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# RAF Valley

## Aircraft Movements

### 1945

#### CREDITS:

[lancasterbombers.net/](http://lancasterbombers.net/)International Bomber Command Centre  
[Archive/rafweb.org/](http://Archive/rafweb.org/)National Archives/Air Britain  
[fcafa.com/](http://fcafa.com/)Dennis Pritchard/Andy Wilkinson

#### UPDATE V2

Additional TRANSAT details.  
Additional logbook movements.

#### SUMMARY

With the cessation of hostilities in the European Theatre on 8 May 1945 the USAAF started the re-deployment of the Bombers from the UK to the US and onwards to the Pacific Theatre of Operations. Known as 'Happy Valley' to the arriving/departing crews, Valley was chosen and operated by the European Division of the Air Transport Command. The inbound aircraft had undergone inspections at their homebases with emphasis on life rafts, life belts and other emergency equipment and were loaded in accordance with weight/balance manuals. They carried 10 crew and 10 passengers plus mail for the US. On arrival the crews were taken to the terminal and given hot drinks and doughnuts and were able to convert UK Sterling to American Dollars. The Pilots, Co-pilots, Navigators and Radio Operators were woken at around 04:30 and given an hour-long briefing covering the various stopover and emergency airfields on their homeward journey. Handbooks and charts were handed out for the route as well. Routing would be either via Iceland [Meeks Field] or the Azores [Lagens] The number of combat missions flown by each aircraft returning to the US are noted in brackets. Although the daily headers show the numbers involved with the RZI flights only confirmed movements have been incorporated as some aircraft routed home to the USA via Prestwick.

Abbreviations	
BAT	Beam Approach Training
BS/BG	Bombardment Squadron/Group [USAAF term]
[C]OTU	[Coastal] Operational Training Unit
FS/FG	Fighter Squadron/Group [USAAF]
MAAF	Mediterranean Allied Air Force
MCS	Metropolitan Communication Squadron
NAS	Naval Air Squadron
NF	Night Fighter
ORB	Operations Record Book [F.540]
RZI	Return to the Zone of the Interior [USAAF parlance for return to the USA]
Sqn	Squadron
SSQ	Station Sick Quarters [Medical Centre]
TRANSAT	Trans-Atlantic [USAAF/USN]
USAAF	United States Army Air Force

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.

#### January 1945 [USAAF doc]

Between 1-14.1.45 50x TRANSAT arrivals [42x B-17 & 8x B-24] 131x aircraft departed relieving a backlog of aircraft. Between 15-31.1.45 100x TRANSAT arrivals/72 aircraft departed. 8x C-54 weather diversions during January.
A new system by which the 8 AF sent crews to pick up the TRANSAT deliveries is initiated, aircraft on average spending up to 8 days at Valley post arrival. The inbound crews would go to the processing Station at Stone, usually by rail.

#### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 1945 [AIR 29/876/1]

No flying by 1528 BAT Flight.				
		59x B-17		Present on the Airfield
		7x B-24		Present on the Airfield
		17x C-109		Present on the Airfield
		2x B-26		Present on the Airfield

#### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1945 [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH355/PH356/PH357/PH358.
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#### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1945 [AIR 28/874][AB Sqns of the FAA][AIR 29/876/1]

No flying by 1528 BAT Flt due to gale force winds.				
		Barracuda	821 NAS	Diversion From HMS Puncher.

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AB Sqns of the FAA]

		2x Barracuda	[821] NAS	Weather diversion, see 3.1.45
		Barracuda	[821] NAS	Diversion, then to Ronaldsway
Most probably 821 NAS again who were embarked on HMS Puncher [1.12.44-13.1.45] at the time according to Air Britain's 'Squadrons of the Fleet Air Arm'. The Unit was operating Barracuda II & TRIII. According to the Ship's Log [ADM 53/122035] HMS Puncher was off South Stack that morning.				

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [T Wheeler Memoir\*][AIR 27/2166][AIR 28/874][AIR 27/1676/26][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH355/PH357/PH358.				
		[Martinet TTI]	650 Sqn	F/O Butler from Bodorgan
		29x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		4x B-24[L]		TRANSAT from Meeks
		B-24L*		Or possibly 7.1
*From USA, crew left the aircraft at Valley, part of the 4 above.				
-				
MV545	[G]	Mosquito NF.30	307 Sqn	[F78 Accident Card]
At 23:10 RAF Church Fenton informed Valley that they had diverted a Mosquito to Valley. Contact was made and the aircraft homed to Valley. It then flew out to sea to carry out a cloud break, at 23:24 the aircraft reported at 1,500ft and was instructed to turn port onto a course of 080deg but failed to acknowledge and nothing further was heard. The North West Filter room had a fading plot in sector VH 4989 [10nms SW of Valley]. Searches were also carried out by 1528 BAT Flight on 6.1 but with no results. The crew are commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial.				
Pilot	W/O	Albert William Martin		Killed [Runnymede]
Nav	P/O	Donald Frederick Prior		Killed [Runnymede]

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/912/26][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH355/PH357/PH358, see 5.1.				
PH357		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/S Furler, ASR search, see 5.1.45
		6x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		C-47		TRANSAT from Meeks
[LV345]	[OH]-E	Liberator V [LL]*	120 Sqn	Diversion F/L H G Hall
*Airborne on patrol form Ballykelly on 5.1 when the No.4 engine failed, advised to divert to Valley where it landed at 06:30. The aircraft is not mentioned in the Sqn ORB for the rest of the month. [LL] Leigh Light searchlight equipped.				

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH355/PH358.				
		6x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander

		B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		C-47		From Cottesmore 3hrs late! lost.

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH355.				
PH240		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/O Bevis visited Prestwick
		2x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		19x US		To Burtonwood/Langford Lodge
		C-54		From Stephenville

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 27/2166][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No TRANSAT movements.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH355/PH358.				
		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	To Bodorgan
		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	To Bodorgan
		[Martinet TTI]	650 Sqn	To Hutton Cranswick

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH357.				
		10x 2 engined		Diversion
		4x Wellington	24 OTU	Diversion
		Wellington*	24 OTU	Diversion from Honeybourne
*Taxied over the end of Runway 02 and became bogged down in the soft ground.				

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

		Wellington	[19 Gp]	Diversion from Limavady
Based at Limavady, nothing in the 172/304/612 Sqn ORB's.				
		Oxford	1527 BAT	W/O Mackensie
From Prestwick to Staverton.				

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/494]

All the diversions from 10/11.1 apart from the Wellingtons from Honeybourne returned to their bases.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH357/PH358.				
		15x ?		Diversions
		Halifax*		Diversion on 3 engines
*Became temporarily bogged down due to lack of brake pressure whilst taxiing to dispersal.				
X7323		Dominie	44 Gp	
W/C Richmond & S/L Horder from 44 Group visited by air, from Llanbedr to Staverton.				

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/876/1]

All but 1 of the diverted aircraft returned to their respective bases. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH357/PH358.				
PH241		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/S Furler visited St Mawgan
		4x C-47*		Diversion from Bovington
*Later departed to Prestwick				
PH374		Oxford I	1529 BAT	S/L Berry, see PH241 above
Dropped off aircraft from a newly formed 1529 BAT Flight from St Mawgan for modifications with fitting VHF communication.				

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/705][AIR 28/754]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH355/PH357/PH358.				
		C-54		Diversion from Lagens-Prestwick
		C-54		Diversion from Lagens-Prestwick
42-32950		C-54*	ATC	Diversion from Prestwick
*Diverted from Prestwick with Lt/Gen Ben Lear onboard. <b>A further C-54 diverted from Valley to St Mawgan.</b>				
KG660	P	Dakota III	109 OTU	F/L Smallwood
KG633	C	Dakota III	109 OTU	S/L Chapman
KG638	D	Dakota III	109 OTU	F/L Crocker
KG662	R	Dakota III	109 OTU	F/O Cordmaller
KG666	T	Dakota III	109 OTU	F/O Rowland
Valley ORB mentions 5 Dakotas diversions from Crosby-on-Eden whereas the 109 OTU ORB mentions 1 diversion to Valley and 6 to Pershore. Most probably 5 to Valley and 1 to Pershore. The Pershore aircraft is also quoted as returning 17.1 whereas the 5 others returned 16.1 which agrees with the Valley version.				
		5x Dakota	[108 OTU]	Diversion from Wymeswold.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH355/PH357.				
		[Liberator]	BOAC	Diversion Prestwick-Azores
Landed due to engine problems, later returned to Prestwick.				
PH374		Oxford I	1528 BAT	
Flown to RAE Farnborough for fitment of SCS.51 equipment.				

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/705]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH355/PH357.				
KG660	P	Dakota III	109 OTU	
KG633	C	Dakota III	109 OTU	
KG638	D	Dakota III	109 OTU	
KG662	R	Dakota III	109 OTU	
KG666	T	Dakota III	109 OTU	
All returned back to their base at Crosby-on-Eden, see 14.1				

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/876/1][IBCCA][AIR 29/705][AIR 27/1973/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH355/PH357.				
PH374		Oxford I	1529 BAT	P/O Francis
To Farnborough, see 13.1.45				
		?	44 Gp	F/L Nicholson visit to 1528 BAT
		Anson I*	[4(O)AFU]	Diversion
*From West Freugh, arrived on one engine.				
		Anson	512 Sqn	From and to Broadwell
	[YY]-B	Stirling	1332 CU	Diversion, P/O Povey
From Nutts Corner.				
		3x C-54*	USAAF	Diversions
*All 3 diverted whilst enroute Azores-Prestwick.				
	N	Lancaster B.	1669 CU	F/O McGregor from & to Langar
KG662	R	Dakota III	109 OTU	Diversion, S/L Chapman

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [IBCCA]

	[YY]-B	Stirling	1332 CU	To Nutts Corner, see 17.1
		C-54		From Lagens, Azores

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][USAAF doc][AIR 29/705]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH355/PH357/PH358.				
		72x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		6x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
KG662	R	Dakota III	109 OTU	To Crosby-on-Eden, see 17.1

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No TRANSAT departures until 27.1 due to weather.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH355/PH357/PH358.				
		5x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH357/PH358.				
		B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
43-39180	[N8-G]	B-17G	[600 BS/398 BG]	TRANSAT from Meeks
Crew left the aircraft at Valley. Crew were later assigned to the 100 BG. Diary of S/Sgt Donald A Becker KIA 21.3.45 'Big Iron Bird'				
		B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		6x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1945** [AIR 27/2166][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH355/PH358.				
'A' Flight/650 Sqn starts operating from Valley.				

PH358		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/O Fisher visited St Mawgan
		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
		Hurricane IV	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
		2x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH240/PH241/PH355/PH358.				

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

Airfield unusable due to heavy snow, approx. 8 inches.				

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874]

Runways cleared of snow.				

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

Flying recommenced on the snow cleared main runway 14/32. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH241/PH355/PH358.				
		P-38		Fuel diversion

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH357/PH358.				

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 27/2166][AIR 27/296/26][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH355/PH357/PH358.				
		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
NK715		Anson I	24 Sqn	F/O J R Ramsden
Empty from Hendon, stretcher case from Valley to Kidlington.				
		31x [B-17]		To UK Stations

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 27/2166][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/494]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH355/PH357.				
EM555		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	To Bodorgan
KK292		Liberator GR.VII	Transport Cmd	Capt Singleton
Diverted to Llanbedr from the Azores then flew to Valley. This was its delivery flight from the USA to Scottish Aviation Ltd, Prestwick for modifications prior to being delivered to 206 Sqn as :PQ-P on 22.2.45.				

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

Airfield cleared of snow. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH357.				

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 1945**

		31x B-17		Present, see 28.1
		B-24		Present.

**February 1945** [USAAF doc]

384x TRANSAT arrivals/406x departures [389x to UK Bases, 17x to N Africa] 8x C-54 diversions/44x shuttle [Bovingdon-Prestwick] arrivals. The 8 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> Air Force aircraft were parked on separate dispersals. New system initiated with a B-17 used to escort new replacement aircraft to UK bases.				
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**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

32x TRANSAT aircraft still present from January due to the snowfall. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH357/PH358.				
		B-17	[388 BG]	Diversion from Knettishall
		B-26		Diversion St Mawgan-Burtonwood
	G	Halifax V*	517 Sqn	Diversion, landed 19:53 S/L Beck
*Met Flight, landed on 3 engines, starboard inner failed.				

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/890][AIR 27/1615/26]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH357/PH358.				
		Martinet	4 ADF	W/O Butterick to Hawchurch
HF952	C	Warwick ASR.1	282 Sqn	F/O McMahon
282 Sqn ORB mentions routing St Mawgan-St Davids-Valley looking for a missing B-26, most probably just an overflight.				

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/684][AIR 29/890]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH356/PH357/PH358 plus see below.				
		Martinet	4 ADF	F/L Lillywhite to Hawchurch
-				
PH357	[KV]	Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/S Pritchard 'KENNEDY VICTOR'
PH356	[KW]	Oxford I	1528 BAT	P/O Sinclair 'KENNEDY WILLIAMS'
Scrambled following a Mayday call from a High Ercall based Mosquito at 16:06. The NW Filter room diverted one of the BAT Oxfords to the Great Orme area, a second Oxford was also diverted to the area. At 16:20 the Filter room reported that the aircraft had ditched near Little Orme's Head and Search/Rescue action was being initiated. At 16:47 P/O Sinclair reported that he was circling a dinghy and a minute later another High Ercall Mosquito 'BALSAM56' made the same call. P/O Sinclair led the rescue boat to the dinghy and at 17:05 it was reported the crew had been picked up, sadly one of the crew was dead whilst the				



other was seriously injured. This was Mosquito VI HX967 60 OTU, High Ercall.				
HX967		Mosquito VI	60 OTU	From High Ercall
	W/O	Jess Hesketh [40 Course]	Killed [buried Ashton-under-Lyne]	
	Sgt	Frederick Albert Poole [40 Course]	Killed [buried East Ham]	

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH356/PH357/PH358.				

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH356/PH358.				
		15x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander
		5x Mosquito	[8[C]OTU]	Diversion from Haverfordwest

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH356/PH358.				

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH356/PH358.				
		17x B-17		TRANSAT from Goose
		6x B-24		TRANSAT from Goose
		9x B-24[M]		TRANSAT from Meeks
An additional B-24M 44-50535 was lost enroute Meeks, Iceland-Prestwick.				
		29x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		13x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander
		Wellington		Diversion, N/stop
		2x Anson I		Diversion, N/stop

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [Bruce Craig Memoir\*][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

A dinghy identified as German [Submarine] was washed ashore 2nms S of the Airfield.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH357/PH358.				
		B-24*		From USA
*Northern Route, Pilot 2/Lt D W Clark, the 2 pilots then flew the aircraft to ?, the rest of the crew went by train to Stone. Crew were assigned to 330 BS/93 BG.				

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 27/2166][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241.				
EM523		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
		11x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander
		75x US		To various UK Stations

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH357.				
		15x B-17		TRANSAT from Goose
		29x B-24		TRANSAT from Goose
		30x US		Departures

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH357.				

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][USAAF doc]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241.				
		22x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		25x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		23x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander
		46x US		To Burtonwood & Warton
		Mosquito*	[8[C]OTU]	Diversion from Haverfordwest
*Landed on one engine, nothing in the Unit ORB.				

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241.				
		C-54		Diversion Stephenville-Prestwick
		C-54		From Goose
		58x US		To various UK Stations
-				
AX180		Anson I	3 SoGR	From Squires Gate
Port engine failed, forced landing in a field near Llanerchymedd at 16:35. After repairs the aircraft was flown out of the field 2 weeks later. From 3 School of General Reconnaissance.				

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/813]

		Liberator	Ferry Cmd	Diversion
[Possibly one of these: KK289/327/328/336/338/371]				
		2x Wellington X	[105 OTU]	Diversion from Nuneaton, dep 16.2
		14x ?		Diversions
		13x B-17		To Marrakech in the early hours
LE564		Hurricane IV*	595 Sqn	
*Air test out of Bodorgan, landed at Valley.				

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/1984/34]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241.				
	[YY]-V	Stirling	1332 CU	From & to Nutts Corner F/O Povey
		3x Heavies		
1 of the 'Heavies' was probably the 517 Sqn Halifax below.				
	U	Halifax V	517 Sqn	Diversion, landed 21:42 F/S Blake

		5x Wellington X	[105 OTU]	Diversion from Nuneaton
		Liberator	Ferry Cmd	Departed, see 15.2
		2x Wellington X	[105 OTU]	To Nuneaton, see 15.2

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH357.				
		C-54		Diversion Azores-St Mawgan

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH355/PH357.				
		4x US		Departed

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH355/PH356/PH357.				
		Dakotas	[108 OTU]	To Wymeswold
		Dakotas	[107 OTU]	To Leicester East
		5x Wellington X	[105 OTU]	To Nuneaton, see 16.2
		3x Anson*	[11 FU]	Diversion from Talbenny
		Wellington*	[11 FU]	Diversion from Talbenny
		Warwick*	[11 FU]	Diversion from Talbenny
*Possibly from Coastal Command Development Unit or 11 Ferry Unit.				

