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RAF Valley

Aircraft Movements

1957

CREDITS:

International Bomber Command Centre Archive/National Archives
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Dick Thomas/David Watkins/Ulster Mail

UPDATE V2
240 Sqn movements. Additional logbook movements.

SUMMARY
The 6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Missile trials continued. 7 FTS continued to train pilots for the Fleet Air Arm but this came to an abrupt halt with the disbandment of the RNVR [plus RAF Auxiliary Sqns]



Although undated, these would appear to be one of the Sites by the Hotel Cymyran with Holyhead Mountain in the background in the top image and most probably sleeping quarters in the second image. [Dick Thomas collection]

Abbreviations	
AFDS	Air Fighting Development Squadron
ANS	Air Navigation School
BABS	Blind Approach Beam System
BW	Bomber Wing
CFE	Central Fighter Establishment
CNCS	Central Navigation & Control School
FCCS	Fighter Command Communications Squadron
FTCCS	Flying Training Command Communications Squadron
FTS	Flying Training School

FS	Ferry Support
GCA	Ground Controlled Approach
Gp	Group
GWDS	Guided Weapons Development Squadron
JSTU	Joint Services Trials Unit
Lt	Lieutenant
MATS	Military Air Transport Service
MCS	Metropolitan Communications Squadron
MoA	Ministry of Aviation
MOTU	Maritime Operational Training Unit
MRT	Mountain Rescue Team
MU	Maintenance Unit
NAS	Naval Air Squadron
OCU	Operational Conversion Unit
ORB	Operations Record Book
RAE	Royal Aircraft Establishment
RAFFC	Royal Air Force Flying College
RRE	Radar Research Establishment
SF	Station Flight
S/Lt	Sub-Lieutenant [RN rank]
Sqn	Squadron
THUM	Temperature & Humidity Flight
TRS	Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron
UAS	University Air Squadron
WRS	Weather Reconnaissance Squadron

1957 [F&F Book]

XF378	-	Hunter F.6*	[6 JSTU]	Delivery
*Involved in Firestreak Missile Trials, it flew with 2 Firestreak missiles and a radar nose at Farnborough Airshow 7.9.57.				

Early 1957 [Roundel 86-03]

XF774	-	Swift F.7	[Fairey Avn]	Firer
XF780	-	Swift F.7*	[Fairey Avn]	
*Nose camera equipped for photochase.				

Tuesday 1st January 1957 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 4/244]

7 FTS becomes part of 23 Group.				
PS915	[A]	Spitfire PR.19	THUM Flt	Mr Formby, Shorts Test Pilot.
Flew back to Woodvale where the THUM Flt was due to be replaced by Mosquitoes. See 24.12.56 for arrival at Valley.				
WJ944	F	Varsity T.1	CNCS	M/P Eckersall
Weather diversion from Shawbury.				

Wednesday 2nd January 1957 [AIR 4/244]

WJ944	F	Varsity T.1	CNCS	To Shawbury, see 1.1
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Thursday 3rd January 1957 [AIR 29/2699][AVIA 5/35/S2859]

WA417		Vampire FB.5	7 FTS	
Briefed for aerobatics not below 10,000ft. the aircraft took off from Valley at 13:08. After making radio contact with approach nothing else was heard from the aircraft. At approx. 13:20 witnesses described the aircraft as descending from a moderate height in an attitude which suggested that it was out of control and possibly spinning, finishing up in a steep and high speed dive. The pilot was killed. It crashed 100mtrs from Faenol Fawr Farm, Bodelwyddan [OS 116/003764]. The pilot may possibly have been knocked unconscious when the canopy detached [fragments of the canopy including the starboard jettison latch rail were found 880yds from the impact crater] 22 Sqn attended with Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ729 flown by F/S J M M Walker. Funeral held at St Elbod's Church and burial at Holyhead Cemetery on 8.1.57. Cause was determined as a loss of control during an aerobatic manoeuvre.				
				
Note incorrect date on the headstone, should be 3rd January 1957. Maeshyfyrd Cemetery, Holyhead. [Hywel Evans]				
Pilot	Lt	John Barry Taylor [RN][58 Course]	Killed [buried Maeshyfyrd]	

Tuesday 8th January 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD431 repairs complete to 19 MU, see 9.1.56				

Wednesday 9th January 1957 [AIR 27/2691/50]

WT210	-	Canberra B.6	12 Sqn	W/C A C Blythe
Routed: Binbrook-Valley-Acklington.				

Thursday 10th January 1957 [AIR 27/2817/26]

WJ778	-	Canberra B.6*	139 Sqn	F/L J H Faulkner
*Air test, from and to Binbrook.				

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WZ504	73	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	
Wheels up landing at RAF Mona due to the undercarriage not lowering. Initially assessed as repairable but later declared damage beyond repair by De Havilland and disposed of 2.7.57				
Instr	F/L	J A F Shelley	Ok	
Student	S/Lt	V M Grimley [RN]	Ok, acting S/Lt.	

Friday 11th January 1957 [RAFM]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK590:[45] 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] to & from Brawdy.				

Monday 14th January 1957 [AIR 27/2759/110][AIR 27/2817/26]

G-AMJK	-	DH Rapide	Fairey Avn	To & from Kemble I Ryall
WL621	[A]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/S Nicholls calibrate BABS
WJ771	-	Canberra B.6*	139 Sqn	P/O M Burdett
*From and to Binbrook, dropped off crew for WJ769, see 23.12.56				
WJ769	-	Canberra B.6	139 Sqn	F/L Wilson
To Binbrook, see 23.12.56.				
WT303	-	Canberra B.6	139 Sqn	PD F/L J Slater

Tuesday 15th January 1957 [AIR 27/2759/110][GP][AIR 27/2740/27]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [J O Mathews]				
WL621	[A]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/L Egan calibrate BABS
WH742	-	Canberra B.2	21 Sqn	Diversion F/O Holland at 11:40
WH729	-	Canberra B.2	21 Sqn	Diversion F/L Douglas at 16:35

Wednesday 16th January 1957 [AIR 27/2759/110][AIR 27/2691/50][AIR 27/2788/26][AIR 29/2700]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [J O Mathews] Meteor NF.11 WD745 [F/L B A W Stobart]				
WL621	[A]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/L Egan calibrate BABS
WH962	-	Canberra B.6	12 Sqn	F/O M Hall, Binbrook-Hemswell
WJ645	-	Canberra B.2	57 Sqn	PD F/O R J Oltmann
		?		
57 RN Course graduation attended by Viscount Hailsham, First Lord of the Admiralty, by air.				

Thursday 17th January 1957 [AIR 27/2769/28]

XJ729		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Hill
Vampire aircraft with a flame-out, landed safely.				

Friday 18th January 1957 [AIR 27/2759/110]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [S/L B J Spragg] Meteor NF.11 WD745 [S/L B J Spragg]				
WL621	[A]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/L Egan calibrate BABS

Wednesday 23rd January 1957

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor T.7 WF781 [I R Ryall flight 596]				

Thursday 24th January 1957 [GP/UM][MB]

VT104		Meteor U.15	RAE Llanbedr	To Sydenham
Based noted: Vampire T.11 WZ494 assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by DH/Marshalls from 1.3 [WZ494 was then re-assessed as CAT.4R & after repairs went to 10 MU 28.10.57]				

Saturday 26th January 1957 [GP/UM]

WJ987		Canberra B.2*	[MoA/Shorts]	To Sydenham
*Delivery to Shorts for conversion to a U.10 drone, eventually destroyed by a missile in Australia 17.10.59.				

