

A59-61 A Flight (Det Coff) SF-X

Last corrected 18 Apr 22 - Phil Herdman

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| 20 Jan 44 | "Ventura aircraft PV1 A59-61 received on strength." | | | 13 Sqn A50 61 | |
| 20 Jan 44 | "Received 13 Sqn ex 2 AD for dual training for 1 month." | | | Status Card | |
| 26 Jan 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cam – Cam | CAM 35-1 | Search for enemy subs - returned early bad visibility | 13 Sqn A50-51 61 |
| 27 Jan 44 | F/O PW Clarkson | Cam – Cam | CAM 37-1 | Search for enemy subs | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 28 Jan 44 | F/O FR Ware | Cam – Cam | CAM 38-1 | Search for enemy subs | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 29 Jan 44 | F/O PW Clarkson | Cam – Cam | CAM 42-2 | Search for enemy subs | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 05-Feb-44 | F/O AG Goudie | Canberra - Canberra | | Fighter Co-op | Whitlam log 61 |
| 14 Feb 44 | S/L LA Douglas | Cof – Cof | COF 7-1 | Search | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 16 Feb 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cof – Cof | COF 11-1 | Search | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 18 Feb 44 | F/O PW Clarkson | Cof – Cof | COF 17-2 | Search | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 21 Feb 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cof – Cof | COF 23-1 | Search | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 22 Feb 44 | F/Sgt Davies | Cof – Cof | COF 26-2 | Anti sub Ptl - RTB W/T failure | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 23 Feb 44 | F/O PW Clarkson | Cof – Cof | COF 28-1 | Search RTB U/S S/E | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 25 Feb 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cof – Cof | COF 33-1 | Anti sub patrol - returned with U/S W/T | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 26 Feb 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cof – Cof | COF 39-2 | Search | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 29 Feb 44 | F/O PW Clarkson | | COF 45-1 | Cancelled bad weather | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 1 Mar 44 | "Issued 32 Sqn ex 13 Sqn - fitted dual control"& 7 Mar 44 "allotment deferred." | | | Status Card | |
| 5 Mar 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cof – Cof | COF 1-2 | Locate force VX (not located) | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 06-Mar-44 | F/O AG Goudie | Coff - Coff | | Pilot practice | Whitlam log 61 |
| 6 Mar 44 | F/Sgt Dargie | Cof - Cof | | Night circuit & landing practice. Crashed on landing | Ventura Accidents |
| 6 Mar 44 | "At 2030hrs A/C stalled on landing, whilst carrying out night circuit & landing practices, causing the s/board wing to drop & strike the runway." | | | | Ventura Accidents |
| 7 Mar 44 | "Crashed on landing. A/F s/board mainplane wing tip W 100%. Upper surface mainplane buckled from station 341 to 363 90%R, outer B? s/board flap 25%R, Aileron 10?%R, Recommend field repair." | | | Status Card | |
| 8 Mar 44 | "Allotted 3AD? Ex 13 Sqn for s/board mainplane change to be effected at Coffs Harbour." | | | Status Card | |
| 15 Mar 44 | "Above allotment cancelled. Mainplane change to be effect by 13 Sqn." | | | Status Card | |
| 15 Mar 44 | "2 AD to arrange despatch of serviceable starboard mainplane ex A59-58 to Coffs Harbour for fitment." | | | Status Card | |
| 25 Apr 44 | "Stalled in landing. Night ? landing." (Would seem to refer to 6 Mar accident again- Ed) | | | Status Card | |
| As of 1 May 44 | A59-61 U/S due to non-arrival of a new mainplane. | | | WSR 61 | |
| 5 May 44 | F/O NI McCahon | Cof – Cof | COF 48-1 | W ptl force FH | 13 Sqn A51 61 |
| 2? May 44 | "Allotment to 32 Sqn cancelled." | | | Status Card | |
| 8 Jun 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cof? - Townsville | | Travel "Proposed flight 28 May" | 13 Sqn Records & Returns 61 |
| 9-Jun-44 | | Townsville - Cooktown | | | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 19 Jul 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cook-Cook | | Test | Cooktown Watch Log 61 & Tranter log 61 |

