

SECRET

D 2035/2.52 - 0.5232

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK


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

January, 1941.

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

No. of Sheet..... 92.....

Place.	Date. Jan'y	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	7th	Operating from MASCOT, Flying Officer G.M. MASON carried out drogue towing in A2-4, for Flying Boat A18-11. Returned to RATHMINES on 8/1/41.	
	9th	Anti-aircraft co-operation at NEWCASTLE by Flying Officer G.M. MASON in A2-4.	
	13th & 14th	Anti-aircraft co-operation at LONG REEF by Flying Officer G.M. MASON in A2-4.	
	16th	Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN, in A35-1, acting on instructions from Headquarters, CENTRAL AREA, carried out a search, following crash of two Fairey Battle aircraft at sea off Terrigal.	
	20th - 24th	Flying Officer G.M. MASON, operating from RICHMOND, carried out target towing in A2-4 for No. 22 Squadron.	
	23rd	Drogue towing for H.M.A.S. HOBART and H.M.A.S. ADELAIDE.	
	28th	Anti-aircraft co-operation at LONG REEF by Flying Officer G.M. MASON in A2-4.	
	30th	Anti-aircraft co-operation at NEWCASTLE by Flying Officer G.M. MASON.	
	31st	Frequency tests carried out at PORT KEMBLA and TUNCURRY. Tests successful.	


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

- 1 FEB 1941

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

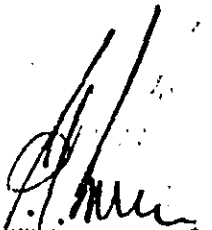
R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb. '33.)

No. of Sheet 93

FEBRUARY, 1941.

of (Unit or Formation) No. 9 Squadron

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
<u>RATHMINES.</u>	4th	Flying Officer G.M. MASON flew A2-8 to ROSE BAY and return with Station Equipment Officer for duty in SYDNEY.	
	5th	Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN attended promotion conference at CENTRAL AREA, proceeded to ROSE BAY and return in A35-1.	
	6th	Pilot Officer E.J. ROWAN posted to No. 9 Squadron for cruiser detachment, having completed Seaplane Conversion Course with Seaplane Training Flight.	
	7th	Weather test carried out by Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN in A2-8. Sergeant Pilot BARREY R.B. posted No. 9 Squadron for flying duties, having completed Seaplane Conversion Course with Seaplane Training Flight.	
	8th	Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON (Seaplane Training Flight) with W/T. Operator and Fitter, were conveyed to MELBOURNE by Catalina flying boat. On the following day, Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON and crew collected Seagull A2-22, which had been undergoing repairs at No. 1 A.D., and ferried the aircraft to RATHMINES via COOTAMUNDRA.	
	10th & 11th	Drogue towing for anti-aircraft battery at LONG REEF carried out by Flying Officer G.M. MASON in A2-4.	
	12th	Flight Lieutenant T. McB. PRICE, Officer Commanding H.M.A.S. SYDNEY detachment, arrived at RATHMINES by air and returned the same day.	
	13th-14th	Flying Officer G.M. MASON, with A2-22, carried out co-operation for anti-aircraft at NEWCASTLE.	
	18th	A.M. Anti-aircraft co-operation by Flying Officer G.M. MASON in A2-4, off NARRABEEN. P.M. Navy co-operation for H.M.A.S. HOBART and H.M. .S. ACHILLES successfully completed.	
	19th	Further anti-aircraft practice at NARRABEEN.	
	20th	Prior to embarkation on H.M.A.S. MANOORA, compass swinging was carried out at NEWCASTLE in A2-5 by Flying Officer R.H. THOMPSON (Seaplane Training Flight).	

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
	<p>22nd</p> <p>26th</p> <p>27th</p>	<p>Flying Officer G.M. MASON and crew left for RICHMOND in preparation for air to air firing by Nos. 6 and 22 Squadrons, to be carried out from the 24th to the 28th inclusive.</p> <p>Test flight, A2-8, carried out by Sergeant BARREY R.B.</p> <p>Sergeant Pilot McDONOUGH A.V. posted No. 9 Squadron for cruiser detachment duty, in anticipation of a commission, and having completed Seaplane Conversion Course with Seaplane Training Flight.</p> <p>During the month night flying practice was instituted and, as far as practicable, was carried out bi-weekly. In order to facilitate operations, No. 9 Squadron and Seaplane Training Flight combined in the programmes carried out.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  Wing Commander R.A.F. Commanding No 9 Squadron R.A.F. </p>	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
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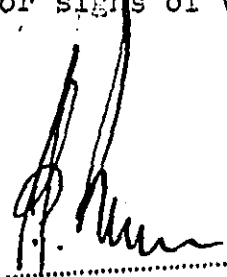
No. of Sheet.....94.....

