

SECRET

D 2035/2.13-0.5302

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

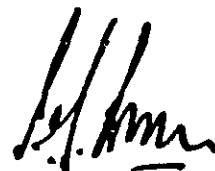
R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)

No. of Sheet.....* 79

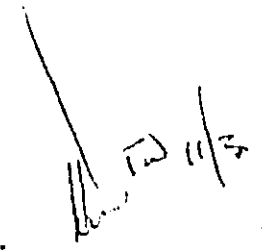
JANUARY, 1940.

of (Unit or Formation).....NO.9 SQUADRON.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
SYDNEY	8	Drogue Target Exercises in Co-operation with NAVY.	
RATHMINES	29	Flight Lieutenant S.A.C. CAMPBELL relinquished command of No.9 Squadron.	
"	29	Squadron Leader J.A.S. BROWN posted to No.9 Squadron to command, and also to act as Commander of R.A.A.F. Station, RATHMINES.	



.....Squadron Leader R.A.F.
Commanding No.9 } Squadron R.A.A.F.



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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)

No. of Sheet..... 80.....

FEBRUARY, 1940.

of (Unit or Formation)..... No.9 Squadron.....

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	12	Attached to No.9 Squadron for Flying Duties: Flight Lieutenant A.X. RICHARDS.	
	14	Posted to No.9 Squadron for Flying Duties: Pilot Officer P.J. McMAHON.	
SYDNEY	16	A2-16 - Flight Lieutenant S.A.C. CAMPBELL and Crew engaged in Drogue Target Exercises. Forced Landing A2-16 in SYDNEY Harbour during Drogue Target Exercise: Pilot: Flight Lieutenant S.A.C. CAMPBELL. Crew : AC1. McLAUGHLIN, C.J. (Metal Rigger). LAC. CLUNNE, E.J. (W/T. Op.). <u>NO CASUALTIES.</u>	
SYDNEY	26	A2-3 - Stores and Personnel embarked H.M.A.S. "MANOORA". Pilot: Flight Lieutenant A.X. RICHARDS. Crew : CPL. JOHNSTON, R.T. (Fitter Aero.). LAC. CREEK, H.J. (Metal Rigger). AC1. SWAN, P.C. (Photographer). AC1. CLARK, L.H. (Fitter Armourer).	
RATHMINES	26	Posted to No.9 Squadron (for Seaplane Conversion Course): Air Cadet G. SATTLER R.A. FLETCHER C. GOODE P.R. McDONNELL T.G. JOYCE S.R.C. WOOD N.S. ROOKE E.H.B. JACKSON.	

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FEBRUARY, 1940.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	28	<p>A2-16 - Pilot Officer P.J. McMAHON and crew proceeded to MELBOURNE in connection with Naval Observers Course.</p> <p><u>CREW:</u> LAC. MITCHELL, H. (Fitter Aero.). AC1. McLAUGHLIN, C.J. (Metal Rigger). LAC. EVANS, J.T. (W/T. Op.).</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> Squadron Leader R.A.F. Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 14/2/40.</p>	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)

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MARCH, 1940.

of (Unit or Formation).....NO.9 SQUADRON.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES.	15	<p>DARWIN Detachment returned:</p> <p><u>Aircraft:</u> A2-17.</p> <p><u>Crew:</u> Flying Officer K.C.H. EKINS. 2938 CPL. COLE, L.G. Wireless Electrical Mechanic. 3947 LAC. CORLESS, J.J. Fitter 11.E. 3921 LAC. HOLMES, A.K. Fitter 11.A.</p> <p>On return journey Flying Officer K.C.H. EKINS made a forced landing 30 miles from BRUNETTE DOWNS. No casualties. Cause stated - shortage of fuel.</p>	
LAVERTON.	23	<p>Seagull A2-19 - Pilot Officer P.J. McMAHON proceeded to LAVERTON, VIC. to carry out Drogue Target Towing Operations at RYE, in co-operation with No.4 A.A.Battery.</p> <p><u>Crew:</u> 3927 A.C.I. McLAUGHLIN, C.J. Fitter 11.A. 3.47 LAC. JARVIS, V.J.E. W/T. Op. 4323 A.C.I. NORMAN, S.C. Flight Fitter.</p>	
RATHMINES.	26	Flight Lieutenant A.S. GRAY posted to NO.9 Squadron.	
SYDNEY.	28	<p>Detachment embarked in H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA".</p> <p><u>Aircraft:</u> A2-8.</p> <p><u>Pilot:</u> Flying Officer K.C.H. EKINS.</p> <p><u>Crew:</u> 2651 CPL. HEMTON, J.T. Photographer. 3260 CPL. LITTLE, R. Fitter 11.E. 3916 LAC. FOSTER, P.J. Fitter 11.A. R302 LAC. EVANS, W.J. Fitter Armourer.</p>	
RATHMINES.	29	A2-19 - Pilot Officer P.J. McMAHON and crew returned from LAVERTON, VIC.	