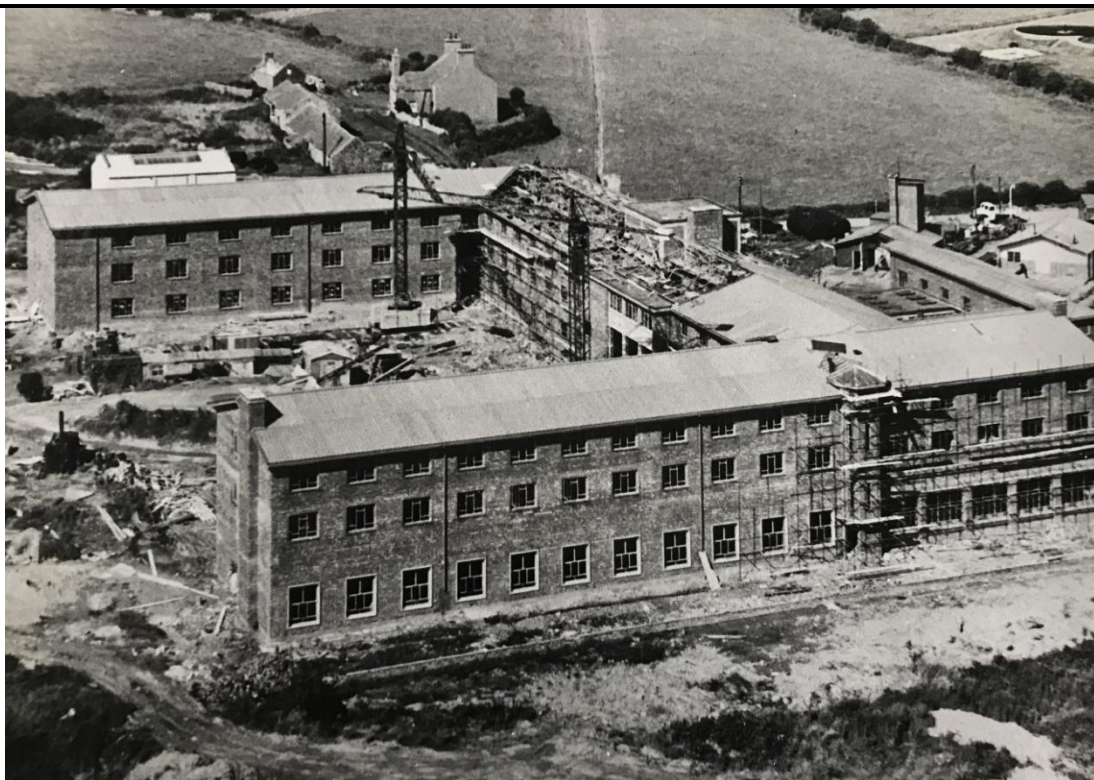
Tuesday 29th January 1957

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD744 missile firing [F/L R Ramirez]				

Wednesday 30th January 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

WG835	24	Vampire FB.5	7 FTS	
Suffered a loss of thrust when taking off as No.3 in a formation, take-off abandoned on Runway 02 and when his brakes failed to slow him down, he retracted the undercarriage to stop, crossed the public road and railway line, ending up in the reeds by the Lake. Damaged beyond repair. Also quoted as 29.1.57				
Pilot	Lt	G W G Hunt [RN]		Ok

February 1957 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2700]



RAF Valley Officers Mess under construction by Pochin.
[Dick Thomas Collection]

February 1957 [F&F Book]

WD745	-	Meteor NF.11	1 GWDS	Delivery
[WL375]	-	Meteor T.7 hybrid	1 GWDS	Delivery
This Meteor had an F.8 tail & FR.9 nose.				

February 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

		WB-50D	53 WRS/MATS	From Burtonwood
Noted in the Valley ORB that a WB-50 had been carrying out circuits and landings at Valley on frequent occasions.				

February 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 [XD519:35] 7 FTS Inserted complete into the Airmanship Hall by hoisting it through a hole in the roof!				



[National Archives]

Friday 1st February 1957

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD744 missile firing [I R Ryall]				

Wednesday 6th February 1957 [AIR 27/2889/142]

WG474	[CB-F]	Chipmunk T.10*	MCS	S/L J Vaughan
*From and to Hendon arrived 11:35 & departed 14:00.				

Monday 11th February 1957 [AIR 4/44]

WZ425	[G]	Vampire T.11	229 OCU	Harper
Routed: Chivenor-Honiley-Valley.				

Tuesday 12th February 1957 [AIR 27/2889/142][AIR 27/2775/24][AIR 4/44]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [F/L R Ramirez]				
TX217	[CB-M]	Anson C.19	MCS	S/L R Emmett
From and to Hendon arrived 13:20 & departed 14:55. [A/Cdre L G Lewis visited Valley & Ty Croes this day]				
WH707	-	Canberra B.2	44 Sqn	F/O Whitelaw form Honington
WZ425	[G]	Vampire T.11	229 OCU	Harper to Chivenor, see 11.2

Wednesday 13th February 1957 [AIR 27/2775/24]

WH707	-	Canberra B.2	44 Sqn	To Honington, see 12.2
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Thursday 14th February 1957 [AIR 27/2759/112]

WL685	[S]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/S Hayton calibrate BABS
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Friday 15th February 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

		[Gannet AS.1/T.2*]	[737 NAS]	L/Cdr W Hutchinson CFI 737 NAS
Visited from Eglinton to talk to the RN students regarding anti-submarine flying. Accompanied by L/Cdr R A R Hawkesworth OC 737 NAS. [In 1957 737 NAS were operating: WN412:617:GN WN454:618:GN WN446:619:GN WN447:620:GN XA509:621:GN* XG878:622:GN* XA519:623:GN* XA511:624:GN* XA512:625:GN* XA513:626:GN* XA508:627:GN*]				

Wednesday 20th February 1957 [MB]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [I R Ryall]				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK636 from 19 MU to 7 FTS becoming '54' Vampire T.11 XK637 from 19 MU to 7 FTS becoming '56'				

Thursday 21st February 1957 [AIR 27/2813/52]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [S/L B J Spragg]				
WK140	-	Canberra B.2*	115 Sqn	Diversion, F/L B E Fern
*Weather diversion whilst enroute Gibraltar-Marham, departed to Marham same day.				

Friday 22nd February 1957

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD743 missile firing [S/L B J Spragg]				

Tuesday 26th February 1957

Firefly U.8 WM898 from Llanbedr destroyed by a Fireflash, from a Valley based aircraft ?				

Wednesday 27th February 1957

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 missile firing [I R Ryall]				

Friday 1st March 1957 [MB]

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Based noted: Vampire T.11 WZ547 7 FTS delivered to 19 MU.				
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Monday 4th March 1957 [Roundel 84/04]

Based noted: Vampire FB.5 VZ851:[33] 7 FTS allocated 7409M, soc 30.12.58				

Thursday 7th March 1957 [IBCCA]

VS585		Anson	HQ 18 Gp	
Routed: Donibristle-Valley-St Mawgan-Valley-Leuchars.				

Friday 8th March 1957 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2769/32]

XJ729		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L D Helps
Dawn sortie to rescue 2 RN students on Newborough Warren after an escape and evasion exercise. Airlifted back to Valley.				

Monday 11th March 1957 [AIR 27/2769/32][AIR 27/2888][AIR 29/2699]

		[Pembroke/Anson]	FTCCS	F/S Campbell & Fisher
AVM [Worrell], from and to White Waltham				
-				
XJ729		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P R F P Hill, scrambled 12:39.
Flew SAC William Cromarty a member of the Station Flight to C&A Hospital, Bangor after being struck by a propellor blade of the Dominie piloted by L/Cdr R Fluker. He sadly died of his injuries and was buried at St Seriol Church, Holyhead 14.3.57. The Board of Inquiry commented that he was extremely keen but had been warned of the dangers of removing the chocks whilst the propellers were turning.				



[National Archives]



Maeshyfryd, Holyhead
[Hywel Evans]

Tuesday 12th March 1957 [AIR 4/199 Hicks logbook]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD744 [F/L B A W Stobart]				
[XH298]	52	Vampire T.11	RAFC	F/L Tomkins
From & to Cranwell, NAVEX.				

Monday 18th March 1957 [AIR 27/2813/54][AIR 4/199]

WK110	-	Canberra B.2	115 Sqn	PD, F/O I Whitford
	10	Vampire FB.9	RAFC	Hicks from & to Cranwell, NAVEX

April 1957 [AIR 29/2700]

Based noted:



Dated April 1957; De Havilland Chief Photographer Ian Wheatley took this. The hangar in the background was used by 2 Sqn/7 FTS, this was the main flightline until the flying units moved across to the other side of the airfield on 11.7.64. Aircraft visible from left to right are:

Vampires FB.5 WA332:35, FB.9 WR194:19, FB.5 WG843:26, T.11 XK624:44, FB.5 VZ833:11, T.11's XK584:66, XD619:62, [XK636]:54, XK625:48, [XE872]:51, [XE862]:56 plus 2 single seat Vampires [FB.5 or FB.9]

[National Archives]

Monday 1st April 1957 [BARG Roundel 1/90][AIR 27/2889/138][AIR 27/2759/116][AIR 29/2736][GP][AIR 27/2740/33]

WJ609	-	Canberra B.2	21 Sqn	Diversion F/L Wilson
WL622	[R]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/S Hayton calibrate BABS
VS566		Anson C.21*	MCS	S/L H G Pattison
*From and to Hendon, arrived 12:35 & departed 15:15.				
XF116	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Delivery
XF117	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Delivery
XF118	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Delivery
XF121	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Delivery
*Direct from Vickers-Armstrong, official handover date of all 4 to GWDS is 8.4.57				

Friday 5th April 1957 [AIR 27/2767/58]

WB856	[-]	Shackleton MR.1A	240 Sqn	F/O Sealey
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Routed: Ballykelly-Valley-Prestwick-Ballykelly.

