



# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

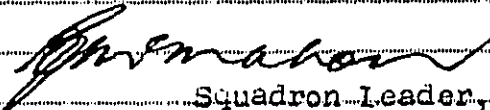
NO. 9 SQUADRON. R.A.A.F. DETACHMENT.

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

Month ending 28-2-43

of (Unit or Formation) HMAS "AUSTRALIA"

No. of Sheet 14

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
MORETON BAY	1-2-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 1310 to carry out Drogue Towing for exercise close range weapons. Landed 1430 hoisted inboard.	
	1-2-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 1520 to carry out Fighter Direction exercises.	
	1-2-43	Proceeded to AMBERLEY with mail and signals for DNO.	
AMBERLEY	1-2-43	Proceeded to ship at MORETON BAY. Landed 1930 hours.	
MORETON BAY	2-2-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out R/T exercises. Landed at 1020 hours.	
	2-2-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out spotting for sub. calibre 8" shoot.	
	3-2-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out sleeve target towing for A/A practice USS "BAGLEY".	
AT SEA	4-2-43	Catapulted at sea to carry out spotting exercises for 8" shoot. Proceeded to ARCHERFIELD and landed at 1900 hours.	
ARCHERFIELD	5-2-43	Returned to MORETON BAY and picked up under way.	
AT SEA	6-2-43	Catapulted at sea to carry out A/S Patrol for ship. Proceeded to RATHMINES and landed.	
RATHMINES	6-2-43	Airborne at 0955 hours to carry out A/S Patrol, for ship entering PORT JACKSON. Proceeded to ROSE BAY and landed.	
ROSE BAY	11-2-43	Airborne ROSE BAY to carry out W/T Exercises. Landed.	
	12-2-43	Airborne ROSE BAY to carry out W/T Exercises. Landed.	
	13-2-43	Airborne ROSE BAY to carry out air to air gunnery practice. Landed.	
	17-2-43	Airborne 1120 hours to return to ship. Landed 1125 Hours.	
	17-2-43	Airborne 1535 hours to return to ship. Landed 1555 Hours.	
AT SEA	27-2-43	Catapulted at sea to carry out anti- Submarine Patrol for ship and convoy entering PORT JACKSON. Landed at ROSE BAY at 1215 hours to await arrival of ship.	
		 Squadron Leader, Commanding No. 9 Squadron, BOWEN Q'LAND.	

# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.A.F. DETACHMENT, H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" No. of Sheet 15  
NO. 9 SQUADRON

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
AT SEA	2-3-43	Catapulted at sea to carry out Anti-submarine Patrol for Task Force entering Moreton Bay. Then proceeded to ARCHERFIELD with mail and messages for D.N.O..	
ARCHERFIELD	2-3-43	Airborne ARCHERFIELD 1800 to return to ship in MORETON BAY.	
DUNK IS.	6-3-43	Carried out Height Finding Exercises for ship.	
DUNK IS.	8-3-43	Carried out Height Finding Exercises for ship.	
AT SEA	9-3-43	Catapulted at sea to tow Sleeve Target for Task Force close range weapons. Proceeded to PALM IS. to await arrival of ship.	
PALM IS.	9-3-43	Hoisted outboard to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. landed at GARBUTT 1450.	
TOWNSVILLE	9-3-43	Airborne to return to ship at PALM IS. with mail and messages. Landed hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS	11-3-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out Height Finding Exercises for ship. Landed hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	13-3-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out Height Finding Exercises for ship. Landed hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	14-3-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out Height Finding Exercises for ship. Landed hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	15-3-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out Height Finding Exercises for ship. landed hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	16-3-43	Hoisted outboard to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. landed GARBUTT 1110.	
TOWNSVILLE	16-3-43	Airborne to return to ship at PALM IS. with mail and messages. Hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	17-3-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out Height Finding Exercises for ship. Hoisted inboard.	
AT SEA	18-3-43	Catapulted at sea to tow sleeve target for ships' close range weapons. Proceeded to DUNK IS. to await arrival of ship. Hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	23-3-43	Hoisted outboard to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed at GARBUTT 1755.	
TOWNSVILLE	24-3-43	Proceeded to sea to tow sleeve target for A/A fire of Mine Sweepers. Returned to GARBUTT.	
TOWNSVILLE	24-3-43	Returned to ship at PALM IS. with mail and messages. Hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	25-3-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out Height Finding Exercises for ship. Hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	25-3-43	Hoisted outboard to carry out practice Night Flying in Circuits and Landings. Final landing 2035 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	26-3-43	Hoisted outboard to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed GARBUTT.	



# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.A.F. Detachment, No. 9 SQUADRON.  
H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"

No. of Sheet 16

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
PALM IS.	5-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to carry out test target towing with new "B" type winch. Landed and hoisted inboard.	
DUNK IS.	9-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to tow sleeve target for high level shoot. Landed to await arrival of ship.	
PALM IS.	12-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed at GARBUTT 1420 hours.	
TOWNSVILLE	12-4-43	Airborne GARBUTT 1715 hours to return to ship at PALM IS. with mail and messages. Landed and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	13-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to carry out search for reported aircraft crash in sea, vicinity of PALM IS. No trace found and returned to ship and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	14-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to tow sleeve target for high level shoot. Landed to await arrival of ship.	
PALM IS.	14-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to carry Commander W.H. HARRINGTON on a research flight. Returned to ship, landed and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	15-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to tow sleeve target for high level shoot by destroyers. Landed and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	15-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed at GARBUTT 1405 hours.	
TOWNSVILLE	15-4-43	Airborne to return to ship at PALM IS. with mail and messages. Landed and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	17-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages. Engine trouble developed and aircraft made a forced landing in the lee of RATTLESNAKE IS. at 1200 hours. Signals sent and ship came in sight 1335 hours and aircraft was hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	18-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to carry out test flight. Landed and hoisted inboard.	
AT SEA	20-4-43	Catapulted at sea to tow sleeve target for close range weapons. Landed and picked up under way.	
PALM IS.	21-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to tow sleeve target for high level shoot. Proceeded to TOWNSVILLE and landed at GARBUTT 1555 hours.	
TOWNSVILLE	22-4-43	Airborne GARBUTT 1700 hours to return to ship at PALM IS. Landed and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	24-4-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed GARBUTT 1210 hours.	



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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

of (Unit or Formation) No. 9 Squadron - H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"

No. of Sheet.....17.....

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
AT SEA	4-5-43	Catapulted at sea 0750 to carry out outer A/S Patrol for ship entering MORETON BAY. Then proceeded to BRISBANE with mail and messages for D.N.O. Landed BRISBANE RIVER 1105 and awaited arrival of ship, Hoisted inboard.	
ROSE BAY	11-5-43	AIRBORNE ROSE BAY 1030 to proceed to RATHMINES to get aircraft spares. Landed RATHMINES 1105.	
RATHMINES	11-5-43	AIRBORNE RATHMINES 1410 to return to ROSE BAY. Landed 1455.	
ROSE BAY	18-5-43	AIRBORNE 1635 to return to ship in FORT JACKSON. Landed 1645 and hoisted inboard.	
CID HARBOUR	21-5-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 1410 to carry out test flight. Landed 1420 and hoisted inboard.	
CID HARBOUR	21-5-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 1455 to carry out further test flight. Landed and hoisted inboard.	
CID HARBOUR	22-5-43	Hoisted outboard 0950 to carry out height finding exercises for Task Force and tow sleeve target for "ARUNTA" and "DRAYTON". Landed 1205 and hoisted inboard.	
CID HARBOUR	23-5-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0945 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed 1125 and hoisted inboard.	
CID HARBOUR	24-5-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0950 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Then proceeded to BOWEN with mail and messages. Landed 1130.	
BOWEN	24-5-43	AIRBORNE BOWEN 1525 to return to ship at CID HARBOUR. Landed 1600 and hoisted inboard.	
AT SEA	25-5-43	Catapulted at sea 1235 with drogue winch installed in aircraft to tow sleeve target for destroyers. Made slick landing successfully and picked up under way 1545. First attempt to catapult with drogue winch Type "B" Mark 11 installed by Cruiser born A/C of the R.A.N.. Operation a complete success.	
CID HARBOUR	26-5-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0950 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed 1115 and hoisted inboard.	
AT SEA	27-5-43	Catapulted at sea 1310 to tow sleeve target for close range weapons. Returned CID HARBOUR and landed 1510 and awaited arrival of ship. Hoisted inboard on return.	
CID HARBOUR	28-5-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0950 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed 1115 and hoisted inboard.	
CID HARBOUR	29-5-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0950 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed 1025 and hoisted inboard.	