P.J. McMahon
.....Squadron Leader R.A.F.
Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.

1 J.O.T. B
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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb. '33.)

No. of Sheet..... 20 82

APRIL, 1940.

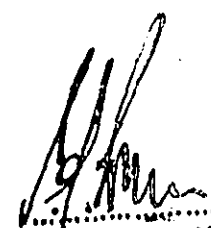
of (Unit or Formation)..... No. 9 SQUADRON.....

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RAVENHILLS.	3rd.	<p>Seagull V aircraft , A2-16 and crew -</p> <p>Pilot Officer P.J. McMAHON, Pilot. 2915 Sgt. BONDINI, J.S. W and E Mechanic. 3947 LAC. CORLESS, J.J. Fitter II(E)</p> <p>forced landed on LAKE TUGGERAH (near LAKE MACQUARIE) owing to lack of petrol. The crew suffered no injuries. A relief aircraft, piloted by Squadron Leader D.A. CONNELLY was flown to LAKE TUGGERAH to refuel A2-16, after which both aircraft proceeded back to base.</p>	
RAVENHILLS.	5th.	<p>Seagull V aircraft, A2-22 and Crew -</p> <p>Squadron Leader S.A.C. CAMPBELL, Pilot 1757 Sgt. MORRIS, A.J.G. Fitter II (E) 3947 LAC. CORLESS, J.J. Fitter II (E) 3949 LAC. EVANS, J.T. W/T Operator.</p> <p>departed for PEARCE to replace Seagull A2-18 which was due for overhaul. On the 10th. April, 1940 at RAWLINA, the aircraft suffered damage in a gale; the crew being uninjured. After receiving material for repairs from PEARCE, the aircraft was made serviceable and proceeded to PEARCE, arriving there on April, 19th.</p>	<p>No.9 Sqn, Operation Order, 23 <i>Unit Box file</i></p>
SYDNEY.	9th to 11th.	Drogue Target exercises were carried out in co-operation with the Army.	<p>No.9 Sqn, Operation Order, 22 <i>Unit Box file</i></p>
SYDNEY.	12th.	Drogue Target exercises were carried out, co-operating with N.M.A. Navy.	
RAVENHILLS.	14th.	<p>Seagull aircraft A2-16 and crew -</p> <p>Pilot Officer P.J. McMAHON, Pilot. 2936 Cpl. COLE, L.G. W. & E. Mechanic. 3927 LAC. McLAUGHLIN, C.J. Fitter II (E) 4823 ACI. NORMAN, S.O. Flight Fitter.</p>	
VICTORIA.			

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Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	14th.	proceeded to LAVERTON, Victoria to take part in Drogue target exercises with H.M. Australian Navy.	
	20th.	After successfully completing these exercises, A2-16 and crew returned to RATHMINES.	
RATHMINES.	22nd.	Flight Lieutenant A.Y. RICHARDS was posted to No. 9 Squadron for general flying duties. (Formerly attached to No 9 Squadron).	
RATHMINES.	22nd.	Flight Lieutenant A.S. GRAY posted to Headquarters, RATHMINES for Adjutant duties.	
RATHMINES.	24th.	Flying Officer C.L. FORESTER posted from No. 1 Engineering School, ASCOT VALE to No. 9 Squadron for Adjutant duties.	


