

APPENDIX

NAMES OF MOST CREW MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE WARSAW AIRLIFT

INTRODUCTION

The names of the aircrews of the SAAF and RAF which participated in the Warsaw Airlift are indicated in this appendix. Of the two SAAF squadrons 31 Squadron crews played the major role, and therefore the names of crews of this squadron exceed in number those of 34 squadron. Unfortunately the names of the crews of Polish Special Duties Flight 1856 could not be traced. The names of the American crews who participated in the single one day mission are also not included because detailed consideration of this single raid lies outside the scope of this thesis.

The rank numbers of the crew of Liberator Q Mk VI No. 967 and those of the crews of 178 Squadron RAF could not be found.

MILITARY RANKS

Gen.	: General
Lt. Gen.	: Lieutenant General
Maj. Gen.	: Major-General
Brig.	: Brigadier
Col.	: Colonel
Lt-Col.	: Lieutenant-Colonel
Maj.	: Major
Capt.	: Captain
Lt.	: Lieutenant
2 Lt.	: Second Lieutenant
W.O.1	: Warrant Officer Class 1
W.O.2	: Warrant Officer Class 2
F. Sgt.	: Flight Sergeant
F.O.	: Flight Officer (R.A.F. rank)
Sgt.	: Sergeant
P.O.	: Pilot Officer (R.A.F. rank)

1. SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE CREWS

1.1 Crews of sorties of SAAF 31 Squadron flown on 13-14 August 1944

1.1.1 Task flight: Liberator Z Mk VI No. 166

102792 Capt. G. Lawrie, SAAF
 157105 Lt. A.J. McInnes, SAAF
 328600 Lt. O. Coleman, SAAF
 136470 Lt. H.H. Lewis, SAAF
 53201 F.O. A.M. Bonney, RAF
 1607086 Sgt. H.J. Woods, RAF
 1322578 F.Sgt. R. Zambra, RAF

1.1.2 Task flight: Liberator P Mk VI No. 248

103213 Capt. K. St. G. Hayward, SAAF
 1323498 Sgt. J.J. Newman, RAF
 542296 Lt. H.B. Varty, SAAF
 991817 Sgt. M. Hall, RAF
 209495 Lt. LG. Jackson, SAAF
 1585485 F.Sgt. E.W. Payton, RAF
 810117 Sgt. H. Austin, RAF
 143121 F.O. E.T. Ruck, RAF

1.1.3 Task flight: Liberator C Mk VI No. 836

102853 Capt. N. van Rensburg, SAAF
 329117 Lt. R.A. Lavery, SAAF
 543022 Lt. J.C. Branch-Clark, SAAF
 206770 W.O.1 R.W. Stafford, SAAF
 543206 W.O.2 J.A. Meyer, SAAF
 1685004 Sgt. E.H. Turner, RAF
 543513 W.O.2 B.N. Woods, SAAF

1.1.4 *Task flight: Liberator K Mk VI No. 138*

206788 Lt. W. Norval, SAAF
 542738 2 Lt. R.C.W. Burgess, SAAF
 542348 Lt. N. Sleed, SAAF
 1683535 Sgt. A.H. Bates, RAF
 1600173 Sgt. S.F. Payne, RAF
 611217 Sgt. R. Lewis, RAF
 574649 Sgt. J.S. Appleyard, RAF
 1235077 Sgt. W. Cross, RAF

1.1.5 *Task Flight: Liberator G Mk VI No. 105*

103964 Lt. R.R. Klette, SAAF
 203578 Lt. A.E. Faul, SAAF
 542398 Lt. B.D. Jones, SAAF
 187540 W.O.1 L.E.D. Winchester, SAAF
 337598 W.O.2 H.R. Upton, SAAF
 328832 W.O.2 H.J. Brown, SAAF
 823999 W.O.2 T.G. Davis, RAF

1.1.6 *Task flight: Liberator H Mk VI No. 838*

102736 Maj. S.S. Urry, SAAF
 542602 Lt. A.H.R. Metlerkamp, SAAF
 A422612 F.O. T.R. Miller, RAF
 36065 W.O.1 P.J. Lordan, SAAF
 208109 W.O.1 L.B. Bloch, SAAF
 1624864 Sgt. E. Lockey, RAF
 103840 Lt. N.W. Armstrong, SAAF