MARCH, 1941.

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

Place.	Date. March	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	1st - 10th	Flying Officer G.M. MASON proceeded to LAVERTON, via COCTAMUNDRA, in A2-22, to operate for anti-aircraft battery; drogue towing exercises commenced on 4.3.41 and continued throughout the week. On completion, the aircraft returned to RATHMINES.	
	3rd	Night flying practice carried out in conjunction with Seaplane Training Flight.	
	7th	Pilot Officer R.B. BARREY proceeded to ROSE BAY in A2-8, returned with Air Commodore HURLEY and Wing Commander FARRAR as passengers; they were later flown to WILLIAMTOWN and returned to ROSE BAY on completion of inspection.	
	12th- 13th	Flying Officer G.M. MASON carried out drogue towing for anti-aircraft off NARABEN in A2-22.	
	12th	Pilot Officer A.V. McDONOUGH in A2-8 conveyed two junior Air Board Officers from ROSE BAY to RATHMINES and WILLIAMTOWN on an inspection and returned them to ROSE BAY.	
	13th	Night flying practice carried out in conjunction with Seaplane Training Flight.	
	15th - 22nd	Flying Officer G.M. MASON proceeded to RICHMOND in A2-4 to carry out drogue towing for air to air gunnery. Exercises commenced on 17.3.41 and were carried on until the aircraft returned to RATHMINES.	
	22nd	Flying Officer G.M. MASON ferried A2-22 to No. 2 Aircraft Depot, RICHMOND, for complete overhaul. Pilot returned as passenger with Pilot Officer BARREY in A2-8.	
	24th	Towing carried out for Navy. Flying Officer G.M. MASON in A2-4, combined exercises H.M.A.S. HORART, SYDNEY and AUSTRALIA.	
	25th	Pilot Officer E.J. ROWAN arrived RATHMINES with aircraft ex H.M.A.S. SYDNEY and returned the same day. Lieut. HOATH, Fleet Air Arm, arrived RATHMINES with aircraft ex H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA to report and returned to ship the same day.	
	27th	In accordance with instructions received from CENTRAL AREA, aircraft A2-8, piloted by Flying Officer G.M. MASON, was despatched at 1115 hours to carry out search to seaward,	

/over/

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
		<p>to contact tug ST. GILES in search wreckage of ship believed sunk. At approximately 1430 aircraft sighted wreckage approximately 33°17'S, 152°10'E. Tug ST. GILES was directed to spot and aircraft returned to base at 1800 hours.</p>	
	27th	<p>Pilot Officer R.B. HARREY conveyed Wing Commander GOODWIN, O/C Records, from RICHMOND to RATHMINES, and on the following day from RATHMINES to WILLIAMTOWN.</p>	
	28th	<p>A further search was carried out under instructions for signs of wreckage sighted on the previous day, but without result.</p>	
		<p style="text-align: right;">  Wing Commander R.A.F. Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F. </p>	
		<p>1 APR 1941</p>	

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

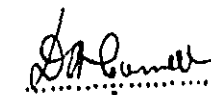
R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb. '33.)

No. of Sheet.....95.....

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

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
	1941 April		
RATHMINES	3	Acting on instructions from CENTRAL AREA, aircraft was despatched for purposes of identifying ship reported off NEWCASTLE. On return to base, pilot of aircraft reported having sighted no ships in the vicinity given.	
	5	On instructions from CENTRAL AREA, aircraft despatched to investigate ship alleged to be in distress 30 miles off Nobbys. Aircraft recalled on result of further message; pilot reported ship to be Iron Knob behaving in normal manner.	
x	5	Squadron Leader D.A. CONNELLY assumed command of No. 9 Squadron on relinquishment by Wing Commander J.A.S. BROWN (R.A.F.)	
	6	Report received from C.W.R. that Seagull A2-24, aboard H.M.A.S. HOBART, had dived into sea, following catapult failure, resulting in death of Lieutenant J.J. HOATH, R.N., and serious injury to Navy crew of two. Aircraft was not recovered.	
	10	Flying Officer G.M. MASON, in A2-4, carried out drogue towing exercises for Navy - H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA and HOBART. The same pilot and aircraft took part in towing for air to air gunnery with flying boat A18-11.	
	10	Pilot Officer R.B. BARREY ferried A2-9 to ROSE BAY for embarkation H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA and returned RATHMINES by rail.	
	10	Pilot Officer E.J. ROWAN disembarked H.M.A.S. SYDNEY and embarked H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA, assuming command of R.A.A.F. Detachment, H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA.	
	11	Pilot Officer R.B. BARREY ferried A2-8 to ROSE BAY for embarkation H.M.S. ACHILLES.	
	11	Pilot Officer R.B. BARREY embarked H.M.A.S. SYDNEY for instruction under Flight Lieutenant T. McB. PRICE, O.C. R.A.A.F. Detachment.	
	14	Flying Officer G.M. MASON proceeded to SYDNEY by rail to ferry A2-8 to RATHMINES, not required for embarkation H.M.S. ACHILLES.	
	18	Flying Officer G.M. MASON in A2-4 carried out towing exercises for Navy - H.M.A.S. HOBART and ADELAIDE.	

