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RAF Valley

Aircraft Movements

1941

[Known to the Luftwaffe as Luftplatz Llanfaelog]

CREDITS:

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Airhistory.org.uk

Fighter Nights by John Bennett

My life as a Battle of Britain pilot by Gordon Olive DFC

Valley Aviation Society/Ian Evans/Len Smith/Dick Thomas

UPDATE V2

Additional movements.

SUMMARY

The Airfield was built to defend the Cities of Liverpool and Manchester.
Designed for 1 twin-engined Night Fighter Squadron and 1 Day Fighter Squadron.

Abbreviations

AOC	Air Officer Commanding
AOS	Air Observer School
ASR	Air Sea Rescue
CAM	Catapult Armed Merchantmen [Ship]
CO	Commanding Officer
EA	Enemy Aircraft
GD	Ground Defence

MSFU	Merchant Ship Fighter Unit [CAM Hurricanes]
OTU	Operational Training Unit
RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force
Sqn	Squadron
TTF	Target Towing Flight
Luftwaffe [German] Ranks equivalent to the RAF	
Hptm	Hauptmann - Flight Lieutenant
O/Lt	Oberleutnant - Flying Officer
Lt	Leutnant - Pilot Officer
S/Fw	Stabsfeldwebel – Warrant Officer
O/Fw	Oberfeldwebel – Flight Sergeant
Fw	Feldwebel – Flight Sergeant
Uffz	Unteroffizier - Corporal
O/Gfr	Obergefreiter – Leading Aircraftman
Gfr	Gefreiter – Aircraftman 1 st class
Flgr	Flieger – Aircraftman 2 nd class
Ff	Pilot
Bo	Observer/Navigator
Bf	Radio Operator
Bs	Gunner
Bm	Flight Engineer

Note:

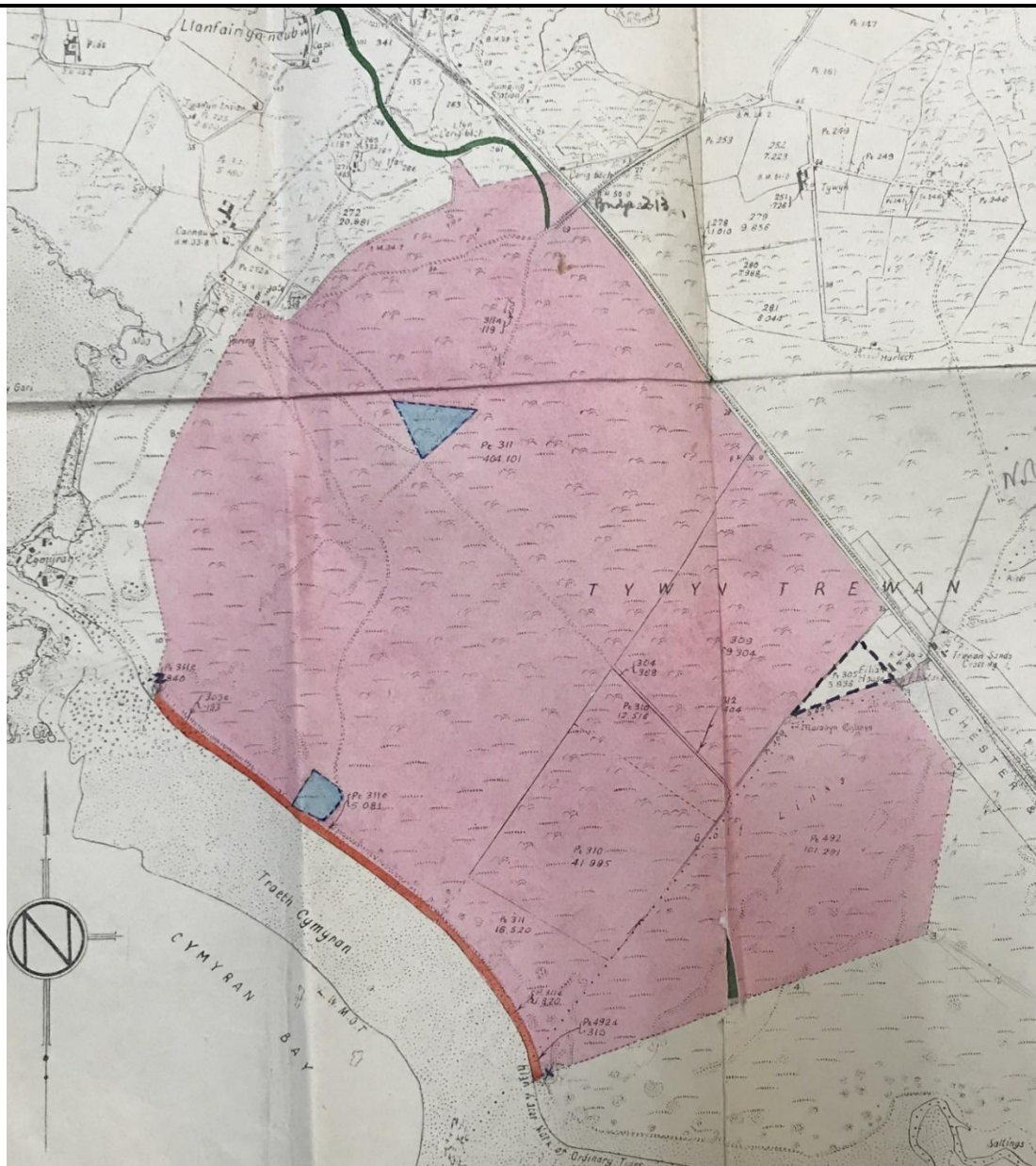
There may be the odd discrepancy regarding dates as some Unit records recorded 00:01 to 23:59 as a daily record whilst others notably Valley recorded 18:00 to 06:00 as a daily record, thus an incident may differ within a day or so according to the various Unit records.

Construction of the Airfield starts in late 1940.

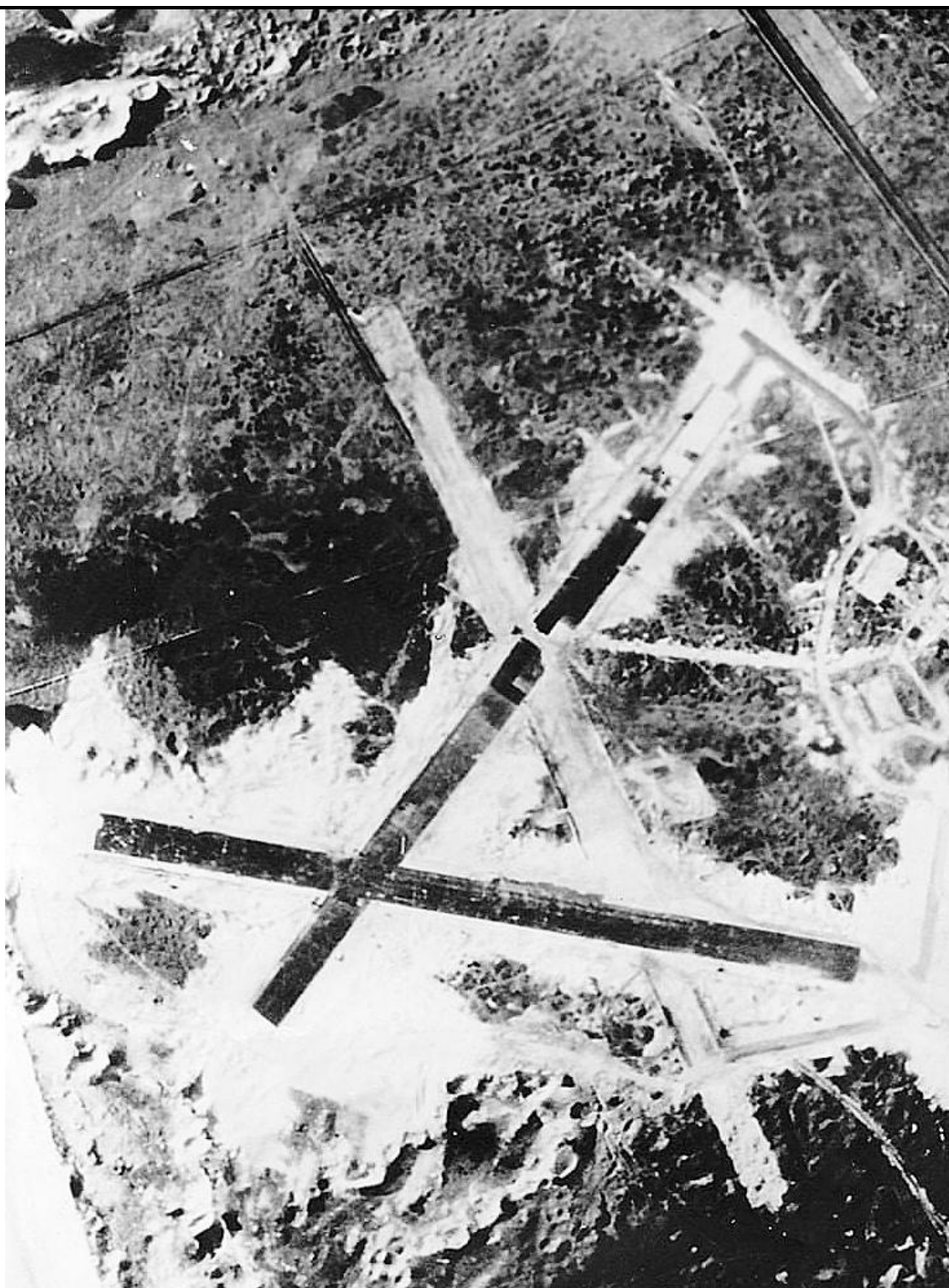
Saturday 1st February 1941 [AIR 28/874]

RAF Rhosneigr opened as a Fighter Sector Station within 9 Group.
 Providing Air Defence of North West Industrial Cities/Towns & Shipping.
 EOR [Emergency Operations Room] situated in the nearby village of Caergeiliog.

This is the area before the construction of RAF Valley began.

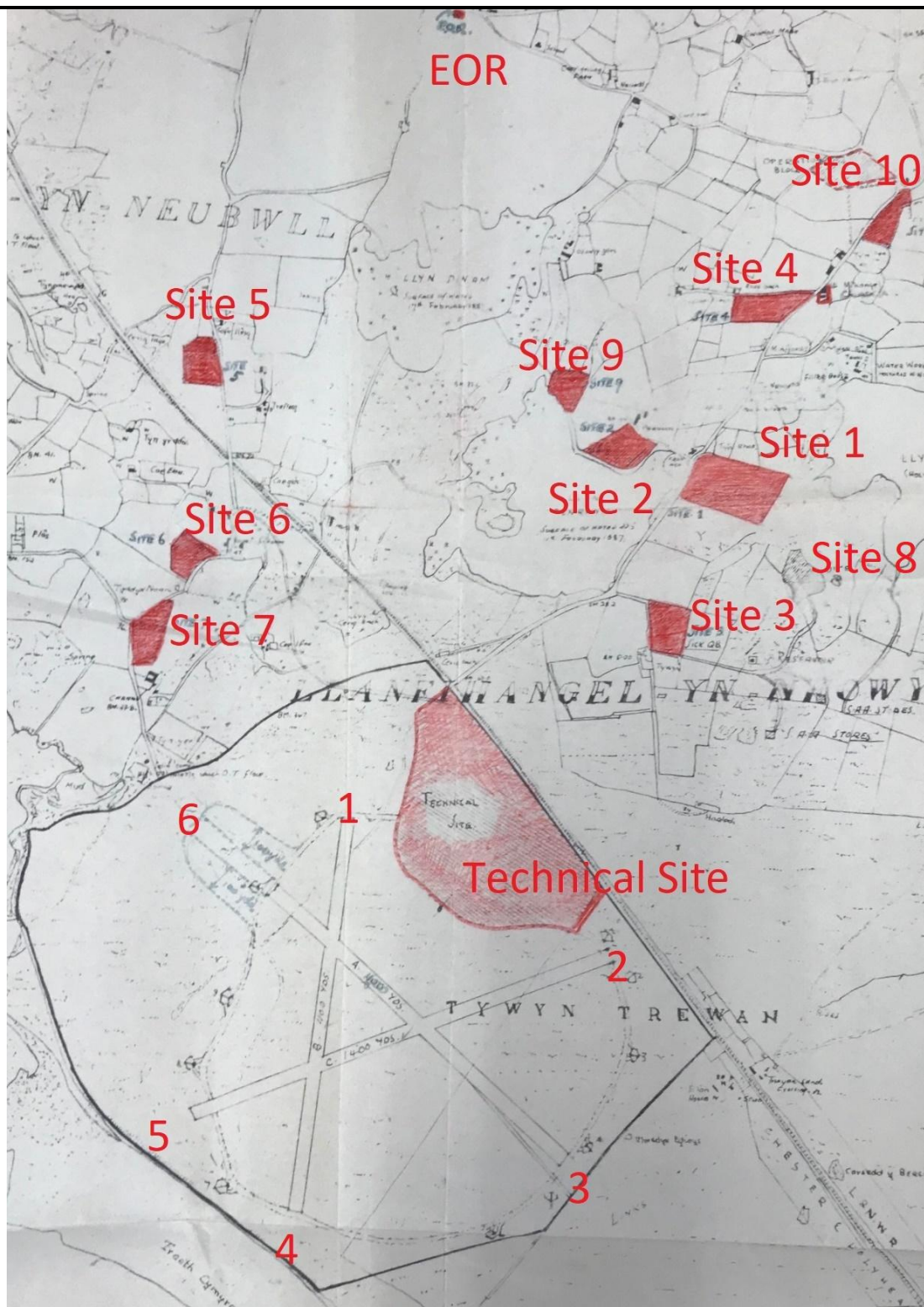


This depicts RAF Valley prior to construction with the Railway Line bridge at top right.



This is prior to the lake being drained to cover the sandy soil on the Airfield.

[Crown Copyright, Ministry of Defence]



RAF Valley dispersed sites plus Runway designators.

Site 1, Various.

Site 2, Officers Mess/Sgts Mess.

Site 3, Sick Quarters.

Site 4, WAAF quarters, opened 17.8.41.

Site 5/6/7/8/9/10, Sleeping quarters.

EOR [Emergency Operations Room] Caergeiliog.

[Crown Copyright, National Archives]



This is Site 8 seen here in December 1941 facing North.
[Dick Thomas Collection]

Monday 10th February 1941 [AIR 27/1691/9]

Adjutant from 312 Sqn at Speke visited Penrhos & Rhosneigr by road returning 11.2.

Tuesday 11th February 1941 [AIR 27/1691/9]

P/O's Kennedy & Hallahan from 312 Sqn visited Rhosneigr from Penrhos.
Again, no mention of any flying, so most probably another road trip.

Thursday 13th February 1941 [AIR 28/874]

Advanced Party arrives under F/O C J Williams & P/O R Burton-Fanning.
Barrack Room at No.5 Site set up as Station Headquarters [SHQ]

Friday 21st February 1941 [AIR 27/1691/10]

S/L Tyson from 312 Sqn at Speke visited by car to carry out a reconnaissance of the new aerodrome prior to their move to Rhosneigr from Speke. Their move planned for 22.2 was delayed. However, he never made it as the roads were covered in heavy snow!

Sunday 23rd February 1941 [AIR 27/1691/10]

		Master*	312 Sqn	S/L Tyson, see 21.2.41
*From and to Speke.				

Wednesday 26th February 1941 [AIR 27/1691/10]

S/L Preston [Group Engineering Officer] reported on the sandy conditions at Rhosneigr and suggested means of preventing sand being sucked up into air intakes and damaging engines. Water sprinklers to be used on the runways for this purpose.

Monday 3rd March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11][AIR 28/874][AIR 28/721]

A Flight/312 Sqn arrived from Speke with Hurricane I's plus a Miles Magister.
Departed Speke 14:00 and arrived at RAF Rhosneigr 15:00.