Tuesday 9th April 1957 [AIR 27/2759/116]

WJ945	[H]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt Gopshill calibrate BABS
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Wednesday 10th April 1957 [BARG Roundel 1/90][AIR 27/2759/116][AIR 29/2736][MB]

WJ945	[H]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt Gopshill calibrate BABS
XF119	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Delivery
XF120	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Delivery
*Official handover date of both to GWDS is 8.4.57 [2 days before delivery flight!]				
-				
XH319		Vampire T.11	7 FTS	
Birdstrike, 2 seagulls at 500ft causing severe damage to the starboard mainplane and intakes, emergency landing carried out at Valley. Initially assessed as CAT.3 then CAT.4 & finally CAT.5 airframe disposed of 29.7.57				
	Lt	J Rees [RN]		Ok
	Lt	H Bond [RN]		Ok

Friday 12th April 1957 [AIR 27/2759/116]

WJ945	[H]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt Gopshill calibrate BABS
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Monday 15th April 1957 [AIR 27/2889/138][AIR 27/2775/28]

VL355		Anson C.19*	MCS	S/L P B Digman
*From and to Hendon, arrived 12:55 & departed 14:30.				
WH867	-	Canberra B.2	44 Sqn	PD W/C Hayward

Thursday 23rd April 1957 [RAFM]

Based noted: Dominie X7341 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] to & from Cosford.				

Wednesday 24th April 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

XF119	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	4 sorties flown.
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Friday 26th April 1957 [BARG Roundel 1/90][AIR 29/2736][IBCCA][AIR 27/2783]

WJ674	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	F/O J S Creswell
From & to Upwood.				
PH829	[K]	Anson C.19*	HQ 18 Gp	F/O Borland
*From Leuchars, also flew back to Leuchars but diverted to Prestwick before carrying on to Leuchars.				
XF115	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Delivery W/C Dalley
*Officially handed over to GWDS 29.4.57, from South Marston.				

Monday 29th April 1957 [AIR 27/2759/116]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD744 [I R Ryall]				
WL636	[D]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/S Hayton calibrate BABS

Tuesday 30th April 1957 [AIR 4/52]

[VM]333		Anson C.19	[240 Sqn]	Jackson
Routed: Rob-Valley-St Mawgan.				

May 1957 [AIR 4/199 logbook]

From his logbook P/O Hicks flew the following aircraft with 7 FTS at Valley: Vampire FB.5 :10 :12 :22 :29 Vampire T.11 :40 :42 :43 :46 :47 :60 :65				

Wednesday 1st May 1957 [AIR 27/2889/136][AIR 29/2699]

VP965	[CB-G]	Devon C.1*	MCS	P/O R T Vane
*From and to Hendon arriving 11:30 & departing 17:40. [This Devon may be the one that flew in some MPs to visit TERA, Ty Croes to see a missile firing and then to GWDS to view the Swifts]				
-				
XE922	42	Vampire T.11	4 FTS	Visiting from Worksop
On returning to Worksop from Valley the aircraft was found to have been overstressed. Caused when control was initially lost and then regained during an intentional spin. The airframe was distorted and beyond economic repair.				
Instr	F/L	W A Law		Ok
Student	F/O	M Holmes		Ok

Thursday 2nd May 1957 [BARG Roundel 1/90]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD744 [I R Ryall]				
XF123	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Delivery
*Officially transferred to GWDS 6.5.57				

Friday 3rd May 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

		?		
59 RN Course graduation attended by Rear Adm G Thistleton-Smith.				

Saturday 4th May 1957 [AVIA 18/3720]

Fairey Aviation Trials: Swift F.7 XF780 the 2 nd prototype was involved in Fireflash jettison trials. Trials took place over Aberporth Range, did it operate from Valley though ?				
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[National Archives]

Monday 6th May 1957 [AIR 27/2708/70][AIR 27/2759/118]

WR959	O	Shackleton MR.2	228 Sqn	F/L N Williams
From & to St Mawgan.				
WL692	[P]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/S Pratt calibrate ACR7

Tuesday 7th May 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

		?		
6 Finnish passengers arrived to visit the SARO Beaumaris works to view 2 gunboats being acquired by the Finnish Navy. They were taken up in a 22 Sqn Whirlwind helicopter to view their boats.				

Thursday 9th May 1957 [AIR 27/2749/58][AIR 27/2783][GP][AIR 27/2740/35]

WH909	-	Canberra B.2*	35 Sqn	F/O J P Barker
WH911	-	Canberra B.2*	35 Sqn	S/L J R Mason
WH944	-	Canberra B.2*	35 Sqn	F/O J R Ward
WH920	-	Canberra B.2*	35 Sqn	S/L K W Simpson
*All diversions, departed back to Upwood 10.5				
WH917	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	F/L N A Innes-Smith
WJ674	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	S/L D J B Whitehead
WJ675	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	S/L E L Wallane
WJ676	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	F/O M A Noble
50 Sqn aircraft were diversions from Upwood, 6 aircraft on a Station Exercise, 4 ended up at Valley, 1 back at Upwood and 1 at Manston.				
WH732	-	Canberra B.2	21 Sqn	Diversion F/S T Johnstone 19:35
Departed back to Waddington same day but returned 10.5				
WH729	-	Canberra B.2	21 Sqn	Diversion F/L Honley N/stop

Friday 10th May 1957 [AIR 27/2749/58][AIR 27/2783]

WH909	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	
WH911	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	
WH944	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	
WH920	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	
WH917	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	
WJ674	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	
WJ675	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	
WJ676	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	

All returned to Upwood, see 10.5				
WH729	-	Canberra B.2	21 Sqn	To Waddington 09:00
WH732	-	Canberra B.2	21 Sqn	From & to Waddington
G-AHXW	-	Rapide	Fairey Avn	To White Waltham J O Mathews

Saturday 11th May 1957 [AIR 27/2718/1]

		Anson	275 Sqn	From Thornaby with a patient.
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Monday 13th May 1957 [BARG Roundel 1/90][AIR 27/2708/70][AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2700]

		[Whirlwind HAR.2]	22 Sqn	St Mawgan
		[Valetta C.1]		Abingdon
WR959	O	Shackleton MR.2	228 Sqn	F/O D Swinnerton 11:40.
WR960	P	Shackleton MR.2	228 Sqn	W/C D L Cartridge 11:15.
WR961	Q	Shackleton MR.2	228 Sqn	F/L J Tucker 11:45
WR962	Z	Shackleton MR.2	228 Sqn	F/L N Williams
The Shackletons from St Mawgan were based at Valley until 17.5 for a BBC TV documentary in the 'Now' series with practice depth charge attacks in Holyhead Harbour. There were also units from the Parachute School at Abingdon, but none were used due to the weather.				
XF122	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Delivery
*Officially handed over to GWDS 26.5.57				
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XJ725		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	
RTA casualty, F/O Crawley flown to SSQ, Valley and then onwards to Bangor Hospital.				

Wednesday 15th May 1957 [BJ][AIR 27/2708/70]

G-AHPU	-	DH.89A Rapide	Luton FC	From Speke, Luton Flying Club
WR958	N	Shackleton MR.2	228 Sqn	F/L E Norman
From & to St Mawgan.				

Thursday 16th May 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

		?		
Annual Inspection of 1113 MCU by AVM P D Cracroft, by air?				

Friday 17th May 1957 [AIR 27/2708/70][AIR 29/2699]

WR962	Z	Shackleton MR.2*	228 Sqn	F/O D Swinnerton
*From and to St Mawgan.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 [XH303:53] 7 FTS attended Prestwick Airshow [S/L D J Sharp] Vampire T.11 XD458:49 7 FTS attended Burtonwood Airshow [F/L C Carroll]				

Monday 20th May 1957 [GP/UM]

XH313	[T]	Vampire T.11	[111 Sqn]	To Sydenham then Aldergrove
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Tuesday 21st May 1957 [AIR 27/2708/70][AIR 27/2889/136]

WR961	Q	Shackleton MR.2	228 Sqn	F/L Dixon to St Mawgan 15:00.
VS575	[CB-G]	Anson C.21*	MCS	G/C D G Smallwood.
*Routed: Llanbedr-Valley-Wyton-Hendon. Arrived 10:45 & departed 14:35.				