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 ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE





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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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(Feb., '33)

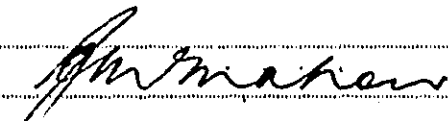
Month ending 30th. JUNE 1943

of (Unit or Formation) R.A.A.F. DETACHMENT No. 9 SQUADRON.  
H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"

No. of Sheet.....18.....

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
AT SEA	1-6-43	Catapulted at sea to tow sleeve target for destroyers of task force. Proceeded to PALM IS. and awaited arrival of ship. Landed 0835 and hoisted inboard on arrival.	
PALM IS.	2-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0955 to carry out height finding exercises and then proceeded to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C.. Landed GARBUTT 1130.	
TOWNSVILLE	2-6-43	Airborne GARBUTT 1550 to return to ship at PALM IS. Landed 1705 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	6-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0940 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed 1015 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	7-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0950 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed 1120 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	7-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 1335 to carry out target towing for destroyers high level shoot. Landed 1520 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	8-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0945 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed 1115 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	8-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 1450 to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C.. Landed 1525.	
TOWNSVILLE	9-6-43	Airborne 1100 to proceed to BOWEN. Landed 1220.	
BOWEN	9-6-43	Airborne BOWEN 1530 to return to ship with mail and messages. Landed CID Harbour 1610 and hoisted inboard.	
CID HARBOUR	13-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0935 to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages Squadron Staff Officer as passenger. Landed GARBUTT 1010.	
TOWNSVILLE	14-6-43	Airborne GARBUTT 1645 to return to ship at PALM IS. with mail and messages. Landed 1715 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	15-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0945 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed 1115 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	16-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0715 to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C.. Landed GARBUTT 0755.	
TOWNSVILLE	16-6-43	Airborne GARBUTT 0945 to carry out air to air gunnery at sleeve target. Landed 1030	
TOWNSVILLE	16-6-43	Airborne GARBUTT 1615 to return to ship at PALM IS. with mail and messages. Landed 1645 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS	17-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0715 to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed at GARBUTT 0750.	

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
TOWNSVILLE	17-6-43	Airborne GARBUTT 1455 to return to ship at PALM IS. with mail and messages. Landed 1520 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	18-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0945 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed 1105 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	18-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 1335 to carry out air to air gunnery. Sleeve Target towed by a2-3. Landed 1500 and hoisted inboard.	
AT SEA	19-6-43	Catapulted at sea 1130 to tow sleeve target for high level shoot for destroyers of Task Force. Landed PALM IS. 1315 and hoisted inboard on return of ship.	
PALM IS.	21-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0735 to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed GARBUTT 0815.	
GARBUTT	21-6-43	Airborne GARBUTT 1340 to tow sleeve target for ships in TOWNSVILLE Harbour. Landed 1430.	
TOWNSVILLE	21-6-43	Airborne GARBUTT to return to ship at PALM IS. with mail and messages. Landed 1715 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	22-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed BOHLE RIVER 0930.	
BOHLE RIVER	22-6-43	Airborne BOHLE RIVER 1010. Landed GARBUTT 1015.	
GARBUTT	22-6-43	Airborne GARBUTT 1115 to tow sleeve target for ships in TOWNSVILLE Harbour. Landed 1225.	
GARBUTT	23-6-43	Airborne 1100 to proceed to BOWEN to exchange aircraft. Landed BOWEN 1220.	
BOWEN	24-6-43	Test Flight new aircraft at 1320. Landed 1345.	
BOWEN	24-6-43	New aircraft Z1804 taken over and airborne 1425 to return to ship. Landed GARBUTT 1540.	
GARBUTT	24-6-43	Airborne 1705. Landed PALM IS. 1740 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM IS.	25-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0855 to tow sleeve target. Landed GARBUTT 1055.	
GARBUTT	25-6-43	Airborne 1535 to return to ship. Landed PALM IS. and hoisted inboard 1600.	
FLINDERS IS.	28-6-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 1555 to carry out A/S Patrol and Survey. Landed and hoisted inboard 1645. Com. RAYMOND as passenger.	