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/813][F78]

All the RAF aircraft diversions returned to their bases.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH356/PH357/PH358.				
		57x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		24x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		2x C-109		TRANSAT from Meeks
		B-24		War weary from UK
KZ725		Hurricane IV*	595 Sqn	
*Landed at Valley, a 650 Sqn pilot then flew it to Bodorgan for servicing.				
-				
DZ268		Mosquito NFII	60 OTU	
Whilst on a training sortie from High Ercall it hit HT power lines near Trewalchmai, Isle of Anglesey. They then flew the aircraft back to High Ercall but the aircraft was damaged beyond repair. Did not land at Valley.				
Pilot	F/L	Paul Antony Barker		Ok
Nav	F/O	John Harrison Wilde		Ok

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH355/PH356/PH357/PH358.				
	[YY]-	Stirling	[1332 CU]	Diversion from Nutts Corner

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1945** [AIR 27/2166][AIR 29/880/7]

		8x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander
HN953		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
HN957		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
EM627		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
		Martinet TTI	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan
LE757		Hurricane IV	650 Sqn	From Bodorgan

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1945** [AIR 27/2166][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH355/PH356/PH358.				
		65x US		To various bases
		16x B-17		To 15 <sup>th</sup> Air Force
		Oxford	650 Sqn	F/S Sewell to Woodvale
		Lancaster [X]		Diversion from Azores, N/stop
		Lancaster [X]		Diversion from Azores, N/stop
		Lancaster [X]		Diversion from Azores, N/stop
[KB923]		Lancaster [X]		Diversion from Azores, N/stop
Assuming they were Canadian Lancaster X's on delivery the serial might be, UK arrival date in brackets KB923 [22.2]				
[HK]733		Lancaster B.1	1669 HCU	Sgt Crawford from Langar

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][IBCCA]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH355/PH358.				
		39x B-17		TRANSAT from Bluie West 1
[HK]733		Lancaster B.1	1669 HCU	To Langar, see 23.2

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No TRANSAT movements.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH355/PH357/PH358.				

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/1984/34]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH355/PH357/PH358.				
		B-24		To Marrakech, War weary, see 20.1
		43x US		To UK bases
		C-54		Diversion, later to Prestwick
		C-54		Diversion from Lagens
		C-47		Diversion
	W	Halifax V	517 Sqn	Diversion, landed 09:50 W/O Blake

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 1945** [AIR 27/2166][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/890]

'27x RAF movements in and out and same number of internal US movements'				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH355/PH358.				

		B-17		Present on the Airfield
		B-17		Present on the Airfield
		6x B-24		Present on the Airfield
		2x C-109		Present on the Airfield
X7416		Dominie I	1 ADF	F/O Robins
Routed: Odiham-Valley-Hawarden-Poulton-Shawbury-Odiham				
[KZ]301		Hurricane [IV]	1 ADF	F/L Hackney from Redhill
[KZ]573		Hurricane [IV]	1 ADF	P/O Truhlar from Redhill
[KZ]608		Hurricane [IV]	1 ADF	W/O Nowoczyn from Redhill
MS752		Martinet TTI	595 Sqn	From Bodorgan for collection
EM627		Martinet TTI*	650 Sqn	W/O Grieve
*From Hutton Cranswick.				
	[YY]-	Stirling	[1332 CU]	Diversion from Nutts Corner
		B-24*	[USAAF]	'Group aircraft'
*Calibration of the American SCS-51 approach radar system.				

### March 1945 [USAAF doc]

518x [102 to 10 <sup>th</sup> /15 <sup>th</sup> AF] TRANSAT arrivals plus 99x other visitors.				
314x B-17, 99x B-24 for 8 AF/33x B-17 & 68x B-24 to 10 <sup>th</sup> /15 <sup>th</sup> Air Forces.				
9 [8x B-24 & 1x B-17 which had forced landed in Portugal] War weary arrival/departure.				
47 Shuttle services/5x C-54.				

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 1945 [AIR 28/874]

		14x ?	RAF	Arrivals
	[YY]-	Stirling	[1332 CU]	Diversion from Nutts Corner, NI
		?	44 Gp	
44 Group AOC, A/Cdre G R Beamish visited to carry out an inspection of 1528 BAT Flight, departed 2.3.				

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1945 [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH240/PH241/PH355/PH358.				

### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1945 [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/639]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH241/PH355/PH358.				
	24	Spitfire	8[C]OTU	W/O Smith
Diversion with engine overheating, from Haverfordwest.				
		19x B-17[G]		TRANSAT from Meeks
An additional B-17G, 44-83325 [Pilot, Paul Overfield] left Meeks, Iceland for Valley but crashed into Beinn Edra, Trotternish on the Isle of Skye with no survivors.				
		11x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		C-109		TRANSAT from Meeks

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 1945 [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH240/PH241/PH355/PH356.				
		Mosquito	Delivery	Diversion Rabat Sale-Prestwick
[Possibly KB577 or KB581]				

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH241/PH355/PH356.				
		12x US		To Marrakech

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 27/2358/20][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/1876/13]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH241/PH356/PH358.				
LA620		Lockheed 12A	MCS	F/L B Furzt [Czech]
From Hendon to Dublin with F/L J F Potter 12:45/14:15. Valley ORB quotes this as 7.3 whereas MCS ORB says 6.3				
		2x B-24		To Marrakech
FZ669	[DQ]	Dakota III	437 Sqn	F/O Wells from & to Blakehill Farm

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874]

42-7495	DC-T+	B-24H	577 BS/392 BG	RZI 'Axis Grinder' [55M]
41-29208	QK-D	B-24H	66 BS/44 BG	RZI 'Shoo Shoo Baby' [20M]
		19x B-17/24		To Burtonwood & Warton
		52x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		27x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		3x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874]

Trewan Sands GCI Radar site put on Care & Maintenance from 12:00 onwards.				

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH240/PH241/PH356/PH358.				
		6x B-17/24		To Marrakech

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH241/PH356/PH358.				
		7x B-24		To Marrakech

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH240/PH356/PH358.				
		11x US		To Marrakech

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH240/PH355/PH358.				
		43x B-17/24		To Burtonwood/Warton

		4x B-24		To Marrakech, War weary
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**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH241/PH355/PH356/PH358				
	[30]	Spitfire	[8[C]OTU]	From Haverfordwest 12:45
Emergency landing with engine problems. Possibly this aircraft as the 8[C]OTU ORB only mentions taking overdue action on this aircraft. An American ship had seen a single engine aircraft dive into the sea west of Bardsey Island at 10:25, a search revealed no wreckage.				

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 27/1876/13]

KG427	NA	Dakota III	437 Sqn	F/O Lindsay from Blakehill Farm
		Stirling	[EANS]	Diversion from Shawbury
		Halifax	[EANS]	Diversion from Shawbury
[EANS Empire Air Navigation School]				
		44x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		23x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		2x C-54		From Azores
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**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxfords PH241/PH355/PH357/PH358.				
		8x B-17/24		To Marrakech
		23x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		25x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH355/PH357/PH358.				
		14x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		6x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		58x B-17/24		Departed
		12x ?	RAF	Arrivals, 10 later departed

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

650 Sqn detachment departed back to Bodorgan, see 22.1.45. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH355/PH357.				
		?		
Maj/Gen Jones USAAF visited and left for Burtonwood 17:36, by air?				

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH356/PH357.				

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/639]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH356/PH357/PH358.				
NC670		Wellington X	10 OTU	F/S I N McKechnie
Diverted in at night whilst on a cross country flight due to engine failure, landed 22:10.				
		2x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander
		22x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		41x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		C-109		TRANSAT from Meeks
		2x C-54		Diversions

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874]

41-29156	WQ-R	B-24H	68 BS/44 BG	RZI 'V-Packet' [63M]
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**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH358.				
-				
		Mosquito		
Wheels up landing on Runway 20 due to port engine failure at approx. 12:00.				
Pilot	S/L	Vallance	Ok [based at Bodorgan ?]	
Pax	S/L	Fricker	Ok [Chief Tech Officer, RAF Valley]	

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH355/PH357/PH358.				
		23x B-17/24*		To Marrakech at night
*3 returned due to mechanical defects.				

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH355/PH356/PH358.				
R6054		Oxford I	13 Gp CF	W/C Wolfe
Routed: Inverness-Valley-Portreath.				
-				
	29	Spitfire	[8[C]OTU]	W/O Palmer
Forced landing due to engine failure, from Haverfordwest.				
Pilot			Ok	
-				
		14x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		C-109		TRANSAT from Meeks
		50x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
44-8949		B-17G	[385 BG]	
One of these B-17's 44-8949 reported seeing a ditched B-24 in the water 10nms west of Ailsa Craig, ASR search carried but nothing seen. The B-17 was part of the 50 above.				

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]



1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH241/PH356/PH358.				
		?		Refuel stop
AOC 13 Group, A/Cdre J A Boret landed to refuel on his way South.				

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH241/PH356/PH358.				
		Oxford	1529 BAT	From St Mawgan
		Oxford	1529 BAT	From St Mawgan
This was the start of the switchover of 1529 BAT & 1528 BAT Flight aircraft. This was so that 1528 BAT operated with American SCS.51 approach equipment and 1529 BAT at St Mawgan operated with British SBA equipment. Once finished the Flights had the following aircraft: 1528 BAT Flight Valley PH372/PH374/PH392/PH393/PH394/PH395. 1529 BAT Flight St Mawgan PH240/PH241/PH355/PH356/PH357/PH358.				
		B-24		TRANSAT from Azores
		4x B-24		TRANSAT from Goose
		16x B-17		TRANSAT from Goose
		14x B-17/24		To Marrakech at 06:00

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH356/PH358.				
		?	281 Sqn	
OC 281 Sqn visited to discuss final arrangements for a detachment to be based at Valley.				

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

The only flying carried out was by 1528 BAT Flight.				

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [AIR 28/874]

	D	Sea Otter I*	281 Sqn	
JM986	E	Sea Otter I*	281 Sqn	
*Arrived on detachment from Limavady, N Ireland. Valley ORB says 31.3 but also says they arrived in full strength 29.3.				
		3x US		Arrived & departed same day

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March 1945** [USAAF doc][AIR 29/876/1]

Largest TRANSAT arrivals since opening. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH356/PH357/PH358.				
		48x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		5x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		2x B-24		TRANSAT from Goose
		45x B-17		TRANSAT from Goose
		Wellington	[OTU]	
Landed due to the Air Gunner suffering from frostbite. He was sent to Station Sick Quarters,				

the aircraft departed back to its base at 02:55.
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**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

3x B-17 & 5x B-24 'War Weary' departed. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH355/PH356/PH357.				
		1x C-109		Present
		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	
Arrived from Mulaghmore and experienced trouble landing due to the strong crosswind but managed to land on the grass. See also 29.3				

**April 1945** [USAAF doc]

194x TRANSAT arrivals [36x were for the 15 <sup>th</sup> AF and 77x were by Ferrying Division crews] 194x composed: 94x B-17 [83x 8 <sup>th</sup> AF & 11 10 <sup>th</sup> /15 <sup>th</sup> AF] 95x B-24 [62x 8 <sup>th</sup> AF & 33 10 <sup>th</sup> /15 <sup>th</sup> AF] 3x A-26 [9 <sup>th</sup> AF & 2x C-54 10 <sup>th</sup> /15 <sup>th</sup> AF] 293x departures with an average stay of 2 days. 49x shuttle flights during April with #83 Prestwick-St Mawgan & #86 in reverse.				
The TRANSAT arrivals were down compared with previous months as a result of the Ferry crews having to be sent back to the US via Prestwick. Previously the crews bringing the aircraft over were then sent on to combat units.				

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April 1945** [USAAF doc]

102x ferried aircraft still present.				

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH2401/PH355/PH357/PH374.				
	N	Warwick ASR.1*	281 Sqn	W/O J Greenslade
*To & from Limavady.				
		100x B-17/24		To various UK Stations

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH240/PH355/PH357/PH358/PH374.				
	R	Warwick ASR.1*	281 Sqn	P/O F G Reynolds
*To & from Limavady.				
		6x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		43x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		7x B-17		TRANSAT from Gander
		4x Oxford	1529 BAT	From St Mawgan
		4x Oxford	1528 BAT	To St Mawgan
This was the rest of the switchover of aircraft between 1528 & 1529 BAT Flight, see 26.3.				

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/1876/14]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374.				
		2x Oxford	1528 BAT	To 1529 BAT, St Mawgan
	N	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L A T Good visited Limavady
		B-17		TRANSAT from Goose
		C-54		From Gander
KG312	DG	Dakota	437 Sqn	F/L Decks from Blakehill Farm

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32]

	U	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	S/L N V Lidemere visited Limavady

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393.				
	U	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O D F Shepherd visited Limavady
		C-54		To Casablanca
		B-17		To Marrakech, War weary

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32]

	U	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	W/O J Greenslade visited Limavady
The Warwicks were checking ASR buoys 18 & 19.				

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393.				

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393.				
PH372		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/L Wells visited Staverton
		2x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		9x US		To Marrakech

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH394.				
		26x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		14x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/472]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392.				
	A	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	
	D	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine
JM986	E	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	
JM986 departed Valley at 14:58 for its home base at Limavady. At 17:30 it was reported as overdue. Sea Otter 'A' was scrambled from Valley 18:05 to carry out a search landing at				

20:25. Sea Otter 'D' was then scrambled at 20:16 to continue the search landing at 21:51 without any success. Wreckage was eventually found near Ballycastle, N Ireland with no survivors, the aircraft had flown into a cliff at Torr Head in poor weather conditions.

Pilot	F/L	Raymond Christopher Pietroni Rigg	Killed [buried Southborough]
	F/O	Gwilym Leonard Davies	Killed [buried Grimsby]
	F/S	William Joseph Hodgkiss	Killed [buried Thrybergh]

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		43x US		Departures
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**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/653]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393.				
NM655		Oxford I	1527 Flt	
From Prestwick for installation of VHF equipment.				

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH394.				
	R	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L A T Good visited Limavady
		?		Calibrator
SCS.51 approach radar equipment was flight checked and is now operational.				

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393/PH394. Due to sea fog, 281 Sqn ended up diverting to Bodorgan & Woodvale.				
	R	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	P/O F G Reynolds visited Limavady

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH393/PH394/PH395.				
		2x US		To Marrakech, War weary
		1x US	15 AF	To Marrakech for 15 <sup>th</sup> AF

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393/PH394/PH395.				
		B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		2x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		4x Halifax	[EANS]	Diversion from Shawbury
Arrived between 04:20 & 04:37.				
	D	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L E C Hallam from Valley
		Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	
Involved in a search for a lost Anson I MG652 ANBS between Jurby-Gt Orme's Head, nothing seen. 2 more sorties were flown that afternoon, see 17.4.				

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32]

	V	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	P/O L A Dighton from Limavady
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**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
PH394		Oxford I	1528 BAT	P/O Alexander visited Kemble
PH395		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/L Wells to Prestwick
		50x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		10x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
		C-54		From Gander

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393.				
PH395		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/L Wells from Prestwick
	S	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O S Taylor from & to Limavady
		2x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		?x B-17/24		To Burtonwood/Warton

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH394/PH395.				
	S	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O D Shepherd from Limavady
		20x US	15 AF	To Marrakech

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][F78][IBCCA]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH395.				
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	S/L P A Loweth from Limavady
[KA136]		Mosquito FB.26	[45 Gp]	Diversion Azores-Prestwick
Possibly Mk.26 KA136 [23.4.45] on delivery from Canada with 1 FU [1 Ferry Unit]				
		13x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		3x B-17		TRANSAT from Meeks
	B	Wellington	14 OTU	F/L Percival
Routed: Thurleigh-Wing-Boscombe-Silverstone-Colerne-Chivenor-St Davids-Kimbolton-Abingdon-Exeter-Talbenny-Westcott-Haverfordwest-Tilstock-Lichfield-Holesworth-Valley-Ossington-Syerstone, most probably an overflight.				