Place.	Date. April	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	23	Drogue towing by Flying Officer G.M. MASON for anti-aircraft battery off NARABEEN.	
	29	Flight Lieutenant T. McB. PRICE ceased attachment H.M.A.S. SYDNEY. Pilot Officer R.B. BARREY assumed command R.A.A.F. Detachment.	
	30	Air Officer Commanding, Air Commodore W.H. ANDERSON, C.B.E., D.F.C., visited RATHMINES by air. On completion of inspection, he was flown by Squadron Leader D.A. CONNELLY in A2-19 to WILLIAMTOWN and ROSE BAY.	


 Squadron Leader
 Commanding No. 9 1 Squadron R. A. A. F.

- 1 MAY 1941

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of Sheet.....96

of (Unit or Formation).....No. 9 Squadron, RATHMINES, N.S.W.

Place.	Date. MAY	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
<u>RATHMINES.</u>	1	Advice received that F/Lt. T. McB. PRICE ceased attachment H.M.A.S. SYDNEY, 29.4.41, and in consequence P/Off. R.B. BARREY assumed the duties of O.C. H.M.A.S. SYDNEY Detachment.	
	5	Flying Officer G.M. MASON, with Seagull A2-4 and crew, proceeded to RICHMOND to carry out target towing for No. 22 Squadron. Operations completed on 16.5.41 and personnel returned to RATHMINES.	
	13	F/Lt. P.O. LAVARACK ceased attachment H.M.A.S. CANBERRA and in consequence P/Off. D.J. MURCHISON assumed the duties of O.C. H.M.A.S. CANBERRA Detachment.	
	17	Flying Officer G.M. MASON, operating from RATHMINES in A2-4, with spotting aircraft supplied by Seaplane Training Flight, carried out towing for gunnery Catalina A24-3.	
	19	Target towing carried out by Flying Officer G.M. MASON in A2-1 (Seaplane Training Flight aircraft) for Navy exercises H.M.A.S. HOBART and AUSTRALIA.	
	19	On completion of the above operation, aircraft proceeded to MASCOT for air to air gunnery by No. 22 Squadron. Practice carried on until 26.5.41 when aircraft returned to RATHMINES.	
	28	In accordance with instructions from CENTRAL AREA for exercise, "Enemy ships in Pacific vicinity N.S.W. Coast" and "Hostile aircraft flew over Georges Heights SYDNEY heading N.N.W." the following reports were furnished by RATHMINES - "29/5/41 - Unidentified aircraft believed Stinson Reliance high wing type approached within half mile to east of station out of cloud bank from south east and headed north west into cloud bank at 1625 hours. Period of sighting 30 seconds" and "30/5/41 - Aircraft despatched 0630 hours returned to base 0815. Pilot reports contacted hostile aircraft A38-1 3000 feet BELMONT heading north at 0750 hours."	

