

**ROYAL AIR FORCE MUSEUM**  
**Department of Research and Information Services**

**Accession List**

**AC96/47      Papers of Plt Off Ernest Schofield DFC relating to  
 Arctic reconnaissance flights in 1942, 1942 and 1996**

Material relates to Arctic reconnaissance flights undertaken by the donor with Flt Lt D.E. Healy and crew in 1942. Includes introductory notes on the documents and the flights by Plt Off Schofield written in 1996. Typescript notes, navigation logs, charts, reports and correspondence.

<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/1</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Introductory notes to collection AC96/47 written by Plt Off Ernest Schofield, 1996</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield
Maker Role	Author
Content Note	Outlines the contents of AC96/47, the purpose of the reconnaissance flights, references to published accounts of the flights, Operation "Fritham", a transcript of the navigation logs in the collection, lists of the documents and charts in the collection, and an overview of the techniques of air navigation.
Production Date	1996
Brief Description	10 pages of typescript notes.

<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/2</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Photocopied memo from Norwegian Naval Headquarters proposing an ice reconnaissance in connection to Operation "Fritham", 10 April 1942, n.d.</b>
Content Note	Out-lines the plan put forward by the Norwegian Navy to occupy Spitzbergen with Norwegian commandos and the related RAF reconnaissance flights to establish the extent of the ice flows that may interrupt convoy routes around Norway.
Brief Description	Four photocopied typescript sheets.

**Object Number** AC96/47/3  
**Title** **File of meteorological forecasts, charts and report for the ice reconnaissance flight of 3 May-4 May 1942**

Maker Name Air Ministry Meteorological Office (UK)  
 Maker Role Issuing Authority  
 Content Note All items relate to the weather for the ice reconnaissance flight of 3/4 May 1942 and cover the period 1200 hours 3 May 1942-1200 hrs 4 May 1942. Charts are marked with weather systems; forecasts give details on variables such as temperature, wind, cloud, visibility, sea state, pressure, and ice formation. Report relays information on an anti-cyclone's movements and its effects. See also AC96/47/25.

Production Date 03 May 1942-04 May 1942  
 Brief Description Two charts, (Form 2384), four meteorological forecasts, (Form 2382), and one meteorological report (Form 2381) contained within a buff folder (Form 2380).

**Object Number** AC96/47/4  
**Title** **Navigational log for Catalina AH559 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 3 May-4 May 1942**

Maker Name Ernest Schofield  
 Maker Role Compiler  
 Content Note Records times of observations, true course, magnetic course and remarks on observations.

Production Date 03 May 1942-04 May 1942  
 Brief Description Four RAF Form 441s.

**Object Number** AC96/47/5  
**Title** **Sketch map showing the direction of photographs at Barantsberg, n.d.**

Content Note Small pen sketch map with points marked to show where certain photographs were taken.  
 Brief Description Pen sketch on headed paper.

**Object Number** AC96/47/6  
**Title** **Guide to the calculation of zenith distance and azimuth of a star by the Haversine formula, n.d.**

Content Note Sets out a framework to be worked through using the Haversine formula.  
 Brief Description Typescript formula.

**Object Number** AC96/47/7  
**Title** Analysis of flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina AH559 on 3 May-4 May 1942, 4 May 1942

Maker Name Ernest Schofield  
 Maker Role Author  
 Content Note Analysis sheets for the flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina AH559 on 3/4 May 1942 carried out upon return to RAF Sullom Voe. For flight logs see AC96/47/4.

Production Date 04 May 1942  
 Brief Description Two typescript forms filled out in pencil.

**Object Number** AC96/47/8  
**Title** Navigational log for Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 25 May-26 May 1942

Maker Name Ernest Schofield  
 Maker Role Compiler  
 Content Note Records times of observations, true course, magnetic course and remarks on observations on the ice reconnaissance flight of 25 May-26 May 1942.

Production Date 25 May 1942-26 May 1942  
 Brief Description Four RAF Form 441s.

**Object Number** AC96/47/9  
**Title** Analysis of flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina VA729 on 25 May-26 May 1942, 26 May 1942

Maker Name Ernest Schofield  
 Maker Role Author  
 Content Note Analysis sheets for analysis of flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina VA729 on 25/26 May 1942 carried out upon return to RAF Sullom Voe. For flight logs see AC96/47/8.