Wednesday 22nd May 1957 [AIR 27/2831/10][AIR 27/2759/118][AIR 29/2699][MB]

WL622	[R]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt McKenn calibrate BABS
WL739	P	Shackleton MR.2*	204 Sqn	F/L J Turpin
*Arrived from Ballykelly at 18:45 and departed to Kinloss at 18:50.				
-				
XF115	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	
Declared CAT 3.R [Repairable] after a starter unit caught fire. Allocated repair on site by Vickers Armstrong 1.10.57 to Hursley Park. Returned to GWDS for training 27.1.58 with repairs complete on 13.3.58.				
-				
XD454	40	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	
Wheels up landing after failure of the port undercarriage at Valley 09:30 because of a hydraulic failure. Damaged beyond repair and re-categorised as CAT.5 on 3.6.57. 22 Sqn attended with Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ760 flown by F/L Helps.				
Pilot	Mid	R E M Greenop [RN]		Ok

Thursday 23rd May 1957 [AIR 27/2762/1][AIR 27/2759/118][AIR 29/2440][AIR 29/2700][AIR 27/2769/35][AIR 29/2578][AIR 4/44][AIR 4/209]

Exercise 'Vigilant'				
		14x Meteor NF.	153 Sqn	W/C F R L Mellersh
The 2 below are included in the 14 aircraft above.				
[WS685]	D	Meteor [NF.12]	153 Sqn	
[WS720]	G	Meteor [NF.12]	153 Sqn	Howarth
153 Sqn from RAF West Malling deployed to Valley for Exercise 'Vigilant' the Annual UK Air Defence Exercise from 25-27 th May. They were working with Western Sector and the GCI site at Killards Point. [in 1957 153 Sqn were operating: NF.12's WS685:D WS686:E WS717:F WS720:G WS612:H WS613:J WS622:K WS665:L WS688:M WS699:N & NF.14's WS729:A WS738:B WS757:C WS736:P WS752:Q WS723:T F.8 WH450:R VZ521:T T.7 WA615:Z] G D Howarth was one of the 153 Sqn pilots, he arrived in 'G' 23.5 and flew a local sortie same day. On 24.5 he flew 'D' & 'G' and on 25.5 he flew 'D' followed by 'D' again on 26.5 the unit departed 27.5 with him flying 'G' back to West Malling.				
TG513	JAP	Hastings C.1A	511 Sqn	153 Sqn support F/O D Butler
		6x Hunter [F.1]*	[229 OCU]	From Chivenor for Ex. Vigilant.
*From 127[R]Sqn at Chivenor.				
XE833	[A]	Vampire T.11	229 OCU	Harper from & to Chivenor
WT476	-	Canberra T.4	230 OCU	PD S/L B W Plenderleith
WL622	[R]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt McKenn calibrate BABS

Friday 24th May 1957 [AIR 27/2889/136][AIR 27/2769/35]

TX239	[CB-C]	Anson C.19*	MCS	S/L S G Dunmore
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*Routed: Hendon-Squires Gate-Valley-Hendon. Arrived 13:30 & departed 15:15.				
-				
XJ760		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Gumbrell
Report of a ship on fire at 5326N 00322W, on arrival the ship was making smoke but not on fire, returned to Valley.				

Saturday 25th May 1957 [AIR 27][AIR 4/44]

		Anson*	81 Gp	
*Operation 'Vigilant' routed: Colerne-Chivenor-Valley-Colerne.				
WZ425	[G]	Vampire T.11	229 OCU	Harper from & to Chivenor

Monday 27th May 1957 [AIR 27/2762/1][AIR 29/2699]

153 Sqn departed back to West Malling post exercise 'Vigilant.'				
		[Hastings]		153 Sqn support
		14x Meteor NF.	153 Sqn	To West Malling
The aircraft below is included in the 14.				
[WS720]	G	Meteor [NF.12]	153 Sqn	Howarth to West Malling
		?		
AOC FTC, AVM J Worrall visited, by air?				

Thursday 30th May 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [I R Ryall]				
	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	F/L W G Hester
To Leuchars for static display, on the occasion of the 43 Sqn standard presentation by HM Queen on 4.6, returned 6.6				

Friday 31st May 1957 [AIR 27/2813/56]

6 JSTU/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 missile firing [I R Ryall]				
WJ980	-	Canberra B.2	115 Sqn	PD W/C J R Musgrave

Saturday 1st June 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

6 JSTU retitled GWDS [Guided Weapons Development Squadron] OC W/C J O Dalley				
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Sunday 2nd June 1957 [AIR 27/2769/37]

XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	
Member of Valley MRT injured on the East side of Tryfan. Helicopter landed at the MRT base, the casualty was on a near vertical buttress at 2,700ft. Helicopter landed at 1,300ft being the only flat location, the casualty S A Smith was brought down by stretcher but as the journey to the base camp was short it was decided the helicopter was not required and returned to Valley.				

Thursday 6th June 1957 [AIR 27/2857][AIR 29/2736]

WK979	[-]	Meteor F.8*	FCCS	From & to Bovingdon
*Visit of AM Sir Thomas Pike to GWDS.				

Friday 7th June 1957 [IBCCA]

VL300		Anson C.19	BTU	F/L Bevis
Routed: Base-Jurby-Valley-Base. [BTU – Bombing Trials Unit]				

Monday 10th June 1957 [AIR 27/2775/32]

WH976	-	Canberra B.2*	44 Sqn	F/L V C Hester
WH957	-	Canberra B.2*	44 Sqn	F/O H T Green
WH967	-	Canberra B.2*	44 Sqn	F/O J Hardstaff
WH871	-	Canberra B.2*	44 Sqn	S/L J W Harling
*Carried out a 4-ship display at Squires Gate [Blackpool] and Woodvale before landing at Valley. From and to Honington.				

Wednesday 12th June 1957 [AIR 4/181]

WL436	-	Meteor T.7	FCCS	Bennett, parked on VASF
				
Routed: Bovingdon-Valley-Pembrey. [Valley Aviation Society]				

Thursday 13th June 1957 [AIR 29/2699][MB]

XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Helps, scrambled 10:55
XJ760		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	Scrambled 11:25
Both scrambled to Llandudno for 3 people stranded on a sandbank, not required in the end as the 3 people had been rescued by private launch. See also 15.6 same rescue different date?				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK624 7 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 54 MU from 25.6				

Friday 14th June 1957 [RAFM]

Based noted: Dominie X7341 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] to & from Shawbury.				

Saturday 15th June 1957 [AIR 27/2769/37]

XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Helps
XJ760		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Gumbrell

3 people stranded on a sandbank off Llandudno, both helicopters were scrambled, on arrival the survivors had already been picked up by a private launch.

Sunday 16th June 1957 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2769/37]

XJ760		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Helps, scrambled 16:05
To Rhosneigr for a capsized yacht but not required as both persons were ok. However, it was then diverted to Cymyran Pt. where 2 airmen were floating out to sea in a leaky dinghy, these were picked up and the aircraft returned to Rhosneigr to check on the capsized boat, landed 16:45				

Monday 17th June 1957 [AIR 27/2885/42]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 missile firing [I R Ryall]				
[VL]278		Valetta C.1*	FS Sqn	F/S W J Ryall
*Routed: Benson-Rufforth-Valley-Jurby-Benson. Ferry Support Squadron.				

Tuesday 18th June 1957

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor T.7 WA738 [J O Mathews]				

Wednesday 19th June 1957 [AIR 4/221]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 missile firing [I R Ryall]				
[XK632]	NG	Vampire T.11	CFS	F/L P Bobrowski
To & from Little Rissington.				

Thursday 20th June 1957

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor T.7 WA738 missile firing [I R Ryall]				

Friday 21st June 1957 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2736][AIR 27/2885/42]

G-AHXW	-	DH Rapide	Fairey Avn	To White Waltham R Hood
		?		
60 RN Course graduation attended by V/Adm W T Couchman				
		?		
A/Cdre P G Wykeham visited from HQ Fighter Command, by air?				
[VL]278		Valetta C.1*	FS Sqn	Sgt K A Rolley
*Routed: Benson-Dishforth-Jurby-Valley-Rufforth-Benson. Ferry Support Sqn.				

