague, P.E.I.; W/O Allan Pottruff, Hamilton; F/O Jack Pulley, Revelstoke; F/O Joe Ferris, Vancouver; F/O Sid Bridges, Edson, Alta.; F/O Frank Scholfield, Dunnville, Ont.; F/O Ted Manser, Sault St. Marie, Mich.; F/O Bev Luther, Ottawa; F/L Bill Wilmore, WFC, Thorold, Ont.; W/O Joe Werobec, Portage La Prairie; W/O Elmer Aspevig, Manitou; W/O Cliff Ollet, Windsor, Ont.; W/O Gar Cowie, London, Ont.; W/O Charlie Warrington, Oakville, Ont.; and F/S Allan Braniff, Kitchener, Ont.

Wed., Oct. 4. Music from Canada, 0930-1000; Music from the Pacific, 1115-1145; Piano Parade, 1145-1200; The Western Five, 1145-1200; Serenade for Strings, 1430-1500; RCAF Headquarters Dance Band, 1915-1945; Stardust, 2201-2230.

Thurs., Oct. 5. The Canada "Sing" Show, 1715-1745; Nightcap, starring Bea Lillie, 2230-2259.

Fri., Oct. 6. The AEF Ranch House, 0930-1000; The Old Songs, 1410-1430; The Canada "Sing" Show, 2105-2115.

Sat., Oct. 7. The Canada Show Dance Orchestra, 0825-0900; Johnny Canuck's Revue, 2201-2230.



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"It has the slick, sexy, highly efficient badness that brings in a million dollars."

—Campbell Dixon, Daily Telegraph.

"It's lush, it's lively, it's tuneful, it's in Technicolor . . . it joins the front line of entertainment."

Ewart Hodgson, News of the World.

Advertisement for the movie 'Bathing Beauty' featuring Red Skelton and Esther Williams. Includes text: 'PHOTOGRAPHED IN TECHNICOLOR', 'BATHING BEAUTY RED SKELTON ESTHER WILLIAMS', 'EMPIRE LEICESTER SQ. GER. 1234', '2ND WEEK', and 'with HARRY JAMES & HIS MUSIC MAKERS, XAVIER CUGAT & HIS ORCHES. TRA, BASIL RATHBONE, CARLOS RAMIREZ, Etc.'

CARTOON CORNER



THE LETTER PROBLEM

EVERY AIRMAN OVERSEAS KNOWS THIS PROBLEM. IT'S GREAT TO GET THEM BUT WHO LIKES TO ANSWER THEM?