B Flight detachment established at RAF Penrhos near Pwllheli. S/L F H Tyson becomes the Station Commander.				
V6930	DU-F	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	S/L F H Tyson, CO
V6938	DU-W	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Keprt
V7468	DU-Y	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Votruba
P6921	DU-R	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	P/O Perina
P3888	DU-O	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	S/L Cizek
V7063	DU-K	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Klan
P3983	DU-Q	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Burger
L1841	DU-H	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke
[V6943]	DU-D	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Chabera
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Smolik & F/S Kamarad

Wednesday 5th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/L Klan to & from Penrhos
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke to & from Speke

Thursday 6th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke to & from Speke
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	S/L Cizek to & from Speke
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Dawbarn from & to Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	P/O Kennedy from & to Penrhos

Friday 7th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/O Black to & from Penrhos
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Saturday 8th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke to & from Penrhos
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Monday 10th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Smolik to & from Penrhos
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Tuesday 11th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/O Black to & from Speke
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Wednesday 12th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/O Burger to & from Speke
V6938	DU-W	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke to & from Bodorgan
-				
L1034		Spitfire IA	57 OTU	Based at Hawarden
The aircraft developed engine trouble and the pilot parachuted out of the aircraft. The aircraft then hit and damaged the roof of Gwalia Stores before crashing into 17 New Street, Beaumaris. The occupant of the house, Mrs Louise Parry was on the first floor when the aircraft struck, she suddenly found herself on the ground floor from where she was rescued				

by her daughter Peggy Parry and neighbours and taken to Hospital. The Pilot landed uninjured in a nearby tree near Gallows Point. The photograph was taken the following day 13.3.



[Jack Burton collection]

Pilot		[RCAF]	Ok [19yrs old]
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Thursday 13th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	S/L Cizek to & from Speke
P6921	DU-R	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke to & from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	P/O Kennedy from & to Penrhos

Friday 14th March 1941 [AIR 28/874][AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/O Black to & from Penrhos
V6938	DU-W	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke to & from Baginton
-				
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L A M Dawbarn 'GREEN' section
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt J Stehlik 'GREEN' section

Intercepted and destroyed a Ju.88 at 8,000ft approx. 25nms SW of Bardsey Island at 11:28. They were from the 312 Sqn Penrhos detachment. Possibly the aircraft below which failed to return from operations to Glasgow ?

0382	VB+KJ	Ju.88A-5	2/Aufkl	
Ff	Lt	Fritz Thoms	Killed [22]	
Bo	O/Lt	Hans Heydt	Killed	
Bf	Uffz	Hans Lathke	Killed	
[Bs]	O/Gfr	Karl Wehrhan	Killed	

Saturday 15th March 1941 [AIR 27/1418/28]

W/C H W Mermagen AFC from Speke takes over Command of RAF Rhosneigr.				
V7112	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	S/L Rosier
P3212	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	P/O Dewar

*From Speke for night operational flying, returned to Speke 17.3

Sunday 16th March 1941 [AIR 27/1418/28][AIR 27/294/6][AIR 27/1691/11]

	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Dawbarn from & to Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Vasatko from & to Penrhos
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Svetlik to & from Penrhos
V7077	RE-	Hurricane I	229 Sqn	F/L Smith from Speke
V7112	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	S/L Rosier
P3212	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	P/O Dewar
*Night patrol from 'RAF Rhosneigr' 23:00-00:40.				
X7511		Dominie I	24 Sqn	P/O Wilson
AVM Jounski. In the 24 Sqn ORB it quotes 'Badaga' for Bodorgan, 10min flight time to Valley is the give-away; routed: Bodorgan-Valley-Hendon, London.				

Monday 17th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Votruba to & from Penrhos
N2471	DU-H	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Black to & from Speke

Tuesday 18th March 1941 [F78]

V7028	DU-V	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	
Became lost in cloud and force landed in a field near Dolgarrog, repaired. Also quoted as engine failure.				
Pilot	F/O	J Cermak [Polish]	Ok	

Wednesday 19th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Chabera to & from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Vasatko from & to Penrhos

Thursday 20th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Smolik to & from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Kennedy from & to Penrhos

Friday 21st March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

N2471	DU-H	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	S/L Tyson to & from Penrhos
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/L Klan to & from Sealand/Speke
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke from Speke

Sunday 23rd March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

312 Sqn conducted air to ground firing at Prestatyn Range.				

Tuesday 25th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Svetlik to & from Speke
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Vasatko from Penrhos

Wednesday 26th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Votruba to & from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Vasatko to Penrhos, see 25.3

Thursday 27th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

P6921	DU-R	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	P/O Perina from Speke
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Friday 28th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Spacek to & from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Svetlik from & to Penrhos

Saturday 29th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke to & from Bodorgan
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Karasek to & from Speke
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Vasatko from & to Penrhos
T9519	DU-K	Hurricane I*	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke to Speke
V6943	DU-D	Hurricane I*	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke from Speke
*312 Sqn aircraft changeover.				

Sunday 30th March 1941 [AIR 27/1691/11]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Karasek to & from Speke
P3888	DU-O	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Dawbarn to & from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Vasatko to & from Penrhos

Wednesday 2nd April 1941 [AIR 29/42]

T9739		Magister I	Z Flt	S/L Robinson from & to Aberffraw
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Thursday 3rd April 1941 [AIR 27/1691/13]

V7686	DU-G	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Cermak from Penrhos
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Friday 4th April 1941 [AIR 27/1691/13][F78]

P3983	DU-Q	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Cooke to & from Hawarden
N2471	DU-H	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Delivery from 59 OTU

Saturday 5th April 1941 [AIR 27/1573/23][AIR 28/874]

Station name changed to RAF Valley.				
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Svetlik to & from Penrhos
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Smohlik to & from Hawarden
	BJ-	Harrow I*	271 Sqn	Arrived 09:55
*Routed: Aldergrove-Chivenor but diverted to Valley with a torn fabric surface. Later departed to Chivenor.				

Sunday 6th April 1941 [AIR 27/1418/30][F78]

	RE-	Hurricane I	229 Sqn	S/L Rosier from & to Speke
Z4036	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	
V7507	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	
V7077	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	
*From Speke for night operational patrols, returned to Speke 7.4.				
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V6536	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	
Engine failure, belly landed on Hell's Mouth Beach, Pwllheli, after recovery the aircraft was converted to a IIA with new serial DG630. Most probably from the Penrhos Detachment.				
Pilot	Sgt	J Stehlik	Ok	

Monday 7th April 1941 [AIR 27/1691/13]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Smolik to & from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Jaske from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Vrana from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	P/O Bachurek from Penrhos
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Kruta from Penrhos

Tuesday 8th April 1941 [ABMIL 2002][AIR 27/1418/30][AIR 27/1691/13][F78]

V7686	DU-G	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Karasek to & from Speke
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Mansik from Penrhos
P3605	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	F/L Holderness
V6821	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	P/O Edghill
Z4036	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	F/O Bahy
*Night patrols				
V6761	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	
Overshot into the dunes on a night landing. Based at Speke at the time. No mention of this in the 229 Sqn ORB though.				
Pilot	P/O	D F K Edghill	Ok	

Wednesday 9th April 1941 [AIR 27/1418/30][AIR 27/1691/13]

V7465	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	
V7077	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	
P3605	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	
V6733	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	
V7014	RE-	Hurricane I*	229 Sqn	
*Night patrols, additional flights were made 11.4.				
V7686	DU-G	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Karasek from Speke

Thursday 10th April 1941 [AIR 27/1691/12][AIR 50/123/17][AIR 81/5794]

V7066	DU-T	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L A A M Dawbarn 'BLUE LEAD'
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt J Truhlar 'BLUE2'
Contact made with Enemy Aircraft [Me.110 or Do.17] approaching the Welsh Coast 30nms				

SW of Bardsey Island. Lead reported his engine hit and on fire at 14:35. The No.2 did not receive the message and continued attacking the EA. No trace of Lead aircraft found despite intensive search, he is commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial. Both aircraft were from the RAF Penrhos detachment.

Pilot	F/L	Alexander Andrew Marshall Dawbarn	Missing believed killed
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The Enemy Aircraft above may have been this Ju.88. Crashed into the sea off Anglesey whilst engaged on a reconnaissance sortie of the Irish Sea.			
0665	7A+CL	Ju.88A-5	3[F]121
Ff	Lt	Horst Stech	Body recovered at Hell's Mouth 17.4
Bf	Uffz	Hubert Koch	Body recovered at Hell's Mouth
Bs	O/Gfr	Hans Gabbe	Killed
Bo	Lt	Ehrenfried Teschke	Killed

Friday 11th April 1941 [AIR 27/1691/13]

V6930	DU-F	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Jaske from & to Penrhos
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Saturday 12th April 1941 [AIR 27/1418/30][AIR 27/1691/13]

	RE-	Hurricane I	229 Sqn	S/L Rosier to Speke, see 9.4
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Mensik from & to Penrhos

Sunday 13th April 1941 [AIR 27/1418/30][AIR 27/1691/13]

	RE-	5x Hurricane I	229 Sqn	To Speke, see 9.4
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Votruba to & from Hawarden

Tuesday 15th April 1941 [AIR 27/1691/13]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	P/O Perina to & from Speke
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Wednesday 16th April 1941 [AIR 27/1691/13]

T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Votruba to Jurby
V6943	DU-D	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	To & from Speke
P3983	DU-Q	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	To & from Penrhos
V6935	DU-T	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Delivery from 20 MU

Thursday 17th April 1941 AIR 27/2123]

258 Sqn Rail Party arrived from Jurby, IoM.				
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Saturday 19th April 1941 [AIR 27/1691/13][AIR 28/874]

312 Sqn departed to Jurby. The Sqn ORB mentions 25.4 but the Form 541 lists all the aircraft departing 19.4 Penrhos detachment departed to Jurby on 20.4.41				
V6938	DU-W	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	S/L Cizek
	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Janeba

V7686	DU-G	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Mansik
P3983	DU-Q	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/L Klan
V6935	DU-T	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Smohlik
V7063	DU-K	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Zavoral
V6930	DU-F	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Cermak
P3888	DU-O	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Karasek
V6921	DU-R	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Burger
V6943	DU-D	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	P/O Perina
T9752		Magister I	312 Sqn	Sgt Votruba/Sgt Svetlik

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Air Echelon of 258 Sqn arrived from Jurby, IoM.
A Flight/258 Sqn established a detachment at Penrhos.

Although not listed, V7064 arrived with 258 Sqn and was also transferred to 615 Sqn.

[V7060]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	F/L Campbell
[V7687]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	F/O Perrelle
[V7161]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O White
[V7163]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O W T Everist [RNZAF]
[V6551]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Dobbyn
[R2688]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Marshall
[V7164]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Dunn
[P3307]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Anderson

B Flight/258 Sqn then arrived from Jurby.

[V7685]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	S/L Clouston
[V7750]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	F/L Bush
[V6813]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Sharp
[V7682]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Hutcheson
[P2857]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	Sgt Clouston
[V6559]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	Sgt Sticka
[P2992]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	Sgt Sudek
N6944		Tiger Moth II	258 Sqn	P/O Vanderfield/Sgt McAllister
	BJ-	Harrow I	271 Sqn	Jurby-Valley, 258 Sqn support

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During the afternoon, A Flight proceeded to Penrhos on detachment.
The aircraft serials/pilots' combinations may not be accurate, but the serials and pilots are.


[V7060]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	F/L Campbell
[V7687]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	F/O Perrelle
[V7161]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O White
[V7163]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Everist
[V6551]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Dobbyn
[P3881]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Marshall
[V7164]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Dunn
[N2493]	FH-	Hurricane I	258 Sqn	P/O Anderson
N6944		Tiger Moth II	258 Sqn	Sgt McAllister, Valley-Penrhos

	BJ-	Harrow I	271 Sqn	Jurby-Penrhos, 258 Sqn support
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Sunday 20th April 1941 [AIR 27/1530/7][IE]

312 Sqn Penrhos detachment departs to Jurby, IoM at 08:00.				
V6848	DU-N	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Vasatko
P3209	DU-S	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Peroutka
P3934	DU-P	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Standers
V6926	DU-X	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Kruml
P3759	DU-	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Posta
V6678	DU-L	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	F/O Jaske
P3583	DU-C	Hurricane I	312 Sqn	Sgt Slouf
	BJ-	Harrow I*	271 Sqn	
*From Jurby arriving 10:10 with the final support for 258 Sqn.				

Monday 21st April 1941 [AIR 27/1532 258 Sqn & AIR 27/2123 615 Sqn][AIR 27/1573/23 271 Sqn][AIR 28/874]

615 Sqn arrived from Kenley with 12 Hurricane IIA's and took over 258 Sqn's Hurricane I's.				
Hurricane IIA's known to have been transferred from 615 Sqn to 258 Sqn. Z2353 Z2391 Z2403 Z2446 Z2525 Z2589 Z2630 Z2631:KW-E Z2669 Z2686 Z2689 Z2699 Z2700 Z2703:KW-M Z2758 Z2820 Z2910 Z2916:KW-E Z3069 Z3073				
The following 258 Sqn Hurricane I's were handed over to 615 Sqn. Logbook entries in bold . N2493 P2857 P2992 P3307 P3881 R2688 V6551:KW-H V6559 V6813 V7060:KW-C V7064 V7161:KW-J V7163 V7164 V7682 V7684 V7685 V7687 V7750:KW-T plus 4 ?				
Other Hurricane I's subsequently flown by 615 Sqn at Valley are: P2799 P2919 P3811 V6626:KW-H V6703 V6788:KW-D V6861:KW-K V6871 V6878:KW-N V6936:KW-P V7076 V7081 V7118 V7143 V7159 V7177:KW-Q V7591 V7645 V7660 V7726:KW-S V7751 W9154:KW-Y W9184 W9226 W9341 AE963:KW-Y				
				
The original Watch Tower can be seen top left with the old CFS Hangar in the centre background with Hurricane Z2916:KW-E. The 615 Sqn dispersal area is near to where the rifle range currently is [2025]				
[Valley Aviation Society]				



Another image again taken in the same area as the one above with:
:KW-L [V7726]:KW-S :KW-F plus a few others.



[Both: Doug 'Nobby' Clarke]

This image though seems to be taken on the SW side of the area with possibly the Cymran Estuary in the background.

Doug 'Nobby' Clarke served as an Instrument technician with 615 Sqn, 242 Sqn & 456 Sqn at RAF Valley and recalled that Valley was known as 'Death Valley' by 615 Sqn personnel!





[Both: Doug 'Nobby' Clarke]

Both are most probably taken at the Rhosneigr end close to the River Crigyll.

V J Milner who also served with 615 Sqn at Valley recalls in 1997:

'The Nissen type Sleeping quarters were miles from anywhere. A day pass would be spent either in Bangor, Llandudno, Colwyn Bay, or Caernarfon'

[Z2911]	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	S/L A Eyre
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	F/L Peter Hugo
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	F/L Sowery
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	P/O [Gorzula]
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	P/O Wydrowski
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	Sgt Ptacek
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	P/O Guerin
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	P/O Rene Mouchotte
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	Sgt Smyth
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	Sgt Milnes

	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	Sgt Hamilton
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	Sgt Roberts
[N3935]		Magister I	615 Sqn	P/O Lafont & Sgt Louis
	BJ-	Harrow I	271 Sqn	From Doncaster to Kenley
	BJ-	Harrow I	271 Sqn	From Doncaster to Kenley
	BJ-	Harrow I	271 Sqn	From & to Kenley
K7024	BJ-E	Harrow I*	271 Sqn	From & to Kenley
*Diverted to Sealand with engine problems after departing Valley, arrived Kenley 23.4.41				
-				
<p>258 Sqn departed to Kenley with the 615 Sqn Hurricane IIA's.</p> <p>1 Tiger Moth plus 4 Harrow Bomber/Transport aircraft as support, see above.</p> <p>The 258 Sqn RAF Penrhos detachment flew to Valley in the morning.</p> <p>Aircraft flown in the first few days by 258 Sqn at Kenley were:</p>				
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	S/L Clouston
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	F/L Campbell
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	F/L Bush
22765	FH-	Hurricane II*	258 Sqn	F/O V B De La Perrelle
*On arrival at Kenley overshot on landing damaging the aircraft but no injury to the pilot.				
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	P/O Everist
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	P/O White
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	P/O Dobbyn
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	P/O Marshall
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	P/O Sharp
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	P/O Hutcheson
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	Sgt Clouston
	FH-	Hurricane II	258 Sqn	Sgt Sticka
N6944		Tiger Moth II	258 Sqn	F/O Egerton
-				
V7161	KW-J	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	S/L Eyre
Patrol flown, routed: Valley-Hawarden-Sealand.				

