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RAF Valley

Aircraft Movements

1958

CREDITS:

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David Watkins/Ulster Mail**

UPDATE V2

<i>Airshow Flying Programme front cover.</i>
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SUMMARY

1958 saw the opening of the new Officers' Mess at Valley, the largest building on Anglesey when built! There were also students from Burma/Iraq/Jordan/Thailand/Venezuela undergoing flying training with 7 FTS. After a 4 year stay the RN departed Valley at the beginning of the Year, this was brought about due to the RN Reserve Units being disbanded as a result of the 1957 Defence cuts. The Royal Auxiliary Air Force was also disbanded as a result of these cuts.

7 FTS aircraft establishment was 24 Vampires.
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GWDS/Fairey Aviation continued with their Fireflash Missile Trials. Ultimately the RAF decide to procure the DH Firestreak Infra-Red Missile as opposed to the beam riding Fireflash. The Swifts would be retired at the end of the Year with Firestreak equipped Javelin fighters carrying out trials from 1959 onwards still based at Valley.
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Abbreviations

AHU	Aircraft Holding Unit
ANS	Air Navigation School
AWDS	All-Weather Development Squadron
BABS	Blind Approach Beacon System
BS/BW	Bomber Squadron/Wing [USAF]
CAACU	Civilian Anti-Aircraft Co-Operation Unit
CAW	College of Air Warfare
CFE	Central Fighter Establishment
CFS	Central Flying School
CNCS	Central Navigation & Control School
FCCS	Fighter Command Communications Squadron
FTC	Flying Training Command
FTCCS	Flying Training Command Communications Squadron
FTS	Flying Training School
FS	Ferry Support
GWDS	Guided Weapons Development Squadron
MCS	Metropolitan Communications Squadron
MU	Maintenance Unit
MOTU	Maritime Operational Training Unit
MPC	Missile Practice Camp
NAVEX	Navigation Exercise
NAS	Naval Air Squadron
OCU	Operational Conversion Unit
ORB	Operations Record Book
PRF	Provost Refresher Flight
RAFC	Royal Air Force College
RAFFC	Royal Air Force Flying College
RJAF	Royal Jordanian Air Force
RRE	Radar Research Establishment
S/Lt	Sub-Lieutenant [RN rank]
Sqn	Squadron
TFW	Tactical Fighter Wing
THUM	Temperature & Humidity Flight [RAF Woodvale]
UAS	University Air Squadron
WRS	Weather Reconnaissance Squadron

Thursday 2nd January 1958 [AIR 27/2759/134][AIR 27/2730/74]

WJ887	[J]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/L Howe calibrate GCA
WT489	-	Canberra T.4	9 Sqn	Diversion, F/L R C Sharpe

Friday 3rd January 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*][AIR 27/2730/74]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: 1 st Fireflash missile fired from a Swift F.7				
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TX209		Anson C.19*		CCA Calibration.
WT489	-	Canberra T.4	9 Sqn	To Binbrook, see 2.1

Saturday 4th January 1958 [AIR 27/2759/134]

WL678	[C]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	P/O Erasmus calibrate BABS
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Monday 13th January 1958 [BJ]

G-AHLM	-	DH.89A Rapide	Marshalls	From Speke
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Wednesday 15th January 1958 [AIR 4/198 Sgt Hall logbook]

WL747	[T-W]	Shackleton MR.2	204 Sqn	F/L Langley
From & to Ballykelly to use the Anglesey Range [Ty Croes] did NOT land at Valley.				

Thursday 16th January 1958 [AIR 27/2846/4][MB]

WR960	[LS]	Shackleton MR.2*	228 Sqn	G/C Whelan
*Routed: Luqa-Valley-St Eval.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD625 repairs complete back to 7 FTS, see 29.10.57				

Friday 17th January 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2777]

64 Course, final RN Graduation Parade with 7 FTS. 225 Naval Pilots had gained their wings since October 1954.				
WR952	[A-B]	Shackleton MR.2*	42 Sqn	F/L A M Adams
*Routed: St Eval-Kinloss-Valley-St Eval.				

Sunday 19th January 1958 [AIR 27/2857]

		?	FCCS	To Bovingdon
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Monday 20th January 1958 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD458 7 FTS transferred to 1 FTS.				

Friday 24th January 1958 [GP/UM]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [J O Mathews]				
WD358	E	Chipmunk T.10	QUAS	From Sydenham, Queens UAS

Monday 27th January 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

RN involvement at Valley ends primarily as a result of the disbandment of the RNVR.				
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Wednesday 29th January 1958 [RAFM]

Based noted:				

Vampire T.11 XD589:[46] XD619:62 XD620 XH314:47 XK625 7 FTS all transferred to 1 FTS.
Vampire T.11 XH303:[53] 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] to & from Linton-on-Ouse.

Thursday 30th January 1958 [AIR 27/2781/59]

XD824	-	Valiant BK.1	49 Sqn	PD F/L D R Dewar
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February 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

Mention of building a bridge across the Afon Crigyll [Bailey Bridge] at the Rhosneigr end.

Saturday 1st February 1958 [AIR 27/2781/61]

XD824	-	Valiant BK.1	49 Sqn	PD F/L D R Dewar
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Monday 3rd February 1958 [AB Digest 58][AIR 27/2769/53]

WD743	-	Meteor NF.11	Fairey Avn	To Fairey's at Ringway
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WF253	606:LM	Seahawk F.1	736 NAS	
Having flown down from RNAS Lossiemouth the aircraft stalled in a very tight final turn at Valley for Runway 14 at 11:06. It hit the ground 500mts short of the runway, bounced and broke into 2 pieces. 22 Sqn attended with Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ729:[J] flown by F/L H W Gumbrell. S/Lt Veres was a South African exchange Officer.				
Pilot	S/Lt	Elmer Laszlo Veres [SAAF]	Killed	

Thursday 6th February 1958 [GP/UM][MB]

XG870	543:GN	Gannet T.2	719 NAS	From Sydenham
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK624 repairs complete back to 7 FTS, see 4.11.57				

Tuesday 11th February 1958 [AIR 27/2817/47]

WH705	-	Canberra B.2	139 Sqn	W/C Helmore
From & to Binbrook.				

Wednesday 12th February 1958 [AIR 27/2817/47]

WH705	-	Canberra B.2	139 Sqn	PD S/L Kearns
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Friday 14th February 1958 [AIR 4/201]

XE933	53	Vampire T.11	RAFC	F/L Taylor from & to Cranwell
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Thursday 27th February 1958 [AIR 27/2769/54]

XJ729	[J]	Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P R E 'Ginger' Brown
Scrambled to Winter Hill near Bolton where a civil aircraft had crashed. This was Bristol 170 Freighter G-AICS operated by Manx Airlines flying from IoM to Manchester which crashed in heavy snow. 35 died and 7 were injured, cause was determined to be a navigational error. The Valley MRT were given a Police escort all the way to the site. It refuelled at Woodvale prior to returning to Valley. [DR 16/81 & DR 11/24 & BT 219/200]				

Friday 28th February 1958 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD526:42 repairs complete back to 7 FTS, see 18.10.57				

Sunday 2nd March 1958 [AB][AIR 27/2769/55]

EI-AHU	-	Chipmunk 22	Private	From Speke
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XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L H W Gumbrell
Search carried out after a Merchant vessel sighted a patch of oil and disturbance on the water at 53.25N 004.24W, nothing seen.				

Monday 3rd March 1958 [AIR 27/2769/55]

XJ730		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L W P Burke
Unconfirmed report of an aircraft crash near Dolgellau, search carried out, but nothing seen.				
XJ729		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P R E Brown
Seriously ill boy CASEVAC from an isolated farm to RAF Valley and then to a waiting ambulance with acute appendicitis, would probably have died were it not for the helicopter.				

Tuesday 4th March 1958 [AIR 27/2875/26][AIR 27/2784/6]

WZ396	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	543 Sqn	PD F/L T J Bradbury
WJ641	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/O J L Whitehead

Thursday 6th March 1958 [AIR 27/2759/138]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: 1 st night missile firing in the UK.				
WJ945	[H]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	M/P Lloyd
Calibrated PV1B & Mona.				

Friday 7th March 1958 [AIR 27/2759/138]

WJ945	[H]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	M/P Lloyd
Calibrated PV1B & Mona.				