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH394.				
		B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/1876/15]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH394.				
		C-47*		
*Visit of Congressman Earl Wilson, Indiana.				
	S	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O L A Dighton from Limavady

		2x Wellington X	[105 OTU]	Diversion from Nuneaton 05:15
		?x B-17/24		To UK Stations
		7x US	15 AF	To Marrakech
NK700	Z2-NW	Anson X	437 Sqn	F/S McPhee
Routed: Blakehill Farm-Bramcote-Valley-Blakehill Farm.				

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874]

	R	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L J [Drummond] from Limavady
		B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
		3x Wellington X	[105 OTU]	Diversion from Nuneaton

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH393.				
	R	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O S Taylor from & to Limavady
		Lancaster B.	[1661 HCU]	Diversion from Winthorpe
Diverted after experiencing an inflight fire, put out by the crew with hand extinguishers.				

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH393.				

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH393/PH394.				
	R	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	S/L P A Loweth from & to Limavady
		B-24		To Marrakech, War weary

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH394.				
		B-24*		Present on the Airfield
		A-26*	[9 <sup>th</sup> AF]	Present on the Airfield
		A-26*	[9 <sup>th</sup> AF]	Present on the Airfield
*These 3 aircraft were all grounded due to engineering faults.				

**May 1945** [USAAF doc]

9x TRANSAT arrivals 1-16 <sup>th</sup> May 1945 which completed the inbound flow of aircraft. 50x Shuttle services aircraft during May.				
Now began the re-deployment of aircraft back to the US 'Project White/Operation Home Run' [RZI Return to the Zone of the Interior] which averaged 62 aircraft, 50 from Bombardment Groups [BG] & 12 from Base Air Depots [BAD]. Each aircraft carried 20 [10 combat crew plus 10 groundcrew/non-flying] personnel including crew. The aircraft were routed back to the US via Meeks Field, Iceland or Lagens, Azores with the destination for 4-engined aircraft being Bradley Field, Connecticut.				



Although undated this is a view which would have been familiar to the American Crews transitting through Valley back to the USA. On the NW dispersal 'natural metal' B-17's can be seen plus a few more on what is now [2025] the Texan flightline. To the left of those there appears to be camouflaged B-24's.



These are the Operations Buildings with a couple of American Willys Jeeps outside. The old ATC Flight Watch Tower can be seen on the right with a marker board indicating Runway 14 in use. These buildings survived until the early 1980's.



This is Site 4A, the HQ for the American 1407th Base Unit.

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No TRANSAT movements.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH394.				

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

		6x Wellington		Diversion
KL977	[-]	Skymaster I	RAFTC	F/L Cliff & McDougall [ex. 42-72442]
The Skymaster [C-54] operated with 1528 BAT Flight, flying twice with them on 6.5, first visit of type. 1528 ORB has it arriving 4.5, it eventually served with 232 Sqn.				

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395.				

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH394/PH395.				

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/1984/40]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/392/PH394.				
		Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	P/O F G Reynolds from Limavady
	P	Halifax III	517 Sqn	Diversion, F/L Blachford
From Brawdy, landed 08:17 on 3 engines.				

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]



1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH394.				
KL977	[-]	Skymaster I	RAFTC	Visited Prestwick [ex. 42-72442]
		?	[44 Gp]	
AOC 44 Group from Staverton then to Talbenny by air.				

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No flying by 1528 BAT Flight as a result of VE Day.				

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][USAAF doc]

USAAF Aircraft handled since June 1943 to 9.5.45:				
2,734x B-17				
1,869x B-24				
271x C-47				
174x Miscellaneous [70x B-26, 52x C-109, 18x B-25, 24x A-26, 5x A-20, 3x F-3, 2x C-54]				
		9x B-24		TRANSAT from Meeks
44-42305		B-24M*	8 <sup>th</sup> AF	F/O Soesbee Carter
*Last aircraft from the US, one of the 9 above.				
	O	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L J Drummond from Limavady
EM535		Oxford I	232 Sqn	F/L Brown
From & to Stoney Cross. 'EM535' is not an Oxford serial, possibly HM535 operated by MCS ?				

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 27/195/26]

	X	Wellington XIV	14 Sqn	W/O R M White
Whilst on a patrol in the Irish Sea it diverted to Valley at 07:10 due to bad weather. Normally based at Chivenor.				

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH394.				
PH395		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Visited Wymeswold

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
		Lancaster		Diversion 22:15
Diverted due to the temporary illness of the Captain who was admitted to SSQ.				
		6x B-24		To Marrakech early morning

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [Capt E L McGuire memoir\*][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393.				
No TRANSAT movements.				
44-51107		B-24M*	[409 BS/93 BG]	Capt E L McGuire
*Routed: Warton-Valley-Meeks-BW1-Dow-Bradley.				

	X	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L A T Good from & to Limavady
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**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/1984/40]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393/PH395.				
PH393		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/L Poole visited Staverton
	B	Halifax III	517 Sqn	Diversion, landed 21:05 S/L Beck

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

PH394		Oxford I	1528 BAT	W/O Furler visited Staverton
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**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874]

<p style="text-align: center;">‘White Project’ starts.  This was the re-deployment to the USA [RZI] and on to the Pacific Theatre.  Each aircraft would receive a 100hr inspection for oil/fuel consumption checks.  The Pilots would hold an Instrument Rating.  Navigators attended a 6hr refresher course at Valley mainly on long range navigation.  Individual health certificates and baggage examinations carried out.  Officers allowed 40lbs and enlisted 30lbs baggage allowance.  The increased fuel requirements would be met by rail fuel wagon sidings.  RZI [<u>R</u>eturn to the <u>Z</u>one of the <u>I</u>nterior] meaning return to the USA.</p>				
		B-24*		RZI
<p style="text-align: center;">*RZI, first aircraft to be re-deployed, never used in combat, from Warton.  [also quoted as 12 B-24's from Warton plus the 93 BG below]</p>				
		50x B-24	93 BG	RZI
		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	
Carried out a search finding wreckage but nothing else.				

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393/PH394.				
	D	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L J F Irvine visited Limavady
		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	
Scrambled 19:23 to look for a ditched Swordfish in the region of Chicken Rock, IoM. Survivors were picked up by Destroyer and the Sea Otter diverted to Sillioth due to weather at Valley.				

**Friday 18-31<sup>st</sup> May 1945** [487 to Iceland, 51 to the Azores]

		241x B-17		RZI
		350x B-24		RZI
		9x OA-10*	[5 ERS]	RZI [possibly 44-33991]
These are probably from the 5 ERS [Emergency Rescue Squadron] based at Halesworth.				

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [movement order\*][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393/PH394.				
	HP-V	B-24	567 BS/389 BG	RZI Bradley 22.5 Lt G Kretchmer

42-95112	HP-	B-24H*	567 BS/389 BG	RZI 1/Lt K D Jones
		B-24	USAAF	To India
	OZ-C	Warwick V	179 Sqn	Diversion, F/O Pearson
From St Eval at 23:15.				

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

72x RZI departures to US. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH394.				
		B-24*	/389 BG	RZI Meeks Field
*1/Lt K D Jones Pilot? From Hethel, dep 21.5, part of the 50 below.				
		21x B-17		RZI Meeks
43-38379		B-17G	571 BS/91 BG	RZI Meeks 'Margie'
One of the 21 above, returned to the US 21.5.45				
		50x B-24		RZI Meeks

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

61x RZI departures to Iceland/60x'ish arrivals from UK Stations. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH394/PH395.				
		17x B-17		RZI Meeks
		43x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
42-102487	N8-B	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 25.5 [90M]
43-38730	3O-R	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 25.5 [40M]
43-38805	N8-Z	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 25.5 [45M]
43-39102	N8-V	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 25.5 'Little Ole Augie' [30M]
43-39180	N8-G	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 25.5 'Hitler's Headache' [23M]
43-39224	3O-M	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 25.5 [22M]
43-39227	3O-S	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 25.5 [30M]
44-6821	3O-Y	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 28.5 [29M]
44-6896	N8-M	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 25.5 [26M]
44-8517	3O-J	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 25.5 [17M]

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1945** [1/Lt V S Cahill memoir][AIR 27/1614/34][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

64x RZI departures to Iceland/67x arrivals from UK Stations. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393/PH394.				
		13x B-17		RZI Meeks
		48x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
PH393		Oxford I*	1528 BAT	W/O Bettington
*To & from Staverton.				

	F	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L D O'Shea inspect buoys
		B-24*	/491 BG	RZI 1/Lt W L Greaser
*Brand new aircraft, dep 24.5 to Meeks Field-Goose Bay-Bradley [Northern Route]				
		B-24	/491 BG	RZI Capt S A Newson
		B-24	/491 BG	RZI 1/Lt E Ammons
		B-24	/491 BG	RZI 2/Lt B A Meglitsch
		B-24	/491 BG	RZI 1/Lt G O Evans
		B-24	/491 BG	RZI 1/Lt A R Pearce
		B-24	/491 BG	RZI 1/Lt W R Groover


**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1945** [AIR 27/1614/34][AIR 27/2358/24][AIR 28/874]

RZI movements to Iceland delayed due weather. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374.				
		Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L J F Irvine inspect buoys
X7519		Dominie I*	MCS	
*From & to Hendon 14:20/15:50.				
43-39213	30-C	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI [4M]
44-8044	N7-X	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI 'The Cherry' [35M]
44-8214	N7-S	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI [18M]
44-8363	30-W	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI [17M]
44-8476	30-X	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI [19M]
44-8483	N8-T	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI [25M]
44-8716	N8-C	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI [1M]
44-8771	30-B	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI [6M]
44-8848	K8-L	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI [12M]
44-8857	N7-M	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI [0M]

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [movement order\*][AIR 27/1614/34][AIR 28/874]

63 RZI departures to Iceland all gone by 10:40/62 B-17/24 arrivals from UK bases.				
		37x B-17		RZI Meeks
		26x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
44-40472		B-24J	330 BS/93 BG	RZI 1/Lt E T Logan
44-49321		B-24L	328 BS/93 BG	RZI 1/Lt M L King
		B-24	/93 BG	RZI 25.5 Lt B Craig, Nav
42-51468	RE-F	B-24J	329 BS/93 BG	RZI date ? 'Tiger Terror'
44-50534		B-24	330 BS/93 BG	RZI date ? 'Piccadilly Virgin'
44-8398	K8-Q	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI [29M]
42-50498		B-24J*	566 BS/389 BG	RZI Bradley Capt H V Anderson
		Sea Otter I*	281 Sqn	F/L Hallam
*Scrambled 19:18 from Valley for a ditched Firefly approx 270degs/20nms from Blackpool, 2 occupants in a dinghy picked up by Frigate.				

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

34x RZI departures to Iceland/33x arrivals from UK bases. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH394.				
		25x B-24		RZI Meeks
		5x B-17		RZI Meeks
-				
42-97061	LL-B	B-17G	401 BS/91 BG	RZI 'General Ike'
				
[James B Tunison & Paulette Starz Collection]				
		B-24	/93 BG	RZI P G Buffinton
43-37977	K8-P	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI 'Miss X' [68M]
44-8373	N8-K	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI [31M]
44-8553	K8-Y	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI [17M]
44-8715		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI [0M] [did not RZI though]
[NK973]		Anson I*	[TFU]	From Defford
*Landed 16:00, for 4 days co-operating with HMS Bee, Holyhead on ASV exercises. [Telecommunications Flying Unit]				

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

61x B-17/24x RZI departures to Iceland/62x arrivals from UK bases. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH394.				
		29x B-24		RZI Meeks
		30x B-17		RZI Meeks
-				
42-38129	30-A	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 2.6 'Skippy'
43-37982	N7-K	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 31.5 'BeBe' [67M]

43-38086	N7-C	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 6.6 'Bad Penny' [52M]
43-38126	N8-J	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 31.5 [39M]
43-38631	N7-T	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 31.5 'Tondelayo' [63M]
43-38811	K8-R	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 29.5 'Aka Coffee's Grinder' [26M]
43-39101	N7-C	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 29.5 [29M]
43-39146	N7-N	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 31.5 [34M]
44-8274	K8-B	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 24.6 [52M]
44-6834	N7-H	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 31.5 [13M]
44-8644	K8-N	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 29.5 [37M]

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 27/1614/34][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

54x RZI departures/69x arrivals. Total of 410 USAAF aircraft have returned to the US so far. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
		17x B-24		RZI Meeks
		15x B-17		RZI Meeks
	A	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L J F Irvine inspect ASR buoys
		4x Wellington	[105 OTU]	Diversions from Nuneaton

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [movement order\*][AIR 27/1614/34][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

17x RZI departures to Iceland but due to the weather there they were recalled with 15x landing back at Valley and 2x Catalinas [OA-10] diverting to Prestwick.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
42-50647	CI-M	B-24J*	576 BS/392 BG	RZI 'Liberty Belle' 2/Lt R A Gill
43-39065		B-17G	Station Flight	Arrived [ex. 8 <sup>th</sup> Air Force]
	O	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L R K Nuttall from Limavady
	A	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L E C Hallam buoy inspection
[NK973]		Anson I	[TFU]	To Defford, see 25.5
		4x Wellington	[105 OTU]	To Nuneaton, see 27.5
		2x Catalina*	[5 ERS]	Diverted to Prestwick
*Assume these are probably OA-10's.				

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

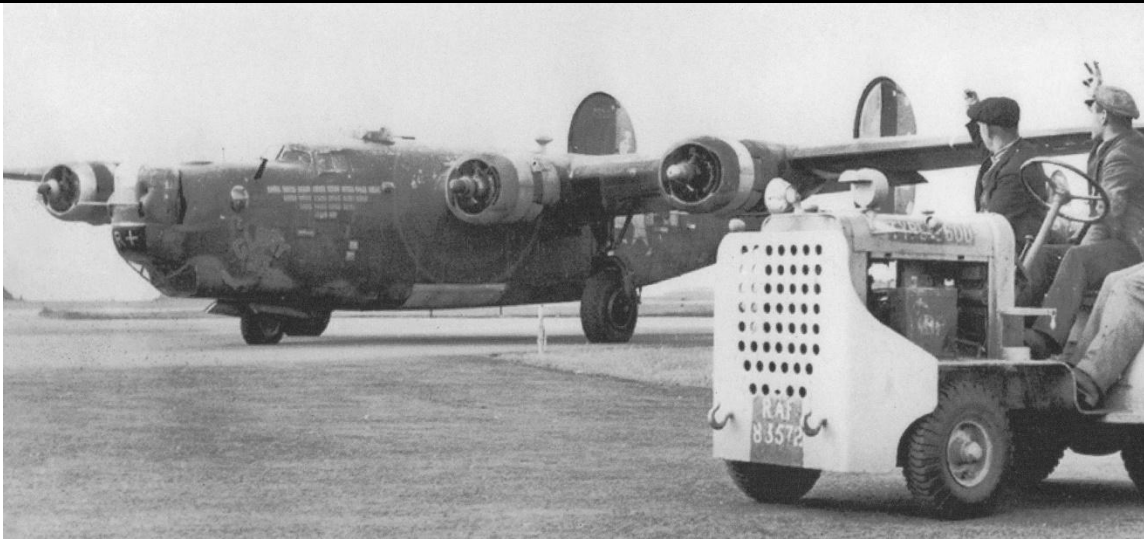
19x B-17/24x RZI to Azores/20x B-17 from Alconbury [482 BG ?] 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
PH392		Oxford I	1528 BAT	To Staverton-St Mawgan-Base
44-8637	N8-X	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 2.6 [9M]
44-8856		B-17G		RZI

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/639]

67x RZI departures/62x RZI arrivals.				
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498 RZI so far.				
		38x B-17		RZI Meeks
		13x B-24		RZI Meeks
		OA-10	[5 ERS]	RZI Meeks
-				
43-38602	XR-P	B-17G	349 BS/100 BG	RZI Bradley 2.6 'Grumblin Gremlin II'
	S	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O D A Deighton from Limavady
		Anson I*	[4[O]AFU]	Diversion from West Freugh
*Diverted in 02:20 due to illness of the pilot who was admitted to Station Sick Quarters.				
NA729		Wellington X	10 OTU	Diversion F/O H V Pearce
Diverted in at 02:00 after suffering engine failure whilst on a cross country flight from Abingdon.				