1.1.7 *Task flight: Liberator A Mk VI No. 939*

202918 Capt. I.J.M. Odendaal, SAAF
 542678 Lt. J.J.C. Groenewald, SAAF
 329109 Lt. B.T. Loxton, SAAF
 1621559 Sgt. G.T. Robinson, RAF
 99671 Lt. A.J. Hastings, SAAF
 328250 W.O.1 J.B. Erasmus, SAAF
 543216 W.O.2 J.A.C. Steel, SAAF
 205946 Lt. T.T. Watson, SAAF

1.1.8 *Task flight: Liberator V Mk VI No. 872*

205440 Lt. R. Franklin, SAAF
 328628 Lt. L.B. Möller, SAAF
 1621580 Sgt. K.C. Jones, RAF
 328614 Lt. R.A. Rudman, SAAF
 795258 Sgt. M.B. Cauchi, RAF
 1356208 F.Sgt. C. Leahy, RAF
 591402 Sgt. W.J.R. Nickerson, RAF
 326190 Sgt. L. Botha, SAAF

1.1.9 *Task flight: Liberator Q Mk VI No. 941*

47860 Capt. F.C. Serfontein, SAAF
 542585 Lt. A. Oosthuizen, SAAF
 542532 Lt. J.R. Colman, SAAF
 1480967 Sgt. N. Beswick, RAF
 209257 Lt. R.A. Evans, SAAF
 1393532 F.Sgt. A.W. Hobden, RAF
 1520720 Sgt. L. Whalley, RAF
 211348 Lt. E.V. Hopping-Mills, SAAF

1.1.10 *Task flight: Liberator F Mk VI No. 871*

B04023 Capt. G.A.P. Greindl, SAAF
 205526 Lt. N.V. Coats, SAAF
 103935 Lt. A.F. Cloete, SAAF
 573009 2 Lt. T. Kipling, SAAF
 102521 Lt. G. de A. Shipman, SAAF
 1116335 Sgt. J. Tumelty, RAF
 206595 Lt. R. le Roux, SAAF

1.2 Crews of Sorties flown on 14-15 August 1944

1.2.1 Task Flight: Liberator H Mk VI No. 858

102736 Maj. S.S. Urry, SAAF
 542602 Lt. A.H.R. Metlerkamp, SAAF
 329145 Lt. G.A. Collard, SAAF
 A422612 F.O. T.R. Millar, RAF
 36065 W.O.1 P.J. Lordan, SAAF
 208109 W.O.1 L.B. Bloch, SAAF
 1624864 Sgt. E. Lockey, RAF
 103840 Lt. N.W. Armstrong, SAAF

1.2.2 Task flight: Liberator Q Mk VI No. 941

203161 Capt. L.C. Allen, SAAF
 P7011 Lt. A.J. Munro, SAAF
 41252 Lt. E.B.H. Impey, SAAF
 206784 W.O.1 D.B. Brandsma, SAAF
 329040 W.O.1 D.J. Palmer, SAAF
 1653418 Sgt. T.G. Haines, RAF
 944855 W.O.1 E. Bradshaw, RAF
 1807337 Sgt. C.L. Foster, RAF

1.2.3 Task flight: Liberator D Mk VI No. 857

47860 Capt. F.C. Serfontein, SAAF
 542585 Lt. A. Oosthuizen, SAAF
 542532 Lt. J.R. Coleman, SAAF
 1480976 Sgt. N. Beswick, RAF
 209257 Lt. R.A. Evans, SAAF
 1393532 F.Sgt. A.W. Hobden, RAF
 1686376 Sgt. B. Earl, RAF
 211348 Lt. E.V. Hopping-Mills, SAAF

1.2.4 Task flight: Liberator V Mk VI No. 872

47585 Capt. W.E. Senn, SAAF
 1581064 Sgt. D.A.A. Lack, RAF
 125324 Lt. T.C.L. Symmes, SAAF
 573009 2 Lt. T. Kipling, SAAF
 542992 W.O.2 F. Langford, SAAF
 1561684 Sgt. J.R. Smillie, RAF
 1183014 Sgt. R.F. Owen, RAF

1.2.5 *Task flight: Liberator A Mk VI No. 939*

102760 Capt. J.L. van Eyssen, SAAF
 542957 2 Lt. R.G. Hamilton, SAAF
 103709 Lt. D.R.F. Holliday, SAAF
 1474645 F.Sgt. H.S. Litchfield, RAF
 572829 2 Lt. B.H. Austin, SAAF
 998666 Sgt. G. Peaston, RAF
 1525557 Sgt. H. Hudson, RAF
 999652 Sgt. L. Mayes, RAF

