

A59-81 B Flight SF-A & SF-D Wiff-Oh

Last corrected 24 Jul 22 - Phil Herdman

25 May 44					"Ventura aircraft PVI A59-81 arrived on allotment from 2 AP."	13 Sqn A50
8 Jan 44	W/C WJ Keenan	Canberra - Cooktown	Travel		"Proposed flight 28 May"	13 Sqn Records & Returns
8 Jun 44	?	Canberra - Cooktown	Travel		dep 1410hrs.	13 Sqn A50 81
09-Jun-44		Townsville - Cooktown				Cooktown Watch Log 81
11-Jun-44	W/C WJ Keenan	Cooktown - Cairns				Cooktown Watch Log 81
14-Jun-44		Cairns - Cooktown				Cooktown Watch Log 81
19-Jun-44		Cooktown - Cairns - Cook				Cooktown Watch Log 81
27-Jun-44		Cooktown - Townsville				Cooktown Watch Log 81
29-Jun-44	W/C WJ Keenan	Cairns - Cooktown			Returned from Cairns	Cooktown Watch Log 81/Keenan/Cairns
15-Jul-44		Cooktown - Cooktown			Local	Cooktown Watch Log 81
18-Jul-44		Cooktown - Cooktown			Local	Cooktown Watch Log 81
22-Jul-44		Cooktown - Cooktown			Dep Op 1016 - returned 1055	Cooktown Watch Log 81/Op/return
27-Jul-44	W/C WJ Keenan	Cooktown-Cairns - Townsville				Cooktown Watch Log 81/Keenan
28-Jul-44	W/C WJ Keenan	Garbutt - Cooktown				Cooktown Watch Log 81/Keenan
29-Jul-44		Cooktown - Cooktown			Gunnery	Cooktown Watch Log 81
30-Jul-44		Cooktown			test - cancelled	Cooktown Watch Log 81/test cancel
1-Aug-44		Cooktown - Cooktown			Gunnery 1505-1632hrs	Cooktown Watch Log 81
2-Aug-44		Cooktown - Cooktown			Formation	Cooktown Watch Log 81
3-Aug-44		Cooktown-Cairns - Cooktown			Formation	Cooktown Watch Log 81
7-Aug-44		Cooktown - Cooktown			Local	Cooktown Watch Log 81
9 Aug 44	W/C WJ Keenan	Cook-Merauke			Travel 0832-	13 Sqn A51 81 & Cooktown Watch Log 81
10 Aug 44	SF-A W/C WJ Keenan	Mer - Mer	CMI 30-6	Strike	Dobo	13 Sqn A51 81
11 Aug 44	W/C WJ Keenan	Merauke - Cook			Travel & Land 1627hrs	13 Sqn A51 81 & Cooktown Watch Log 81
13-Aug-44		Cook - Higg - Gove - Cook				Cooktown Watch Log 81/Higg/Gove
17-Aug-44		Cooktown - Batchelor				Cooktown Watch Log 81
19-Aug-44		Bat? - Gove			Land 1824hrs	Cooktown Watch Log 81
23-Aug-44	A59-81?	Gov - Cooktown	F/Sgt B H Macaulay (83 Sqn)		as passenger	Macaulay log Ventura NFI
24 Aug 44		Cooktown - Gove			off Gove	Cooktown Watch Log 81
25-Aug-44		Gove			off Gove	Cooktown Watch Log 81
28-Aug-44		Gove			down Gove	Cooktown Watch Log 81
29-Aug-44		Gove			off Gove	Cooktown Watch Log 81
1-Sep-44		Gove			down Gove	Cooktown Watch Log 81
2-Sep-44		Gove			off Gove	Cooktown Watch Log 81
8-Sep-44		Higg			down Higg,	Cooktown Watch Log 81
10-Sep-44		Gove			off Gove	Cooktown Watch Log 81