Tuesday 25th June 1957 [DF][AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2736][AIR 27/2769/37]

VX541		Valetta C.1	RRE	From & to Pershore.
		?		

AOC's inspection by AOC 23 Group.				
-				
XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/S Walker
Boat adrift at Starvation Point, false alarm, young man quietly fishing.				

Wednesday 26th June 1957 [D Edwards papers]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD743 missile firing [I R Ryall]				
Based noted: Dominie I X7341 7 FTS visited Jurby.				

Friday 28th June 1957 [DF][AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2769/38]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor T.7 WA738 [F/L R Ramirez]				
		Venom*		
		Vampire T.11	7 FTS	S/L Sharp, shepherd aircraft.
*ASI failure and short of fuel, shepherded down by a Valley Vampire to a safe landing. 22 Sqn attended as a precaution with Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ730 flown by F/S Walker. The Valley ORB mentions Venom, but this has been overwritten by 'Vampire' whereas the 22 Sqn ORB says 'Venom'.				

July 1957 [KR]

[WE833]	[15]	Vampire FB.5	7 FTS	
				
This could also possibly be Jul 1958. [Ken Richards]				

Monday 1st July 1957 [F&F][AIR 29/2736]

XF124	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	10 th delivery W/C J O Dalley
*Officially transferred to GWDS 8.7.57, from South Marston.				

Wednesday 3rd July 1957 [DF]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor T.7 WA738 missile firing [I R Ryall]				
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VX541		Valetta C.1	RRE	From & to Pershore.
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Friday 5th July 1957 [AIR 27/2889/132]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 missile firing [I R Ryall]				
VP965	[CB-G]	Devon C.1*	MCS	M/P A Dixon
*From and to Hendon arriving 11:15 & departing 13:30.				

Saturday 6th July 1957 [AIR 27/2769/39]

XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/S Walker
Man stranded on a sandbank between Valley and Holyhead, turned out to be a fisherman requiring no assistance.				

Monday 8th July 1957 [GP/UM]

XJ322		Sea Devon C.20	781 NAS	'NAVY743' to & from Sydenham
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Tuesday 9th July 1957 [AIR 27/2769/39]

XJ728		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Brannon
Man in a boat in distress off Rhoscolyn, on arrival it turned out to be a fisherman hauling in lobster pots, no assistance required.				

Thursday 11th July 1957 [AIR 27/2840/35]

XD860	-	Valiant BK.1*	214 Sqn	S/L R W Payne
*Diversion on a cross-country, arrived 00:57 and departed 15:35 same day.				

Friday 12th July 1957 [AIR 27/2889/132][MB]

TX214	[CB-T]	Anson C.19*	MCS	S/L R J Carson
*From and to Hendon. Arrived 12:35 & departed 114:50.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE926 7 FTS assessed as CAT.5[S] allocated 7472M 11.10.57 to Bicester.				

Monday 15th July 1957 [AIR 29/2440]

[WH]732		Canberra B.2	230 OCU	PD F/L J E Sewell
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Wednesday 17th July 1957 [Roundel 84/05]

WA824		Meteor F.8	[7 FTS]	Allocated 7462M
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Monday 22nd July 1957 [AIR 27/2769/39]

XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Brannon
Investigated large fire to the NW of RAF Valley, on arrival it was a controlled burn, no assistance required.				

Thursday 25th July 1957 [AIR 27/2769/39]

XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Brannon
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Report of a possible Gannet aircraft had crashed in the Menai Straits opposite Caernarfon, search carried out, nothing seen, returned to Valley.

Monday 29th July 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor T.7 WA738 [J O Mathews]				
XF---	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	F/L M J Corner
*Partial flame-out on short finals, sufficient thrust to continue and land safely.				

Tuesday 30th July 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD743 missile firing [I R Ryall]				
XF---	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	F/L M J Corner
*Lost a panel in flight which damaged the starboard aileron and missile launcher, landed safely at Valley.				

Wednesday 31st July 1957 [AIR 27/2769/39]

XJ727		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Gumbrell
Overdue rowing boat off Trearddur Bay, boat located near South Stack safe and well, Police informed.				

Thursday 1st August 1957 [AIR 27/2769/41]

XJ727		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Alderson
Report that an Auster aircraft had crashed 4nms W of Harlech, search called off as an Auster from the Butlins Holiday Camp had been low flying in the area but had landed safely.				

Saturday 3rd August 1957 [AIR 27/2769/41]

XJ727		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Brannon
Search for a boy drifting out to sea in a rubber raft, on arrival contact made with Rhyl Lifeboat who sighted and picked up the boy.				
XJ728		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Alderson
2 persons adrift in a rubber raft off Barmouth, on arrival the Barmouth Lifeboat had sighted and picked up the raft which was empty when it drifted out to sea.				

Thursday 8th August 1957

[WA347]	[21]	Vampire FB.[5/9]	7 FTS	
Wheels up landing on Runway 02, aircraft ended up semi-submerged in the lake by the new under construction Officers Mess. Pilot was found in his dinghy by the Fire Section. It would appear that the aircraft was repaired ? The only aircraft that fits the date is FB.5 WA347:21 which was written off 8.8.1957				
Pilot	Lt	D Gunn [RN]	Ok	

Friday 9th August 1957 [AIR 29/2699][MB]

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Based noted: [4]x Vampire 7 FTS Low level attack carried out against an Army position near Edwinston, the 4 aircraft then landed at Shawbury to refuel. Vampire T.11 WZ553 delivered from 48 MU to 7 FTS becoming '40'

Tuesday 13th August 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK589 7 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 19.8
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Wednesday 14th August 1957 [AIR 27/2708/76]

WR962	L-S	Shackleton MR.2*	228 Sqn	F/L C L Huntley
*From and to St Mawgan.				

Thursday 15th August 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

Based noted: [4]x Vampire 7 FTS Airfield attack carried out against RAF High Erccall to assist anti-aircraft defences.
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Friday 16th August 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK624 repairs complete back to 7 FTS, see 13.6.57
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Monday 19th August 1957 [AIR 27/2759/124][AIR 27/2708/76]

WL622	[R]	Varsity T.1*	116 Sqn	Sgt McKenn calibrate BABS
*Routed: Defford-Valley-Barkston Heath-Binbrook.				
WR966	S	Shackleton MR.2	228 Sqn	F/L G Bowyer
From & to St Mawgan.				

Tuesday 20th August 1957 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2736]

AVM A F Hutton visited GWDS, by air?
Based noted: [4]x Vampire 7 FTS Airfield attack carried out against Sleaf, Rednall and High Erccall airfields to assist Light anti-aircraft defences.

Friday 23rd August 1957 [AIR 27/2769/41]

XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Alderson
8 children cut off by rising tide on Starvation Point just off the airfield, the group were airlifted off in 2 trips and delivered to the Medical Officer at the ATC tower.				

Saturday 24th August 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE884 delivered from 25 Gp Comm Flt to 7 FTS becoming '43'				

Monday 26th August 1957 [AIR 27/2749/64][AIR 27/2769/41]

WH916	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, F/L H Birch.
-				
XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Brown
Informed by ATC that a boat had capsized just off the Airfield, on arrival the girl survivor was clinging to the side of the boat, which was drifting ashore, refused assistance, and once ascertained she was safe the helicopter returned to Valley.				

Wednesday 28th August 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD526 from 5 MU Kemble for 7 FTS became '42' Vampire T.11 XD589 from 5 MU Kemble for 7 FTS '46' Vampire T.11 XD526 from 5 MU to 7 FTS, see also 13.7.56				

Friday 30th August 1957 [AIR 27/2760/65]

WG556	K	Shackleton MR.2*	120 Sqn	From & to Aldergrove
*From and to Aldergrove.				

Tuesday 3rd September 1957 [AIR 27/2689/46]

WZ366	-	Valiant B.1	7 Sqn	PD F/L B W Wellicone
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Friday 6th September 1957 [AIR 27/2889/128]

VM351	[CB-M]	Anson C.19*	MCS	M/P D E Wills
*Routed: Hendon-Abingdon-Aldergrove-Valley-Hendon. Arrived 15:30 & departed 16:30.				
WA824	Q	Meteor F.8	Ex. 74 Sqn	
Allocated to Valley as a GIA [Ground Instructional Airframe] 7462M. Handed over to the Fire Section 24.2.60				

Friday 13th September 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK589 repairs complete back to 7 FTS & then RAFC same day, see 13.8.57				

Saturday 14th September 1957 [NWAN/MGAE 'Merseyside Aeronews'] [KR] [AIR 29/2699] [AIR 29/2700] [DP]

RAF Valley 'Battle of Britain' Display 10:00-19:00				
Static: *Hangar display.				