1.2.6 *Task flight: Liberator F Mk VI No. 871*

102853 Capt. N. van Rensburg, SAAF
 329117 Lt. R.A. Lavery, SAAF
 543022 Lt. J.C. Branch-Clark, SAAF
 206770 W.O.1 R.W. Stafford, SAAF
 543513 W.O.2 B.N. Woods, SAAF
 1685004 Sgt. E.H. Turner, RAF
 543206 W.O.2 J.A. Meyer, SAAF

1.2.7 *Task flight: Liberator C Mk VI No. 836*

103846 Lt. G.C. Hooey, SAAF
 542624 Lt. P.H. Andrews, SAAF
 206267 Lt. C.A. Cooke, SAAF
 328854 W.O.1 T.D. O'Keefe, SAAF
 21586 Lt. H.A.R. Male, SAAF
 1584070 Sgt. P.H.G. Lees, RAF
 100685 Lt. G.B. Pitt, SAAF

1.3 **Crews of Sorties flown on 16-17 August 1944****1.3.1** *Task flight: Liberator H Mk VI No. 938*

B04023 Maj. G.A.P. Greindl, SAAF
 205526 Lt. N.V. Coats, SAAF
 103935 Lt. A.F. Cloete, SAAF
 578236 W.O.1 J.W.M. MacLachlan, SAAF
 102521 Lt. G. D'A Shipman, SAAF
 1116335 Sgt. J. Tumelty, RAF
 206595 Lt. R. le Roux, SAAF

1.3.2 *Task flight: Liberator J Mk VI No. 974*

47860 Capt. F.C. Serfontein, SAAF
 542585 Lt. A. Oosthuizen, SAAF
 542532 Lt. J.R. Colman, SAAF
 1480976 Sgt. N. Beswick, RAF
 209257 Lt. R.A. Evans, SAAF
 1393532 F.Sgt. A.W. Hobden, RAF
 542813 W.O.1 R.P. Whitelaw, SAAF
 211348 Lt. E.V. Hopping-Mills, SAAF

1.3.3 *Task flight: Liberator R Mk VI No. 958*

47951 Lt. P.A. Rautenbach, SAAF
 542405 Lt. A.G. Fenshaw, SAAF
 329043 Lt. C.B. Vorster, SAAF
 958747 Sgt. E.F. Rodgers, RAF
 579339 W.O.1 G. Aldred, SAAF
 810117 Sgt. H. Austin, RAF
 1520720 Sgt. L. Whalley, RAF
 635332 F.Sgt. E.J.J. Harris, RAF

1.3.4 *Task flight: Liberator P Mk VI No. 248*

202918 Maj. I.J.M. Odendaal, SAAF
 542678 Lt. J.J.C. Groenewald, SAAF
 329109 Lt. B.T. Loxton, SAAF
 1621559 Sgt. G.T. Robinson, RAF
 99617 Lt. A.J. Hastings, SAAF
 328250 W.O.1 J.B. Erasmus, SAAF
 543216 W.O.2 J.A.C. Steel, SAAF
 205946 Lt. T.T. Watson, SAAF

1.3.5 *Task flight: Liberator Q Mk VI No. 941*

203161 Capt. L.C. Allen, SAAF
 P7011 Lt. A.J. Munro, SAAF
 109210 Lt. W. Klokow, SAAF
 41252 Lt. E.B.H. Impey, SAAF
 206784 W.O.1 D.B. Brandsma, SAAF
 329040 W.O.1 D.J. Palmer, SAAF
 591402 Sgt. W.J.R. Nickerson, RAF
 944855 W.O.1 E. Bradshaw, RAF

1.3.6 *Task flight: Liberator W Mk VI No. 161*

102792 Capt. G. Laurie, SAAF
 157105 Lt. A.J. McInnes, SAAF
 328600 Lt. O. Coleman, SAAF
 136470 Lt. H.H. Lewis, SAAF
 53201 F.O. A.M. Bonny, RAF
 1454102 Sgt. G. Swift, RAF
 1322578 F.Sgt. R. Zambra, RAF

1.4 **Crews of Sorties flown on 10-11 September 1944****1.4.1** *Task flight: Liberator D Mk VI No. 875*

47891 Capt. L. van S. Beukes, SAAF
 551925 Sgt. G.F.J. Anstee, RAF
 329217 Lt. M.C.F. Kruger, SAAF
 1807337 Sgt. C.L. Foster, RAF
 1607086 Sgt. H.J. Woods, RAF
 208109 W.O.1 L.B. Bloch, SAAF
 1606109 Sgt. G.R.G. Stevens, RAF
 1356208 F.Sgt. C. Leaky, RAF

