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RAF Valley

Aircraft Movements

1969

CREDITS:

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UPDATE V2

Additional logbook movements.
Additional Gnat details by Mike Bursell.

SUMMARY

The major event during 1969 was the Investiture of Prince Charles in Caernarfon Castle.
HM The Queen attended with a Flypast on the day.
The Whirlwinds of the CFS detachment from Ternhill lost their 'W' code prefix this Year. The Gnats started to receive the new red/white colour scheme. During 1969 C Flight/22 Sqn completed their 1,000 Rescue mission since forming at Valley in 1955.

Abbreviations

AAC	Army Air Corps
A&AEE	Aeroplane & Armament Experimental Establishment
AEF	Air Experience Flight
AFWF	Advanced Fixed Wing Flight
AKG	AufklarungsGruppe [W German AF Reconnaissance Unit]
ANS	Air Navigation School
ARWF	Advanced Rotary Wing Flight

[F]BW	[Fighter] Bomber Wing [USAF]
CAACU	Civilian Anti-Aircraft Co-operation Unit
CAFU	Civil Aviation Flying Unit
CASEVAC	Casualty Evacuation
CATCS	Central Air Traffic Control School
CAW	College of Air Warfare
CCCF	Coastal Command Communications Flight
CFS	Central Flying School
CN&CS	Central Navigation & Control School
ECM	Electronic Counter Measures
ETPS	Empire Test Pilots School
FCCS	Fighter Command Communications Squadron
FCTU	Fighter Command Trials Unit
FTCCS	Flying Training Command Communications Squadron
FTS	Flying Training School
GCA	Ground Controlled Approach
HQ CCCF	Headquarters Coastal Command Communications Flight
HQ FC	Headquarters Fighter Command
JSTU	Joint Services Trials Unit
MCS	Metropolitan Communications Squadron
MoA	Ministry of Aviation
MOTU	Maritime Operational Training Unit
MPC	Missile Practice Camp
MU	Maintenance Unit
NAS	Naval Air Squadron
NCS	Northern Communications Squadron
OCU	Operational Conversion Unit
ORB	Operations Record Book
PD	Practice Diversion
QRA	Quick Reaction Alert [aircraft scramble]
RAFC	Royal Air Force College
RAFFC	Royal Air Force Flying College
SCS	Southern Communications Squadron
RRE	Radar Research Establishment
Sqn	Squadron
STCAAME	Strike Command Air-to-Air Establishment
TFS/TFW	Tactical Fighter Squadron/Wing
TRS/TRW	Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron/Wing [USAF]
TTF	Tanker Training Flight
UAS	University Air Squadron

1968/69 ? [MT]

XT862	722:VL	Phantom FG.1	700[P]NAS	
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Taxying out to 14. [Mark Taylor Collection]
700[Phantom]NAS was formed 30.4.68 and disbanded 31.3.69

Based noted:



Gnat T.1 XR982:51 4 FTS seen being serviced on the flightline.
[via Damian Smyth]

January 1969 [AIR 27/3146]

*Scrambled from Wattisham to Aberporth Range.

*1x Red Top fired, landed Valley.

*This was 111 Sqn's first Red Top live firing.

		Lightning [F.]*	111 Sqn	STCAAME F/L Gauvin
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Wednesday 1st January 1969 [Pprune YellowSun logbook*]

WJ915	[W]	Varsity T.1*	2 ANS	From & to Gaydon
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Thursday 2nd January 1969 [DF][MB]

WF379	[-]	Varsity T.1	RRE	PD from & to Pershore.
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Based noted:

Gnat T.1 XP515:55 4 FTS delivered to CFS becoming '102'

Gnat T.1 XS110:62 4 FTS delivered to CFS becoming '103'

Friday 3rd January 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP536:27 4 FTS delivered to CFS.				

Monday 6th January 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP503:03 4 FTS damage assessed as CAT.3R, repaired by 60 MU from 13.1 Gnat T.1 XR569:08 delivered to CFS still in 4 FTS markings.				

Tuesday 7th January 1969 [ManAS*][AIR 29/3670&4516]

*Scrambled from the ASP flightline at Coltishall to Aberporth Range then land Valley.				
		Lightning*	226 OCU	STCAAME
		Lightning*	226 OCU	STCAAME
-				
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'JVB47'
Routed: Valley-Manchester-Leconfield.				

Thursday 9th January 1969 [MAR 03/20]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR574:24 XS107:61 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Monday 13th January 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

13 IWI Course, 226 OCU arrived from Coltishall for their MPC. 226 OCU MPC 13-15.1 This was the first IWI Course to attend MPC, 3 missiles fired. [IWI, Intercept Weapons Instructor] 2 Lightning T.4's can be seen in the MPC Course photo.				
		Lightning T.4	226 OCU	MPC
		Lightning T.4	226 OCU	MPC
XM180	180	Lightning F.1A	226 OCU	MPC

Wednesday 15th January 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise with Porthdinllaen Lifeboat.				

Friday 24th January 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3040][MB]

XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
Scrambled to the scene of a JP crash near Bridgnorth. This was JP T.3 XM360:71 CFS, both crew were killed [F/L John Sims Watson & P/O Ian Scott Primrose] when the aircraft hit Brown Clee Hill near Ludlow. On return the aircraft was diverted by Valley ATC/18 Group to fly to Cosford to pick up a MO [Medical Officer] and photographer and refuel. Enroute to				

Cosford asked by Preston ATC if they were refuelling at Shawbury? As Ternhill was closed the aircraft refuelled at Shawbury and then flew to Cosford. At Cosford the MO could see no reason to go to the crash site so they then flew to Shawbury to pick up the Senior Flight Safety Officer and also took the photographer to the crash site, eventually returned to Cosford and night stopped. Flew back to Valley 25.1.

Based noted:

Gnat T.1 XP530:64 4 FTS to 5 MU Kemble for surface finishing, not known when it returned.

Saturday 25th January 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	From Cosford, see 24.1
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Monday 27th January 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3150]

XR135	135	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'BRC08' F/O Edwards
Routed: Benson-Odiham-Valley-Odiham-Benson.				
XS773	-	Basset CC.1*	[26 Sqn]	'ETJ14'
*Routed: Wyton-Speke-Valley.				

February 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

Station Flight handled 92 movements including 5 VIP.				
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February 1969 [AIR 27/3051]

		Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	29 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	29 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	29 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	29 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	29 Sqn	MPC

Wednesday 5th February 1969 [MAR 04/20]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP516:16 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth, N/stop.				

Tuesday 11th February 1969 [AIR 27/3081]

XS602		Andover C.1	46 Sqn	'RRR4937' F/L Liles
Routed: Abingdon-Valley-Manby-Boscombe Down-Manby-Abingdon.				

Thursday 13th February 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR951:26 4 FTS [F/L Longden] to Bitteswell for limited overhaul.				

Monday 17th February 1969 [MAR 04/20]

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Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR545:18 XS105:60 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				
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Tuesday 18th February 1969 [MAR 04/20][AIR 27/3072]

WR977	[B]	Shackleton MR.3	42 Sqn	PD F/L Earl
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR544:35 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth, returned 5.3				

Friday 21st February March 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Flew pregnant woman cut off due to snowdrifts from Wern [OS 106/561802] to Bangor Hospital. [Mrs Mary Rodgers, Wern]				

Thursday 27th February 1969 [@MAR 02/18]

Based noted: Hunter F.6 XG274:71 4 FTS visited Chivenor.				

Friday 28th February 1969 [Paddy O'Flynn logbook*][logbook**][AIR 29/3672]

228 OCU arrived with 6 aircraft operating from the STCAAME ramp. No.1 Phantom Course.				
XT893	893	Phantom FGR.2*	228 OCU	
XV408	408	Phantom FGR.2**	228 OCU	F/L O'Flynn & F/L Horning
		Phantom FGR.2	228 OCU	
		Phantom FGR.2	228 OCU	
		Phantom FGR.2	228 OCU	
		Phantom FGR.2	228 OCU	

March 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

Station Flight handled 167 movements including 6 VIP.				
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Saturday 1st March 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise carried out with Holyhead Lifeboat.				

Monday 3rd March 1969 [AIR 27/3195]

XN853	[853]	Argosy C.1	267 Sqn	'RRR5771' F/L A S Morris
Routed: Benson-Coningsby-Valley-Coningsby-Benson.				

Wednesday 5th March 1969 [MC 3/69][@MAR 05/20][MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR980:48 4 FTS [F/L Hodgson] to Bitteswell for overhaul. Hunter T.7 XL609:80 4 FTS crew ferry for XR980, see above.				

Hunter T.7 XL609:80 XL600:83 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth, grey/dayglo scheme.
 Hunter F.6 XG274:71 4 FTS visited Chivenor.
 Gnat T.1 XR544:35 4 FTS from Lossiemouth, see 18.2

Thursday 6th March 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP503:03 4 FTS repairs complete, returned to 4 FTS 7.3 see 6.1.69				

Friday 7th March 1969 [Pprune YellowSun logbook*][AIR 27/3150]

XP441	441	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR5773' F/L Budd
Routed: Benson-Valley-Coningsby-Benson.				
WF333	[N]	Varsity T.1*	2 ANS	From Gaydon to St Athan
Picked up passengers for a Wales University Air Squadron bash at St Athan!				

Saturday 8th March 1969 [Pprune YellowSun logbook*][AIR 27/3040]

WF333	[N]	Varsity T.1*	2 ANS	From St Athan to Gaydon, see 7.3
-				
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Fallen climber near Glyder Fach [OS 107/658588] woman located and flown to Bangor Hospital. [Miss Gillian Brook 22, Dorset]				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Dearn
Fallen climber on Glyder Fawr [OS 107/645586] Station Medical Officer picked up and taken to the scene where the MRT were in attendance, casualty stretchered and flown to Bangor Hospital. [Mrs Erika Vigus 18, Birmingham]				

Sunday 9th March 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3018][AIR 27/3040]

11 Sqn arrived from Leuchars for their MPC. 11 Sqn MPC 9-28.3, 3 Firestreak and 2 Red Top missiles fired. ORB doesn't mention how many aircraft in total.				
XS918	[B]	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	MPC
XS919	[C]	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	MPC
XS904	A	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	MPC
XS931	G	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	MPC
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
12 soldiers from the Green Howards Battalion TA [Territorial Army] dry winched in the Bethesda area [OS 107/640675]				

Monday 10th March 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

		?		
Barrier engagement. 22 Sqn scrambled Whirlwind HAR.10 XP350 [F/O Ridyard] but it wasn't required as the Airfield crash services were in attendance.				

Tuesday 11th March 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
12 students from 2 Air Navigation School wet winched from Lake Bala [OS 117/900320]				

Wednesday 12th March 1969 [MAR 05/20]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR574:24 XR977:46 XS109:63 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth, returned 13.3				

Friday 14th March 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

		Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
Control restriction landed safely. 22 Sqn scrambled Whirlwind HAR.10 XP350 'PEDRO22' [F/L Dearn] but not required.				

Saturday 15th March 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Casualty on Crib Goch, casualty flown to Bangor Hospital. On the return requested by Valley ATC to go to the other side of Crib Goch to uplift another casualty, on arrival met MRT who could not move the casualty below the cloud until after dusk, so helicopter returned to Valley.				

Sunday 16th March 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Missing boat, found anchored with a broken engine, taken in tow by Lifeboat.				

Tuesday 18th March 1969 [MC 5/69]

5-118	-	C-130E*	Iranian AF	
*Airways traffic logged inbound to Valley.				

Wednesday 19th March 1969 [AIR 27/3040][AIR 4/213]

XG155	T	Hunter FGA.9	54 Sqn	Hall, from Decimomannu
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Detached for Operation 'Gas Float' a joint RAF/RN exercise looking for WW1 gas cylinders dumped in Morecambe Bay which were now beginning to surface. Searches carried out in the Barrow-in-Furness and Fleetwood areas.				

Thursday 20th March 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3062][AIR 4/213]

XV196	196	Hercules C.1	36 Sqn	Diversion 'RRR3532' F/L Freeman
Diverted whilst enroute Akrotiri-Lyneham, landed 03:00. Departed to Lyneham 12:55.				
G-ASIU	-	Beech Queen Air	Private	Marchwiell Plant Co visited Speke
G-ASHW	-	DH.104 Dove 8	Scottish Avn	From Speke
XG155	T	Hunter FGA.9	54 Sqn	Hall, to West Raynham

Friday 21st March 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3018][AIR 27/3150]

11 Sqn MPC 1x Red Top fired [XS918:B][F/L Sims]				
G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co.	From Speke
XN849	849	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4474' F/L Howie
Routed: Benson-Lyneham-Ballykelly-Valley-Benson.				