Tuesday 22nd April 1941 [AIR 27/1418/30][logbook]

	RE-	Hurricane I	229 Sqn	From Speke
	RE-	Hurricane I	229 Sqn	To Speke
V7161	KW-J	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	S/L Eyre from Sealand, see 21.4

Thursday 24th April 1941 [AIR 27/2123/33*][IE][logbook]

V6813	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	S/L Eyre
V7750	KW-T	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	P/O Hone
To Penrhos to carry out patrols.				
R4122	PK-S	Hurricane I	315 Sqn	F/O Mickiewicz
V7660	PK-V	Hurricane I	315 Sqn	P/O Gill
P3112	PK-A	Hurricane I	315 Sqn	

W9184	PK-Y	Hurricane I	315 Sqn	
*Four aircraft from 315 Sqn at Speke attached to 615 Sqn until 26.4 conducting Convoy and Land patrols. No mention of this in the 315 Sqn ORB though apart from the above pilots flying the same aircraft over 3 days which would be unusual at home base but not whilst detached away .				

Friday 25th April 1941 [AIR 27/471/8][AIR 27/1691/12]

The rest of 312 Sqn departed Valley to Jurby completing the Sqn move.				
V6861	KW-K	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 43GDA/2RCAF
V6878	KW-N	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 308 Sqn
V7177	KW-Q	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 308 Sqn
W1887	OY-T	Anson I	48 Sqn	F/L Wherry
Refuelled after a convoy patrol, from Hooton Park.				

Saturday 26th April 1941 [F78]

V6936	KW-P	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
Tipped on to its nose whilst taxiing, repaired.				
Pilot	P/O	C D Strickland	Ok	

Sunday 27th April 1941 [RAFM DC75/42/2]

T9804		Magister I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood from Derby
Based noted: Hurricane [V7177]:KW-Q 615 Sqn local flight F/L Haywood.				

Monday 28th April 1941 [RAFM DC75/42/2]

S/L Powell-Shedden arrived to take over 615 Sqn from S/L Eyre.				
Based noted: Hurricane [V7167]:KW-J 615 Sqn to & from Derby F/L Haywood.				
-				
V7687	KW-	Hurricane	615 Sqn	
Forced landing 3nms W of Penrhos, repaired. Sgt Ptacek in P2857 was involved in the search for Sgt Spacek. V7687 would be repaired by Hawker's.				
Pilot	Sgt	O Spacek	Ok	

Tuesday 29th April 1941 [AIR 27/1418/30]

	RE-	4x Hurricane I	229 Sqn	From Speke
Based noted: Hurricane V6861:KW-K 615 Sqn to & from Penrhos patrolled Convoy 'Young'.				

Wednesday 30th April 1941 [AIR 27/1418/30][AIR 27/2123/31]

Sgt Smyth & Steele intercepted a Ju.88 but it escaped before they could get near enough. They were flying 615 Sqn Hurricanes V7177:KW-Q & V6878:KW-N. W9184:KW-Y F/L Haywood flew 2 convoy patrols.				
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	RE-	4x Hurricane I	229 Sqn	To Speke, see 29.4
V6788	KW-D	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from [43GDA]

Thursday 1st May 1941 [AIR 27/2123/33][F78]

615 Sqn intercepted enemy aircraft but could not get near enough. V7060:KW-C F/L Haywood flew a convoy patrol.				
-				
V7060	KW-C	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
Taxied off the runway and tipped on to its nose, repaired.				
Pilot	Sgt	R N Davidson	Ok	

Saturday 3rd May 1941 [AIR 27/2123/33][AIR 28/874][F78]

V6861:KW-K F/L Haywood patrol.				
P2992	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA
-				
V7163	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
Seen by P/O R Mouchette to crash into the Sea inverted 20nms SW of Valley after engine failure due to a possible glycol coolant leak, misjudged height owing to mist.				
Pilot	Adjt	Charles Paul Guerin [Free French]	Killed [aged 23]	

Sunday 4th May 1941 [RAFM]

Hurricane I V6788:KW-D 615 Sqn F/L Haywood patrol over Valley.				

Monday 5th May 1941 [RAFM]

Hurricane I V6551:KW-H 615 Sqn F/L Haywood patrol convoy.				

Tuesday 6th May 1941 [AIR 81/6273][RAFM]

F/L Haywood flew V6861:KW-K & V6551:KW-H 615 Sqn.				
N2493	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery to 1 CRU
-				
L6265		Botha I	3 SoGR	School of General Reconnaissance
Ditched at 10:40 1.5nms off Puffin Island after engine failure. From RAF Squires Gate [Blackpool] The body of Sgt Adlard was taken to Vaynol Hall which was a Casualty Clearing Centre.				
	Sgt	Thomas Merrill Adlard	Killed, drowned [buried Leicester]	
	F/O	Peter Ronald David Alexander Conlough MacDonald	Injured	
	Sgt	S Jones	Injured	
	Sgt	N W Downs	Injured	
	AC2	B G Sprott	Injured	

Wednesday 7th May 1941 [AIR 50/175/11][AIR 28/874]

P3307	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA
P3881	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA
P3811	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 48 MU
-				
V6861	KW-K	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	F/L G S Haywood
V7060	KW-C	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	P/O Gorzula
Enemy Aircraft [Ju.88] sighted by searchlight over Menai Straits at 02:45 at 10,000ft. Opened fire with a 3sec burst causing damage. EA last seen in a vertical dive towards the cloud layer. A witness Owen Morris [Railway Guard & Coastguard] said it had crashed into the sea.				
The He.111 below may be a possibility for the above aircraft. Lost without trace on a mission to Liverpool.				
1724	G1+GH	He.111P-4	1/KG55	
Ff	Lt	Gunther Becker		MIA
Bf	Uffz	Edgar Faulhaber		MIA
Bm	O/Fw	Georg Lunz		MIA
Bo	Uffz	Emil Vierser		MIA

Thursday 8th May 1941 [RAFM]

P2919	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 7 OTU
V7591	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 27 MU
Based noted: Hurricane I V6788:KW-D & V7161:KW-J 615 Sqn F/L Haywood air tests.				

Friday 9th May 1941 [AIR 28/874][logbook]

Trewan Sands GCI Radar site becomes operational. GCI [Ground Control Intercept]				
V7161:KW-J & V6788:KW-D 615 Sqn F/L Haywood				
R1977		Magister I	[131 Sqn]	S/L Eyre from ?
[His logbook then mentions a patrol over Abersoch ? in Hurricane V5516, incorrect serial]				
-				
3333	V4+BH	He.111H-3	3/KG40	Also quoted as 7/KG40
Machine gunned a Dutch Ship in Holyhead Harbour but hit by anti-aircraft fire and crashed into the sea off Porth Dafarch near South Stack.				
Ff	O/Lt	Helmut Waldvogel		Killed
Bm	O/Fw	Herbert Lehmann		Killed
Bo	O/Fw	Konrad Raub*		Killed
Bf	O/Fw	Franz Resch*		Killed
*Bodies washed ashore at Holyhead 13.5.				

Saturday 10th May 1941 [AIR 27/1360/31][logbook]

	FK-[A]	Beaufighter IF*	219 Sqn	S/L Colbeck-Welch.
*Visited from Tangmere to inspect the aerodrome for the upcoming detachment. Proposed				

to send four pilots and their aircraft for an indefinite period.

R1977		Magister I	[131 Sqn]	S/L Eyre to Squires Gate, see 9.5
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Sunday 11th May 1941 [AIR 27/1360/31]

<p>219 Sqn Detachment arrived from Tangmere: Aircraft known to have been at Valley were: R2032 R2086 R2097 R2132 R2191 R2202 T4624</p> <p>Sgt A Smith who flew as a Radar Operator with P/O Styles remembers Valley as: 'Full of prefab buildings and lots of sand in between the runways with mostly GCI [Ground Control Intercept] flying and was scrambled on 6 occasions'</p>				
[R2086]	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	S/L Colbeck-Welch
[R2097]	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	P/O Styles/Smith
[R2132]	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	Sgt Sargent
[R2191]	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	P/O Crook
	BJ-	Harrow I	271 Sqn	From Tangmere to Doncaster
<p>The Harrow was present as support for the 219 Sqn detachment. Again, the serial/pilot combinations may not be correct, but the actual serials and pilots are. The Detachment lasted until 30.6.41.</p>				
<p>Based noted: Hurricane I V7726:KW-S 615 Sqn to & from Speke.</p>				

Monday 12th May 1941 [RAFM]

Hurricane I V7726:KW-S 615 Sqn F/L Haywood night patrol.				

Tuesday 13th May 1941 [AIR 27/2123/33][AIR 28/874][logbook]

		?		W/C Pike
From Tangmere to visit the 219 Sqn detachment.				
W5774		Hornet Moth	[71 Wg]	S/L Eyre
The Hornet Moth was involved in the search for Adjt Briere below, later departed to Speke then Salmesbury. His empty mae west [lifejacket] was seen in an oil patch.				
-				
V6551	KW-H	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
<p>Suffered engine failure at 2,500ft over the Irish Sea, ditched 10nms South of Holyhead. At 2,000ft he was told to bale out but replied 'I am going to land'. Last seen floating face upwards in his 'Mae West' lifejacket. Most probably knocked unconscious on hitting the water. One of a pair on patrol, the other flown by Sous-Lt R Mouchette circled the ditched aircraft for 30mins until relieved by another aircraft. Hurricane V6936:KW-P [F/L Haywood] was also involved in the search.</p>				
Pilot	Adjt	Yves Briere [Free French]		Killed

Wednesday 14th May 1941 [AIR 27/2123/33][AIR 50/175/9]

P3811	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Sgt Roberts [RAAF] 'BLUE1'
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V7684	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Sgt Hamilton [RAAF]
Whilst on a convoy patrol they engaged a Ju.88. Sgt Hamilton silenced the rear gunner and after expending all of his ammunition broke off the engagement. Sgt Hamilton received 3 bullet wounds in his right leg and considerable damage to his aircraft, he was admitted to Hospital. Sgt Roberts's had all his port machine guns put out of action and broke off after firing 1,600 rounds. Both aircraft made safe landings, the EA was seen to be in difficulty. P3811 due to damage was repaired & converted to a Mk.IIA as DG644. V7684 was also repaired & converted to a Mk.IIA as DG645.				

Thursday 15th May 1941 [AIR 27/2123/33][AIR 81/6456][AVIA 5/20/W1024][RAFM M10523]

V6626	KW-H	Hurricane I	[615 Sqn]	S/L Gillam
Routed: Speke-Squires Gate-Valley-Salmesbury-Speke.				
-				
V6788	KW-D	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
Crashed on Porth Escob beach, Rhoscolyn at 18:40. Seen to be in a steep dive from about 1,000ft, the pilot was taken to Stanley Hospital, Holyhead.				
Pilot	Sgt	F T Westwood	Seriously injured.	

Friday 16th May 1941 [Len Smith logbook]

R2202	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	To High Ercall
Len Smith and 2 others had a day off and had gone into Bangor. Just as they were about to have a drink their CO, S/L Colbeck-Welch & P/O Styles burst in and took them back to Valley. They had been ordered to return to High Ercall for night operations.				

Saturday 17th May 1941 [AIR 28/874]

[R2202]	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	F/L Crook
Attacked an unidentified Enemy aircraft over Birmingham at 00:40.				
[P2857]	KW-V	Hurricane	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood
Battle damaged aircraft delivered to Hucknall, F/L Haywood was then flown to Hawarden in Oxford R6078 to collect AE963, see below. The F78 for P2857 is mentioned below, the days may be the same as the F78 is the allotted not necessarily the actual delivery date which could be subject to weather.				
AE963	[KW-Y]	Hurricane	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood
New Canadian aircraft from Hawarden, quoted as 18.5 in the F78.				

Sunday 18th May 1941 [F78]

W9226	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 48 MU
Z7143	KW-D	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 48 MU

Monday 19th May 1941 [F78]

P2857	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivered to 48 MU, see above
R2688	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA
V6813	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA
V6861	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA

V7161	KW-J	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA
V7164	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA

Tuesday 20th May 1941 [AIR 27/294/10][AIR 27/1702/8][RAFM]

R2764		DH.95 Flamingo	24 Sqn	F/L B-Hassett
ACM Sir Sholto-Douglas, routed: Exeter-Perranporth-Pembrey-Valley-High Ercall.				
V7170	SZ-	Hurricane I	316 Sqn	P/O J Gorski
P3093	SZ-	Hurricane I	316 Sqn	Sgt R Gadus
V7126	SZ-	Hurricane I	316 Sqn	Sgt P Gallus
From Pembrey at 12:15, departed back to Pembrey at 13:05.				
V7682	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 48 MU
N3826		Magister I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood to Christchurch
To Christchurch then to Derby on 24.5, see 25.5				

Sunday 25th May 1941 [RAFM]

N3826		Magister I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood from Derby, see 24.5
V6703	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 43GDA
V6871	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 43GDA
V7645	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 43GDA

Tuesday 27th May 1941 [F78]

V7750	KW-T	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
Swung on landing into a hole at Valley, repaired.				
Pilot	Sgt	A C Steele		Ok

Wednesday 28th May 1941 [RAFM]

Z7159:KW-V F/L Haywood patrol over Valley.				

Thursday 29th May 1941 [F78]

V7685	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA
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Friday 30th May 1941 [RAFM logbook]

L4406		Miles Mentor		S/L Eyre from Speke
The Mentor's propellor was damaged at Valley.				
R1977		Magister I	[131 Sqn]	S/L Eyre to Speke

Saturday 31st May 1941 [AIR 27/1699/5]

	PK-	Hurricane I*	315 Sqn	
	PK-	Hurricane I*	315 Sqn	
	PK-	Hurricane I*	315 Sqn	
*Detached from Speke 31.5-14.6 for night flying training. Pilots rotated through.				

Sunday 1st June 1941 [AIR 27/1360/33][AIR 28/874]

R7146		Spitfire PR.III	1 PRU	F/O Sinclair overflight at 30,000ft
R2032	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	Sgt H Grubb & P/O Sinclair
Arrived from Tangmere.				
R2086	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	P/O Crook & Sgt Lowther
-				
R2097	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	[AIR 50/84/4]
Attacked a Ju.88 whilst under control of Trewan Sands [Valley] GCI at 02:40, Enemy Aircraft eventually crashed 12nms off Aberystwyth. RAF Valley's 1 st kill.				
Pilot	S/L	Colbeck-Welch		
Obs	Sgt	Pyne		
-				
4289	M7+GH	Ju.88A-5	1/KFG.806	From Lannion, France.
Ff	O/Lt	Leo Sandgathe		Body washed up Barmouth 27.6.41
Bf	O/Gfr	Horst Littfinski		Killed
Bo	Uffz	Willibrord Freitag		Body washed up Llwyngwrl 19.7.41
Bs	Fw	Alois Knof		Killed

Monday 2nd June 1941 [RAFM]

Hurricane I AE963:KW-Y 615 Sqn F/L Haywood convoy patrol.				

Tuesday 3rd June 1941 [RAFM logbook]

W5774		Hornet Moth	[71 Wg]	S/L Eyre
From ? to Valley then onwards to Jurby.				

Thursday 5th June 1941 [AIR 27/2123/35][AIR 81/6763][AIR 27/867/10]

W/C J O W Oliver from 9 Group assumes command of the Station.				
P9505	JU-	Spitfire IA	111 Sqn	S/L McLean from Abingdon
-				
N3935		Magister I	615 Sqn	
Stalled and crashed near Horsham St. Faith [Norwich]				
Pilot	P/O	William George McDowell		Killed [buried Beragh, N Ireland]
	Sgt	George McGregor Young		Killed [buried Edinburgh]

Wednesday 6th June 1941 [AIR 27/867/10]

P9505	JU-	Spitfire IA	111 Sqn	To Hawarden, see 5.6
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Saturday 7th June 1941 [AB]

T8204		Tiger Moth*	Valley SF	
T8205		Tiger Moth*	Valley SF	
*Both delivered from 38 MU, Llandow. Possibly for the Valley Station Flight ?				

