



CANUCKS DROP FOOD BUNDLES OVER HOLLAND

Lancs Lug Supplies To Starving Dutch

Members of the RCAF participated in Bomber Command's second food-dropping expedition to Holland on Monday. For the second day running, Lancasters flew to Occupied Holland with supplies for the starving Dutch.

The aircraft were in considerably larger force on Monday, and for nearly 2 1/2 hours they showered food supplies down upon airfields at The Hague and Leiden, on open spaces in Rotterdam and on a racecourse at The Hague.

The bombers came down to less than 500 feet before letting go their loads in order to make sure they dropped in the right places.

"We could see people below in the streets and leaning out of windows," said F/O S. J. Buck, Toronto, pilot. "We were flying at only 500 feet. I think the schools had a holiday—anyway, hundreds of children were standing in groups in the streets. The people were very glad to see us. There was no doubt at all about that. Other aircraft went in before us and everything was dropped on the racetrack which was our landing ground for the supplies. We flew in very bad weather, but the food went down in good order.

"Although visibility was no good, it was easy to find the target indicators, and the white cross which had been marked on the ground where the food was to be dropped," said F/L J. P. Dixie, DFC, New Westminster, B.C., pilot.

ROCKET BEAUS HIT FREIGHTER

Rocket-firing Beaufighters of RAF Coastal Command scored several hits on a modern type German freighter in Soerne Fjord, Norway, recently. The freighter and two escorting flak ships were also sprayed with cannon fire.

The merchantman was listing to port and belching smoke and flame when the Beaufighters left.

S/L D. A. Duncanson, DFC, Dutton, Ont., who leads an RAF squadron, said, "Fires had already started as we went down and I saw our cannon and rockets hit the ship. First it was smoking and then flames started to build up."

Spanish War Vet Flies With RCAF

Soldier of fortune who fought for the Republican army in the Spanish Civil War in 1937, F/O Karl Reed, DFM, Philadelphia, Pa., rear gunner with the Lion squadron, had to wait until his third tour before he could claim his second German fighter in this war.

He also served in the American Merchant Marine before joining the RCAF in 1941 and was aboard a Standard Oil Company tanker when it was torpedoed off the Irish coast.

V-Bond Sales Still Mount Long After Campaign Ends

Although the Eighth Victory Loan overseas drive finished more than a week ago RCAF subscriptions continue to pour into Overseas Victory Loan HQ in London. The latest sales total was announced yesterday as \$5,300,000 against a quota of \$4,000,000.

Officials state that it will be some time before the complete figures for the drive will be known. Subscriptions are still coming in from isolated units. Some of the latest sales figures are: PRC, \$437,500; RCAF Bomber Group, \$2,017,900; Repatriation Depot, \$101,200; RCAF in 2nd TAF, \$470,850; Middle East, \$52,000; South-East Air Com-



Dakota crews, flying supplies to the 14th Army for their Burma drives, are well supplied with trophies by the ground forces. Five Canucks look over a Nip rifle and battle flag sent to their RAF unit. Left to right: F/O Vernon Burns, Toronto; F/O A. G. Racey, Paris, Ont.; W/O W. L. Dales, Milton, Ont.; F/S J. E. Morris, Toronto; W/O B. H. Hamelin, Penetang, Ont. (Official RCAF Photograph.)

Buffalo Beaufighters Attack Nazi Ships in Midgulen Fjord

SMALL KITES BUST CRUISER

Tiffies Defy Flak To Hammer Vessel

Six direct hits and three near misses paralysed a light German cruiser in Jade Bight, off Wilhelmshaven, when Typhoon fighterbombers of TF struck recently in the second attack in 24 hours.

A wing commander led a formation against the cruiser in the face of terrific anti-aircraft fire. Two of the aircraft were damaged, but all returned. F/O John Stewart, London, Ont., landed his aircraft just as the last drops of petrol ran out of the two perforated nose tanks.

The first section, six Typhoons of the City of Montreal squadron, scored three hits on the superstructure. The next section led by S/L Jack Beirnes, DFC, Tofield, Alta., got two direct hits on the stern.

S/L Robert Coffey, DFC, Greenview, Ill., led the City of Ottawa's leading section, and F/L John Villiers, Amersham, Bucks, England, led the second. This squadron scored a direct hit on the stern and near misses.

Quebec Linguist Chief Translator

Extensive knowledge of English, French, Russian, German and Spanish has given F/L Gustave Bidard, Quebec City, the official job of interpreter on the staff of a Spitfire wing now operating deep inside Germany. His help in this respect has been considerable.

BATTLE TROPHIES

Outrider Aircraft Plasters Power Pylon While Mates Hammer Ships

Rocket and cannon firing Beaufighters from the RCAF Buffalo Squadron, led by S/L R. A. Schoales, DFC, Fort William, Ont., recently flew a surprise attack against six enemy vessels in Midgulen Fjord sheltering beside a 2,000 foot mountain and riding anchor close to shore. The Canadians scored 14 direct hits against a merchant vessel and badly damaged an armed trawler.

RAF, RAAF and RNZAF Beaufighters also took part in the attack and damaged two large freighters, a second armed trawler and a naval auxiliary vessel.

All aircraft were forced to fly through an intense flak barrage thrown up by shore-based batteries and by the ships themselves.

These latest Coastal Command successes were reported as Allied aircraft increased the tempo of their round-the-clock offensive against all enemy shipping found operating in Norwegian waters. One RCAF Beaufighter was missing following the mission.

S/L Schoales and his navigator, F/L R. A. Jackson, Grimsby Beach, Ont., led the RCAF formation and were first to attack. After scoring rocket hits against one of the armed trawlers, they raked its deck with cannon fire. Another RCAF Beau attacked both the merchant vessel with cannon fire and the armed trawler with rockets. The pilot was F/L J. R. Rancourt, DFC, St. Victor Beauce, Ont., and his navigator, F/O J. Tomes, DFC, Winnipeg.

Acting as outrider for the entire strike force was F/O D. A. Catragna, Calmar, Alta., and his navigator, F/O A. E. Ford, Toronto. Armed only with cannon, this crew shot up an electric power pylon as the Buffalo squadron planes left the target area.

Lions Cop Trophy For Neat Bombing

Awarded monthly to the squadron in RCAF Bomber Group maintaining the best bombing accuracy during training. The Bristol Challenge Trophy was presented to the Lion squadron by Air Vice Marshal C. M. McEwen, CB, MC, DFC and Bar, AOC the group, recently.

W/C Mike Bryson, DFC, Barrie, Ont., squadron CO received the trophy which was awarded for March. At the completion of the ceremony the AOC inspected the station. He was accompanied by Air Commodore F. R. Miller, Ottawa, base CO, W/V V. F. Ganderton, DFC, Wainwright, Alta., acting CO of the station, and W/C Bryson.

FIGHTERS GET FOUR FW190's

RCAF Spitfires based in Germany destroyed four FW190s Sunday while on patrol in the Ahrensburg-Zarrenter area, F/O A. T. Gibb, Montreal, shot down one.

The Luftwaffe came up in an attempt to ground attack the British Army's new bridgehead across the Elbe.

Canadian Typhoons twice attacked a village south-east of Hamburg where our troops were encountering stubborn resistance. Direct hits were scored on the village and on the marshalling yards. Although weather was far from ideal, nearly 300 sorties were flown with no losses.

CANUCKS HELPED TO SINK 'LUTZOW'

Manitoba Flying Boss Navigator in Attack

Several Canadians shared in the recent daylight sinking by RAF Lancasters of the Lutzow, last of Germany's pocket battleships.

Among the Canadian pilots were:—F/L G. A. Prince, DFM, Montreal; F/L C. N. Hill, DFC, Toronto; F/L G. W. Lancey, DFC, Toronto. The navigation leader was S/L G. E. Elwood, DSO, DFC, Portage la Prairie, Man.