Sunday 23rd March 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
2 men stranded on a sandbank in the Dee Estuary, enroute informed Lifeboat was going to the scene so returned to Valley.				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
Capsized boat with 2 occupants at Wylfa, located and occupants airlifted to Valley SSQ.				

Monday 24th March 1969 [AIR 27/3018]

11 Sqn MPC 1x Firestreak fired [XS919:C][F/L Clifford]				

Tuesday 25th March 1969 [MC 4/69][AIR 27/3018][MB]

11 Sqn MPC 1x Firestreak fired [XS904:A][F/O Bushnell] 1x Firestreak fired [XS931:G][F/O Fuller]				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR953:29 4 FTS [F/O Griffiths] to Bitteswell for modifications and overhaul . Gnat T.1 XR545:18 4 FTS crew ferry for XR953.				

Thursday 27th March 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP540:40 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 27.3				

Friday 28th March 1969 [AIR 27/3018]

11 Sqn MPC 1x Red Top fired [XS931:G][S/L Hill]				

Saturday 29th March 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

		Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
'Todman Trophy' SAR Competition held at Valley, won by B Flt/22 Sqn Thorney Island. How many aircraft participated or just C Flt's aircraft ?				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	To St Mawgan
ORB says XJ429 left at Valley in exchange, it may have been flown in for the above				

Competition and left ?				
		Hunter	[4 FTS]	
Returned with a hydraulic failure, landed safely. 22 Sqn scrambled Whirlwind HAR.10 XL112 'PEDRO22' [Sgt Jones] for this but not required.				

April 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

Station Flight handled 175 movements including 7 VIP.				

Tuesday 1st April 1969 [AIR 27/3132]

*These were flights to prove the long-range profile for future Battle Flight firings, see 1.5				
*Both returned to Gutersloh same day.				
		Lightning [F.2A]*	92 Sqn	STCAAME F/L J Pyper
		Lightning [F.2A]*	92 Sqn	STCAAME F/O G W Pritchard

G-ASHW	-	DH.104 Fove 8	Scottish Avn	From Speke
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Thursday 3rd April 1969 [ManAS*]

EI-ARN	-	Wren 460	Private	To Manchester
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Saturday 5th April 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Nice
Capsized small boat with 3 occupants off Rhosneigr, on arrival 3 persons picked up by double lifts and landed on Rhosneigr, no further assistance required. [Miss Francesca Young, Mr Nicholas Kneale & Mr C J Wright]				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' Sgt Jones
Capsized catamaran with 5 occupants off Trearddur Bay, 1 person airlifted safely to the beach and then stood by whilst 1 powerboat took the catamaran under tow and another powerboat stood by if required. [Mrs Foster 24, Birmingham]				

Sunday 6th April 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' Sgt Jones
Diverted from a training flight to a yacht in distress 10nms NE of the Skerries. On arrival a coaster was in attendance, but assistance required, 3 yachtsmen airlifted from coaster and flown to Valley SSQ. [Mr Hebden, Mr Bow & Mr Ranlinson all from Lancashire]				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
Boat drifting off Sandy Beach, Holyhead. Lifeboat was already committed so helicopter scrambled, on arrival the occupant requested a tow and with the Lifeboat now returning from its incident it was guided to the boat.				
XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
7ft boat with 3 occupants 6hrs overdue in the Rhosneigr to Aberffraw area. Boat sighted 4nms out to sea and the 3 occupants flown to Valley SSQ for medical check. [Mr J Clark 29, Mr P C Howarth 24 & Mr W K Howarth 31 all from Cheshire]				

Friday 11th April 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

		?		
AOC 19 Group, AVM C M Clementi carried out Annual inspection of 22 Sqn, by air ? Should have been on 10.4 but delayed due to bad weather at Plymouth.				

Tuesday 15th April 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP506:06 4 FTS [P/O Griffiths] to Bitteswell for limited reconditioning.				

Wednesday 16th April 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Dearn
Fallen climber on the East face of Tryfan with a suspected broken back. Contact made with ground party and Sgt Jones [Winchman] lowered to a position close to the casualty. Informed that the patient could not be moved down the mountain, casualty was stretchered and lifted into the helicopter and the Doctor picked up with both flown to Bangor Hospital. [Mr Frederick Pots 25, Slough]				

Thursday 17th April 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

		Phantom FG	[RAF]	
Emergency with hydraulic problems, landed safely at approx 17:20. 22 Sqn scrambled Whirlwind HAR.10 XP346 'PEDRO22' [F/O Spilsbury] for this but not required.				

Friday 18th April 1969 [MAR 06/20][AIR 27/3040]

XP346	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Dearn
CASEVAC from Bangor Hospital to Stoke Mandeville, flown via RAF Gaydon for refuelling. [Mr Frederick Pots] see also 16.4 rescue.				

Based noted:

Gnat T.1 XP502:02 XS104:44 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.



[Gordon Macadie]

Monday 21st April 1969 [AIR 29/3681]

XH592	-	Victor K.1A	TTF	PD S/L J W Allen
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Tuesday 22nd April 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR535:05 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 14.6.68				

Wednesday 23rd April 1969 [@MAR 02/18]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR977:25 4 FTS visited Chivenor.				

Thursday 24th April 1969 [@MAR 02/18][AIR 27/3040]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	Back to Chivenor, Chivenor crew
Based noted: Hunter T.7 XL591:82 4 FTS visited Chivenor, grey/dayglo scheme				

Monday 28th April 1969 [AIR 29/3670&4516][AIR 27/3040][MB]

145[R]Sqn, 226 OCU arrived from Coltishall for their MPC. 226 OCU MPC 28.4-2.5 & 14 IWI Course 28.4-5.5 5 missiles fired [3x 226 OCU][2x 14 IWI]				
XM216	216	Lightning F.1A	226 OCU	MPC
XM996	996	Lightning T.4	226 OCU	MPC
XS452	452	Lightning T.5	226 OCU	MPC
XS455	455	Lightning T.5	226 OCU	MPC
Aircrew involved were: S/L T Maddern, F/L J S Allison, F/L M P Donaldson, F/L A D Doidge, F/L M W Streten, F/L M R Smith, F/L J Anders.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR569:[08] delivered from CFS to 4 FTS, see 6.1.69 Whirlwind HAR.10 XP346 22 Sqn to St Mawgan. Whirlwind HAR.10 XP351 22 Sqn from St Mawgan. Aircraft changeover.				

Tuesday 29th April 1969 [ManAS*][MAR 06/20]

EI-ARN	-	Wren 460	Private	To Speke-Manchester
Based noted: Hunter T.7 XL600:83 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Wednesday 30th April 1969 [BJ][AIR 29/3798]

XM216	216	Lightning F.1A	226 OCU	MPC
XM996	996	Lightning T.4	226 OCU	MPC
XS452	452	Lightning T.5	226 OCU	MPC
XS455	455	Lightning T.5	226 OCU	MPC
XP564	[79]	JP T.4	[RAFC]	
[XS483]	E:CU	Wessex HU.5*	[848 NAS]	
[XS521]	R:CU	Wessex HU.5*	707 NAS	
[XT488]	T:CU	Wessex HU.5*	707 NAS	

*Mountain Flying Detachment for 1 week.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 4 FTS				
XP538:01 XP502:02 XP503:03 XR535:05 XR569:08 XP511:11 XP513:13 XP514:14 XP534:15 XR567:17 XR572:19 XP508:21 XR571:23 XR574:24 XR997:25 XR951:26 XR948:28 XR954:30 XR952:31 XP532:32 XP533:33 XR544:35 XS106:36 XP537:37 XR538:38 XP539:39 XP540:40 XP541:41 XP542:42 XR955:43 XS104:44 XP531:45 XR977:46 XR998:47 XP500:50 XR982:51 XR984:52 XR983:53 XP535:54 XS100:57 XS102:58 XS103:59 XS105:60 XS107:61 XS109:63 XP530:64* *new red/white scheme.				
Hunter F.6 4 FTS				
XF509:73				
Hunter T.7 4 FTS				
XL591:82 XL622:81				
Whirlwind HAR.10 C Flt/22 Sqn				
XP350 XP351				
Whirlwind HAR.10 CFS Detachment				
XP348 XP340:V				

May 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

Station Flight handled 218 movements including 9 VIP.				
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Thursday 1st May 1969 [AIR 27/3132]

*Planned missile firings from Gutersloh to Aberporth range, land Valley.				
*1x missile fired [F/L Pyper]				
*1x abort due to shipping on the range [F/O G W Pritchard]				
*Both returned to Gutersloh same day, see also 1.4				
		Lightning [F.2A]*	92 Sqn	STCAAME F/L J Pyper
		Lightning [F.2A]*	92 Sqn	STCAAME F/O G W Pritchard

Friday 2nd May 1969 [AIR 29/3670&4516][AIR 27/3081][MB]

226 OCU departed back to Coltishall post their MPC.				
		?x Lightning	226 OCU	MPC
XS639		Andover C.1	46 Sqn	'RRR4977' F/L Headland
Routed: Abingdon-St Mawgan-Northolt-Valley-Northolt-Abingdon.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR948:28 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 16.8.68				

Saturday 3rd May 1969 [BJ][ManAS]

G-ATUL	-	PA-28 Cherokee 180	D K Hamblin	To Speke then Sywell
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Sunday 4th May 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Nice
Fallen climber on East face of Tryfan [OS 106/664595] 2 members of MRT picked up at Ogwen Cottage and flown to the scene. Doctor, Winchman and MRT members lowered to casualty, but Doctor pronounced the climber dead. Body stretchered and flown to Bangor				

Hospital. [Kenneth Vincent Whyte 21 from Bury]
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Monday 5th May 1969 [AIR 29/3670&4516]

14 IWI Course, 226 OCU departed back to Coltishall post their MPC.				
		?x Lightning F.1A	226 OCU	To Coltishall

Tuesday 6th May 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3040]

G-ASUU	-	DH.114 Heron 2B	EE Co.	From Speke
VP968	-	Devon C.2	26 Sqn	'JAQ08' to Speke-Wyton
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' Sgt Jones
Scrambled for a Gnat with total electrical failure, aircraft landed safely.				

Thursday 8th May 1969 [BJ][DF][MB]

G-ARYR	-	PA-28 Cherokee 180	D J Grant	To Speke
WJ992	-	Canberra T.4	RRE	From & to Pershore
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP536:[27] delivered from CFS to 4 FTS, see 3.1.69				

Friday 9th May 1969 [AIR 27/3112]

WK116	H	Canberra B.2	85 Sqn	Bloodhound trial at Valley
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Saturday 10th May 1969 [@MAR 07/20][AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	Sgt Jones
Boat in trouble off Trearddur Bay [OS 106/254789] on arrival boat found wrecked on rocks and the occupant had waded to shore. [David Lloyd Hughes, Holyhead]				
Based noted: Hunter F.6 XG274:71 4 FTS PD Lossiemouth.				

Monday 12th May 1969 [AIR 29/3798][@MAR 07/20][AIR 27/3040][MB]

	-	Andover CC.2	Queens Flt	
Duke of Norfolk to Caernarvon Castle. Organiser of the Prince of Wales Investiture.				
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	Sgt Jones
Capsized yacht to the North of Barmouth [OS 116/570210] due to bad weather on the Llyn Peninsula the helicopter was unable to cross and landed closing down at Llanalhaearn [OS 115/388448] returned to Valley 13.5, event was most probably a false alarm.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR541 delivered from CFS becoming '34' again, see 20.6.68 Gnat T.1 XR538:01 XR537:37 XS100:57 4 FTS all visited Lossiemouth.				

Tuesday 13th May 1969 [@MAR 07/20]

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Based noted:
Gnat T.1 XR538:01 XS106:36 XR537:37 4 FTS all visited Lossiemouth, N/stop.

Friday 16th May 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 29/3978]

[WP903]	[-]	Chipmunk T.10	Queens Flt	
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HRH Prince of Wales from Aberporth, see also 4.6.69.



Although not taken at Valley it shows the red Chipmunk used for HRH's training.
It had a distinctive anti-collision light above the windscreen.

[National Archives]

Saturday 17th May 1969 [BAR 69/06][@MAR 10/19]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR569:08 4 FTS Mildenhall Airshow, flying. Hunter F.6 XG274:71 4 FTS Mildenhall Airshow, flying.				