Tuesday 10th June [AIR 29/42]

T9739		Magister I	Z Flt	S/L Robinson from & to Bodorgan
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Wednesday 11th June 1941 [AIR 27/1360/33]

V7076	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 43GDA
W9341	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 316 Sqn
R2097	FK-	Beaufighter IF*	219 Sqn	W/C Colbeck-Welch to Tangmere
R2132	FK-	Beaufighter IF*	219 Sqn	W/C Ivins from Tangmere
*Changeover of Aircrew/Aircraft.				
-				
Z7159	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
Taxied off the runway but hit a hole and the undercarriage collapsed, repaired.				
Pilot	P/O	Andrew Arthur Stephen	Ok, see also 11.7.41	

Thursday 12th June 1941 [RAFM]

T8205		Tiger Moth	Valley SF	F/L Haywood
To & from Derby with Mr Parker from Rolls-Royce.				

Friday 13th June 1941 [AIR 27/1360/33]

	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	P/O Crook
To Tangmere to collect spares for the 219 Sqn detachment.				

Monday 16th June 1941 [AIR 27/1661/14][AIR 27/2089/12][AIR 28/874]

AE963	KW-Y	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood
Diversion to Aberffraw [Bodorgan] due to fog at Valley.				
Z2387	UP-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	Sgt Kucera
Z2821	UP-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	P/O Thompson
Both 605 Sqn aircraft were from Baginton, Coventry to Speke.				
	WX-L	Hurricane I	302 Sqn	F/L J Kowalski
	WX-A	Hurricane I	302 Sqn	P/O Z Wroblewski
	WX-E	Hurricane I	302 Sqn	P/O Gutowski
[V6943]	WX-D	Hurricane I	302 Sqn	P/O Gorzula
	WX-G	Hurricane I	302 Sqn	Sgt E Nowakiewicz
[V6734]	WX-K	Hurricane I	302 Sqn	Sgt Szope
Six pilots and four aircraft plus 16 Airmen from A Flight/302 Sqn deployed to Valley from Jurby for approx. 1 month. These six aircraft were flown by the same pilots during the first week of July. The detachment remained until 11.7.41. The Valley ORB mentions arrival on 20.6 but the 302 Sqn ORB says 16.6				

Tuesday 17th June 1941 [AIR 27/1360/33]

	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	W/C Pike from & to Tangmere
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Wednesday 18th June 1941 [AIR 27/1360/33]

615 Sqn intercepted probable Ju.88 but it disappeared into cloud.				
P2799	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from MSFU
	FK-	Beaufighter IF*	219 Sqn	F/L Worthington from & to Tangmere
*Crew changeover, P/O Styles returned to Tangmere.				
	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	P/O Daniels from & to Tangmere
Another Crew change with Sgt Sargent returning to Tangmere.				

Thursday 19th June 1941 [RAFM]

AE963	KW-Y	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood to Squires Gate
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Friday 20th June 1941 [AIR 27/867/10][RAFM]

S/L Charles Gordon Chaloner Olive appointed as CO of 456 Sqn, see 30.6.41				
P8239	JU-	Spitfire IIA	111 Sqn	S/L McLean from Hawarden
V9577		Lysander IIIT	6 AACU	Coleman, Sealand to Ringway
V6559	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	To 43GDA
AE963	KW-Y	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood from Squires Gate
V7081		Hurricane I	[315 Sqn]	S/L Eyre
From ? departed later to Squires Gate.				

Saturday 21st June 1941 [AIR 27/867/10]

P8239	JU-	Spitfire IIA	111 Sqn	To Grangemouth, see 20.6
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Sunday 22nd June 1941 [AIR 27/1360/33][F78]

	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	P/O Daniels & Sgt Grubb
To Tangmere post Valley detachment.				
Based noted:				
Hurricane I AE963:KW-Y 615 Sqn scrambled, landed Jurby, IoM then returned to Valley.				
-				
V6871	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
Struck a telegraph pole whilst landing at Valley, repaired.				
Pilot	Sgt	F C Astley		Ok

Wednesday 25th June 1941 [AIR 27/764/15][AIR 50/41/270][RAFM]

V6936	KW-P	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood from Penrhos
[V7726]	KW-S	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood to Speke
N3334	ZJ-	Defiant I	96 Sqn	Sgt Smithson & Robinson
Took off from Cranage at 01:25 [25.6] to patrol the Ellesmere Port/Liverpool area. At 02:00 a large twin engined aircraft [He.111] was spotted towards the North West coast of the Wirral. This contact was lost but subsequently 2 enemy aircraft were seen approaching Liverpool and turning West towards New Brighton. The Defiant then attempted to fly ahead of the aircraft towards the Great Orme to cut off their escape. Being unable too, the Gunner gave a 1 second burst. As a result of using fuel to chase the aircraft the plan was changed to land at Valley. As the aircraft banked left to fly to Valley an enemy aircraft was seen below				

and engaged by the Gunner at 100ft above the sea. The aircraft was identified as a Do.17Z and further strikes on the target were registered, a bright flash was seen on both engagements. It then disappeared into the haze and darkness. The Defiant landed at Valley 03:00.

Thursday 25th June 1941 [RAFM]

[V7726]	KW-S	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood from Speke
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Friday 27th June 1941 [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/437][RAFM M10523]

P5188		Hurricane I	MSFU	W/C Brookes from Speke
V6626	KW-H	Hurricane I	[615 Sqn]	S/L Gillam from & to Speke
-				
V7750	KW-T	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	'BLUE1' F/L Haywood B Flt
V7064	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	'BLUE2' P/O Strickland B Flt
The 2 aircraft departed Valley at 15:31 and were vectored 350deg to 10,000ft. At 15:40 a Ju.88 was sighted at 13,000ft at 20nms from Holyhead. 'BLUE1' gave four bursts at 250yds and saw strikes on the starboard engine. The EA then dived with 'BLUE1' unable to catch up, 'BLUE2' was unable to get within range. The 2 aircraft landed back at Valley 16:01 claiming one EA damage.				
		Ju.88		

Saturday 28th June 1941 [AIR 27/604/3][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/437]

P5188		Hurricane I	MSFU	To Sealand then Speke, see 27.6
T4627	WM-	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Detachment starts
R2133	WM-	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Detachment starts
In addition to these two aircraft 68 Sqn flew several flights to Valley from High Ercall on 1.7.41. the Valley ORB mentions 18.7.41 as the end of the detachment. 68 Sqn continued to provide night cover after this date but from their base at High Ercall.				
<p>Sgt Jackie Briggs was a Radar Operator detached to Valley whilst operating with 68 Sqn. In his memoirs 'Downs and Ups' he recalls his time at Valley: '68 Sqn had a satellite landing ground at Rhosneigr, or Valley as it was called [Rhosneigr being virtually unpronounceable!] Occasionally, we patrolled from there using it as a dispersal station but we usually regarded it as only an emergency landing ground. It was always possible that an enemy raider might sneak up the Irish Sea but it never happened whilst I was there on night readiness'</p> <p>Sgt Briggs & his pilot F/L Derek 'Pooey' Pain landed safely in virtually zero visibility using ground signals and timing. Once down the only way to get to the dispersal was to follow the Fire Truck's rear red light. After shutting down they entered the Flight Dispersal Hut where Defiant Aircrews were amazed to discover that someone had landed in those conditions.</p>				

Sunday 29th June 1941 [AIR 27/1573/23][AIR 27/1360/33]

	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	F/L Worthington to Tangmere
	BJ-	Harrow I*	271 Sqn	From Doncaster to Tangmere

Monday 30th June 1941 [AB][AIR 27/1899/1][AIR 28/874]

456[RAAF]Sqn formed at Valley with 18 Defiants. CO S/L C G C Olive DFC.

Initial complement was 28 Officers & 155 Airmen.

The Defiants had been relegated to night fighter duties due to them being unsuitable for day fighter operations. The Australian ground staff for 456 Sqn were still at sea and would not arrive until September. In the meantime temporary staff were allocated from existing Squadrons to 456 Sqn. Valley reminded the CO, Gordon Olive of the dune country on the Pacific Coast back in Australia but without the surf. Due to the runways having been laid on sand there were numerous incidents whereby if the aircraft departed the runway due to a crosswind or technical failure the undercarriage would 'dig' in and collapse.



456 Sqn undated image in 1941.

Satchwith-Selford-Cox-Williams-Wills-Burley-Dottridge-Hedge-Hughes-Condon-Cleary-Postlethwaite-Ratcliffe



From left to right:

F/L Dottridge - S/Ldr G Olive - Ron Lowther – Hancock – Telford – Hedge – Wills - Billy Williams.
[Fred Stevens]

Defiant I: [2.7.41-11.41] aircraft known to have served with 456[RAAF]Sqn:
N1558 N1569 N1647 N1690 N1706 N3313 N3367 N3370 [N3430] N3458 N3477 N3496
N3497 T3933 T3939 T3940:PZ-V T3950 T4003 T4007 T4065 T4066 [T4111] V1116:SA-A
V1124 V1175 V1177 AA282 AA283 AA284 AA285 AA286. [-----] means unconfirmed.

	FK-	Beaufighter IF	219 Sqn	
Detachment finishes and returns to Tangmere.				
V6878	KW-N	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood to & from Ternhill

Tuesday 1st July 1941 [AIR 27/1699/9][logbook]

V6626	KW-H	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 315 Sqn, Speke.
V7081	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivery from 315 Sqn, Speke.
V7751	KW-	Hurricane I	[615 Sqn]	S/L Eyre
Routed: Prestwick-Valley-Squires Gate.				
-				
P6896		Blenheim IV	56 OTU	From Sutton Bridge.
Hit HT [High Tension] wires, undercarriage collapsed on landing at Valley.				
Pilot				

Wednesday 2nd July 1941 [Fighter Nights]

N1690		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
N3496		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
N3497		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3950		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery

V1175		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
V1177		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
AA283		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
AA284		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
AA285		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery

Thursday 3rd July 1941 [AIR 27/604/5]

T4627	WM-	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Sgt Newhouse Night Patrol
R2133	WM-	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	F/L Pain Night Patrol

Friday 4th July 1941 [Fighter Nights]

N1558		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
N1569		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
N1647		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
N3367		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3933		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3939		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3940		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
T4007		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
AA282		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery

Saturday 5th July 1941 [RAFM]

Hurricane I V7177:KW-Q 615 Sqn F/L Haywood convoy patrol.				

Sunday 6th July 1941 [AIR 27/604/5]

X7551	WM-R	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Detachment Night Patrol
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Monday 7th July 1941 [RAFM]

K6269		Anson I	[2 SoAN]	F/O Mislebrook to Cranage
They then flew in Anson I R9781 from Cranage to Digby to pick up Z2760 below.				
Z2760	KW-Y	Hurricane IIA*	615 Sqn	F/L Haywood from Digby/401 Sqn
Z2762	KW-	Hurricane IIA*	615 Sqn	
Deliveries from 401 Sqn.				

Tuesday 8th July 1941 [RAFM]

Hurricane I V7726:KW-S 615 Sqn F/L Haywood convoy patrol.				
Z2627	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 401 Sqn
Z2762	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 401 Sqn

Thursday 10th July 1941 [AIR 27/2123][AIR 27/604/5][AIR 27/2123/37][AIR 28/874]

615 Sqn start flying Hurricane IIA's on patrols. [Z2315 Z2459 Z2582 Z2762]				
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302 Sqn Detachment departs back to Jurby, see 16.6.41				
Z2315	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
Z2392	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 401 Sqn
Z2404	KW-U	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
Z2447	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
Z2459	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
Z2582	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
Z2583	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 401 Sqn
Z2761	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 401 Sqn
R2185	WM-	Beaufighter IF*	68 Sqn	W/O Welch Night Patrol
X7551	WM-R	Beaufighter IF*	68 Sqn	Sgt Blanchard Night Patrol
*2 Night Patrols flown by the 68 Sqn detachment from High Ercall.				

Friday 11th July 1941 [AIR 27/1780/5][AIR 28/874][AIR 81/7557][**RAFM M10523**]

403[RCAF]Sqn detachment arrives with five aircraft from Ternhill. 615 Sqn ORB mentions six whereas the 403 Sqn ORB mentions five. S/L D Gillam takes over command of 615 Sqn.				
R7068	KH-G	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	CO S/L Morris, returned to Ternhill
R7065	KH-X	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	F/L Christmas
X4674	KH-R	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	P/O Ford
R7150	KH-D	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	P/O Dick
X4644	-	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	Sgt Sones, no code shown in ORB.
-				
Z2804	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	Delivery
-				
V6626	KW-H	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
Experienced engine failure at 18,000ft whilst on patrol, forced landing carried out on Nefyn Beach but the aircraft turned over on landing after hitting a boulder and the pilot was drowned. Hurricane I AE963:KW-Y [F/L Haywood] was involved in the search.				
Pilot	P/O	Andrew Arthur Stephen [RCAF]	Drowned [buried Pwllheli]	



[Hywel Evans]

Monday 14th July 1941 [AIR 27/1780/5][AIR 27/2123/38]

X9387		Dominie	6 AACU	Coleman
Routed: Ringway-Valley-Llan[bedr or dwrog]-Valley-Ringway.				
X4319	KH-M	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	CO S/L Morris from & to Ternhill
-				
V6703	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	
Forced landing at Penrhos at 08:25 whilst on patrol. S/L Gillam [Z2804:KW-] & F/L Haywood [AE963:KW-Y] flew to & from Penrhos to inspect any damage. Then to 43GDA.				
Pilot	Sgt	Fry		Ok

Wednesday 16th July 1941 [AIR 27/1780/5][logbook]

9 Group TTF [Target Towing Flight] arrived.				
X4856	KH-L	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	P/O Waldon from Ternhill
R6984	KH-F	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	F/L Cathels to Ternhill
L6919		Magister I	403 Sqn	S/L Grant out & P/O Waldon back
V7751	KW-	Hurricane I	[615 Sqn]	S/L Eyre from Ternhill

Thursday 17th July 1941 [AIR 27/1780/5][AIR 28/874][logbook]

403 Sqn detachment departed back to Ternhill.				
Pilots, F/L Christmas, F/O Price, P/O Ford, P/O Ball & Sgt Sones.				
R6984	KH-F	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	F/L Cathels from Ternhill
V7751	KW-	Hurricane I	[615 Sqn]	S/L Eyre
Routed: Valley-Speke-Jurby-Squires Gate.				


Friday 18th July 1941 [AIR 27/867/12]

P8239	JU-	Spitfire IIA	111 Sqn	S/L McLean from to Dyce
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Saturday 19th July 1941 [logbook]

V3733		Oxford II	14[P]AFU	[Hughes]
Flew under the Menai Suspension Bridge, did NOT visit Valley.				

Monday 21st July 1941 [AIR 27/1899/1][AIR 28/874]

T3933	SA-	Defiant I	456 Sqn	[AIR 81/7754]
Crashed on a solo training flight near Llanerchymedd, Anglesey, no attempt to bail out. 456 Sqn's first casualty.				
Pilot	Sgt	Alan Fincher Brookes	Killed [buried Maeshyfyrd]	
				
Maeshyfyrd Cemetery, Holyhead [Hywel Evans]				

Tuesday 22nd July 1941 [AIR 27/1780/5][AIR 27/2123][AIR 29/437]

X4856	KH-L	Spitfire I	403 Sqn	P/O Ford from & to Ternhill
Z2426	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
Z2460	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
Z2578	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
Z2928	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
P3362		Hurricane I	MSFU	W/C Brookes from & to Speke
[P8745]		Hurricane I	1 ADF	615 Sqn aircraft delivered to 56 OTU

Wednesday 23rd July 1941 [AIR 29/890][RAFM]

Z2404:KW-U 615 Sqn F/L Haywood, scrambled to intercept Irish Air Corps aircraft.				
-				
X7369		DH89 Rapide	1 ADF	
Dropped off pilots to deliver the 3 Hurricanes below to 56 OTU, Sutton Bridge.				
V7064	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Sgt Gretton delivery to 56 OTU
P2919	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Sgt Burnham delivery to 56 OTU
V7591	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Sgt Markiewicz delivery to 56 OTU

Thursday 24th July 1941 [RAFM]

Hurricane I Z2760:KW-Y 615 Sqn F/L Haywood convoy patrol.				