17-Sep-44		Gove		<i>down Gove</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 81
20-Sep-44		Gove		<i>off Gove</i>		Cooktown Watch Log 81
14-Nov-44	SF-A	W/C WJ Keenan	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 31-4 Force TT San Simeon		13 Sqn A51 81 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-A/31-4
17-Nov-44	SF-A	W/C WJ Keenan	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 37-1 Force BC Thedens		13 Sqn A51 81
28-Nov-44	SF-A	W/C WJ Keenan	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 8-1 L Search & Bomb/Strafe Elat Bay		13 Sqn A51 81 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-A/8-1
30-Nov-44	SF-A	F/O WH Semple	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 15-6 Force DC Colac		13 Sqn A51 81 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-A/15-6
2-Dec-44	SF-A	F/O KS Veal	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 17-1 Force U Alagna		13 Sqn A51 81 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-A/17-1
9-Dec-44	SF-A	W/C WJ Keenan	Gov-Ptl - Gov	Gov 25-2 Force T Colac		13 Sqn A51 81 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-A/25-2
15 Dec 44				<i>"Received 14 ARD ex 13 Sqn for 240hr."</i>		Status Card
4 Mar 45				<i>"Ventura aircraft A59-81 left for 13 Sqn at approx. 1330hrs piloted by F/O Veal."</i>		14 ARD A50 81
5 Mar 45				<i>"Received 13 Sqn ex 14 ARD."</i>		Status Card
11-Mar-45	SF-D	F/Lt RP Farris	Gov - Gov	test		13 Sqn Watch D/Farris/test
11-Mar-45	SF-D	Not in records	Gov - Gov	Test		13 Sqn Watch D/test
13-Mar-45	SF-D	Not in records	Gov - Gov	Practice then landed, bad weather		13 Sqn Watch D/practice
14-Mar-45	SF-D	F/Lt RP Farris	Gov - Gov	Local		13 Sqn Watch D/local
23-Mar-45	SF-D	F/O WM Wilson	Gov - Gov			13 Sqn Watch D/Wilson
Mar 45				<i>"Mitch Mitchell (our A.G.) & Jock Fussell (one of our WAGS) painted the model WHIFF OH on our aircraft S.F.D. A59-81 towards the end of March 1945.No doubt aided & abetted by some one or two of the ground staff."</i>		Letter from Keith Sadd 1997? 13 Sqn Newsletter.
2-Apr-45	SF-D	F/Lt RP Farris	Gov-Bat - Trus	dep 1100hrs & land Trus 020835Z.		13 Sqn Watch A59-81/SF-D
8-Apr-45	SF-D	?	Truscott - Trus	Gov 48-1 Recalled- Strip closed		Watch log Truscott SF-D Gov 48
10-Apr-45	SF-D	F/Lt RP Farris	Trus -Pt - Trus	Gov 49-1 Armed recce Flores		Watch log Truscott SF-D Gov 49
15-Apr-45	SF-D	Not in records	Truscott - Bat	Travel - land Bat 150220Z		Watch log Truscott SF-D land Bat
16-Apr-45	SF-D	Not in records	Bat - Gov	Land Gove 160308Z		13 Sqn Watch D/Bat
23-Apr-45	SF-D	F/Lt WM Wilson	Gov - Gov	Test		13 Sqn Watch D/test/Wilson & Wilson log 81/test
24-Apr-45	SF-D	F/Lt WM Wilson	Gov-Ptl - Hig - Gov	Gov 14-1 Force TS		79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-D/14-1/Hig & 13 Sqn Watch 81/Wilson & Wilson log 81
29-Apr-45	SF-D	F/O FR Ware	Gov - Bat	Travel		Trus Watch Log D/RON
30-Apr-45	SF-D	F/O FR Ware	Bat - Truscott	Travel		Watch log Truscott D/ Bat-Trus
1-May-45	SF-D	F/O FR Ware	Truscott	Gov 20-3 Force SS cancelled?		79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-D/20-3
2-May-45	SF-D	F/O FR Ware	Trus-Ptl - Trus	Gov 32-1 Force SS - SF-D replacing SF-K for Gov32 & Msg to 13Sqn "send a/c set plugs etc"(for K?)		Watch log Truscott SF-D Gov 32
3-May-45	SF-D	F/Lt JC Batho	Trus-Ptl-Trus	Gov 34-3 Force TT		79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-D/34-3/Batho
8-May-45	SF-D	F/O FR Ware	Trus-Ptl-Trus	Gov 38-1 Force TS		Watch log Truscott SF-D Gov 38 & 79 Wing HQ Air Ops SF-D/38-1/Ware
10-May-45	SF-D	F/Lt JH Elliott	Trus-Gov Travel	-Land Gove 100330Z NWA Watch or 100605Z Trus Watch.		Watch log Truscott SF-D
19-May-45	SF-D	F/Lt JH Elliott	Gov - Gov	Test		13 Sqn Watch 81/D/test
21-May-45	SF-D	F/Lt WM Wilson	Gov - Dwn	Travel		13 Sqn Watch D/Dwn & Wilson log 81