  
 Squadron Leader,  
 COMMANDING NO. 9 SQUADRON.

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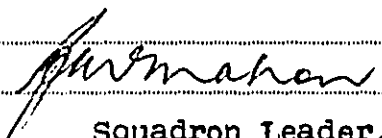
R.A.A.F. Form A.50  
(Feb., '33)

Month ending 31st. July 1943.

of (Unit or Formation) No. 2 Squadron - Detachment H.M.A.S.  
"AUSTRALIA"

No. of Sheet 17

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
AT SEA	6-7-43	Catapulted at sea 0630 to carry out A/S Patrol and tow sleeve target for short range shoot from ship. Landed PRINCESS CHARLOTTE BAY 0830 and hoisted inboard on arrival of ship.	
P. CHARLOTTE BAY	6-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 1055 to proceed to PORTLAND ROADS with mails. Landed 1200	
PORTLAND ROADS	6-7-43	Airborne PORTLAND ROADS 1415 to return to ship at PRINCESS CHARLOTTE BAY. Landed and hoisted inboard 1610.	
P. CHARLOTTE BAY	7-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0915 to proceed to COOKTOWN for mails. Landed 1135.	
COOKTOWN	7-7-43	Airborne COOKTOWN 1440 to return to ship at PRINCESS CHARLOTTE BAY. Landed and hoisted inboard 1550.	
P. CHARLOTTE BAY	8-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0950 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed and hoisted inboard 1110.	
P. CHARLOTTE BAY	8-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 1240 to proceed to PORTLAND ROADS for mails. Landed 1355.	
PORTLAND ROADS	8-7-43	Airborne PORTLAND ROADS 1445 to return to ship in PRINCESS CHARLOTTE BAY. Landed and hoisted inboard 1630.	
P. CHARLOTTE BAY	9-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0945 to carry out height finding exercises for ship. Landed and hoisted inboard 1110.	
P. CHARLOTTE BAY	10-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0740 to tow sleeve target for high level shoot for ships of Task Force. Landed 1030 and recovered underway.	
AT SEA	19-7-43	Catapulted at sea 0600 to carry out inner A/S Patrol. Landed 0815 and picked up underway.	
SECOND CHANNEL	21-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0925 to carry out I.F.F. Test Flight. Landed and hoisted inboard 1000.	
HAVANNAH BAY	24-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0900 to carry out test flight. Landed 1000 and proceeded up slipway on EFATE ID.	
EFATE ID.	24-7-43	Airborne 1125 to return to ship. Landed and hoisted inboard 1140.	
HAVANNAH BAY	26-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0915 to proceed to slipway on EFATE ID. Landed 0925.	
EFATE ID.	26-7-43	Airborne 1550 to return to ship. Landed and hoisted inboard 1600.	
HAVANNAH BAY	27-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne to carry out test flight. Landed and hoisted inboard 1105.	
HAVANNAH BAY	27-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 1405 to carry out further test flight. Landed and hoisted inboard 1435.	