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

- 2 JUN 1941

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of Sheet 27

of (Unit or Formation) No. 9 SQUADRON

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	1941 4	Flight Lieutenant T.H.DAVIES ceased attachment H.M.A.S. 'HOBART', and Pilot Officer A.V.McDONOUGH became Officer Commanding R.A.A.F. Detachment H.M.A.S. 'HOBART'.	
	6	His Excellency The Governor General LORD GOVRIE, PC. KCMG. CB. CMG. DSO., visited RATHMINES.	
	9	Flight Lieutenant T.McB.PRICE attached Seaplane Training Flight from No. 9 Squadron to undergo Catalina Conversion Course.	
	11	Wing Commander J.ALEXANDER assumed command of No. 9 Squadron. Squadron Leader D.A.CONNELLY relinquished temporary command of No. 9 Squadron.	
	13-14	Towing carried out by Flying Officer G.M.MASON in A2-4 for air to air gunnery 118-11.	
	16	Official notification of award to Flight Lieutenant Thomas McBride PRICE of Distinguished Flying Cross, for action whilst Officer Commanding R.A.A.F. Detachment H.M.A.S. SYDNEY Flight Lieutenant P.O.LAVARACK posted to Central Flying School to undergo Flying Instructors Course	
	18	Complete R.A.A.F. crew, aircraft and equipment, in addition to Naval observer, were disembarked H.M.A.S. 'HOBART' to R.A.A.F. Station RATHMINES.	
	20	Flying Officer G.M.MASON in Seagull A2-4 carried out towing for combined Naval exercises, H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA and ADELAIDE.	
	25-26	Anti-aircraft shoot off NEWCASTLE, drogue towing co-operation by Flying Officer MASON in A2-4.	
	30	Announcement of conferring by His Majesty the King the honour of the Order of the British Empire on Wing Commander James ALEXANDER. During the month all sections of No. 9 Squadron moved to quarters in the new Hanger at RATHMINES, and became a complete unit under one roof.	

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

1 JUL 1941

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices,



SECRET

D 535/2.13 - C.2802

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of Sheet.....99.....

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

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES.	1941 AUGUST 2	No. 9 Squadron came under the control of Southern Area on the reorganisation of Areas. Group Captain J.E. HEWITT (Director of Personal Services) visited RATHMINES and several members of No.9 Squadron (at their request) were paraded before him. The opportunity of airing grievances and the sympathetic hearing accorded by the D.P.S. was greatly appreciated.	
	4	Warrant Officer J. BURGE, Fitter Armourer arrived on posting from No.10 E.F.T.S. and assumed the duties of Armament Officer to No.9 Squadron and also to Station Headquarters, RATHMINES.	
	5	Seagull A2-8 was flown to RICHMOND and handed over to No.2 A.D. for complete overhaul.	
	8	Drogue target towing was carried out from ROSE BAY in Seagull A2-4 by F/O G.M. MASON for AL3-10.	
	9	Two Wireless Air Gunners arrived on posting from No.1 B.A.G.S.	
	11	Wing Commander J. ALEXANDER was posted to Headquarters, RICHMOND and Squadron Leader D.A.CONNELLY, Seaplane Training Flight, assumed temporary command of No.9 Squadron.	
	12	Flight Lieutenant E.V. BEAUMONT, O.C. R.A.A.F. Detachment, H.M.A.S. "PERTH" reported to RATHMINES, having flown overland from Western Australia in Walrus L.2293. This detachment has been operating in the Mediterranean since JANUARY, 1941, under the control of the Commander in Chief, Mediterranean, and was re-embarked in H.M.A.S. "PERTH" for return to Australia. The members of this detachment being due for relief, action was taken to have the necessary replacements made available. Advice was received from Air Board on 30.9.41 that the personnel of the detachment were to be disembarked, but no mention of replacements was made.	
	14	The promotion of two officers was promulgated. Flying Officer P.J. McMAHON was promoted to Flight Lieutenant as from 1st JULY, 1941 and Pilot Officer E.J. ROWAN to Flying	

SECRET

D 2035/2.13. - 0.1862

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

No. of Sheet.....100.....

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

Place.	Date	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	AUGUST 14	Officer as from 17th JUNE, 1941.	
	19	Seagull A2-11 was allotted from Qantas and on collection was fitted with drogue towing gear from A2-4 in preparation for towing operations with the Army on 20th Inst.	
	20	S/Ldr. D.A. CONNELLY proceeded to Southern Area Headquarters for Officers Promotion Conference and returned on 26.8.41. Flying Officer G.M. MASON proceeded to ROSE BAY in A2-11 and carried out drogue towing for the School of Artillery on 20th and 21st inst.	
	21	Height finding exercises were carried out for H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" by F/Lt. P.O. LAVARACK in A2-9.	
	26	Air Vice Marshall WRIGLEY (Air Member for Personnel) visited RATHMINES and the names of surplus N.C.O.'s in the mustering of Fitter IIA and Fitter IIE were submitted to him so that postings to other stations could be effected. F/O J.N. CORELLI, Adjutant No.9 Squadron, took over duties as Station Messing Officer in addition to Adjutant duties, as from 28.8.41.	
	29	Flight Lieutenant McMAHON, O.C. H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" Detachment flew from the ship at BRISBANE to RATHMINES for repairs to engine of Seagull A2-1. The necessary repairs were effected and the aircraft made serviceable for return to the ship at SYDNEY on 1st SEPTEMBER, 1941.	
		During the month Anti-gas training was carried out under the instruction of Sgt. FINDLAY, D.J. of R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND.	
		The establishment of the unit was increased by 9 Clerk Stores, one of whom is to be embarked with each detachment for clerical duties and parachute maintenance. Flying Officer PATTEN from Air Force Headquarters arrived at RATHMINES on 24.8.41 to conduct a course of instruction in the necessary duties for these personnel.	