A black and white photograph showing four Gloster Meteor fighters in formation. The aircraft are flying over a mountain range with clouds. The top aircraft is numbered 47, the one below it is 44, and the two at the bottom are 45 and 53. The aircraft have a distinctive delta-wing configuration and are marked with the Royal Air Force roundel.

[Dick Thomas Collection]



Serial	Code	Type	Unit	Home Base/Notes
XB285	J	Beverley C.1	47 Sqn	Abingdon Wg



[Ken Richards]



[Valley Aviation Society]

WJ676	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	From Upwood F/O D H Bourne
WJ713	-	Canberra B.2	RAFFC	Manby
WK631	C	Chipmunk T.10	LUAS	Liverpool UAS [AIR 27/2861/4]
XF310		Hunter F.4	[GWDS]	
XA718	S	Javelin FAW.5	228 OCU	



[Tony Buckley collection]

XD678	Q-N	JP T.1	2 FTS	
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		Lincoln		
XA251	H	Marathon T.2	1 ANS	Topcliffe or 2 ANS ?



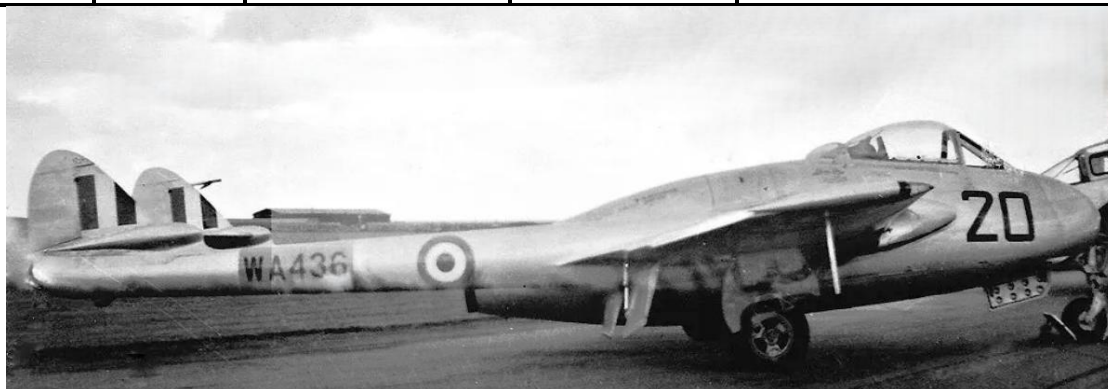
[Ken Richards]

XF544	P-U	Provost T.1	6 FTS	
WW384	H	Provost T.1		
XF117	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	Valley
WZ363	-	Valiant B.1	138 Sqn	



The WB-50 can be seen in the right background. [Ken Richards]

WA436	20	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
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[Valley Aviation Society]

WG843	26	Vampire T.11*	7 FTS	Valley
XK590	45	Vampire T.11*	7 FTS	Valley
XD619	62	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
WL668	O	Varsity T.1	CNCS	Shawbury F/L Boden



[Ken Richards]

XJ730	-	Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	Valley
WN326	[375:J]	Wyvern S.4	[830 NAS]	From AHU Stretton or Ford?
	869:ST	Avenger	[1841 NAS]	Stretton
47-055	BE-055	B-45A	19 TRS/47 BW	From Sculthorpe ? 'Our Hero'



[Valley Aviation Society]

49-0302	[0302]	WB-50D	53 WRS/MATS	Burtonwood
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Flying:

G-AGTV		Auster Autocrat	Private	Pleasure flights
EI-AJL	-	PA-23 Apache	Private	Pleasure flights
TX209		Anson C.19	Valley SF	ATC air experience flights
VM340		Anson C.19	Valley SF	ATC air experience flights



[Ken Richards]

WJ557		Anson T.21	Valley SF	ATC air experience flights
WH712	-	Canberra B.2**	57 Sqn	F/L K Bichard
WH878	-	Canberra B.2**	57 Sqn	F/L J H Tetroe
WK131	-	Canberra B.2**	57 Sqn	F/O J R Ray
**The Canberras did not land but flew through from Coningsby, visiting 4 Northern Stations.				
WK643	A	Chipmunk T.10*	LUAS	[AIR 27/2861/4] Liverpool UAS
WD352	U-B	Chipmunk T.10*	LUAS	Ditto
WD375	U-E	Chipmunk T.10*	LUAS	Ditto
*On the Staff of Liverpool UAS at the time were: S/L D H Simmons, F/L's A S McCracken, A K Amos, J C Green & F/O J Lloyd.				
XK670	-	Comet C.2	216 Sqn	F/L B D'Oliveira 'Corvus'
Routed: Lyneham-Dishforth-Valley-Castle Bromwich-Benson-Colerne-Andover-Lyneham.				
TG514		Hastings C.1	RRE Defford	Defford
XE603		Hunter F.6	AFDS	Or GWDS ?
XE615	A	Hunter F.6	263 Sqn	
XE624	B	Hunter F.6	263 Sqn	
XE616	E	Hunter F.6	263 Sqn	
XE623	G	Hunter F.6	263 Sqn	
XE650	U	Hunter F.6	263 Sqn	
XE626	W	Hunter F.6	263 Sqn	
XE625	X	Hunter F.6	263 Sqn	
XF433	-	Hunter F.6	263 Sqn	
263 Sqn also carried out a flypast at Jurby, IoM. 263 Sqn was based at Stradishall.				
XD678	Q-N	JP T.1	2 FTS	
		8x Meteor NF.14	72 Sqn	W/C R D Doleman
From Church Fenton, also overflew RAF Weaton, they operated the NF.12 & NF.14 variants [AIR 27/2793/3][in 1957 72 Sqn were operating: NF.12 WS607:A WS609:B WS692:C [WS628:D] WS700:D [WS591:F] WS676:F WS611:N [WS624:O] WS638:O WS623:Q & NF.14 WS802:E WS833:G WS830:H WS724:P WS846:R WS837:S WS779:T WS808:U]				
WB837	MOTU-H	Shackleton T.4	MOTU	2 passes

WB853	MOTU-F	Shackleton MR.1	MOTU	[Or MOTU-U]
XF116	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Valley
XF120	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Valley
XF121	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Valley
XF123	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Valley
WD171		Valetta C.1	RAE	Possibly 2, from Defford ?
WG795	17	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
WA301	18	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
WL558	21	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
WR268	24	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
WG799	27	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
XK637	56	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
XK584	66	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
There was a 7 FTS Aerobatic Team 4 ship Vampires flown by F/Lt's Pete Quinton, 'Noddy' Newman, Bob Whyte & Dougie Mee. Solo display was by Patrick Burke, the 4-ship also displayed at Ternhill.				
WG837	10	Vampire FB.5	RAFFC	Cranwell
WX215	12	Vampire FB.9	RAFFC	Cranwell
WR194	25	Vampire FB.9	RAFFC	Cranwell
WA369	32	Vampire FB.5	RAFFC	Cranwell
XA905	-	Vulcan B.1	230 OCU	
		[Pioneer]	[Dishforth]	[from Weaton, did it display?]
XA461	345	Gannet AS.4	825 NAS	Eglinton
		Gannet	[825 NAS]	
		Gannet	[825 NAS]	
		Gannet	[825 NAS]	
There is also an Eglinton Gannet quoted as :018:GN				
WV863	641:LM	Seahawk FGA.4	738 NAS	'Red Devils'
		Seahawk	738 NAS	
		Seahawk	738 NAS	
		Seahawk	738 NAS	
738 NAS also displayed at Ternhill & Turnhouse.				
		B-66	[47 BW]	

Thursday 19th September 1957 [F&F][AIR 29/2736]

	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Missile firing trials
1 st Fireflash firing by a Swift F.7				

Friday 20th September 1957 [AIR 29/2699][AVIA 5/37/S2894]

		Anson		From Shawbury.
Brought the pilots of the crashed Vampire listed below back to Valley.				
-				
WZ496	65	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	

Briefed for a map reading cross country exercise. The aircraft took off from Valley at 11:50 and after 40 minutes when flying at 10,500ft near Wem, Shropshire the fire warning light came on and stayed on. The Instructor initiated a 'MAYDAY' call and it was decided to try and land at Shawbury. However, on breaking cloud at 2,500ft the airfield was not in sight and on passing 1,500ft with the airfield still not in sight both pilots ejected safely. After ejecting, the Instructor saw the aircraft falling away from him but saw no flames or smoke. The aircraft crashed in open country but did not catch fire. 22 Sqn Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ730 flown by F/L K Alderson was scrambled but recalled after both occupants were reported as being safe. The fire warning light proved to be a spurious one.