1.4.2 *Task flight: Liberator J Mk VI No. 874*

103213 Capt. K. St. G. Hayward, SAAF
 1323498 Sgt. K.J. Newman, RAF
 542296 Lt. H.B. Varty, SAAF
 209495 Lt. L.G. Jackson, SAAF
 143121 F.O. E.T. Ruck, RAF
 1624864 Sgt. E. Lockey, RAF
 907258 Sgt. J.E. Morris, RAF
 1585485 F.Sgt. E.W. Payton, RAF

1.4.3 *Task flight: Liberator F Mk VI No. 104*

205407 Lt. C.F. le Sueur, SAAF
 1581064 Sgt. D.A.A. Lack, RAF
 991817 Sgt. M. Hall, RAF
 181276 F.O. K.J. Adams, RAF
 1802724 Sgt. H.N.R. Medler, RAF
 591801 Sgt. D.F. Matthews, RAF
 1686376 Sgt. B. Earl, RAF
 1515476 F.Sgt. A. Johnson, RAF

1.4.4 *Task flight: Liberator A Mk VI No. 886*

103740 Lt. J.H. Smith, SAAF
 207349 Lt. R.D. Cairns, SAAF
 1561684 Sgt. J.R. Smillie, RAF
 579429 W.O.1 E.A. Jones, SAAF
 542813 W.O.1 R.P. Whitelaw, SAAF
 1582467 Sgt. A. Neale, RAF
 1183014 Sgt. R.F. Owen, RAF

1.4.5 *Task flight: Liberator A Mk VI No. 195*

79528 Lt. J.A. Lithgow, SAAF
 103389 Capt. F.N. Murray, SAAF
 102502 Lt. E. Colbert, SAAF
 313340 Lt. G.C. Dicks, SAAF
 629511 Sgt. T. Myers, RAF
 1686414 Sgt. E.M. Stoves, RAF
 211649 Lt. S.I. Fourie, SAAF
 542772 W.O.2 G.J. Davies, SAAF

1.4.6 *Task flight: Liberator R Mk VI No. 150*

47474 Capt. W.K.C. Carter, SAAF
 206225 Lt. J.G. Maritz, SAAF
 329153 Lt. J.D.R. Slabber, SAAF
 99918 W.O.1 M.A. Lawrence, SAAF
 1806522 Sgt. T. Garratty, RAF
 1350654 Sgt. K. Crossby, RAF
 1365121 Sgt. Todd, RAF
 1383567 Sgt. E. Hyams, RAF

1.4.7 *Task flight: Liberator C Mk VI No. 198*

102379 Capt. E.A. Endler, SAAF
 205382 Lt. J.W.P. Chapman, SAAF
 103853 Lt. T.A. Steward, SAAF
 209194 Lt. A.G. McCabe, SAAF
 1584084 Sgt. C. Manley, RAF
 135446 F.O. R.G. Devine, RAF
 172047 P.O. G. Crook, RAF

1.5 Crews of Sorties flown on 21-22 September 1944

1.5.1 Task flight: Liberator Q Mk VI No. 967

F.O. T.M. Badham, SAAF

Sgt. K.C. Rimell, RAF

P.O. H.I. Ockelford, RAF

Sgt. D.A. Pope, RAF

Sgt. G. Woodmansy, RAF

Sgt. W.A. Rogers, RAF

Sgt. A.G. Gurney, RAF

Sgt. D.K. Portner, RAF

1.5.2 Task flight: Liberator Q Mk VI No. 155

205895 Lt. E.A. van Zyl, SAAF

1316958 F.Sgt. T.A. Green, RAF

581671 Lt. R.A. Wittenberg, SAAF

10710 W.O.1 A. Israel, SAAF

1651991 Sgt. J.E. Ablatt, RAF

646286 Sgt. T. Haddow, RAF

1553355 Sgt. G. Rebecca, RAF

1080869 Sgt. G.A. Taylor, RAF

1.5.3 Task flight: Liberator EW Mk VI No. 207

103662 Lt. P.N. Maas, SAAF

206738 Lt. A. Barnard, SAAF

47948 Lt. R.S. Parsons, SAAF

1850545 Sgt. D.P. New, RAF

94432 Lt. P.J. du Preez, SAAF

1347722 Sgt. J.J.G. Livingstone, RAF

163184 Sgt. J.G. Smith, RAF

1321527 Sgt. G.C. Kirrage, RAF

1.5.4 *Task flight: Liberator G Mk VI No. 192*

33468	Lt.	J.N. Smith, SAAF
47809	Capt.	S.D. Marsh, SAAF
205501	Lt.	N. Swart, SAAF
543872	W.O.1	S.J. Lee, SAAF
156542	Sgt.	P. Sugar, RAF
207320	Sgt.	R.H.C. Scott, RAF
1671463	Sgt.	R.V. Cremins, RAF
1456654	Sgt.	E. Ellison, RAF