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
HAVANNAH BAY	28-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0840 to carry out A/S Patrol and spotting. Landed 1150 and hoisted inboard on arrival of ship.	
HAVANNAH BAY	29-7-43	Hoisted outboard and airborne 0925 to proceed to slipway on EFATE ID. Landed 0930.	
EFATE ID.	29-7-43	Airborne 1400 to carry out local flying. Landed 1450.	
EFATE ID.	31-7-43	Airborne 1445 to carry out local flying. Landed 1535.	
 Squadron Leader, COMMANDING NO. 9 SQUADRON. <u>BOWEN</u> <u>Q'LAND.</u>			

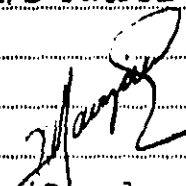
# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

Month ending 31st. AUGUST 1943

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 9 SQUADRON Detachment H.M.A.S.  
"AUSTRALIA"

No. of Sheet..... 20

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
EFATE IS.	1/8/43	Airborne at 16.10 to carry out local flying and then return to ship. Landed at 17.10 and tied up to buoy aft of ship. Hoisted inboard at 20.30.	
SECOND CHANNEL	9/8/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 09.20 to carry out I.F.F. Test Flight. Landed and hoisted inboard at 10.20.	
SECOND CHANNEL	11/8/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 1020 to carry out local flying. Landed and hoisted inboard at 11.05.	
SECOND CHANNEL	13/8/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 1025 to carry out I.F.F. Test. Landed and hoisted inboard at 11.20.	
AT SEA - "C"	18/8/43	Catapulted at sea at 10.20 to carry out an outer A/S Patrol. Landed at 13.30 and recovered under way.	
AT SEA - "C"	19/8/43	Catapulted at sea at 05.10 to proceed to BRISBANE with mail and messages for D.N.O. Landed at 08.10 in BRISBANE and awaited arrival of ship.	
AT SEA - "C"	22/8/43	Catapulted at sea at 07.30 to carry out an A/S Patrol and then proceed to ROSE BAY. Landed at 09.15.	
		 Squadron Leader, <u>COMMANDING NO. 9 SQUADRON.</u>	



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## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1943.

NO. 9 SQUADRON, DETACHMENT  
H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA."  
of (Unit or Formation)No. of Sheet 21

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
ROSE BAY	7/9/43	Airborne at 11.30 to carry out Test Flight. Landed at 11.55.	
ROSE BAY	9/9/43	Airborne at 12.25 to carry out Local Flying. Landed at 13.05.	
ROSE BAY	10/9/43	Airborne at 10.10 to carry out W/T Exercises. Landed at 11.30.	
ROSE BAY	10/9/43	Airborne at 16.55 to carry out Test Flight. Landed at 17.50.	
ROSE BAY	11/9/43	Airborne at 07.55 to return to Ship. Landed at 08.10 and hoisted inboard.	
AT SEA - "C"	11/9/43	Catapulted at sea at 10.15 to carry out W/T Exercises and A/S Patrol and then proceed to Rose Bay. Landed at 11.20.	
ROSE BAY	12/9/43	Airborne at 10.40 to carry out Test Flight. Landed at 11.35.	
ROSE BAY	13/9/43	Airborne at 16.15 to carry out Test Flight. Landed at 16.35.	
ROSE BAY	14/9/43	Airborne at 10.20 to return to Ship. Landed and hoisted inboard at 10.30.	
PALM ISLAND	17/9/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 10.00 to proceed to Townsville with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed at Garbutt at 10.30.	
GARBUTT	17/9/43	Airborne at 15.30 to return to Ship with mail and messages - and carry out Radar Exercises with Ship. Landed at 16.15 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM ISLAND	21/9/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 10.45 to proceed to Townsville with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Captain H.B. Farncomb, (R.A.V.), as passenger. Landed at Garbutt at 11.15.	
GARBUTT	21/9/43	Airborne at 16.05 to return to Ship with mail and messages. Captain H.B. Farncomb, (R.A.N.), and I/T. Wells, (R.A.N.) as passengers. Landed and hoisted inboard 16.35.	
PALM ISLAND	22/9/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 10.35 to carry out low angle exercise attacks for close range armament. Landed at 11.40 and hoisted inboard.	
PALM ISLAND	23/9/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 09.50 to carry out Height Finding Exercises for Ship. Landed and hoisted inboard at 11.15.	
PALM ISLAND	23/9/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 12.50 to proceed to Townsville with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. L/T Sinclair, (U.S.N.) as passenger. Landed in Townsville Harbour at 13.25.	
TOWNSVILLE	23/9/43	Airborne at 16.15 to return to Ship with mail and messages. Carried out search, - in vicinity of Rattlesnake Island, - for wreckage of crashed aircraft. Sighted one body, released two, (2) Smoke Floats, landed and directed Crash Boat to scene and handed over to Crash Party. Returned to Ship and hoisted inboard at 17.20.	