"It was an absolutely clear day," he commented, "and while we met no fighters, flak was the most accurate I have ever seen. And with a small number of aircraft on the job they were able to concentrate on the planes. "Every Lancaster was hit by flak and one was shot down by a direct hit. The bombing was not as accurate as in some previous efforts against German battleships because of the fierce anti-aircraft fire, but it is believed that we may have scored at least one direct hit, and that several of the near misses blew the bottom out of the pocket battleship."

RCAF FLIERS HELP TO BLAST BERCHTESGADEN

Canadian Bomber Group Sends Heavies to Shower German Coastal Guns On Wangerooge Island

REDOUBT GROUND DEFENCES LIGHT

Heavy German coastal guns on the tiny island of Wangerooge in the Frisians were blasted in daylight a week ago Wednesday by Halifaxes and Lancasters of Canadian Bomber Group. Other Canadian airmen flew with the RAF's daylight attack the same day on Berchtesgaden, Hitler's hide-out deep in the Bavarian mountains.

Outer Defences

Wangerooge, most easterly of the East Frisian islands off the North Sea coast, forms part of the outer defence ring for the big naval base at Wilhelmshaven and ultimately for Bremen, second port of the shrinking Reich. Returning air crews reported a successful attack.

F/L Roland Laporte, DFC, Montreal, Alouette squadron pilot, said the weather was clear over the target, the bombing was accurate, and the fighter escort effectively kept enemy opposition out of the way. No enemy fighters were sighted. "Smoke was billowing up from all parts of the island," said W/C C. M. Black, DFC, McAdam, N.B., CO of the Thunderbird squadron.

F/O W. C. Evans, Naticoke, Ont., a Bison squadron bomb aimer, said, "I saw the bombs bursting in the target area and it seemed like a good effort."

Reporting on the Berchtesgaden bombing, F/L F. L. English, Pictou, N.S., rear gunner, said, "The ground defences were unexpectedly light and the barrage of flak was only moderate. We had little to worry us."

His pilot, F/L G. W. Lancey, DFC, Toronto, used his Lancaster's first run to attack. F/L C. N. Hill, Toronto, piloting another of the RAF Lancasters, with F/O F. J. Jelly, North Bay, his air bomber, was one of the first over the target.

Two of the most disappointed Canadians in the same squadron were S/L G. D. Elwood, DSO, DFC, Portage la Prairie, Man., veteran of 84 trips, and F/O Al Foreman, Montreal, former British Empire lightweight boxing champion. S/L Elwood was screened from further ops a few hours before briefing, while Foreman, who had given up his leave to remain as spare gunner for the attack, couldn't find a place.

RAF Beaufighters Blast Hun Vessels

White smoke was seen coming from two medium-sized merchantmen in Valdheim Fjord along the Norwegian coast, after a recent attack by RAF Coastal Command Beaufighters led by S/L D. A. Duncanson, Dutton, Ont. Hits were also obtained on an escort vessel and a tug. "Owing to the steep cliffs we had difficulty in seeing the result of our attacks," said S/L Duncanson.

Lynx Mossies on Patrol Clip Four Over Germany

Pilots of the Lynx Mosquito intruder squadron added four enemy aircraft destroyed and six damaged to their total during four nights' action last week.

During a long-range intruder patrol over Germany, P/C Anaka, Canora, Sask., pilot, and W/O B. J. Weber, Quebec City navigator, attacked an unidentified twin-engined aircraft on the ground and saw strikes on its port wing. The aircraft did not catch fire. A short time afterwards, spotting a Ju88 in the air they closed to 800 feet on its tail, opened fire with long bursts and saw the enemy fighter spin to earth.

F/O Jack Wyman, pilot, Edmonton, and F/O Joe Green, Toronto, navigator, claimed a FW189 destroyed in the air and a Ju290 damaged on the ground. F/O John Caine, DFC, Edmonton, pilot, and F/O Bryan Tisdall, Truro, Eng., navigator,

NIGHTFIGHTERS TAG 8 KRAUTS

Bashaw Pilot Gets Pair in One Night

Within a four-night period last week, Mosquito nightfighters of the Nighthawk and Cougar squadrons scored eight enemy aircraft destroyed and one probable.

The first of these kills was made by F/L R. D. Schultz, DFC, Bashaw, Alta., pilot, and F/O J. S. Christie, London, Eng., navigator, of the Cougar squadron, when they teamed to shoot down a Ju88 in the Berlin area. Half an hour later the same crew shot down another Ju88 and saw it crash into the edge of an airfield near the German capital.

The Nighthawk squadron on Monday night destroyed three Ju52s, two west of Berlin and the other over Wittenberge, and two Ju87s west of Berlin.

WOLF SPITFIRE SNIPES JERRY

Just as an FW190 was landing on a German airfield at Hagenow recently, Wolf squadron pilot P/O R. O. Shannon, Westmount, Que., swooped down and destroyed it.

Shannon sighted the aircraft circling over the airfield, but by the time he dived down on it the FW had landed. His cannon burst caught it, however, and left it in flames. The attack came as such a surprise that no flak was sent up.

On this and other armed recesses the same day, the Wolf Spitfires damaged a locomotive and destroyed a motor vehicle. The Hornet squadron damaged a locomotive, destroyed two vehicles and damaged seven.

MUSTANG VETERAN

F/L Darrel W. Davis, Kamloops, B.C., has completed his first tour with an RAF long-range Mustang fighter squadron. He shot down two enemy fighters and damaged several others during the tour.

teamed to destroy a Ju88 and damage two FW190s, all three on the ground. Another Ju88, damaged on the ground, is credited to S/L Don McFadyen, Toronto, pilot, and F/L Vern Shall, New Westminster, B.C., navigator.

F/L P. Etienne, Montreal, pilot, and F/L William Boak, Regina, navigator, destroyed a He111 on an enemy airfield near Prague and also damaged an unidentified twin-engined machine. Etienne made four runs over the airfield. The first run set fire to the Heinkel which made it an easier target for next three attacks. He noted strikes on the tail and rear fuselage of the unidentified machine.

SIX CANADIANS WIN GONGS IN LATEST LIST OF AWARDS

Vancouver Navigator Plots Plane To Base Despite Wound in Chest

Wounded in the chest during an attack recently on an enemy bridge, P/O John Anthony White, Vancouver navigator, stayed at his post and brought his aircraft back to base safely within a few minutes of the estimated time of arrival. He has been awarded an immediate DFC in a recent list of six decorations to Canadian fliers announced in the *London Gazette*.

TIFFIE KITES HIT OIL CARS

Typhoon pilots recently attacked oil cars south of Lubeck and set six of the 10 ablaze. The attack was led by F/O Frederick Marlatt, Oakville, Ont. The train had been cannibalized after the squadron had made three cuts in the railway line immediately north.

F/L James Gray, San Antonio, Texas, damaged an unusual tank with cannon at Itzehoe, west of Lubeck.

"I don't know what kind of tank it was, but it had a very big turret like a kind of tower. A lot of smoke burst out of it. It was moving when I first saw it but it stopped after I attacked," he said.

Tiffie pilots were enthusiastic over the havoc wrought on a marshalling yard at Patrau recently, 10 miles from Hamburg.

F/O Hugh Fraser, Westmount, Que., described the burning yards as terrific. "Smoke came up to 10,000 feet," he said.

FLIGHT COMMANDER

One of three brothers to serve overseas with the RCAF in this war, S/L A. E. Mackay, Calgary, has been promoted to that rank and appointed to command a flight with the Lion squadron.

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DOING NICELY



With six months of warm weather ahead, the crisis is past for the 18-foot Canadian Maple tree sent to the people of Holborn by the Mayor of Ottawa. After the ceremonial planting on January 17 in Lincoln's Inn Fields, where RCAF Overseas HQ is located, W. T. Harlow, Officer in Charge of Lincoln's Inn Fields and a tree expert, gave the maple an even chance of survival.