 Squadron Leader R.A.F.
 Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)

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of (Unit or Formation) NO. 9 SQUADRON.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	MAY, 1940	<p>In accordance with instructions received from Air Board, Pilot Officer P.J. McMAHON was detailed to leave for LAVERTON to carry out Drogue Target operations in co-operation with Royal Australian Navy.</p> <p>Aircraft - Seagull V, A2-19</p> <p>Crew - No. 1797 SGT. MORRIS, A.J.G. Fitter Drogue Operator. 3927 LAC. MC.LAUGHLIN, C.J. Rigger. R273 LAC. CLUNNE, E.J. W/T Operator.</p> <p>On 28th. May, 1940 instructions were received stating that Pilot Officer P.J. McMAHON would be required for a further seven days to carry out drogue exercises.</p>	<p>9 Sqn Operation Order No. 24., 8/5/40 <i>Unit Doc File</i></p>
	21st	<p>Flying Officer E.V. BEAUMONT delivered Seagull A2-4 to Rathmines. A complete overhaul had been carried out on this aircraft at No. 2 Aircraft Depot.</p>	
	27th	<p>Seagull A2-8 allotted to No. 11 Squadron, Port Moresby.</p>	
	29th	<p>Squadron Leader S.A.C. CAMPBELL and Pilot Officer D.P. CHADWICK posted to Amberly, Queensland. They proceeded to Central Area, where they are attached for instruction.</p>	
		<p><i>[Signature]</i>Squadron Leader R.A.A.F. Commanding-No. 9 1 Squadron R.A.A.F.</p>	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb. 33.)No. of Sheet 12 *84*

of (Unit or Formation).....NO. 9 SQUADRON.....

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
<u>JUNE, 1940.</u>			
RATHMINES	2nd	The Chief of the Air Staff, Air Marshall SIR CHARLES BURNETT visited the Station on a tour of inspection; the party was met at RICHMOND by Squadron Leader D.A. CONNELLY piloting Seagull A2-4 and Flying Officer E.V. BEAUMONT piloting A2-16, and flown to RATHMINES. Following the tour of inspection the Chief of the Air Staff and party returned to Rose Bay by the same aircraft and respective pilots.	
	11th.	Flying Officer MAY and crew of two were detailed to proceed to PEARCE, W.A., for the purpose of collecting Seagull A2-22. The above personnel travelled from RATHMINES to LAVERTON by Service Aircraft and thence by Australian National Airways, arriving at PEARCE on the 13th JUNE.	
	14th	A2-22 with Flying Officer MAY and crew left PEARCE for LAVERTON, travelling via KALGOORLIE, RAWLUNA, FORREST, CEDUNA, PARAFIELD, and NHILL, reached LAVERTON on 16th JUNE. Departed the following day for RICHMOND, via COOTAMUNDRA. On arrival at RICHMOND the engine was changed and the journey completed on arrival at RATHMINES on 18th JUNE.	
	17th	For the purpose of receiving and taking over Douglas Dolphin Amphibian, Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN accompanied by Flying Officers BEAUMONT and STOKES proceeded by air (Seagull A2-18) to MASCOT. On return to RATHMINES, the Douglas Dolphin Amphibian was piloted by Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN, with Flying Officer BEAUMONT as 2nd pilot. Flying Officer STOKES returned with A2-18.	

