

## A59-53

## SF-W

## A Flight (Det Coffs)

Last corrected 20 Apr 22 Phil Herdman

July 43	"13 Aircraft allotted to date..... Ventura A59-51, 52 & 53"			13 Sqn A50.
26 Aug 43	"Ventura aircraft A59-53 arrived"			13 Sqn A50.
27 Aug 43	"Received 13 Sqn ex 2 AD."			Status Card
14-Sep-43	S/L Campbell	Canberra local? 1000-1200hrs		Whitlam log
19-Sep-43	F/O AG Goudie	Canberra - Richmond	1615-1715hrs	Whitlam log
22-Sep-43	F/O AG Goudie	Richmond - Canberra	1645-1800hrs	Whitlam log
25-Sep-43	F/O AG Goudie	Canberra local? 0920-1200hrs		Whitlam log
25-Sep-43	F/O AG Goudie	Canberra local? 1340-1640hrs		Whitlam log
As of 1 Nov 43	"A59-53 awaiting spare parts, ie, brake bands."			WSR
10-Feb-44	F/O AG Goudie	Canberra - Canberra	<i>Pilot practice 0940-1200hrs</i>	Whitlam log
10-Mar-44	F/Sgt Wilson	Coff - Coff	COF 4-1 W Ptl Force ZW	13 Sqn A51
12 Mar 44	F/Sgt Wilson	Coff - Coff	COF 6-1 W Ptl Force LJ	13 Sqn A51
14 Mar 44	F/Sgt Dargie	Coff - Coff	COF 8-2 W Ptl Force YV	13 Sqn A51
6 Apr 44	F/Sgt Davies	Coff - Coff	COF 29 W Ptl Force UY	13 Sqn A51
3 May 44	F/Sgt Davies	Coff - Coff	COF 46-1 W Ptl Force F	13 Sqn A51
16 May 44	F/Sgt Wilson	Coff - Coff	COF 6-2 W Ptl Force HF	13 Sqn A51
26 May 44	"Received 1 APU ex 13 Sqn for finalization of installation SCR729 equipment."			Status Card
27-Jun-44	Bowen - Cooktown			Cooktown Watch Log 53
28 Jun 44	"Received 13 Sqn ex 1 APU."			Status Card
10-Jul-44	Cook-Townsville - Cooktown			Cooktown Watch Log 53
23-Jul-44	Cooktown - Cooktown	<i>Test</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
29-Jul-44	Cooktown - Cooktown	<i>Gunnery</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
31-Jul-44	Cooktown - Cooktown	<i>Gunnery</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
1-Aug-44	Cooktown - Cooktown	<i>Test 1008-1055hrs</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
9-Aug-44	Cooktown - Cooktown	<i>Local flying 1009-1100hrs - heavy landing</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
?	Cook - Gove			