Throughout the winter months he took a personal interest in the tree and tended it daily. In late March, buds burst and small leaves made an appearance. By mid-April Mr. Harlow pronounced himself satisfied that the tree was off the danger list.

"It will be all right now," he said. "By the time the next cold weather comes the maple will be strong and firmly rooted. We needn't worry about it any more."

In the accompanying photograph Mr. Harlow is seen spraying the tree as a protection against blight.

CANNON BURST SHOCKS PILOT

Shells Wreak Havoc In Nazi Rail Yard

A single burst of fire from his Spitfire cannon practically demolished a marshalling yard and gave F/O D. M. Zobel, Raymond, Alta., pilot with the Red Indian squadron, the surprise of his life.

Flying on an armed recon in the Hamburg area, Zobel relates how the lack of any transport to strafe made him turn his attention to a railway yard, though he didn't have any bombs. He could see about six oil or gasoline tankers in the yard, and 50 or more other railway trucks.

"I dived to about 2,500 feet before I fired, and first thing I knew my kite bounced about 250 feet. I thought I'd been hit by flak. I was back at about 4,000 feet before I got everything under control again, and could look around. There was a great cloud of black smoke pouring up. I didn't believe it; it was just like something in the movies."

Other pilots reported seeing an oil fire that spread for 150 yards across the rail yard, and said that the smoke cloud had mushroomed to 7,000 feet by the time they left the area four minutes later.

A check showed that Zobel was the first to fire before the terrific explosion occurred. Four other Red Indian pilots in another section two miles away at 7,000 feet said they felt the explosion even at that distance, and their kites were pitched about.

Cats Play Major Role in Far East

India.—Air warfare in the Indian Ocean has given the Catalina a similar reputation to that enjoyed by the Spitfire and Hurricane in the Battle of Britain and the rocket-firing Typhoon in the Falaise Gap.

Based at isolated stations and flying long sorties of about 13 hours over lonely ocean stretches, Canadians in Coastal Command have come to regard the aircraft as the first implement of Indian Ocean warfare. It began when a Canadian crew, out on its first sortie, reported a large enemy fleet threatening Ceylon.

In recent weeks F/L C. R. Bradford, Winnipeg, helped rescue two American Super Fortress crews. On the trip he flew 1,150 miles from base to save 10 airmen from an aircraft which had ditched. Earlier two Catalinas, one of which was Bradford's, flew 800 miles from base to rescue nine survivors. Crew rescues is one of the squadron's major jobs.

One Catalina, skippered by F/L G. Atkinson, Kelowna, B.C., was one of the first aircraft to be delivered to Britain under Lend-Lease. It took part in the chase of the German battleship, Blismarck.

Fighter Men Study Kinks Of Captured Jerry Glider

The Red Indian Spitfire squadron in one day flew 54 sorties, 14 of them in a glider. When a Canadian fighter wing took over a captured airfield, among the equipment found was a primary glider, a light-weight job with an open framework fuselage in which the pilot sits right out front without any enclosing cockpit. Both port and starboard wings had been smashed, but a brand new replacement set was also found, still crated.

LOSSES PROVIDE BIG MOMENT FOR PILOT

Loss of a wing tip and the use of the outer engine while over a German target was the biggest event in the overseas career of F/L W. H. Shotton, DFC, river-side, Ont.

His aircraft also received a bent propeller and limped home while steadily losing height until they were at 5,000 feet. They retained this height until they reached the safety of an emergency landing field on the coast of England. He won the DFC on that trip.

On only one other trip was Shotton's aircraft shot up. It was while attacking submarine pens at Bergen, Norway. The plane reached base safely.

Shotton, a pilot, formerly was attached to the Snowy Owl squadron. Having completed a tour, he is now awaiting a posting home.

AOC-IN-C'S VISIT

Air Marshal G. O. Johnson, CB, MC, AOC-IN-C RCAF Overseas, recently completed a tour of RCAF units on the continent. The trip lasted several days and took him to the most advanced Canadian squadrons flying from airfields deep in Germany. It was his first since taking over his present duties.

Refit Job

F/L Mac, J. Gordon, Edmonton, Alta., a Red Indian flight commander, promptly took possession of the glider for his squadron, and pitched in to help Cpl. Roger Lewis, Mayerthorpe, Alta., who took on the job of making the glider operational. Lewis worked every spare minute he had for four days, all day on his off day, to replace the main-planes and refabricate the rudder.

Lacking the proper instruments for setting the wing at its correct dihedral, he used his own method. The finishing touch was to emblazon the Red Indian insignia on the tail.

Gordon was at the controls during its first test flight. Several lengths of cord were linked together to form the towline. A jeep provided the power. The take-off was effected on the grass beside the runway.

Half the airfield turned out to watch the big event. The glider reached the height of 30 feet during the first test.

Fourteen successful "sorties" were completed by supper time. With various squadron pilots alternating at the controls, flights of several hundred yards in length were achieved, with the glider climbing as high as 50 feet. There was the disadvantage of having to effect a take-off at a top speed of 25-30 miles per hour as that represented top speed of the jeep under those conditions. The tow rope was short of the standard size also.



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Fire Boys Burned Up Over Loss of Super Hun Trophy

Germany.—The enthusiastic Gas and Fire Section on this Typhoon wing is literally burned up at the manner in which they were tricked out of the choicest piece of enemy equipment to be salvaged on this large airfield deep inside Germany.

RCAF LOAN TOTAL GETS HIGH PRAISE

Air Vice-Marshal J. L. E. A. de Niverville, C.B., Air Member for Training and chairman of the Eighth Victory Loan campaign at AFHQ, Ottawa, sent the following message of congratulations to Air Marshal G. O. Johnson, CB, MC, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, RCAF Overseas, on the Victory Loan showing by the RCAF Overseas:

"Heartiest congratulations on being the first RCAF Command to go over your objective. Your splendid example will act as a spur to other Commands. Hope you surpass the Seventh Victory Loan total by a wide margin."

To date, the RCAF Overseas has a total of \$5,300,000 in Victory Bonds purchased, against its quota of \$4,000,000.

It was a new German fire-engine, with aluminium pumps and gleaming accessories, but the words "Booby-trapped" had been chalked upon it, and a sinister tangle of wires hung from the engine and pumps.

When the fire officer, F/O Frank Whiteman, Leatherhead, Eng., returned with armament officer, F/L William Cantelon, MBE, Alliston, Ont., they saw a group of soldiers nonchalantly dragging away the misleading warnings and towing the prize away. They had put the false warning on it to scare off other claimants until they could return to remove it.

The fire engine is just one example of the infinite variety of articles which were left by the hurried and harried enemy. Even modern sinks have been gathered by the airmen, and mounted on crude platforms outside their tents. Nearly every man has a neat folding bed from the German barracks, to say nothing of table lamps, desks and tools.

Florist Airman Keeps Eye On Bren Gun, Dutch Bulbs

Beside Cpl. Gordon Ritchings' bed there are two objects, foreign to each other. One is a Bren machine gun, which he knows how to operate, and the other is a box of tulip bulbs which, like the gun, he inspects daily.

Ritchings, Vancouver, is at this forward Typhoon airfield, and he has carried in his service life, as a hobby, his peacetime profession—that of a florist.

Since coming overseas a year ago, Cpl. Ritchings has spent much of his spare time talking with florists in England, France, Belgium and Holland. His tulip bulbs were the gift of a florist in Holland, where tulips are raised by the million.

Within a few moments of entering a florist's shop in Brussels Cpl. Ritchings was observed by his comrades to be intently assisting the proprietor in fashioning a complicated floral piece—though neither spoke the other's language.