Instr	F/L	M A Rufus Heald	Ejected 600ft, sprained leg.
Student	Lt	J L Williams [RN]	Ejected 1,500ft ok.

Thursday 26th September 1957 [AIR 27/2889/128][AIR 29/2736]

XF---	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Missile firing
VL353		Anson C.19*	MCS	S/L V Nedved
*Routed: Hendon-Valley-Stretton-Driffild-Hendon. Arrived 12:50 & departed 14:00.				

Friday 27th September 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

		?		
Course graduation attended by A/Cdre P G Wykeham.				

Wednesday 2nd October 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD443 7 FTS transferred to RAFC				

Thursday 3rd October 1957 [AIR 27/2889/126]

VP958		Devon C.1*	MCS	F/L M Rowell
*From and to Hendon, arrived 11:30.				

Friday 4th October 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

XF---	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Missile firing at Firefly drone.
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Monday 7th October 1957 [AIR 27/2885/34]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [I R Ryall]				
[VW]158		Valetta C.1*	FS Sqn	F/L G Luckins
*Routed: Benson-Seighford-Dishforth-Kirkbride-Valley-Benson.				

Tuesday 8th October 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [I R Ryall]				
XF---	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Missile firing at Firefly drone.

Wednesday 9th October 1957 [AIR 27/2760/69][AIR 4/189]

WG556	K	Shackleton MR.2*	120 Sqn	F/L D Fairburn
*From and to Aldergrove.				
Based noted: Anson TX209 Valley SF to & from Ternhill [Cdr Honeywell]				

Thursday 10th October 1957 [AIR 27/2760/69][AIR 27/2788/44]

WR955	G	Shackleton MR.2*	120 Sqn	S/L P N Harvey
*From and to Aldergrove.				
WH720	-	Canberra B.2	57 Sqn	PD F/L L G Hall Aldergrove-Base

Friday 11th October 1957 [AIR 27/2769/46][AIR 4/189]

XJ435		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L K Alderson
Scrambled to an aircraft crash at the Eifl Granite Quarry, Trefor. This turned out to be Meteor F.8 WA794 of 5 CAACU which had flown into a quarry face at OS 115/364463. Pilot [Sgt Robert B Barnes] was killed. Although the MRT was called out they were stood down almost immediately as the helicopter was already on the scene.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XH303:[53] to St Mawgan [F/O H W Carter]				

Sunday 13th October 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

XF1--	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	F/L M J Corner
*To Stradishall to demonstrate the Swift F.7 to ROC personnel.				

Monday 14th October 1957 [Roundel 1/76][AIR 4/189]

XF123	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	
Crash landing after engine failure on approach to Valley. Temporary repairs carried out by 49 MU, Colerne and aircraft dispatched to Vickers at South Marston 12.12.57. On completion aircraft flown to 23 MU Aldergrove 19.9.58 and subsequently scrapped.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XH303:[53] from Odiham [F/O H W Carter]				

Wednesday 16th October 1957 [AIR 27/2756/42]

WH908	-	Canberra B.2*	61 Sqn	F/L D L Newell
*Routed: Ahlhorn-Valley-Wyton.				

Friday 18th October 1957 [AIR 27/2769/45][MB]

XJ435		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Gumbrell
To Silloth for special operations at Windscale nuclear site.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD526 7 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 49 MU from 25.10				

Saturday 19th October 1957 [AIR 27/2769/45]

XJ435		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Gumbrell
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Flights conducted over the chimney of No. 1 Pile at Windscale.
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Sunday 20th October 1957 [AIR 29/2736][AIR 27/2769/45]

XF120	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	F/L R L Davis
*To Chivenor ROC Day to demonstrate the Swift F.7 to ROC personnel.				
-				
XJ435		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Gumbrell
Whilst temporarily based at Silloth for Windscale operations the helicopter was scrambled to assist with 3 men trapped in the Solway Firth. 3 men and a dog airlifted to safety; helicopter then returned to Silloth. Cpl J B Brown, 22 Sqn was awarded a Queen's Commendation for this Rescue.				

Monday 21st October 1957 [AIR 27/2889/126]

VS578	[CB-Z]	Anson C.21*	MCS	S/L P F M Davies
*From and to Hendon. Arrived 13:15 & departed 14:10.				

Tuesday 22nd October 1957 [AIR 27/2885/34]

[VX]494		Valetta C.1*	FS Sqn	F/O R C Davis
*Routed: Benson-Hullavington-St Athan-Kirkbride-Silloth-Valley-Benson.				
Based noted: Anson TX209 Station Flt [Cdr Honywill] to & from Bircham Newton.				

Wednesday 23rd October 1957

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD743 missile firing [J O Mathews]				

Thursday 24th October 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

XF1--	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	2 Missile firings
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Monday 28th October 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE872 delivered from CFS to 7 FTS.				

Tuesday 29th October 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD625 7 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by DH from 9.12				

Wednesday 30th October 1957 [AIR 29/2736]

XF1--	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Missile firing
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Thursday 31st October 1957 [AIR 29/2736][AIR 27/2820/1][AIR 27/2885/34]

XF1--	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Missile firing
[Firefly U.8 WM890 from Llanbedr was shot down on this date]				
WA257		Vampire FB.5	147 Sqn	F/L R B Robinson
Ferry from Hullavington, 147 Sqn was a UK based ferry unit.				
[VL]280		Valetta C.1*	FS Sqn	F/L K A Reeve
*From and to Benson, crew ferry for WA257.				

Friday 1st November 1957 [GP/UM]

1523	7-B	CS2F-1 Tracker	VS.880/RCN	To Sydenham
From HMCS Bonaventure, the aircraft was sold to the R Netherlands Navy in 12.60 becoming '194'.				

Monday 4th November 1957 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD379:[IV] delivered from CFS to 7 FTS. Vampire T.11 XK624 7 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by DH from 9.12				

Thursday 7th November 1957 [AIR 27/2769/47][AIR 27/2844/46]

		?		
AOC 19 Group, AVM G I L Saye visited 22 Sqn, by air?				
WR977	L	Shackleton MR.3*	220 Sqn	S/L Patterson
*From and to St Mawgan.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK625:[48] 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] air test.				

Saturday 9th November 1957 [RAFM]

Based noted: Vampire FB.5 VZ849 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] air test.				

Sunday 10th November 1957 [AIR 27/2821/34]

XD814	-	Valiant BK.1*	148 Sqn	W/C F C D Wright
*Departed UK 3.11 routed: Marham-Aldergrove-Goose Bay-Ottawa-Winnipeg-Ottawa-Goose Bay-Valley arriving 17:15.				

Monday 11th November 1957 [AIR 27/2821/34][AIR 27/2749/70]

XD814	-	Valiant BK.1*	148 Sqn	W/C F C D Wright
*To Marham 15:10. See 10.11				
WH911	-	Canberra B.2**	35 Sqn	Diversion, F/O K L Handscomb
WJ719	-	Canberra B.2**	35 Sqn	Diversion, F/L K M Flett
WJ718	-	Canberra B.2**	35 Sqn	Diversion, F/S T J Emanuel
**All from and to Upwood, WH911 departed same day.				

Tuesday 12th November 1957 [AIR 27/2749/70][AIR 27/2783][AIR 27/3217]

WJ719	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	Diversion, to Upwood, see 11.11
WJ718	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	Diversion, to Upwood, see 11.11
WJ731	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	From Upwood, F/L J Whitehead
WH802	-	Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	F/L A H Davies

Wednesday 13th November 1957 [GP/UM]

XA156	[755]	Sea Vampire T.22	[702 NAS/JOAC Ford]	To Sydenham from Ford
To RNAY Sydenham for modifications.				

Thursday 14th November 1957

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [I R Ryall]				
Based noted: Dominie X7341 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] Routed: Valley-Little Rissington-Colerne-Brawdy-Valley.				

Friday 15th November 1957 [AIR 27/2874/33]

VP266	[B-A]	Shackleton MR.1*	269 Sqn	F/L Peck
VP287	[B-B]	Shackleton MR.1*	269 Sqn	F/L MacEagle
*Both carried out skid bombing on Anglesey Range [Ty Croes ?] did not land at Valley.				