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Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	JUNE, 1940		
	21st	<p>Flying Officer MAY with crew of three, left for LAVERTON in A2-16 for the purpose of Naval Co-operation. Forced landing occurred near Wangaratta, caused by "gas starter non-return valve" blow-out. No damage or injuries resulted.</p>	<p><i>Operation Order No 25/1940.</i></p>
	22nd	<p style="text-align: center;">BEAUMONT</p> <p>Flying Officer left RATHMINES in A2-4 with spare part. The latter machine was refuelled overnight at Wangaratta and returned to RATHMINES the following day. Flying Officer MAY with Seagull A2-16 continued the journey to LAVERTON.</p>	
	25th	<p>Droque towing was carried out for anti-aircraft co-operation work at NARRABEEN by Flying Officer BEAUMONT in A2-19</p>	
	27th	<p>Air Commodore HURLEY, Group Captain WILSON, and Squadron Leader FARRAR were met at ROSE BAY by Flying Officer BEAUMONT with Seagull A2-18 and flown to RATHMINES. ^{and} Air Commodore HURLEY, Squadron Leader FARRAR were later flown to R.A.A.F. NEWCASTLE for an inspection. On return to RATHMINES, Group Captain WILSON was taken aboard and the party continued to ROSE BAY. Flying Officer BEAUMONT with A2-18 returned to RATHMINES the following day.</p>	
28th	<p>Flying Officer BEAUMONT piloting A2-18, flew the Adjutant, No.9 Squadron to ROSE BAY in connection with duties at CENTRAL AREA, HEADQUARTERS. Also as passenger was the Station Engineer Officer, who was then conveyed to RICHMOND to inspect damage to Seaplane Training Flight Seagull A2-6. After the inspection Flying Officer BEAUMONT and the Station Engineer Officer returned to RATHMINES.</p>		
30th	<p>Flying Officer MAY and crew having completed Naval Co-operation work, left LAVERTON for RATHMINES in Seagull A2-16. Forced landing occurred near LOCKHART N.S.W.</p>		

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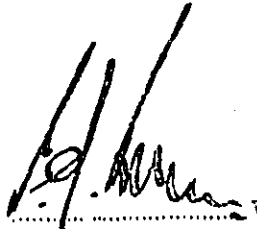
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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb. '33.)

No. of Sheet 18 85

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 9 SQUADRON.....

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	<u>JUNE, 1940</u> 30th	(Cont'd) owing to fog and supposed jamming of rudder. Serious damage was caused to the aircraft but no injuries to personnel resulted.  Wing Commander R.A.F. Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK


R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)No. of Sheet... ~~74~~ 86

of (Unit or Formation) No. 9 SQUADRON

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	1950 JULY	<p>2 Flying Officer BEAUMONT and crew flew Seagull A2-18 to Farm Cove; tests of aircraft stowage in H.M.A.S. 'PERTH' were carried out, and the aircraft returned to RATHMINES the following day.</p> <p>3 For the purpose of attending a conference of Commanding Officers at Headquarters Central Area, the aircraft A2-19 was flown to Rose Bay by Wing Commander J.A.S.BROWN, who after the conference returned direct to RATHMINES.</p> <p>5 Captain Sir Phillip BowyerSMYTHE, of H.M.A.S. 'PERTH', visited the Station in connection with the embarkation in his ship of a No.9 Squadron Detachment. He was met at Rose Bay by Flying Officer BEAUMONT as pilot of Seagull A2-18 and conveyed to RATHMINES, he returned by the same means later in the day. Flying Officer BEAUMONT with the aircraft remained at Rose Bay over night, and after further tests in conjunction with H.M.A.S. 'PERTH' returned to RATHMINES the next day.</p> <p>6 Flying Officer BEAUMONT proceeded to RICHMOND with A2-4 for the purpose of swinging the compass, prior to embarkation in H.M.A.S. 'PERTH'. Flying Officer McMAHON flew A2-18 to RICHMOND to carry out Dummy Parachute Dropping.</p> <p>11 Seagull Aircraft A2-4 flown to SYDNEY for attachment to H.M.A.S. 'PERTH'; Officer Commanding Detachment, Flying Officer E.V.BEAUMONT, his crew consisted of one Fitter IIE, one Fitter IIA, a Fitter Armourer, and a Photographer.</p> <p>12 Wing Commander BROWN flew to Rose Bay in A2-18 to discuss affairs, relating to No.9 Squadron and Station Headquarters, at Central Area and returned to RATHMINES later in the day.</p> <p>18 Flying Officer McMAHON appointed Officer-in-Charge, Duty Pilot's Watch Hut, and also as from the 4th of July to be Station Navigation Officer.</p> <p>20 Squadron Leader GRAHAM and Flight Lieutenant HEMSWORTH arrived as pilots of A2-8 and A2-12, from PORT MORESBY. These two aircraft were handed over to No.9 Squadron on arrival; the pilots and crews later departed for SYDNEY by rail.</p> <p>26 Squadron Leader GRAHAM visited RATHMINES in Flying Boat A18-13, for the purpose of finalizing the hand-over of A2-8 and A2-12. He returned later to Rose Bay. Approval granted for temporary allotment of A2-8 to Seaplane Training Flight in order to complete the current Conversion Course.</p>	