Friday 25th July 1941 [RAFM]

Hurricane I Z2786:KW-[V] 615 Sqn F/L Haywood convoy patrol.				

Saturday 26th July 1941 [Fighter Nights]

N1569		Defiant I	456 Sqn	
Damaged on landing at Valley, to 43 Group [5.8.41 ?] for repair.				
Pilot		Wild	Ok	
-				
Based noted: Defiant T4009 456 Sqn circuits & landings, F/S Eric Carter logbook. [T4009 at this time was allocated to 256 Sqn, possibly T4007 which was a 456 Sqn one]				

Sunday 27th July 1941 [Fighter Nights][SB]

V7060	KW-C	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 56 OTU
Z2675	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
-				
T3940		Defiant I	456 Sqn	
Crashed on landing at Valley, repaired on site.				
Pilot		Woodill	Ok	
-				
Based noted: Defiant I N3496 456 Sqn sector recce, F/S Eric Carter logbook.				

Tuesday 29th July 1941 [Fighter Nights][AIR 29/437][AIR 29/42]

T4066		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
P3142		Hurricane I	MSFU	P/O Spurdle from & to Speke
R5103		Tiger Moth	Z Flt	S/L Robinson from & to Bodorgan
Z2401	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 3525
Z2454	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 32 Sqn
Z2504	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 32 Sqn
Z2662	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 32 Sqn
Z2836	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 32 Sqn
Z2977	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 32 Sqn

Wednesday 30th July 1941 [F78]

Z2489	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
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Thursday 31st July 1941 [F78]

Z2498	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 79 Sqn
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Friday 1st August 1941 [AIR 27/2123][AIR 27/867/14]

P8239	JU-	Spitfire IIA	111 Sqn	S/L McLean
-				

Z2315	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Emergency landing just short of the runway at Valley due to glycol cooling problem, undercarriage leg collapsed on landing, ending on its nose, repaired by De Havillands.				
Pilot	P/O	N L McCulloch	Ok	

Saturday 2nd August 1941 [AIR 29/437]

V7645	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 331 Sqn
W9226	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 331 Sqn
AE963	KW-Y	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 331 Sqn
W9208		Hurricane I	MSFU	P/O Spurdle
Air-to-air gunnery.				

Sunday 3rd August 1941 [AIR 27/604/7]

V6936	KW-P	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 331 Sqn
V7750	KW-T	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 331 Sqn
V7076	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 56 OTU
Z2409	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Delivery from 402 Sqn
R2091	WM-Y	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	P/O Mansfield & Sgt Janacek
Patrol took off from High Ercall and landed at Valley.				

Monday 4th August 1941 [AIR 28/874]

P2799	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 56 OTU
V7726	KW-S	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 56 OTU
		Tiger Moth		615 Sqn CO & P/O Strickland

Flew to the crash scene below.



This is a letter/envelope dated 29.5.41 posted to F/L C D Strickland of 615 Sqn from Mexico.
[Dick Thomas Collection]

Z2404	KW-U	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	AIR 81/8059
Engine trouble, crashed Rhuddgaer 1.5nms SE of Newborough, Anglesey at 16:20. Due to possible cooling problems as per the incident on 1.8.41 the Sqn was grounded due to possible glycol contamination. At the time he was carrying out a weather test and Convoy reconnaissance. Burnt out wreckage was salvaged by 34 MU. The pilot abandoned the aircraft too low.				
Pilot	P/O	Graham Radford Timewell	Killed [buried Blackpool 9.8]	

Tuesday 5th August 1941 [AIR 27/2089/16][AIR 28/874][Fighter Nights][AIR 28/369]

A Flight, 605 Sqn detachment arrived from Baginton [Coventry] to take over from 615 Sqn whose Hurricanes were grounded due to mechanical/glycol problems. Arrived via Hawarden at 10:30. As a result, 615 Sqn also flew the 605 Sqn aircraft on patrols.

Z3558	HE-	Hurricane IIB	605 Sqn	F/L Wright
Z2979	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	Sgt Wigley
Z2966	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	Sgt Dawick
Z2978	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	P/O C K Thompson
Z2325	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	Sgt Lester
Z2424	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	Sgt Beckett
Z2465	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	P/O E T Thompson
V1124		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
		Lysander		P/O Disbrey from & to Hendon

Wednesday 6th August 1941 [AIR 27/1663/24][AIR 27/2060/12]

R2327	BQ-	Beaufighter IIF	600 Sqn	P/O Copsey from & to Colerne
P3932	RF-C	Hurricane I*	303 Sqn	P/O S Juszcak
P3835	RF-	Hurricane I*	303 Sqn	Sgt M Popek
*Arrived 09:20 from Speke, then carried out a Convoy Patrol before departing 15:50 back to Speke.				

Thursday 7th August 1941 [AIR 27/2089/16]

Z3558	HE-	Hurricane IIB	605 Sqn	P/O Thompson to & from Baginton
		?*	615 Sqn	Adjutant
*Flew to Squires Gate to make final arrangements for P/O Timewell's funeral, see 4.8				
Z2358	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	P/O Mouchette landed at Penrhos

Friday 8th August 1941 [AIR 28/369][AIR 29/42]

A Flight/605 Sqn detachment departed back to Baginton, arriving there at 19:15.				
Z3558	HE-	Hurricane IIB	605 Sqn	F/L Wright
Z2979	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	Sgt Wigley
Z2966	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	Sgt Dawick
Z2978	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	P/O C K Thompson
Z2325	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	Sgt Lester
Z2424	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	Sgt Beckett
Z2465	HE-	Hurricane IIA	605 Sqn	P/O E T Thompson

R5103		Tiger Moth	Z Flt/1 AACU	F/O Bliss from & to Bodorgan
Z7159	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 59 OTU

Saturday 9th August 1941 [F78]

V7177	KW-Q	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 56 OTU
W9341	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 56 OUT
Z2761	KW-	Hurricane IIA*	615 Sqn	
*F78 says it was repaired on site and returned to 615 Sqn 20.9 which is after they left Valley.				

Monday 11th August 1941 [AIR 28/874]

710[Defence]Sqn arrives at Valley, CO S/L S G Frogley.
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Tuesday 12th August 1941 [AIR 27/940/4][AIR 28/874]

2 RAF/ASR Motor Launches, 269 & 700 start operations from Rhoscolyn Bay.				
R1977		Magister I	131 Sqn	S/L Grant from & to Tern Hill

Thursday 14th August 1941 [AIR 29/437]

MSFU [Catapult/rocket launched Hurricanes] at Speke, their ORB mentions that catapult launches off the North coast of Anglesey were to fly to Valley for aircraft inspections before returning to Speke.
--

Friday 15th August 1941 [Fighter Nights]

T4007		Defiant I	456 Sqn	
Damaged on landing at Valley, to Reid & Sigrist for repair 23.8.41				
Pilot		Dodson	Ok	

Saturday 16th August 1941 [AIR 81/8350][AVIA 5/20/W1091]

Z2578	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
<p>Aircraft wing tanks caught fire, crashed in flames at Cae Mount, Glan Hafren Cottage near Llanddeusant, Anglesey at 12:00 following a practice formation sortie with Sgt Spencer. The fabric on the tail plane and rudder was completely burnt whereas the engine showed no signs of fire. The burial took place 20.8.41. He was originally from Lachine, Quebec, Canada.</p> <div data-bbox="632 1518 954 1839" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Initials are incorrect on the headstone. Holyhead St Mary's Roman Catholic Cemetery. [Hywel Evans]</p>				
Pilot	P/O	Albert Joseph Yve Francois Boulanger [RCAF]	Killed [buried Holyhead RC]	

Sunday 17th August 1941 [F78]

V6878	KW-N	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Delivered to 59 OTU
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Wednesday 20th August 1941 [AIR 27/2123/39][Fighter Nights][AIR 29/42][AIR 29/41]

T5491		Tiger Moth	J Flt	F/O Bliss from & to Bodorgan
-				
T3950		Defiant I	456 Sqn	
Damaged on landing at Valley, to Reid & Sigrist for repair 27.8.41				
Pilot		M J Gloster	Ok	
-				
Z2762	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Belly landing at night, forgot to change fuel tanks, repaired and to 43GDA.				
Pilot	F/L	C D Beaumont	Ok	

Friday 21st August 1941 [AIR 27/2123]

Z2498	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Transferred to 22 MU
	[BP-]	6x Spitfire I	[457 Sqn]	From Jurby.
Possibly 457 Sqn who were based there, only mention in their ORB is 'Normal routine'				

Monday 24th August 1941 [AIR 27/2123][RAFM logbook]


N3426		Defiant I	[60 OTU]	S/L Eyre from [Leconfield ?]
P3026	RF-	Hurricane I	303 Sqn	F/L W Zak
R4122	RF-	Hurricane I	303 Sqn	F/O J Daszewski
V7192	RF-	Hurricane I	303 Sqn	Sgt S Belza
V7379	RF-	Hurricane I	303 Sqn	Sgt Slowikowski
V6728	RF-	Hurricane I	303 Sqn	P/O W Lokuciewski
V6733	RF-	Hurricane I	303 Sqn	Sgt [Warchal]
Arrived at 10:55 from Speke, carried out a Convoy Patrol and then returned to Speke.				

Tuesday 26th August 1941 [AIR 27/2123][AIR 50/175/23][AIR 28/874]

[Z2460]	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	P/O Mouchette 'BLUE1' B Flight
[Z2836]	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	Sgt Hamilton 'BLUE2' B Flight
Attacked and damaged a Ju.88 approx. 40nms N of Pembroke Dock at 16:16. The EA forced landed near Kinsale Head, Cork, Ireland and is therefore claimed as destroyed. Luftwaffe Crew destroyed their aircraft after the crash landing and were interned in Ireland. The EA aircraft had carried out a reconnaissance of Bristol & Birmingham. The fighters fired a total of 740 rounds of ammunition.				
0396	4U+HH	Ju.88D-2	1[F]123	
Bo	Lt	Rudolf Lauer	Ok	
Ff	Lt	Ludwig Stockbauer	Ok	
Bs	Gfr	Herbert Schulze	Ok	
Bs	Gfr	Gerhard Dreschel	Ok	
-				

R7228	RN-	Spitfire VB	72 Sqn	Sgt C P Stone
<p>This has in the past been attributed as a crash at Valley. Wheels raised prematurely on take-off, hit the ground & crash landed 1.5nm SW of Valley. Sources quote 72 Sqn, but they were based at Biggin Hill and on operations, R7228 is mentioned as airborne with P/O Gosling 1002-1110 out of Biggin on 26.8.41, no mention in the ORB after this date. Was it Valley or was this the well-known Biggin Hill Valley? This is mentioned in various sources but most probably Biggin Hill not Valley. No mention in Valley ORB.</p>				

Thursday 28th August 1941 [AIR 27/940/4][AIR 28/874][Fighter Nights]

R1977		Magister I*	131 Sqn	P/O Stout & F/L Evans
*From and to Ternhill.				
L4907	[20]	Blenheim I	456 Sqn	Delivery [coded '20' at 54 OTU]
-				
L6417		Botha I	4 AOS	AIR 81/8638, from West Freugh.
In a violent Gale [gusts 50-60mph] the Botha crashed just after take-off on Runway 20 at approximately 11:00. From ashore one crewman could be seen on the wreck of the aircraft. 615 Sqn dropped Mae Wests and Dinghies during the attempted rescue. The ASR launches from Rhoscolyn were also involved but the sea was too heavy for any rescue launch or lifeboat to attempt a rescue of the crew. Repeated individual attempts were made by a large number of both service and civilian personnel gathered on the beach. Altogether 4 boats used were overturned due to the conditions. Many individual acts of heroism were performed but unfortunately the crew all drowned. Additionally, no less than 11 others lost their lives during the rescue attempts. The aircraft was subsequently salvaged by 34 MU, Shrewsbury.				
Pilot	Sgt	Kazimierz Stefan Rosiewicz [Polish]		Killed [buried Holyhead RC]
He was born 19.12.1917 in Pleszow, Krakow, Poland. He drowned due to exhaustion. His body was recovered from Newborough Beach 11.9.41				
<div></div> <p>Holyhead Roman Catholic. [Hywel Evans]</p>				
	LAC	Thomas Alexander Dixon		Killed [buried Dungannon]
	LAC	Frederick Charles Glockler		Killed [buried Tottenham]
LAC Glockler's body was recovered at Bodorgan on 21.9.41				

Sadly, the following rescuers also lost their lives.
The Army Personnel led by PC Arthur and Arthur Owen tried to reach the wreck by boat.
The boat sadly capsized.
The Coroner stated that they were offered lifebelts but none were used.

	2/Lt	Peter Tyrel Whysall*	Killed**
	W/O2	Alfred William Moger*	Killed**
	Gnr	Ronald Kenneth Simons*	Killed
	Gnr	Clarence Herbert Thornton*	Killed**
	Gnr	Sidney Wilkins*	Killed**
	Gnr	Reginald Eaton*	Killed**

*All from 266 LAA Training Regiment, Rhosneigr. **buried at Llanfaelog Church.
[Light Anti-Aircraft]



Llanfaelog Church. [All: Hywel Evans]

	LAC	Leslie Arthur Ford	Killed [615 Sqn, buried Farnham]
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LAC Ford's body was washed ashore at Rhoscolyn 23.9.41, buried 29.9
He was the 615 Sqn CO's driver.

	AC.1	Donald William Bannister	Killed [615 Sqn, buried Wimbledon]
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AC.1 Bannister's body was recovered from the sea at Rhosneigr on 11.9.41, buried 16.9
He was a Flight Mechanic with 615 Sqn.

	PC.14	George Cledwyn Arthur	Killed [Police]
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Drowned in the 2nd boat which overturned, his body was washed ashore.
He had only recently taken over at Rhosneigr and only married 8 months.

	CGO	Evan Jones	Killed [Auxiliary Coastguard]
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Drowned in the 4th boat which overturned.
This boat had been brought 12 miles from Holyhead.

	FO	Arthur John Owen	Killed [Merchant Navy]
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RNLI Bronze Medal was awarded posthumously to those who died in the rescue attempt.
Arthur Owen had only buried his Father the previous day.

The following were singled out for their gallant efforts at rescue and were recommended for immediate awards:

	Sgt	C Jackson	RNLI Bronze Medal
	L/Bdr	T Taylor	RNLI Bronze Medal
	Gnr	J W Parkinson	RNLI Bronze Medal
	AC	Albert Edward Atkinson*	Marine Fitter, RNLI Bronze Medal

*Although not mentioned at the time, the Valley ORB 22.4.42 mentions that this Airman was awarded the RNLI Bronze Medal in recognition of the courage shown on 28.8.41. He subsequently died 9.9.42 after a rescue apparently. And is buried at Colwyn Bay Cemetery.

-	Sgt	John Plunkett	456 Sqn
Sgt Plunkett swam out and was instrumental in bringing ashore one of the crew who was unconscious but later died [LAC Dixon]. He again swam out and brought three people to shore, thus saving their lives. His skill, courage and determination were of a very highest order, and in view of the very heavy sea, which was running, and the strong wind prevailing, he showed a complete disregard for his own safety. For this he was awarded the British Empire Medal. He was a former Cairns, Queensland lifesaver.			
-	Mr	Derrick Hubert Baynham	Woodside, Walton-on-Thames
-	Mr	John Leslie Stewart Wood	20 Glan Aber Pk, Chester
The two boys set off in a small rowing boat in the heavy seas and strong winds. Just before reaching the aircraft the boat was swamped. With great difficulty and with the aid of an oar they got one airman [Sgt Rosiewicz] and between them endeavoured to get him to land. They were within 100yds of land when the airman was lost but they managed to scramble to land. Witnesses vouched for their gallant effort. They were both awarded the George Medal, Silver RNLI gallantry award and cigarette cases from Gen Sikorski, Commander Polish Forces.			
-			
	Mr	Ernest Perry	Ok
	Mr	Henry Jones	Ok
Although not mentioned for bravery the above two men attempted to launch another boat but only managed to get 50yds off shore before the boat capsized.			