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May 1945 [AIR 27/1614/34][AIR 28/874]**

41x RZI departures to Iceland/40x arrivals from UK bases.				
539x RZI despatched in May.				
With the flow of departing USAAF aircraft the road delivered fuel supplies could not be sustained. Arrangements were made to bring railway fuel wagons to the ash siding 1nm SE of the Airfield which would top up the USAAF & RAF bowsers direct.				
		33x B-24		RZI Meeks
		8x B-17		RZI Meeks
-				
		Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	P/O W A Britton, buoy inspection
42-52616	QK-R+	B-24H	66 BS/44 BG	RZI 'Glory Bee' [98M] Lt N Nutt
				
Taxying out for departure from Runway 20. [Valley Aviation Society]				
	NB-	B-24[H]	67 BS/44 BG	RZI 1/Lt Gene Williams





65 Mission tally ? each line would represent possibly 25 ? Possible contenders are:  
 42-50741 no nose art [63M] & 42-50795 no nose art [60M]  
 It carries the 'Eight Ball' 44<sup>th</sup> BG insignia on the nose.  
 [Valley Aviation Society]

#### June 1945 ?

TRANSAT so far:

1158x USAAF aircraft departed to the US as part of 'Project White'/'Operation Home Run'.

129x other USAAF movements.

Typically, departures were 08:00-11:00 and arrivals 13:00-1600.

824x to Meeks Field, Iceland.

329x to Lagens, Azores.

56x USAAF shuttles arrived in June.

650 Sqn detachment finishes?

44 Group Bramcote Dakota shuttle operates most days.

#### June 1945

44-10528		B-24J*	707 BS/446 BG	RZI 'Goin' My Way'
*Declared unsafe on arrival in the USA.				

#### June 1945

42-51238	DC-T+	B-24J	577 BS/392 BG	RZI [72M] from Hethel.
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Just crossing the railway line landing on Runway 20 [Valley Aviation Society]

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

59x RZI to Iceland/63x arrivals from UK bases. 1528 BAT Flight transferred from 44 Gp to 4 Gp. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
Ballantyne flew the following Oxfords with 1528 BAT Flight 1-5.6.45 PH372 PH392 PH393 PH394 PH395				
		24x B-17		RZI Meeks
		32x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
42-97249	N8-P	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 6.6 'How was it? Well?' [112M]
42-102507	N8-F	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 4.6 [91M]
42-102519	N8-A	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI [88M]
42-102596	3O-N	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 4.6 'Doodit' [74M]
42-107190	3O-L	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 4.6 'Maxine' [82M]
43-37874	3O-W	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 6.6 'Georgia Peach' [54M]
43-38064	3O-H	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 6.6 'Umbriago' [89M]
43-38754	K8-A	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 9.6 [49M]
43-38794	K8-J	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 6.6 [59M]
44-6157	N8-W	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 6.6 'Leapin Lizzy' [91M]
44-6933	N8-H	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 6.6 [35M]

44-8031	3O-K	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 4.6 [54M]
	O	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	P/O J Greenslade
From & to Limavady.				
	A	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L D O'Shea buoy inspection

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1945** [398<sup>th</sup>.org][AIR 27/1614/36][Roundel 85-05][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AVIA 1/17]

63x RZI departures/62x arrivals 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
		28x B-17		RZI Meeks
		34x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
621642	D5+GH	Ju.88G-7a	1/NJG.3	From Gormanston, Ireland
Landed at Gormanston, Ireland 3.4.45 [or 5.5.45 ?] by a defecting Luftwaffe crew. They were one of three aircraft but the other two failed to reach the UK. Handed over to the British Government and ferried to RAE Farnborough by L/Cdr Eric Brown on 2.6 landing at 21:50, allocated UK serial VK888. An escort of 3 Spitfires is also mentioned. Eric Brown in his book 'Wings on my sleeve' mentions setting course for Anglesey and picking up a flight of Spitfires to Farnborough. Eric Brown and the Technical Staff from Farnborough arrived at Gormanston in Oxford PH191. AVIA 1/17 the Farnborough ATC log only mentions arriving from Gormanston so most probably an overflight only of Anglesey.				
				
Seen here on the ground at Gormanston, Ireland. [Wings over Ireland by Donal MacCarron via Ken Richards]				
	S	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O F G Reynolds from Limavady
		[Sea Otter I]	281 Sqn	
Scrambled to a position E of the IoM but were recalled by 15 Group as a seaplane tender had picked up the pilot from the sea.				
42-38208		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 'Lily Belle' [0M]
42-97510		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
42-97546		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 'Idaliza' [0M]
42-97557		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
42-97860		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 9.6
42-102593	K8-C	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 'Vonnie' [108M]

42-107181		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 15.6 [0M]
43-37575		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 14.6 [0M]
43-38127		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 9.6 'Gee and Bee' [0M]
43-38429		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
43-38532		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
43-38563		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 8.6 [0M]
43-38564	N8-X	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [57M]
43-38609		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
43-38620	3O-F	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [54M]
43-38627	K8-Z	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 'Wonderboy' [60M]
43-38645	[PU-M]	B-17G	360 BS/303 BG	RZI 1/Lt Thomas L Guice Pilot [0M]
43-38661	3O-P	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI [37M]
43-38669	N7-G	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 8.6 [56M]
43-38672		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
43-38775	K8-H	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [86M]
43-38842		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
43-38951	N7-B	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [52M]
43-38970	N7-A	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [42M]
43-39028	[BO-O]	B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M] ex 306BG
43-39038	N7-Q	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [22M]
43-39137	N8-H	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [2M]
43-39242	N7-F	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 'Line County Express' [16M]
43-39293	N7-J	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 8.6 'The Little Princess' [30M]
43-39318	N7-P	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 'Bebe' [6M]
44-6515		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
44-6516		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
44-6517		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
44-6885	K8-M	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 6.6 [43M]
44-8318		B-17G	/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [0M]
44-8500	K8-F	B-17G	602 BS/398 BG	RZI Hobbs Field 7.6 [45M]
44-8630	N7-U	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [31M]
44-8699	N8-Q	B-17G	600 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 1.6 [36M]
44-83458	3O-N	B-17G	601 BS/398 BG	RZI Bradley 7.6 [4M]
398 BG were based at Nuthampstead, the Group were now returning to the USA.				

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No RZI movements, postponed due to weather.  
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH393/PH394/PH395.

		Wellington	[105 OTU]	Diversion from Nuneaton
		C-47		Diversion from Bovington

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

61x RZI to Iceland/69x arrivals from UK bases pm. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH393/PH394/PH395.				
		54x B-17		RZI Meeks
		7x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
	B	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L J F Irvine from Limavady
	F	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L J F Irvine to Limavady
44-8824		B-17G	457 BG	RZI [ex. 303 BG]

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

60x RZI to Iceland/No arrivals from UK bases. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH393/PH394.				
		55x B-17		RZI Meeks
		5x B-24		RZI Meeks

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874]

63x B-17/24x arrivals from UK bases.				
	B	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L E C Hallam to Limavady
	S	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O J Greenslade from Limavady
43-38086	N7-L	B-17G	603 BS/398 BG	RZI 'Bad Penny' [52M]

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [movement order\*][AIR 28/874]

106x RZI departed/68x arrivals.				
		58x B-17		RZI Meeks
		7x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
44-40273	J4-T	B-24JAZ*	/458 BG	RZI Bradley Crew 26 1/Lt C G Johnson
44-50577	7V-H	B-24M	/458 BG	RZI Bradley Crew 24 Capt J W Moran

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/494]

48x RZI to Iceland/62x arrivals [351 BG from Polebrook?] B-17G 44-8639 351 BG failed to make it to Valley and crashed 4nms SE of Arthog, Llanbedr, see below. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH394.				
		78x B-17		RZI Meeks
44-6884	LL-N	B-17G	401 BS/91 BG	RZI Meeks 'Blitz Baby'



[James B Tunison & Paulette Starz Collection]

43-38901	LG-T	B-17G	322 BS/91 BG	RZI Meeks 'Stardust' [47M]
Most probably these 2 were one of the 78 above, from Bassingbourn.				
		6x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
PH395		Oxford I	1528 BAT	W/O Furler
To & from Halton with a CASEVAC.				
		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	Search for survivors 4 sorties
-				
44-8639		B-17G	509 BS/351 BG	OS 116/645122
<p>Departed from its base at Polebrook to transit to Valley and the following day to re-deploy to the US [RZI] Whilst approaching Valley in low visibility it requested a course to steer. However, it flew the reciprocal and flew inland towards Dolgellau. After a short while the crew realised the error and turned back towards Valley but struck high ground just below the summit of Craig Cwm Llwyd on the Southern side of the Mawddach Estuary at 10:30. All 10 crew plus 10 passengers were killed. The aircraft was originally assigned to the 422 BS/305 BG but for the journey home to the US it was transferred to the 351 BG on 23.5.45 This crash is sometimes attributed to B-17G 44-6005 but 44-8639 is the correct serial. On 12.9.54 the Valley MRT Section found a silver identification bracelet bearing the inscription 'Howard R Hibbard' and 'Eileen' on the reverse, it was handed over to OC Flying Wing &amp; onward to HQ USAAF UK.</p> <p>*Buried at the American War Cemetery, Maddingley, Cambridge.</p>				
Pilot	1/Lt	Howard R Hibbard		Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
Co-pilot	Capt	Joseph Culbertson Robinson		Killed [San Antonio]
Nav	Capt	Joseph A Glover Jr		Killed* 509 BS/351 BG

CC/Eng	M/Sgt	John Q Montgomery	Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
R/Op	T/Sgt	Max Marksheid	Killed
Gunner	S/Sgt	Santo Angelo Caruso	Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
Gunner	T/Sgt	Kenneth W Craumer	Killed 509 BS/351 BG
Gunner	Sgt	David I Rapoport	Killed
Gunner	T/Sgt	Lester Augustus Frederick Rhein	Killed
Gunner	S/Sgt	Robert E Smith	Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
Pax	1/Lt	Richard Eugene Higley	Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
Pax	S/Sgt	Teed Orman Smith	Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
Pax	S/Sgt	Morris Lemewski	Killed
Pax	T/Sgt	Paul Lucyk DFC	Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
Pax	Sgt	Edwin Raymond Birtwell	Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
Pax	Sgt	Sheldon Reynolds Coons Jnr	Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
Pax	Sgt	Camille Francis Devaney	Killed 509 BS/351 BG
Pax	Sgt	Boyd P Dobbs	Killed* 509 BS/351 BG
Pax	Sgt	John Daniel Leasure	Killed
Pax	Cpl	Calvert G Pool	Killed

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [movement order\*][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AW]

62x RZI to Iceland/81x arrivals [467 BG]				
The Movement Order states 9.6 but the actual movement may have been over a couple of days for all the aircraft as opposed to the single day.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH394/PH395.				
		56x B-17		RZI Meeks
		7x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
44-49340		B-24LSH	788 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#1
42-50641		B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#2
44-48816	X7-S	B-24JSH	788 BS/467 BG	RZI 12.6 Crew#4 'Ginnie'
44-10600	X7-E	B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#5 'Piccadilly Commando'
42-50816		B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#6
44-40155	X7-C	B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#7 'Feudin Wagon'
42-50674		B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#8
44-50325		B-24MSH	788 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#9
42-95239		B-24H	788 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#10
42-94986	X7-W	B-24H	788 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#11 'III*Special'
44-40211	X7-M	B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#12 'Miss Irene'
42-50621		B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#13
44-90190		B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#14
44-48852	4Z-K	B-24JSH	788 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#15
42-50611	X7-E	B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#16
42-51589		B-24J	788 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#17 1/Lt T M Wheeler



42-95187	6A-U	B-24J	789 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#1
44-49513		B-24LSH	789 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#2
42-52590	6A-M	B-24H	789 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#3 'E Plurbis Aluminium'
Crew#3 part of crew W Scott. Departed 10.6 from Rackheath?				
41-28976		B-24H	789 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#4
42-110168	6A-K	B-24J	789 BS/467 BG	RZI 12.6 Crew#5
42-95159		B-24H	789 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#6
44-10601	X7-A	B-24J	789 BS/467 BG	RZI 17.6 Crew#7 'Rosalyn'
44-10598	6A-C	B-24J	789 BS/467 BG	RZI 12.6 Crew#8
44-50573	6A-L	B-24MSH	789 BS/467 BG	RZI 12.6 Crew#9
42-95032		B-24H	789 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#11
44-50674		B-24MSH	789 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#12
42-51289		B-24J	789 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#13
44-48860	4Z-B	B-24JSH	789 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#14
42-50846		B-24J	789 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#15
44-10488	6A-B	B-24J*	789 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#16 'Massilon Tiger'
*Crew#16 1/Lt E W King, to Bradley, also says departure to Valley on or around 9.6				
44-10502	6A-H	B-24J	789 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#17
42-51671	4Z-S	B-24JSH	789 BS/467 BG	RZI 12.6 Crew#18
42-95004		B-24H	789 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#19 1/Lt R E Jacobsen
44-10596	Q2-J	B-24J	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#1 'Ramrocket'
42-52303		B-24H	790 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#2 'Topper'
42-95237	4Z-U	B-24H	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#3 'Normandy Queen'
Crew#3 1/LT W J Bartelt via Bradley.				
42-52394	Q2-F	B-24H	790 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#4 'Scrapper'
42-94943	X7-U	B-24H	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#5
42-51832	4Z-Z	B-24JSH	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 12.6 Crew#6 'School Daze'
42-50950	4Z-I	B-24JSH	790 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#7
44-10552	Q2-L	B-24J	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#8
42-51204		B-24H	790 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#9
42-52534	Q2-M	B-24H	790 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#10 'Witchcraft' [130M]
42-51280	Q2-G	B-24J	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#12 'Little Chum'
42-29378	Q2-B	B-24H	790 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#13
44-50668	4Z-K	B-24MSH	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 12.6 Crew#14 'P'Noach' [0M]
42-95057	Q2-A	B-24H	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#15 'Angel'
42-50949	4Z-M	B-24JSH	790 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#16
44-50250	4Z-E	B-24LSH	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 12.6 Crew#17
42-95224	Q2-C	B-24H	790 BS/467 BG	RZI 12.6 Crew#18 'Lonely Heart'
42-95073		B-24H	791 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#1
42-94910	4Z-E	B-24H	791 BS/467 BG	RZI 11.6 Crew#2
42-50737	X7-N	B-24J	791 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#3

44-40120	X7-X	B-24J	791 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#4 'That's all brother'
42-51282	4Z-W	B-24J	791 BS/467 BG	RZI 11.6 Crew#5
44-48820	4Z-L	B-24JSH	791 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#6 'Always a Winner'
44-50342		B-24MSH	791 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#7
42-50309	6A-P	B-24H	791 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#8 'Plow Jockey' or 'Tenofus'
[42-51665]		B-24LSH	791 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#9
42-52621		B-24H	791 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#10
[42-51665]		B-24LSH	791 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#11 same serial as crew#9?
44-50704		B-24M	791 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#12
42-51354	Q2-K	B-24J	791 BS/467 BG	RZI 11.6 Crew#13
44-50482	Q2-P	B-24M	791 BS/467 BG	RZI 11.6 Crew#14
42-50765	X7-N	B-24J	791 BS/467 BG	RZI Crew#15
42-95201	Q2-E	B-24H	791 BS/467 BG	RZI 10.6 Crew#16 'Stinker'
467 BG, 42-52534 'Witchcraft' was one of the last to leave, carried out a circuit before departing Rackheath. One aircraft departed Valley but returned with a gear problem, eventually departed 14.6 [or 16.6] via Azores, pilot J Coffee[y] 44-10601?				

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [W Scott memoir][AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

57x B-17/24x RZI to Iceland/62x arrivals. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
		49x B-24		RZI Meeks
		7x B-17		RZI Meeks
-				
	L	Warwick	281 Sqn	F/O F G Reynolds from Limavady
		C-54		Diversion Stephenville-Prestwick
Later departed to Orly.				
		C-54		From Goose
		B-24		'E'Plurbis Aluminium' dep 12.6

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [P Homan memoirs\*][AIR 27/2049][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

Only 28x RZI to Iceland due Valley weather. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH393/PH395.				
		28x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
PH395		Oxford I	1528 BAT	W/O Bettington from Hawarden
42-50727		B-24J*	/448 BG	RZI 1/Lt T B Horton
42-51075		B-24J*	/448 BG	RZI 'Linda Mae' P Homan
*Both Routed: Valley-Azores-Gander-Bradley, dep Valley around 12.6				
42-51288		B-24J	/448 BG	RZI 2/Lt F F Anderson
44-48805		B-24J*	/448 BG	RZI 'Leading Lady' N R McCluhan



44-50546		B-24M	/448 BG	RZI 2/Lt D M Ford
		Beaufighter IF	577 Sqn	F/L Dawes
From Wrexham Detachment, Co-operation sortie with Light Naval Forces. They operated 4 known Beaufighter aircraft [R2199/T4640/V8353/X7712]				
[PH395]		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Diverted to Hawarden
		Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	Diverted to Squires Gate
Both the Oxford & Sea Otter returned to Valley later in the day.				