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| 23 Jul 44 | SF-W F/O IR Sinclair | Cook-Cook | CMI 24-3 | HW Ptl Force CD | 13 Sqn A51 61/24-3 & |
| | Tranter log 61 & NEA Comp Ops SF-W /CMI 24-1 (W replaced by 61?) & Cooktown Watch Log 61 | | | | |
| 27 Jul 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cook-Cook | | <i>Formation</i> | Tranter log 61 |
| 30-Jul-44 | | Cooktown - Cooktown | | <i>Gunnery</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 31 Jul 44 | F/O IR Sinclair | Cook-Cook | | <i>Formation</i> | Tranter log |
| 5-Aug-44 | | Cooktown - Cooktown | | <i>Gunnery</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 6-Aug-44 | | Cooktown - Cooktown | | <i>Test</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 9-Aug-44 | | Cooktown - Cooktown | | <i>Local flying 1009-1130hrs</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 9-Aug-44 | | Cooktown - Cooktown | | <i>Formation</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 16-Aug-44 | | Cooktown - Gove | | | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 26-Aug-44 | | Gove | | <i>down Gove</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 27-Aug-44 | | Gove | | <i>off Gove</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 30-Aug-44 | | Gove | | <i>down Gove</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 31-Aug-44 | | Gove | | <i>off Gove</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 6-Sep-44 | SF-X F/O PW Clarkson | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 3-3 W Ptl Force UU | Radar U/S | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/3-3 |
| 8-Sep-44 | SF-X F/O IR Sinclair | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 8-5 W Ptl Force S | Montoro (Not found) | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X |
| 9-Sep-44 | SF-X F/O IR Sinclair | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 10-3 W Ptl Force S | HMAS Bunbury/Suva/Alagna | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/10-3 |
| 12-Sep-44 | SF-X W/O HD Dargie | Gov-Hig - Ptl - Gov | Gov 18-5 W Ptl Force D | HMAS Pirie/The dens (arr Gove 13th) | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/18-5 |
| 17-Sep-44 | SF-X P/O WM Wilson | Gov-Ptl - Hig - Cook? | Gov 21-3 W Ptl Force T | HMAS Barcoo/Katoomba (To Cooktown if no duty-79 Wing) | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/Hig/21-3/Cooktown |
| 18-Sep-44 | | ? - Higg Gove | | <i>down Higg, off Gove (17th Op?)</i> | Cooktown Watch Log 61 |
| 30-Sep-44 | SF-X P/O WM Wilson | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 32-1 W Ptl Force D | HMAS Freemantle/Edna | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/32-1 |
| 1-Oct-44 | SF-X F/O PW Clarkson | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 34-3 W Ptl Force UU | San Rafael 5.20hr | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/34-3 & Cathro log 61/5.20hr |
| 8-Oct-44 | SF-X W/O GW Anning | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 41-1 W Ptl Force TU | Mathew Flinders | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/41-1 |
| 12-Oct-44 | SF-X F/O GA Anderson | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 48-3 Force AA | Shwedagon | 13 Sqn A51 61/483 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X |
| 16-Oct-44 | SF-X F/O AG Goudie | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 3-1 Force TT | Oohoo | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/3-1 |
| 25-Oct-44 | F/O Sinclair | Gov - Pell | | <i>Travel</i> | Tranter log 61/Pell |
| 25 Oct 44 | "Received 4 RSU ex 13 Sqn for 240hr." | | | | Status Card |
| Oct 44 | "Work in progress - A59-61 240hr." | | | | 4 RSU A50 61 |
| Nov 44 | "Work in progress - A59-61 240hr." | | | | 4 RSU A50 61 |
| Dec 44 | "A59-61 - 240hr Inspection." | | | | 4 RSU A50 61 |
| 29-Dec-44 | W/C Douglas (CO 2 Sqn) | | ? - Pell | ? | 4 RSU A50 61/Douglas/A&D AM |