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Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	JULY	<p>27 Permission granted for allotment of A2-18 to No.2 Aircraft Depot for complete overhaul.</p> <p>29 Wing Commander BROWN, with Flying Officer MAY, flew A2-19 to SYDNEY in connection with forced landing and casualty of A2-16, which with Flying Officer MAY as pilot occurred at LOCKHART, N.S.W., in June.</p> <p>30 Flying Officer McMAHON delivered A2-18 at No.2 Aircraft Depot for complete overhaul.</p> <p>31 Flying Officer MAY flew A2-12 to Rose Bay, and returned with Squadron Leader HEY as passenger to RATHMINES. Later the same day Squadron Leader HEY was taken back to Rose Bay by the same aircraft and pilot.</p> <p>During JULY promotions were promulgated in respect to the following Officers : Flight Lieutenant A.X.RICHARDS, Officer Commanding H.M.A.S.'MANOORA' Detachment, to be Squadron Leader as from 1-6-40. Pilot Officer P.J.McMAHON to be Flying Officer as from 20-4-40.</p> <p>An incident of great importance which directly concerned No.9 Squadron occurred during the month, this was the sinking of an Italian cruiser by H.M.A.S.'SYDNEY'. The R.A.A.F. Detachment aboard H.M.A.S.'SYDNEY' consisted of No.9 Squadron personnel, the Officer Commanding this Detachment being Flight Lieutenant T.McB. PRICE.</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  Wing Commander R.A.F. Commanding No.9 Squadron R.A.A.F. </div>	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)No. of Sheet 1587


AUGUST, 1940.

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 9 SQUADRON.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
<u>RATHMINES.</u>	1st	<p>Flying Officer C.L. FORRESTER (C.F.), Adjutant of No. 9 Squadron, posted to Station Headquarters, RATHMINES, for similar duties (in addition to be acting No. 9 Squadron Adjutant) in place of Flight Lieutenant A.S. GRAY.</p> <p>Flying Officer P.J. McMAHON flew A2-19 to NEWCASTLE for the purpose of swinging the compass.</p> <p>Squadron Leader A.X. RICHARDS and crew, with A2-3, having disembarked from H.M.A.S. MANOORA, arrived at RATHMINES.</p>	
	2nd	Having flown the Captain of H.M.A.S. PERTH to CAMDEN, Flying Officer E.V. BEAUMONT and crew arrived at the Station ex H.M.A.S. PERTH with A2-4.	
	3rd	The Commanding Officer attended Conference at CENTRAL AREA regarding promotion of Officers.	
	5th	In order to carry out co-operation work with the Navy, Squadron Leader A.X. RICHARDS and W/T. Operator in A2-19 proceeded to LAVERTON. Owing to weather conditions, stops were made at WAGGA and BENALLA, arriving LAVERTON on the 8th. Drogue towing commenced immediately and was carried on until the 19th, on which date the aircraft left LAVERTON and, stopping at WAGGA for the night, reached RATHMINES the following day. Owing to restrictions on weight carried in aircraft, it was necessary for the Fitter Iie and Fitter IIA to travel to and from LAVERTON by rail.	
	6th	A2-4, with Flying Officer E.V. BEAUMONT and crew, returned to H.M.A.S. PERTH.	
	7th	Sleeve towing for anti-aircraft practice was carried out by Flying Officer M.J. MAY piloting A2-1.	
	8th	Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON, having successfully completed Seaplane Conversion Course, posted to No. 9 Squadron for General Duties (Flying).	
	9th	<p>Flying Officer P.J. McMAHON left RATHMINES in A2-4 and, with crew of 4, re-embarked in H.M.A.S. MANOORA.</p> <p>Drogue towing operation for H.M.A.S. PERTH and ADELAIDE, followed by air to air practice at RICHMOND, was abandoned owing to unserviceability of aircraft. Shortly after having taken off in A2-19, the oil temperature rose rapidly and the pilot, Flying Officer M.J. MAY, returned to RATHMINES.</p>	
	12th	New quarters were occupied at R.A.A.F. Station, RATHMINES.	
	13th	Air Vice Marshal R. WILLIAMS and party arrived by road for a tour of inspection. They were escorted round the Station by the Commanding Officer and left by car later in the day.	