2. Royal Air Force Crews

2.1 178 Squadron

2.1.1 *Task flight: Liberator EV Mk VI No. 961*

F.O. G.D. McRae
 Sgt. R.H.C. Scott
 Lt. P.G. Soutts
 Sgt. H.L. Syrie
 Sgt. J.E. Porter
 Sgt. A. Sharp
 Sgt. H.V. Lloyd Lyne

2.1.2 *Task flight: Liberator EW Mk VI No. 233*

Lt. T.D. Potgieter
 Sgt. A. Gowan
 F.O. A.H. McIntosh
 Sgt. G.E. Justin
 Sgt. W.C. Pearce
 W.O. D.A. Cresswell
 F.O. G.A. Spence

2.1.3 *Task flight: Liberator EW Mk VI No. 264*

Sgt. W.E. Cornock
 P.O. M.E. Sanders
 Sgt. G.W. Riddell
 Sgt. T.L. Pickmere
 Sgt. R.M. Hingle
 Sgt. J.F. Dewar
 Sgt. J. Mornin

2.1.4 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 942*

F.Sgt. M.A. Baxter
 Sgt. J. Winter
 F.Sgt. R.W. Robinson
 Sgt. G.W. Jocelyn
 Sgt. F.J. Barret
 Sgt. W. Pratt
 F.Sgt. J.V. Lee

2.1.5 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 828*

F.O. P.J. Boothman
 Sgt. D. Hicks
 F.C. G.F. Banyard
 Sgt. A.R. Bloor
 Sgt. F.R. Scott
 Sgt. J. Halsall

2.1.6 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 838*

Sgt. J.B. Rush
 F.Sgt. D.G. Steward
 Sgt. P.F. Grodan
 F.Sgt. W.C. Pierce
 Lt. K.W. Murray
 Sgt. D. Coates
 Sgt. P.S. Green
 Sgt. J. Willson

2.1.7 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 933*

F.Lt. W.D. Wright
 P.O. B.P. Taylor
 F.Sgt. L.J. Blunt
 F.Lt. J.P. Liversage
 F.Lt. A. Hammett
 F.Sgt. J.D. Clarke
 Sgt. W.F. Helne

2.1.8 *Task flight: Liberator EW Mk VI No. 160*

Lt. C. Rosenthal
 Sgt. D.E. Browne
 Lt. C.D. Steel
 Sgt. E. Cam
 Sgt. R.P. Morrel
 Sgt. T.A. Garbutt

2.1.9 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 938*

P.O. S.E. Morrison
 Sgt. R. Dixon
 Sgt. D.C. Matthews
 Sgt. N.W. Dorling
 Sgt. S.E. Milton
 Sgt. W.F.G. Higgs
 F.Sgt. R.S. Evans

2.1.10 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 873*

Sgt. A. Wilson
 F.O. N.L. Morrison
 F.Lt. K. Fairweather
 Sgt. N.A. Deakin
 Sgt. J.S. Bertram
 Sgt. F.F.S. Reed
 Sgt. F.J. Anton
 Sgt. R.S. McCulloch
 Sgt. J.G. Smith

2.1.11 *Task flight: Liberator EW Mk VI No. 264*

F.Sgt. M.A. Baxter
 Sgt. J. Winters
 F.Sgt. R.W. Robinson
 Sgt. F.J. Barrett
 F.Sgt. J.V. Lee
 Sgt. G.W. Jacelyn
 Sgt. W. Pratt

2.1.12 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 828*

Lt. R.L. Lawson
 Sgt. W.G.C. Garner
 Lt. A.D. D'Equille Scott
 Sgt. R.V. Stonier
 F.Sgt. R.C. Pain
 Sgt. W. Huddart
 W.O. E.H.J. Page

2.1.13 *Task flight: Liberator EW Mk VI No. 233*

F.O. P.F. Raw
Sgt. R.R. Daniels
Lt. A.J. Benade
Sgt. A.C. Breeden
Sgt. K.J. Whitehouse
Sgt. F.J. Ansell
Sgt. T.D. Bell