30-May-45	SF-D	F/Lt WM Wilson	Dwn - Gov	Travel & SF-D to Gove	13 Sqn Watch 81/D ex Dwn & NWA Watch D to Gove & D land	
Gove & Wilson log 81						
11-Jun-45		W/O T Dean		11-13 Jun 45 Ptls for William H Seward	Tom Dean letter 13 Sqn Newsletter 54?	
13-Jun-45	SF-D		Dwn? - Gov?		NWA Watch SF-D	
27-Jul-45			Gov - Gorrie	To 14 ARD to be fitted fireproof bomb bay tanks.	14 ARD A50 81 & 13 Sqn A50 8 ac to Gorrie	
1-Aug-45		F/Lt RP Farris	Gorrie - Gov	Dep 14 ARD 1015hrs	14 ARD A50 81/Harris	
Gov - Labuan						
26-Aug-45		F/Lt RP Farris	Labuan - Labuan	Vic 151 Search sector Fox	13 Sqn A51 81 & 13 Sqn Watch 81	
28-Aug-45		F/O BE Chandler	Labuan - Labuan	Vic 202 Search sector George	13 Sqn A51 81 & 13 Sqn Watch 81	
30-Aug-45		F/Lt WM Wilson	Labuan - Labuan	Vic 242 Search sector George	13 Sqn A51 81 & 13 Sqn Watch 81/Wilson & Wilson log 81	
4-Sep-45		F/Lt RP Farris	Labuan - Labuan	Vic 331 search How 1	13 Sqn A51 81	
13-Sep-45		F/Lt RP Farris	Labuan - Labuan	Vic 63 Provide air cover RTB weather	13 Sqn A51 81	
15-Sep-45	SF-D	F/O TH Lancey	Labuan - Morotai		13 Sqn Watch 81/D/Lancey/Moro	
30-Sep-45			Labuan?	Bogged - flight to Moro scrubbed	13 Sqn Watch 81/bogged	
8-Oct-45				120hr inspec. Slid from trestles in gale. Badly damaged.	13 Sqn A50	
8 Oct 45		<i>"A/C slid off trestle during inspection. Centre section P&S 20%R, Stbd bomb bay door 10%R, Remainder J. Repair extensive. Recommend conversion."</i>				Status Card
16 Oct 45		<i>"Received 1 RSU ex 13 Sqn for survey report."</i>				Status Card
Oct 45		<i>"A59-81 Conversion Airframe"</i>				1 RSU A50
9 Nov 45		<i>"Attached herewith 1st TAF letter 9/6/2972? dated 25? Oct 45 forwarding survey of damaged aircraft. Report in respect of above airframe. It is recommended that approval be obtained for the above airframe to be converted to components."</i>				Status Card

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

Control Officer's Watch Log Cooktown AWM66 22/1/5

RAAF Command Headquarters - North Eastern Area Headquarters - Operational record NAA: A11093, G, 3315052 (10Aug44)

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

WILSON WM : <https://archives.org.au/W.M. Wilson%27s RAAF log book>

(14 ARD) - Aircraft Repair Depots (12-15) May 44 - May 46, NAA: A9186, 299, 1359952

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