E.W. Holmes
 F/Lt
 Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

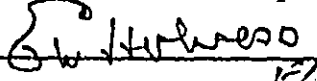
R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)

No. 9 Squadron,
of (Unit or Formation).....RATHMINES, N.S.W.....

No. of Sheet.....401.....

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES.	1 SEPTEMBER	F/O G.M. MASON carried out target towing in A2-11 for the Navy. P/O A.V. McDONOUGH in A2-9 with Lt. McWILLIAM as observer attended to note the result of the shoot.	
	2	P/O A.V. McDONOUGH in A2-9 with Lt. McWILLIAM as observer carried out spotting for the Navy for full calibre firing. A photographic survey of the TORONTO-AWARA-RATHMINES area was completed. The object being to provide a mosaic for the Army showing the location of roads within the area.	
	4	P/O B.P. STACY was posted from Seaplane Training Flight with Air Board approval for him to be embarked in H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" to relieve F/Lt. P.J. McMAHON.	
	4 & 5	P/O A.V. McDONOUGH carried out target towing in A2-11 for A18-11. When taking off at MASCOT at 1400 hours on 5.9.41 the engine of A2-11 cut out and necessitated a forced landing in a swamp area near Cooks River. No damage was done to the aircraft. Engine failure was caused by a piece of metal in the carburettor causing it to flood. The aircraft was hauled back to the aerodrome at MASCOT and when the fault had been overcome it was flown back to RATHMINES on 7.9.41.	
	5	F/O G.M. MASON embarked in H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" to relieve F/O K.C.H. EKINS. No.33431 CPL. YOUNG.S., Clerk Stores, was also embarked on 6.9.41.	
	8	P/O B.P. STACY departed RATHMINES to embark in H.M.A.S. "MANOORA".	
	9	P/O C.W. HAYDON of Seaplane Training Flight carried out target towing in A2-11 for Empire Boat A18-11.	
	10	Two Wireless Air Gunners arrived on posting from No. 2 Embarkation Depot.	
	13	F/O L.G. WEBBER flew to H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" at BRISBANE in A2-11 to replace A2-1 which had been damaged in a flying accident. The change was made the same day and A2-1 disembarked to ARCHERFIELD where the necessary repairs were carried out to enable the aircraft to be flown to RATHMINES.	

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	SEPTEMBER 15	F/O G.M. MASON flew from H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" at SYDNEY to RATHMINES and exchanged A2-13 for A2-14 which was taken over from Seaplane Training Flight, there being no suitable spare aircraft available in No. 9 Squadron.	
	17	A2-6 allotted from QANTAS, ROSE BAY, was collected, checked and flown to RATHMINES by P/O A.V. McDONOUGH. Whilst the bilges of A2-13 were being cleaned with cleaning petrol, sparks from the inspection light ignited fumes in the aircraft. The flames were quickly extinguished with foam extinguishers before any material damage was caused. A special committee was appointed to investigate the cause of the fire and they found that the globe of the inspection lamp broke or was broken and sparks from the filament ignited petrol fumes in the aircraft. Instructions have now been issued by the Station Engineer to safeguard against any further occurrences of a similar nature and the use of inspection lamps in aircraft has been prohibited until more suitable lamps are available.	
	19	P/O A.V. McDONOUGH with the crew of H.M.A.S. "HOBART" aircraft, which has been standing by at RATHMINES, left for PORT MORESBY in A2-9 to replace A2-11 which had been damaged in a flying accident aboard H.M.A.S. "MANCORA". On arrival at TOWNSVILLE on 21.9.41 it was found that the engine of A2-9 required a new ball race. The pilot of the H.M.A.S. "MANCORA" Detachment, F/Lt. P.J. McMAHON and crew flew from THURSDAY IS. by Empire Boat with the ball race from A2-11's engine and when the replacement was made they took over A2-9 the crew of which returned to RATHMINES by train arriving on 26.9.41.	
	22	F/Lt. E.V. BEAUMONT was posted to Seaplane Training Flight to undergo a conversion course as first pilot on Catalina aircraft. A2-5 was allotted from Seaplane Training Flight.	
	23 & 24	Drogue towing was carried out in Walrus L2293 by F/Lt. P.O. LAVARACK. The operations were carried out at night off PORT KEMBLA for the 1st Anti-Aircraft Brigade, searchlights being used to locate the target.	
	26 & 29	Target towing was carried out in Walrus L2293 by F/Lt. P.O. LAVARACK for the Navy.	
	26	Walrus L2293 was flown over NEWCASTLE at night by F/Lt. E.V. BEAUMONT to co-operate with the searchlight batteries in that area.	