26-Aug-44		Gove - Gove	<i>test</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
28-Aug-44		Gove	<i>off Gove</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
6-Sep-44	<b>SF-W</b>	P/O WM Wilson	Gov - Gov	Gov 31 W Ptl Force UU	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/3-1
7-Sep-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O TJ Branigan	Gov-Merauke - Gov	Gov 64 W Ptl Force DD HMAS Pirie/Islander.	72 Wing HQ A50 SF-W/Branigan & 13 Sqn A51 53.
7 Sep 44					“2 Ventura’s 13 Sqn Gove carried out W Ptl.....both aircraft refuelled at Merauke, F/O Branigan, pilot of SF-W, took off after refuelling then landed immediately as ammunition had been lost from aircraft. Ammunition was later found on strip, both aircraft returned to Gove.” 72 Wing HQ A50 SF-W/Branigan.
8-Sep-44		Gove	<i>down Gove (Is this 7 SepPtl? Late msg?)</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
12-Sep-44		Gove - Gove	<i>test</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
13-Sep-44		Gove	<i>off Gove</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 53
27 Sep 44					“Received 14 ARD ex 13 Sqn for engine change.”
9-Nov-44		F/O AG Goudie	Gorrie-Port Roper- Gov	<i>Travel</i>	Whitlam log 53/Goudie/Gorr-Roper-Gov
10 Nov 44					“Received 13 Sqn ex 14 ARD.”
13-Nov-44		F/O GA Anderson	Gov- Gov	Gov 291 Force TT San Simeon	13 Sqn A51 53
15-Nov-44		P/O WM Wilson	Gov-Ptl - Hig	Gov 332 Force TT San Simeon	13 Sqn A51 53
18-Nov-44		F/O AG Goudie	Gov - Gov	<i>Test - Cape Wessel</i>	Whitlam log 53/Goudie/test
19-Nov-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O AG Goudie	Gov-Ptl- Gov	Gov 412 Force B (Baker) Mathew Flinders (Force not located)	7.3hr 13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/41-2 & Whitlam log 53/7.3hr.
21-Nov-44		F/O AG Goudie	Gov-Groote- Gov	<i>Test</i>	Whitlam log 53/Goudie/test/Groote.
23-Nov-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O AG Goudie	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 12 Force B Mathew Flinders 7.10hr	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/1-2 & Whitlam log 53/7.10hr
24-Nov-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O L Davies	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 31 Force BD Alagna	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/3-1
27-Nov-44	<b>SF-W</b>	S/L RS Dennis	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 72 Force T Jane Addams	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/7-2
30-Nov-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O AG Goudie	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 154 Force DC Colac 4.20hr & 2hr nite	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/15-4 & Whitlam log 53/6.2hr
1-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O GA Anderson	Gov-Ptl- Gov	Gov 163 Force DC Colac	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/16-1
3-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O IR Sinclair	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 181 Force CA Joshua Tendy 5.10hr	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/18-1 & Tranter log 53/5.10hr
7-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	P/O HD Dargie	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 223 Force ST Empire Silver	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/22-3
8-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	W/O GW Anning	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 243 Force ST Empire Silver	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/24-3
9-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O AG Goudie	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 264 Force AD Thedens 7.10hr	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/26-5 & Whitlam log 53/Goudie/7.10hr.
12-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O GA Anderson	Merauke - Ptl -Merauke	Gov 322 Force AD Thedens (returned Merauke - eng trouble)	13 Sqn A51 53/eng & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/32-2/eng.
13-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O GA Anderson	Merauke - Gov	<i>Travel</i>	79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/Gove
14-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	P/O HD Dargie	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 352 Force AA San Rafael	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/35-2
15-Dec-44		F/O AG Goudie	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 361 Force AA San Rafael 6hr & .30 nite	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-Y/36-1 & Whitlam log 53/Goudie/6.30hr.
16-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O TJ Branigan	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 374 Force S Allara	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/37-4