Saturday 8th March 1958 [AIR 27/2759/138]

WJ945	[H]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt Gopshill
Calibrated PV1B & Mona.				

Sunday 9th March 1958 [AIR 27/2759/138]

WJ945	[H]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt Gopshill
Calibrated PV1B & Mona.				

Monday 10th March 1958 [AIR 27/2784/6]

WJ722	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/L K T Meehan
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Monday 17th March 1958 [AIR 27/2784/6][AB]

WJ732	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/O D T Broadwith
G-AJAE	-	Auster J/1N	Private	To Squires Gate

Tuesday 18th March 1958 [AIR 27/2759/138]

WL678	[C]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt McKenn calibrate BABS
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Wednesday 19th March 1958 [AIR 27/2784/6]

WJ676	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/L B Thomas
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Thursday 20th March 1958 [AIR 27/2759/138]

WL678	[C]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt McKenn calibrate BABS
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Friday 21st March 1958 [AIR 27/2759/138]

WL678	[C]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt McKenn calibrate BABS
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Tuesday 25th March 1958

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD743 [F/L Davies]				

Thursday 27th March 1958 [AIR 27/2885/24][AIR 27/3217]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD743 [F/L R Ramirez]				
[VW]150		Valetta C.1*	FS Sqn	F/L G Luckins
*Routed: Benson-Luqa-Istres-Valley-Kirkbride.				
WJ820	-	Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	From Wyton
WJ825	-	Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	From Wyton

Friday 28th March 1958 [AIR 27/3217]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: Meteor NF.11 WD745 [J O Mathews]				
WJ820	-	Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	To Goose Bay, see 27.3
WJ825	-	Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	To Goose Bay, see 27.3

Monday 31st March 1958 [AIR 27/2833/8][AIR 27/2777]

VP265	[F]	Shackleton MR.1	206 Sqn	F/L Houldsworth
From St Mawgan.				
WL737	D	Shackleton MR.2	42 Sqn	F/L E L Simmonds
Routed: St Eval-Valley-Langar.				

Tuesday 1st April 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

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Based noted: 4x Vampire T.11 1 Sqn/7 FTS Flew a formation up the North Wales coast as far as Chester and down to Aberystwyth to celebrate the RAF's 40 th Birthday. They flew 2 flights with a total of 8 Cadets from No.2 Welsh Wing, Air Training Corps as passengers.				
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Wednesday 2nd April 1958 [AIR 27/2833/10]

VP265	[L]	Shackleton MR.1	206 Sqn	To Colerne, see 31.3
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Wednesday 9th April 1958 [AIR 27/2784/8]

WH914	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/O A D Stacey
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Thursday 10th April 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2592][AIR 27/2874/43]

XF904	[M-E]	Provost T.1*	3 FTS/PRF	F/L Arrowsmith
XF550	[Q-K]	Provost T.1*	3 FTS/PRF	M/P Jackson
XF912	[N-C]	Provost T.1*	3 FTS/PRF	M/P Kenyon
XF874	[N-L]	Provost T.1*	3 FTS/PRF	F/S Witchall
XF843	[P-F]	Provost T.1*	3 FTS/PRF	F/S Gunnell
XF610	[R-D]	Provost T.1*	3 FTS/PRF	F/L Tovey
XF910	[Q-C]	Provost T.1*	3 FTS/PRF	F/L Myat-Maung

*Provost Refresher Flight [PRF] arrived from Feltwell. One of the aircraft flying from Feltwell to Valley landed at Shawbury where due to defective maintenance the undercarriage torque links snapped.

WB820	B-F	Shackleton MR.1**	269 Sqn	F/L Drysdale
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**Used the Anglesey Range [Ty Croes ?] did NOT land at Valley.

Monday 14th April 1958 [AIR 27/2888][AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2592][AIR 27/2874/43]

Provost Refresher Flight/3 FTS starts flying.				
		[Pembroke/Anson]	FTCCS	M/P R W H Lekke
AVM A D Gilmore [SASO HQ] Routed: White Waltham-Cottesmore-Valley-Chivenor.				
WB820	B-F	Shackleton MR.1*	269 Sqn	F/L Bureau

*Used the Anglesey Range [Ty Croes ?] did not land at Valley.

Tuesday 15th April 1958 [AIR 27/2874/43]

WB820	B-F	Shackleton MR.1*	269 Sqn	F/L Browne
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*Used Anglesey Range [Ty Croes ?] did not land at Valley.

Friday 18th April 1958 [AIR 27/2763/81]

TG572	[F]	Hastings Met.1	202 Sqn	F/O Woodley
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Routed: Bovington-Valley-Aldergrove.

Monday 21st April 1958 [RoundelMar049][AIR 29/2699]

XJ477	-	Sea Vixen FAW.1	De Havilland	
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Detached to Valley until 25.4 for rocket firing/Firestreak trials.

Tuesday 22nd April 1958 [AIR 27/2759/140][AIR 27/2831/42]

WL678	[C]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	Sgt McKenn calibrate GCA
WL795	-	Shackleton MR.2	204 Sqn	F/L Coleman
Used the Ty Croes Range.				

Thursday 24th April 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*][AIR 27/2874/43]

WV677	[O-S]	Provost T.1*	[2 FTS]	Local flying
VP287	269	Shackleton MR.1**	269 Sqn	F/L Drysdale
**Used the Anglesey Range [Ty Croes ?] did not land at Valley.				

Friday 25th April 1958 [AIR 27/2889/114]

VV919	[CB-K]	Anson T.21*	MCS	S/L R K Bailey
*From and to Northolt, arrived 13:45 & departed 14:30.				

Thursday 1st May 1958 [AIR 27/2769/60]

XJ727		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Brannon
'PAN' call from an Anson aircraft on one engine and unable to maintain height, position given as somewhere E of Valley heading for Valley. The Anson eventually landed on the disused runway at Mona and the crew and passengers were ferried to Valley.				

Monday 5th May 1958 [AIR 27/2888][AIR 29/2699]

		[Pembroke/Anson]	FTCCS	F/L P Downing & Noel
AOC FTC, AM Sir R Atcherley, from and to Blackbushe.				

Tuesday 6th May 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*]

VV315		Anson T.21*		
*Took 5 Airman flying from Mona to Valley and local flying.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK590:[45] 7 FTS [W/C Booth] to & from Worksop.				

Tuesday 13th May 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*][GP/UM]

Based noted: Anson C.19 TX209:KC Valley Station Flight. Valley-Belfast, Sydenham, and return. On 8.8.56 the code was KI, did it change ?				

Thursday 15th May 1958 [AIR 27/2759/142]

WL691	[N]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/L Howe calibrate GCA
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Friday 16th May 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*][AIR 27/2759/142][AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2784/10]

WH923	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/O A D Stacey
WJ946	[M]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/L T Hamsley calibrate GCA

XF550	[Q-K]	Provost T.1*	3 FTS/PRF	Circuits
*Flew twice, first with M/P Kenyon & second one solo.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK584:66 7 FTS Burtonwood Airshow.				

Saturday 17th May 1958 [AIR 27/2759/142][AB Bman58]

WL688	[G]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/L T Hamsley calibrate GCA
WL691	[N]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/L Howe

Tuesday 20th May 1958 [BJ]

G-AODI	-	AB.47G	Private	Heli Services, from Speke
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Thursday 22nd May 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

		?		
AOC 23 Group Annual Inspection, by air ?				

Wednesday 28th May 1958 [IBCCA][AB]

XA900	-	Vulcan B.1	230 OCU	PD T O Prickett [logbook]
Also carried out a PD at Kinloss.				
VP533		Anson C.19		To & from Squires Gate

Thursday 29th May 1958 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD526:42 7 FTS assessed as CAT.4[rogue] then CAT.3R 8.6 [XD526 was repaired on site by DH from 10.6]				

Friday 30th May 1958 [AIR 27/2749/82]

WK130	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, S/L K W Simpson
WH913	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, F/L A D Ashworth
WJ648	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, F/O J O H Lewarne, landed.
WH919	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, F/O G W Rippin

Monday 2nd June 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2769/62]

		[7]x Provost T.1*	PRF	Provost Refresher Flight
*Departed to Manby, see 10.4.58				
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XJ430		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Burke
Informed by ATC of a red very light sighted by local Police at Menai Bridge, on arrival search carried out but nothing seen.				