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Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
<u>RATHMINES.</u>	14th	Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON temporarily assumed the position of Acting Adjutant in the absence of Flying Officer C.L. FORRESTER, who departed for Melbourne to attend the funeral of the late Minister, in a private capacity.	
	16th	Flying Officer M.J. MAY and selected personnel from No. 9 Squadron were included in the funeral party for the late L.A.C. GROSSDALE, who was killed in the CANBERRA air crash.	
	18th	Under instructions from higher authority a search was carried out off LONG REEF. Three aircraft, A2-1, A2-19 and A2-14 were made ready at short notice and, with Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN, Flying Officer M.J. MAY and Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON as pilots, took off at approximately 0730 hours. The aircraft returned at mid-day and reported that nothing suspicious had been sighted.	
	19th	Squadron Leader A.X. RICHARDS posted to R.A.A.F. Headquarters, MELBOURNE, for organisation duties.	
	21st	Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN flew Douglas Dolphin A35-1 to ROSE BAY and brought back Squadron Leader FARRAR and Works Supervisors from CENTRAL AREA. The party were taken back to ROSE BAY by the same means later in the day.	
	22nd	A2-14, A2-1 and A2-19, piloted by Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN, Flying Officers M.J. MAY and R.H. THOMPSON, took part in a formation flight and mock bombing attacks over NEWCASTLE for the benefit of His Excellency the Governor and Lady Wakehurst during their visit to NEWCASTLE. (In connection with Newcastle Emergency Services Demonstration).	
	23rd	Under CENTRAL AREA instructions Flying Officer M.J. MAY was retired to the R.A.A.F. Reserve.	
	26th	Having taken part in bombing practice, A2-22, with Flight Lieutenant P.O. LAVARACK and Naval Observer, departed for H.M.A.S. CANBERRA. Owing to change of plans they did not embark but returned to RATHMINES until the 29th.	
	27th	Aircraft from H.M.A.S. PERTH, A2-4, with Flying Officer E.V. BEAUMONT as pilot, flew to RATHMINES and returned to the ship the same day.	
	28th	Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON carried out drogue work for the army at NARABEEN.	
30th	Co-operation with H.M.A.S. CANBERRA in anti-aircraft practice: Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON piloted A2-1.		


 Wing Commander R.A.F.
 Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.

2 SEP 1940

SECRET

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)

SEPTEMBER, 1940.

of (Unit or Formation) No. 9 SQUADRON

No. of Sheet 25. 88

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
<u>RATHMINES.</u>	4th	Drogue towing operation for Army at LONG REEF cancelled owing to lack of equipment; for the same reason, sleeve target and spotting aircraft requirements for H.M.A.S. "Adelaide" were also cancelled. Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN flew Douglas Dolphin, A.35-1, to RICHMOND with Squadron Leader D. CONNELLY as passenger, the latter taking over Seagull A.2-9 from No. 2 Aircraft Depot on allotment to S.T.F.	
	8th	No. 9 Squadron personnel took part in a Church Parade at R.A.A.F. Station, RATHMINES, to commemorate one year of war.	
	10th	Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON flew Squadron Leader D. CONNELLY to ROSE BAY in order to take over A.2-3 on allotment to S.T.F. Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN gave dual instruction to Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON in piloting Douglas Dolphin, A.35-1.	
	11th	For the purpose of inspecting Wireless Transmitting facilities at R.A.A.F. Station, RATHMINES, Squadron Leader BERRY, Flight Lieutenant MACK and Flying Officer GROVANT were met at ROSE BAY by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON and flown to RATHMINES in A.2-8.. During the day the party were flown to WILLIAMSTOWN for an inspection.	
	13th	Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN, piloting A.35-1, returned the party to ROSE BAY, in addition transporting 3,000 rounds of ammunition for use of A.18-13 in air-to-air firing exercises.	
	14th	Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON, with A.2-1 and crew, proceeded to ROSE BAY and MASCOT and carried out air-to-air gunnery and drogue towing for A.18-13 until the 17th inst., when he returned to RATHMINES.	
	17th	Notification of posting to S.H.Q. RATHMINES of Warrant Officer F.H. GILCHRIST, Fitter Armourer, and his promotion to C.W.O. Branch as from 1st August. Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN flew to ROSE BAY and return in Douglas Dolphin A.35-1.	
	19th	For the purpose of compass swinging, Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON took Seagull A.2-1 to NEWCASTLE and return.	
	20th	Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN, accompanied by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON, flew to ROSE BAY; owing to bad weather prevailing, Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON stayed overnight and returned with the aircraft to RATHMINES the next day.	
	24th	Drogue towing was carried out by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON in A.2-1 for air-to-air gunnery at RICHMOND until the 26th.	
	28th	Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON and W/T. Operator left for LAVERTON in A.2-19 to carry out drogue towing for the Army and the Navy. Owing to weight restrictions on Seagull aircraft, the fitter and rigger travelled to LAVERTON by rail.	