Friday 29th August 1941 [Fighter Nights]

N3458		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
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Saturday 30th August 1941 [AIR 27/2089/16][AIR 27/1899/1][AIR 28/369]

615 & 456 Sqns carried out practice dive bombing on Caernarfon AM & PM.				
Z2765	KW-	Hurricane II	615 Sqn	W/C Oliver, landed at Llanbedr
Z5129	HE-	Hurricane IIB*	605 Sqn	P/O Watson 'BLUE Section'
BD878	HE-	Hurricane IIB*	605 Sqn	Sgt Kucera 'BLUE Section'
BD870	HE-	Hurricane IIB*	605 Sqn	Sgt Underwood 'GREEN Section'
BD739	HE-	Hurricane IIB*	605 Sqn	P/O Allan 'GREEN Section'
*All to and from Baginton to assist 615 Sqn with Convoy Patrols.				
Z7143	KW-D	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 256 Sqn
		?		
AOC 9 Gp visited Valley, by air?				

Sunday 31st August 1941 [F78]

Z2454	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Ran off the runway on a night landing, repaired. To 43GDA 2.9.41				
Pilot	Sgt	W L Massey	Ok	

Monday 1st September 1941 [AIR 29/41]

T5491		Tiger Moth	J Flt	Sgt Hoffeins from & to Aberffraw
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Tuesday 2nd September 1941 [AIR 27/940/6][AB Digest69][AIR 28/39][AIR 27/2123/41]

Three 615 Sqn aircraft flew to Llanbedr.				
R1977		Magister I	131 Sqn	W/C Moore, Tern Hill to Atcham
		?*		From & to Atcham
*CO of Atcham to attend a Defence meeting.				

Wednesday 3rd September 1941 [AIR 27/1899/1][AB Digest69][AIR 27/2123/41]

Three 615 Sqn aircraft flew to Llanbedr.				
-				
N3458	SA-	Defiant I	456 Sqn	
Oleo leg broke off at the end of the landing run at 00:30, to 43 Gp for repair and returned.				
Pilot	Sgt	J M Kirkman [RAAF]	Ok	

Thursday 4th September 1941 [AIR 27/1899/1 & 2][AIR 27/1523/13][AIR 29/39]

First Night Patrol carried out by 456[RAAF]Sqn with Defiant I's N3497 & N1647. 615 Sqn carried out readiness duty at Llanbedr with Z2460 & Z2675.				
N9253		Tiger Moth	C Flt/1 AACU	F/O Johns
Routed: Towyn-Penrhos-Valley-Towyn, picked up spanners for Henley L3410.				
L3425		Henley III	C Flt/1 AACU	F/S Ollier
From & to Towyn, returned spanners to Rolls-Royce at Valley from L3410 above.				
-				
V1177		Defiant I	456 Sqn	
Force landing after engine failure, hit trees near the perimeter at Squires Gate [Blackpool]. 256 Sqn ORB has this as 2.9, probably the same aircraft. Damaged beyond repair.				
Pilot	P/O	T Cleary [RAAF]	Ok	
AG			Ok	

Friday 5th September 1941

456 Sqn declared fully Operational on Defiants.				
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Saturday 6th September 1941 [AIR 27/1899/1][Fighter Nights]

N3497		Defiant I	456 Sqn	
Overshot the runway on landing due to fog, causing slight damage, to Reid & Sigrist for repair 16.9.41				
Pilot	F/O	R C Pargeter	Ok	
AG	F/O	R L Fell	Ok	
456[RAAF]Sqn starts to convert to Beaufighter IIF. 456 Sqn CO, Gordon Olive mentions that 5 of the first Beaufighters delivered by ferry pilots were wrecked on landing. The pilots 'edged' off the runway and the soft sand did the rest! The aerodrome was apparently dotted with wrecks all close enough to the runways as to constitute a hazard both day & night. Beaufighter IIF known to have served with 456: Bold indicates W/C E C Wolfe logbook entries, his logbook is at the RAF Museum Hendon.				

R2325:RX-K R2334 R2341 **R2343** R2344:RX-L **R2371**:RX-R R2372 R2381 R2382:RX-Z R2394
 R2395 R2474 R2476 T3012:RX-K T3014 T3017:RX-B T3021:RX-J **T3022** T3024 T3026
 T3027:RX-H T3028:RX-V T3036 T3042 T3047 T3145:RX-F T3151 T3181 T3368 **T3370**:RX-Z
 T3371:RX-D T3379 **T3383**:RX-A V8133:RX-E

Sunday 7th September 1941 [Fighter Nights]

N1706		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
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Tuesday 9th September 1941 [Fighter Nights]

T4003		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
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Wednesday 10th September 1941 [AIR 27/1573/23][AIR 27/442/17][AIR 28/874][Fighter Nights]

Instructions received from 13 Group for 43 Sqn to provide twelve aircraft to cover the crossover of 242 & 615 Sqn.

'A' Flt/43 Sqn departed from Drem at 07:50 and re-fuelled enroute at Crosby [Carlisle] arriving at Valley 12:30. Whilst at Valley they conducted primarily Convoy Patrols. Whilst at Valley it was also commented that maintenance was difficult due to the sandy conditions.

Z3031	FT-A	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	F/L du Vivier
Z3270	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	P/O Hutchinson
Z3316	FT-E	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	P/O Ford
Z2799	FT-	Hurricane IIA	43 Sqn	Sgt Lister
Z3262	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	P/O West
Z2807	FT-	Hurricane IIA	43 Sqn	Sgt Lea
	BJ-	Harrow I*	271 Sqn	
	BJ-	Harrow I*	271 Sqn	

*From Doncaster to Manston with 615 Sqn support.

N3313		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
N3370		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery [also quoted as 30.9]

Thursday 11th September 1941 [AB AMIL80][AIR 27/442/18][AIR 27/2123/41][AIR 29/41]

615 Sqn departed to Manston, there its aircraft were handed over to 242 Sqn.

The 456 Sqn CO, Gordon Olive mentions Denys Gillam the CO of 615 Sqn calling Winston Churchill one night. The PM was 615 Sqn's Honorary Air Commodore and Denys asked for a posting to an operational area. Next day 615 Sqn were at Manston with a special mission to attack and sink the German flak [anti-aircraft] ships!

During late August/September 615 flew the following Hurricane II's

Bold are S/L D Gillam logbook extracts.

Z2315 Z2330 Z2358 **Z2392** Z2401 **Z2404:KW-U** Z2409 **Z2426** Z2447 **Z2454** Z2459 **Z2460**
 Z2489 **Z2498** **Z2504** **Z2578** **Z2582** Z2583 **Z2627** Z2662 **Z2675** Z2689 **Z2760:KW-Y** **Z2761**
Z2762 Z2765 **Z2804** Z2836 Z2928 **Z2977** **Z7143:KW-D** **Z7159**

Z2977	KW-[A]	?x Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	S/L D E Gillam to Manston
Z2392	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2401	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2409	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	

Z2426	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2447	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2459	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2460	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2489	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2504	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2582	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2583	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2627	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2662	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2675	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2760	KW-Y	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2804	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2836	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	
Z2928	KW-	Hurricane IIA	615 Sqn	

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B Flt/43 Sqn arrived at Valley.

B Flight departed Drem at 07:55 and re-fuelled enroute at Crosby-on-Eden [Carlisle] arriving at Valley 12:30. Whilst at Valley they conducted primarily Convoy Patrols. See 10.9.41

Z3265	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	S/L Morgan
Z3150	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	Sgt J Pipa
BD759	FT-[M]	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	F/L May
Z2407	FT-	Hurricane IIA	43 Sqn	P/O Mehta
Z3336	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	P/O Cotton
Z5046	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	Sgt Chaloupka

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T5491		Tiger Moth	J Flt/1 AACU	F/L Modley from & to Bodorgan
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Friday 12th September 1941 [F78]

V7081	KW-	Hurricane I	615 Sqn	Transferred to 43GDA
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Saturday 13th September 1941 [AIR 27/1573/23]

	BJ-	Harrow I*	271 Sqn	
	BJ-	Harrow I*	271 Sqn	

*From Manston with 242 Sqn support, departed empty to Doncaster.

Tuesday 16th September 1941 [AIR 27/1471/37][AIR 28/874][Fighter Nights]

V1116	SA-A	Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
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[Gwynne Hughes, 456 Sqn]

Although undated it shows V1116 with the early 'SA' codes before the Sqn changed to 'RX' codes. The original photograph shows the Great Orme in the background suggesting it was taken close to Mynydd Bodafon on Anglesey. The aircraft served with 456 Sqn from 16.9-25.10.41

Here are a few more Defiant photographs from the collection of Australian Gwynne Hughes who was a pilot with 456 Sqn at Valley:



Unidentified 456 Sqn crew.



Both the above show Gwynne Hughes in the front with his Gunner Sgt D McPherson.



Dated 8.1941

Sgt G Hughes F/O Merryweather [Gunner] D M McPherson F/S ? F/S P O West P/O Fox

Australian Gwynne Hughes who arrived in May/June 1941 and a pilot on Defiants shared these recollections of Valley in 1997.

'On arrival I was amazed at how far apart everything was. The sleeping quarters were 400yds from the Mess and the showers/toilets were well separated from both. The Admin HQ was three quarters of a mile from the Mess & the Flight Huts & aircraft a further quarter of a mile beyond, the WAAF Quarters were a further 400 yards! Transport was required frequently as it took so long to walk from the Mess. Geese & Pigs started to disappear as soon as the Groundcrew arrived and the local Police found a virtual Butchers Shop underneath one of the dormitories. A surprise was 3 Americans arriving 3 months before Pearl Harbour. The Flight Commanders had priority over scrambles and they used a Link Trainer [simulator] for Instrument Flying practice. We seldom visited Holyhead, preferring Llandudno instead'

Gwynne Hughes left Valley in May 1942, returning to Australia to fly Beaufighters against the Japanese in Papua New Guinea.

LE-	?x Hurricane IIA	242 Sqn	S/L W G Wells
242 Sqn arrived from Manston with Hurricane II having taken over the aircraft of 615 Sqn which arrived at Manston 12.9.41.			
Known aircraft to have served with 242 Sqn at Valley are: Z2392 Z2426 Z2447 Z2459 Z2460 Z2489:LE-X Z2504 Z2582 Z2627 Z2675 Z2804 Z2928 Z3504:LE-U Z3885 Z5451 AP529 AP533 AP534. Codes from logbooks: LE-Q LE-T Z3504:LE-U LE-V LE-W Z2489:LE-X LE-Z			

Wednesday 17th September 1941 [AIR 27/1899/1][AIR 27/442/17][AIR 28/874][AIR 27/294/20][Fighter Nights]

43 Sqn depart back to Drem direct arriving 16:40.
All aircraft were thoroughly overhauled after, possibly due to the sand at Valley?

Z3265	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	S/L Morgan
Z3031	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	F/L du Vivier
BD759	FT-[M]	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	F/L May
Z3336	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	P/O Cotton
Z3262	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	P/O West
Z3270	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	P/O Hutchinson
Z3316	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	P/O Ford
Z2407	FT-	Hurricane IIA	43 Sqn	P/O Mehta
Z2799	FT-	Hurricane IIA	43 Sqn	Sgt Lister
Z3150	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	Sgt Pipa
Z2807	FT-	Hurricane IIA	43 Sqn	Sgt Lea
Z5046	FT-	Hurricane IIB	43 Sqn	Sgt Chaloupka
X7511		Dominie I	24 Sqn	P/O Honeyman
A/Cdre Greigson, from Staverton to Squires Gate.				
N3477		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
AA286		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
-				
T2352		Blenheim IV	6 AACU	9 Gp AAC Flt, Wrexham
Crashed on take-off at Valley due to a tyre burst, undercarriage collapsed.				
				Ok ?
				Ok ?
				Ok ?
-				
N1690	[SA-]	Defiant I	456 Sqn	
Aircraft ran into the sand due to an obstruction on the runway, to 43 Gp 26.9.41 for repair.				
Pilot	F/O	[H] West		Ok
AG				Ok
-				
X4789	TD-	Spitfire I	132 Sqn	Sgt A E Budd
This is quoted as carrying out a wheels up landing at Newborough with some sources on this date. However, 132 Sqn were based at RAF Peterhead North of Aberdeen at the time. South of Peterhead there is a town called Newburgh which also has a beach, this is almost certainly the correct location. The 132 Sqn ORB [AIR 27/943] quotes Sgt Budd as crashing in Spitfire I '4789 whilst based at Peterhead. Almost certainly NOT Newborough, Anglesey.				

Thursday 18th September 1941 [Fighter Nights]

T4065		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivery
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Saturday 20th September 1941 [RAFM logbook]

[W9234]		Hurricane I		S/L Eyre
Routed: ?-Valley-Squires Gate, most probably not '9234 as it was sent to the Middle East.				

Tuesday 23rd September 1941 [AIR 15/687][AIR 29/42][RAFM]

T3995	JT-U	Defiant I	256 Sqn	F/L Coleman
Diversion from Squires Gate at 20:00, departed back 24.9				
R5103		Tiger Moth	Z Flt	F/L Modley from & to Bodorgan
Visited twice, AM & PM.				

Thursday 25th September 1941 [AIR 27/1899/1]

		?	[9 Gp]	
AOC 9 Group, AVM W A McClaughery visited Valley.				

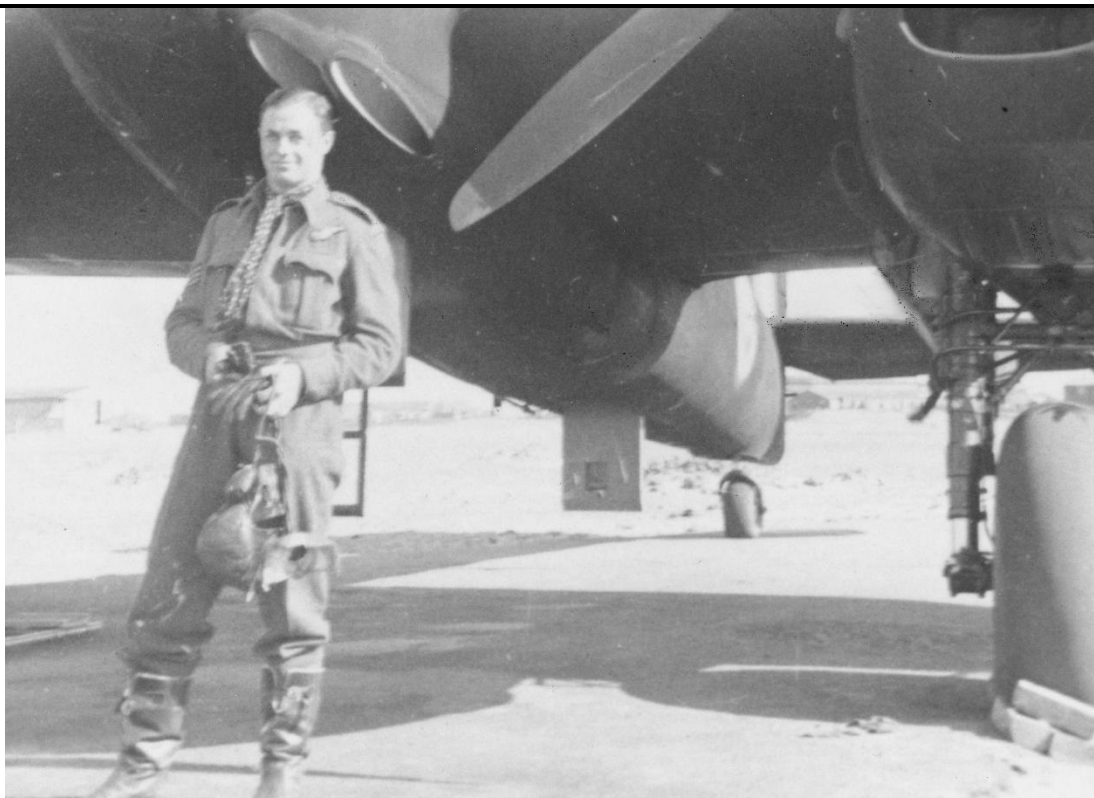
Friday 26th September 1941 [AIR 27/1899/1][AIR 28/874][RAFM]

		Magister I	242 Sqn	P/O Kee to & from Llanbedr
R2474	RX-	Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery, equipped with Mk.IV AI



[Gwynne Hughes]

Sgt Gwynne Hughes of 456 Sqn is standing on the pilot's seat of the 1st Beaufighter delivered to 456 Sqn, presumably R2474. The photograph is taken at dispersal not far from the present [2025] Rifle Range. The old ATC Watch Tower can be seen in the left background as well as the T2 hangars which are still present by ASP.3



[Gwynne Hughes]

This is another photograph of the 1st Beaufighter with his Nav/WOp D McPherson at a different dispersal. In the left background is the T2 hangar next to the current VASF behind the ATC Tower. Another T2 hangar can be see under the left tailplane with a crew building which in the 1980's became the Goshawk/CFS building. The aircraft appears to be parked in the area which eventually became the FCMPC/STCAAME/AGWOEU/202 Sqn site.