Tuesday 3rd June 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2760/85][MB]

		9x Vampire FB.5*	7 FTS	Ex. 4 FTS Worksop
		9x Vampire T.11*	7 FTS	Ex. 4 FTS Worksop

*The following Vampire T.11's are known to have been transferred during June 1958 from 4 FTS Worksoop to 7 FTS at Valley:

WZ558 XE827 XE851 XE852 XE853 XE857 XE874 XE885 + 1

*Arrival of 4 FTS aircraft from Worksoop to form 2 Sqn, 7 FTS.

WL750	J	Shackleton MR.2**	120 Sqn	F/L B R H Munn/B Gait
**Flew 2 sorties to the Anglesey Range for Skid Bombing. Possibly Ty Croes Range ?				

Wednesday 4th June 1958 [AIR 27/2760/85][MB]

WL750	J	Shackleton MR.2*	120 Sqn	F/L H Ponders
*Sortie flown to Anglesey Range for Skid Bombing, see also 3.6				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 WZ558 from 4 FTS to 7 FTS. Vampire T.11 XE852 & XE853:[59] XE885:47 from 4 FTS to 7 FTS.				

Wednesday 11th June 1958 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE857 from 4 FTS to 7 FTS.				

Thursday 12th June 1958 [AIR 27/2784/12]

WJ733	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/L K T Meehan
WJ733	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/O L Mills

Friday 13th June 1958 [GP/UM][AIR 27/2784/12]

VL301		Anson C.19		To Sydenham
WH922	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/O D Rankin
WJ732	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/L M H J Hicknett

Monday 16th June 1958 [MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE827 from 4 FTS to 7 FTS.				

Tuesday 17th June 1958 [AIR 27/2749/84][SB]

WH913	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, P/O W D E Martin
XA387	777	Gannet AS.1	796 NAS	A Wilson
From & to Culdrose, flew 2 ex. 60 Course members for S/Lt Davis's marriage.				

Wednesday 18th June 1958 [AIR 27/2821/48][AIR 27/2835/50][AIR 27/2840/57][MB]

XD858	-	Valiant BK.1	214 Sqn	S/L J Slessor to Marham 07:20
XD859	-	Valiant BK.1	214 Sqn	S/L R Furze to Marham 05:35
WZ379	-	Valiant B[PR].1*	148 Sqn	S/L R Richardson
*Diversion arriving 02:29 & departing 07:09 same day back to Marham.				
WZ404	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1**	207 Sqn	S/L P H Gibbs

****Diversion whilst on a SAC Bombing Competition Practice, arriving 02:39 & departing 07:10 same day.**

**Based noted:
Vampire T.11 XE851:[61] from 4 FTS to 7 FTS.**

Thursday 19th June 1958 [AIR 27/2769/62]

XJ430		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Brannon
2 men reported by eyewitness on a sandbank in the Dee Estuary near Heswall, on arrival in poor weather conditions landed in Courtaulds playing fields to contact local Police, informed that one of the employees saw 2 men trying to start the engine on a small boat drifting towards Heswall, further search carried out, but nothing seen. Flew to Hawarden to refuel and informed by 18 Group to standby there, eventually returned to Valley.				
XJ435		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Brown
Scrambled to support XJ430 above, on arrival sighted Lifeboat but nothing seen during search, also diverted to Hawarden, returning to Valley later.				

Thursday 26th June 1958 [AIR 27/2762/65][MB]

Meteor T.7 WA738 [F/L B A W Stobart] for Swift F.7 photos.				
WZ612	[54]	Vampire T.11	[167 Sqn]	From Silloth F/O R D Downs
167 Sqn was a ferry/delivery unit. WZ612's F78 says allocated to 7 FTS 24.6				

Tuesday 1st July 1958 [SB]

XG675	[738]	Sea Venom FAW.21	[766 NAS]	Lt Robertson & Pat Mountain
Weather diversion at 23:55 from Yeovilton after a long range NAVEX to Cherbourg.				

Wednesday 2nd July 1958 [SB][AIR 4/196]

XG675	[738]	Sea Venom FAW.21	[766 NAS]	To Yeovilton 03:00, see 1.7
WH702		Canberra B.2	RRE	F/L Galletly
Logbook entry mentions 'Red Setter Mosaic Anglesey' most probably an overflight/trial. Red Setter was a Sideways Looking Airborne Radar [SLAR]				

Thursday 3rd July 1958 [BJ]

G-AJBI	-	DH.104 Dove 1B	Private	To Speke Morton Air Services
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Friday 4th July 1958 [AIR 27/2784/14]

WJ732	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/O A D Stacey
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Saturday 5th July 1958 [AIR 27/2769/64]

XJ430		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' M/P Brannon
Call received from Valley ATC that a Auster aircraft crashed into the sea between Morecambe and Heysham, as the light was fading the search was called off, returned to Valley.				

Tuesday 8th July 1958 [AIR 27/2888][Air 29/2699][AIR 29/2700]

HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visited Valley to view the new Officers' Mess. Her aircraft, Heron XM295 was diverted to Mona due to dense fog at Valley, she departed to Valley by car and departed by air from Valley 10.7. Officers Mess building was the first to be designed by a private architect as opposed to an Air Ministry Works Staff. The Heron later positioned to Valley from Mona and departed back to Benson the same day.



[Dick Thomas Collection]

XM295	-	Heron CC.4	Queens Flt	W/C Hyland-Smith
XM296	-	Heron C.4*	Queens Flt	S/L Currell
*Routed: Benson-London Airport-Valley-Kirkbride-Benson.				
		[Pembroke/Anson]	FTCCS	F/L C Houghton & A Bell
AM Sir R L R Atcherley, AOC-in-C FTC, from and to Blackbushe.				

Wednesday 9th July 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

All 'living in' Officers transferred to the new Officers' Mess.
Nos. 6 & 7 Sites plus the old Officers' Mess closed down.



In this view Site 8 sleeping quarters long since demolished can be seen in the far right background.



[All: Dick Thomas Collection]

Prior to the building of the new Officers Mess a recurring theme from the trainee pilots at Valley from 1951 to 1958 was summed up by these comments about Site 7!

'Dilapidated accommodation with old coke stoves for heating, the unheated ablutions were a 100yd walk. The thought of Site 7 still brought goose bumps years later to those who endured a Winter at Site 7'

Thursday 10th July 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2700]

Departure of HM Queen Mother.

*Both aircraft routed: Benson-Valley-London Airport-Benson.

XM295	-	Heron CC.4*	Queens Flt	S/L Currell
XM296	-	Heron C.4*	Queens Flt	W/C Hayland-Smith



[National Archives]



Although undated the new Officers Mess can be seen in the left background.

[Dick Thomas Collection]

Friday 11th July 1958 [AB]

VV307		Anson T.21	[25 GCF]	To & from Squires Gate
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Tuesday 15th July 1958 [Blackbushe 1958][MB]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 WZ512 delivered from 4 FTS to 7 FTS. Vampire T.11 :54 7 FTS F/L Cannon visited Workso. Anson T.21 VV964 Valley Station Flight visited Blackbushe.				
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Wednesday 16th July 1958 [@MAR 10/22]

Based noted: Meteor T.7 WL414 7 FTS allocated 7576M.				

Thursday 17th July 1958 [AIR 27/2759/146]

WL678	[C]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/O Gregory calibrate TACAN
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Monday 21st July 1958 [AIR 27/2759/146]

WL621	[A]	Varsity T.1	116 Sqn	F/S Todd calibrate TACAN
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Tuesday 22nd July 1958 [BJ][DF][AIR 27/2807/68][AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2799]

XH375	-	Heron CC.3*	Queens Flt	S/L Hannah & Prince Phillip
*HRH Duke of Edinburgh, on arrival he transferred to a helicopter and left immediately for Lake Padarn where the rowing events of the Empire Games [precursor to the Commonwealth Games] were taking place. Aircraft routed Benson-London Airport-Valley-Benson.				
		[Helicopter]		See above [22 Sqn possibly ?]
G-ALBI	-	DH.89A Rapide	Private	From Speke
WJ679	-	Canberra B.2	RRE	From & to Pershore
XH481	-	Vulcan B.1	101 Sqn	PD F/L W S Green
Based noted: Anson T.21 VV964 Valley Station Flight visited Blackbushe.				