Tiffies Hit Nazi Shipping on Elbe

RCAF Typhoon bombers of 2nd TAF dropped 500-pound bombs on German shipping at the mouth of the River Elbe. The wing, commanded by G/C Dean Nesbitt, Montreal, made a direct hit on the stern of a mine-sweeper.

Both large and small freighters and suspected submarines were also attacked as well as oil storage tanks on the river banks. Oil tankers were also set ablaze. It was the first time that 83 group Typhoons have been used on shipping strikes.



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"Ici et Là"

Le sous-officier Breveté André Valquette de Mont-Roland, Co. Terrebonne, est en permission d'un mois en Grande-Bretagne cette semaine. Mitrailleur-télégraphiste, il fut d'abord attaché à une escadrille de défense côtière du Sud de l'Angleterre; il est maintenant basé en Islande pour patrouiller l'Atlantique Nor.

Après plus de trois ans de service outremer le Sergent de section Gaston Guerin de Coaticook, Qué., retourne au Canada. Il passa six mois en Afrique avec l'escadrille Alouette. A son retour en Angleterre, il fut attaché à la section d'instruments de précision, aux escadrilles Leaside et City of Oshawa.

L'aviateur chef Marcel Carboneau de Lévis mécanicien à l'escadrille Alouette avait la visite de son frère la semaine dernière, le Sergent René Carboneau de l'armée canadienne. René fut enchanté de l'hospitalité qu'on lui donna à l'escadrille canadienne française et constata qu'on ne pouvait y trouver un meilleur esprit de corps parmi les membres d'une unité.

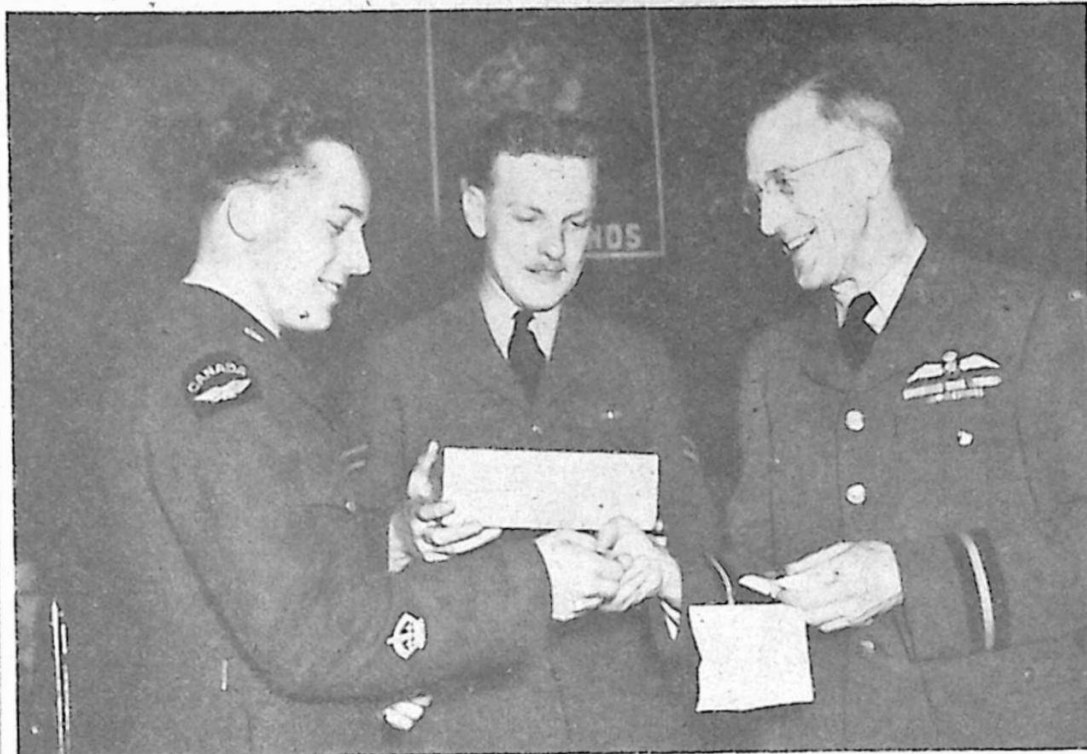
Le sergent de section Raymond St-Onge de Montréal vient d'épouser Mlle Helen Cameron d'Edimbourg. La cérémonie du mariage eut lieu dans la cathédrale St-Mary de cette ville. Son camarade d'équipage Louis-Philippe Rodrigue de Montréal assista au mariage. Les deux jeunes époux partirent pour leur voyage de noces à Ayre, Ecosse.

Le lieutenant de section Fernand Rancourt, DFC, de St-Victor de Beauce, vient de finir son tour d'opérations sur une escadrille de défense côtière. Il était pilote à bord des Mosquitos.

Trois canadiens français qui font partie d'une escadrille de Bombardement de la RAF participèrent au dernier grand raid de jour sur Berchtesgaden; le lieutenant de section P. Tremblay, DFC, de Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Montréal, le lieutenant Maurice Mercler, de Verdun, et le Sergent Harold St-Laurent de Cornwall. Ils sont tous revenus enchantés de leur voyage; la température était claire comme aux plus beaux jours et le spectacle au-dessus des Alpes bavaroises, grandiose. Inutile de parler du succès remporté, les journaux nous en ont donné un aperçu assez convaincant.

Le sous-lieutenant d'aviation Georges Arvanetes, de Montréal vient de finir son premier tour d'opérations comme mitrailleur arrière à l'escadrille Alouette. Au cours de ses envolées, le sous-lieutenant endommagea un Me110 au-dessus de Dortmund et à une autre occasion leur avion eut un

BOND WINNER



W/O George Artichuk receives the bond he copped in a raffle at the RCAF Overseas HQ Victory Loan dance with Air Commodore E. E. Middleton, CBE, making the presentation. Cpl. Don Bridgman, Toronto, master of ceremonies, is the interested spectator.

(Official RCAF Photograph.)

GUNNER GETS RID OF NAZIS

Receives Award for Fight While Wounded

When two enemy fighters attacked his Moose squadron aircraft and wounded him in the head and the arm, F/S Donald Hugh Lanctot, Montreal gunner, remained in his turret and did not inform his crew mates of his injuries until the enemy had been driven away. For this he has been awarded an immediate DFM in a recent list of awards to Canadians announced in the *London Gazette*.

Bluenose squadron pilot, F/L Lionel Elwood Coulter, Prairie Grove, Man., is the recipient of an immediate DFC in this week's list.

Another immediate award of the DFM has been made to F/S Rodney Rupert Browne, Mount Royal, Que.; rear gunner, who, during an attack on Worms, warned his pilot to evade an enemy fighter and then fired several bursts at the attacker which fell away and exploded.

Two non-immediate DFCs have been awarded to F/L Harry James Haus, Kitchener, Ont., and F/L Henry Keith Lefroy, Oakwell, Ont.

coup direct de la DCA. J'ai tellement aimé le vol de guerre dit-il que j'ai demandé pour servir dans la seconde phase de la guerre.

BEAVER BASE

Princess Pays Visit

Highlight of the week was the official visit of HRH Mary, Princess Royal, wearing the uniform of a Controller Commandant in the ATS. The visit opened with an inspection by The Princess of three flights, one WAAF and two WD, followed by an excellent March Past during which the Royal visitor took the salute from a reviewing stand especially constructed on the parade square for the occasion.