20-Dec-44	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O PW Clarkson	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 463 Force DA (Criterden)	6.25hr	13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops
SF-W/46-3 & Cathro log 53/6.25hr.						
27-Dec-44		F/O PW Clarkson	Gov - Gov	High level bombing 6000ft		Cathro log 53/bombing
29-Dec-44		F/O AG Goudie	Gov - Gov	HL Bombing Veronica Is		Whitlam log 53/Goudie/bomb/Veronica
9-Jan-45	<b>SF-W</b>	P/O WM Wilson	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 125 Force BB Empire Silver	"RTB before dark"	13 Sqn
A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/12-5 & 13 Sqn Watch RTB						
10-Jan-45		F/Lt GA Anderson	Gov - Gov	Training		13 Sqn Watch 53/Anderson/training
10-Jan-45		P/O HD Dargie	Gov - Gov	Training		13 Sqn Watch 53/Dargie/training
10-Jan-45		P/O WM Wilson	Gov - Gov	Training		13 Sqn Watch 53/Wilson/training
10-Jan-45		F/Lt Kennedy-Dwyer	Gov - Gov	Training		13 Sqn Watch 53/K-Dwyer/training
11-Jan-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O PW Clarkson	Gov - Gov	Instrument flying test		13 Sqn Watch 53/W & Cathro log 56/ IF test/11 <sup>th</sup>
As of 1 Feb 45 "SCR729A radar equipment has been operating successfully in A59-53 over the past few months." & Outstanding A.O.G. items						
- A59-112549 Spare Drag Link Attaching x 4 for A59-53, A59-111592 Channel Assembly- Carburettor Pre-heat rear x 1 for A59-53. WSR						
2-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt RP Farris	Gov - Gov	Test		13 Sqn Watch 53/W/Farris/test
4-Mar-45		F/Lt AS Little	Gov	Test & gunnery - A/C U/S		13 Sqn Watch 53/u/s
8-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	Not in records	Gov - Gov	Not noted		13 Sqn Watch W
9-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Sgt CS Dwyer	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 332 Force US Force not located & cancelled due weather		13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/33-2
11-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt TJ Branigan	Gov	Gov 341 - taxied back to insert U/S Transmitter & gyro compass		13 Sqn Watch W/u/s
11-Mar-45		A59-60 SF-O		To replace A59-53 but insufficient hours.		13 Sqn Watch 60/hrs
11-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt TJ Branigan	Gov-Dwn-Ptl - Dwn	Gov 341 Force TT HMAS Parkes/Edna		13 Sqn A51 53 & Watch log Truscott SF-W Travel & 13 Sqn Watch W to Dwn
12-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt JC Batho	Dwn-Tru-Ptl - Dwn	Gov 352 Force TT HMAS Parkes/Edna		13 Sqn A51 53 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/35-2
14-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt TJ Branigan	Pell - Dwn - Dwn	Rtnd - W/T u/s		Left Pell AM on 14th 4 RSU A50 53 dep am & 13 Sqn Watch W returned to Dwn - W/T u/s
Mar 45				"A59-53 minor repair."		4 RSU A50 53/repair
17-Mar-45		F/Lt TJ Branigan	Pell - Dwn	Dep Pell pm		4 RSU A50 53/Branigan dep pm
18-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt TJ Branigan	Dwn - Gov	Thompson log Branigan/Dwn-Gove 18th (date is not clear) &		13 Sqn Watch W land Gove
19-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	Not in records	Gov - Gov	Local		13 Sqn Watch W/local
19-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	Not in records	Gov - Gov	C & B		13 Sqn Watch W/C&B
23-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O RN Heins	Gov - Gov	Solo		13 Sqn Watch W/Heins
23-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt RW Kennedy-Dwyer	Gov - Gov	Circuits & landings		Thompson log 53/K-Dwyer/Circ & 13 Sqn Watch W
23-Mar-45		F/Lt JA Dumaresq	Gov - Gov	Circuits & landings		Thompson log 53/Dumaresq/Circ
23-Mar-45		F/O WM Wilson	Gov - Gov	Circuits & landings		NIR & Wilson log 53/ C&L
23-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	W/C WJ Keenan	Gov - Gov	Dual with F/Lt Farris		13 Sqn Watch W/Keenan-Farris
24-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt RW Kennedy-Dwyer	Gov - Gov	Nite fly with F/Sgt Dwyer		13 Sqn Watch 53/W/nite
26-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt JA Dumaresq	Gov - Gov	Local		13 Sqn Watch W & Thompson log 53/Dumaresq/Instrument flying
26-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O RN Heins	Gov - Gov	Local		13 Sqn Watch W/Heins
26-Mar-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O KM Twiddy	Gov - Gov	Instrument flying		13 Sqn Watch W/Twiddy