Wednesday 23rd July 1958 [AIR 27/2730/86]

WT213	-	Canberra B.6	9 Sqn	PD, F/O G Smart
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Thursday 24th July 1958 [RAFM]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD526:42 repairs complete back to 7 FTS, see 29.5.58 Vampire T.11 XE851:[61] [F/L Latham] to Workso. Vampire T.11 XE829:[62] [F/L Whittingham] ferry from 4 FTS Workso to 7 FTS.				

Tuesday 29th July 1958 [AIR 27/2769/64]

XJ430		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Burke
Person swept out to sea off Rhosneigr, landed on beach to obtain more information. Body of a young boy floating 300yds offshore, winchman lowered, and body raised into the helicopter and CPR given before handing over to SMO.				

Thursday 31st July 1958 [DF]

XA880		Devon C.1	RRE	From & to Pershore
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Friday 1st August 1958 [BJ][AIR 27/2769/66]

G-AHNC	-	DH.82A Tiger Moth	Crop Culture	From Speke to Dublin
-				
XJ430		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/S Leyden
Capsized yacht with 2 occupants off Trearddur Bay, on arrival the yacht had been beached ashore, no assistance required. Also, small boat in trouble in Cemlyn Bay, 3 survivors winched off safely.				

Saturday 2nd August 1958 [AIR 27/2769/66]

XJ435		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/S Leyden
Swimmer in difficulty at Morfa Bychan, on arrival nothing seen.				

Sunday 3rd August 1958 [AIR 27/2769/66]

XJ435		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Burke
Capsized yacht in Red Wharf Bay, on arrival found yacht empty, survivors had been picked up by a small boat.				

Wednesday 6th August 1958

WP998	28	Vampire FB.9	7 FTS	
Lost height rapidly whilst on approach to Runway 20 at Valley and struck a rocky outcrop 200mts short of the runway, crossed the railway line and then ploughed through boggy land before sliding onto the runway. 1 sheep killed!				
Pilot	Lt	H M Hussein [Iraqi]	Ok	

Friday 8th August 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2799]

		11x Hunter F.6*	111 Sqn	'Black Arrows'
*Arrived at 12:20, see 9.8.				
				
[Valley Aviation Society]				
[In September 1958 111 Sqn were operating: XG193:A XG201:B XG190:C XG189:D XG171:E]				

XG129:F XG170:G XJ715:H XG194:N XE592:P XG200:Q XF446:R XE653:S XF416:T XG160:U XF430:V XF506:X]				
XH375	-	Heron CC.3**	Queens Flt	S/L Hannah
**From and to Benson with mail for the Royal Party.				

Saturday 9th August 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2811/50][AIR 27/2769/66][AIR 29/2799]

		11x Hunter*	111 Sqn	Departed to Wattisham 16:00
*The 'Black Arrows' 111 Sqn with 11 Hunters were due to display over Holyhead for HRH Prince Charles onboard HMY Britannia in Holyhead Harbour. However, due to bad weather this was cancelled. The Sqn were going to fly a surprise 'Prince of Wales Feathers' formation.				
XH375	-	Heron CC.3**	Queens Flt	S/L Hannah
**From and to Benson with mail for the Royal Party.				
-				
XJ435		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Burke
Capsized canoe in Church Bay, on arrival no assistance required.				

Sunday 10th August 1958 [AIR 27/2769/66]

XJ435		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Burke
Swimmer in difficulty at Sandy Bay, on arrival informed swimmer had been rescued earlier.				

Monday 11th August 1958 [AIR 27/3217]

WJ820	-	Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	From & to Wyton
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Monday 18th August 1958 [AIR 27/2730/88]

WT213	-	Canberra B.6*	9 Sqn	Diversion, S/L G Sizer.
*Met Flight diversion, from & to Binbrook.				

Tuesday 19th August 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*][AIR 27/2784/16]

WJ719	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/L L W Collingridge
WJ635	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/O S E Homsley
Based noted: *Vampire T.11 XD625:48 [7 FTS] local flying.				

Wednesday 20th August 1958 [BJ]

G-AMZN	-	DH.104 Dove 6	DH Co.	To Speke
De Havilland Aircraft Company.				

Thursday 21st August 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*][AIR 27/2856/8][AIR 27/2889/106]

VL337	[CB-L]	Anson C.19**	MCS	S/L C H Sloan
**From and to Northolt, arrived 13:00 & departed 14:35.				
XH497	-	Vulcan B.1	617 Sqn	PD F/L D A Taylor
Based noted: *Vampire T.11 XD625:48 [7 FTS]				

Local flying. Two flights carried out first with F/Sgt Adlington and the second one solo.				
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Friday 22nd August 1958 [AIR 27/2856/8][AIR 27/2769/66]

XH482	-	Vulcan B.1	617 Sqn	PD F/L R A Streatfield
-				
XJ725		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/S Lyden
2 men stranded on sandbank at Porthmadog, on arrival informed the 2 men had been rescued earlier.				

Saturday 23rd August 1958 [RAFM]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XD625:[48] 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] to & from St Mawgan.				

Wednesday 27th August 1958 [AIR 27/2769/66]

XJ725		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Brown
Capsized boat in Benllech Bay, after searching 20mins diverted by Preston ATC to an aircraft crash in the River Dee by Point of Ayr, search carried out with a break for refuelling at Talacre Station, search eventually called off.				

Thursday 28th August 1958 [AIR 27/2769/66]

G-AGVI	-	Auster Autocrat	Private	To & from Squires Gate
-				
XJ725		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Dougan
5 people stranded on sandbank in the mouth of the River Glaslyn, Porthmadog. On arrival informed they were all safe.				

Friday 29th August 1958 [AIR 29/2699][MB]

		4x JP*	[CFS]	
		Vampire T.11*	[CFS]	
*Arrived from Little Rissington to participate in the Colwyn Bay Air Display.				
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE853:59 7 FTS to DH for modifications.				

Saturday 30th August 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2783]

		4x Hunter F.5*	56 Sqn	
*Arrived from Waterbeach to participate in the Colwyn Bay Air Display. The actual display was restricted due to weather. [In 1958 56 Sqn were operating: WP104:A WP136:D WN979:E WN970:M WP130:S WN990:U WP186:AW]				
		? **		
**From White Waltham at 11:15 carrying the Guest of Honour AM Sir R L R Atcherley AOC FTC for the Colwyn Bay Air Display, transferred there by 22 Sqn Whirlwind. Approx 30,000 people attended the Airshow. Aircraft departed 18:00.				

Monday 1st September 1958 [AIR 29/2699][MB]

XH368	52	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	
Undercarriage collapsed on landing. Assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by DH from 9.9				
	F/L	N Last	Ok	

Sunday 4th September 1958 [AIR 27/2833/20]

WR981	A	Shackleton MR.3	206 Sqn	F/L Campbell
From & to St Mawgan.				

Friday 5th September 1958 [AIR 27/2769/66]

XJ725		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/S Leyden
Picked up badly injured pilot from Llanbedr and flew him plus a Doctor and Orderley to Walton Hospital, Liverpool. This was probably Meteor U.15 RA415 RAE Llanbedr yawed on a radio-controlled landing and hit a hangar.				

Tuesday 9th September 1958 [AIR 27/2889/104][AIR 27/2806/106]

VP955	-	Devon C.1*	MCS	F/L J Wilcock
*Routed: Northolt-South Cerney-Valley-Northolt. Arrived 13:50 and departed 15:30.				
WJ627	-	Canberra B.2**	100 Sqn	F/L W H Bonker
**Routed: Wittering-Pershore-Valley-Wittering.				

Wednesday 10th September 1958 [logbook]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE855 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] air test.				

Thursday 11th September 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2813/60][AB][logbook]

G-AGVI	-	Auster Autocrat	Private	To & from Squires Gate
		Anson*		Bovingdon
*Diverted in on one engine whilst in transit from Ballykelly.				
+	[-]	Pembroke C.54**	WGAF	
+	[-]	Pembroke C.54**	WGAF	
+	[-]	Pembroke C.54**	WGAF	
**Refuelling stop whilst on a navigational exercise. Valley ORB quotes 'Black Crosses seen in the area for the first time since hostilities ceased'				
WL622	[R]	Varsity T.1	115 Sqn	Calibrate GCA F/O F J Adams
Based noted: Vampire FB.5 WG795 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] air test.				