Tours Over

Following is a list of Canadian fliers who have recently completed tours with squadrons of the Royal Air Force: F/S W. H. Robinson, Biggar, Sask., air-gunner; F/S J. E. Stead, Biggar, Sask., air-gunner; F/L A. M. Herring, Long Branch, Ont., pilot; F/O E. F. Switzer, Kitchener, Ont., navigator; P/O R. L. Burgetz, Kitchener, Ont., mid-upper; F/O M. J. Sloan, Toronto, air-bomber; F/L P. A. Boswell, Toronto, pilot; F/L Ken Inglis, Owen Sound, Ont., pilot; F/L J. Willis, Toronto; F/O W. Pringle, Toronto, wireless operator; F/O W. G. Hunsaker, Hamiota, Man., air-bomber; F/L J. P. Gracie, Sceptre, Sask., Pilot; F/O W. A. Erskine, Leslieville, Alta., navigator; W/O C. R. Smyth, Toronto, wireless operator; P/O J. S. Runyon, Toronto, rear-gunner.

SCREENED

Original member of the Lion squadron when it was formed in 1943, W/C V. F. "Cowboy" Ganderton, Walwright, Alta., has completed his second tour and relinquished command of the unit. He and his rear-gunner, F/L D. B. Ross, DFC, Aberdeen, Scotland, who has finished his third tour, are the first two airmen to complete two tours with the Lion squadron.

GUNNER RETURNS

After serving in Britain for nearly twenty months, P/O G. F. Tindale, DFC, air gunner, South Slocan, B.C., is on his way back to Canada.

AROUND THE BEND

One Triple Play

This is Bombay calling with more tropic topics. Our ball team is still tops in news as far as this reporter is concerned, having won 10 games in 12 starts against the best teams the Americans can produce in this area. The boys have really played top-form ball in all the games, and so far they are the only team to complete a triple play, made by Innes Cale, Jim Bryson and "Gunner" Ericksson.

The top players are Sid Lang, Warren Cusack and Joe Brissette, who are averaging 340 with the willow and 1,000 in the field. They now hold a comfortable lead at the end of the second round of the league.

The newly formed discussion group has been meeting with considerable success fortnightly, under the guiding hand of F/L Gerry Taylor. Champagne and cakes were the order of the day recently, with the celebration of two recent well-merited promotions. Congratulations to W/C Wynn and S/L Heald. The latter officer, according to this unit's Winchell, was improperly dressed for three days waiting for the Winco to discard his old shoulder badges. W/C Wynn and Freddy

Granger went nomadic on us this month with a liaison trip into Burma to set a record for "Wynn's Super Service." He thinks that we're going to have to open a "Line Book" if they don't stop telling their tall tales. Last week everyone was drooped over their desks in the worst heat wave Bombay has had in the last 100 years with the temperature reaching a peak of 103. Why it had to happen while we were out here I don't know, but we're lucky that way and if it keeps up we really will be "around the bend." Hal Smith, postal wallah, was presented with an overstuffed pillow, having been acclaimed champion "Charpoý Basher" of this headquarters—could it be overwork or malnutrition?



Since the latter part of June, 1944, to the middle of March when he was screened on completion of his first tour of operations, F/L D. S. MacKirdy, Vancouver, a navigator, seemed to be a particular target for the Luftwaffe and Hard Luck. Five times MacKirdy's Halifax was fired upon by enemy nightfighters, one of whom was lucky enough to shoot the bomber down in flames. On several other occasions the pilot evaded German nightfighters while the gunners had good success with their guns. Enemy ack-ack had less success with MacKirdy's bomber and only inflicted superficial damage.

On one occasion, with five tons of bombs nestling in the bay, MacKirdy's bomber was forced to land. All crew members squeezed to safety. A count of noses revealed that the rear-gunner was missing. The English pilot raced back to the blazing aircraft, crawled into the fuselage, only to find the doors in the gun turret jammed. He rushed out and grabbed an axe from a fire tender and chopped the trapped gunner free. Hits on the aircraft were scored after an attack on a German target and fire broke out, but the pilot managed to get the aircraft down on the ground and the crew escaped uninjured.

Two fighters teamed up on MacKirdy's bomber during an attack on Stuttgart but were foiled decisively. The first nightfighter closed with the Halifax on the run-up to the target. He was the decoy for another German, who was sitting back in the darkness waiting to locate the bomber by the machine-gun flashes. The gunners opened up and shot down the decoy. The second attacker closed, but the gunners slithered their turrets around and sent their second victim down. Both "kills" were confirmed, one being credited to the English mid-upper gunner and the other to F/S E. W. Erickson, Watrous, Sask., who was manning the rear turret as a spare gunner on his first mission.

Despite numerous enemy fighter attacks and gaping flak punctures, F/L K. J. Halman, Leaside, Ont., flew his Lancaster by trim alone more than an hour from Duisburg to let his crew bale out safely over Allied territory. His navigator was F/O E. N. Weldon, Winnipeg. A hole two feet square was punched in the port main plane and a gash a foot across pierced the fuselage—in front of the mid-upper—just as they turned into the target. Flames broke out, but Halman went on to bomb while the English wireless operator fought the fire.

Five minutes after bombing the precision parts and fuse factory at Pforshelm, F/L B. H. O'Neill, Sydney, N.S., pilot of an RAF Lancaster, was attacked by a Ju88. A cannon shell pierced a wing as his gunners returned fire and O'Neill went into violent evasive action. His gunners saw their tracer strike the nightfighter, which broke off the attack. In more than 20 trips against such enemy targets as Heligoland, Dresden, Zeitz, Merseburg and Magdeburg, his aircraft has never been hit by flak.

Three Canadian veteran air crew members of an RAF Lancaster squadron bought \$1,000 of the Eighth Victory Loan. They are F/L F. A. Collins, pilot, North Vancouver, F/O D. K. Balsler, air-bomber, Longueuil, Qué., and W/O Doug Thornwell, air-bomber, Hamilton. Collins recently finished a tour of ops on Lancs and is headed for Canada. He lost two brothers in the RCAF. He was hit by flak over four enemy targets. At Dessau four feet of his starboard wingtip were shot off, while he lost one engine over Duisburg.

Other substantial amounts were sold to former Canadian athletes by F/L G. A. Campbell, Ottawa, pilot, who has nearly completed a tour. The athletes include F/L Johnny Acheson, Montreal, who played left wing on the RCAF Allan Cup champions in 1942; F/O W. J. Driscoll, air-bomber, who pitched with the Ottawa hockey pros when they won the Journal baseball trophy; and W/O A. V. Scribner, air-gunner, Nelson, B.C., who played senior baseball in B.C. and around Spokane, Wash. Acheson has finished his tour on Lancasters and is awaiting posting in Britain.

ENGINEERING MAN VISITS OUTPOSTS

F/L S. H. Foye, New Westminster, B.C., is now on his way home to Canada, after being stationed at some of the most remote stations in the UK. In this capacity he travelled to stations in the Hebrides, Shetland Islands, the Island of Islay and other stations in far away places where Canadians were based. crew men when they remustered for air duties, air crew and aircraft servicing trades.

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MORE CANADIANS REACH UK, FREED FROM NAZI PRISONS

Fliers Liberated by Advancing Allied Armies Relate Experiences in Camps

As Allied armies advance deeper into Germany, more and more prisoners of war are being released from enemy camps and hospitals and are arriving at the Bournemouth reception centre.

Lion Pilot

Among recent arrivals is S/L W. B. Brittain, DFC, Quebec, former flight commander with the Lion squadron. Brittain was freed exactly two months after he was forced to bale out of his crippled Halifax over Denmark during a mining mission to enemy waters.

His leg was broken when he made a parachute landing on a paved road. He was picked up by a German road patrol and taken to a German hospital. Later he was transferred to Germany.

Liberation came when American troops arrived, and shortly after he was flown to England where he learned that he had been awarded the DFC while a prisoner of war.

F/L R. R. Henderson, Vancouver, and F/L Don Elliott, Swift Current, Sask., were liberated by the Russians when they pushed through to the Oder in February. They arrived in the UK via Odessa.