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

32x RZI to Iceland but recalled back to Valley due to weather in Iceland/43x arrivals. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH393/PH395.				

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

72x RZI departures/46x arrivals [458 BG] 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
42-51179	J3-P	B-24H	755 BS/458 BG	RZI Crew#62 1/Lt F L Rhoades 'Dusty's Double Trouble'



Parked on what became the STCAAME flightline. [2AD Library]

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874]

No RZI departures/14 arrivals.				
	X	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O D Shepherd from Limavady

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][IBCCA]

48x RZI departures/43x arrivals.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
F/O E Gearon attended 1528 BAT 15-20.6.1945 he flew in Oxfords:				
PH372 PH374 PH392 PH395.				
PH374		Oxford I*	1528 BAT	
PH393		Oxford I*	1528 BAT	
*Collided whilst under groundcrew supervision outside N end of Hangar 3. PH374 was serviceable again the next day 16.6. PH393 was awaiting ribs for the fin repair on 27.6				

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][F78]

30x RZI departures/33x arrivals.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
	X	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O F G Reynolds from Limavady
		Wellington XIV	458 Sqn	Ex MAAF
HF340		Wellington XIV	[458 Sqn]	Ex MAAF
HF404		Wellington XIV	[458 Sqn]	Ex MAAF
[HF414]		Wellington XIV	[458 Sqn]	Ex MAAF
First 4 aircraft handed over by their Australian crews to be collected later by ATA [Air Transport Auxiliary] and taken to Maintenance Unit[s]. During May the Sqn were operating the following aircraft: NB881 NB883 NB888 NB890 NB891:F NC490 HF404 HF414 [Other known serials for 458 Sqn XIV's are: MP797/799/810/820 NB768/769/810/820/853/869/886/889/921]				
		?	[44 Gp]	
New AOC 44 Gp, A/Cdre L T Pankhurst from Prestwick, departed later to Staverton.				

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

29x RZI to Azores/31x arrivals from East Anglia. [26x aircraft from 491 BG went home via Prestwick, see 18/19.6 for Valley] 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH394.				
		Wellington XIV	458 Sqn	From St Mawgan, see 16.6
		Wellington XIV	458 Sqn	
		Wellington XIV	458 Sqn	
		Wellington XIV	458 Sqn	
		Wellington XIV	458 Sqn	
42-51192	RT-T	B-24H*	706 BS/446 BG	RZI 'Little Hutch' Capt J B Mattson
*1 of 18 aircraft, all departed 18.6				
42-110018		B-24J	566 BS/446 BG	RZI 'Galloping Katie'
Disappeared enroute Valley-Azores, 15 killed [9 crew/6 pax]. <b>A Dakota reported seeing survivors 350nms NW of Cape Finisterre.</b> Various Warwick ASR aircraft from 179 Sqn were involved in the search, but nothing was seen apart from an old empty dinghy which turned out to be an old Merchant Navy Raft. The search was discontinued after 22.6 [MACR 14638]				
Pilot	Capt	Lee <b>Arthur</b> Silbo		704 BS/446 BG
Pilot	1/Lt	Ransford <b>Waldo</b> Kellogg		566 BS/389 BG
	1/Lt	Wilbur <b>William</b> Ost		704 BS/446 BG
	F/O	John Youkin Davis		566 BS/389 BG
	F/O	William A McKay		566 BS/389 BG
	T/Sgt	Howard <b>George</b> Ringer		566 BS/389 BG
	T/Sgt	Henry M Grisco		566 BS/389 BG
	S/Sgt	Joseph J Brozek		566 BS/389 BG
	S/Sgt	Harold B Selleg		566 BS/389 BG
	S/Sgt	Alphonse J Terenzio		566 BS/389 BG

	Sgt	Charles <b>Otis</b> Burch	566 BS/389 BG
	Sgt	James F McCarthy	566 BS/389 BG
	Sgt	John <b>Andrew</b> De Zeeuw	704 BS/446 BG
	Cpl	Solomon R Hasson	704 BS/446 BG
	Pte	Arthur G Randall	704 BS/446 BG

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

18x RZI to Azores & 58x RZI to Iceland/96x arrivals from UK bases. 491 BG 07:44 28x aircraft left their base for Valley. 491 BG 13:01 10x aircraft left their base for Valley. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH394/PH395.				
		2x B-17		RZI Meeks
		55x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
		[Oxford]	1516 BAT	S/L Cross visit, by air?
		Wellington XIV	458 Sqn	See 16.6
		Wellington XIV	458 Sqn	See 16.6
		Wellington XIV	458 Sqn	See 16.6
		28x B-24	/491 BG	RZI
		10x B-24	/491 BG	RZI

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [154 aircraft arrived, 64 departed][AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

From Valley ORB. 195x RZI out/101x arrivals. 491 BG 17x aircraft left their base at 06:17 for Valley, see also 18.6. The TRANSAT ORB mentions 71x out/161x in. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH394/PH395.				
		6x B-24		RZI Meeks
		8x B-17		RZI Meeks
		33x B-17		RZI Blue West 1
		12x B-24		RZI Blue West 1
-				
	X	Warwick	281 Sqn	F/L E C Hallam from Limavady
DD611		Mosquito NFII	51 OTU	From Cranfield
Emergency landing, port engine fire, crew ok.				
-				
42-97280	SG-O	B-17G	550 BS/385 BG	'Haybag Annie'



Overshot the runway on landing due to defective brakes, damaging the undercarriage, propellers and fuselage, beyond repair. 20 onboard, 3 injured. From Great Ashfield. Capt R G Gunn? Salvaged 26.6.45 [James B Tunison & Paulette Starz Collection]

		17 x B-24	/491 BG	RZI
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**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No RZI movements.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH394/PH395.				
		Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	Scrambled 16:11, see below.
-				
44-11577	PI-M	P-51K	360 FS/356 FG	'Ginny III' Martlesham Heath
Departed at 15:50 for Martlesham Heath but suffered engine problems after take-off during a thunderstorm, crashed into the sea approx. 150yds from the beach, SW of the Airfield. The Sea Otter circled whilst swimmers recovered the pilot's body. The pilot was visiting his brother whose B-17 was at Valley. The 356 FG were based at Martlesham Heath.				
Pilot	Lt	Richard J Rensch		Killed [5 kills to his credit]

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874]

No RZI in or out				
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O D Shepherd from Limavady

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

91x RZI to Iceland/60x arrivals from UK bases.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
F/L L S Goodman attended 1528 BAT from 22-27.6.45 he flew in Oxfords: PH372 PH374 PH392 PH395				
		2x B-24		RZI Meeks
		89x B-17		RZI Meeks
-				
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	S/L P A Loweth from Limavady

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No RZI due to Meeks Field, due to Iceland being full! 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O F G Reynolds from Limavady

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

26x RZI to Azores/6x RZI to Iceland. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
		8x B-17		RZI Meeks
43-38736	GX-P	B-17G	548 BS/385 BG	RZI 'Maiden America'



Most probably one of the 8 above, parked on what is now the Jupiter flightline.  
[James B Tunison & Paulette Starz Collection]

		B-24		RZI Meeks
V4032		Oxford I		F/L Walter from Northolt
[V4032 is quoted by the Air Britain File as crashing in 1943 though]				

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

23x RZI to Azores/44x arrivals from UK bases. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L R K Nuttall from Limavady



**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

48x RZI out/52x arrivals. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No TRANSAT movements. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH394/PH395.				
PH392		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/O Sinclair visited Northolt

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][IBCCA]

No TRANSAT movements.				
	P	Liberator	1332 HCU	PD F/L Prowse
From & to Riccall, <b>radio range practice.</b>				

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 27/1614/36][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

56x RZI out/41x arrivals. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH394.				
		59x B-17		RZI to Meeks
-				
	Z	Wellington XIV	281 Sqn	W/O W T Barnes from Limavady

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

25x RZI to Azores/25x arrivals. Total redeployed US Bombers as of 23:59/30.6 was 1688. Nearly all sent off with 9 crew and 11 groundcrew as passengers. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392.				
		59x B-17		Present

**July 1945** [USAAF doc.]

<p>TRANSAT</p> <p>649 aircraft to the US, composed of:</p> <p>248x B-17</p> <p>115x B-24</p> <p>195x C-46</p> <p>55x C-47</p> <p>2x C-53</p> <p>34x USN PB4Y</p> <p>100 of the above B-17/24 were from Sweden/Switzerland where they had been interned.</p>				
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**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

26x RZI out/37x arrivals. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH394.				

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AW][RE on Flickr]

26x RZI out/29x arrivals.

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH394/PH395.

49-95276

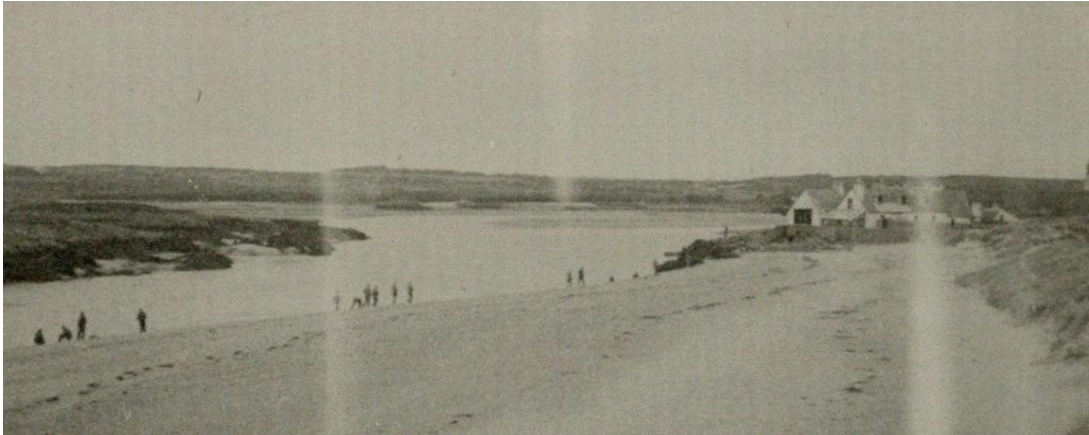
B-24H

[458 BG]

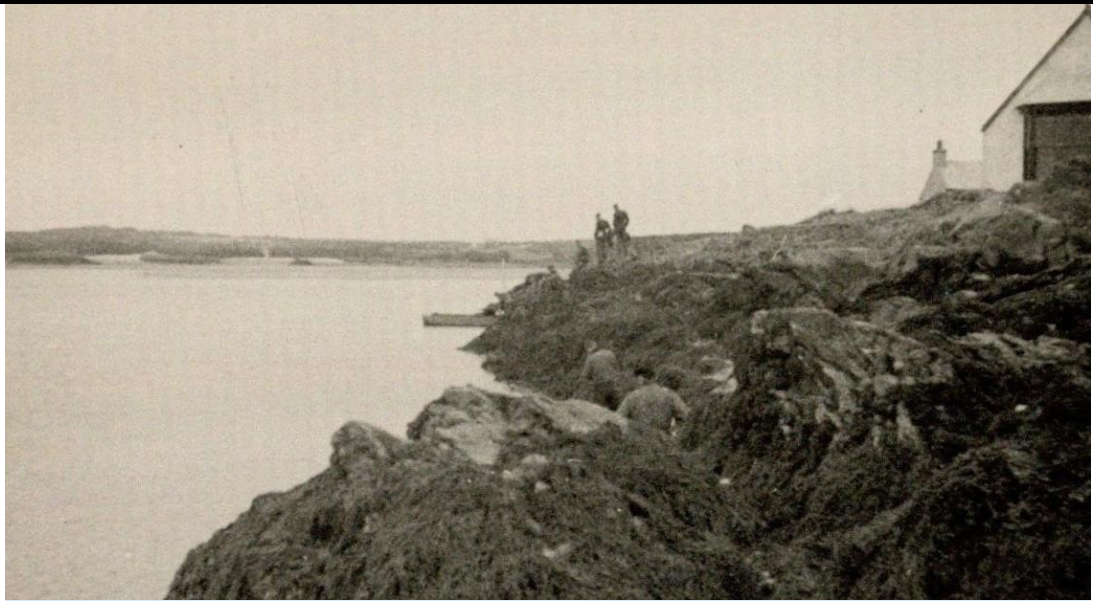
2/Lt Wroten

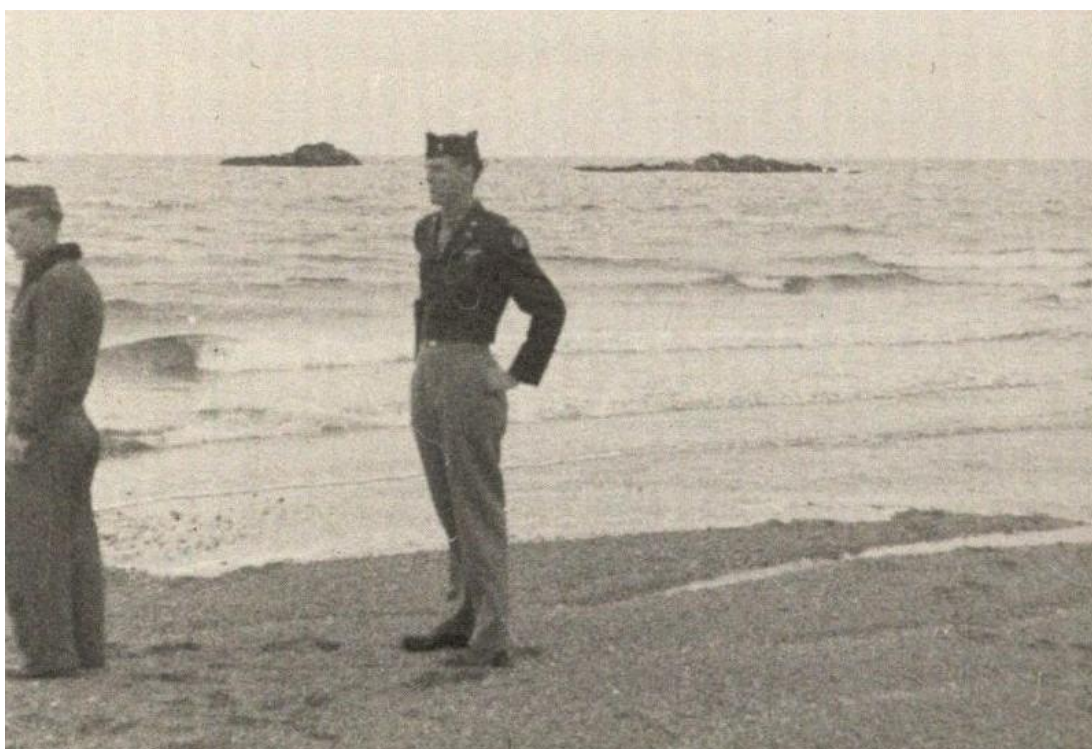
Arrived with a war weary aircraft, departed to the US 7.7, delayed due to bad weather. Normally the crews/aircraft were only present for a maximum of 24 hours before departing to Iceland. However, this Crew were present for a few days due to inclement weather. They took the opportunity to walk around the Beach behind the dispersals at Valley. Here are a before/after set of images from 1945 & 2025.

These are taken on the Beach behind the Texan flightline.









**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No mention in the ORB of any US movements.  
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH394/PH395.



	S	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O S Taylor from Limavady
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**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No RZI movements. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
	S	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O S Taylor to Limavady

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

33x RZI out but another 30x were unable to leave due to fog at Valley. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH394/PH395.				
		33x B-17		RZI Meeks

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874]

13 RZI to Iceland				
		3x B-17		RZI Meeks

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 27/2353/2][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AW]

16x RZI to Iceland/45x arrivals from Lavenham [487 BG]/Sudbury [486 BG]. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH394.				
		14x B-17		RZI Meeks
		2x B-24		RZI Meeks
42-95276		B-24H	[458 BG]	458 BG crew RZI to Meeks

7 JULY 1945 MECKS 458 BG (H) B-24-H

DATE STATION GROUP NO. AND TYPE AIRCRAFT MODEL

HIMES ROBERT W. S/SGT. 42-95276

CREW CHIEF OR AERIAL ENGINEER SQUADRON NO. AND TYPE AIRCRAFT SERIAL NO.