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| 31-Dec-44 | F/Lt TJ Branigan | | ? - Pell - ? | | 4 RSU A50 61/Branigan/arrAM &dep PM |
| 1-Jan-45 | F/Lt TJ Branigan | Pell - Gov From 4RSU | | 13 Sqn Watch X/Branigan/Pell & 4 RSU A50 61/Branigan/ dep PM 31 st | |
| 1 Jan 45 | "Received 13 Sqn ex 4 RSU." | | | | Status Card |
| 7-Jan-45 SF-X | Not in records | Gov - Gov | Test | | 13 Sqn Watch X/test |
| 8-Jan-45 SF-X | F/Lt TJ Branigan | Gov - Gov | Test | | 13 Sqn Watch 61/X/Branigan/test |
| 9-Jan-45 SF-X SF-X/12-3 | F/Lt TJ Branigan | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 12-3 Force BB Empire Silver (AS Radar u/s) | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops |
| 9-Jan-45 SF-X | S/L RS Dennis | | Gov 12-6 cancelled - adverse weather | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/cancelled |
| 11-Jan-45 SF-X | S/L RS Dennis | Gov-Dwn - Truscott | Travel | | Watch log Truscott 61 from Gove & 13 Sqn Watch 61/X |
| 11-Jan-45 | S/L RS Dennis? | Trus - Dwn | Travel RON Darwin | | Watch log Truscott 61 to Dwn/Gov & 13 Sqn Watch 61/RON Dwn |
| 12-Jan-45 | S/L RS Dennis? | Darwin - Gov | Travel | | Land Gove not in any records |
| 13-Jan-45 SF-X Ops SF-N/15-5 & 13 Sqn Watch X/Gov 155 | S/L RS Dennis | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 15-5 Armed recce Aru Island/RTB/Bad weather | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops |
| 14-Jan-45 SF-X | F/O L Davies | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 16-2 Force ST HMAS H/Empire Silver | | 13 Sqn A51 61/X |
| 16-Jan-45 SF-X | F/Lt TJ Branigan | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 19-3 Force AD Mangola (radar u/s) | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/19-3 |
| 21-Jan-45 SF-X | F/Lt Kennedy-Dwyer | Gov-Ptl - Merauke | Gov 30-8 Force AA Islander | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/30-8 |
| 21-Jan-45 SF-X | P/O WM Wilson | Merauke - Ptl-Mer | Gov 30-10 Force AA Islander | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/30-10 |
| 22-Jan-45 SF-X | F/Lt Kennedy-Dwyer | Merauke - Gov | Travel | | 13 Sqn Watch X/Gov |
| 23-Jan-45 SF-X & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/32-3 | F/Lt GA Anderson | Gov-Aru - Gov | Gov 32-3 Armed recce Aru Islands | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & Narrative report 61 |
| 25-Jan-45 SF-X | F/Lt TJ Branigan | Gov - Gov | Gunnery | | 13 Sqn Watch X |
| 26-Jan-45 SF-X | F/O NI McCahon | Gov - Gov | Local Bombing & QGH | | 13 Sqn Watch 61/X |
| 26-Jan-45 SF-X | F/O WM Wilson | Gov - Gov | Bombing | | 13 Sqn Watch 61/X/bomb |
| 27-Jan-45 SF-X | F/Lt TJ Branigan | Gov-Search - Gov | Gov 53-6 Search for A59-56 -Rtn bad weather | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 13 Sqn Watch 61/X |
| 28-Jan-45 SF-X | F/O L Davies | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 37-5 Force CC Andrew D White | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/37-5 |
| 28-Jan-45 SF-X | F/O NI McCahon | Gov | Gov 37-8 cancelled | | 13 Sqn A51 61/cancelled & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/37-8/cancelled |
| 10-Feb-45 SF-X | F/Lt Kennedy-Dwyer | Gov-Ptl - Dwn - Gov | Gov 4-1 Force AA James Cook | | 13 Sqn A51 61 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/4-1 |
| 11-Feb-45 SF-X | Not in records | Gov - Gov | Test & u/s after test | | 13 Sqn Watch 61/X/test/u/s |
| 17-Feb-45 SF-X | W/O GW Anning | Gov - Gov | Test | | 13 Sqn Watch 61/X/Anning & Cathro log 61/test |
| 19-Feb-45 SF-X | F/Lt RP Farris | Gov - Gov | Gunnery | | 13 Sqn Watch X/Farris/gunnery |
| 21-Feb-45 SF-X | F/Lt RP Farris | Gov - Bat-Trus | With (ac?) part | | 13 Sqn Watch 61/X/Farris/Trus & Watch log Truscott 61 Gov-Trus with part |
| 21-Feb-45 SF-X | F/Lt RP Farris | Trus - Gov | | | 13 Sqn Watch X/Trus & Watch log Truscott 61 Trus-Gov |
| 24-Feb-45 SF-X | F/Lt RP Farris | Gov-Groote - Gov | Test & training - took mail | | 13 Sqn Watch X/Groote |
| 28-Feb-45 SF-X | Not in records | Gov - Gov | Gunnery | | 13 Sqn Watch 61/X/gun |
| 28-Feb-45 SF-X | Not in records | Gov - Gov | | | 13 Sqn Watch X |
| 3-Mar-45 SF-X | F/Lt TJ Branigan | Gov | To Gorrie - cancelled | | 13 Sqn Watch X cancelled |
| 5-Mar-45 SF-X | F/Lt RP Farris | Gov - Bat-Trus?-Bat-Dwn | Watch log Truscott 61 Gov-Bat & 13 Sqn Watch X/Bat-Trus & msg Bat-Dwn | | |