Friday 12th September 1958 [AIR 27/2856/10][AIR 29/2699]

XH482	-	Vulcan B.1	617 Sqn	Overflew G/C S P Coulson
-				
		Vampire T.11	7 FTS	

Reported undercarriage problems, landed safely and shutdown to await a tow clear of the runway. On climbing out of the aircraft he noticed flames coming from the jet pipe so returned to operate the fire extinguisher, no damage was caused to the aircraft.

Pilot	F/O	R Hillman	Ok
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Saturday 13th September 1958 [AIR 27/2769/67][AIR 29/2699]

		Vampire FB.5	7 FTS	No.3 on a 4 ship aeros practice.
Over-ran runway 32 on landing. 22 Sqn scrambled at 11:46 with Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ432:[B] flown by M/P J Dougan but stood down as pilot was uninjured.				
Pilot	F/L	B J Luffingham	Ok	

Saturday 20th September 1958 [AB][AIR 29/2699][AIR 29/2700][DP]

RAF Valley 'Battle of Britain' Display 11:00-18:00 *Flew only Estimated 22,000 attended.				
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40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE R.A.F.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN WEEK

In 1940

V stood for VICTORY

Today

V stands for V-BOMBER

& on September 20th

in

NORTH WALES

stands for

VALLEY

NUCLEAR-

-BOMBERS

Come and See

3-hour Air Display

ROYAL AIR FORCE

From 2 to 5 p.m.

VALLEY

Anglesey (5 miles from Holyhead)

Anglo-American Jet Flying Team, including the first jet to fly in the world, the first jet to fly in the world, the first jet to fly in the world.

at home - BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY

Saturday, 20th September, 1958 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

CWYNEDD'S OWN "FARNBORO" - THE BEST DAY'S OUTING OF THE YEAR

ADMISSION FREE

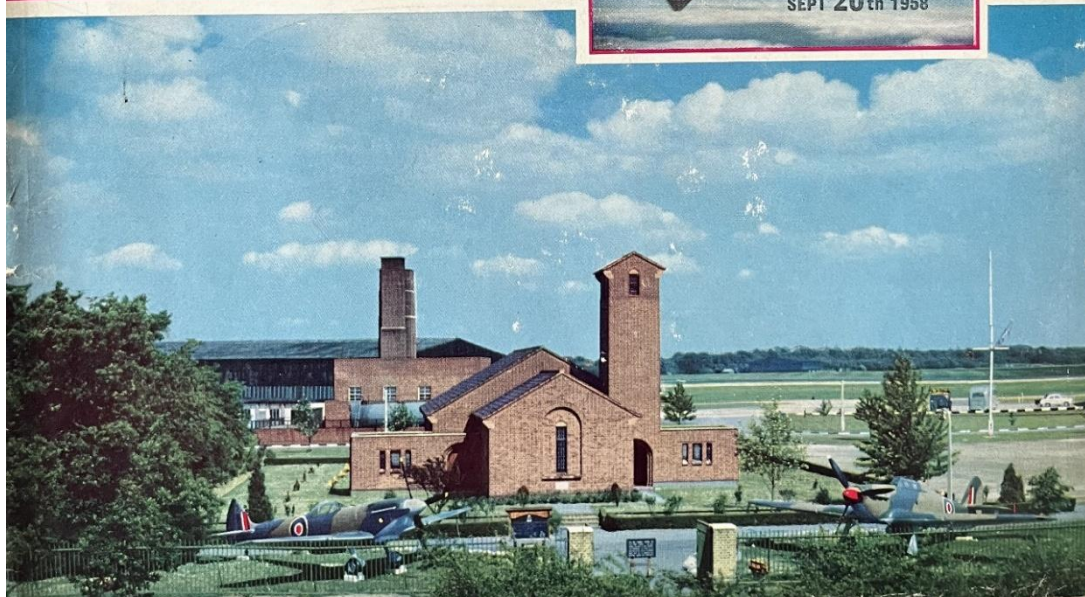
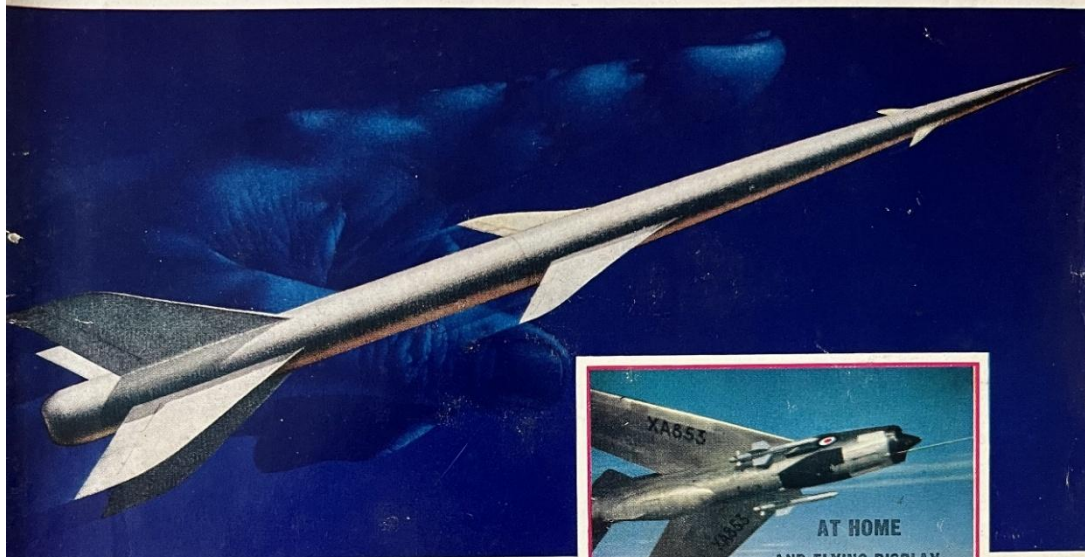
[Ken Richards]



Royal Air Force Valley

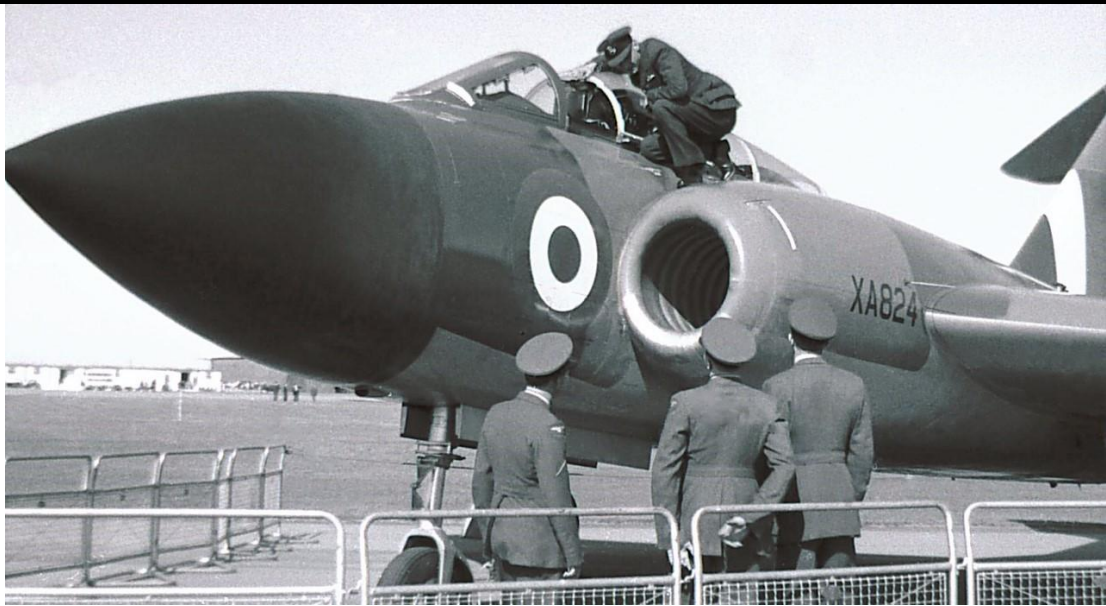
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NORTH WALES SOUVENIR BOOK



[Steve Kelly]

Serial	Code	Type	Unit	Home Base/Notes
WH703	-	Canberra B.2	231 OCU	
WP896		Chipmunk T.10	MUAS	Manchester UAS
XK671	-	Comet C.2*	216 Sqn	F/L W Sommers
XE704	A	Hunter F.6	CFS	Little Rissington F/L Foulks
XA824	H	Javelin FAW.6	29 Sqn	Leuchars



[Ken Richards]

SX934	-	Lincoln B.2	CAW	Manby
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[Ken Richards]

WL190		Meteor F[TT].8	RAFFC	Manby
WA824	Q	Meteor F.8	Ex. 74 Sqn	7462M derelict
TA634		Mosquito TT.35	CAACU	Woodvale



[Ken Richards]

XF546	N-Y	Provost T.1	6 FTS	
WP314	669:CU	Sea Prince T.1	750 NAS	
WB852	MOTU-C	Shackleton MR.1A	MOTU	[Kinloss]
XF119	119	Swift F.7	GWDS	Code on nose door



[Ken Richards]

XF120	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Valley, hangar
XF124	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Valley
WZ389	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	138 Sqn	Flypast
[XD867]	-	Valiant BK.1*	90 Sqn	S/L C H C Spencer

*Also quoted as XD871 but the ORB, AIR 27/2802/18 quotes XD867. In AIR 29/2699 it quotes that one of the Valiants landed short in the undershoot.