Sunday 18th May 1969 [ManAS*]

EI-ARN	-	Wren 460	Private	From Barton to Isle of Man
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Monday 19th May 1969 [@MAR 07/20]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR997:25 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Wednesday 21st May 1969 [@MAR 07/20]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP531:45 XR977:46 4 FTS both visited Lossiemouth.				

Thursday 22nd May 1969 [@MAR 07/20][AIR 27/3040][MB]

		Canberra		
Landed with 1 engine inoperative. Whirlwind HAR.10 XP351 22 Sqn 'PEDRO22' [Sgt Jones] was scrambled for the Canberra but not required.				

-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' Sgt Jones
Scrambled for a Gnat with only 2 green undercarriage lights showing, eventually landed safely.				
Based noted: colours in brackets. Gnat T.1 XP516:16 4 FTS [F/L Stewart] to Bitteswell for a limited overhaul. [on completion it was loaned to A&AEE] Gnat T.1 XR541:34 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 2.6 [XR541 was re-categorised as CAT.2 on 9.7.69 and returned to 4 FTS] Gnat T.1 XP537:07[g/d] XP500:50[g/d] XP530:64[r/w] 4 FTS all visited Lossiemouth.				

Saturday 24th May 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3040]

G-ATGH	-	Brantly B-2B	Private	To Speke
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Dearn
Diverted from a training flight to a fallen climbers on Cwm Silyn [OS 107/515505] 1 female was airlifted to Bangor Hospital but was found to be dead on arrival, helicopter returned to the scene, but the 2 nd casualty was also dead and was left with the ground party and Police.				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Dearn
2 boys missing for 4hrs on the South slope of Snowdon. Rendezvous made with ground party at OS 107/565528 and informed that the boys had just been found.				

Monday 26th May 1969 [@MAR 10/16][AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
Climber suffering from exposure at OS 107/713633, on arrival girl airlifted and flown to Bangor Hospital. [Miss Maureen Errerra, Ludgate]				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Nice
2 capsized boats off Traeth Bychan, on arrival no assistance required.				
Based noted: Hunter F.6 XG185:74 4 FTS Hucknall Airshow, flying. Gnat T.1 XR567:17 4 FTS Church Fenton Airshow, flying.				

Thursday 29th May 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3040]

		?		
Annual Inspection, by air?				
-				
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Badly injured climber in an inaccessible location near Penmachno, informed just before arrival that the casualty was dead, body flown to an accessible location. Then returned to Valley.				
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
2 badly injured climbers in the Crib Goch area. Medical Officer flown to where the MRT member who then took the MO to the casualty who was in cloud. Once the cloud cleared the casualty was stretchered and flown to Bangor Hospital. At Bangor informed that				

assistance was not required for the 2nd casualty and the helicopter returned to Valley.

Wednesday 28th May 1969 [@MAR 03/18]

Based noted: Hunter F.6 XF384:72 4 FTS visited Chivenor, camo.				

Thursday 29th May 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR997:25 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 2.6				

Friday 30th May 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3036][AIR 27/3062][AIR 27/3150]

19 Sqn arrived from Gutersloh for their MPC. 19 Sqn MPC 30.5-11.6 [planned was 18.6] 8 missiles fired, 6 successful. Joint 19/92 Sqn for pilots with 19 Sqn aircraft. The 92 Sqn 'firers' were S/L Thorman and F/O's Glass/Peacock-Edwards/Watson.				
[XN735]	[A]	Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	MPC [S/L Barcion]
[XN778]	[H]	Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	MPC [F/L Mawhinney]
[XN771]	[P]	Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	19 Sqn	MPC
		Lightning	19 Sqn	MPC
XV212	212	Hercules C.1	36 Sqn	'RRR3426' F/L Kemp
Routed: Lyneham-Gutersloh-Valley-Lyneham, 19 Sqn support for Exercise 'Mustard Pot'				
XP409	409	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4301' F/O Edwards
Routed: Gutersloh-Coltishall-Valley-Benson, 19 Sqn MPC support.				

Saturday 31st May 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Nice
2 sub-aqua divers overdue from a dive, on arrival at Maen Piscar Rock it was established that the divers had surfaced and returned to shore but had not reported in.				

June 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

Station Flight handled 297 movements including 16 VIPs.				
				

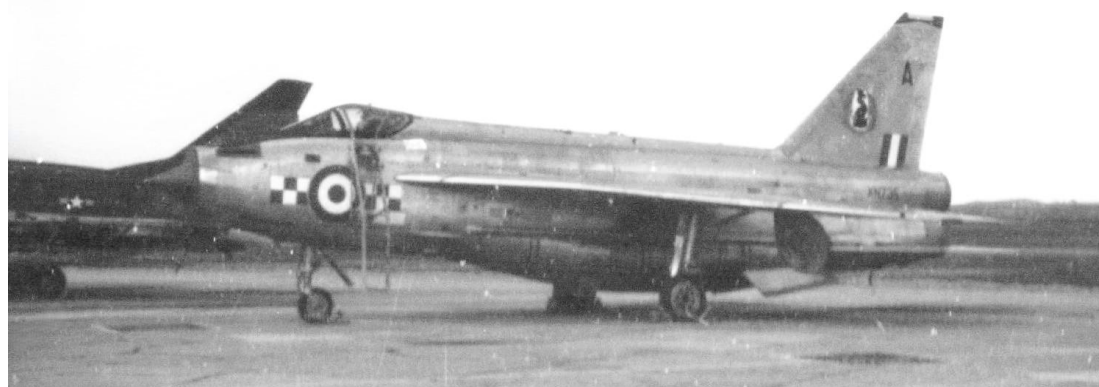
Gnat T.1 XR569:08 4 FTS at Cranfield 6.69 with the JP T.4's of 1 FTS Linton 'Gin' Team.
Or possibly 24th July 1969 Airshow.
[Steve Bond Collection]

Sunday 1st June 1969 [A Percy][AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3040][MB]

RAF Valley ROC [Royal Observer Corps] Display.
Approx. 350 ROC members attended.

Static:

WG403	04	Chipmunk T.10	CFS	Little Rissington
XP536	27	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
XR998	47	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
XS109	63	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
XP530	64	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	New red/white colours
XR541	-	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
XF384	72	Hunter F.6	4 FTS	
XL609	80	Hunter T.7	4 FTS	
XP676	64	JP T.4	3 FTS	Leeming
XN735	A	Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	Gutersloh, on MPC



[Dick Thomas Collection]

XV429	429	Phantom FGR.2	228 OCU	Coningsby
XK624	32	Vampire T.11	CFS	Little Rissington
WF411	18	Varsity T.1	CFS	Little Rissington
XT674	[Q]	Wessex HC.2	HOCF	Odiham
XP341	E	Whirlwind HAR.10	CFS	Ternhill
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	C Flt/22 Sqn	Valley, SAR demonstration
XE674	788:BY	Hunter GA.11	738 NAS	Brawdy
XN651	710:VL	Sea Vixen FAW.2	766 NAS	Yeovilton



[Dick Thomas Collection]

XR244	-	Auster AOP.9	[AFWF]/AAC	Middle Wallop
XV272	-	Beaver AL.1	AFWF/AAC	Middle Wallop
0-52842	[-]	F-100D	494 TFS/48 TFW	Lakenheath [55-2842]



[Dick Thomas Collection]

0-60055		RF-101C	18 TRS/66 TRW	Upper Heyford [56-0055]
EI-ARN	-	Wren 460	Private	[ex. N2096X]

Visitors/Flying:

XH329	70	Vampire T.11	3 CAACU	Exeter
XH304	71	Vampire T.11	3 CAACU	Exeter
XL639	639	Britannia C.1	99/511 Sqn	PD from Lyneham
		4x Chipmunk T.10	CFS	'The Skylarks' Team

[For 1969 the 'Skylarks' operated: WZ847:01 WG403:04 WD299:06 WB650:09 WK521:12]

-

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Nice
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Officer Cadet with spinal injuries flown from a position 15nms East of Aberystwyth to Aberystwyth Hospital. [Cadet A F Wigram 24134610 from Sandhurst]

XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
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Search for 4 missing persons from a yacht 5nms West of Blackpool, nothing seen. Refuelled at Blackpool then returned to Valley when the search was called off.

Monday 2nd June 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3036]

19 Sqn MPC 1x missile fired [F.2A][F/O Fowler]

		[Lightning F.2A]	[19 Sqn]	MPC, W/C Jones for 1 week
		?		
RAFG Deputy Commander, AVM Aiken visited MPC.				
-				
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'CHOPPER45' visited Speke

Wednesday 4th June 1969 [AIR 27/3040][AIR 29/3978]

[WP903]	[-]	Chipmunk T.10	Queens Flt	[from Benson]
HRH Prince Charles & his instructor flew to Valley. This was part of Operation Golden Eagle, flying training for Prince Charles.				
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Dearn
Search for a child swept out to sea on an airbed at Red Wharf Bay. On arrival no sign of the airbed, landed on the beach and informed by local Police that the child was safe.				

Thursday 5th June 1969 [AIR 27/3036][AIR 27/3040]

19 Sqn MPC *Visited Coltishall, returned to Valley later.				
XN778	H	Lightning F.2A*	19 Sqn	MPC
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	Sgt Jones
Fallen climber on Craig-yr-Ysfa [OS 107/693638] on arrival, ground party and equipment ferried to a ridge above the injured girl as it was not possible to winch directly. Girl brought to the top of the ridge and flown to Bangor Hospital, also flew slightly injured girl companion. [Miss Kate Dilworth & Miss Barbara Spark, College Road Bangor]				

Friday 6th June 1969 [AIR 27/3036]

		[Lightning F.2A]	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh, W/C Jones, see 2.6
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Saturday 7th June 1969 [AIR 27/3021]

		Canberra B[I].8*	14 Sqn	F/O J F Lane
*From and to Wildenrath.				

Monday 9th June 1969 [MC 7/69][AIR 2/18374][AIR 27/3036]

3 Division/AAC planned the following for the Prince of Wales Investiture: 9-15.6, 3 helicopters 16-22.6, 6 helicopters 23.6-1.7, 9 helicopters Combination of Sioux AH.1/Scout AH.1 All the helicopters would be based at Valley although on Rehearsal days 5 helicopters would be based on the playing fields of Caernarfon Grammar School [OS 106/486635] See also 1.7.69				
19 Sqn MPC 1x missile fired [F/L Grose]				

XT552	-	Sioux AH.1	/AAC	'AAC314' [Netheravon]
XT814	Y	Sioux AH.1	/AAC	'AAC315' [Netheravon]
Both from Halfpenny Green, possibly in connection with the Investiture?				

Tuesday 10th June 1969 [ManAS][AIR 27/3036]

19 Sqn MPC				
1x missile fired [S/L Barcilon]				
XN778	H	Lightning F.2A*	19 Sqn	MPC
*Suffered serious damage after an AC failure coupled with an electrical fire on the spine. Groundcrew stayed at Valley post MPC to repair the aircraft, departed later to Gutersloh on 29.6				
XT552	-	Sioux AH.1	/AAC	To & from Speke, [Netheravon]

Wednesday 11th June 1969 [AIR 27/3036]

19 Sqn departed back to Gutersloh post their MPC, also possibly 13.6 ?				
		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh
		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	To Gutersloh

Thursday 12th June 1969 [MC 7/69][BJ][AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3040]

XT814	Y	Sioux AH.1	/AAC	'AAC315'
Visited Speke, based at Netheravon.				
		?		
Annual inspection for CFS[H] detachment by A/Cdre I G Broom, by air?				
-				
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Nice
UMO flown to attend to a crewmember onboard a Trawler at position 5351N 00350W with a serious hand injury. After a search the Belgian Trawler 'Anjelus' was located, crewmember was airlifted to Blackpool Hospital. [Henri Legein, Heist, Belgium]				

Friday 13th June 1969 [AIR 27/3036]

19 Sqn departed back to Gutersloh post their MPC, see also 11.6				
		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	MPC [S/L Barcilon]
		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	MPC [F/L Mawhinney]
		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	MPC [F/O James]
		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	MPC [F/O Fowler]
-				
XR952	31	Gnat T.1	4 FTS	
Crashed after loss of control in a spin near the A5 at Glasfryn, Conway [OS 108/930499] Whirlwind HAR.10 XP350 22 Sqn [F/L Nice] was scrambled for this incident. On arrival the pilot was seen in the company of civil Police and Firemen, the pilot was then flown to Valley SSQ.				