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
PALM ISLAND	24/9/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 16.35 to tow Sleeve Target for short range shoot from Ship and then proceed to Townsville. Landed at Garbutt at 17.30.	
GARBUIT	25/9/43	Airborne at 16.35 to return to Palm Island. Landed at 17.05 and hoisted inboard on return to Ship.	
PALM ISLAND	27/9/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 08.55 to proceed to Townsville with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed in Townsville Harbour at 09.35.	
TOWNSVILLE	27/9/43	Airborne at 09.45 to proceed to Bowen. Landed at Bowen at 11.10.	
BOWEN	28/9/43	Airborne at 14.45 to return to Ship. Landed in Townsville Harbour at 16.05 to collect mails.	
TOWNSVILLE	28/9/43	Airborne at 17.05. Landed at Palm Island and hoisted inboard at 17.30.	
PALM ISLAND	29/9/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 09.40 to carry out Height Finding Exercises for Ship. Landed and hoisted inboard at 11.40.	
PALM ISLAND	30/9/43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 06.25 to proceed to Townsville with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Captain H.B. Farncomb, (R.A.N.), as passenger. Landed in Townsville Harbour at 07.05.	
TOWNSVILLE	30/9/43	Airborne at 14.45 to return to Ship with mail and messages. Landed and hoisted inboard at 15.15.	
		<p>-----</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> Light Lieutenant,  Commanding No. 9 Squadron,</p>	



SECRET

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

Month ending 31st OCTOBER 1943.

of (Unit or Formation) NO. 9 SQUADRON DETACHMENT  
H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA".

No. of Sheet 22

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
PALM ISLAND	1.10.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 12.15 to tow Sleeve Target for High Level Shoot from ship. Landed at 1400 and hoisted inboard on return of ship.	
PALM ISLAND	3.10.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 13.30 to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Petty Officer SMITH as passenger. Landed in Harbour at 14.05.	
TOWNSVILLE	3.10.43	Airborne at 18.30 to return to ship with mail and messages. Captain FARNCOMBE as passenger. Landed and hoisted inboard at 19.00.	
PALM ISLAND	7/10.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 10.40 to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C.. Landed at GARBUTT at 11.30.	
GARBUTT	7.10.43	Airborne at 15.40 to return to ship with mail and messages. Landed and hoisted inboard at 16.10.	
PALM ISLAND	8.10.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 13.45 to carry out High level target towing for ship. Landed at GARBUTT at 16.40. Two (2) Drogues shot down.	
GARBUTT	9.10.43	Airborne at 15.20 to return to ship with mail and messages. Landed and hoisted inboard at 15.50.	
PALM ISLAND	11.10.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 10.55 to proceed to TOWNSVILLE with mail and messages for N.O.I.C. Landed at GARBUTT at 11.30.	
GARBUTT	11.10.43	Airborne at 14.55 to return to ship with mail and messages. Landed and hoisted inboard at 15.25.	
PALM ISLAND	12.10.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 15.30 to carry out Short range target towing for ship and Photograph 8" Shoot at Radar Target. Landed at GARBUTT at 17.45	
GARBUTT	13.10.43	Airborne at 10.00 to proceed to BOWEN. Landed at 11.10	
BOWEN	13.10.43	Airborne at BOWEN at 15.40 to return to ship at C.I.D. Harbour with mail. Landed and hoisted inboard at 16.20.	
MILNE BAY	18.10.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 16.25 to carry out inner anti-submarine patrol around mouth of bay. Landed and hoisted inboard at 18.40.	
MILNE BAY	19.10.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 09.15 to carry out Radar Tests. Sub/Lt. MCKENZIE and Sub/Lt. PENTON as crew. Landed at 10.30 and hoisted inboard. Port Lower wing tip damaged during hooking-on procedure. Crane Hook failed to operate correctly.	