WG806	12	Vampire FB.5	7 FTS	Valley
WA394	22	Vampire FB.5	7 FTS	Valley
VZ851	33	Vampire FB.5	7 FTS	Valley Derelict
WL495	24	Vampire FB.9	7 FTS	Valley, hangar
XD526	42	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
XE884	43	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley, hangar
XD625	48	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
XD397	55	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	Valley
WJ915	V	Varsity T.1	[CNCS]	'Vega' Shawbury
XA921	-	Victor B.1*	10 Sqn	Cottesmore



[Ken Richards]

XH482	-	Vulcan B.1*	617 Sqn	Also, at Gaydon
XJ432	[B]	Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	Valley
XJ725	[E]	Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	Valley
55-307		B-66B	84 BS/47 BW	Sculthorpe
		KB-29P		

[KB-29P O-486249 flew out of Gaydon that day to 'go on tour' possibly the same one]

48-0060	0060	WB-50D*	53 WRS	Burtonwood
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[Valley Aviation Society]

Whilst landing in gusty conditions on Runway 20 it dropped first one wing then the other causing damage to both outer set of propellers.

G-AKSE	-	DH.89A Rapide	Private	
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WD931	-	Canberra B.2	[RAE]	Flypast, from Pershore ?
WK121	-	Canberra B.2	[RAE]	Flypast
[WK120]	-	Canberra B.2		Flypast
WJ991	B	Canberra T.4		Flypast
They also displayed at Gaydon as did the Hunter.				
XF117	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Flypast from Wethersfield
XF118	-	Swift F.7	GWDS	Flypast
		3x F-100D	20 TFW	Flypast
[WD984]		Hastings		[Canberra serial]
Possibly WD484 ?				
[XF362]		Hunter F.	[GWDS]	Flypast
XA728	[728]	Javelin FAW.4	23 Sqn	Flypast
XA731	[731]	Javelin FAW.4	23 Sqn	Flypast
XA754	[754]	Javelin FAW.4	23 Sqn	Flypast
WS745	EC-J	Meteor NF.14	AWDS/CFE	
CFE ORB mentions a 3-ship of Meteors, the NF.14 from AWDS and 2 F.8's from FCS.				
WK754	[E]	Meteor F.8	FCS/CFE	
		Meteor F.8	FCS/CFE	
WV494	[P-R]	Provost T.1	[6 FTS]	Displayed
WZ553	40	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	
WG928	11	Vampire FB.9*	7 FTS	
WG795	17	Vampire FB.5*	7 FTS	
VZ311	23	Vampire FB.5*	7 FTS	
WA369	31	Vampire FB.5*	7 FTS	
*Formation aerobatics.				
WX214	[16]	Vampire FB.9		
WJ942	[H]	Varsity T.1**	[2 ANS]	
WJ950	[S]	Varsity T.1**	[2 ANS]	
WL632	[J]	Varsity T.1**	[2 ANS]	
**Also carried out a flypast at Chivenor.				

Saturday 20th September 1958 [AB]

WJ915	V	Varsity T.1	CNCS	P/O Charleton
From & to Shawbury.				
Based noted: Swift F.7 XF116 GWDS Church Fenton BoB Display. Swift F.7 XF117 GWDS Gaydon BoB Display. Swift F.7 XF118 GWDS Gaydon BoB Display. Swift F.7 XF124:124 GWDS Odiham BoB Display, flying.				

Tuesday 23rd September 1958 [AIR 27/2769/66]

XJ432		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Dougan
Capsized boat on Maelog Lake, on arrival no assistance required.				

Thursday 25th September 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*][AIR 4/196]

WD931		Canberra B.2	RRE	F/L Galletly
'Blue Joker' trial Anglesey-IoM at 1,500ft, did it land though. Blue Joker was a balloon mounted airborne early warning radar.				
Based noted: *Vampire T.11 XD534:41 [7 FTS] local flying with F/L Latham.				

Friday 26th September 1958 [Roundel 87-06]

XA324	762	Gannet [AS.1]	796 NAS	To Abbotsinch AHU
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Saturday 27th September 1958

Based noted: Swift F.7 XF124 GWDS Odiham ROC [Royal Observer Corps] Air Day.				

Monday 29th September 1958 [AIR 27/2840/63][AB]

WZ390	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	214 Sqn	PD, S/L S Price
Based noted: Meteor T.7 WL414 allocated to Valley as 7576M.				

Tuesday 30th September 1958

GWDS Meteor T.7 WA738 [S/L Price] air-to-air photos of the Swift F.7				
				
Swift F.7 XF119 GWDS [Jack Gaston de Coninck]				

October 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

Number of aircraft on the line daily, 12 with 8 in reserve.

Wednesday 1st October 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*]

Meteor T.7 WA738 [S/L Price] air-to-air photos of Swift F.7



The nearest Swift F.7 is XF124 with XF117 behind.
A Fireflash missile can be seen under the right wing of XF124.
The photographer was Jack de Coninck
[Crown Copyright, Ministry of Defence]

Based noted: *Vampire T.11 XD625:48 [7 FTS] *Flew twice in the same aircraft, first with F/L Carroll and second one solo.				

Thursday 2nd October 1958 [AHB][AB][MB]

VS568		Anson C.21		To & from Squires Gate
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XK636:54 7 FTS transferred to RAFC Cranwell.				

Saturday 4th October 1958 [logbook]

Based noted: Vampire FB.5 :16 7 FTS F/L Cannon to Leuchars.				

Sunday 5th October 1958 [RAFM]

Based noted: Vampire FB.5 :16 7 FTS from Leuchars. Vampire T.11 XD397:[53] 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham] diverted to Shawbury.				

Monday 6th October 1958 [AIR 27/2889/102]

TX239	[CB-C]	Anson C.19*	MCS	W/C L A Malins
*From and to Northolt, arrived 11:35 and departed 15:05				

Tuesday 7th October 1958 [BJ][AIR 27/2805/68][AIR 29/2699]

WJ343		Hastings C.2*	99 Sqn	F/L P Mellor
*Photographic Mission, possibly to do with the Fireflash Demonstration?				
G-AKHC	-	Miles Gemini 3C**	Flight Int	From Speke.

**Flight International visit to view a Fireflash missile demonstration.				
-				
VZ273	24	Vampire FB.9	7 FTS	
Wheels up landing at RAF Valley due to jammed undercarriage, unable to lower. 22 Sqn scrambled with Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ725:[E] flown by F/L W Burke DFC but not required.				
Pilot	Lt	R Hussain [RJAF]	Ok, 2 nd solo flight.	

Wednesday 8th October 1958 [AHB][AIR 27/2856/12]

2 images taken on the GWDS flightline [later STCAAME] showing Fireflash Missiles being loaded onto a Swift F.7 GWDS.