2.1.14 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 942*

F.O. E.J. Fletcher
Sgt. G.I. Graves
W.O. G.R. Adams
Sgt. L.E. Eales
Sgt. R.M. Butters
Sgt. J. Butler
P.O. E. Seddon

2.1.15 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 933*

F.Sgt. V. Ansell
Sgt. N.S. Barron
Sgt. J.D. Jarvis
Sgt. R.E. North
Sgt. R.F. Allen
Sgt. A.H. Dunning
Sgt. J.J. Turner

2.1.16 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 938*

P.O. J.W. McDonald
Sgt. N.T. Howe
Lt. A.E. Farrow
Sgt. F.W. Hunwick
Sgt. J. Gilfillan
Sgt. J.M. Evans

2.1.17 *Task flight: Liberator EV Mk VI No. 839*

F.Sgt. H.K. Jenkinson
 Sgt. J. Appleby
 Sgt. C.H. Forsyth
 Sgt. J.P. Reilly
 Sgt. J. Ibbotson
 Sgt. A.C. Hargrave
 F.Sgt. J.D. Palmer

2.1.18 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk II No. 838*

P.O. M.E. Sanders
 Sgt. F. Mason
 P.O. J.P. Sharp
 Sgt. M.R. Sanderson
 Sgt. F.B. Taylor
 Sgt. A.E. Beerling
 Sgt. R.G. Lemmon

2.1.19 *Task flight: Liberator KG Mk VI No. 929*

Sgt. A. Wilson
 Sgt. J.G. Smith
 Sgt. N.A. Deakin
 Sgt. F.J. Auton
 Sgt. J.S. Bertram
 Sgt. R.F.A. Read
 Sgt. R.S. McCullosh

2.2 **148 SQUADRON ROYAL AIR FORCE****2.2.1** *Task flight: Halifax V No. EB 197 F*

P.O. W.H. Jones
 F.Sgt. L.E. Shannon
 P.O. F.W. Harper
 Sgt. C.W. Robinson
 Sgt. F.W. Baker
 Sgt. T.A. Phillips

2.2.2 *Task flight: Halifax II No. JP 254 D*

F.O. E. Howard
 F.O. W.G. Rennie
 Sgt. G.R. Talbott
 F.Sgt. H.B. Craney
 F.Sgt. C. Hughes
 Cpl. I.N. Whotworth
 Sgt. F.N. Snow

2.2.3 *Task flight: Halifax II No. BB 429 V*

P.O. M.L. Caser
 F.Sgt. K.A. Bedford
 F.Sgt. R.C. Samwars
 Sgt. R.S. Darlin
 Sgt. P.H. Roots
 Sgt. R.R. Hartob
 Sgt. T. Law

2.2.4 *Task flight: Halifax V No. EB 196 E*

W.O. C.M. Hall
 F.Sgt. W.N. Nicholas
 F.Sgt. H. Wild
 F.Sgt. R.G. Ward
 Sgt. J. Leeming
 F.Sgt. U. Murphy

2.2.5 *Task flight: Halifax II No. JN 897 T*

P.O. J.D. Johnson
 W.O. W.H. Wilson
 F.Sgt. F.G. Forster
 Sgt. R.L. Short
 Sgt. S.W. Roberts
 Sgt. K.W. Train
 Sgt. J. Stewart

2.2.6 *Task flight: Halifax II No. JP 223 W*

F.Sgt. A.E. Moulder

F.Sgt. L. Shannon

F.Sgt. D.F. Hinsby

Sgt. W. Laidlaw

Sgt. G. Cooper

Sgt. J.M. Fairly

Sgt. G. Knight

2.2.7 *Task flight: Halifax II No. JN 958 A*

F.Sgt. P.T. Bence

F.O. R. Lingwood

W.O. J.M. Thorsteinson

F.Sgt. D. McLaren

Sgt. R.D. Newitt

F.Sgt. F. Greenhalgh

Sgt. G.H. Barker

2.2.8 *Task flight: Halifax II JN 926 O*

P.O. M.C. Casey

F.Sgt. K.A. Bedford

F.Sgt. R.C. Samways

Sgt. R.S. Darlin

Sgt. P.H. Roots

Sgt. R.R. Hartob

Sgt. T. Law

P.O. C.D. McLeand

F.Sgt. G.G. McLaren

2.2.9 *Task flight: Halifax V EB 179 Q*

W.O. C.M. Hall

F.Sgt. W.M. Nicholas

F.Sgt. H. Wild

F.Sgt. R.G. Waard

Sgt. J. Leeming

F.Sgt. U. Murphy

2.2.10 *Task flight: Halifax II JD 319 G*

F.Sgt. A.J. Toft
 F.O. S. Boyco
 W.O. W.T. Johnston
 Sgt. M.R. Neville
 Sgt. G.M. Messenger
 F.Sgt. J.M. Leith
 Sgt. O. Plambert