Production Date 26 May 1942  
 Brief Description Four typescript forms filled out in pencil and a sheet of notes.

**Object Number** AC96/47/10  
**Title** Navigational log for Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 28 May-29 May 1942,

Maker Name Ernest Schofield  
 Maker Role Compiler  
 Content Note Records times of observations, true course, magnetic course and remarks on observations on the ice reconnaissance flight of 28 May-29 May 1942.

Production Date 28 May 1942-29 May 1942  
 Brief Description Three RAF Form 441s.

<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/11</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Analysis of flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina VA729 on 28 May-29 May 1942, 29 May 1942</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield
Maker Role	Author
Content Note	Analysis sheets for analysis of flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina VA729 on 28/29 May 1942 carried out upon return to RAF Sullom Voe. For flight logs see AC96/47/10.
Production Date	29 May 1942
Brief Description	One typescript forms filled out in pencil.
<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/12</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Navigational log for Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 31 May-1 June 1942</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield
Maker Role	Compiler
Content Note	Records times of observations, true course, magnetic course and remarks on observations on the ice reconnaissance flight of 31 May-1 June 1942.
Production Date	31 May 1942-01 June 1942
Brief Description	Three RAF Form 441s.
<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/13</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Analysis of flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina VA729 on 31 May-1 June 1942, 1 June 1942</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield
Maker Role	Author
Content Note	Analysis sheets for analysis of flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina VA729 on 31 May/1 June 1942 carried out upon return to RAF Sullom Voe. For flight logs see AC96/47/12.
Production Date	01 June 1942
Brief Description	Two typescript forms filled out in pencil.

<b>Object Number Title</b>	<b>AC96/47/14 Navigational log for Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 6 June-7 June 1942</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield
Maker Role	Compiler
Content Note	Records times of observations, true course, magnetic course and remarks on observations on the flight to Spitzbergen on 6 June-7 June 1942 for ice reconnaissance and to render aid to personnel stranded near Cape Linne.
Production Date	06 June 1942-07 June 1942
Brief Description	Three RAF Form 441s.
<b>Object Number Title</b>	<b>AC96/47/15 Analysis of flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina VA729 on 6 June-7 June 1942, 6 June 1942</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield
Maker Role	Author
Content Note	Analysis sheets for flight log for ice reconnaissance flight by Catalina VA729 on 6/7 June 1942 carried out upon return to RAF Sullom Voe. For flight logs see AC96/47/14.
Production Date	06 June 1942
Brief Description	Two typescript forms filled out in pencil.
<b>Object Number Title</b>	<b>AC96/47/16 Navigational log for Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 14 June-15 June 1942</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield
Maker Role	Compiler
Content Note	Records times of observations, true course, magnetic course and remarks on observations on the ice reconnaissance flight to Spitzbergen on 14 June-15 June 1942 and to deliver supplies/recover passengers from Gron Fjord.
Production Date	14 June 1942-15 June 1942
Brief Description	Three RAF Form 441s, one with sellotape along the spine.

**Object Number** AC96/47/17  
**Title** **File of meteorological forecasts, chart and report for the ice reconnaissance flight of Catalina VA729 on 25 June-26 June 1942, 25 June 1942**

Maker Name Air Ministry Meteorological Office (UK)  
 Maker Role Issuing Authority  
 Content Note All items relate to the weather for the ice reconnaissance flight of Catalina VA729 on 25/26 June 1942 and cover the period 1300 hours 25 June 1942-0400 hrs 26 June 1942. Charts are marked with weather systems; forecasts give details on variables such as temperature, wind, cloud, visibility, sea state, pressure, and ice formation. Report relays information on an anti-cyclone's movements and its effects.

Production Date 25 June 1942  
 Brief Description One chart, (Form 2384) and three meteorological forecasts, (Form 2382), and one meteorological report (Form 2381) contained within a buff folder (Form 2380).

**Object Number** AC96/47/18  
**Title** **Navigational log for Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 25 June-26 June 1942**

Maker Name Ernest Schofield  
 Maker Role Compiler  
 Content Note Records times of observations, true course, magnetic course and remarks on observations on the ice reconnaissance flight of 25 June-26 June 1942, no mission details given other than note that "as per form GREEN".

Production Date 25 June 1942-26 June 1942  
 Brief Description Two RAF Form 441s.