[Signature]
Wing Commander R.A.F.
Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb. '33.)

OCTOBER, 1940.

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 9 SQUADRON.

No. of Sheet 29

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES.	13th	Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON, with W/T. Operator, returned to RATHMINES in A2-19 from LAVERTON, having completed naval co-operation work and drogue towing for anti-aircraft exercises.	
	14th	A2-8 was piloted by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON for the purpose of carrying out intensive endurance tests of Seagull aircraft under full load conditions.	
	16th	Flight Lieutenant A.M. HICK posted to No. 9 Squadron from 4 E.F.T.S., for service overseas, as Officer Commanding R.A.A.F. Detachment, H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA". Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON flew to ROSE BAY in A2-8 and brought Pilot Officer T. CARLYON to RATHMINES for an inspection of Messes.	
	21st-23rd	Operating from RATHMINES, Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON took part in towing exercises for anti-aircraft off FORT WALLACE.	
	25th-27th	Target towing carried out by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON from MASCOT for air-to-air gunnery exercises by crew of A.18-10.	
	28th	Four days air-to-air gunnery commenced at RICHMOND, drogue aircraft being A2-19, Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON.	

[Signature]
 Wing R.A.A.F.
 Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.
 17 - NOV 1940

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)

No. of Sheet.....90

NOVEMBER, 1940.

of (Unit or Formation).....NO. 9 SQUADRON.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
<u>RATHMINES</u>	1st	Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN flew Douglas Dolphin A35-1 to ROSE BAY and return whilst proceeding on duty to Headquarters, CENTRAL AREA.	
	4th	Pilot Officer L.G. WEBBER and Pilot Officer G.M. MASON, having completed conversion course, posted from Seaplane Training Flight to No. 9 Squadron for Flying Duties. Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON carried out naval co-operation for H.M.A.S. "Adelaide" aircraft A2-8, with Pilot Officer L.G. WEBBER as passenger for instruction.	
	5th	Pilot Officer L.G. WEBBER carried full load test with aircraft A2-8/	
	6th	Pilot Officer G.M. MASON carried out full load test with A2-8.	
	7th	Naval co-operation with H.M.A.S. "Adelaide" by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON in A2-19.	
	13th	Drogue towing exercises for No. 1 Anti-Aircraft Regiment from 1000 to 1200 hours by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON and from 1400 to 1600 hours by Pilot Officer G.M. MASON.	
	14th	Army co-operation exercises abandoned owing to bad weather and aircraft returned to base.	
	18th	Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON flew to ROSE BAY for the purpose of testing A2-4.	
	18-20th	Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN presided at Court of Enquiry held at MASCOT.	
	19-20th	Air to air exercises, A.18-12 ex PORT MORESBY, carried out by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON in A2-8.	
	22-24th	Reconnaissance patrol in search of reported mines (in conjunction with Seaplane Training Flight).	
	28th	Squadron Leader MORIN picked up at ROSE BAY by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON, flown to RATHMINES and returned by same means later in the day.	
		During the month approval was granted by AIR BOARD for replacements of all personnel who had served aboard H.M.A.S. cruisers for 12 months or more. This necessitated new crews being selected for the H.M.A.S. Canberra, Sydney, Hobart and Australia. Pilot Officer L.G. WEBBER and crew for H.M.A.S. Canberra left RATHMINES for PEARCE during the month to await embarkation. The establishment of the Squadron was increased to include an additional Fitter IIA aboard the H.M.A.S. Canberra, Sydney, Hobart, Australia and Perth, and a photographer aboard each of the ships.	
			Wing Commander R.A.F. Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOKR.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)