PERS. CLASS	PRINT PLAINLY NAME - RANK - ORGANIZATION	USE AS DIRECTED LOCALLY	ALWAYS ENTER DUTY SYMBOLS. WHEN APPLICABLE, ENTER N - NIGHT OR I - INSTRUMENT. ENTER TIME FLOWN THEREUNDER				FLIGHT DATA		
			DUTY	N OR I	DUTY	N OR I	TERMINALS AND MISSION	TIME	
18	WROTEN, DONALD J. 2nd Lt. 0-271304	174	PAI	4	4:15	:	:	FROM: VALLEY 10:25	
18	CHURCH, HUBERT M. 2nd Lt. 0-2065636	CP	6:15	:	:	:	:	TO: MECKS 16:40	
18	WALSH, THOMAS E. 1st Lt. 0-3063261		6:25	:	:	:	:	MISSION: F NO. OF LADIES 1 6:35	
18	KRATZER, CARL G. 1st Lt. 0-2713404	B	6:35	:	:	:	:	FROM: TO:	

This was a War Weary aircraft which arrived at Valley 3-4 days prior but delayed departure due to weather. Departed 10:25 arriving at Meeks 16:40. Pilot 2/Lt D Wroten.

-				
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L A T Good from Limavady
		Spitfire IX	FCCS	AVM Amhler from & to Northolt

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

58x RZI out/76x B-17/24 arrivals. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
		B-24		RZI Meeks
		28x B-17		RZI Meeks
		B-17		RZI Patterson Field
-				

	X	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L G A Jeffcott from Limavady
42-31347	[XR-K]	B-17G	/490 BG	RZI Bradley 12.7 ex 349 BS/100 BG
42-38047	[EP-O]	B-17G	/490 BG	RZI Independence 21.7 'Little Mommy' ex. 351 BS/100 BG

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/688]

59x RZI to Iceland/35x arrivals from East Anglia. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
105[Transport]OTU starts a daily shuttle service: Nuneaton-Valley-Crosby on Eden-Riccall-Nuneaton. <b>These were the shuttle times:</b> Nuneaton dep 10:00 Valley arr 11:10 Valley dep 11:50 Crosby arr 13:00 Crosby dep 14:40 Riccall arr 15:35 Riccall dep 16:15 Nuneaton arr 17:00				
		46x B-17		RZI Meeks
43-37928	3R-S	B-17G	832 BS/486 BG	RZI Meeks
Suffered a taxi accident at Meeks Field, Iceland enroute to USA, to Bradley 12.8 One of the above 46 departures.				
		10x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
	X	Warwick	281 Sqn	F/O F G Reynolds from Limavady
		B-24*	/44 BG	1/Lt Gene Williams
*Last 8 <sup>th</sup> Air Force B-24 aircraft to leave.				

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

36x RZI out/17x arrivals. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
		19x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
	X	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O F G Reynolds to Limavady
[42-51]194		B-24[H]		

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

22x RZI [Bombers] to Iceland. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH394.				
		11x B-24		RZI Meeks
		7x B-17		RZI Meeks
		4x C-46		RZI Meeks

-				
		Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L A S Emck from Limavady
		C-46	[9 AF]	To Prestwick then Iceland
Beginning of the C-46 arrival/departures, they flew to Prestwick to top up with fuel for the crossing to Iceland. C-47's did not require to go to Prestwick. C-46 carried 15 passengers and the C-47 10 passengers.				

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

50x RZI to Iceland. 36x C-46/47 from Europe. 23x B-17/24/C-46 from Burtonwood/Warton.				
		6x B-24		RZI Meeks
		B-17		RZI Meeks
		7x C-47		RZI Meeks
		31x C-46		RZI Meeks
-				
PH374		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Visited Staverton CASEVAC.
		C-47		[9 AF]
Maj Gen Paul L Williams, 9 <sup>th</sup> AF Troop Carrier Command visited Col Cochran.				

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

8x B-24 RZI to Azores/11x C-46 from Europe & 26x C-46 from Warton. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
	X	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O L A Deighton from Limavady

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

8x B-24 RZI Azores/10x arrivals from Warton. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No mention of any RZI movements in Valley ORB. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

Valley ORB only mentions USAAF movements were delayed due to weather. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH395.				
		Liberator VIII	53 Sqn	Diversion from St David's
Only mention in 53 Sqn ORB is 2 diversions at night.				

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/2354/5]

70x RZI to Iceland/73x arrivals from UK bases. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH394/PH395.				
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		55x C-46		RZI Meeks
		12x B-24		RZI Meeks
		2x B-17		RZI Meeks
-				
		?	281 Sqn	
Provided SAR cover in the Irish Sea for the King's visit to N Ireland.				
			85 Gp Comms Sqn	
Routed: B.61 [St Denis]-Valley-Aldergrove-York-Gatwick-B.61				

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/2354/5]

19x B-24 RZI to Iceland/25x C-46 from France. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH393.				
		5x B-24		RZI Meeks
		B-17		RZI Meeks
		13x PB4Y		RZI Meeks
		?	85 Gp Comms Sqn	
Routed: B.61[St Denis-Westrem, Ghent, Belgium]-Valley-B.61.				

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

Valley ORB makes no mention of any US movements.				
PH374		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/L Poole visited Northolt
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L J Drummond from Limavady
		?	281 Sqn	
Provided SAR cover in the Irish Sea for a VVIP flight from N Ireland, see 17.7.				

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/1046/33]

27x RZI out/45x arrivals. Also mentions 61x to UK bases. [Valley ORB] 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
		11x PB4Y		RZI Meeks
		4x B-17		RZI Meeks
		7x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
	X	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L R K Nuttall from Limavady
		Oxford	157 Sqn	F/L Ivey from & to Swannington
Described in the 157 Sqn ORB as a ferry flight, the Sqn disbanded in August.				

**Late July 1945**

34x PB4Y from Dunkeswell. 100x B-17/B-24 from Sweden/Switzerland.				
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**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No Flying [Valley ORB] 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH395.				
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**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No mention of any US movements in Valley ORB. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH393/PH395.				

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/2354/5]

18x RZI out/50x US flights to Prestwick. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH393/PH394/PH395.				
		12x B-24		RZI Meeks
		4x B-17		RZI Meeks
-				
PH393		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Visited Halfpenny Green
	P	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O D F Shepherd
From and to Limavady.				
		?	85 Gp Comms Sqn	
Routed: B.55 [Wevelghem]-Valley-Aldergrove-Church Fenton-B.61				
-				
41-29369	4Z-H+	B-24H	791 BS/467 BG	RZI
Departed RZI for Meeks Field, Iceland. Port outer engine caught fire which then became uncontrollable, this caused the wing outboard of the engine to fail. Failed wing then hit the tail which was severed. Crashed near Stonefield, Tarskavaig, Isle of Skye. All 14 onboard were killed.				
Pilot	1/Lt	William <b>Harmon</b> Bell		Killed 552 AAFBU
Co-Pilot	1/Lt	Theodore E Lundell		Killed 552 AAFBU
Nav	1/Lt	Albert L Harmonay		Killed 561 AAFBU
F/Eng	T/Sgt	Svend Edward Hansen		Killed 561 AAFBU
R/Op	S/Sgt	Robert <b>Roger</b> Bisbing		Killed 561 AAFBU
Passenger	F/O	Edward Grzesiek		Killed 436 TCG
Passenger	F/O	George W Baker		Killed
Passenger	F/O	Stephen A Fenwick		Killed 434 TCG
Passenger	F/O	Marvin Fleak		Killed <b>442 TCG</b>
Passenger	2/Lt	Arthur <b>Albert</b> Vogel		Killed <b>AAC</b>
Passenger	F/O	Eldon <b>Everett</b> Eads		Killed AAC
Passenger	F/O	Edward J Ruzala		Killed 1403 AFBU
Passenger	F/O	Wlibur <b>Leon</b> Titus		Killed 97 TCS/ <b>440 TCG</b>
Passenger	F/O	Newton <b>Draper</b> Stanley		Killed <b>93 TCS</b> /439 TCG

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

38x RZI to Iceland/76x USAAF arrivals from Orly. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH393/PH394.				
		36x C-47		RZI Meeks

		B-17		RZI Meeks
-				
		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	
Scrambled at 17:37 to search for a Martinet which had ditched near Barrow. The aircraft picked up one crewmember and landed at Millom. The other crewmember was believed saved by a DUKW amphibious vehicle from Barrow.				

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874]

17x RZI out/20x US from Dreux [Evereux] France.				
		11x C-47		RZI Meeks
-				
	P	Warwick ASR.1*	281 Sqn	F/L J Drummond
*From Limavady to Jurby.				
		Anson I	3[O]AFU	Diversion from Halfpenny Green
Engine trouble landed 21:50. Crew of 3 stayed overnight.				

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 27/2359/4][AIR 28/874]

7x RZI to Azores/7x US from France.				
	P	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L J Drummond from Limavady
LZ680		Proctor III	MCS	S/L Thomas from Bramcote 19:00

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 27/2359/4][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No mention of any US movements in Valley ORB. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH394/PH395.				
PH394		Oxford I	1528 BAT	
Forced landing due to engine problems near Caergeiliog at 14:10A, belly landed, aircraft badly damaged. Engine vibration apparently due to port nose cowling coming forward and fouling the propellor. The crew suffered slight abrasions and cuts but were not admitted to SSQ. Aircraft written off. Valley ORB mentions [PH]'373 as being the aircraft but 1528 Flt ORB & Valley's Senior Medical Officer refer to PH394.				
	F/O	J K Hill	Ok [C45682]	
	F/L	T Brown	Ok [107283]	
Pilot	F/O	C H Sinclair	Ok [153141]	
-				
LZ680		Proctor III	MCS	S/L Thomas to Hendon 11:00.
	J	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L R K Nuttall from & to Limavady
FM100		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM109		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM112		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM113		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM114		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM119		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM125		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
		Lancaster X		From Colerne



These were Canadian built Lancaster X's which were being modified and prepared for 'Tiger Force' which would have been the deployment of Bomber Command to the Far East to participate in the aerial bombing of Japan. This was cancelled after the surrender of Japan on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1945.

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

5x RZI to Azores. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH393.				
FM116		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM138		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM158		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][IBCCA]

5x B-17 & B-24 from Burtonwood [BAD 1] & Warton [BAD 2] 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH393.				
	PG-U	Lancaster B	[617 Sqn]	F/L Barker
Routed: Waddington-Cardiff-Valley-Waddington. [this flight was 'Tiger Force' training]				

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][IBCCA]

5x RZI to Azores. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford AB749/PH374/PH393/PH395. First mention of Oxford II AB749 on charge with 1528 BAT.				
	DX-T	Lancaster B.[III]	57 Sqn	X-country S/L M Beetham
Logbook entry: Base-Valley-Reading-Northants-Base, possibly just an overflight, no specifics in Sqn ORB. [Post War, 12/14 <sup>th</sup> May 1945 the Sqn were operating: ED374 LL935 LL940 LM114 LM231 LM582 ME845 ND977 NG355 PA332 PB261 PB262 PB297 PB844 PD282 RF179 RF202 RF596 SW256]				

**Late July 1945 ?**

100x B-17/24's Interned aircraft from Sweden/Switzerland.				
		34x PB4Y-1	[USN]	

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 1945** [AIR 27/1614/38][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][IBCC]

No mention of any US movements in Valley ORB. Total redeployment to US as of today 31.7 was 2237 aircraft. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393/PH395				
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O L A Deighton from Limavady
		Lancaster		From 218 MU, Colerne
		Lancaster		From 218 MU, Colerne
[NC]710	[C]	Wellington X	105 OTU	F/L Gregory
Routed: Bitteswell-Valley-Crosby on Eden-Riccall-Bitteswell Shuttle. See 9.7.45 for the Shuttle times.				

**August 1945** [AIR 29/611]

Daily shuttle service by 1381 CU Nuneaton-Valley-Crosby on Eden-Riccall.
--

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No mention of any US movements in Valley ORB. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH393/PH395.				
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O Corndy from & to Limavady

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1945** [AIR 28/874][F78][AIR 29/876/1]

61x RZI to Iceland/39x arrivals. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392, air test.				
		46x C-47		RZI Meeks Field
		12x C-53		RZI Meeks Field
		B-24		RZI Meeks Field
-				
FM152		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM160		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

No mention of any US movements in the Valley ORB. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH395.				
PH392		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Diverted to Mona due weather
PH395		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Diverted to Mona due weather

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/32][AIR 28/874][F78][AIR 29/876/1]

76x RZI to Iceland. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
		68x C-47		RZI Meeks
		2x B-17		RZI Meeks
		5x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
	Z	Wellington XIII	281 Sqn	F/L Nuttall from & to Limavady
KB790		Lancaster X		From 218 MU Colerne for storage
FM107		Lancaster X		From 218 MU Colerne for storage
FM108		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM129		Lancaster X		From 218 MU Colerne
FM137		Lancaster X		From 218 MU Colerne
FM144		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM145		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM156		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [Joe Baugher site][AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][F78][AIR 29/876/1]

29x C-47/B-24 RZI to Iceland/22x C-47 from Europe. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH395.				
		21x C-47		RZI Meeks

41-18505	6Z-U	C-47*	[96 TCS/440 TCG]	RZI part of the 21 above
*Departed to Meeks Field, Iceland but force landed 30nms SE of Reykjavik, lost at night due to fog.				
		4x B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
	J	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L Jeffcott from Limavady
	F	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L O'Shea
Visited Bishops Court.				
FM136		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM149		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan
FM154		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

21x A-26 from France, see below. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH395.				
	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O Greenslade from Limavady
		21x A-26	[386 BG ?]	
-				
41-39412		A-26B Invader*	552 BS/386 BG	From St Trond, Belgium.
*Crashed on final approach due to engine failure, pilot was thrown clear, but the aircraft was burnt out. Also quoted as 41-139421. Part of the 21 aircraft above. Also quoted as being from Great Dunmow, Essex.				
Pilot		Kenophon A Bennos	Ok	

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

2x RZI to Azores. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
	Z	Wellington XIII	281 Sqn	S/L Loweth from & to Limavady

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

50x US from Europe. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
	P	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L Emck from & to Limavady
		Lancaster		From St Athan [19/32 MU]
Crews arrived to fly the Lancasters held at Valley for Melton Mowbray [12 FU] <b>They remembered Valley as it rained a lot!</b> [one of the pilots who flew one of the Lancasters eventually to Melton Mowbray was F/L 'Flash' McCullah DFC.				

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874]

	Z	Wellington XIII	281 Sqn	W/C Miller from & to Limavady
	A	Sea Otter I*	281 Sqn	F/L Harkness
	F	Sea Otter I*	281 Sqn	F/L Wheatley
*Search for crashed Martinet aircraft 5336N 0304W, wreckage identified as tailplane.				

		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	
At 17:50 a US P-38 called 'Mayday' having ditched at 54.14N 005.00W, another P-38 circled the dinghy. The Sea Otter was scrambled and a HSL also sent to the position. All eventually arrived but the Sea Otter had problems with its water rudder. A fishing trawler arrived and picked up the survivor suffering from exposure and transferred him to the HSL which returned to Ballyhalbert. The P-38 & Sea Otter returned to base.				