 1st Squadron Leader,
 Commanding No. 9 Squadron,
RATHMINES N.S.W.

SECRET

D 2935/A.55.-0.5862.

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

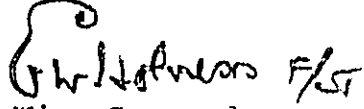
No. of Sheet...102.....

of (Unit or Formation) No. 9 Squadron

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
	OCTOBER		
RATHMINES	3	Seagull A2-1 was allotted to QANTAS, ROSE BAY for repairs. No. 14060 CPL. FROST, R.G., Fitter II(E) proceeded on 6 days pre-embarkation leave prior to embarkation in H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" to replace No. 21115 CPL. LOW, K.W.	
"	7	Pilot Officer M.S. MAINTRIZE of Seaplane Training Flight in Seagull A2-6 made a heavy landing and damaged the port wing tip float and attachments.	
"	8	Flight Lieutenant COWDELL and A.G.O. FRANCIS, (W.A.A.A.F.) visited No. 9 Squadron on behalf of the Director of Personal Services regarding personnel establishments.	
PORT KEMBLA	8-10	Pilot Officer A.V. McDONOUGH 407008 in Walrus L2293 carried out target towing for the Army at PORT KEMBLA using the aerodrome at MASCOT as a base.	
RATHMINES	10	Flying Officer J.N. CORELLI A2654 was posted to Station Headquarters, RATHMINES, for Adjutant duties.	
"	14	Flying Officer K.C.H. EKINS 241 disembarked from H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" at TOWNSVILLE and proceeded to SYDNEY as a passenger in Empire Boat A18-12 arriving 16.10.41. He was granted disembarkation leave to 13.11.41.	
"	15	Flying Officer L.G. WEBBER 764 carried out target towing in Walrus L2293 for the Army in the NEWCASTLE area. The operations were continued at night.	
"	16	Height finding for the Navy was carried out by Pilot Officer A.V. McDONOUGH 407008 in Seagull A2-5 with Lt. McWILLIAM as observer. In the afternoon Flying Officer L.G. WEBBER 764 in Walrus L2293 carried out target towing for the Navy and the crew of A2-5 carried out spotting duties.	
"	17	Walrus L2319 allotted from QANTAS, ROSE BAY, was collected.	
"	20	A Court of Inquiry convened by the A.O.C. SOUTHERN AREA was held to inquire into a fire which occurred in Seagull A2-13 on 17th SEPTEMBER, 1941. The Court consisted of Wing Commander A.D. CAREY, President, F/Lt. F.J. WILSON and P/O S.H. COLLIE, members.	

SECRET

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	20	The fire was found to have been caused by the inspection lamp, which was being used inside the aircraft whilst the bilges were being cleaned with cleaning petrol, becoming broken thereby allowing a spark to ignite the fumes in the aircraft.	
"	22	Flight Lieutenant P.O. LAVARACK 103 in Walrus L2293 carried out Height Finding for the Navy.	
NEWCASTLE	22-23	9 Squadron co-operated with the Army, Area Combined Headquarters, in exercises the purpose of which was to ascertain the efficiency of signals between A.C.H. and Tentacles. Aircraft carried out close support mock bombing raids on targets indicated by the Army.	
RATHMINES	24	Pilot Officer A.V. McDONOUGH 407008 in Walrus L2319 carried out Height Finding for the Navy.	
"	25	Walrus L2293 was embarked in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" at SYDNEY in place of L2322 which was disembarked to ROSE BAY for repairs.	
"	27	Flying Officer D.B. GAYFORD 1824 arrived on posting from Station Headquarters, RICHMOND, for duties as Adjutant.	
"	27	Target towing was carried out in Seagull A2-5 by Pilot Officer A.V. McDONOUGH 407008 for A.A. practice for the Navy. Flying Officer L.G. WEBBER 764 with S/Lt. (A) BRIAN as observer in Walrus L2319 attended and carried out spotting duties.	
"	29	Pilot Officer A.V. McDONOUGH 407008 in A2-5 carried out target towing for the Navy and Flying Officer L.G. WEBBER 764 with Lt. McWILLIAM as observer in Walrus L2319 carried out spotting duties.	