Three warrant officers who passed through the hell hole in an abandoned brick factory at Duderstadt, have arrived in Britain. They were W/Os S. W. Walmsley, Chilliwack, B.C., S. Valensky, Sudbury, Ont., and N. M. Graham, Toronto. They spent three weeks in this dysentery-ridden, lice-infested camp before American Army tanks liberated them on April 9.

Torture Walk

Before they reached Duderstadt the three men had marched 500 miles across Germany, a tortuous trek on which many men dropped by the way from exhaustion, starvation and illness. Many died by the wayside, the released men say. W/O Hugh Hart, Vancouver; W/O J. E. Shooter, Regina; and W/O K. C. Smith, New Westminster, B.C., were among RCAF men who were freed from Stalag 9A at Zelgenhain.

Other RCAF men who have been freed and have arrived here include W/O S. J. Bailey, Montreal; W/O Edward Gershater, Omaha, Neb.; W/O A. F. Dawkins, Victoria, B.C.; W/O L. J. Soper, Napa, Cal.; W/O J. C. Mackie, New Westminster; W/O W. C. Roach, Leamington, Ont.; W/O G. E. Johnston, Portage La Prairie, Man.; F/L W. S. Harvey, Vancouver; W/O W. C. Warren, Portage La Prairie; W/C C. O. Huntley, New Westminster; F/S R. S. Le Boeuf, Essex, Ont.; W/O W. Milligan, Winnipeg; W/O J. Wilson, Youngstown, Ohio; W/O J. P. Paton, Montreal; and P/O L. G. Collins, Toronto.

F/O R. L. Stapleford, Watford, Ont.; F/O George James Keeper, Victoria; F/L L. G. Collins, Toronto; W/O Welland Phipps.

BEAU NAVIGATOR WEARS ODD SOCKS

Superstition Earns RCAF Flier Nickname

Superstition is the undisputed right of W/O Joe "Oddssocks" Gracie, Toronto. The nickname is the outgrowth of his wearing odd socks on every operational flight with a Beaufighter squadron in Coastal Command.

On his first trip, an attack against enemy shipping in the Norwegian fjords, he found that he was wearing odd socks. It was so successful that he and his pilot, F/O J. E. Nelson, DFC, Port Arthur, Ont., decided that the socks were good luck and a necessary item of Gracie's flying clothes. Despite ribbing from his squadron-mates the idea stuck.

On his 7th mission, he couldn't find his odd sock and took off without it. Several aircraft were lost and a FW190 gave Gracie's aircraft quite a chase before it was shot down by another Beaufighter.

Far East Veteran Is Squadron Boss

Command of one of the squadrons in the highest-scoring Canadian fighter wing on the Continent has been given to Squadron Leader Donald Gordon, DFC, Vancouver, veteran of India and the Desert War.

Simultaneously with the announcement, S/L Gordon shot down his ninth enemy aircraft, a Ju88 which was part of a pick-a-back combination.

LION ADJUTANT

F/L J. S. D. Francis, Ottawa, member of the permanent force since 1938, has been named adjutant of the Lion squadron of RCAF Bomber Group.

Ottawa; F/O Hugh Clew, Vancouver; F/O R. R. Anweiler, Melville, Sask.; W/O A. E. Young, St. Stephens, N.B.; W/O J. W. Ralston, St. Stephens, N.B.; W/O G. A. Keith, Campbelltown, N.B.; W/O A. G. Winton, Jacques River, N.B.; W/O Lorne Goat, Montreal; F/L Don Elliott, Swift Current, Sask.; W/O R. W. Wagstaff, Oshawa; W/O Hugh Hart, Vancouver; F/S J. K. Kelly, Toronto; W/O Mahlon F. Beach, Iroquois, Ont., and P/O Edward J. Houston, Arnprior, Ont.

OPEN MARKET



Canadians in the Far East have entered into the spirit of the Oriental custom of haggling in the open market. In the top photograph three west coast boys, F/S Dave Bissett, Vancouver, W/O Norm Hopper, New Westminster, and F/O Bill Kay, Vancouver, buy peanuts from a Burmese peddler. In the lower picture two Spit pilots, W/Os C. A. Elliott, Marbleton, Que., and Bill Bradley, Ottawa, trade shirts for eggs, apparently a good deal out east. (Official RCAF Photographs.)

FOUR-LEAF CLOVER BRINGS GOODLUCK

A four-leaf clover brought good luck to F/O R. J. Black, Brussels, Ont., Lancaster pilot, and his navigator, F/O C. Harder, Lethbridge, Alta.

Black wore the talisman, cased in perspex and presented by his brother, LAC J. D. Black, fitter on an east coast station in Canada, pinned to his battle-brouse throughout their first tour.

Twice they escaped from fighters without damage and only once were holed by flak.

SHELL TEARS ARM BUT PILOT STICKS

Flight Leader Hit In Attack on Train

While leading his formation in an attack on a train, F/L H. C. Charlesworth, Chemainus, B.C., Spitfire pilot with the Hornet squadron, was forced to drop out and make for base after a piece of anti-aircraft shell tore through his arm. He continued to fly in his formation for 15 minutes after the shell had wounded him, and his trip to base took another 40 minutes.

Enemy shells also hit his radio, so he was unable to report what had happened. Apart from his radio silence the other pilots were unaware that anything was wrong until they returned to base themselves. The ack-ack shell had entered the right-hand side of the cockpit as Charlesworth led the attack, missing his chest by an inch or two and cut through his arm without injuring the bone. So great was its force that it then penetrated the armour plating behind the pilot's seat.

FIGHTERS BREAK UP BOMBING RUN

Spitfire pilots of the Red Indian squadron recently broke up a Hun bombing attack over the British front north-east of Rethem as the formation of FW190s had just dropped four parachute flares prior to bombing. The enemy attacked at dusk and were caught by the Spitfire pilots who were just finishing their patrol.

Lack of fuel prevented the Spits from pursuing the enemy who flew east immediately, but F/O J. V. Marsden, Buffalo, and F/O A. G. Scott, Westmount, Que., shared a damaged aircraft.

No bombs found their mark, although one German jettisoned his bomb, which exploded well out of the flare area as cannon and machine gun strikes on his wing and fuselage set him trailing black smoke.

ENDS TOUR

F/L Andre Duchesnay, DFC, Quebec City, recently completed his second tour as a navigator, his time with the RCAF Thunderbird squadron. Prior to Bomber Command duty, he had served with Transport Command.

RCAF Spitfires Wing Takes Over Messerschmitt Base

What is believed to have been the base for a squadron of Me 10s has recently become the airdrome from which one of the top scoring RCAF Spitfire wings is now operating in the heart of Germany. This former Luftwaffe station has one of the biggest airfields the pilots have seen.

Since the days in Normandy when they operated from hastily constructed air strips, the wing has flown from 15 different bases across France, Holland and Germany.

The Germans apparently left the airdrome in haste, failing to demolish the buildings. The condition of the premises is the best yet experienced by the wing. If he mess, easily the best they have had on the Continent, the water system still works and the kitchen equipment functions.

The rooms are large and bright and only a few windows have been smashed. Administration officers have good offices and the wing MO moved into the former Luftwaffe sick quarters to find a heap of equipment, including X-ray apparatus which appears to be in working order.

Since they have been operating from this field the squadrons have been doing patrols and armed reccees over the front. The pilots have run up a respectable score of transport, railway engines and cars destroyed and damaged during strafing attacks.

NIP SHELL IGNITES NAVIGATION FLOATS

When the RAF Liberator piloted by S/L Johnny Gauntlett, DFC, Regina, bombed a bridge on the Burma-Siam railway from less than 500 feet, a Japanese shell hit a box of navigation flame floats, stowed in the rear gunner's compartment and set them afire.

W/O J. W. De Salvo, Simcoe, Ont., flight engineer and the RAF wireless operator scrambled to put the fire out from the blazing liquid which spurting in all directions.