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
MINE BAY	20.10.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 16.20 to carry out Inner Anti-submarine Patrol. Landed and hoisted inboard at 18.50.	
"AT SEA"	23.10.43	Catapulted at sea at 06.50 to proceed to BRISBANE with mail and messages for D.N.O. Landed at 0730 and awaited arrival of ship and hoisted inboard.	
<p><i>W. A. G. G. G.</i>  Flight Lieutenant,  <u>COMMANDING NO. 9 SQUADRON.</u></p>			

SECRET

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

Month ending 30th November 1943

No. 9 Squadron Detachment  
of (Unit or Formation) H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"

No. of Sheet 23

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
At Sea "C"	1.11.43	Catapulted at sea at 1555 to carry out spotting for 8" shoot. Landed at 1710 and recovered under way.	
" "	2.11.43	Catapulted at sea 1525 to carry out spotting for 8" shoot. Landed at 1700 and recovered under way.	
" "	8.11.43	Catapulted at sea 0815 to take photographs of Task Force and then proceed to SAMARAI. Landed at SAMARAI at 0925.	
SAMARAI	8.11.43	Airborne at 1110 to return to ship. Landed at 1210 and recovered under way.	
At Sea "C"	8.11.43	Catapulted at sea 1255 to tow small sleeve target for close range weapons firing for Task Force. Landed and recovered under way at 1440.	
At Sea "C"	12.11.43	Catapulted at sea 1630 to carry out inner anti-submarine patrol. Landed at 1835 and recovered under way.	
PORT PURVIS	13.11.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 0945 to proceed to "HENDERSON" Airfield with Wing Commander CONAGHAN, Commander GATACRE (R.A.N.) and Lieutenant WELLS (R.A.N.) landed 1010.	
Henderson airfield GUADALCANAL	13.11.43	Airborne 1550 to return to ship. Landed at PORT PURVIS at 1615 and hoisted inboard.	
At Sea "C"	16.11.43	Catapulted at sea 0545 to carry out inner anti-submarine patrol. Landed 0735 and recovered under way. Catapulted at sea 1525 to carry out an anti-submarine patrol and search. Landed at 1825 and recovered under way.	
MILNE BAY	20.11.43	Hoisted outboard and airbornes at 1000 to photograph Islands in the vicinity of MILNE BAY. Captain ELDER (A.I.F.) as passenger. Landed and hoisted inboard at 1150.	
"	21.11.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 1320 to proceed to SAMARAI with official despatches. Lieutenant RICHARDSON (R.A.N.) and Sub Lieutenant WRIGLEY (R.A.N.) as passengers. Landed at 1340.	
SAMARAI	21.11.43	Airborne at 1450 to return to ship at MILNE BAY. Landed and hoisted inboard at 1510.	
At Sea "C"	22.11.43	Catapulted at sea at 0715 to tow "RADAR" sleeve target for high angle shoot for Task Force. Developed engine trouble and landed at 1000 and hoisted inboard in MILNE BAY.	
MILNE BAY	23.11.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 1450 to carry out test flight. Test successful.	
"	27.11.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 1400 to proceed to JENKINS BAY with official despatches. Lieutenant SCHOFIELD R.A.N. as passenger. Landed at 1425.	

Over



SECRET

## OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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


MONTH ENDING 31st. DECEMBER 1943.

of (Unit or Formation)

NO. 9 SQUADRON DETACHMENT  
H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"No. of Sheet I 24