**Object Number** AC96/47/19  
**Title** **Two typescript sheets giving weather forecasts and time-table for ice reconnaissance flight of 26 June-27 June 1942 by Catalina VA729, circa 27 June 1942**

Content Note Gives weather forecasts and time-table for the ice reconnaissance flight of 26 June-27 June 1942 by Catalina VA729.

Production Date Circa 27 June 1942  
 Brief Description Two typescripts sheets.

**Object Number** AC96/47/20  
**Title** Navigational log for Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 26 June-27 June 1942

Maker Name Ernest Schofield  
 Maker Role Compiler  
 Content Note Records times of observations, true course, magnetic course and remarks on observations on the ice reconnaissance flight of 26 June-27 June 1942 to Eyja Fjord, Iceland.

Production Date 26 June 1942-27 June 1942  
 Brief Description Three RAF Form 441s.

**Object Number** AC96/47/22  
**Title** Navigational log for Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 22 August-23 August 1942

Maker Name Ernest Schofield  
 Maker Role Compiler  
 Content Note Records times of observations, true course, magnetic course and remarks on observations on the ice reconnaissance flight of 22 August-23 August 1942. Chart for this log is item AC96/47/26.

Production Date 22 August 1942-23 August 1942  
 Brief Description Three RAF Form 441s.

**Object Number** AC96/47/23  
**Title** Coastal Command Navigation Review: Number 5, circa May 1942

Maker Name Coastal Command (RAF)  
 Maker Role Issuing Authority  
 Content Note Includes a report and navigation log analysis of a flight to Spitzbergen on 12 May 1942 by Flt Lt Gilbert George Potier in Catalina AH559.

Production Date Circa May 1942  
 Brief Description Bound periodical with fabric cover.

<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/24</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>File of correspondence between Plt Off Ernest Schofield and Gp Capt F.C. Richardson, chief navigational officer at HQ Coastal Command, 21 December 1943-10 May 1944</b>
Maker Name	F.C. Richardson, Ernest Schofield
Maker Role	Author, Author
Content Note	Correspondence between Plt Off Ernest Schofield and Gp Capt F.C. Richardson, (chief navigational officer at HQ Coastal Command, but writing as OC 47 Air School in South Africa), relates to high latitude navigation and includes Schofields report on the experience he has gained in this respect and navigation techniques devised by himself and Flt Lt Healy for use on a planned polar ice reconnaissance.
Production Date	21 December 1943-10 May 1944
Brief Description	Buff file containing typescripts and navigation charts.
<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/25</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Admiralty chart 2282 used on-board Catalina AH559 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 3 May 1942-4 May 1942</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield, Admiralty
Maker Role	Cartographer, Printer
Content Note	Chart was used on-board Catalina AH559 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 3/4 May 1942 and has been marked to record the limits of the ice around Jan Mayen Island. For meteorological information and navigation logs for this flight see AC96/47/3 and AC96/47/4.
Production Date	03 May 1942-04 May 1942
Brief Description	Large fold-out map of "Greenland and Barents Seas" marked in pen.



<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/26</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Admiralty chart 2282 used on-board Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 22 August-23 August 1942</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield, Admiralty
Maker Role	Cartographer, Printer
Content Note	Chart was used on-board Catalina VA729 for the ice reconnaissance flight of 22/23 August 1942 and has been marked with green pen to record the limits of the ice around Greenland. For the navigation logs for this flight see AC96/47/22.
Production Date	22 August 1942-23 August 1942
Brief Description	Large fold-out map of "Greenland and Barents Seas" marked in green pen.
<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/27</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Admiralty chart 5030 for a planned flight to the North Pole to check on magnetic variations, n.d.</b>
Maker Name	Ernest Schofield, Admiralty
Maker Role	Cartographer, Printer
Content Note	Chart was marked-up in pencil by Plt Off Schofield of 210 Squadron RAF for a planned flight to the North Pole to check on magnetic variations.
Brief Description	Large fold-out map of "Polar Regions" marked-up in pencil.
<b>Object Number</b>	<b>AC96/47/28</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Polar chart, zenithal equidistant projection, created in May 1942 for planned polar flight, May 1942</b>
Maker Name	Cambridge University
Maker Role	Maker
Content Note	Polar chart, zenithal equidistant projection, created by Prof Debenham and colleagues at Cambridge University in May 1942 for planned polar flight.
Production Date	May 1942