[Crown Copyright, Ministry of Defence]



Six GWDS Swift F.7 can be seen on the GWDS flight line with XF120 nearest. [XF117 XF118 XF119 XF124 & 1 unidentified can also be seen on the original]

[Crown Copyright, Ministry of Defence]

XH501	-	Vulcan B.1	617 Sqn	PD S/L A Smailes
XH497	-	Vulcan B.1	617 Sqn	PD S/L A Smailes

Thursday 9th October 1958 [AIR 27/2769/70][MB]

WJ343		Hastings C.2	99 Sqn	Departed, see 7.10
-				
XJ725		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	M/P Dougan
Flash seen in the sky over Colwyn Bay, searched area until dusk then diverted to Woodbridge, returned to Valley 10.10 Although the ORB mentions Woodbridge a more				

plausible destination would be Woodvale or Woodford]

Friday 10th October 1958 [AIR 27/2813/62]

WJ887	[J]	Varsity T.1	115 Sqn	Calibrate BABS, F/L A Simpson
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Tuesday 14th October 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

WA394	22	Vampire FB.5	7 FTS	
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Unable to re-join formation with his leader and subsequently became lost & ran out of fuel due to radio failure, forced landing at Talacre, N Wales. Struck a pole and damaged beyond repair.

Pilot	Lt	J J'Mean [Jordanian]	Ok
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[Daily Post]

Based noted:

Vampire T.11 :46 7 FTS F/L Cannon visited Kemble.

Thursday 16th October 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*][AIR 29/2699]

Exercise Sunbeam 16-20.10.58				
Station task was to provide 12 aircraft each morning and afternoon which was achieved.				

Based noted:

*Vampire T.11 XK637:56 7 FTS local flying, flew with F/L Luffingham.

Monday 20th October 1958 [AIR 27/2731/2]

WJ631	-	Canberra B.6	9 Sqn	PD F/L J E Waiting
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Tuesday 21st October 1958 [AIR 27/2813/62]

WL678	[C]	Varsity T.1	115 Sqn	Calibrate TACAN, F/L Davies
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Thursday 23rd October 1958 [MB]

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Based noted:
Vampire T.11 XE853:59 modifications complete back to 7 FTS.

Friday 24th October 1958 [AIR 27/2813/62]

WJ945	[H]	Varsity T.1	115 Sqn	Calibrate GCA, F/L A B Simpson
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Tuesday 27th October 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE851 7 FTS [F/L Whittingham & Latham] air test.				
-				
XE885	47	Vampire T.11	7 FTS	
On a Staff Continuation Training Flight, the canopy hood seal deflated and the hood locking handle had moved down. It was found impossible to relock the canopy and on landing the canopy fell off onto the runway. F/L Whittingham's logbook quotes this as 21.10.58				
	F/L	L F Whittingham	Ok	
	F/S	L Adlington	Ok	

Tuesday 28th October 1958 [AIR 27/2728/22]

XD864	-	Valiant BK.1	7 Sqn	Diversion S/L A Veale
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Wednesday 29th October 1958 [AIR 27/2728/22]

XD864	-	Valiant BK.1	7 Sqn	To Honington, see 28.10
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November 1958

Weather diversions for this month by type: Anson/Beverley/Canberra/Comet/Hunter/Meteor/Swift/Valiant/Varsity				
Live firings by GWDS Swift F.7 finish.				

Wednesday 5th November 1958 [AIR 27/2835/60]

WZ403	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	207 Sqn	F/L M J Cawsey
Diversion, landed 21:34.				

Thursday 6th November 1958 [AIR 27/2835/60][AIR 27/2817/65]

WZ403	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	207 Sqn	Dep 10:25, see 5.11
WH705	-	Canberra B.2*	139 Sqn	Diversion, W/C Fisher
*Diversion whilst on a 'Bombex' sortie.				

Friday 7th November 1958 [AIR 27/2817/65]

WH705	-	Canberra B.2	139 Sqn	To Binbrook, see 6.11
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Saturday 8th November 1958 [Robert Bagshaw Logbook*]

Based noted:				

*Anson C.19 TX209

*2 flights in the same aircraft, one with F/L Pash & the other with a passenger M P Dougan.

Monday 10th November 1958 [AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2769/70]

The practice of using student pilot manpower to augment the groundcrews turning round Vampire aircraft was extended. Backlog students are now all undergoing a short course on 'line handling.'

XJ432		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/L Burke
Report that an aircraft had crashed in Moelfre Bay, search carried out with the aid of a Meteor, nothing seen.				
XJ432		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/S Leyden
Diverted from a training sortie to search for a crashed aircraft in Snowdonia, nothing seen.				

Tuesday 18th November 1958 [AIR 27/3217]

WT507	-	Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	PD
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Friday 21st November 1958 [BARG Roundel 1/90][AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2769/70]

115 P/V [Provost/Vampire] Course graduated. 3 Jordanian Pilots - Lt J'Mean, Ajlouni and Zakaria.				
XF116	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	To 23 MU, Aldergrove
XF117	117	Swift F.7*	GWDS	To 23 MU, Aldergrove
XF118	118	Swift F.7*	GWDS	To 23 MU, Aldergrove
XF119	119	Swift F.7*	GWDS	To 23 MU, Aldergrove
XF120	120	Swift F.7*	GWDS	To 23 MU, Aldergrove
XF122	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	To 23 MU, Aldergrove
XF124	124	Swift F.7*	GWDS	To 23 MU, Aldergrove
*All subsequently stored and sold for scrap 2.2.60. 25.11.58 is also mooted as a delivery date? Codes were carried on the nosewheel door.				
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XJ760		Whirlwind HAR.2	22 Sqn	F/S Leyden
Rescue people stranded on the summit of Tryfan, unable to reach them due to weather.				

Sunday 23rd November 1958 [AIR 27/2841/51]

XK696		Comet C.2*	216 Sqn	Diversion, F/O R Wilding
*Diverted whilst routing Nicosia-Lyneham.				

Monday 24th November 1958 [AIR 27/2749/95][AIR 27/2867/69][AIR 27/2841/51]

WH909	-	Canberra B.2*	35 Sqn	F/O P J Smith
*Upwood-Gutersloh-Valley-Upwood.				
XB269	[F]	Beverley C.1	53 Sqn	From Wildenrath, F/O Smedley
XK696		Comet C.2	216 Sqn	To Lyneham, see 23.11

Tuesday 25th November 1958 [AIR 27/2769/72][AIR 27/2867/69]

XB269	[F]	Beverley C.1	53 Sqn	To Abingdon, see 24.11
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		Vampire	7 FTS	
Pilot reported an explosion in the cockpit, landed safely at Valley. 22 Sqn Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ432:[B] [F/L W Burke] scrambled but not required.				

Wednesday 26th November 1958 [AIR 27/2749/95]

WH913	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, F/S E W Quinney
WK130	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, M/P T J Emanuel

Thursday 27th November 1958 [@MAR 01/22]

XJ320	-	Sea Devon C.20	781 NAS	Prestwick-Eglinton
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Friday 28th November 1958 [AIR 27/2821/58][AIR 27/2850/9][AIR 27/2874/55]

WZ367	-	Valiant B.1*	148 Sqn	S/L F L Welford
*Diversion whilst enroute El Adem-Marham arriving 14:44.				
WT488	-	Canberra T.4	245 Sqn	F/O G S Kerr from Tangmere
WB835	-	Shackleton MR.1	269 Sqn	F/L Peck From & to Ballykelly

Saturday 29th November 1958 [AIR 27/2821/58][AIR 27/2840/67][AIR 27/2850/9]

WZ367	-	Valiant B.1	148 Sqn	To Marham 09:25, see 28.11
WZ390	-	Valiant B[PR]K.1	214 Sqn	S/L R Furze to Marham 09:15
XD812	-	Valiant BK.1	214 Sqn	F/L P Butler to Marham 09:18
WJ681	-	Canberra B.2	245 Sqn	F/L K G Speer from Tangmere.

