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RAF Valley

Aircraft Movements

1947

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Air Britain/Peter Beechey/Ray Parkinson

UPDATE V2

Additional logbook movements.

SUMMARY

Abbreviations

[P]AFU	[Pilot] Advanced Flying Unit
AGS	Air Gunnery School
F&T	From & To
GS	Gliding School
MCS	Metropolitan Communication Squadron
[P]RFU	[Pilot] Refresher Flying Unit
Sqn	Squadron

January 1947

63 Glider School arrives.

Sunday 19th January 1947 [AIR 27/2426/10]

RF358	QR-G	Lincoln B.2	61 Sqn	Diversion, departed 20.1
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Monday 21st January 1947 [AIR 27/2436/5]

PM500		Spitfire PR.XIX	82 Sqn	F/O Lambert
Photographic survey of Anglesey at 16,400ft, did NOT land at Valley.				

Tuesday 22nd January 1947 [AIR 27/2436/5]

PS930		Spitfire PR.XIX	82 Sqn	F/L Leigh
Photographic survey of Anglesey at 16,400ft, did NOT land at Valley.				

Friday 24th January 1947 [AIR 27/2419/73][AIR 27/2398/2][AIR 27/2452/1]

	EA-	Lancaster B.1	49 Sqn	Diversion, see 29.1
	QN-	Lancaster B.1	214 Sqn	Diversion, see 29.1
	LS-		15 Sqn	Diversion
	LS-		15 Sqn	Diversion
	LS-		15 Sqn	Diversion
15 Sqn weather diversions from Wyton due to snowfall whilst carrying out night cross-country flights. The Sqn operated 3 Lincolns and 2 'Grandslam' Lancasters at that time. The 'Grandslam' was the 24,000lb bomb with the bomb bay doors removed to accommodate the weapon.				
		Lancaster B.	138 Sqn	Diversion, P.2 Goddard night X-country

Wednesday 29th January 1947 [AIR 27/2056/1][AIR 27/2419/73][AIR 27/2398/2][AIR 27/2056/2]

		Lancaster B.	138 Sqn	To Wyton, see 24.1
	LS-		15 Sqn	Departed to Wyton, see 24.1
	LS-		15 Sqn	Departed to Wyton, see 24.1
	LS-		15 Sqn	Departed to Wyton, see 24.1
	EA-	Lancaster B.1	49 Sqn	From & to Upwood
	EA-	Lancaster B.1	49 Sqn	Departed, see 24.1
	QN-	Lancaster B.1	214 Sqn	Departed to Upwood, see 24.1
PH457		Oxford I	595 Sqn	From & to Pembrey.
Pilot, W/C Peveller with pax Maj Evans & Maj Morrison.				

Thursday 20th February 1947 [AIR 27/2056/4]

PH457		Oxford I	595 Sqn	W/C Peveller
From and to Pembrey with L/Col Tamplin & Maj Fairclough.				

Saturday 1st March 1947 [AIR 27/2056/6]

PH146		Oxford I	595 Sqn	W/C Peveller
From and to Pembrey with Col Saunders.				

Tuesday 11th March 1947

S/L B Coopman assumes command of the Station.				

Saturday 12th April 1947

S/L W S Chubb assumes command of the Station.				

Sunday 13th April 1947 [AIR 27/2424/8]

RG189		Mosquito PR.34	58 Sqn	F/O Cramer & F/L Fisher
Carried out a photographic survey of Anglesey from 16,400ft, did NOT land at Valley.				

Friday 25th April 1947 [AIR 27/2529]

	[6D-]	?	631 Sqn	F/O Burgess
From and to Llanbedr to pick up a new windsock.				

Saturday 31st May 1947 [AIR 4/16]

		Oxford	5[P]AFU	S/L Woolnough from & to Ternhill
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June 1947

RAF Valley put on Care & Maintenance.				
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Tuesday 1st July 1947

10 AGS disbanded [arrived 1.12.46]				
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Monday 7th July 1947 [@MAR 08/23][F78]

NT327		Mosquito NF.30		6366M issued to Valley
Later declared as scrap 12.10.49				

Thursday 17th July 1947 [AIR 27/2426/10]

RF471	QR-	Lincoln B.2	61 Sqn	Diversion, arr 09:40.
On an Operation 'Wastage' flight, diverted in with port inner engine feathered. Departed back to Waddington 22.7. Operation 'Wastage' was the dropping of surplus wartime bombs and incendiaries in Cardigan Bay post war.				
RF480	QR-	Lincoln B.2	61 Sqn	Picked up the crew of RF471

Tuesday 22nd July 1947 [Roundel 81-01]

MK572		Spitfire LF.IX		M6379 to St Athan
Also quoted as 14.8.47 allocated to Valley, ex. Bovingdon Communications Flight. [the F78 mentions allocated to St Athan 2.1.48]				
RF471	QR-	Lincoln B.2	61 Sqn	To Waddington, see 17.7

Wednesday 23rd July 1947

W/C G R Magill assumes command of the Station.				