3-Apr-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O RN Heins	Gov - Gov	<i>Nite fly with F/Lt K Dwyer</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/W & tail wheel indicator U/S	
3-Apr-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O KM Twiddy	Gov - Gov	<i>Nite fly</i>	13 Sqn Watch W	
14-Apr-45	<b>SF-W</b>	W/C WJ Keenan	Gov - Gov	<i>Famil.</i>	13 Sqn Watch W	
20-Apr-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt RW Kennedy-Dwyer	Gov - Gov	<i>Test with F/O James</i>	13 Sqn Watch W/test	
23-Apr-45	<b>SF-W</b>	W/O CS Dwyer	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 111 Force TS RTB eng trouble	79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-W/11-1/Dwyer/RTB	
10-May-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt AS Little	Gov - Gov	<i>C &amp; B</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/W/C&B	
12-May-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O Jose	Gov - Gov	<i>Test dep 0134Z</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/W/test	
14-May-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O Jose 13 Sqn	Gov - Gov	<i>Familiarization</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/W	
15-May-45		Not in records	Gov - Gov	<i>Bombing &amp; Gunnery</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53	
15-May-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O James	Gov - Gov	<i>Nite C &amp; B</i>	<i>U/S brakes after flight</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/W/nite/brakes
17-May-45	<b>SF-W</b>	Not in records	Gov-Groote - Gov	<i>Supply drop to Groote Island</i>	13 Sqn Watch W/supply	
18-May-45	<b>SF-W</b>	Not in records	Gov - Gov	<i>Formation flying</i>	13 Sqn Watch W	
20-May-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O Jose	Gov - Gov	<i>Circuits/Nav ex</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/W/Jose	
20-May-45		Not in records	Gov - Gov	<i>C&amp;B</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/C&B	
26-May-45		F/Lt Kennedy-Dwyer	Gov - Gov	<i>C &amp; B</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/C&B	
28-May-45		Not in records	Gov - Gov	<i>Formation flying</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/form	
29-May-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/O CN Geschkie	Gov - Gov	<i>C &amp; B</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/W/C&B/Gesch	
30-May-45		Not in records	Gov - Gov	<i>Formation flying</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53 form	
1-Jun-45	<b>SF-W</b>	F/Lt AS Little	Gov - Gov	<i>Bombing &amp; Gunnery</i>	13 Sqn Watch 53/W/B&G/Little	
6-Jun-45		F/O J Osborne	Gov	Ground looped with no injuries	Ventura Accidents NAA 53/Osborne & 56 OBU Flying Control	
6 Jun 45		"at 1045hrs Ventura A59-53 ground-looped due to defective braking system, and the aircraft skidded into the trees, well clear of the runway. No personnel were injured."			Flying Control 56 OBU	
6 Jun 45		"Turning to port brakes were applied & failed to operate. A/C ground looped to port, tail wheel struc? mound (sic) rubber broke off. Main hydraulic system failed whilst taxiing preparatory take off." & "Overheating of brakes caused failure of hydraulic brake seal resulting in loss of hydraulic fluid & also in subsequent failure of hydraulic system & brakes. In addition the pilot had only 3 hrs experience on the type."			Ventura Accidents	
6 Jun 45		"Taxiing accident Gove strip .Cause brake failure due to loss of hydraulic pressure caused by loss of fluid through wheel brake seal Tail wheel assembly broken off from fuselage rear 15%. Remainder (U). Extensive repairs will be required before fitting new tail wheel oleo leg."			Status Card	
8-Jun-45	A59-57	F/Lt SJ Hall	14 ARD	Gorrie - Gov-Dwn	To inspect damage on A59-53	14 ARD A50 57
17-Jul-45		F/Lt Kennedy-Dwyer		Gov - Gov	W/T & gunnery 0845hrs	Laves log 53/Dwyer
17-Jul-45		F/Lt Clegg		Gov - Gov	W/T & gunnery 1000hrs	Laves log 53/Clegg
17-Jul-45		F/Lt Airey		Gov - Gorrie	Arr 14 ARD for 80hr inspec.1600hrs	14 ARD A50 53/Airey
18 Jul 45		"Received 14 ARD ex 13 Sqn for repairs."			Status Card	
27 Aug 45		"Wirraway A20-156 arr at approx. 1315hrs from Coomalie with pilot for A59-53."			14 ARD A50 53	
27 Aug 45		"Anson A4-W8529 arr from 6 Comm Unit with crew for A59-53."			14 ARD A50 53	
28-Aug-45		F/Lt Kearney		Gorrie- Bris	Sydney-1 AD	14 ARD A50 53/1 AD
10 Sep 45		"Received 1 AD T&F ex 13 Sqn."			Status Card	

Ref :

A59-1 to A59-20, A59-50 to A59-104 NAA: A10297, BLOCK 376, 3046016.

Control Officer's Watch Log (13 Squadron) - AWM66, 22/1/26, 515693.

Aircraft Repair Depots May 44 - May 46 (includes 14 ARD A50) - NAA: A9186, 299, 1359952

Flying Control - Orders and Instructions (56 OBU) - NAA: A12244, 153/1/AIR PART 1, 5485549.

Ventura A59 [Accidents Part 1] NAA: A9845, 114, 6950498.

72 Wing HQ A50 - NAA: A9186, 664, 1360009.

Northern Area Headquarters May 41 - January 42 and North Eastern Area Headquarters January 42 - Dec 45. NAA : A9186, 169, 1359521

(79 Wing HQ) Operation Room Summary, (1 Sep - 31 Oct 1944) - AWM64 6/5C, 1968635.

79 Wing Operations Room records (1 November - 31 December 1944) - AWM64 6/5D, 695687.

79 Wing Operations Room records, (1 January - 13 May 1945) - AWM64 6/5E, 1968638.

RAAF MISC RECORDS 13 SQN WAR STAND REPORTS ; AWM66 388, 8720882.

RAAF MISC RECORDS 13 SQN WAR STAND REPORTS ; AWM66 389, 8720953.

WSR - 13 Squadron War Stand Reports 1944 - 1945 AWM66 96K & NAA AWM66, 388, 8720882.

4 RSU A50 NAA: A9186, 372, 1359933.

CATHRO Gordon Frank 417991 : copied from original log book 1999.

LAVES JOHN ALBERT : Service Number - 413083 - NAA: A9301, 413083, 5528536.

THOMPSON Charles Bernard : 411552 : Copied from original log.

WHITLAM, Edward Gough 423371: Faxed Log Book copy from Gough Whitlam 1991.