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][F1180][AIR 29/876/1][IBCCA]

No mention of any US movements in Valley ORB. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH392/PH393/PH395.				
	Z	Wellington XIII	281 Sqn	F/L Jeffcott from & to Limavady
NC121		Wellington XIV*	[RAF Llandow]	W/O Blyfield
*From Llandow to pick up Lancaster FM143, which was flown to 38 MU Llandow. RAF Llandow Ferry Unit, Transport Command. Peter Thompson was the W/Op.				
FM143		Lancaster X		F/O Evans to Llandow, see above
FM152		Lancaster X	11 FU	F/L Pickler
Air test first then departed to Melton Mowbray. Probably one of the ones below.				
		4x Lancaster		To Melton Mowbray [12 FU?]
		3x Lancaster		
-				
		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	
		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	
Scrambled to aid in the search for a ditched Halifax. Later transpired the crew of 7 had been picked up by a Merchant vessel. [This is most probably Halifax III LW170 518 Sqn which ditched at 56.19N 011.15W as a result of a fuel leak. Pilot, S/L P C Piejus]				

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1x B-17 arrived for RZI from Burtonwood. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH393.				
	F	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	P/O Britton visited Ballykelly
DV340		Lancaster	11 FU	F/O Jenkins
From Melton Mowbray.				
		3x Lancaster		To Melton Mowbray [12 FU]

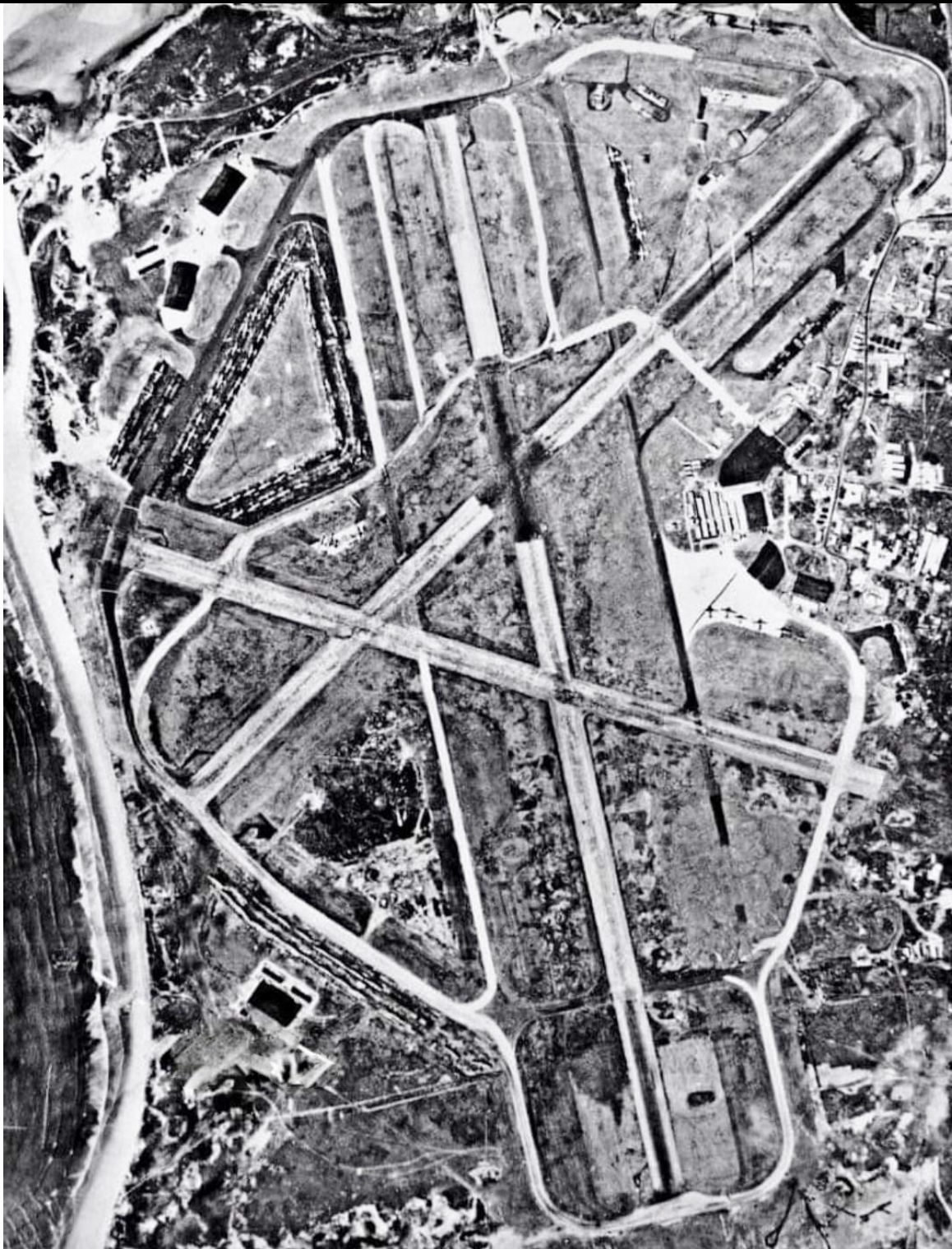
**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][F78][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/876/1]

No mention of any US movements in Valley ORB. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
PH393		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Taxying accident
	J	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	S/L Spurgeon from & to Limavady
		4x Wellington		Diversion at night
FM139		Lancaster X		From 32 MU, St Athan

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/2017/64]

3x RZl B-17 to Azores.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH395.				
		4x Lancaster	[12 FU]	To Melton Mowbray [12 FU]
FM154		Lancaster X	11 FU	F/L Pickler
To & from Melton Mowbray, one of the above.				
This photo shows the 9 <sup>th</sup> AF exodus via Valley with various types at the dispersal around the Airfield. The photo was taken on a sortie by a Spitfire PR.XIX of 542 Sqn based at Benson and piloted by F/L D H de P Lopes which covered Anglesey.				





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**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

3x A-26 to Marseilles.

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392.

PH372		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/L Poole visited Lossiemouth
	J	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L Emck from & to Ballykelly

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

VJ Day, all aircraft grounded apart from 281 Sqn & US Lodger Unit, no flying from 1528 BAT.				
	J	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L Greenslade from & to Ballykelly
	C	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/O MacDonald from Ballykelly

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

65x A-26 RZI to Iceland/16x C-47 from Europe. 1528 BAT Flight stood down for VJ Day.				
		59x A-26		RZI Meeks
		C-47		RZI Meeks
		B-24		RZI Meeks
-				
	Z	Wellington XIII	281 Sqn	S/L Spurgeon from & to Ballykelly

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][IBCCA]

19x C-47 & 4x A-26 RZI to Iceland.				
		7x C-53		RZI Meeks
		8x C-47		RZI Meeks
-				
PH372		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Visited Lossiemouth, see below
HM865		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Delivery from Lossiemouth
FM149		Lancaster X	16 FU	F/O Ribbins to Melton Mowbray
FM125		Lancaster X	11 FU	F/L Pickler to Melton Mowbray
		Lancaster		To Melton Mowbray
FM138		Lancaster X	11 FU	F/L Watson from Melton Mowbray
	A	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	Local sortie

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

2x RZI departures. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH395.				
		B-17		RZI Meeks
		C-47		RZI Meeks
FM138		Lancaster X	11 FU	F/L Harries to Melton Mowbray
KG373		Dakota III	1383 CU	F/O Harris daily shuttle

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1x B-17 RZI to Azores. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH395.				
	J	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	S/L Spurgeon from & to Ballykelly
	A	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonal buoy inspection

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH395.				
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	A	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine buoy inspection
	B	Sea Otter*	281 Sqn	F/L Hallam
	C	Sea Otter*	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine
*Involved in a search for 2 missing Mustang/P-51 aircraft.				
	Z	Wellington	281 Sqn	F/O Corney
From Ballykelly to Prestwick.				

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/2359/6][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH392/PH395 plus PH374 air test.				
-				
		A-26*		From France
*Crashed on landing after engine failure. No mention in Valley ORB.				
-				
LA621		Lockheed 12A	MCS	F/L Wintersdorff
Routed: Hendon-Exeter-Fairwood Common-Valley-Castle Kennedy-Prestwick-Turnhouse-Hendon. Arrived 12:49 & departed 16:04. Aircraft was ex. 42-38349.				
	C	Sea Otter*	281 Sqn	ASR search, F/L Hallam

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
NC666		Wellington X	105 OTU	F/L Watret
Shuttle service: Nuneaton-Valley-Crosby.				
	J	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	P/O Greenslade from & to Ballykelly
	C	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	Buoy inspection, F/L O'Shea
		Liberator*	111 OTU	Diversion Azores-Prestwick
*On its way to Iceland diverted into Valley while on the Azores-Prestwick leg due to engine trouble.				
		B-17		RZI Meeks

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/45][IBCCA]

	A	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine buoy inspection
	J	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	S/L Spurgeon from & to Ballykelly
		?	[EANS]	
W/C Haillie visited to arrange for Training Command aircraft from Shawbury to use the Valley radio beacon, visit by air?				
	E	Oxford	1527 BAT	PD from Prestwick F/L H Wickham

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

2x B-17 RZI to Iceland/1x B-17 from Paris.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392.				
	C	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Wheatley buoy inspection
		B-17		RZI Meeks
		B-17		RZI Meeks



**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374 plus HM865 air test.				
	J	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/L Nuttall from & to Ballykelly
	B	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine buoy inspection
		2x Lancaster		To Melton Mowbray [12 FU]

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45][AIR 29/473]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH372/PH374.				
	Z	Wellington	281 Sqn	F/L Emck from & to Limavady
	A	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Hallam buoy inspection
		B-17		RZI Meeks

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/2434/3][AIR 28/874][F78][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH372/PH374/PH392.				
	A	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald buoy inspection
-				
MM200		Mosquito B.XVI	139 Sqn	From Upwood
Single engine landing at 16:09Z but overshoot and slightly damaged the aircraft near the Runway 32 end. Struck off charge 3.10.45.				
Pilot	F/L	Finlay		Ok
Obs				Ok
-				
Based noted: Lancaster X FM145 11 FU local flight.				

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

No TRANSAT movements.				
1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH372/PH374/PH392.				
PH374		Oxford I	1528 BAT	Castle Bromwich-Horsham-Valley
	Z	Wellington	281 Sqn	S/L Spurgeon from & to Ballykelly
JM986	E	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine visited Ballyhalbert
		7x Anson I	[11 AGS]	Weather diversions from IoM

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 28/45]

	K	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	S/L Spurgeon from & to Limavady
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**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][F78][AIR 28/45]

FM136		Lancaster X		To Canada [from Valley?][12 FU?]
FM138		Lancaster X		To 39 MU Colerne, see 28.7.45
	F	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Hallam from Ballykelly

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August 1945** [AIR 27/1614/40][AIR 29/876/1]

RZI departures to date, 2498 aircraft.				
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1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH372/PH374/PH392.				
	S	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	W/O Barnes from & to Ballykelly

### September 1945 [AIR 29/611]

Daily shuttle service by 1381 CU Nuneaton-Valley-Crosby on Eden-Riccall.				
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### Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September 1945 [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1x C-47 to Frankfurt. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH372/PH374/PH392 and PH393 air test.				
		Halifax		Weather diversion
		C-47		To Frankfurt
	F	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald buoy inspection

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1945 [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH372/PH392/PH393.				
	C	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Wheatley buoy inspection

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1945 [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

No TRANSAT or Continental traffic. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH372/PH392/PH393.				
PH372		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/O Sinclair visited Pershore
	A	Sea Otter*	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald
	B	Sea Otter*	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine
	C	Sea Otter*	281 Sqn	F/L Harkness
	F	Sea Otter*	281 Sqn	F/L Hallam
*All 4 involved in a search for Oxford AB654 in Morecambe Bay, nothing seen. Also involved in the search were 281 Sqn Warwicks :P :R from Ballykelly and :J :S from Tiree.				

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 1945 [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH372/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	
Undercarriage problem and directed to make a water landing at Bangor.				
Based noted: Lancaster X FM141 11 FU local flight.				

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 1945 [AIR 28/874][AIR 28/45]

[LF377]		Hurricane		Weather diversion
		Hurricane		Weather diversion
Diverted in due to bad weather conditions between Silloth & High Ercall. Possibly 22 MU [Silloth] to 29 MU [High Ercall]				
	A	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	P/O Britton buoy inspection
Based noted: Lancaster X KB987 11 FU, 2 local air tests.				

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 27/2154/4][AIR 28/874]

HN144		Oxford I	631 Sqn	W/O Mills from & to Llanbedr
		Wellington XIV	Ex MAAF	To Doncaster [ex 458Sqn]
HF404		Wellington XIV	Ex MAAF	To Doncaster, see 16.6.45
	A	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald local sortie
Based noted: Lancaster 162 11 FU local air test.				

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 27/2359/8][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395 and HM865 air test.				
PH374		Oxford I	1528 BAT	W/O Bettington visited St Davids
P6248		Proctor I	MCS	G/C Bryer from Llanbedr 15:10
	B	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Wheatley buoy inspection

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 27/2359/8][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
P6248		Proctor I	MCS	G/C Bryer to Hendon 12:00
[NB]921		Wellington XIV	Ex MAAF	To Doncaster

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
[NB]891	[F]	Wellington XIV	Ex MAAF	To Doncaster
	C	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine buoy inspection
KJ702		Mitchell III	1 FU	F/L Bird
Routed: Pershore-Morton-Prestwick-Valley-Filton-Pershore.				

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395.				

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH393/PH395.				

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH393/PH395.				
	D	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald buoy inspection

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 28/45]

		?	44 Gp	
Several Staff Officers from 44 Group visited the Station, by air?				
	B	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Harkness buoy inspection

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
		Stirling		Diversion Stradishall-Castel Benito
		3x Liberator		Diversions from St Mawgan
		Wellington XIV	Ex MAAF	To Doncaster
		Wellington XIV	Ex MAAF	To Doncaster
	D	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Wheatley buoy inspection

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45][AIR 27/2443/10]

1528 BAT Flight redesignated 1528 RAT [Radio Aids Training] Flight. 1528 BAT Flight local flying with Oxford PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
RAF Valley 'Battle of Britain' Open Day. 14:00-18:00 NO Photography allowed. Approx. 7,000 visitors. *Flew PM, most of the aircraft departed 17.9				
		Anson		
		[Bearcat]	[NAS]	From Valley ORB, FAA Hellcat ?
		Beaufighter		
		Beaufort		
		UC-78 Bobcat		
		Dakota		
		Halifax*	[644 Sqn]	Glider Combination display
		Horsa*	[644 Sqn]	[F/S Banyard] [AIR 27/2159/35]
Not 100% clear, the 644 Sqn ORB mentions 'OdiRAFF', 'VallRAFF' & 'ThornRAFF' which most probably means Odiham, Valley & Thorney Island RAF Flypasts.				
		Hurricane*		
		Lancaster B.	115 Sqn	
		Lancaster B.	115 Sqn	
		Liberator		
		Mitchell		
		Mosquito		
		Mustang*		
PH393		Oxford I	1528 BAT	W/O Maskery
		Spitfire*		
		Stirling		
		Typhoon		
		Wellington		
-				
Non-Airshow traffic.				
HF340		Wellington XIV	[Ex MAAF]	To Doncaster, see 16.6.45.
	B	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald buoy inspection

**September 1945**

USAAF Movement Terminal closes.  
 1407<sup>th</sup> AAF Base Unit, European Division Air Transport Command ceased to function.  
 A few American personnel remained to man the radio range beacon approach system.

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395. Most of the visiting aircraft for the Open Day departed today [Valley ORB]				
		Wellington XIV	Ex MAAF	To Doncaster
		Wellington XIV	Ex MAAF	To Doncaster
		Wellington XIV	Ex MAAF	To Doncaster
		?	44 Gp	
W/C Rowell & W/C MacGibbon from HQ 44 Group visited, by air?				
	D	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Hallam visited Ballykelly

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
	[OZ-R]	Warwick V	179 Sqn	Diversion from St Eval
Landed after a distress call with Radar on fire, this was extinguished, and the aircraft later departed back to its base.				
	D	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L O'Shea buoy inspection
	L	Warwick*	281 Sqn	F/O Reynolds
*From Ballykelly to Aldergrove then onwards to Ballykelly.				

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH392/PH393/PH395.				

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 27/1614/42]

	9	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L Wheatley to Ballykelly
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**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 1945** [AIR 27/1614/42][AIR 28/874][F78][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH392/PH393.				
	7	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L Wheatley from Ballykelly
	6	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine buoy inspection
		Sea Otter*	281 Sqn	
*Gale force winds caused the Sea Otter to drag its moorings causing slight damage.				
FM113		Lancaster X		To 20 MU Aston Down, see 27.7.45
FM149		Lancaster X		To 20 MU Aston Down, see 5.8.45

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1945** [F78][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH392/PH393.				
FM137		Lancaster X		To 20 MU Aston Down, see 4.8.45
	Z	Wellington	281 Sqn	P/O Stephens from & to Ballykelly

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH392/PH393.				
	L	Warwick	281 Sqn	F/L Emck from & to Ballykelly

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 29/876/1]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395.				
	J	Warwick	281 Sqn	F/L Jeffcott
From Ballykelly to Machrihanish then Ballykelly.				

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH393/PH395.				
	7	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine visited Prestwick
	X	Warwick	281 Sqn	W/O Barnes from & to Ballykelly

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 28/45]

		Dakota	[44 Gp]	Shuttle from Nuneaton
	1	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Irvine buoy inspection

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

PH393		Oxford I	1528 BAT	F/O Goulden visited Kemble
		Dakota		PD from Melbourne
		Dakota		PD from Melbourne
[Nothing in 575 Sqn ORB which were based at Melbourne]				
	6	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L Hallam buoy inspection
	X	Warwick	281 Sqn	F/L Nuttall
From Ballykelly to Prestwick then Ballykelly.				

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH393/PH395.				
		Dakota		PD from Melbourne
		Dakota		PD from Melbourne
	2	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald buoy inspection
	X	Warwick	281 Sqn	F/L Jeffcott from & to Ballykelly

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH392/PH395.				
	2	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L O'Shea buoy inspection
	L	Warwick	281 Sqn	F/O O'Reilly,
From Ballykelly to Prestwick then Ballykelly.				