Saturday 27th September 1941 [AIR 27/1899/1]

T3012	[RX-K]	Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3014		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3022		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery

Tuesday 30th September 1941 [AIR 27/1899/1][AIR 28/874]

RAF Valley strength on 30.9.41, 88 Officers/1633 Other ranks.				
T3017	[RX-B]	Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3021	[RX-J]	Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery

October 1941 [Fighter Nights]

P2464		Magister I	456 Sqn	Delivery
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Wednesday 1st October 1941 [RAFM]

Hurricane II Z2489:LE-X 242 Sqn P/O Kee patrol.				

Saturday 4th October 1941 [AIR 27/1899/3][logbook]

R2341		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
T5841		Tiger Moth	9 Gp CF	S/L Eyre
From ? to Salmesbury.				

Sunday 5th October 1941 [AIR 27/1471][AIR 28/874][Fighter Nights]

242 Sqn becomes non-operational in preparation for proceeding overseas. Valley ORB quotes 2.10 for this.

R2334		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery [or 7.10]
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Monday 6th October 1941 [AIR 29/437]

[V6741]		Hurricane I	MSFU	P/O North [Crew 9]
Catapulted off SS Empire Spring, landed Valley, inspected then flew to its base at Speke. SS Empire Spring was a CAM [Catapult Aircraft Merchant] Ship.				
-				
Z4569		Hurricane I	MSFU	
Became lost and forced landed Castellior, above Menai Bridge, Anglesey, repaired.				
Pilot	P/O	G North		Ok

Tuesday 7th October 1941 [AIR 27/1899/3][Fighter Nights]

In the Sqn ORB it only mentions three deliveries whereas 'Fighter Nights' mentions four deliveries.

T3024		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3026		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3027	[RX-H]	Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3028	[RX-V]	Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery

Wednesday 8th October 1941 [AIR 27/1899/3]

		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery

Friday 10th October 1941 [AIR 27/1899/3][AIR 29/39]

R2476		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
L3425		Henley III	C Flt/1 AACU	F/O Johns & Mr Scholes
From & to Towyn.				

Sunday 12th October 1941 [AIR 27/1899/3][AIR 28/874][AIR 50/27/21][logbook]

BE144		Hurricane IIB	[615 Sqn]	S/L Eyre from Llanbedr.
R2343		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
R2344	[RX-L]	Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
R2371	[RX-R]	Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
R2372		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
-				
R2185	WM-	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	F/O Winward & Thompson

R2248	WM-S	Beaufighter IF*	68 Sqn	P/O Mansfield & Sgt Vanaceck
*68 Sqn from High Ercall provided 2 Beaufighters to cover the night readiness at Valley. One of these [R2248] departed Valley at 21:21. Controlled by Trewan Sands GCI made five contacts with hostile raids between 21:15-23:45 and claimed 2 Ju.88 destroyed over the sea in the Skerries area and 1 Ju.88 damaged. In fact, both kills were He.111's, Mansfield & Vanaceck were both Czech. They landed back at Valley 23:59.				
4260	F8+AS	He.111H-6	8/KG40	
Bo	Hptm	Peter Romisch	Killed	
Ff	Lt	W Kreutzer	Killed	
Bf	Uffz	Hans Leitner	Killed	
Bm	Fw	Emil Uredat	Killed	
-				
4141	F8+AT	He.111H-6	9/KG40	
Ff	O/Gfr	Josef Wettengel	Killed	
Bo	O/Gfr	Karl Buchgraber	Killed	
Bf	Gfr	Dietrich Hankel	Killed	
Bm	Gfr	Heinz Mehring	Killed	

Monday 13th October 1941 [AIR 29/39]

N9253		Tiger Moth	C Flt/1 AACU	F/O Johns & Mr Scholes
From & to Towyn. Mr Scholes was the Rolls-Royce representative.				

Tuesday 14th October 1941 [Fighter Nights]

N3367		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 256 Sqn, Squires Gate.
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Wednesday 15th October 1941 [AB Defiant File]

275[ASR]Sqn formed with Walrus & Lysander III [ASR] Air Sea Rescue.
 Detachment at Andreas, Isle of Man.
 Valley 3x Lysander IIIA & 1 Walrus
 Andreas 'B' Flight 3x Lysander IIIA [formed 30.11.41]



Although undated these are the 275 Sqn dispersal buildings at Valley.
 [Dick Thomas Collection]

Aircraft operated by 275 Sqn whilst at Valley.
Bold – S/L Seabourne logbook extracts.

<p>Bold* - Les Scarlett logbook extracts. Bold# - F/O Furlong logbook extracts. Anson I 3.43-8.44 AX645 EG492:PV-J# EG525:PV-W EG538* EG539:PV-F EG540 EG544* EG548* EG593 EG597* EG606* LT592:PV-O LT595 Lysander I L4695 Lysander IIIA R9006# V9737 V9738 V9748 V9749:PV-C# Walrus II: K8547 K8562* L2207:PV-Z L2282 W2746:PV-V W3037 R6590 HD823 HD868 HD923:PV-S HD925:PV-S HD927 HD929:PV-Z HD930 Spitfire [no F78's for 275 Sqn for the period at Valley but they may have used one from the Squadrons based at Valley] Master II N7435 DM215 Defiant I: [5.5.42-6.43] N1672 N3323 N3423# T3920 T3939 AA350 AA352 Magister I [T9]675 Hawk Trainer [Magister] AV978 Oxford V3642 Tiger Moth DE312 DE475</p>				
	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	F/L Saunders from & to Llanbedr

Thursday 16th October 1941 [AIR 28/874][AIR 28/494]

		[Hector]		[F/L Thomas]
		[Hotspur Glider]		F/L Wilkinson
Lecture given by F/L Wilkinson on Glider Invasion Tactics. Pilots afterwards practiced mock attacks on the Glider demonstrated by F/L Wilkinson. [Possibly a Hawker Hector/Hotspur combination, the RAF Atcham ORB mentions this combination arriving there 24.10 but not where from] RAF Llanbedr ORB quotes Wilkinson/Thomas landing at Llanbedr with Glider/Towing combination there at the 74 Sqn dispersal on this date. [Possibly from the Glider Exercise Unit/Squadron based at Manchester, Ringway? They were operating Hector/Hotspur aircraft, it became the Airborne Forces Establishment 1.9.41, nothing in AIR 29/512/1]				
	D	Hurricane	256 Sqn	F/L Coleman from & to Squires Gate

Friday 17th October 1941 [AB]

T5563		Tiger Moth	GPEU	Glider Pilots Exercise Unit
Crashed at Bryngwran near Valley. To De Havilland for repairs.				

Saturday 18th October 1941 [AIR 28/874]

456 Sqn released from Operational duties to facilitate their conversion to Beaufighters.
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Monday 20th October 1941 [AIR 27/641/20][AIR 28/874][Fighter Nights]

P7851	ZP-	Spitfire IIA*	74 Sqn	Sgt Stuart
P8377	ZP-	Spitfire IIA*	74 Sqn	Sgt Blairon
P7504	ZP-	Spitfire IIA*	74 Sqn	F/Sgt Murray
P8091	ZP-	Spitfire IIA*	74 Sqn	Sgt Claessen
*from Llanbedr.				
AA285		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 60 OTU, East Fortune

Tuesday 21st October 1941 [Fighter Nights][AIR 28/1]

N1647		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 60 OTU, East Fortune
T4003		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 60 OTU, East Fortune
T4065		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 60 OTU, East Fortune
T4065 is also quoted as leaving 20.10.41				
	BP-	6x Spitfire IIA	457 Sqn	A Flight
From Andreas, IoM to practice glider aircraft attacks, glider was un-serviceable though, and the aircraft returned to Andreas same day.				

Wednesday 22nd October 1941 [AIR 27/641/20][AIR 27/1899/3][AIR 50/27/56]

P8033	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	F/O Eliot from & to Llanbedr
[R2381]		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
'Fighter Nights' mentions this as 21.10.41				
-				
R2261	WM-K	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	F/O Winward & Sgt Wood
Departed Valley at 21:09. Controlled by Trewan Sands and vectored onto a Ju.88 which turned out to be behind the Beaufighter. Lowered the undercarriage to slow down and descend ending up 80yds behind the enemy aircraft. Then closed to 30yds and opened fire with 4 cannon for 3 seconds. The enemy aircraft crashed into the sea North West of Nefyn at 21:35 [Grid VH7070]. This turned out to be a He.111.				
3904	F8+ET	He.111H-5	9/KG40	
Ff	O/Fw	Oskar Hoffman		MIA
Bo	Uffz	Otto Schulze		MIA
Bf	Gfr	Willi Walter		MIA
Bs	Gfr	Hans Schwinnen		MIA

Thursday 23rd October 1941 [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/39]

		?		
Deputy Inspector, A/Cdre J C R Higgins carried out inspection of Station defences at Valley, by air?				
[R2474]		[Beaufighter IIF]	[456 Sqn]	[repaired on site ?]
N9253		Tiger Moth	C Flt/1 AACU	Sgt Urban from & to Towyn

Friday 24th October 1941 [AIR 27/641/20][Fighter Nights][fighter Nights]

P8702	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	S/L Richey from & to Llanbedr
N1558		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 60 OTU, East Fortune
N1706		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 60 OTU, East Fortune
AA284		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 60 OTU, East Fortune
V1175		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 60 OTU, East Fortune

Saturday 25th October 1941 [AIR 27/1899/3][AIR 28/874][AIR 27/294/20][Fighter Nights][**RAFM**]

R2766		DH95 Flamingo	24 Sqn	F/O Fraser
AOC, AM Sir Sholto-Douglas visited 456 Sqn at Valley and 74 Sqn at Llanbedr. Routing was Belfast-Ballyhalbert-Andreas-Valley-Llanbedr-Speke-Squires Gate-Salmesbury.				
T4066		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 256 Sqn, Squires Gate
V1116	SA-A	Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 256 Sqn, Squires Gate
V1124		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 256 Sqn, Squires Gate
AA282		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 256 Sqn, Squires Gate
AA286		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 256 Sqn, Squires Gate
		Magister I	[615 Sqn]	P/O Kee & Frew
Routed: Valley-Sydenham-Eglinton, P/O Frew was dropped off at Sydenham.				

Sunday 26th October 1941 [AIR 27/641/20][**RAFM**]

P7376	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	P/O Graves from & to Llanbedr
R2256	[WM-]	Beaufighter I	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby
From High Ercall after a patrol, landed 20:05.				
		Magister I	[615 Sqn]	P/O Kee & Frew
Routed: Eglinton-Sydenham-Valley, P/O Frew hopped on at Sydenham.				

Monday 27th October 1941 [AIR 27/641/20]

R2256	[WM-]	Beaufighter I	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby
Departed to High Ercall at 08:05, returned to Valley at 17:25.				

Tuesday 28th October 1941 [AIR 27/641/20][**AIR 27/2/20**]

P8174	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	P/O de Cloedt from & to Llanbedr
R2256	[WM-]	Beaufighter I	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby to High Ercall at 10:15
BD947	JX-[Q]	Hurricane IIC	1 Sqn	F/L MacLachlan
From & to Tangmere.				

Wednesday 29th October 1941 [AIR27/1471][AIR 28/39]

Pilots of 242 Sqn proceed to Abbotsinch, Glasgow for onward passage to the Far East.				
[X7555]	[WM-F]	Beaufighter IF	[68 Sqn]	From & to Atcham
Atcham ORB mentions the CO of RAF Atcham & OC 68 Sqn, W/C Max Aitken visited Valley for lunch in a Beaufighter. X7555:WM-F was W/C Aitken's normal aircraft; in fact, he flew it on patrols 27 & 30.10.41 [Max Aitken was the son of Lord Beaverbrook]				

Thursday 30th October 1941 [AIR 27/641/20][Fighter Nights]

1486 Flight arrived.				
P8479	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	P/O Graves from & to Llanbedr
P8702	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	S/L Richey from & to Llanbedr
T3940	PZ-V	Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 125 Sqn

Friday 31st October 1941 [AIR 27/641/20][Fighter Nights][AIR 28.1][AIR 15/687]

P8460	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	P/O Laumans to Llanbedr
P7853	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	F/O Eliot to Llanbedr
P8146	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	Sgt Cantillion to Llanbedr
N3477	[PZ-V]	Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 125 Sqn
		Botha I*	[4 AOS]	From West Freugh
*Andreas ORB and Squires Gate ATC Log mentions a search by aircraft for a Botha somewhere between Mull of Galloway and St Bees Head, aircraft landed safely at Valley.				
X7540	WM-S	Beaufighter I	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby from High Erccall 18:35

Saturday 1st November 1941 [AIR 28/874]

242 Sqn departed to the Far East aboard HMS Argus.

P/O Kee a pilot with 242 Sqn's comments on Valley:

'Many were the complaints about Valley being out in the wilds but these suddenly ceased when on one fine day it materialised that the Sqn was posted overseas, destination Russia? We had a ruddy awful 24hr coach journey to Abbotsinch [Glasgow] on 30th October and then embarked onboard HMS Argus 1st November sailing the following day and arriving in Gibraltar 8th November, mighty glad to have completed our term on the Argus'

X7540	WM-S	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	AIR 50/27/80
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Took off from Valley at 20:24 to patrol Bardsey Island at 10,000ft. They were then given a vector of 270deg with an enemy aircraft reported at 5,000ft. They then descended to 7,000ft and were handed over to Trewan Sands GCI at 20:46. At the same time as the handover Sgt Oxby got a contact at maximum range but this contact was subsequently lost. GCI then gave vectors, and the EA was located again, after a slow pursuit the EA was identified as a He.111 and at 300ft range at 12,700ft a 2sec burst/62 rounds were fired. The EA's starboard engine caught fire followed by the fuselage, it then disappeared into cloud and crashed 6nms E of Valley near Bwlch-y-Fentir Farm, Bodffordd.

Pilot	P/O	M C Shipard [RAAF]	
Obs	Sgt	D A Oxby	

1941

MonthDate

Nov

Type	No.	Pilot, or 1st Pilot	2nd Pilot, Pupil or Passenger	Duty (Including Results and Remarks)
				Totals Brought Forward
1 BEAU I	7840	SELF	SGT. OXBY	OPERATIONAL PATROL
1 BEAU -	7840	SELF	SGT. OXBY	OPS. PATROL - HE 111 DESTROYED
2 BEAU "	7840	SELF	SGT. OXBY	VALLEY TO HIGH ERCALL
6 MAGISTER	6411	SELF	SGT. OXBY	HIGH ERCALL TO ST. ATHENS

Merv Shipard's logbook extract.

NOVEMBER, 1941.					Time carried forward :-	74.15	32.35
Date	Hour	Aircraft Type and No.	Pilot	Duty	REMARKS (including results of bombing, gunnery, exercises, etc.)	Flying Times	
						Day	Night
1. 10. 41	1045	X7540 BEAUFIGHTER	P/O SHIPARD	OPERATIONAL PATROL	"BOGEY" IDENTIFIED : RETURNED TO BASE	0.30	—
5	2020	X7540 BEAUFIGHTER	P/O SHIPARD	OPERATIONAL PATROL	ONE H.E. 111 DESTROYED (ANGELS 13)	—	2.50
2. 10. 41	1230	X7540 BEAUFIGHTER PL411	P/O SHIPARD	VALLEY TO H.ERCALL	DUTY CARRIED OUT.	0.45	—

Dougie Oxby's logbook extract.