Sunday 30th November 1958 [AIR 27/2763/95]

GWDS/Fairey Aviation Trials: End of the above trials, ultimately the RAF chose the DH Firestreak missile.				
TG567		Hastings Met.1	202 Sqn	Met Flight diversion F/L Binnes

December 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

Weather diversions this month were: 11 Canberras/4 Hunters/3 Varsity T.1/7 Valiant/1 Valetta/1 Vampire 1 Swift/1 Anson/1 Mosquito [THUM Flight ?]/1 T-33A [RCAF]				
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Monday 1st December 1958 [AIR 27/2835/62][AIR 27/2850/11][AIR 27/2749/97][AIR 27/2784/24]

WP221	-	Valiant B[PR].1*	207 Sqn	W/C C P N Newman
*Diversion arriving 21:40				
WT488	-	Canberra T.4	245 Sqn	To Tangmere 14:55, see 28.11
WJ681	-	Canberra B.2	245 Sqn	To Tangmere 09:45, see 29.11
WH911	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, F/L E Parker
WK130	-	Canberra B.2**	35 Sqn	Diversion, F/O E B C Gwinnell
WH911	-	Canberra B.2**	35 Sqn	Diversion, F/L P T Whitelaw
**From and to Upwood, departed same day.				
WH922	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD F/L H E Rutherford

WH924	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	Diversion F/L D A Rankin
WJ677	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	Diversion F/O P L Jobling

Tuesday 2nd December 1958 [AIR 27/2728/26][AIR 27/2802/24][AIR 29/2699][AIR 27/2784/24]

WZ378	-	Valiant B[PR].1	7 Sqn	Diversion S/L G D Fallas 19:01
XD862	-	Valiant BK.1*	90 Sqn	S/L C P Norfolk arr 17:50
XD865	-	Valiant BK.1*	90 Sqn	G/C A D Frank arr 18:06
WZ377	-	Valiant B[PR].1*	90 Sqn	F/L J Cochrane arr 19:10
*The 90 Sqn aircraft were all Weather Diversions. G/C Frank was the RAF Honington Station Commander.				
WP221	-	Valiant B[PR].1	207 Sqn	W/C C P N Newman dep 13:00
		?x	RAFC	From Cranwell
Detachment from Cranwell, own aircraft plus 30 Instructors and Students plus groundcrew, returned 6.12.				
WH924	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	To Upwood, see 1.12
WJ677	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	To Upwood, see 1.12

Wednesday 3rd December 1958 [AIR 27/2728/26][AIR 27/2802/24]

WZ378	-	Valiant B[PR].1	7 Sqn	To Honington 12:05, see 2.12
XD862	-	Valiant BK.1*	90 Sqn	Dep 11:34, see 2.12
WZ377	-	Valiant B[PR].1*	90 Sqn	Dep 13:10, see 2.12
XD865	-	Valiant BK.1*	90 Sqn	Dep 13:25, see 2.12
*The 90 Sqn aircraft all departed to their home Base Honington but due to bad weather they all diverted to Wittering eventually arriving at Honington on 4.12				

Thursday 4th December 1958 [AIR 27/2815/68][AIR 27/2749/97]

WZ400	-	Valiant BK.1	138 Sqn	Diversion F/L J E Hogg arr 21:05
WH911	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, P/O W D E Martin
WJ634	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, J O H Lewarne
WJ637	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, M/P T J Emanuel

Friday 5th December 1958 [AIR 27/2815/68][MB]

WZ400	-	Valiant BK.1	138 Sqn	To Wittering 10:10, see 4.12
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE827 XE853:59 7 FTS transferred to 8 FTS.				

Saturday 6th December 1958 [AIR 27/2889/98]

TX217	-	Anson C.19*	MCS	F/L F J Lace
*Routed: Northolt-Burtonwood-Valley-Thorney Island-Northolt. Arrived 14:55 & departed 15:40.				

Monday 8th December 1958 [AIR 27/2781/81][AIR 27/2802/24][MB]

XD825	-	Valiant BK.1	49 Sqn	PD F/L D R Dewar
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WZ377	-	Valiant B[PR].1	90 Sqn	PD F/L D H Williams
Based noted: Vampire T.11 XE874 7 FTS transferred to 8 FTS. Vampire T.11 XH368:52 repairs complete back to 7 FTS, see 1.9.58				

Tuesday 9th December 1958 [BARG Roundel 1/90]

XF121	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	To 23 MU, Aldergrove
*3.4.59 is also mentioned as a delivery date.				

Thursday 11th December 1958 [AIR 27/2769/74]

		Vampire	7 FTS	
Pilot reported returning to Valley with engine vibration, landed safely at Valley. 22 Sqn Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ760:[K] [F/L G Braybrook] scrambled but not required.				

Monday 15th December 1958 [AIR 27/2850/11][AIR 27/2817/67]

WK162	-	Canberra B.2	245 Sqn	F/L A M Shaw
To Tangmere 14:10 when did it arrive though ?				
WJ773	-	Canberra B.6*	139 Sqn	Diversion, F/L Breslain
*Weather diversion from Binbrook.				
WH705	-	Canberra B.2**	139 Sqn	Diversion, F/L Faulkner
**Weather diversion whilst enroute Gutersloh-Binbrook.				
WJ782	-	Canberra B.6***	139 Sqn	Diversion, F/O Cockburn
***Weather diversion whilst enroute Luqa-Binbrook.				

Tuesday 16th December 1958 [AIR 27/2728/26][AIR 27/2733/24]

XD826	-	Valiant BK.1	7 Sqn	F/L B W Wellicome
Diversion at 12:58.				
WT211	-	Canberra B.6	12 Sqn	To Binbrook F/O T Mason
WH959	-	Canberra B.6	12 Sqn	To Binbrook F/O D J H Collins
WJ773	-	Canberra B.6	139 Sqn	To Binbrook, see 15.12
WJ782	-	Canberra B.6	139 Sqn	To Binbrook, see 15.12
WH705	-	Canberra B.2	139 Sqn	To Binbrook, see 15.12

Wednesday 17th December 1958 [AIR 27/2728/26]

XD826	-	Valiant BK.1	7 Sqn	To Honington 10:22
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Monday 22nd December 1958 [BARG Roundel 1/90][AIR 29/2699][AB][AVIA 5/38/S2931]

VW857		Valetta C.1		From Squires Gate
XF115	-	Swift F.7*	GWDS	To 23 MU, Aldergrove
*20.12.58 & 31.12.58 are also mentioned as delivery dates.				
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WR137	26	Vampire FB.9	7 FTS	
Briefed for medium level aerobatics at approx. 15,000ft with recoveries not below 10,000ft. The aircraft took off from Valley at 15:13. Approx. 9 minutes later two witnesses on the				

ground saw the aircraft in a shallow dive flying in a Southerly direction, with dark smoke trailing. Another witness nearer to the scene of the crash saw no smoke or fire before the aircraft struck the ground and exploded 7nms NNE of Valley [8nms S of Cemaes] The pilot had tried to abandon the aircraft at a low height but too late. The body of the pilot with the parachute unopened was found approx. 400yds from the wreckage crater. 22 Sqn Whirlwind HAR.2 XJ760:[K] flown by F/L W Burke attended this incident, the pilot's body was removed from the crash site by road. The actual cause of the crash was determined as obscure. This was the last flight before the Christmas stand-down.

Pilot	P/O	Frank Littlewood Thorpe [66 Course]	Killed
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Tuesday 23rd December 1958 [AIR 27/2830/46][AIR 27/2831/64][AB]

WB860	[-]	Shackleton MR.1A*	203 Sqn	F/O G E Grimsdale
WB856	[-]	Shackleton MR.1*	204 Sqn	F/L H C Bownas
WB857	[-]	Shackleton MR.1*	204 Sqn	F/L P M Papworth
*All from and to Ballykelly.				
TA641	[-]	Mosquito TT.35	3 CAACU	To Squires Gate
Based at Woodvale.				

Wednesday 24th December 1958 [AIR 29/2699]

		DC-3*	Aer Lingus	
		DC-3*	Aer Lingus	
		DC-3*	Aer Lingus	
		DC-3*	Aer Lingus	
		DC-3*	Aer Lingus	
		DC-3*	Aer Lingus	
		DC-3*	Aer Lingus	
		DC-3*	Aer Lingus	
		DC-3*	Aer Lingus	
		Viscount*	Aer Lingus	
		F-27*	Aer Lingus	
		F-27*	Aer Lingus	
		F-27*	Aer Lingus	

*Weather diversions during the afternoon and night due to fog at Birmingham, Manchester & Liverpool. Aer Lingus moved approx 250 passengers in from Dublin and 400 out to Dublin.

Wednesday 31st December 1958 [AIR 27/2749/97][AIR 27/2784/24][AIR 4/199]

WH918	-	Canberra B.2	35 Sqn	PD, F/O B A Sherlock
WJ677	-	Canberra B.2	50 Sqn	PD, S/L H V Sayfritz
[WJ]729		Canberra B.2	249 Sqn	PD, F/L M Hicks