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
MILNE BAY	1.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 09.45 to carry out Height Finding and Low Angle Attack exercises for Task Force. Landed and hoisted inboard at 11.50.	
MILNE BAY	5.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 09.20 to photograph Islands in the vicinity of MILNE BAY. Landed and hoisted inboard at 11.25	
MILNE BAY	8.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 09.10 to take a Mosaic photograph of BENTLEY IS. Landed and hoisted inboard at 11.25. One smoke float expended.	
MILNE BAY	10.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 09.35 to photograph Bombardment exercises of ship. Landed and hoisted inboard at 11.20	
MILNE BAY	11.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 13.10 to carry out local flying. Landed and hoisted inboard at 14.30	
MILNE BAY	13.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 14.0 to proceed to SAMARAI with Official Despatches. Landed at 15.10.	
SAMARAI	16.12.43	Airborne at 08.10 to return to ship at MILNE BAY. Landed and secured to line aft of ship at 08.35.	
MILNE BAY	16.12.43	Airborne at 09.50 to proceed to "GURNEY" Airstrip. Landed at 10.10	
"GURNEY" Strip	16.12/43	Airborne at 13.20 to carry out Drogue Towing for Army. Landed at 14.45	
MILNE BAY	18.12.43	Airborne at 16.05 to return to ship at MILNE BAY. Landed and hoisted inboard at 16.30	
MILNE BAY	20.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 08.0 to carry out Drogue Towing for American Cruisers. Landed at "GURNEY" Airstrip at 10.40. Two Radar Drogues lost.	
GURNEY Airstrip	20.12.43	Airborne at 11.40 to return to ship. Landed and hoisted inboard at 12.05.	
MILNE BAY	21.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 08.0. Landed at 09.00 in Bay and secured to buoy and refuelled.	
MILNE BAY	21.12.43	Airborne at 09.35 to carry out Drogue Towing for Destroyers of Task Force. Landed and hoisted inboard at 12.20. Two Radar Drogues lost.	
MILNE BAY	22.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 07.0 to proceed to "GURNEY" Airstrip. Landed at 08.10.	
"GURNEY" Strip	22.12.43	Airborne at 09.10 to carry out Drogue Towing for Army. Landed at 10.45	
"GURNEY" Strip	22.12.43	Airborne at 13.55 to proceed to SAMARAI with Major VOSE, (A.I.F.) Landed at 14.25.	
SAMARAI	22.12.43	Airborne at 15.50 to return to "GURNEY" Airstrip. Landed at 16.15.	
"GURNEY" Strip	22.12.43	Airborne at 16.55 to return to ship. Landed and hoisted inboard at 17.15.	

Place	Date	Summary of Events	References to Appendices
MILNE BAY	23.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 08.5 to carry out Drogue Towing for Army. Landed at MILNE BAY at 11.00 and secured to buoy.	
MILNE BAY	23.12.43	Airborne at 13.45 to carry out Drogue Towing for Army. Landed at MILNE BAY at 15.15 and secured to buoy.	
MILNE BAY	23.12.43	Airborne at 16.10 to return to ship. Landed and hoisted inboard at 16.15	
MILNE BAY	24.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 09.2 to proceed to SAMARAI with Official Despatches Landed at 09.45.	
SAMARAI	24.12.43	Airborne at 09.55 to return to ship. Landed and hoisted inboard at 10.30	
MILNE BAY	24.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 15.3 to proceed to GURNEY Airstrip. Landed at 15.40	
"GURNEY" Strip	26.12.43	Airborne at 13.10 to proceed to BUNA with mail for Task Force. Landed at DOBODURA at 15.35.	
DOBODURA	27.12.43	Airborne at 15.25 to return to "GURNEY" Airstrip, MILNE BAY. Landed at 17.35	
"GURNEY" Strip	29.12.43	Airborne at 08.30 to proceed to BUNA with mail for Task Force. Landed at DOBODURA at 10.40	
DOBODURA	29.12.43	Airborne at 14.40 to proceed to ship at BUNA BAY. Landed and hoisted inboard at 15.00	
BUNA BAY	29.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 15.5 to return to GURNEY Airstrip, MILNE BAY. Landed at 17.50.	
MILNE BAY	30.12.43	Airborne at 09.55 to proceed to BUNA with mail for Task Force. Landed in BUNA BAY and hoisted inboard at 12.20	
BUNA BAY	30.12.43	Hoisted outboard and airborne at 14.05. Landed in Bay at 14.15.	
BUNA BAY	30.12.43	Airborne at 15.05 to proceed to DOBODURA. Landed at 15.20	
DOBODURA	31.12.43	Airborne at 10.10 to return to "GURNEY" Airstrip, MILNE BAY. Landed at 12.20	

  
 Flight Lieutenant,  
COMMANDING NO. 9 SQUADRON.