Monday 18th November 1957 [AIR 27/2759/130]

WL684	[B]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/S Todd calibrate BABS
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Tuesday 19th November 1957 [AIR 27/2741/57]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor T.7 WA738 [S/L Price]				
		Meteor NF.14	25 Sqn	
		Meteor NF.14	25 Sqn	
		Meteor NF.14	25 Sqn	
		Meteor NF.14	25 Sqn	
Weather diversions from RAF Aldergrove. They were on detachment there from RAF Tangmere for Exercise 'Detection' [In 1957 25 Sqn were operating: NF.12's WS716:B WS719:D WS637:L WS697:N WS695:Q WS680:T, NF.14's WS725:G WS726:H WS753:J [WS781:J] WS776:K WS728:P WS733:S WS748:V WS750:W WS739:X]				

Friday 22nd November 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [I R Ryall]				
		?		
63 Course, the penultimate RN course graduation attended by AVM H R Graham, AOC 23Gp.				
Based noted:				

Dominie X7341 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham]
Routed: Valley-Shawbury-Bramcote-Marham-Valley.

Monday 25th November 1957 [AIR 27/2783]

WH914	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/L C D Grogan
Based noted: Vampire T.11 WZ553:40 7 FTS [F/L Burke] to West Raynham.				

Tuesday 26th November 1957 [AIR 27/2783]

G/C J T Shaw assumes command of the Station.				
WJ641	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD S/L E Wallane

Wednesday 27th November 1957 [AIR 29/2699]

		Anson*		Cdr J D Honywill to Rufforth.
*Departing Stn Cdr, G/C T S Rivett-Carnac onboard, given an escort of 2 Vampire 'Vic' formations as far as Liverpool.				

Thursday 28th November 1957 [AIR 27/2783]

WJ641	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/O D H Bourne
WH917	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/L K T Meehan

Friday 29th November 1957 [AIR 27/2820/1][AIR 27/2885/32][MB]

XD403		Vampire T.11	147 Sqn	F/S Green from St Athan
[VL]278		Valetta C.1*	FS Sqn	F/L G H Atkin
*Routed: Benson-Hullavington-St Athan-Valley-Hawarden-Benson, crew ferry for XD403.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD403 from 19 MU to 7 FTS. Vampire T.11 XE882 from 10 MU to 7 FTS. Vampire T.11 XK588 from 10 MU to 7 FTS.				

Tuesday 3rd December 1957 [DF][AIR 27/2821/36][AIR 27/2835/38][AIR 27/2730/72]

WK121	-	Canberra B.2	RRE	From & to Pershore.
XD814	-	Valiant BK.1	148 Sqn	Diversion S/L K Smith 20:18
WZ367	-	Valiant B.1	148 Sqn	Diversion F/L D S Bell 20:26
WZ404	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	207 Sqn	Diversion F/L E A J Crooks 20:07
WH981	-	Canberra B.6*	9 Sqn	F/L G A Smart from Binbrook
WJ756	-	Canberra B.6*	9 Sqn	F/L A Jones from Binbrook
*The two 9 Sqn aircraft were involved in 'Exercise Orpen'				

Wednesday 4th December 1957 [AIR 27/2730/72]

WH981	-	Canberra B.6	9 Sqn	To Binbrook, see 3.12
WJ756	-	Canberra B.6	9 Sqn	To Binbrook, see 3.12

Thursday 5th December 1957 [AIR 27/2760/73]

WL745	B	Shackleton MR.2*	120 Sqn	F/L D Fairburn
WR955	G	Shackleton MR.2*	120 Sqn	F/L Armstrong
*Both involved in bombing somewhere on/off Anglesey according to the Sqn ORB, possibly off Ty Croes ? Did NOT land at Valley. Both from and to Aldergrove.				

Friday 6th December 1957 [AIR 27/2821/36][AIR 27/2835/38][MB]

XD814	-	Valiant BK.1	148 Sqn	S/L K Smith dep 10:25
WZ367	-	Valiant B.1	148 Sqn	F/L D S Bell dep 10:26
WZ404	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	207 Sqn	F/L E A J Crooks dep 10:48
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD403 XE882 XK588 7 FTS all transferred to 1 FTS.				

Wednesday 11th December 1957 [DF][AIR 27/2749/72]

WH913	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, F/O P T Whitelaw
VP972		Devon C.1	RRE	From & to Pershore.
XA880		Devon C.1	RRE	From & to Pershore.
-				
XJ393		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	To Pershore
The RRE aircraft and Whirlwind were in connection with the fatal crash of Canberra B.2 WK129 from RRE [Radar Research Establishment] on Drum, NE ridge of Carnedd Llewelyn 9.12.57. 22 Sqn flew 2 sorties in support of the search for the aircraft in Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ730 plus the MRT were heavily involved between 9-13.12. The search was hampered by extreme weather for the first 3 days. [Killed were Pilot, F/L William Albert Bell & Navigator, F/L Kenneth Charles Frederick 'Spike' Shelley]				

Thursday 12th December 1957 [GP/UM][DF][IBCCA]

WD687		Meteor NF.11	RRE	From & to Pershore
XA880		Devon C.1	RRE	From & to Pershore
VP972		Devon C.1	RRE	To Pershore
The RRE flights were in connection with the loss of Canberra B.2 WK129 which crashed into the summit of Carnedd Llewelyn [OS 107/688647] on 9.12.57. 22 Sqn Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ730 [F/L Burke] attended the search for the aircraft. A RRE Varsity T.1 WJ914 [S/L Tebbutt] was also involved in the search but did NOT use Valley.				
-				
WP993	26	Vampire FB.5	7 FTS	
No.3 in a 3-ship formation. Formation had already carried out 3 loops when during the fourth the Pilot said he was bailing out but was found still in the aircraft. Crashed into a barn near Capel Coch, Marianglas, Benllech, Anglesey [OS 114/506842]. 22 Sqn attended with Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ730 [F/L Burke]. He was buried with full military honours at Maeshyfryd Cemetery, Holyhead 16.12.57				
Pilot	Lt	Nicholas John Lipscomb [RN]	Killed, aged 23 from Preston area	



Maeshyfryd, Holyhead.

Based noted:
Dominie I X7341 7 FTS visited Sydenham.

Friday 13th December 1957 [AIR 27/2749/72]

WH919	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, F/L E K G Bates.
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Monday 16th December 1957 [DF][AIR 27/2821/36][AIR 27/2835/38][AIR 27/2759/132][AIR 27/2730/72][AIR 27/2760/73]

WL621	[A]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/S Dean calibrate ACR7D Radar
VP972		Devon C.1	RRE	From & to Pershore.
VX541		Valetta C.1	RRE	From & to Pershore.
XJ393		Whirlwind HAR.3	22 Sqn	To Pershore
XD815	-	Valiant BK.1	148 Sqn	Diversion F/L R Alexander 20:57
WZ405	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	207 Sqn	Diversion W/C C Chapman 20:49
WJ759	-	Canberra B.6*	9 Sqn	Diversion G/C J D Warne
*Diverted enroute Luqa-Binbrook.				
WG556	K	Shackleton MR.2**	120 Sqn	F/L D Fairburn
**From and to Aldergrove.				

Tuesday 17th December 1957 [AIR 27/2821/36][AIR 27/2835/38][AIR 27/2730/72]

XD815	-	Valiant BK.1	148 Sqn	F/L R D Alexander dep 11:13
WZ405	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	207 Sqn	W/C C P N Chapman dep 11:45.
WH977	-	Canberra B.2	9 Sqn	Diversion, F/L R C Sharpe

Wednesday 18th December 1957 [AIR 27/2730/72][AIR 27/2854/131]

[VS]514		Anson C.19*	[61 Gp CF]	F/O N E Cooke
*From and to Binbrook.				
WJ759	-	Canberra B.6	9 Sqn	To Binbrook, see 16.12.
WH977	-	Canberra B.2	9 Sqn	To Binbrook, see 16.12.
TX231		Anson C.19		To Blackbushe
WJ681	-	Canberra*	527 Sqn	Diversion F/L Bowman

WH670	-	Canberra*	527 Sqn	Diversion F/S Neats
*The two 527 Sqn aircraft departed back to Watton same day. *WJ681 was on a Northern calibration run with WH670 on the Southern one.				

Monday 30th December 1957 [AIR 27/2759/132]

WJ887	[J]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/L Howe calibrate GCA
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