Pilot	P/O	I Currie	Ejected ok
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Saturday 14th June 1969 [ManAS][@MAR 10/16]

XT552	-	Sioux AH.1	/AAC	'AAC315'
Based noted: Hunter F.6 XF384:72 4 FTS Upper Heyford Airshow, flying.				

Sunday 15th June 1969 [AB Digest69]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP502:02 4 FTS Wildenrath Airshow, static.				
				
[Peter Fritz] Gnat T.1 XP508:21 4 FTS Wildenrath Airshow, flying.				

Monday 16th June 1969 [AIR 27/3040][AIR 27/3150]

XP437	437	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4328' F/L Mercer
Routed: Benson-Valley-Gutersloh-Benson, return of 19 Sqn MPC support.				
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise with Porthdinllaen Lifeboat.				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Fisherman washed off the rocks at OS 115/235275 search carried out for 1hr at dusk, but nothing seen.				

Tuesday 17th June 1969 [AIR 27/3036][AIR 27/3040][MB]

		Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	MPC to Gutersloh F/L Gross
-				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	From St Mawgan
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	To St Mawgan
22 Sqn aircraft changeover, XP351 remained at Valley.				
Based noted:				

Gnat T.1 XP503:03 4 FTS [F/L Johnson] to Bitteswell for limited reconditioning.

Wednesday 18th June 1969 [AIR 27/3040][MB]

XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Dearn
Report of smoke seen between Bangor and Gt Ormes Head, area checked but only smoke seen was from a rubbish dump with local Police on scene, returned to Valley.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR983:53 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 18.6				

Thursday 19th June 1969 [ManAS][MB]

XT814	Y	Sioux AH.1	/AAC	To Speke-Manchester
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP511:11 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 26.6 Gnat T.1 XP542:42 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 24.9.68				

Friday 20th June 1969 [AIR 27/3040][AIR 27/3150]

XR135	135	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4329'
Routed: Benson-Valley-Gutersloh-Benson.				
-				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Nice
Search at first light for a missing dinghy from previous night. After 1hr search, the dinghy was found having drifted 12nms during the night, occupants were cold and wet but otherwise unharmed. Both winched onboard and flown to Valley SSQ. [Man 46 and Nephew 10] the Report originated from the Porthdinllaen Coastguard.				

Saturday 21st June 1969 [AIR 27/3040][SB]

XN692	247:H	Sea Vixen FAW.1	893 NAS	Lt J Eyton-Jones & F/O R Crane
Weather diversion from Yeovilton, returned same day.				
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Fallen climber on Crib Goch, Park Warden [Mr John Roberts] picked up at Pen-y-Pass and gave directions to the casualty location. Casualty flown to Bangor Hospital with minor back injuries.				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Injured boy with minor leg lacerations moved from the Orme area to Bangor Hospital				

Sunday 22nd June 1969 [BJ][ManAS][AIR 27/3040]

XT814	Y	Sioux AH.1	/AAC	'AAC312'
*Routed: Huddersfield-Speke-Valley.				
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
Search for boat firing Red Very distress flare 5nms N of Porthdinllaen, search carried out, but no boat seen which required assistance.				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	Sgt Jones

Boy fallen down the Little Orme, search started but boy was under water and Lifeboat was searching, returned to Valley.

Monday 23rd June 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3043]

G-AWMP	-	Cessna F172H	Westair	From Speke
XV194	194	Hercules C.1*	24 Sqn	F/L I H Nelson
XV210	210	Hercules C.1*	24 Sqn	F/L J R Relfe
*Both routed: Lyneham-Leuchars-Valley-Lyneham, Lightning ground support, see 24.6				

Tuesday 24th June 1969 [AIR 27/3011][AIR 27/3043]

All the Lightnings were detached to Valley to participate in the Prince of Wales Investiture Flypast over Caernarfon Castle on 1st July 1969. 5 Sqn from Binbrook & 11/23 Sqn from Leuchars. 23 Sqn mentions Leuchars deploying 23/24.6 but 23 Sqn flew to Valley on 24.6

XS923	C	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
XS899	G	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
XS922	H	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
XS902	J	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
XS898	K	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
XR767	S	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
XS929	E	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
XS930	F	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
XS932	H	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
XR723	L	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
XR724	M	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
XR752	W	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	No Sqn markings
XS936	B	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/O G Brindle
XR728	D	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/O C Thirlwall
XR760	H	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/O C I Robinson
XS935	J	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	Capt D M Bassett [USMC]
XR725	[A]	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	W/C D McClen
XS937	[C]	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/L J H Fawcett

Whilst 23 Sqn were later at Fairford for the Cardiff Flypast the aircraft present then were XS936:B XR728:D XR760:H XS935:J **XR762:L XR754:M** so there may have been a swap-over of jets at some time? The serials for the departure on 2.7 to Fairford coincide with serials noted at Fairford itself.



STCAAME Flight line, possibly taken from one of the helicopters also deployed for the event.
 'lightningpilots.com' [John Fawcett]



Most probably taken on one of the practice days, possibly 25 or 27.6. 15 Lightnings lined up on Runway 32. This might be a still from a film production possibly. Appears to be an Andover in the far distance on VAS which was also present 25.6. Most probably a 4-ship from each of the three Sqns plus a spare.

[Crown Copyright, Ministry of Defence via Karl Lawrence]

		F-100[D]	[48 TFW]	
Emergency diversion due to engine problems, landed safely. Whirlwind HAR.10 XP351 22 Sqn [F/O Spilsbury] was scrambled for this but not required.				
XV194	[194]	Hercules C.1	24 Sqn	F/L I H Nelson
Routed: Lyneham-Waddington-Binbrook-Valley-Fairford-Lyneham, Lightning support.				

Wednesday 25th June 1969 [BJ][ManAS][AIR 27/3041][AIR 27/3081][MB]

23 Sqn ORB mentions 2 rehearsals with 2 aircraft in the morning and 4 aircraft in the afternoon, XR755 is yet another different aircraft, when did it arrive? There is no mention of rehearsals in the 5/11 Sqn ORB's but they would probably have taken part judging by the above photograph. In his book 'Bugs' Bendell of 6 Sqn mentions 6 rehearsals altogether.

AM Rehearsal [11:02-11:48]				
XR755	[O]	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	W/C D McClen
XS935	J	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[5 Sqn]	
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[11 Sqn]	
PM Rehearsal [14:30-15:15]				
XR755	[O]	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	W/C McClen
XR760	H	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/O C I Robinson
XS935	J	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/L J H Fawcett
XR728	D	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	Capt D M Bassett [USMC]
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[5 Sqn]	
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[11 Sqn]	
-				
XS604		Andover C.1	46 Sqn	'RRR5713' F/O Gault
Routed: Abingdon-Filton-Valley-Filton-Abingdon. Is this the one in the above photo where the Lightnings are lined up on Runway 32 ?				
XT552	-	Sioux AH.1	/AAC	'AAC384'
Routed: Preston-Speke-Valley.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP536:27 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R then CAT.4R [taken by road to Bitteswell 5.8.69 for repairs]				

Thursday 26th June 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP535:54 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 18.11.68 Gnat T.1 XR998:47 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 2.7				

Friday 27th June 1969 [BJ][AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3041]

23 Sqn ORB mentions 3 Rehearsals with 1 aircraft early morning then 4 in the morning and 4 aircraft in the afternoon, XR755 does not feature on this day. There is no mention of rehearsals in the 5/11 Sqn ORB's, but they must have taken part, probably at least a 4-ship from each Squadron.

Early AM Rehearsal [06:14-07:00]				
XR760	H	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	W/C D McClen
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[5 Sqn]	
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[11 Sqn]	
AM Rehearsal [11:06-11:51]				
XR760	H	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	W/C McClen
XS935	J	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/O C Thirlwall
XS936	B	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/L J H Fawcett
XR728	D	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	Capt D M Bassett
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[5 Sqn]	
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[11 Sqn]	
PM Rehearsal [15:51-16:39]				
XR760	H	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	W/C McClen
XS935	J	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/O C I Robinson
XS936	B	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/L J H Fawcett
XR728	D	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	Capt D M Bassett [USMC]
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[5 Sqn]	
		[?x Lightning F.6]	[11 Sqn]	
-				
G-AVAS	-	Cessna F172H	Private	To Speke
		?		
Visit by AVM H B Martin in connection with the Investiture.				

Friday 28th June 1969 [@MAR 11/16][AIR 27/3040]

XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	P/O Haqui
Search for 3 canoeists enroute Dublin to Holyhead, search carried out until dusk, but nothing seen. Informed later that they arrived safely in Holyhead.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR538:01 4 FTS Woodford Airshow.				

Sunday 29th June 1969 [AIR 27/2940][AIR 27/3036]

		Wessex HC.2	72 Sqn	S/L Millar
		Wessex HC.2	72 Sqn	
The 2 Wessex were detached to support the Prince of Wales Investiture.				
XN778	H	Lightning F.2A	19 Sqn	STCAAME to Gutersloh, see 10.6

Monday 30th June 1969 [BJ][AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3056]

The visitors below were in conjunction with the Prince of Wales Investiture.				
G-ASPC	-	Piaggio P.166B	McAlpines	CBS reporters
From Heathrow to Speke.				
		[PA-23 Aztec]	Private	BBC reporters
From and to Luton.				
		[PA-23 Aztec]	Private	ABC reporters

From and to Elstree.				
		[DH Dove]	Private	Granada TV
From and to Heathrow.				
		[Andover]	Queens Flt	
From Northolt to Tangmere.				
XS794	-	Andover CC.2	32 Sqn	'RRR1999' F/L Skermer
Routed: Abingdon-Northolt-Valley-Abingdon.				
		[Twin Commanche]	Private	
		[PA-23 Aztec]	Private	Lord & Lady Bute, N/stop
		[Sea Prince]	[FONA]	2 nd Sea Lord
From Northolt, N/stop.				
		[?]	AA	Dep 2.7

July 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

Station Flight handled 343 movements including 20 VIP. 2x QRA Red Top Firings carried out during July.				

Tuesday 1st July 1969 [BAG 8/69][MC 8/69][AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3040][AIR 27/3056][AIR 27/3081]

Prince of Wales Investiture Flypast at Caernarfon Castle. Planned were: 8 Helicopters [3 Scout/5 Sioux] 10 Flt/AAC 9.6-3.7 18 Lightning [5/11/23 Sqn] 24.6-2.7 2 Helicopters [Wessex/Whirlwind] Queens Flight 30.6-2.7 2 Wessex HC.2 72 Sqn 29.6-2.7 2x RN Wessex Flypast: Plan was for 12 Phantoms/12 Lightnings flypast on the day.				
VIP's and *Film collection aircraft.				
XS794	-	Andover CC.2	32 Sqn	'RRR1999' F/L Skermer
Routed: Abingdon-Valley-Northolt-Abingdon, possibly one of the VIP's below ?				
XS639		Andover C.1	46 Sqn	'RRR5717' F/L Brindle
Routed: Abingdon-Odiham-Old Sarum-Valley-Old Sarum-Odiham-Abingdon.				
		[Pembroke C.1]		C-in-C Strike Command
		[?]		C-in-C MC
		[Pembroke C.1]		C-in-C ASC from Upavon
		[?]	[NAS]	FO Plymouth from Exeter
		[PA-23 Aztec]*	Private	
		Piaggio	ICI	Sir P Allan
From and to Heathrow.				
		[DH Dove]		
From and to Heathrow.				