2.2.11 *Task flight: Halifax II BB 422 T*

P.O. W.H. Jones
 P.O. F.W. Harper
 Sgt. J.E. Falder
 Sgt. F.W. Baker
 Sgt. T.A. Phillips
 F.Sgt. L.E. Shannon

2.2.12 *Task flight: Halifax II JN 859 B*

F.O. J.E. O'Brien
 F.O. J.M. Parkinson
 F.O. G.W. Flewellyn
 F.Sgt. R.A. Crowell
 F.Sgt. D.J. Ives
 Sgt. J.H. Ireland

2.2.13 *Task flight: Halifax II No. JP 295 P*

F.Sgt. L.W. Craven
 F.O. J.t. Dovey
 F.Sgt. C.A. Painter
 F.Sgt. K.W. Savage
 Sgt. R.J. Jamieson
 F.Sgt. A.R. Blake
 Sgt. J. Whitehead

2.2.14 *Task flight: Halifax II No. JP 245 P*

F.O. J.E. O'Brien
 F.O. J.M. Parkinson
 F.O. G.W. Flewellyn
 F.Sgt. D.J. Ives
 Sgt. J.H. Ireland

2.2.15 *Task flight: Halifax II No. JD 319 G*

F.O. H. Wheldon
 F.O. E.A. Hyde
 F.O. W.W. Walker
 Sgt. G.T. Legworthy
 Sgt. C.B. Briggs
 W.O. F.S. Dunn

2.2.16 *Task flight: Halifax II No. JP 295 P*

F.Lt. R.G. Pryor
 Sgt. A.W. Holt
 P.O. E. Dunhill
 Sgt. R.D. Tilling
 Sgt. E.H. North
 Sgt. G.E. Moll
 F.Sgt. F. McInnes

2.2.17 *Task flight: Halifax II No. JN 926 O*

P.O. B. Tabor
 W.O. J.W. Inch
 F.Sgt. B.G. Bean
 Sgt. C.E. Baines
 Sgt. S.R. Morrison
 Sgt. P. Knight
 Sgt. W.I. Campbell

2.2.18 *Task flight: Halifax II JP 246 B*

P.O. C.D. McLean
 F.Sgt. G.D. McLaren
 F.O. J.D. Aldwinckle
 F.Sgt. G.E. Hughes
 Sgt. N. Flax
 Sgt. K.E. Allen

ABSTRACT

THE SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE AND THE WARSAW AIRLIFT OF 1944

The South African Air Force (SAAF) played an important role in the Second World War and operated on many fronts. Squadrons were involved in East Africa, Madagascar, the Western desert, Sicily, the Dodecanese Islands and Italy. 31 Squadron and 34 Squadron SAAF were two of the many that took part in operations during the War. Both squadrons were involved in mining activities of the Danube and bombing raids against targets in the north west of Italy. They repeatedly attacked and bombed marshalling yards. Towards the end of the war they took part in attacks and raids against enemy installations and oil targets in Hungary, Northern Italy and Yugoslavia. From August to September 1944, these two squadrons were involved in the Warsaw Airlift, and their conduct and efficiency during this operation, is the main focus of this thesis.

The ill-fated Polish uprising of 1 August 1944 is briefly described and discussed. The attitude of the Soviet Union towards the uprising is explained. It is concluded that Stalin had a hidden agenda. From 12 August to 22 September 1944, the Allied forces were involved in a total of 99 sorties to Warsaw and a total of 485 containers was dropped. These flights by the Allied squadrons from Italy meant the difference between survival and defeat for the Poles in Warsaw and later this help became even more crucial, making the difference between life and death for the Poles. This operation by the Allies was the most important effort undertaken to help the Polish partisans. In this thesis these flights are discussed in detail.