Dougie Oxby left & Merv Shipard right.
[Dougie Oxby]

-				
4430	F8+KR	He.111H-6	7/KG40	From Bordeaux-Merignac, France.
Ff	Lt	Georg Leins		MIA, fell into the sea ?
Bo	Uffz	Alwin Tepe		Killed
Bf	Uffz	Gerhard Fischer		Killed
Bm	Gfr	Rudolf Terstegen		Killed



The Funeral procession arrives along Maeshyfyrd Road.



The houses behind are on Tara Street. [Both: Dick Thomas Collection]

The funerals of the 3 Crewmen killed took place with full military honours at Holyhead 7.11

The bodies were re-interred to the German Cemetery at Cannock Chase post war.

There have been haunted appearances of the missing crewman at Mona over the Years.

Sunday 2nd November 1941 [AIR 27/641/20][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/41]

P8702	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	S/L Richey from & to Llanbedr
P8372	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	F/L Scott from & to Llanbedr
N3777		Magister	74 Sqn	from & to Llanbedr
		?		
Visit of AOC 9 Group, AVM W A McLaughry, by air?				
X7540	WM-S	Beaufighter I	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby to High Ercall 12:30
T5491		Tiger Moth	J Flt/1 AACU	W/C Robinson from & to Bodorgan

Monday 3rd November 1941 [AIR 27/641/22]

P8702	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	S/L Richey from & to Llanbedr
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Tuesday 4th November 1941 [Fighter Nights][AIR 28/1][AIR 29/39]

N3370		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 125 Sqn
		Oxford		G/C Gray to Andreas
N9253		Tiger Moth	C Flt/1 AACU	F/L Johns from & to Towyn

Wednesday 5th November 1941 [AIR 29/39]

R5238		Tiger Moth	C Flt/1 AACU	F/S Ollier
From & to Towyn but forced to land at Penrhos on the return sector due to weather.				

Thursday 6th November 1941 [AIR 27/641/22]

P7504	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	F/S Murray to Llanbedr
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Friday 7th November 1941 [AIR 27/641/22][AIR 28/874]

P8144	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	Sgt Blairon to Llanbedr
P7976	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	F/O Elliott from & to Llanbedr
P7504	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	S/L Mathews from & to Llanbedr
R2261	WM-K	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Shipard from High Ercall
X7553	WM-D	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Marshall/Shipard to High Ercall
-				
Funeral with full military honours at Holyhead for three of the He.111 crew, see 1.11.41.				

Saturday 8th November 1941

T4640	WM-	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby from High Ercall 14:00
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Sunday 9th November 1941 [AIR 27/641/22]

P7851	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	Sgt York from & to Llanbedr
T4640	WM-	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby to High Ercall 10:00

Monday 10th November 1941 [logbook]

N9916		Anson I	1 CACF	P/O Stewart from & to Bodorgan
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Tuesday 11th November 1941

R2261	WM-K	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby from High Ercall 16:25
They were at Valley until 15.11				

Wednesday 12th November 1941 [AIR 27/1745/1][AIR 28/39]

350[Belgian]Sqn formed at Valley with Spitfire IIA. Nucleus of the Sqn came from 131 Sqn which were based at Atcham. OC S/L J M Thompson [posted in 16.11.41]				
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Saturday 15th November 1941 [AIR 27/1899/5][Fighter Nights]

456 Sqn move to new Flight dispersal and Squadron Offices on the SW of the airfield, these had just been vacated by 242 Sqn.				
N3313		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 43 Gp depot
T3939		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 43 Gp depot
T4640		Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby to High Ercall 10:40
-				
T3024		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	
Undershot the runway at night [17:15] undercarriage hit dunes and collapsed which resulted in the aircraft swinging off the runway and into the sand, to Bristol for repairs 8.12.41				
Pilot	Sgt	J M Kirkman [RAAF]		

Sunday 16th November 1941 [Fighter Nights]

AA283		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to Reid & Sigrist
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Monday 17th November 1941 [AIR 27/1595/1][AIR 28/874]

275 Sqn declared operational with one Lysander at 30mins standby. 275 Sqn ORB says 17.11, Valley ORB says 16.11				
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Tuesday 18th November 1941 [AB AMIL77][AIR 27/1899/5][AIR 641/22][AIR 29/437][AIR 29/39]

P8702	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	S/L Mathews from & to Llanbedr
P2826		Hurricane I	MSFU	P/O Ball from & to Speke
P8810		Hurricane I	MSFU	F/L Plinston from & to Speke
L3321		Henley III	C Flt/1 AACU	P/O Westlake
From & to Towyn, picked up Mr Scholls the Rolls-Royce rep plus spanners. They later returned to Valley in Henley L3425 dropping off the spanners & Mr Scholls before returning to Towyn.				
-				
R2334		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	
Bounced on landing at Valley at 17:10 but on increasing power only the starboard engine responded, aircraft then cartwheeled to port. Damaged beyond repair, struck off charge 6.12.41.				
Pilot	Sgt	J M Kirkman [RAAF]		Ok
Obs				Ok

Thursday 20th November 1941 [AB AMIL77][AIR 27/1899/5]

R2372		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	
Swung on landing at 18:05 to port towards the remains of T3024 [see 15.11.41] as power was applied the oleo collapsed. Undercarriage, wing tip and propellor written off, to Bristol for repairs 23.11.41				
Pilot	F/O	T Cleary	Ok	
Pax	Sgt	T Condon [RAAF]	Ok	

Saturday 22nd November 1941

X7540	WM-S	Beaufighter IF	68 Sqn	Shipard/Oxby from High Ercall
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Sunday 23rd November 1941 [AIR 29/437]

Z4933		Sea Hurricane I	MSFU	P/O Gedge from & to Speke
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Monday 24th November 1941 [AIR 28/874][AIR 81/10498][AIR 81/10468]

P7284	[MN-]	Spitfire IIA	3 Del Flt	
Lost control in the Valley circuit at 11:20 whilst on delivery to 350 Sqn at Valley. The aircraft was being delivered from 610 Sqn at Leconfield.				
Pilot	F/S	A E L Claessen [Belgian]	Seriously injured	
-				
P8661	MN-U	Spitfire IIA	3 Del Flt	
Crashed in bad weather near Pant Lodge Farm, 2nms NW of Menai Bridge whilst on delivery to 350 Sqn at RAF Valley from 610 Sqn at Hutton Cranswick via Hawarden. There were originally five aircraft due for delivery but the other three did not attempt the journey, subsequently arrived 25.11.41.				
Pilot	P/O	Phillip Peter Vernon	Killed [cremated Birkenhead]	

Tuesday 25th November 1941 [AIR 27/1745][AIR 27/1526/34][Fighter Nights][AIR 28/39][AIR 29/437][AB][IE]

456 Sqn declared operational with Beaufighter aircraft, two aircraft at readiness. 68 Sqn night readiness cover ceases as a result of the above.				
P7613	MN-U	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery, see 24.11
P8020	MN-D	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery, see 24.11
[F78 says 31.12.41 whereas Sqn ORB says 25.11.41]				
P8652	MN-O	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery, see 24.11
[F78 says 31.12.41 whereas Sqn ORB says 25.11.41]				
[Z3380]	DT-	Hurricane II*	257 Sqn	S/L Drake
Z3516	DT-	Hurricane IIB*	257 Sqn	F/O Madle
From Honiley for air firing.				
T3042		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
T3047		Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
P2826		Hurricane I	MSFU	F/L Fisher from & to Speke
Z4933		Hurricane I	MSFU	P/O Gedge from & to Speke

T8204		Tiger Moth	Valley SF	Delivered to 501 Sqn, Ibsley
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Friday 28th November 1941 [AIR 27/1745][AIR 27/1595/1][AIR 27/641/22]

P8197	ZP-	Spitfire IIA*	74 Sqn	P/O Shand from Llanbedr
P8033	ZP-	Spitfire IIA*	74 Sqn	Sgt Bastian from Llanbedr
P8460	ZP-	Spitfire IIA*	74 Sqn	P/O Laumans from Llanbedr
*Air-to-air gunnery.				
P7826	MN-B	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn
P7976	MN-F	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn
[F78 mentions 8.11.41 whereas Sqn ORB says 28.11]				
P8702	MN-Z	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn
-				
		Lysander*	275 Sqn	P/O Albrecht
*First scramble for 275 Sqn, report of an aircraft down off Carmel Head, false alarm.				

Saturday 29th November 1942 [Fighter Nights]

R2382	[RX-Z]	Beaufighter IIF	456 Sqn	Delivery
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Sunday 30th November 1941 [AIR 27/641/22]

W/C P S Gomez assumes command of the Station.				
P8200	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	Sgt Ingle to Llanbedr
P8144	ZP-	Spitfire IIA	74 Sqn	Sgt Stuart to Llanbedr

Monday 1st December 1941 [AIR 27/294/24]

P8833		Oxford II	24 Sqn	F/O Ramsey
One stretcher case from Valley to Halton.				

Tuesday 2nd December 1941 [AIR 27/1745]

P8377	MN-C	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn
[F78 says it returned to 74 Sqn 4.12.41]				

Wednesday 3rd December 1941 [AIR 27/1745][AIR 28/874][AIR 28/1]

275 Sqn detachment Andreas, IoM becomes operational with 3 Lysanders.				
P8091	MN-	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn
		?		
Director General, ACM Sir E R Ludlow-Hewitt visited, by air?				

Friday 5th December 1941 [Fighter Nights]

N3458		Defiant I	456 Sqn	Delivered to 256 Sqn, Squires Gate
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Sunday 7th December 1941 [F78]

P7613	MN-U	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	
Starboard undercarriage oleo collapsed on landing, repaired.				

Pilot	Sgt	J Ester [Belgian]	Ok
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Monday 8th December 1941 [AIR 27/1745][AIR 27/641/24]

9 Group Target Towing Flight departed to Llanbedr.				
P8174	ZP-	Spitfire IIB*	74 Sqn	Sgt Lloyd from & to Llanbedr
AD532	ZP-	Spitfire VB*	74 Sqn	P/O Meason from & to Llanbedr
W3707	ZP-	Spitfire VB*	74 Sqn	Sgt Stillman from & to Llanbedr
*Visited to use the Link Trainer [simulator]				
P8200	MN-T	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn

Thursday 11th December 1941 [AIR 29/437][AB]

[W9208]		Hurricane	MSFU	P/O Davidson
Catapulted off the SS Empire Ray at 09:30 off Point Lynas. Landed Valley and once inspected returned to Speke. [possibly either W9208 or Z4851]				
-				
T8205		Tiger Moth*	Valley SF	Station Flight
*Air Britain quotes it as crashing on this date, to Lundy & Atlantic for repairs.				

Friday 12th December 1941 [AIR 27/1745/2]

P8033	MN-	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn
N3826		Magister I	350 Sqn	P/O Plas to & from Llanbedr

Saturday 13th December 1941 [AIR 27/641/24]

Noted that Valley at present only had enough dispersals for 2x Liberators & 4x Hudsons.				
AD473	ZP-	Spitfire VB*	74 Sqn	Sgt Fraser from Llanbedr

Monday 15th December 1941 [AIR 27/1745][AIR 27/641/24]

P8146	MN-E	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	P/O Leumans, delivery from 74 Sqn
AD473	ZP-	Spitfire VB	74 Sqn	P/O Leumans to Llanbedr

Tuesday 16th December 1941 [AHB][AIR 29/437]

<p>These 2 images taken on this date show a member of 456[RAAF]Sqn groundcrew either removing or replacing a panel on the Rolls-Royce Merlin nacelle of one of the Beaufighter IIF operated by the unit at RAF Valley.</p> <p>[Crown Copyright, Ministry of Defence]</p>				
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The caption is of two 456[RAAF]Sqn Sgt Pilots discussing a planned or flown sortie with a Beaufighter IIF of the unit in the background.

[Crown Copyright, Ministry of Defence]

P2826		Hurricane I	MSFU	P/O Nesbitt from & to Speke
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Wednesday 17th December 1941 [AIR 27/1745/2][F78]

P7297	MN-A	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 33 MU Lyneham
P7378	MN-	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 24 MU Ternhill

P7509	MN-M	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 33 MU Lyneham
P8040	MN-H	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 33 MU Lyneham
P8149	MN-G	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 24 MU Ternhill
T9804		Magister I	350 Sqn	Received from Valley Station Flight
N3826		Magister I	350 Sqn	P/O Smets to Sealand

Thursday 18th December 1941 [AIR 27/1745/2]

P7376	MN-X	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn
P8144	MN-J	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn
P8174	MN-S	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Delivery from 74 Sqn
T9804		Magister I*	350 Sqn	P/O's Picard & Custers
T9804		Magister I*	350 Sqn	P/O Plas
N3826		Magister I*	350 Sqn	P/O Smets
*All 3 Magister sorties visited Llanbedr.				

Friday 19th December 1941 [AIR 27/641/24]

710[GD]Sqn arrive [GD] Ground Defence.				
N3777		Magister I	74 Sqn	P/O Fraser from & to Llanbedr

Saturday 20th December 1941 [AIR 28/874]

Second High-Speed Launch 136 arrives, now a total of six with 135 & 136 based at Holyhead.				
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Sunday 21st December 1941 [AIR 27/641/24][AIR 27/1745/2][AIR 29/437][RAF Commands]

AA976	ZP-	Spitfire VB*	74 Sqn	P/O Winterbeeck
*From and to Llanbedr.				
T9804		Magister I	350 Sqn	P/O De Wever to & from Cranage
-				
[P3362]		Hurricane	MSFU	F/L Stapleton [SS Empire Flame]
[V7600]		Hurricane	MSFU	P/O Fannon [SS Kafiristan]
Both catapulted off their respective ships off Point Lynas, landed at Valley for inspection. They then returned to their base at Speke.				
-				
P7378	MN-	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	
Belly landing at Valley, repaired. See 13.2.42				
Pilot	Sgt	A G A Michiels		Ok

Monday 22nd December 1941 [AIR 28/874][AIR 27/1745/2][AIR 29/437]

A Flight/350 Sqn declared operational with convoy patrols carried out in the morning.				
P8149	MN-G	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	P/O Plisnier 08:55-10:20
P8040	MN-H	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Sgt Seydel 08:55-10:20
P8144	MN-J	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	F/L Gonay 09:55-10:15
P7826	MN-B	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	P/O De Wever 09:55-10:15
P7297	MN-A	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	F/L Gonay 10:20-11:40

P7976	MN-F	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	P/O De Wever 10:20-11:40
P7826	MN-B	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	P/O Plisnier 11:30-13:00
P8040	MN-H	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	Sgt Seydel 11:30-13:00
P8149	MN-G	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	P/O De Wever 12:45-14:35
P8144	MN-J	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	P/O Menu 12:45-14:35
-				
		Hurricane	MSFU	F/L Lyne [Crew 4]
Catapulted off the SS Helencrest, landed at Valley then flew back to its base at Speke.				
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P8200	MN-T	Spitfire IIA	350 Sqn	
Undercarriage collapsed on landing, repaired on site.				
Pilot	Sgt	H Van Moffaert [Belgian]	Ok	

Wednesday 24th December 1941 [AIR 27/1745/2]

T9804		Magister I	350 Sqn	P/O Plas to Hawarden
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Thursday 25th December 1941 [AIR 27/1745/2][AIR 27/2123/47][M10523]

T9804		Magister I	350 Sqn	P/O Schrobiltgen from Hawarden
Z5071	KW-	Hurricane IIB*	615 Sqn	CO [S/L D Gillam]
		Hurricane II*	615 Sqn	F/L D McCormack
		Hurricane II*	615 Sqn	F/L W Mohr
*615 Sqn's CO dropped Xmas Cards on RAF Valley's Officers Mess during a training flight from their base at Angle, they did NOT land.				

Friday 26th December 1941 [AIR 29/437]

[W9315]		Hurricane	MSFU	P/O Blight [Crew 24]
Catapulted off SS Empire Day, landed Valley then returned to Speke.				

Wednesday 31st December 1941 [AIR 27/641/24][AIR 27/1745/2]

AD327	ZP-	Spitfire VB*	74 Sqn	Sgt Stillman to Llanbedr
T9804		Magister I	350 Sqn	P/O Parkin to Aberporth