G-AWMS		[HS.125]	RTZ	Lord Byers
From and to Heathrow.				
		[PA-23 Aztec]*	Private	
From and to Manchester.				
		[PA-23 Aztec]*	Private	
From and to Halfpenny Green.				
		[DH Dove]*		
From and to Northolt.				
G-ARXH	-	Bell 47G	Private	From Halfpenny Green
Caernarfon Flypast				
The planned Flypast on 1.7 was supposed to be 12 Lightnings & 12 Phantoms. However, due to the prevailing weather and their diversion fuel the Lightnings were down to 4 aircraft plus the 12 Phantoms from 6 Sqn. There was low stratus to the south of Caernarfon where the holding patterns for the aircraft were prior to the actual flythrough. There were further practices from Fairford on 3rd & 4th July before another Flypast at Cardiff Town Hall on 5th July. The 1st July flypast is on Youtube with the 4 Lightnings & 12 Phantoms shown. There may have been additional Lightnings airborne acting as possible spares.				
Investiture Flypast [Lightning flight times 15:48-16:30]				
XR724	M	Lightning F.6*	11 Sqn	W/C D R K Blucke [OC 11 Sqn]
XS930	F	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	Maj Priest
XR760	H	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	W/C D McClen [OC 23 Sqn]
		Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	[OC 5 Sqn possibly ?]
For completeness here is the 6 Sqn flypast at Caernarfon. They did NOT land or operate from Valley. Direct from and to Coningsby at low level. *228 OCU Aircrew.				
XT904		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	W/C Harcourt-Smith & S/L W E Hobby
XV404		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	S/L A J Bendell & F/L J D Douglas-Boyd
XT911		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	F/L B G E Wakling & F/L M A Harris
XV395		Phantom FGR.2**	6 Sqn	F/L Natrass* & S/L W H Roe
XV408		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	F/L D A Banon & F/L F M Pearson
XT909		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	W/C J F G Howe* & S/L F C Romney*
XV425		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	F/L G Wells & F/L J Eisler
XT896		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	F/L K D Rhodes & F/L N J Mapp
XV420		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	F/L R Booth & F/L J A Tucker
XT894		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	F/L C J M Wilcock & F/L A H Scotton
XV403		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	F/L F J O'Flynn & F/L R I Sheppard
XT906		Phantom FGR.2	6 Sqn	G/C J R Rogers & S/L J M Nunn
**XV395 was written off 9.7.69. The first UK Phantom to be lost after a loss of control on a GCA to Coningsby.				



[Paddy O'Flynn]



6 Sqn crews post the Flypast.

[National Archives]

-				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Fallen climber on Snowdon. Ground party located casualty and the body stretchered aboard. Wife of deceased was winched onboard and taken to Bangor Hospital.				

Wednesday 2nd July 1969 [AIR 27/3011][AIR 27/2940][AIR 27/3041][AIR 27/3199][AIR 27/3081][AIR 27/3062][**MB**]

Lightnings departed to Fairford which would be their base for the Cardiff flypast on 5.7				
[XS923]	[C]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
[XS899]	[G]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
[XS922]	[H]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
[XS902]	[J]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	

[XS898]	[K]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
[XR767]	[S]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
[XS929]	[E]	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
XS930	[F]	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
[XS932]	[H]	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
[XR723]	[L]	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
XR724	[M]	Lightning F.6	11 Sqn	
[XR752]	[W]	Lightning F.6	[11 Sqn]	No Sqn markings
XS936	B	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/O G Brindle
XR728	D	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/O C Thirlwall
XR760	H	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	W/C D McClen
XS935	J	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	Capt D M Bassett [USMC]
XR762	L	Lightning F.6*	23 Sqn	F/O C I Robinson
XR754	M	Lightning F.6	23 Sqn	F/L J H Fawcett
*Departed to Leuchars then flew to Fairford with F/O P V Boothroyd.				
		Wessex HC.2	72 Sqn	S/L Millar
		Wessex HC.2	72 Sqn	
Both 72 Sqn Wessex departed to Odiham post the Investiture.				
XL635	635	Britannia C.1	511 Sqn	'RRR6464' S/L R Robertson
Routed: Lyneham-Valley-Fairford-Lyneham, Lightning Detachment support.				
XS639		Andover C.1	46 Sqn	F/L Liles
Routed: Abingdon-Valley-Brough-Holme on Spalding Moor-Valley-Abingdon.				
XV197	197	Hercules C.1	36 Sqn	'RRR3635' F/L Hayes
Routed: Lyneham-Valley-Fairford-Valley-Fairford-Lyneham, Lightning detachment support.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XS107:61 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 9.7				

Thursday 3rd July 1969 [@MAR 10/20]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR538:01 XP502:02 XR545:18 XP530:64 4 FTS all visited Lossiemouth.				

Saturday 5th July 1969 [BAR 69/07]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR538:01 4 FTS Alconbury Airshow. Gnat T.1 XP504:04 4 FTS Hatfield Open Day.				

Sunday 6th July 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	P/O Haqui
Fallen climber at Trevor cliffs [OS 115/352456] on arrival unable to winch so 3 and later 2 members of Valley MRT picked up and flown to the scene. Casualty eventually brought to the bottom of the cliff and flown to Bangor Hospital.				

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Small dinghy drifting out to sea at OS 115/215258, dinghy located but the youth did not wish to abandon it, eventually taken under tow by a motorboat. Various spurious messages in the area which turned out to be the same incident.				

Monday 7th July 1969 [BJ][@MAR 04/18 & 10/20][AIR 27/3040][MB]

G-ATJR	-	PA-23 Aztec250C	NEA	To Speke
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
Power boat missing in the Morecambe Bay area. 5hr search carried out with refuelling's at Blackpool and Liverpool, nothing seen.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR982:51 4 FTS visited Chivenor grey/dayglo. Gnat T.1 XR982:51 4 FTS [F/L Stott] to Bitteswell for limited overhaul. Gnat T.1 XP513:13 XR537:37 XS105:60 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Wednesday 9th July 1969 [@MAR 10/20][MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP511:11 back to 4 FTS with CAT.2 work outstanding, see 19.6.69 Gnat T.1 XR541:34 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 22.5.69 Gnat T.1 XR983:53 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 18.6.69 [CAT.2 work remaining] Gnat T.1 XS105:60 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Thursday 10th July 1969 [AIR 27/3132]

*Battle Flight scramble from Gutersloh to Aberporth Range. *1x aborted firing due to the Jindivik failing to get airborne from Llanbedr. *Landed at Valley.				
XN782	[H]	Lightning F.2A	92 Sqn	STCAAME F/O Prichard

Friday 11th July 1969 [MC 8/69][@MAR 10/20][AIR 27/3040]

G-AXCZ	-	Stampe SV-4C	Private	From Halfpenny Green, dep 15.7
G-AVES	-	Stampe SV-4C	Private	From Halfpenny Green, dep 15.7
G-AWWI	-	Jodel D117	Private	From Halfpenny Green, dep 15.7
G-APXY	-	Cessna 150	Private	From Halfpenny Green, dep 15.7
HB-MIM	-	Bu.133 Jungmeister	Private	From Halfpenny Green, dep 15.7
-				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Dearne
Flares reported off Barmouth with a power boat missing, eventually the Police traced the owner who was in bed!				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP530:64 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Saturday 12th July 1969 [ABDig69]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP538:38 4 FTS displayed at Booker.				

Monday 14th July 1969 [AIR 27/3011][@MAR 10/20][AIR 27/3150][MB]

		Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	QRA firing F/L Payne
QRA missile firing in Aberporth range from Binbrook, land Valley then return to Binbrook.				
XP441	441	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4465' F/L Kewis
Routed: Benson-Odiham-Valley-Ballykelly-Benson.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR980:48 [F/L Lonnegan] returned from Bitteswell, see 5.3.69 Hunter T.7 XL609:80 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth. Gnat T.1 XS109:63 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Tuesday 15th July 1969 [@MAR 04/18][@MAR 10/20][AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' Sgt Jones
Swimmer reported drowning off Cymran Beach, body found in 10ft of water and retrieved by a diver and removed by ambulance.				
Based noted: Hunter F.6 XG185:74 4 FTS visited Chivenor, camo. Hunter T.7 XL609:80 XL600:83 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth. Gnat T.1 XR544:35 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Wednesday 16th July 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3021][@MAR 04/18]

G-ASYK	-	PA-30 Comanche	Air Gregory	From Speke
		Canberra B[I].8	14 Sqn	F/O C Hilliker
From and to Wildenrath.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR537:07 4 FTS visited Chivenor, grey/dayglo.				

Thursday 17th July 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3040]

		?		
CFS[H] detachment visited by German AF personnel [7 Officers, 1 W/O] to study mountain flying and winching techniques, by air?				
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' Sgt Jones
Fallen climber on Crib Goch [OS 107/624552] SMO winched down to the casualty, and both winched up and flown to Bangor Hospital. [Andrew Spreadbury 86, Chingford, London]				

Friday 18th July 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP537:07 4 FTS [F/L Henderson] to Bitteswell for limited overhaul.				

Saturday 19th July 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
Small boat adrift off Bull Bay, recalled after a short search by the Coastguard.				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
Boy reported falling from a cliff at Church Bay, recalled enroute as the boy was already in an ambulance.				

Sunday 20th July 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Moyes
Fallen boy near the summit of Snowdon, SMO picked up at Valley and 2 members of the MRT uplifted at Llanberis to near the summit of Snowdon. Casualty suffering from a small cut to the head and shock was found in the Summit Café and flown to Bangor Hospital. [Roy Wiss 13, Taywick, Essex]				

Monday 21st July 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

22 Sqn's 1,000 th Rescue since formation at Valley. Since 1955: 328 persons including 35 service personnel and 40 deceased had been rescued/retrieved.				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L D D Moyes
SMO taken to fishing vessel 'Summer Isle' 10nms NW of Gt Ormes Head, deckhand had been knocked overboard and picked up again. Boat located 6nms NW of Gt Ormes Head and SMO lowered to the boat, man was however declared dead having been hit by a capstan. SMO uplifted and returned to Valley. Full crew for the 1,000 th rescue were: F/L D Moyes [Pilot] F/L A Mawby [Navigator] Sgt R Timbers [Winchman]				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Moyes
Boy trapped on a cliff at Dinas Dinlle [OS 115/435563] on arrival informed by Police that the boy was safe and well.				

Tuesday 22nd July 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' P/O Haqui
Small boat capsized in Trearddur Bay, on arrival 2 men seen clinging to capsized boat. 1 man was winched ashore safely whilst the other remained with the dinghy while it was towed ashore by another dinghy.				

Wednesday 23rd July 1969 [@MAR 05/18]

Based noted: Hunter F.6 XF509:73 4 FTS visited Chivenor, camo.				

Thursday 24th July 1969 [AIR 29/3798][Joe Baugher site][@MAR 10/20][MB]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Dearn
1 USAF pilot rescued safely [Capt Nick Hobbie] from 3nms off the IoM, Irish Sea. This was F-100D 55-2844 492 TFS/48 TFW which had an engine problem. He had been taken to Peel Harbour by a trawler after ejecting, flown to RAF Valley Station Sick Quarters.				

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR984:52 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 29.10.68 Hunter T.7 XL600:83 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				
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Friday 25th July 1969 [AIR 27/3150][MB]

XP437	437	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4410'
Routed: Benson-Northolt-Valley-Benson.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR545:18 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 31.7				

Saturday 26th July 1969 [BJ]

G-ASMF	-	Beech Travel Air	Charrington	From Speke
G-ATMX	-	Cessna 150F	Private	From Speke, Shropshire Aero Club

Sunday 27th July 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Moyes
Fallen climber near the summit of Tryfan. Helicopter picked up 2 members of the Ogwen Cottage MRT and transferred them to a ledge near the casualties location. Casualty then stretchered and flown to Bangor Hospital. He was a diabetic and had broken ribs on both sides and also suffering from shock. [Albert Waring 52]				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Moyes
Rescue of 3 people clinging to a capsized boat. Located the 3 survivors clinging to a lifebelt .5nm S of South Stack Lighthouse, all 3 winched and flown to Valley SSQ.				

Monday 28th July 1969 [AIR 27/2942][AIR 27/3150]

XM652	-	Vulcan B.2	50 Sqn	From Waddington, F/L Legg
Exercise 'High Noon' a no notice dispersal exercise.				
XP442	442	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR877' F/L Mercer
Routed: Benson-Waddington-Valley-Waddington-Valley-Benson. Exercise 'High Noon' support.				

Tuesday 29th July 1969 [BJ][@MAR 06/18][AIR 27/3040][AIR 27/3081][MB]

XS610		Andover C.1	46 Sqn	'RRR4915' O/Lt Abromeit
Routed: Abingdon-Valley-Lindholme-Abingdon.				
-				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Moyes
MEDEVAC Doctor and patient from Nefyn to Liverpool airport.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XS103:59 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 31.7 Gnat T.1 XR537:37 4 FTS visited Chivenor.				

Wednesday 30th July 1969 [AIR 27/2942]

XM652	-	Vulcan B.2	50 Sqn	Scrambled from Valley
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Thursday 31st July 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Moyes
Swimmer in difficulties in the Cymyran Narrows, on arrival the child was taken onboard having been pulled out of the water by a woman. Casualty flown to Valley SSQ. [Christopher Martin 9, son of F/L Martin STCAAME]				

August 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

Station Flight handled 208 movements including 2 VIP.				
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Saturday 2nd August 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Missing dinghy in the Barmouth Estuary, informed by Police that the dinghy and occupants were safe.				

