

In checking the Operations Record Book, P/O A.W. Edgar J24430 was posted to 431 Squadron along with his crew from 1659 Conversion Unit with the exception of the Navigator Phillips who was already on Station at Tholthorpe.

They had no previous *_operational flying_* with 431 Squadron (Wellingtons).

Their 1st operation as a crew was on November 18th 1943 the target was Ludwigshafen they took off at 16.34hrs. and returned safe. Mark V Halifax Serial No. LK680 Coded SE-R

November 19th 1943 Leverkusen Returned safe. LK680 SE-R

November 22nd 1943 Berlin Returned safe. LK964 SE-L

November 25th 1943 Frankfurt LK964 SE-T (Some of their bomb load hung up) no indication if they jettisoned them or if they brought them back to base. Returned safe

November 26th 1943 Stuttgart LK964 SE-T. Returned safe.

December 3rd 1943 Leipzig LK968 SE-P (Failed to Return) Their bomb load on ***this*** operation was as follows

"1x2,000lb High Explosive - 630x4lb incendiaries - 24x30lb incendiaries"

**

*** NOTE 431 Squadron lost 4 aircraft on the operation to Leipzig.***

Pilot, Flight Engineer & the Rear Gunner were KIA -- Navigator, Wireless Operator, Bomb Aimer & the Mid upper Gunner were taken POW.