The role of the SAAF in the Warsaw airlift is described and evaluated to place the contribution of the SAAF within the broad context of the involvement of the Allied Air Forces. Statistical data is used to compare and evaluate the contribution of the SAAF in relation to that of the Royal Air Force (RAF) and Polish Special Duties Flight 1586, as well as to the single mission by the Americans. Both political and military aspects of the Warsaw airlift have also been taken into account in reaching conclusions regarding this specific operation. It is shown that no valid comparison can be drawn between the single mission by the Americans and those of the other Allied squadrons that flew from Italy.

It is concluded that the participation of the SAAF in the Warsaw Airlift represents a remarkable contribution to South Africa's military history. The number of decorations won by individual members of the SAAF during these operations testifies to their gallantry and the excellence of their work. Their achievements prove that there were no finer squadrons involved in operations like these within the Allied Air Forces, and that no squadrons, involved in similar missions, surpassed them. Although subsequent events show that little was ultimately accomplished by these operations, they nevertheless represent one of the most outstanding operations undertaken by the SAAF.

OPSOMMING

DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE LUGMAG EN DIE WARSKOU LUGBRUG VAN 1944

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag (SALM) het 'n belangrike rol in Wêreldoorlog II gespeel en aan verskeie fronte deelgeneem. Eskaders was betrokke in Oos-Afrika, Madagaskar, die Westelike woestyn, Sicilië, die Dodekanese eilande en Italië. 31 Eskader en 34 Eskader SALM was twee van 'n groot aantal eskaders wat aan operasies gedurende die oorlog deelgeneem het. Beide eskaders was betrokke by die lê van myne in die Donau en bomaanvalle wat op teikens in die noordweste van Italië uitgevoer is. Hulle het herhaaldelik opstellingsterreine aangeval en gebombardeer. Teen die einde van die oorlog het hulle aan invalle teen vyandelike installasies en aanvalle teen olie teikens in Hongarye, noord Italië en Jugoslawië deelgeneem. Vanaf Augustus tot September 1944 was hierdie twee eskaders betrokke by die Warskou Lugbrug. Hulle optredes en doeltreffendheid gedurende hierdie operasies word in hierdie proefskrif beskryf en ge-evalueer.

Die rampspoedige Poolse opstand van 1 Augustus 1944 is kortliks beskryf en bespreek. Die houding van die Sowjet-Unie teenoor die opstand word verduidelik. Daar is tot die gevolgtrekking gekom dat Stalin 'n verskuilde agenda gehad het. Vanaf 12 Augustus tot 22 September 1944 was die Geallieerde magte betrokke by 99 vlugte na Warskou en is 485 houers afgelewer. Hierdie vlugte deur die Geallieerde eskaders vanaf Italië het tydelik vir die Poolse opstandelinge in Warskou die verskil tussen oorlewing of ondergang beteken. Later het die hulp nog meer noodsaaklik geword. Hierdie operasie was een van die belangrikste pogings aan die kant van die Geallieerdes om die Poolse opstandelinge te help. Die proefskrif bespreek die vlugte breedvoerig.

Die rol van die SALM in die Warskou Lugbrug word beskryf en ge-evalueer om die bydrae van die SALM binne die breë konteks van die betrokkenheid van die Geallieerde lugmagte te plaas. Statistiese inligting is gebruik om die bydrae van die SALM met die van die Britse Lugmag (Royal Air Force), 'n spesiale Poolse eskader (taakvlug 1586), asook met die enkele sending deur die Amerikaners, te vergelyk. Beide politieke en militêre aspekte wat ten opsigte van die Warskou Lugbrug gegeld het, is in berekening gebring om sodoende tot sekere

gevolgtrekkings ten opsigte van hierdie spesifieke operasie te kom. Daar word aangedui dat geen vergelyking tussen die enkele missie deur die Amerikaners en die van die ander Geallieerde eskaders, wat vanaf Italië gevlieg het, gemaak kan word nie.

Die gevolgtrekking is dat die deelname van die SALM aan die Warskou Lugbrug 'n besondere bydrae lewer tot die Suid-Afrikaanse militêre geskiedenis. Die aantal medaljes wat deur individuele lede van die SALM gedurende hierdie operasies verwerf is, lewer bewys van hul dapperheid en die uitmuntende diens wat hulle gelewer het. Hulle prestasies bewys dat geen ander eskaders binne die geledere van die Geallieerdes, en wat by soortgelyke operasies betrokke was, beter as hulle gevaar het nie. Alhoewel daaropvolgende gebeure aantoon dat baie min deur hierdie operasie bereik is, verteenwoordig dit een van die mees uitstaande operasies wat deur die SALM tydens die Tweede Wêreldoorlog onderneem is.

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