 G. W. Johnson F/S
 Wing Commander,
 Commanding, No. 9 Squadron,
RATHMINES, N.S.W.

SECRET


OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK.

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

of (Unit or Formation) No. 9 SQUADRON, RATHMINES, N.S.W.

No. of Sheet 103

Place.	Date 1941 NOVEMBER	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	7	Pilot Officer H.H. ROHDE (407850) was posted to No. 9 Squadron from Seaplane Training Flight.	
	10	Flight Lieutenant P.J. McMAHON (469) and No. 3524 CPL. SHRUBB, E.G., Photographer, disembarked H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" and proceeded on 28 days disembarkation leave. Pilot Officer B.P. STACY (406446) and crew consisting of No. 21097 CPL. FEENEY, R.J. and L/TAG. OXLEY (RAN), having flown A2-5 from H.M.A.S. "MANOORA", proceeded on ship's leave.	
	12	Flying Officer A.V. McDONOUGH (407008) in Walrus L2319, with LT. McWILLIAM (RAN) as observer, flew to SYDNEY to carry out catapult trials with H.M.A.S. "PERTH" and then returned to RATHMINES	
	15	Flying Officer L.G. WEBBER (764) and No. 18151 LAC. GIBBONS, E.T., W & E.M., flew to LAVERTON in A2-9 to carry out drogue for the Army.	
	17	The following were embarked in H.M.A.S. "PERTH" :- <u>AIRCRAFT</u> - Walrus L2319 <u>DETACHMENT</u> - Flying Officer A.V. McDONOUGH (407008), No. 3635 SGT. SPARKS, H.; Fitter 2E, 9030 CPL. WILL, P.E., 9358 CPL. NOTT, C.A., Fitters 2A, 17357 CPL. BRADSHAW, R.N., Fitter Armourer, 40613 ACI. TOE, E.G., Clerk Stores, 37895 ACI. PATTERSON, G.R., Photographer.	
	20	32930 LAC. SMYTH, A.F., Photographer and 60173 ACI. WRIGHT, J.E., Clerk Stores proceeded to SYDNEY and were embarked in H.M.A.S. "MANOORA".	
	22	Flying Officer L.G. WEBBER (764) and LAC. GIBBONS returned from LAVERTON in A2-9 having completed Drogue Towing.	
	23	Wing Commander D.A. CONNELLY (45) flew A2-13 to MASCOT and conveyed Air Commodore E.M. BLADIN to RATHMINES.	
	24	Air Commodore BLADIN carried out an inspection of R.A.A.F. Station, RATHMINES. Flying Officer D.B. GAYFORD (1624) was detached to No. 2 Training Group Headquarters until 25.11.41 to undergo an Intelligence Officers course.	
	26	No. 21237 CPL. CROFT, J.K., Fitter 2E, proceeded on pre-embarkation leave prior to embarkation in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA". Pilot Officer H.H. ROHDE (407850) and No. 33492 LAC. WILSON, R.V., W & E.M. Flew to MASCOT in A2-9 to carry out drogue at PORT KEMBLA for the Army.	

Place.	Date 1941	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	26	Wing Commander J. ALEXANDER (Commanding Officer R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND) Flew to RATHMINES in A2-22, which had been allotted to No. 9 Squadron from No. 2 Aircraft Depot. A2-4 was allotted to No. 2 Aircraft Depot for an 180 hourly inspection and was flown to RICHMOND by Wing Commander ALEXANDER.	
	27 &	Pilot Officer H.H. ROHDE (407850) carried out a successful forced landing in A2-9 at	
	28	LAKE ILLAWARRA. Flight Lieutenant P.O. LAVARACK (103) flew to LAKE ILLAWARRA in A2-22 and flew A2-9 back to RATHMINES and Pilot Officer ROHDE returned in A2-22.	
	29	Having carried out target towing for air to air gunnery in A2-22 Pilot Officer ROHDE was approaching the slipway when a strong gust of wind caused the aircraft to foul the slipway and as a result the port oleo leg was damaged.	
		 Wing Commander, Commanding No. 9 Squadron, RATHMINES, N.S.W.	