Two parachutes were destroyed and petrol leaked from a fuel tank after another ack-ack hit while the attack was completed. The crew included F/O S. M. Staniloff, Winnipeg, navigator, F/A L. T. Simmons, Winnipeg, bomb-aimer, Sgt. R. E. Parks, Kingston, Ont., gunner, and Sgt. E. J. Jarmain, Mount Brydges, Ont., gunner.



HEADQUARTERS

Medal for the Winco

Splash party spectators at Seymour Hall last week were treated to a frolicsome evening. Novelty, comic, straight and various other swims were climaxed by a male beauty contest which was decided on a basis of the most romantic knees. Wing Officer K. Walker adjudged Cpl. Schnurr, UKBAU, an undisputed winner.

Sgt. Margaret Mitchell, Records, Knightsbridge, and S/S Johnny Aian, AJAJ, walked off with first place in the full-size novelty swim. Competitors swam the length of the pool in coveralls, took them off, passed them on to the partner, who swam back. Air Commodore C. R. Slemmon, CBE, presented prizes.

A gold medallion, bearing on one side the Coat of Arms of the Metropolitan Borough of Holborn, in which RCAF Overseas Headquarters is situated, and on the other side an inscription, was presented recently to W/C William G. Attewell, Camp Commandant of Headquarters, by the Mayor of Holborn, the Hon. Wilfred E. Mullen, J.P., at a luncheon in W/C Attewell's honour. The Medallion recognises W/C Attewell's "valuable service to Holborn."

Should you find a well disguised LAC Johnny Mower, juggling pencils around Leicester Square's amusement area don't be too surprised. Johnny's unending faith in his former Detroit Red Wing team mates found him shelling out, but good, when his club lost out to Toronto in that exciting Stanley Cup series recently.

Three WD softball games were played last week at Hyde Park. CR and Post Office girls edged out UKBAU 13-12 in an exciting contest. Cpl. George Jall and Sgt. "Corky" Corran sparked the winners while AW Phyl Agnew stood out for the losers. Knightsbridge Admin rounded APA 14-2 and Records

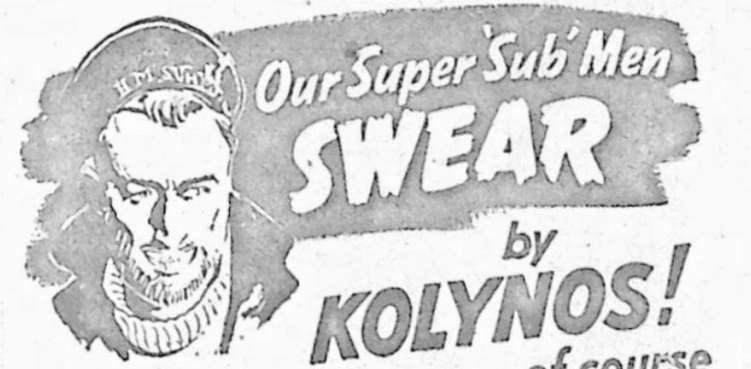
Tiger Howls

Members of the squadron who had previously served under W/C George Roy, DFC, Westmount, Que., were privileged recently to gather around the former CO and hear him tell of his experiences from the night he led a bombing attack on Bochum and failed to return.

The winco was pleased to see so many of his old gang out to welcome him back. Accompanying W/C Roy was S/L "Paddy" Paddock, DFC, Elkhorn, Man, former gunnery leader at a nearby con unit.

Softball season got under way during the past week under the able leadership of LAC Bill Legg, London, Ont. The Tigers took the first game against the Porkies. LAC Art McGlade, Smith Falls, Ont., turned in a good evening at bat and around first base.

With the sudden influx of new OTIs from the land of the maple Sgt. Brindamour, Quebec City, of the sport hut, has expressed difficulty in finding jobs for his recruits.



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IMPORTANT—USED TUBES WANTED FOR MUNITIONS: RETURN TO CHEMIST



RADIO ROUND-UP

Picture an Englishman trying to teach a hardy group of Alberta farmers the game of cricket and you have an idea of the time Cpl. C. S. Tory, Hardisty and Wainwright, Alta., had in his spare time teaching baseball to a group of Englishmen.

The Alberta radar mechanic moved to Ceylon after spending nine months in the United Kingdom. He had been stationed along the Dover coast during the heavy shelling and was later posted to the Far East.

"I just got the English chaps educated to the game when they were posted away, so I'd have to start all over again," he said about his teaching career in baseball.

He's now en route to Alberta after completing his stretch overseas.

Several other tube bashers are homeward bound. One is F/O William G. Havers, Hamilton who has been here over four years. He served most of his O.T. in India. He was in Calcutta when it was raided by the Japs. Leopard hunting was one of Havers' eastern pastimes.

Another four year man on his way home is Sgt. R. Pattee, Kirby, Westmount, Que. He's another veteran of India. He was a commercial radio operator before joining the air force, and he's one of the few who intend to stick to the business when it's all over.

One of the few RCAF radar officers to be decorated for war service, F/L Alec Forsyth, MBE passed through the Canadian repatriation depot recently on his way home to Russell, Ont. Forsyth, overseas since October, 1941, served 3 1/2 years in India and Burma.

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Lanc Pilot Queues No Room for Souvenirs As TAF Airfields Move

Although forced to feather his starboard inner engine while en route to attack rail facilities at Plauen, F/L A. W. Browne, Hamilton, piloted his RAF Lancaster on to the target. He lost so much height that he waited until the main bomber force had dumped its load.

Flak damaged the tops of the bomb bay before he left the area. On the trip home, the port outer engine failed but flying very low he made a good landing on an airfield in Southern England.

No Room for Souvenirs As TAF Airfields Move

A peace-time picnic jaunt of 1,000 people required about 200 vehicles for the job. That many airmen on an RCAF Typhoon wing of TAF move not only themselves and their personal kit, but all the specialized equipment necessary to service, maintain and repair their aircraft, in just 200 vehicles.

The precise pattern of movement splits the station into two separate airfields, one to send the Typhoons from their old base, and another to receive and service them at the new site. Each vehicle is packed and loaded as a self-contained unit so that its loss would not mean the loss of all available types of spares or technicians in any one category. Each operating airfield during a move is self-sustaining and could continue independently as long as necessary.

Such was the case when the airfield commanded by G. C. Dean Nesbitt, DFC, Montreal, moved into Holland. When "A" party arrived at a heavily-bombed airfield all the airmen grabbed shovels and prepared the pitted runways for the aircraft. All other preparations were completed in time to get operational as soon as the Typhoons arrived. The aircraft took off again within a half an hour of their first touch-down.

When the wing moved into Germany they proved that each section is self-sustaining. "B" party arrived a week after "A" party but ops went on as usual at the new field. No meals were missed but some of the hard-working technicians went without sleep.

Somehow each vehicle carries 20 Jerricans of motor petrol, 10 cans of water and can move 1,000 miles without outside assistance. Sixteen cans of aircraft oil hooked on to several lorries prevented an interruption in flying operations during a recent move, and this new requisite has been added to the convoy "musts."

Finally, a simple explanation for some airmen's lack of war trophies and souvenirs could be this remark, "Couldn't carry any, I was in TAF."

COASTAL SKIPPER COMBS NAZI SHIP

Halifaxes Hunt In Skagerrak, Kattegat

Striking by night, an RAF Coastal Command Halifax, captained by F/L F. J. Rush, DFC and Bar, Spiritwood, Sask., straddled a small enemy merchantman in the Skagerrak with a stick of bombs recently. The navigator reported that two of the bombs scored direct hits.

"At first there was a small fire," said F/L Rush, "but a minute or so later there was a series of explosions."

The attack was one of five made on German ships in the Skagerrak during the night. It brought the total of enemy shipping bombed by Halifaxes this month in the Skagerrak and Kattegat to more than 250,000 tons.