Sunday 3rd August 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	S/L Dearn
Diverted from a training flight to Abersoch for a swimmer reported in difficulty, on arrival found swimmer had been rescued by Lifeboat.				

Monday 4th August 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	P/O Haqui
Fallen climber at Gogarth Bay, flown to Ambulance 2nms away and taken to Hospital. [P Taylor, North London Mountaineering Club]				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	P/O Haqui
Report of people stranded on a sandbank between Port Dinorwic and Caernarfon, search carried out of the Menai Straits, but nothing seen.				

Tuesday 5th August 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' P/O Haqui
Man and 2 children in the water after their small boat sank off Moelfre, on arrival man was winched out of the water with the Moelfre Lifeboat picking up the 2 children. The helicopter then landed near the Lifeboat Station and the crew gave CPR to 1 of the girls which was unconscious. Working with Doctor Whittaker who was already on the scene attempts were made to resuscitate the child but after 20mins she was pronounced dead by the Doctor. Noted that there was a delay of 5mins in getting airborne whilst getting permission to scramble. [Survivor J Dunhill, Holmfirth]				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Moyes
Capsized yacht with 2 occupants in Lake Maelog, Rhosneigr. Man, and son airlifted and taken to shore safely. [Mr Eldred 40 & Ian Eldred 14 from Bromborough, Cheshire]				

Wednesday 6th August 1969 [@MAR 11/20][AIR 27/3056]

XS765	-	Basset CC.1*	32 Sqn	'RRR1253' F/L Davis
*From and to Northolt.				

Based noted:
Gnat T.1 XP538:38 XP541:41 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.

Thursday 7th August 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	Sgt Jones
Boy with injured foot flown from Bardsey Island [OS 115/120220] to Bangor Hospital. [I Roberts 10, Aberdaron]				

Friday 8th August 1969 [AIR 27/3040][MB]

XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' Sgt Jones
Climber with head injuries at OS 107/630568, on arrival unable to winch so survivor moved to a more suitable location and flown to Bangor Hospital. [Alan Randall 20, Barnsley]				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR953:29 [F/O Griffiths] returned from Bitteswell, see 25.3.69				

Sunday 10th August 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' P/O Haqui
Girl swimmer if difficulty off Dinas Dinlle [OS 106/436567] recalled enroute as the girl had already been rescued.				
XP351	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
Motor launch overdue by 8hrs on a trip from Liverpool to Beaumaris, search carried out up to 2nms offshore from Skerries to Colwyn Bay, nothing found but later informed boat was at its destination safely.				

Monday 11th August 1969 [MSAE P J Devine/D Cole/R L Tushingham][MB]

XM61[7]	-	Vulcan B.2		Possibly XM611 or 612 ?
XM617 is not a Vulcan serial.				
G-AVIV	-	Jodel DR.250*	Private	
*Crashed in Snowdonia 23.8.69 killing the 2 occupants.				

Wednesday 13th August 1969 [MSAE P J Devine/D Cole/R L Tushingham][AIR 27/3040]

XJ772	H	Vampire T.11	CATCS	
21629	[629]	T-33AN	1 CAD	1 st Canadian Air Division, CAF
21647	[647]	T-33AN	1 CAD	1 st Canadian Air Division, CAF
G-APIE	-	Tipsy Belfair	Private	
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	S/L Slater delivery to St Mawgan
Whilst on a delivery flight from Valley to St Mawgan for servicing the crew were diverted to search for a missing man in the area of the Severn Road Bridge. Refuelling stops were made at Brawdy and Cardiff/Rhoose.				

Thursday 14th August 1969 [MC 9/69][MSAE P J Devine/D Cole/R L Tushingham]

G-ATSC	-	Wessex 60	Bristows	From East Midlands
XS783	-	Basset CC.1	[207 Sqn]	

XP825	-	Beaver AL.1	[AFWF]/AAC	
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Friday 15th August 1969 [MSAE – P J Devine/D Cole/R L Tushingham][AIR 29/3798]

XM655	-	Vulcan B.2		
WJ567	N	Canberra B.2	85 Sqn	
XL571	Q	Hunter T.7	229 OCU	
XM705	91	Gnat T.1	CFS	
XM709	92	Gnat T.1	CFS	
XS101	101	Gnat T.1	CFS	
WL670	P	Varsity T.1	5 FTS	
-				
		Hunter F.6	[4 FTS]	
Nose wheel up landing, landed safely. 22 Sqn scrambled Whirlwind HAR.10 XP350 [Sgt Jones] for this incident. Fireman T Grant was picked up and after the Hunter came to a halt, he extinguished a small fire in the nosewheel bay. Pilot was uninjured and exited unaided.				
Pilot			Ok	
-				
XG204	70	Hunter F.6	4 FTS	
Crashed after take-off near Llangwyfan Farm, Ty Croes, Rhosneigr at high speed. At approx 10:37Z both 22 Sqn helicopters were unserviceable when informed about the crash near Cable Bay. As soon as one became serviceable [Whirlwind HAR.10 XP350 Sgt Jones] it was flown to the scene with the DCI [Deputy Chief Instructor ?] S/L D Riley. A recce was made of the surrounding area for scattered debris and the helicopter then returned to Valley.				
Pilot	Cdt	Youssef Chamseddine	Killed [Lebanese]	

Monday 18th August 1969 [AIR 27/3146]

111 Sqn arrived from Binbrook for their MPC.				
111 Sqn MPC 18.8-4.9, 5 Red Top missiles fired.				
They were normally based at Leuchars but had detached to Binbrook.				
During the MPC, 111 Sqn were told they'd won the Aberporth Trophy for 1968.				
		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC [S/L Jackson]
		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC [F/L Bullocke]
		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC [F/L Adcock]
		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC [F/O Phillips]
		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC [F/O Hinchcliff]
		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC [F/O Gosling]
		Lightning	111 Sqn	MPC [F/O Hanlon]

Tuesday 19th August 1969 [MSAE P J Devine/D Cole/R L Tushingham][AIR 29/3798][@MAR 07/18][AIR 27/3040][**MB**]

XP749	B	Lightning F.3	111 Sqn	MPC
XP738	E	Lightning F.3	111 Sqn	MPC
XP741	K	Lightning F.3	111 Sqn	MPC
XP751	L	Lightning F.3	111 Sqn	MPC

XP761	N	Lightning F.3	111 Sqn	MPC
XP754	R	Lightning F.3	111 Sqn	MPC
XP758	S	Lightning F.3	111 Sqn	MPC
XM144	B	Lightning F.1	TFF	Target Facilities Flight
XS783	-	Basset CC.1	[207 Sqn]	
XJ784	-	Vulcan B.2		
XM649	-	Vulcan B.2		
G-AWMS	-	HS.125-3B	RTZ	Rio Tinto Zinc
WL738	W	Meteor T.7	85 Sqn	
WF791	[27]	Meteor T.7*	[CFS]	Grey/dayglo, 3 Sqn Hunter hangar
-				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO23' F/L Moyes
Capsized dinghy off Rhosneigr, at the time 'PEDRO23' was dry winching on the airfield so was diverted there. 2 capsized dinghies were sighted 30yds apart, crews were wearing lifejackets and did not require assistance. Helicopter kept watch until one was righted, and a motorboat arrived alongside the other.				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO23' F/L Moyes
Capsized boat off Silver Bay, Rhoscolyn, after 20mins still nothing seen, returned to Valley.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP511:11 4 FTS visited Chivenor. Gnat T.1 1 & 2 Sqn/4 FTS *New red/white colours. XR538:01 XP502:02 XP503:03 XP504:04 XR535:05 XP506:06 XR569:08 XP511:11 XP513:13 XP514:14 XP534:15 XP516:16 XR567:17 XR545:18 XR572:19 XR573:20 XP508:21 XR571:23 XR574:24 XR997:25 XP536:27 XR948:28 XR953:29* XR954:30 XP532:32 XP533:33 XR541:34 XR544:35 XS106:36 XR537:37 XP538:38 XP539:39 XP540:40 XP541:41 XP542:42 XR955:43 XS104:44 XP531:45 XR977:46 XR998:47 XR980:48* XP500:50 XR982:51 XR984:52 XR983:53 XP535:54 XS100:57 XS102:58 XS103:59 XS105:60 XS109:63 XP530:64* Hunter F.6 3 Sqn/4 FTS XF527:70 [Ex. 'P' AFDS from 5 MU to replace XG204, see 15.8.69] XG274:71 XF384:72 XF509:73 XG185:74 Hunter T.7 4 FTS XL609:80 XL622:81 XL591:82 XL600:83 Whirlwind HAR.10 C Flight/22 Sqn XP350 XP351 Whirlwind HAR.10 CFS Detachment XP341:E XP333:G XP331:T XP360:V Fire Dump: Valetta T.3 WJ479:N very badly burnt. Meteor T.7 WA658 relatively untouched.				

Wednesday 20th August 1969 [DF]

XL502	[764:BY]	Gannet AEW.3*	849 NAS	
*Routed: Valley-Pershire-Brawdy.				

Thursday 21st August 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR571:23 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by CWP from 25.8				

Friday 22nd August 1969 [MSAE – P J Devine/D Cole/R L Tushingham]

WJ917	AA	Varsity T.1	5 FTS	
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Saturday 23rd August 1969 [BAR 69/09][AIR 27/3040]

XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Moyes
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO23' F/L Nice
XP331	T	Whirlwind HAR.10	CFS[H]	'PEDRO24' F/O Taylor
XP360	V	Whirlwind HAR.10	CFS[H]	'PEDRO25' F/L Probert
Report of a light aircraft [Jodel DR.250 G-AVIV Staverton Flying School, see 11.8.69] missing between Colwyn Bay and Dublin. 'PEDRO22' airborne at first light, later joined by 'PEDRO23' at 12:00 and search expanded to include the CFS[H] detachment with 'PEDRO24' and 'PEDRO25'. At 13:30 'PEDRO23' landed at Ogwen Cottage and informed that a climber had reported a wrecked aircraft and 2 bodies at OS 107/664630. 'PEDRO23' then flew Dr I Jones [Bangor Hospital] and Dr J Ellis [MRT] to the scene where the 2 casualties were declared deceased and flown to Bangor Hospital. [Deceased: J R West 36 and T C Long 29]				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR953:29[r/w] static & XR980:48[r/w] flying 4 FTS Chivenor Airshow.				

Monday 25th August 1969 [@MAR 08/18][AIR 27/3040]

XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Haqui
2 fallen climbers on a cliff at Aberdaron, nothing seen. Later informed the 2 climbers had reached safety unaided.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP511:11[g/d] XP541:41[g/d] 4 FTS visited Chivenor.				

Wednesday 27th August 1969 [AIR 27/3146][AIR 27/3040]

111 Sqn MPC 1x missile fired [F.3]				
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Nice
Fallen youth on a cliff at Rhoscolyn, on arrival the casualty had already been brought up to the top of the cliff by local Fire Brigade, due to his head injuries he was flown to Bangor Hospital. [Anthony Armit 16]				

Thursday 28th August 1969 [@MAR 11/20]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP530:64 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Friday 29th August 1969 [@MAR 11/20][MB]

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Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR572:19 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 16.8.68 Gnat T.1 XP508:21 XS109:63 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				
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Saturday 30th August 1969 [BJ]

G-ATTI	-	PA-28 Cherokee 140	Private	To Speke, Airways Aviation
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September 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

Station Flight handled 168 movements including 4 VIP.				
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Wednesday 3rd September 1969 [AIR 29/3798][BAR 69/11][AIR 27/3040]

		?		
Col H Fahringer USAF visited, by air?				
-				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	P/O Haqui
Rescue of boy from Lake Glaslyn [OS 107/615548] casualty located and treated by SMO initially then stretchered and flown to Bangor Hospital. [Kenneth Potten 14, Almrock, Birmingham]				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XS109:63 4 FTS visited Chivenor.				

Friday 5th September 1969 [AIR 27/3146][MB]

111 Sqn departed back to Wattisham post their MPC.				
		Lightning	111 Sqn	To Wattisham
		Lightning	111 Sqn	To Wattisham
		Lightning	111 Sqn	To Wattisham
		Lightning	111 Sqn	To Wattisham
		Lightning	111 Sqn	To Wattisham
		Lightning	111 Sqn	To Wattisham
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR541:34 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R [XR541 was repaired on site by Contractors Working Party from 15.9]				

Saturday 6th September 1969 [BAR 69/09]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR953:29[r/w] static & XP534:15[g/d] flying 4 FTS Yeovilton Airshow.				