A. B.

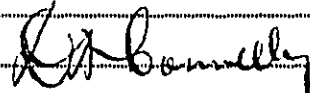
OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

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

No. of Sheet..... 104.....

Place.		Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	DECEMBER		
	4	No. 20914 L.A.C. McCORMACK, J., Clerk Stores and 21237 CPL. CROFT, J.K., Fitter IIE proceeded to SYDNEY by train and embarked in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA".	
	5 & 6	No. 3790 SGT. NICKELS, J.B., Fitter IIE, disembarked H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" and proceeded on 28 days disembarkation leave. Flying Officer A.V. McDONOUGH 407850 flew from H.M.A.S. "PERTH" at SYDNEY to RATHMINES in L2319 for anti-corrosion engine spray and returned to the ship on 6.12.41.	
	8	No. 5619 CPL. IREKONGER, G.F., Fitter IIA disembarked H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" and proceeded on disembarkation leave. No. 25089 L.A.C. POOLE, G.D., Fitter IIA proceeded to SYDNEY by rail and embarked in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA".	
	9	Flying Officer L.G. WEBBER 764 flew Seagull A2-6 to SYDNEY and photographs were taken of ROSE BAY and PITTWATER. P/O H.H. RONDE 407850 in A2-6 (Marking Aircraft) and Flying Officer L.G. WEBBER in A2-22 carried out target towing for the Navy.	
	10 & 11	Seagull A2-16 was allotted from QANTAS and was collected and flown to RATHMINES by Pilot Officer H.H. RONDE. The aircraft aboard H.M.A.S. "PERTH" was damaged and Pilot Officer RONDE flew A2-16 to ROSE BAY to replace the damaged aircraft (L2319). Advice was received from Southern Area that the members of the R.A.A.F. Detachment aboard H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" were to be classified "Missing".	
	12	Flight Lieutenant P.O. LAVARACK, 103, and S/Lt. BRIAN in A2-13 carried out High Angle Marking for the Navy. Pilot Officer H.H. RONDE in A2-22 carried out target towing. Two Wireless Air Gunners arrived on posting thus filling existing establishment for W.A.G.'s.	
	14	Pilot Officer H.H. RONDE in A2-22 carried out drogue towing for the Navy. Three Wireless Air Observers arrived on posting from No. 2 B.A.G.S. and filled existing establishment for this mustering.	
	17	Flight Lieutenant P.J. McMAHON, 459, in A2-22 flew over Newcastle and District for the purpose of reviewing it with a view to camouflage. He was accompanied by Mr. MOORE and Mr. WYATT of the Department of Scientific Research.	
	20	Advice was received from N.O.I.C. that Walrus L2293 embarked in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" had been damaged, and a replacement was requested by a.m. 21.12.41	

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RATHMINES	DECEMBER 20	Seagull A2-22 was selected and Pilot Officer ROHDE flew it to WILLIAMTOWN to swing compasses. Whilst swinging compasses a sudden storm blew up and the aircraft was blown onto its side and the port float and rear strut were slightly damaged. Repairs were effected at WILLIAMTOWN and the aircraft was flown back to RATHMINES by Flying Officer WEBBER.	
	21	Flying Officer WEBBER flew A2-22 to MORETON BAY, QUEENSLAND, to replace L2293. No. 2796 SGT. MUIR, L.J., Fitter IIA, No. 16352 L.A.C. EWERT, J.M., Flight Mechanic, No. 15456 L.A.C. FARMILO, R.N., Fitter IIA and 9420 L.A.C. BAIN, W.T., Fitter IIA, proceeded by train to BRISBANE in order to carry out repairs on the damaged aircraft.	
	22	Advice was received from the District Naval Officer, BRISBANE, that H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" had been able to repair the damaged aircraft themselves and that Flying Officer WEBBER and Aircraft A2-22, L.A.C. BAIN, L.A.C. FARMILO and A.C.I. SMITH were embarked in "CANBERRA" for passage to SYDNEY. When not required in BRISBANE SGT. MUIR, and L.A.C. EWERT returned to RATHMINES by rail.	
	25	Flying Officer WEBBER, 9140 CPL. ECKFORD, D.M., Fitter IIE and 15456 L.A.C. FARMILO, R.N., Fitter IIA proceeded to SYDNEY and embarked in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" as additional Detachment, previously requested by the Navy.	
	27	Squadron Leader GARRISON, Area Armament Officer, visited No. 9 Squadron to test and instruct Pilots and Aircrews regarding bombing.	
		 Wing Commander, Commanding No. 9 Squadron, RATHMINES, N.S.W.	
		1 JAN 1941	