"MOLLY AND ME" (Tivoli, Strand)

Monty Woolley's witty presence lifts this comedy out of the doldrums. He plays a stubborn, disgruntled recluse who has been in seclusion for 15 years because of an old scandal about his wife's elopement with another man which had ruined him politically.

A time-worn Gracie Fields, tired of being an unemployed actress, applies for the housekeeper's position in Woolley's home and gets the job, after wangling with his butler, Reginald Gardiner. Gracie gets rid of a grafting staff at the house as well as Woolley's errant divorcee who returns and plans to blackmail him. Woolley's son, a mature Roddy McDowall, comes home on school leave and Gracie again comes to the rescue by patching up father and son who have been distant since the mother's faithlessness.

Bomber's Plunge Gives Gunner Anxious Moment

F/O Harry Ridley, DFC, Oakville, thought his day had come when the plane in which he was air-gunner plunged toward the ground after the pilot had taken action to avoid searchlights.

"I thought to myself that I had asked for operations so here I was getting what I asked for," he said.

The Lancaster bomber was suddenly enveloped in the cone of 12 or 15 searchlights during an attack on Bochum in the Ruhr. The pilot dipped the nose and then raised it suddenly, but the bomber, heavily loaded with bombs, stalled and plunged toward the ground. It dived about 4,000 feet before the pilot regained control. Crew members, instruments and papers were strewn about the inside of the aircraft.

Ridley said the Germans must have thought they had crashed because immediately after the plane was righted the searchlights went out and they were left free to continue their trip.

Ridley was an airgunner attached to the Bluenose squadron, and before that to the Moose squadron. His first operational mission, and that turned out to be his longest, was made on his 28th birthday. Now he is awaiting posting back to Canada.

He finished his tour just after D-Day, so he saw Allied fleets on their way to France on his last few trips.

OSHAWA SPITFIRES SMASH HUN TRAINS

Canadian Spitfires flew 93 armed recon sorties one morning recently in the area around Lunenburg and Cuxhaven to account for nine enemy locomotives, 25 railway cars and 105 motor and horse-drawn vehicles. City of Oshawa squadron sections led by F/O Steve Straub, San Jose, Cal., and P/O Larry Spurr, Middleton, N.S., each destroyed one locomotive. Two locos were damaged by a third section led by F/L Webb Harten, Saul Ste. Marie, Ont. The same squadron damaged five railway vans, destroyed five vehicles and damaged nine.

He finished his tour just after D-Day, so he saw Allied fleets on their way to France on his last few trips.

TORONTO SPIT PILOT JOINS CATERPILLARS

Italy.—P/O A. D. Carson, Toronto, who baled out of his damaged Spitfire over the Eighth Army front, was one of a formation of City of Windsor squadron Spitfires strafing an enemy position north of the Santerno river. Debris from the target is believed to have damaged his engine.

After a safe parachute drop inside the Allied lines he was picked up unhurt and returned to the squadron.

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ALDWYCH. Tem. 6404. Evenings 6.45. Wed. and Sat., 2.30. FIFTH SHEPARD presents TO-MORROW THE WORLD Robert Harris, Elizabeth Allan, Jean Cadell, David O'Brien	LEICESTER SQ. THEATRE. Whi. 6252 ABBOTT & COSTELLO in HERE COME THE CO-EDS (U) With PEGGY RYAN. Perfs. at 12.15, 2.35, 4.55, 7.15.
HIPPODROME. Ger. 3272. Eves. 6.15, Weds. and Sats. 2.15. Tom Arnold presents IVOR NOVELLO in His New Romantic Musical PERCHANCE TO DREAM	LONDON PAVILION. Ger. 2097 Cont. Daily, 10.9 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. Third Week THE FIFTH CHAIR (A) FRED ALLEN, JACK BENNY, WILLIAM BENDIX
PALLADIUM, Argyll Street. Ger. 7373. Twice Daily at 2.30 and 6.20. GEORGE BLACK'S new Musical Funfare HAPPY AND GLORIOUS With TOMMY TRINDER.	MARBLE ARCH PAVILION. May. 5112. LAURENCE OLIVIER in HENRY V (U) (In Technicolor) Perfs. 10.30, 2.30, 6.30. Sundays 3.30 & 6.30
PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. Whi. 6681. Twice Daily at 2.30 and 6.10. GEORGE BLACK'S GAY MUSICAL STRIKE IT AGAIN With SID FIELD.	NEW GALLERY, Regent St. Rec. 6080 with RITA HAYWORTH with JAMES BLAIR, LEE BOWMAN TO-NIGHT AND EVERY NIGHT (A) (In Technicolor) Weekdays from 11.30. Sundays from 3.30.
SAVOY. Tem. 8888. Evenings 6.45. Wed. and Sat., 2.30. FIFTH SHEPARD presents THE ASSASSIN Barry Morse, Rosalyn Boulter, J. H. Roberts, Henry Oscar, Leslie Perrins, Arthur Young.	NEW VICTORIA (G-B). Opp. Vic. Stn. OLSEN and JOHNSON in SEE MY LAWYER (U) Tall In The Saddle (A), News, etc. Weekdays from 11.45. Sundays from 3.30.
STRAND. Tem. 2660. Evenings 6.30. Thurs. and Sat., 2.30. FIFTH SHEPARD presents ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Lillian Braithwaite, Mary Jerrold, Naunton Wayne, Edmund Willard. Third Year.	ODEON, Leicester Square. Whi. 6111 NOEL COWARD'S BLITHE SPIRIT (A) In Technicolor. Weekdays at 10.45, 1.5, 3.25, 5.45, 8.00. Sundays 3.30, 6.15.
WHITEHALL, Trafalgar Sq., Whi. 6692 PHYLLIS DIXEY in "PEEK-A-BOO" CONT. DAILY 2 to 6 p.m. And NIGHTLY at 7 p.m., in the Play "WHILE PARENTS SLEEP."	PARAMOUNT, Eus. 4175. Tottenham Ct. Rd. BING CROSBY, BETTY HUTTON, SONNY TUFTS HERE COME THE WAVES (U) Also BATTLE FOR NEW BRITAIN (A) Sunday Next BLITHE SPIRIT (A) Tech.
WINDMILL, Picc. Circus. 14th Year. REVUEVILLE, 133rd Edition. (3rd week) Continuous daily 12.15-9.30. Last performance 7.50. A VIVIAN VAY DAMM PRODUCTION. "WE NEVER CLOSED."	TATLER THEATRE, Charing Cross Rd. ANGLO-SOVIET SEASON SON OF THE SOVIET EAST (U) Liberated Poland, etc. Weekdays from 12.0. Sundays from 3.30.
CINEMAS	TIVOLI, Strand. Temple Bar 5625. BETTY SMITH'S A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN (A) HEIR TO THE THRONE (U) The Story of Princess Elizabeth (Weekdays only) Weekdays from 10.45. Sundays from 3.30.
DOMINION (G-B), Tottenham Court Rd. Lana Turner, Laraine Day, Susan Peters "KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY (U) Tall In The Saddle (A), News, etc. Weekdays from 11.15. Sundays from 3.30.	WARNER, Leicester Sq. Ger. 3423 HUGH SINCLAIR. PAT KIRKWOOD SYDNEY HOWARD in FLIGHT FROM FOLLY (A) For Times of Showing, see Daily Press.
EMPIRE, Leicester Square. Ger. 1234. Starting Friday 10 a.m. to 9.45 p.m. THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY (A) with GEORGE SANDERS, Hurd Hatfield, Donna Reed, Angela Lansbury, Peter Lawford.	GAUMONT, Haymarket. Whi. 6655. BETTY SMITH'S A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN (A) HEIR TO THE THRONE (U) The Story of Princess Elizabeth Weekdays from 10.50. Sundays from 3.30.

Phyllis Calvert
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James Mason
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