Monday 8th September 1969 [BJ]

G-AWMS	-	HS.125-3B	RTZ	To Speke then Milan Linate
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Tuesday 9th September 1969 [AIR 27/3146][MB]

*No notice QRA firing during TACEVAL. 1x missile fired.				
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The aircraft would not start for 5 minutes. After departure one of the engines suffered damage due to the ingestion of a foreign body.				
		Lightning	111 Sqn	STCAAME
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XS100:57 4 FTS [F/L Coker] to Bitteswell for limited overhaul. Hunter F.6 XF527 from 5 MU Kemble for 4 FTS – became '70' replaced XG204 see 15.8 Hunter T.7 XL591:82 4 FTS visited Kemble, taxi for S/L Edmunds.				

Wednesday 10th September 1969 [@MAR 12/20][AIR 27/3040]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Spilsbury
Involved in a search for a light aircraft missing between IoM and Liverpool. See also 12.9				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP511:11 XR983:53 XS102:58 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Thursday 11th September 1969 [BJ][AIR 29/3798]

XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'ZULU45' to Speke
Temporarily based for the Wavertree Battle of Britain Exhibition until 21.9.				

Friday 12th September 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3040][MB]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Moyes
Involved in a search for a light aircraft missing between IoM and Liverpool. Shackletons also involved during the 3-day search, no trace. Wreckage later washed up on the IoM.				
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	P/O Haqui
Searched area 5nms out between the Skerries and Dee Estuary looking for the missing light aircraft, see above and 10.9				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Detached to Wavertree Park, Liverpool for static and flying display during Battle of Britain week. 48 sorties flown with the aircraft returning to Valley 21.9 This meant Whirlwinds XP350 and XJ429 remained at Valley.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP540:40 repairs complete back to 4 FTS same day, see 27.3.69				

Saturday 13th September 1969 [AIR 27/3062]

XV191	191	Hercules C.1	36 Sqn	'RRR3329' F/L Henley
Landed at 22:30 from Vaerlose, Denmark.				

Sunday 14th September 1969 [AIR 27/3062]

XV191	191	Hercules C.1	36 Sqn	To Lyneham, see 13.9
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Monday 15th September 1969 [BJ][@MAR 12/20][SB]

G-ASTD	-	PA-23 Aztec 250C	Private	Northern Air Taxis
From and to Speke.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR567:17 4 FTS 'LRJ28' visited Lossiemouth.				

Whirlwind HAR.10 CFS[H] [Tony Bower logbook] XP405:D departed 15.9 & XP343:R departed 16.9

Tuesday 16th September 1969 [BAR 69/11][@MAR 12/20]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP500:50 4 FTS visited Chivenor, grey/dayglo. Hunter T.7 XL609:80 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Wednesday 17th September 1969 [Pprune Sycamore logbook*][MB]

XM666		Whirlwind HAR.9	A&AEE	
Routed: West Freugh-Valley-Boscombe Down, refuel following SS.11 Missile trials.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP506:06 [F/L Blair-Hickman] delivered back from Bitteswell, see 4.12.62 [allocated to 4 FTS the following day 18.9] Gnat T.1 XP533:33 4 FTS [F/L Hodgson] to Bitteswell for a limited overhaul. Gnat T.1 XR951:26 [F/L Hodgson] returned from Bitteswell, see 13.2.69				

Thursday 18th September 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Spilsbury
XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO23' F/L Moyes
Rescue of a girl on Cader Idris [OS 116/711135] on arrival, casualty found in a gully but unable to winch her clear. The SMO was lowered nearby, and the helicopter landed to contact Valley requesting members of the MRT to be moved to the position as soon as possible. 'PEDRO22' was then flown to Llanbedr to await 'PEDRO23' which was coming from Valley with MRT personnel. 'PEDRO22' then flew to Valley to pick up further MRT personnel and ferried them to Llanbedr. 'PEDRO22' then returned to Valley.				

Friday 19th September 1969 [BAR 69/11][MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP539:39 repairs complete back to 4 FTS 22.9, see 18.11.68 Gnat T.1 XR537:37 4 FTS visited Chivenor.				

Saturday 20th September 1969 [BAR 69/10]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP506:06 4 FTS Coltishall BoB, static. Gnat T.1 XR951:26 4 FTS Finningley BoB, static, red/white. Gnat T.1 XR953:29 4 FTS Leuchars BoB, static, red/white. Gnat T.1 XR538:01 4 FTS Leuchars BoB, flying. Gnat T.1 XP530:64 4 FTS St Athan BoB, static, red/white. Hunter F.6 XG274:71 4 FTS Gaydon BoB, static.				

Monday 22nd September 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3040]

El-ARN	-	Cessna 182H	Private	Helicopter Maintenance
From and to Speke.				
-				
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' Sgt Jones
Search for a small boat with 3 occupants missing off Rhos-on-Sea for 24hrs. search carried out in conjunction with Rhyl and Llandudno Lifeboats between Llandudno and Point of Ayr, but nothing seen. Aircraft returned to refuel at Valley before resuming the search in a new area between Dee Estuary and New Brighton. Informed by Rhyl Lifeboat that 1 survivor had been picked up but required immediate treatment, casualty airlifted and flown to Rhyl Hospital with CPR carried out enroute. After dropping off the casualty the aircraft returned to the mouth of the Dee Estuary but nothing further was found during the ensuing search.				

Tuesday 23rd September 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3056]

XS774	-	Basset CC.1	32 Sqn	'RRR5250' F/L Atkinson
Routed: Northolt-Leeming-Valley-Northolt.				
		?		
Swedish AF visit, by air?				

Wednesday 24th September 1969 [AIR 27/3040][AIR 27/3056]

XS765	-	Basset CC.1	32 Sqn	F/L Barnard
Routed: Northolt-Valley-Chivenor-Northolt.				
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Winching demonstration carried out at Ty Croes Army Camp.				
XP361	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	Delivered to St Mawgan

Friday 26th September 1969 [BAR 69/11][AIR 27/3150]

XR135	135	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR4476' F/L David
Routed: Manston-Valley-Prestwick. [Possibly Red Arrows support ?]				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR953:29 4 FTS visited Chivenor.				

Saturday 27th September 1969 [@MAR 08/20][AIR 27/3040]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Nice
Fallen climber at Aber Falls, survivor flown to Bangor Hospital.				
Based noted: Hunter F.6 XF527:70 XG274:71 4 FTS Prestwick Airshow.				

Monday 29th September 1969 [AIR 29/3991&3992][AIR 29/3670&4516]

15 IWI Course, 226 OCU arrived from Coltishall for their MPC. 226 OCU MPC 29.9, 2 Firestreak missiles to be fired.				
		?x Lightning	226 OCU	MPC
XJ475	-	Sea Vixen FAW.1	22 JSTU	L/CDR R H Burn & F/L N O'Shea
With Hawker Siddeley Aviation [HSA] Dynamics Division, 22 JSTU operated FAW.1's XJ475				

XJ476 XJ481 XJ494 with C Sqn/A&AEE at Boscombe Down for the evaluation of the Martel TV guided air-to-ground Missile. From and to Boscombe Down same day, Aberporth Range Familiarisation.



At the holding point for runway 32 with resident 4 FTS Hunter T.7 XL609:80 just about to carry out a touch & go/landing.



Turning base for Runway 32, the circuit was left hand in those days. The Martel missile can be seen under the port wing.



[All the above: Mark Taylor Collection]

Tuesday 30th September 1969 [@MAR 12/20][MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XS105:60 4 FTS to 5 MU Kemble for surface finishing. Hunter T.7 XL609:80 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

October 1969 [AIR 29/3798]

Station Flight handled 146 movements including 3 VIP.

Wednesday 1st October 1969 [MSAE P J Devine/D Cole/R L Tushingham][AIR 29/3798][MB]

XM177	[177]	Lightning F.1A	226 OCU	MPC
XS454	[454]	Lightning T.5	226 OCU	MPC
XS455	[455]	Lightning T.5	226 OCU	MPC
XS457	457	Lightning T.5	226 OCU	MPC
XS901	D	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
XR764	P	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	
WH794	-	Canberra PR.7	58 Sqn	
XL596	1	Hunter T.7	1/54 Sqn	
Based noted: Whirlwind HAR.10 XJ429 C Flt/22 Sqn				

Friday 3rd October 1969 [@MAR 01/21]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP534:15 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Sunday 5th October 1969 [Pprune MAINJAVAD][AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3011]

5 Sqn arrived from Binbrook for their MPC. 5 Sqn MPC 5-25.10, 4 out of 5 Red Top missiles fired.				
XS901	[D]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC
XS902	[J]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC
XR726	[N]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC
XS451	[T]	Lightning T.5	5 Sqn	MPC

Monday 6th October 1969 [AIR 27/3011][AIR 27/3112]

XR755	[O]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC from Binbrook
		Canberra	85 Sqn	5 Sqn MPC support 6-7.10

Tuesday 7th October 1969 [AIR 27/3011][MB]

XR764	[P]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC from Binbrook
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR544:35 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by CWP from 14.10				

Thursday 9th October 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR567:17 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by CWP from 14.10				

Friday 10th October 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3195][MB]

G-ATJR	-	PA-23 Aztec 250C	Private	From Speke, Lulsgate Air
XN815	-	Argosy C.1	267 Sqn	'RRR4417' F/O Bevan

Routed: Benson-Binbrook-Valley-Benson [MPC support ?]				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR541:34 back to 4 FTS as CAT.2, see 5.9.69 Gnat T.1 XR571:23 back to 4 FTS as CAT.2, see 21.8.69				

Sunday 12th October 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3040]

		Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Detached to Blackpool for 3 days for Exercise 'Gas Float' until 14.10, this involved the Royal Navy Clearance Diving Team. These were old WW1 gas cylinders which having been dumped in Morecambe Bay were now beginning to surface.				

Monday 13th October 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XS107:61 4 FTS to Bitteswell for Red Arrows modifications. [XS107 subsequently served with CFS/Red Arrows, it was allocated 8639M 5.7.79 and roaded to 2 SoTT Cosford 21.9.79 for ground instruction as 'U' It was sold at auction 9.3.90 [total hrs 2905] and shipped to the USA 5.90 Then registered N107XS 12.3.93 to Thomas C Foley/NTC Group [Wilmington DE] then to Albert F Mangino [Danbury CT] 27.2.96 then to Thomas C Foley [Greenwich CT] 20.12.02]				

Tuesday 14th October 1969 [AIR 27/3011][AIR 27/3040]

5 Sqn MPC *From Binbrook delivering missiles, departed back to Binbrook.				
XS902	[J]	Lightning F.6*	5 Sqn	MPC
		?		
AOC 19 Group, AVM Clementi visited 22 Sqn to present awards to 22 Sqn, by air ?				

Wednesday 15th October 1969 [AIR 27/3011][AIR 27/3040]

5 Sqn MPC *From Binbrook delivering missiles, departed back to Binbrook.				
XS902	[J]	Lightning F.6*	5 Sqn	MPC
		?		
The new AOC 19 Group, AVM Downey visited 22 Sqn on taking over from AVM Clementi. They may have both arrived by air on 14.10 ?				

Thursday 16th October 1969 [AIR 27/3011][MB]

5 Sqn MPC *From Binbrook delivering missiles, departed back to Binbrook.				
XS902	[J]	Lightning F.6*	5 Sqn	STCAAME
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR545:18 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 25.7.69				

Friday 17th October 1969 [AIR 29/3798][@MAR 01/21][AIR 27/3040][AIR 27/3062]

XV293	293	Hercules C.1	36 Sqn	'RRR3570' F/L Williams
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Routed: Akrotiri-Valley-Lyneham. Diversion ?				
		?		
AOC 11 Group, AVM R I Jones visited MPC to present the 11 Group MT efficiency trophy, by air?				
-				
XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Moyes
Hill fire reported near Bethesda [OS 107/615650] As Valley ATC were not in radio contact with a Gnat at the time; the helicopter was scrambled. Turned out to be a gorse fire, aircraft returned to Valley.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XS102:58 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth. Hunter T.7 XL622:81 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Saturday 18th October 1969 [AIR 27/3011][@MAR 01/21]

XR759	[R]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC from Binbrook
XR755	[O]	Lightning F.6	5 Sqn	MPC to Binbrook
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP506:06 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Wednesday 22nd October 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3040]

G-ASHW	-	DH.104 Dove 8	Scottish Avn	From Speke
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise with Holyhead Lifeboat.				