DECEMBER, 1940

of (Unit or Formation) **No. 9 SQUADRON**

No. of Sheet 91

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	2nd	Wing Commander J.A.S. Brown (R.A.A.F.) flew A35-1 to Rose Bay for the purpose of presiding at Court of Inquiry into damage to A18-12 ex Port Moresby.	
	3rd	Flying Officer A.H. Thompson, with J/T. operator and full drogue gear flew to Inverton. On completion of Army co-operation exercises on 10/12/40 Flying Officer Thompson returned to Rathmines. Owing to weight restrictions on Seagull aircraft, Fitter IIB and Fitter IIA proceeded to Inverton and return by rail.	
	4th	Pilot Officer G.H. Mason flew to Rose Bay to collect secret documents and Lewis Gun Magazine Sheets relative to Court of Inquiry.	
	5th	Went on a flight from Rathmines to Newcastle in Douglas Dolphin A35-1, with Pilot Officer Mason as passenger, Flight Sergeant Bondini, F.S., J/T. Operator, and Flight Sergeant McLean, Fitter IIB, Wing Commander Brown at the controls noticed a cloud of smoke several miles out to sea. The aircraft was flown straight to the spot, where wreckage, to which 13 men were clinging, was sighted. The aircraft alighted, but owing to rough seas and floating debris it was not possible to approach. A take-off was made and shortly afterwards the ship sighted; by Aldis Lane the ship was informed of the position of the wreckage, and directed to the scene; on arrival a boat was lowered and the 13 survivors were taken aboard.	
	10th	Reconnaissance carried out by Wing Commander Brown in A35-1, and Pilot Officer Mason in A2-8.	
	11th	Pilot Officer Mason, with Pilot Officer Martin (R.A.A.F.) as navigator, carried out mine search off the coast without result.	
	9th	Flying Officer A.H. Thompson posted from No. 9 Squadron to Seaplane Training Flight.	
	13th	Wing Commander Brown flew to Mascot to preside at Court of Inquiry; he returned to Rathmines the same day.	
	17th	Pilot Officer Mason carried out drogue towing for anti-aircraft battery at Port Wallace.	
	18th	Sea search by Wing Commander Brown in A2-19.	
	22nd	Photographer flown to Williamstown Aerodrome by Flying Officer Thompson (R.A.A.F.), and for Army intelligence, aerial photographs were taken of vehicular blocking of the area.	
	26th	Prior arrangements for Pilot Officer R.R. Scutts to take over command of R.A.A.F. Detachment, H.M.A.S. 'Sydney' cancelled, he was posted to No. 2 Embarkation Depot from this date for service abroad.	

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	23rd 27th	<p>Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN appointed President of Court Martial held at No. 2 Initial Training School, BRADFIELD PARK.</p> <p>In accordance with instructions received from Headquarters, two Seagull aircraft (A2.19 and A2.8) came under the command of RICHMOND from this date. Both aircraft, fitted with full armament equipment, were flown to RICHMOND by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON (S.T.F.) and Pilot Officer MURCHISON (S.T.F.).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  Wing Commander P.A.H. Commanding No. 9 Squadron I.T.A.F. </p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 JAN 1944</p>	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb. '33.)

of (Unit or Formation) No. 9 SQUADRON

No. of Sheet 91 A

Supplementary

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATONINES	<u>1940</u> Dec. 6	<p>The wreckage of the vessel sighted by Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN (RAF), has since been proved to be that of the U.S. "MILBURN".</p> <p>3 Pilot Officer T.M. LASON acting on instructions from Central Area, successfully diverted the course of the U.S. "MILBURN".</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> Wing Commander R.A.F. Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.</p>	