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 1945** [F78][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford HM865/PH374/PH392/PH395 and PH372 air test.				
FM152		Lancaster X		To 39 MU Colerne, see 2.8.45

FM156		Lancaster X		To 39 MU Colerne, see 4.8.45
	2	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald buoy inspection
	O	Warwick	281 Sqn	P/O Greenslade from & to Ballykelly

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 1945** [AIR 27/1614/44][AIR 28/874][AIR 28/45]

	O	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O Reynolds, from Ballykelly
		Warwick*	[JASS]	From Ballykelly
*Landed at 11:18 bursting a tyre, no damage though.				
	2	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/O Britton buoy inspection

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1945** [AIR 27/1614/44][AIR 28/874]

	L	Warwick ASR.1	281 Sqn	F/O Deighton from & to Ballykelly
		Anson I*	[11 AGS]	From Jurby
*Emergency landing due to engine failure, landed at 09:42 and returned to base pm.				

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1945** [F78][AIR 28/45][AIR 27/557/12]

FM154		Lancaster X		To 39 MU Colerne, see 5.8.45
	6	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L O'Shea buoy inspection
AB651		Oxford II	59 Sqn	F/O F W R Duffey
From & to Base.				

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 28/874][F78][AIR 28/45]

EB867		Oxford I*	1528 RAT	Delivery from 12 MU, Kirkbride
*Valley ORB mentions Kirkbride which does not exist, most probably 12 MU Kirkbride.				
FM125		Lancaster X		To 39 MU Colerne, see 27.7.45
FM129		Lancaster X		To 39 MU Colerne, see 4.8.45
	1	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald buoy inspection

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 28/45][AIR 29/473]

*Remaining Lancasters delivered to 22 MU, Sillioth.				
		?x Lancaster*		Remaining to 22 MU, Sillioth
		C-54		From Goose Bay to Orly
		C-47		Diversion from Burtonwood
KB790		Lancaster X		To 20 MU, Aston Down
	1	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	P/O Britton visited Bishops Court

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 27/1614/43][AIR 28/45]

	7	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L MacDonald visited Bishops Court
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**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 28/45]

	7	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L Wheatley buoy inspection
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**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 RAT Flight local flying with Oxford.				
LX777		Oxford I	1528 RAT	Delivery from 20 MU, Ashton Down
	1	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	F/L McDonald buoy inspection

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [F78][AIR 28/45]

FM107		Lancaster X		To 29 MU, High Ercall
FM158		Lancaster X		To 29 MU, High Ercall, see 28.7.45
	6	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	P/O Britton buoy inspection

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 27/1614/43][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

1528 RAT Flight moved to 1 Hangar and offices.				
HM811		Oxford I	1528 RAT	Delivery from Christchurch
	2	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	F/L MacDonald visited Bishops Court

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 28/874][F78]

1528 RAT carried out local flying.				
		B-24	[USAAF]	Landed heavily but no injuries
FM100		Lancaster X		To 22 MU, Sillioth
FM144		Lancaster X		To 22 MU, Sillioth, see 4.8.45

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AVIA 1/17]

FS902		Harvard IIB	ETPS	W/C Winfield
Was enroute Farnborough to East Fortune but landed at Valley.				

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 27/507/12]

KL622	H	Liberator VI	53 Sqn	F/L Stirling
This aircraft diverted in from Merryfield due to weather whilst enroute back from Poona, India on a trooping flight . Later departed to Merryfield.				
	2	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	P/O Britton to Ballykelly

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 27/1614/43][AIR 28/874]

	2	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	P/O Britton from Ballykelly
[LJ811]		Stirling [IV]	[299 Sqn]	From Marseilles at night, see 15.10
FS902		Harvard IIB	ETPS	To Farnborough, see 12.10

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 27/1654/38][AIR 28/45]

W/C C R Stewart assumes command of the Station.				
FZ651		Dakota	1381 CU	Daily shuttle
		Oxford	Stn Flt	Loaned to 1528 BAT Flight
[KG915]		Liberator [C.VI]	RAF	PD from Harwell
Carried out Gee approaches to Runway 14/32 to find out if Valley was suitable for such landings. Possibly from the Transport Command Development Unit which was based at Harwell at the time [including Liberator C.VI KG915]				
		2x B-24*		From Zurich



41-28583		B-24H	713 BS/448 BG	
Quoted as returning from Switzerland on this date, possibly one of the above 2.				
		C-45*		From Biggin Hill
*All 3 were diversions from Burtonwood.				
LJ811		Stirling IV	299 Sqn	Diversion F/L Plummer
Diverted in 12:55 whilst routing Istres-Shepherds Grove [Base], departed to Base same day.				
	6	Sea Otter	281 Sqn	P/O Britton buoy inspection

### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 1945 [F78]

FM109		Lancaster X		To 20 MU Aston Down
FM116		Lancaster X		To 22 MU, Silloth, see 28.7.45

### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 1945 [AIR 27/1614/43][AIR 29/876/1][AIR 28/45]

ED290		Oxford I		Delivery from 22 MU, Silloth
To be held and modified at Valley for 1556 RAT Flight when formed.				
	2	Sea Otter I	281 Sqn	P/O Britton to Ballykelly

### Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 1945 [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/611]

		6x ?		Weather diversions, dep 20.10
		Wellington	1380 CU	Diversion from Sleep
FM139		Lancaster X	11 FU	To & from Silloth

### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October 1945 [AIR 28/874]

		5x ?		Departed, see 19.10
FM146		Lancaster X	11 FU	To & from Silloth

### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1945

FM146		Lancaster X	11 FU	To & from Silloth
Routed: Valley-Silloth-Ballykelly.				

### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1945 [AIR 27/1614/43][AB MIL 3/93][AB MIL B/76][AIR 28/874][F78]

281 Sqn detachment ceased operationally.				
281 Sqn disbanded the following day 24.10.45.				
Last Sea Otter departed Valley for Ballykelly 27.10.45.				
Aircraft known to have operated on the Valley Detachment are:				
Sea Otter I:				
:A :B :C :D JM986:E :F :6 :7 :9 JM966:				
Aircraft known to have been operated by 281 Sqn:				
JM808 JM809 JM833 JM910 JM912 JM949 JM958 JM966 JM978 JM980 JM986				
Warwick:				
Aircraft known to have operated out of Valley are:				
GR.2 HG399 HG441 HG449				
Aircraft known to have operated with 281 Sqn:				
ASR.1 BV284 BV303 BV309 BV358 BV367 BV392 BV400 BV401 BV407 BV410 BV411 BV419				

BV438 BV439 BV440 BV473 BV516 HF963 HF981 ASR.4 HF986 ASR.5 HG116 HG117 HG119 HG120 HG136 HG145 HG151 HG169 HG170 HG172 HG176 HG193 HG213				
		B-24	USAAF	To Burtonwood, see 15.10 ex. Zurich
	C	Halifax III	517 Sqn	Diversion F/O Gunst landed 20:34
FM145		Lancaster X		To 22 MU, Silloth, see 4.8.45
FM146		Lancaster X	11 FU	To Silloth
FM159		Lancaster X	11 FU	To & from Silloth

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		Sea Otter	281 Sqn	Departed to Ballykelly, last one
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**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October 1945**

Based noted: Lancaster X FM159 11 FU local flight.				

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 1945**

FM159		Lancaster X	11 FU	To & from Silloth
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**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 1945** [AIR 28/874]

			[EANS]	
G/C Findlay from Shawbury visited to assess the suitability of Valley becoming a Navigation School, departed by air.				

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 1945** [AIR 29/876/1]

1528 RAT carried out local flying.				
LX634		Oxford I	1528 RAT	Delivery from Christchurch

**November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

British GCA/BABS system installed instead of the American SCS.51 system. American personnel were withdrawn at the end of the month.				
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**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 28/62]

1381 CU Dakota Shuttle operated 1-19.11 Nuneaton-Valley-Riccall-Nuneaton.				
			Civil	Diversion from Speke
			Civil	Diversion from Speke
			Civil	Diversion from Speke
Weather diversions: they all later departed to Speke & Croydon.				

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1945**

FM162		Lancaster X	11 FU	To & from Snaith
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**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		B-17		To Orly, Col Cochran*
*He was one of the first CO's of the TRANSAT Unit at Valley, see also 24.11.				

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		4x Dakota	4 Gp	Weather diversions from Nuneaton
Possibly from the Transport Command Air Crew Examining Unit or 105 OTU				

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		Mosquito	[107 Sqn]	Diversion Y99-Woodvale
Homed to Valley after becoming lost, later departed to Speke. Y99 was the Airfield code for what eventually became RAF Gutersloh in Germany.				

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		3x Beaufighter		From Melton Mowbray for storage
		Liberator		From Melton Mowbray for storage
		Proctor		From Melton Mowbray for storage
All possibly from 12 FU [Ferry Unit] [the Proctor may even be Z7252, see 15.11.45]				

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		Beaufighter		From Melton Mowbray for storage
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**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		Liberator		From Melton Mowbray for storage
		Dominie [I]*		From Melton Mowbray for storage
*Possibly either R5922 or X7396.				

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 27/2359/12]

L245		Lockheed [12]	MCS	Lt H Voospuy RDNAS
From and to Hendon arriving 13:05 and departing 13:10. Dutch Navy.				

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 27/2359/12][AIR 28/874]

L245		Lockheed [12]	MCS	Lt H Voospuy RDNAS
From and to Hendon arriving 13:50 and departing 15:05. Dutch Navy.				
		Wellington	EANS	Diversion from Shawbury
Diverted due to brake pressure problems, unable to land at Shawbury due to runway length.				

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AB]

Z7252		Proctor II		
Allocated to RAF Valley from Melton Mowbray, see 14.12.45				

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 27/2359/12]

PH716		Anson XIX	MCS	P/O J Palmer
Routed: Hendon-Valley-Baldonnell-Ballykelly-Church Fenton-Hendon. Arrived 12:05, departed 12:45.				

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

[V4725]		Dominie I		From Melton Mowbray for storage
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**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/611][AIR 28/62]

		Wellington	1380 CU	Diversion from Tilstock
		Lancaster	[11 FU]	Diversion from Dunkeswell

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 27/1985/12]

7 Diverted aircraft present.				
		Liberator		Diversion from Lossiemouth
		Dakota		Diversion from Sardinia, Italy
		Liberator		Diversion from Castel Benito, Libya
	D	Halifax III	517 Sqn	Diversion F/O E T Blake
Weather diversion from Brawdy whilst carrying out an Epicure Met Flight, landed 20:25.				

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

	D	Halifax III	517 Sqn	To Brawdy, see 20.11
		Liberator		To St Mawgan

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		?	19 Gp	
SASO 19 Group, A/Cdre Boyce, departed to Aldergrove.				
		B-17	USAAF	From Orly
Col Cochran to see his wife LACW Cochran who was based at Valley.				

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 27/1985/12]

		Dominie I		From Melton Mowbray for storage
	G	Halifax III	517 Sqn	Diversion F/S Channon
Weather diversion from Brawdy whilst carrying out a Epicure Met Flight, landed 09:06.				

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		?	19 Gp	
A/Cdre Boyce, Aldergrove-Roborough [Plymouth], see 24.11				

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1]

All but 2 aircraft of 1528 RAT Flight now in short term storage.				
		3x ?		Day diversions
	[YY]-	2x Stirling	[1332 CU]	Night weather diversions
		2x Lancaster		Night weather diversions

		5x Halifax		Night weather diversion
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**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 1945 [AIR 28/874]**

7 of the diverted aircraft from 28.11.45 returned to their bases.				

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 1945 [IBCCA]**

NC589	D	Wellington X	10 OTU	F/O Setterfield
Diversion from Abingdon.				

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1945 [AIR 28/874]**

		Anson I		Emergency landing from Jurby 03:40
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**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 1945 [AIR 28/874]**

		Halifax		Diversion from Chivenor
Possibly 517 Sqn but nothing specific in the Sqn ORB.				

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 1945 [AIR 27/1654/42]**

	[X9-I]	Stirling IV	299 Sqn	W/O A W Russell
From Wethersfield 13:50 to Shepherds Grove 15:15 with cargo/freight.				

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 1945 [AIR 28/874]**

EI-		Dakota	Aer Lingus	From Dublin
Disembarked 20 pax who proceeded to Croydon by train, the aircraft returned to Dublin in the afternoon after minor repairs.				

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 1945 [AIR 28/874][fcafa.com]**

		DC-3	Aer Lingus	Diversion AM from & to Speke
KG870	PP-H	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal
KG917	PP-D	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal
		Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal
		6x Wellington	[1380 CU]	Diversions from Sleaf
		4x Dakota	[109 OTU]	Night circuits from Crosby-on-Eden

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 1945 [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][fcafa.com]**

<b>W/C B J McGinn assumes command of the Station.</b>				
The 2 1528 RAT Flight aircraft below were allocated to Test Flight Bramcote with the other 9 [EB867/ED290/EX777/HM811/PH372/PH374/PH392/PH393/PH395] allotted to 1556 RAT Flight, Fairford which would be 1528 RAT's new designation.				
HM865		Oxford I	1528 RAT	To Test Flight Bramcote
LX634		Oxford I	1528 RAT	To Test Flight Bramcote
KG860	PP-M	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal
KG856	PP-R	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal
KG861	PP-L	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal

		6x Wellington	[1380 CU]	To Sleaf, see 11.12
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**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874][F78][fcafa.com][AB]

EV985	PP-Z	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal
KG862	PP-T	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal
FM112		Lancaster X		To 20 MU Aston Down, see 27.7.45
FM119		Lancaster X		To 20 MU Aston Down, see 27.7.45
<b>Z7252</b>		<b>Proctor II</b>	<b>[SF]</b>	<b>To 48 Gp Comms Flt, see 15.11.45</b>

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		Anson		
Landed using the GCA with G/C Oulton onboard, later departed to Northolt.				

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		?	19 Gp	N/stop
AOC 19 Group arrived from Ballykelly, by air?				

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AB AMIL78][AIR 28/874][AIR 29/876/1][fcafa.com][AIR 28/86]

1528 Radio Aids Training Flight [RAT] departed to Blakehill Farm [AB AMIL78] 1528 RAT Rail Party departed today. 1528 RAT Air Party of 8 Oxfords departed to Blakehill Farm on 19.12. 1528 RAT started training 575 Sqn aircrew.				
63 ASR Unit, Menai Bridge begins to close down. [Valley ORB]				
		4x Dakota		From Prague
EV883	PP-C	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal
KG859	PP-U	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		8x Oxford	1528 BAT	To Blakehill Farm, see 17.12
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**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874][AIR 29/611]

		8x Wellington	1380 CU	Diversions from Tilstock
		2x Dakota	[1381 CU]	Diversions from Desborough
		3x Dakota	[1382 CU]	Diversions from Wymeswold

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

The diverted aircraft from 20.12 returned to their bases.				

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874][fcafa.com]

EV943	PP-F	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague for disposal
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**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

No Flying
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**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

No Flying
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**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

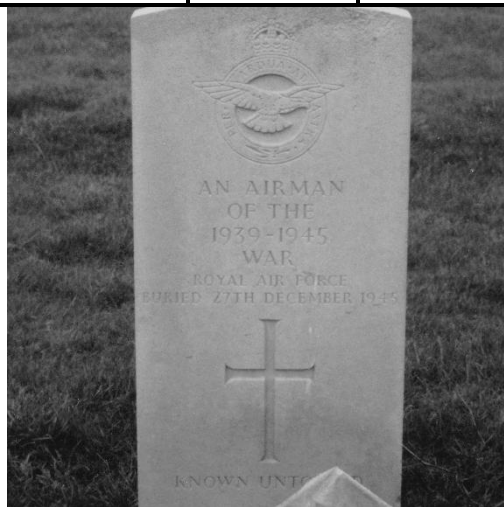
No Flying
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**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

1 movement only.
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**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874][fcafa.com]

EW295	PP-E	Liberator GR.VI	311 Sqn	From Prague via Blackbushe
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This grave at Holyhead Maeshyfryd indicates a burial of an unidentified body of an Airman on this date. Nothing in the Bodorgan, Mona or Valley ORB reference a body possibly being washed ashore. [Dick Thomas Collection]

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

No Flying
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**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		3x Dakota	[1383 CU]	Shuttle service from Crosby-on-Eden
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**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

No Flying
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**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> December 1945** [AIR 28/874]

		2x [C-47]	Aer Lingus	Weather diversions Dublin-Speke
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