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| 6-Mar-45 | SF-X | F/Lt RP Farris | Bat - Truscott | | Watch log Truscott SF-X Bat-Trus & 13 Sqn Watch Farris/Broome |
| 7-Mar-45 | SF-X | F/Lt RP Farris | Trus - Broome - Bat | Dep for Bat 070605Z | Watch log Truscott SF-X Trus -Broome-Bat |
| 9-Mar-45 | SF-X | F/Lt RP Farris | Bat - Gov | <i>Travel</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X from Bat |
| 22-Mar-45 | SF-X | Not in records | Gov - Gov | <i>Solo</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X |
| 22-Mar-45 | SF-X | Not in records | Gov - Gov | <i>Solo</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X |
| 22-Mar-45 | SF-X | F/O KM Twiddy | Gov - Gov | <i>Local</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X/Twiddy |
| 23-Mar-45 | SF-X | F/O WM Wilson | Gov - Gov | <i>Dual with F/Lt K Dwyer</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X/Wilson/dual |
| 23-Mar-45 | SF-X | F/O WM Wilson? | Gov - Gov | <i>C&B</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X/C&B |
| 23-Mar-45 | SF-X | F/O KM Twiddy | Gov - Gov | | 13 Sqn Watch X/Twiddy |
| 24-Mar-45 | SF-X | F/Lt JA Dumaresq | Gov - Gov | <i>Circuits & landings & Familiarization</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X & Thompson log 61/Dumaresq/Circ |
| 25-Mar-45 | SF-X | F/O RN Heins | Gov - Gov | <i>Local</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X/Heins/local |
| 2-Apr-45 | SF-X | Not in records | Gov | <i>Compass swing SE end of runway 0830hrs</i> | 13 Sqn Watch 61/X/Compass |
| 12-Apr-45 | SF-X | F/O RN Heins | Gov - Gov | <i>Fuel Test</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X/61/test |
| 15-Apr-45 | SF-X | W/O CS Dwyer | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 4-3 Force CB | 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/4-3 |
| 16-Apr-45 | SF-X | F/Lt JA Dumaresq | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 6-2 Force CB (late taking of...has flat tail wheel) | 0825-1435 hrs 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/6-2 & 13 Sqn Watch flat tyre & 13 Sqn Watch 61/X & Austin log 0825hrs |
| 17-Apr-45 | SF-X | F/O KM Twiddy | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 8-3 Force T dep 0210Z | 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/8-3 |
| 18-Apr-45 | SF-X | F/Lt AS Little | Gov-Dwn-Ptl - Darwin | Gov 9-2 Force S dep 2105Z | 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/9-2/Little |
| 18-Apr-45 | SF-X | F/Lt AS Little | Dwn - Gov | <i>Travel</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X/Dwn-Gov |
| 23-Apr-45 | SF-X | W/O GW Anning | Gov-Ptl - Gov | Gov 11-3 Force TS | 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-X/11-3 |
| 3-May-45 | SF-X | F/Lt RW Kennedy-Dwyer | Gov - Gov | <i>Test</i> | 13 Sqn Watch X/test |
| 21-May-45 | SF-X | F/O EJC Barnett | 2 AD | Gov - Clon-Char-Rich | Ferry flight to 2 AD with crew of 3 (George Redding - Nav & ? W/o) 13 Sqn Watch 61/X/Clon |
| 25-May-45 | SF-X | Not in records | Gov - Gov | Test | 13 Sqn Watch X test |
| 4 Jun 45 | | "Received 1 AD T&F ex 13 Sqn to replace A59-89." | | | Status Card |
| 9 Jul 45 | | "Received 1 AD ex 1 AD T&F." | | | Status Card |
| 22 Dec 45 | | "Issued 1 CRD ex 1 AD for conversion." | | | Status Card |
| Jan 46 | | "1 Ventura received for salvage & storage during the month." | | | 1 CRD A 50 |

NAA: Aircraft Status cards - Ventura A59-1 to A59-20, A59-50 to A59-104 A10297, BLOCK 376, 3046016

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

13 Sqn Records & Returns NAA: A11283, 13/1/AIR, 637114.

Ventura A59 [Accidents Part 2] NAA: A9845, 115, 6950499

4 RSU A50 NAA: A9186, 372, 1359933.

TRANTER BRYAN : Service Number - 413690 - NAA: A9300, TRANTER B, 5241154.

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