Monday 28th July 1947 [Roundel 81-01]

PL374	[7B-S]	Spitfire HF.IX	[595 Sqn]	Allocated M6384 but cancelled.
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August 1947 [AB Anson File photo]

MG586	-	Anson I	63 GCF	Parked on VASF
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Wednesday 6th August 1947 [AB Harvard File][AIR 29/1682/2][IBCCA][W/C B F Hills logbook*]**[RAFM M10087]**

<p>2[P]RFU formed from 5 & 21[P]AFU's with 27 Oxfords & 8/14 Harvard IIB. [Chief Instructor was S/L P G Lewis] Valley still an MDA [Master Diversion Airfield] 63 Group still in charge of the annual ATC Cadet Summer Camps.</p>
<p>Known 2[P]RFU aircraft operated but not necessarily at Valley in brackets: [Confirmed Geoff Paine logbook entries for 9.47 at Valley are in bold] [Geoff flew from Valley 10-29.9.47] [Confirmed Ray Parkinson logbook entries 8.10-7.11.47 at Valley are in bold*] [whilst at Valley Ray remembers the local population only talking Welsh] Another student pilot, Peter Beechey who was at Valley 2-20.12.47 remembers Valley as 'bleak, cold with little in the way of civilisation. There were a couple of ropes slung over the River Crigyll and this was the shortest way to the Pub in Rhosneigr. This route was fine going but hazardous when returning in the dark after a few beers.' Aircraft flown by Peter Beechey are annotated bold**</p> <p>A & B Flight Oxford C Flight Harvard Harvard IIB</p> <p>FX241* FX247 FX271* FX274 [FS748 FS758 FS855 FT224 FT315 FX437 FX468* KF139* KF186 KF241 KF334 KF700* KF924* KF986] Oxford I</p> <p>V3675** [BG751] HM709 HM716 HM742** HM803 HM837** HM838** NM293** NM330 NM354 PH305 PH128 PH372** PH399 LX274 LX596 LX602 LX716 [T6083 V4238 X6748 X6799 BG571 EB696 HM761 HN113 HN425 LW985 LX313 LX717 PH425] Oxford II</p> <p>V3675 [Oxford codes from logbook of W/C Brian F Hills for 10.8-24.9.47] AA AM AS DB NF NK NN NU [Oxford codes from logbook of W/C R T Bainbridge: NA NB NH NT NU NW NX OB]</p>

Saturday 9th August 1947 [AIR 27/2534]

		Hoverfly II	657 Sqn	Capt Seton & Walton
From Andover for Radar Trials with School of Royal Artillery, Ty Croes. Departed 21.8				

Wednesday 13th August 1947 [AIR 27/2534]

		Auster AOP.	657 Sqn	Capt Baker
Replacement bracket flown to Ty Croes from Andover for the Hoverfly, see 9.8				

Sunday 17th August 1947 [AIR 27/2534]

		?	657 Sqn	Capt Glendinning
From Andover to Valley to take part in Radar Trials at Ty Croes, see also 9.8. Returned to Andover via Cosford on 20.8				

Tuesday 19th August 1947 [AIR 29/1682/2]

First 2[P]RFU Course starts, see 6.8.47				

Wednesday 20th August 1947 [IBCCA]

		Anson	HQ 21 Gp	Sgt Templeman-Rooke
		?	657 Sqn	To Andover via Cosford, see 17.8

Tuesday 26th August 1947 [AIR 29/1682/2]

2[P]RFU Course commence flying, see 6.8.47				

September 1947 [AIR 29/1682/2]

5 diversions during September.				
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Friday 5th September 1947 [AIR 27/2568/30]

LZ575		Proctor III	MCS	S/L Garden
Routed: Hendon-Tangmere-Duxford-Valley-Hendon arriving 15:10 & departing 16:00.				

Friday 19th September 1947 [AIR 27/2426/10]

RF480	QR-	Lincoln B.2	61 Sqn	Diversion, dep to Hemswell 20.9
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Saturday 20th September 1947 [AIR 29/1682/2]

RP559		Wellington X		
On landing the aircraft overshot the runway, tailwheel was retracted causing damage to the port end of the aircraft.				

October 1947 [AIR 29/1682/2]

9 diversions during October.				
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Wednesday 8th October 1947 [AIR 29/1682/2]

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AOA Flying Training Command, AVM Russell visited, by air?				

Friday 17th October 1947 [IBCCA]

		Anson	HQ 21 Gp	Sgt Templeman-Rooke
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Monday 20th October 1947 [AIR 29/1682/2]

		Mosquito		Emergency landing short of fuel 23:10

Thursday 23rd October 1947 [AIR 27/2423/2][AIR 27/2426/10]

	DX-	Lincoln B.2	57 Sqn	Diversion
RF407	QR-	Lincoln B.2	61 Sqn	Diversion, dep 24.10 S/L Harper

November 1947 [AIR 29/1682/2]

During the first week HMS Maidstone a submarine depot ship with 9 submarines visited Holyhead for the unveiling of the 'HMS Thetis' memorial. Visitors by air possibly ?
There were no aircraft diversions during November.

Monday 17th November 1947 [AIR 29/1682/2]

		?		
AOC-in-C Flying Training Command, AM Sir Ralph Cochrane visited, by air?				

Monday 1st December 1947 [AIR 27/2534]

		Auster AOP.	657 Sqn	Capt Seton
Flew L/Col Roberts from Andover to Valley for a liaison visit.				

Tuesday 2nd December 1947 [AIR 27/2534]

		Auster AOP.	657 Sqn	To Andover, see 1.12
Ended up diverting to Shawbury due to weather.				

Thursday 4th December 1947 [AIR 27/2394/30]

	PH-A	Lincoln B.2	12 Sqn	P/I Park
Weather diversion whilst taking part in Exercise 'Pampa' [Meteorological Flights]. Returned to Binbrook 8.12.				

Monday 8th December 1947 [AIR 27/2493/3]

		[Halifax A9]	297 Sqn	PD F/O Hicks from & to Fairford.
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Saturday 13th December 1947 [RAFM M10087]

	NU	Oxford	2[P]RFU	F/L Butterworth to Woodvale
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Monday 15th December 1947 [Peter Beechey logbook]

HM837		Oxford	2[P]RFU	P2 Goodchild to & from Hawarden
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Thursday 18th December 1947 [RAFM M10087]

	NU	Oxford	2[P]RFU	S/L Lewis to & from Ballykelly
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