Thursday 23rd October 1969 [AIR 27/3040][AIR 27/3150][MB]

XN854	854	Argosy C.1	114 Sqn	'RRR5683' F/L McAulay
Routed: Benson-Valley-Binbrook-Benson, return of 5 Sqn MPC support.				
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Exercise held with Moelfre Lifeboat.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR545:18 4 FTS to Bitteswell [F/L Paton] for overhaul. [XR545 subsequently went to CFS/Red Arrows but was lost in a mid-air collision with XR986 on 20.1.71 during a 'roulette' manoeuvre as 'RED7'. The crew F/L's John Stewart Haddock & Colin Armstrong were both killed] Gnat T.1 XR951:26 4 FTS routed Valley-Kemble-Bitteswell, taxi for XS105:60 documents. Gnat T.1 XR997:25 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 29.5.69 Gnat T.1 XS105:60 returned from Kemble, see 30.9.69 Gnat T.1 XS109:63 4 FTS to 5 MU Kemble for surface finishing.				

Saturday 25th October 1969 [BJ][AIR 27/3081]

XS604		Andover C.1	46 Sqn	'RRR4983' F/L Cox
Routed: Abingdon-Valley-Northolt-Abingdon.				

El-ARN	-	Cessna 182H	Private	From & to Speke Helicopter Maint
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Monday 27th October 1969 [@MAR 01/21][AIR 27/3040]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Winching exercise carried out with the Liverpool Fire Brigade Tugs.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP506:06 XR569:08 XR574:24 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth. Hunter F.6 XF527:70 4 FTS visited Lyneham.				

Tuesday 28th October 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP511:11 4 FTS declared CAT.3R [deferred/flyable]				

Wednesday 29th October 1969 [@MAR 01/21]

Based noted: Hunter T.7 XL600:83 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Thursday 30th October 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	From St Mawgan
XP350	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	To St Mawgan
22 Sqn aircraft changeover.				

Friday 31st October 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP506:06 4 FTS flying accident assessed as CAT.4R. [sent to Bitteswell for repair on 11.12.69 or 13.1.70 ?] Gnat T.1 XP514:14 repairs complete back to 4 FTS – see 21.8.68 Gnat T.1 XR541:34 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R[deferred flyable to 6.1.70] [XR541 was repaired on site by 60 MU then a CWP from 3.11] Gnat T.1 XR998:47 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 26.6.69				

Monday 3rd November 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XS103:59 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 29.7.69				

Wednesday 5th November 1969 [@MAR 04/21][AIR 27/3040]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Warton
Recovery of a Soldier with a suspected broken leg from OS 107/668483. Casualty airlifted to Bangor Hospital [Junior Marine I A Withey 16, Morfa Camp Towyn]				
Based noted:				

Hunter T.7 XL609:80 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.
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Thursday 6th November 1969 [@MAR 04/21][AIR 27/3040]

		?		
AOC-in-C Coastal Command, AM Sir J Lapsley paid a farewell visit to 22 Sqn, by air ?				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR569:08 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Friday 7th November 1969 [BJ][@MAR 04/21][MB]

G-ASHW	-	DH.104 Dove 8	Scottish Avn	From Speke
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP513:13 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 7.11 [re-sited to CWP [Contractors Working Party] from 11.11 Gnat T.1 XP535:54 XP530:64 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth. Hunter T.7 XL600:83 4 FTS visited Kemble.				

Monday 10th November 1969 [@MAR 04/21]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR574:24 XR948:28 XP531:45 4 FTS all visited Lossiemouth.				

Tuesday 11th November 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR944:43 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 14.11				

Wednesday 12th November 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Detached to RAE Aberporth for radar trials, returned 14.11				

Thursday 13th November 1969 [AIR 27/3040][MB]

		?		
Retiring AOC 19 Group, AVM C M Clementi paid 22 Sqn a farewell visit, by air ?				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP502:02 4 FTS to 5 MU Kemble for surface finishing. [returned back to Valley at unknown date] Gnat T.1 XS109:63 returned from Kemble, see 23.10.69				

Friday 14th November 1969 [@MAR 04/21]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR538:01 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth, W/e stop.				

Sunday 16th November 1969 [MS]

29 Sqn arrived from Wattisham with 6 aircraft for their MPC. Also quoted as 21.11 but 29 Sqn ORB mentions 'middle of the month' 16.11-4.12, 5 Red Top missiles fired.				
XP701	M	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L M Smith
Arrived from Binbrook. 29 Sqn were based there whilst Wattisham's runway was being resurfaced.				
[XP764]	[C]	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC
[XP705]	[L]	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC
[XR715]	[R]	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC
[XP694]	[D]	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC
[XS422]	[T]	Lightning [T.5]	111 Sqn	MPC

Monday 17th November 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Hunter F.6 XF527:70 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R for repairs.				

Tuesday 18th November 1969 [MS]

XP764	C	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L M Smith
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Wednesday 19th November 1969 [AIR 27/3040][MS][MB]

XR715	R	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L M Smith
XP764	C	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L M Smith
-				
XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/L Warton
Soldier fallen off Crib Goch [OS 107/625553] on arrival unable to land at location due to severe turbulence, casualty was stretchered to the helicopter and flown to Bangor Hospital suffering from a fractured skull and suspected spinal injury.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP503:03 [F/L Hodgson] returned from Bitteswell, back to 4 FTS 21.11 see 17.6.69				

Thursday 20th November 1969 [@MAR 04/21][MS]

XP764	C	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L M Smith
XP705	L	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L M Smith
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR538:01 XR951:26 XP531:45 4 FTS all visited Lossiemouth.				

Friday 21st November 1969 [Pprune MAINJAVAD][AIR 27/3051][@MAR 04/21][AIR 27/3040][MS]

29 Sqn MPC. 1x Red Top fired.				
XP764	C	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC
[XP701]	[M]	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC
[XP705]	[L]	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC

[XR715]	[R]	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC
[XP694]	[D]	Lightning [F.3]	29 Sqn	MPC
[XS422]	[T]	Lightning T.5	29 Sqn	MPC
-				
	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Stn Cdr flown to the 4 FTS Survival Camp at Llanrwst, Conwy Valley.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR569:08 XP538:38 4 FTS both visited Lossiemouth.				

Monday 24th November 1969 [MS][MB]

XP701	M	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	F/L M Smith
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR984:52 4 FTS [F/L Hodgson] to Bitteswell for limited overhaul.				

Tuesday 25th November 1969 [AIR 4/231]

[XP556]	71	JP T.4	RAFC	F/L G-White
NAVEX Cranwell-Valley-Chivenor.				

Wednesday 26th November 1969 [MS]

XS422	T	Lightning T.5	[111 Sqn]	MPC F/L M Smith
XP701	M	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L M Smith to Binbrook
-				
XP343	R	Whirlwind HAR.10	CFS	
Main rotor struck the roof of the 22 Sqn building during take-off from Valley. Control was lost and the aircraft crashed after the tail rotor struck the ground and broke off. Wreckage to AIB Farnborough.				
Pilot			Ok	

Thursday 27th November 1969 [@MAR 04/21][MS][MB]

29 Sqn MPC 1x Red Top fired.				
XR715	R	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L Smith from Binbrook
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP541:41 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 3.12 Gnat T.1 XR948:28 XR980:48 XP500:50 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Friday 28th November 1969

29 Sqn MPC 1x Red Top fired.				

Saturday 29th November 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XJ429	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	'PEDRO22' F/O Haqui
Diverted from a training flight to a fallen climber on Grib y Ddisgyl [OS 107/607553] on				

arrival nothing seen. Winchman lowered and spoke to climbers who confirmed no casualties at that location, Police then amended the OS position to 107/617553, red flare seen at that position and the casualty suffering from multiple bruising and shock was flown to Bangor Hospital.

Monday 1st December 1969 [@MAR 05/21][MB]

29 Sqn MPC 1x Misfire [XP694]				
XP694	D	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L M Smith
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR537:37 4 FTS [F/L Hodgson] to Bitteswell for limited overhaul. Gnat T.1 XR982:51 [F/L Hodgson] returned from Bitteswell, see 7.7.69 Gnat T.1 XR983:53 4 FTS to Bitteswell for limited overhaul. Hunter F.6 XF384:72 XG185:74 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Tuesday 2nd December 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XS102:58 4 FTS assessed as CAT.3R, repaired on site by 60 MU from 5.12				

Thursday 4th December 1969 [MS]

29 Sqn MPC 1x Red Top fired. 29 Sqn departed back to Binbrook post their MPC.				
XR715	R	Lightning F.3	29 Sqn	MPC F/L M Smith to Binbrook
		?x Lightning	29 Sqn	MPC to Binbrook

Friday 5th December 1969 [AIR 27/3040][MB]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/L Warton
Climber injured on Snowdon [OS 107/610543] SMO picked up and on arrival lowered to casualty. Casualty examined and pronounced dead at scene, body flown to Bangor Hospital.				
Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR569:08 4 FTS to 5 MU Kemble for surface finishing.				

Monday 8th December 1969 [AIR 29/3798][SB]

XT481	Z:CU	Wessex HU.5	707 NAS	[Robbie Roberts]
XT474	P:CU	Wessex HU.5	707 NAS	
XT479	X:CU	Wessex HU.5	707 NAS	
XT483	U:CU	Wessex HU.5	707 NAS	
Mountain Flying Training until 12.12, serials from Robbie Roberts logbook. From & to Culdrose.				
		Whirlwind HAR.10	CFS	
Mountain flying QHI course until 18.12				

Tuesday 9th December 1969 [SB]

707 NAS carried out sorties in the MFTA [XT474/XT479/XT481 R Roberts logbook]				

Wednesday 10th December 1969 [SB]

707 NAS carried out sorties in the MFTA [XT479 R Roberts logbook]				

Thursday 11th December 1969 [BJ][SB]

707 NAS carried out sorties in the MFTA [XT481 R Roberts logbook]				
G-AVRG	-	HS.125-3B/RA	HSA	From Speke
G-ASHW	-	DH.104 Dove 8	Scottish Avn	To Speke

Friday 12th December 1969 [@MAR 05/21][AIR 27/3056][SB]

707 NAS returned to Culdrose post their detachment, see 8.12 [XT483 R Roberts logbook]				
XS772	-	Basset CC.1	32 Sqn	F/L Knott
Routed: Northolt-West Raynham-Valley-Northolt.				
Based noted: Hunter T.7 XL600:83 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Monday 15th December 1969 [AIR 29/3798][AIR 27/3040]

SAR demonstration carried out by 22 Sqn for a reporter from Lancashire Evening Post.				
		?x Sioux HT.2	CFS	
Mountain flying training until 18.12				

Thursday 18th December 1969 [@MAR 05/21][MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP537:07 [F/L Hodgson] returned from Bitteswell, see 18.7.69 Hunter T.7 XL600:83 4 FTS visited Lossiemouth.				

Friday 19th December 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XR544:35 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 7.10.69 Gnat T.1 XR567:17 repairs complete back to 4 FTS, see 9.10.69 Hunter F.6 XF527:70 repairs complete 17.12 back to 4 FTS on this date, see 17.11.69				

Sunday 21st December 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

XP347	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	F/O Haqui
Boat firing distress flares 1nm off Bull Bay, on arrival boat sighted 3nms off Point Lynas and winchman lowered with 1 occupant [Malcolm Beilenson 24, Rio Tinto Holyhead] airlifted and flown to Valley SSQ. The other 2 occupants remained onboard to receive a tow from Moelfre Lifeboat.				

Monday 22nd December 1969 [MB]

Based noted: Gnat T.1 XP516:16 to 4 FTS from A&AEE, see 22.5.69				

Tuesday 23rd December 1969 [AIR 27/3081]

XS639		Andover C.1	46 Sqn	F/L Wise
Routed: Abingdon-Aldergrove-Ballykelly-Valley-Abingdon.				

Wednesday 24th December 1969 [AIR 27/3040]

	-	Whirlwind HAR.10	22 Sqn	
Stn Cdr, G/C D E Colahan, Padre S/L Jenkyns flown to the Skerries Lighthouse with a Christmas hamper for the keepers.				

Tuesday 30th December 1969 [AIR 27/3132]

A QRA firing by 92 Sqn from Gutersloh was cancelled due to crosswinds at Valley.				