



305 SQUADRON

Commanders

1 Sep 1940 **J. Jankowski** 4 April 1941 **B. Kleczynski** 10 Aug 1941 **R. Beill** 21 June 1942 **K. Sniegula** 18 Jan 1943 **T. Czolowski** 28 July 1943 **K. Konopasek** 1 Aug 1944 **B. Orlinski** 1 Feb 1945 **S. Grodzicki** 1 Nov 1945 **R. Referowski**.

Locations

1 Sep 1940 **Bramcote** (Warwicks.) 2 Dec 1940 **Syerston** (Notts.) 20 July 1941 **Lindholme** (Yorks.) 22 July 1942 **Hemswell** (Lincs.) 22 June 1943 **Ingham** (Lincs.) 5 Dec 1943 **Swanton Morley** (Norfolk) 18 June 1943 **Lasham** (Hamps.) 30 Oct 1944 **Hartford Bridge** (Hamps.) 19 Nov 1944 **Epinoy** (France) 5 July 1945 **Volkel** (Germany) 1 Nov 1945 **Brussels** 15 Mar 1946 **Wahn** 1 Oct 1946 **Faldingworth**.

Aircraft

1 Sep 1940 **Fairey Battle** 23 Nov 1940 **Wellington I** 1 July 1942 **Wellington II** 1 Aug 1942 **Wellington IV** 1 Mar 1943 **Wellington III** 1 Apr 1943 **Wellington X** 5 Sep 1943 **Mitchell II** 18 Nov 1943 **Mosquito III** 6 May 1944 **Mosquito VI FB**

No. 305 (Polish) Squadron

No. 305 Squadron, the fourth and last of the Polish bomber squadrons, was formed at Bramcote, Warwickshire, in No. 6 (Training) Group, on 29th August 1940. It was manned by the same type of personnel as its immediate predecessor, No. 304 Squadron, and again, like No. 304, was originally equipped with Fairey Battle aircraft. In November 1940, it began to convert to Vickers Wellingtons and in December moved and transferred (with No. 304) to Syerston as part of No. 1 Group. It started operational flying in April 1941. The squadron continued to operate with No. 1 Group until August 1943, and during this period was based at Syerston, Lindholme, Hemswell and Ingham in turn. It then left Bomber Command early in September 1943, moved to Swanton Morley and joined the Second Tactical Air Force. It left a creditable record of service in Bomber Command: Over a span of roughly 27 months of operations (25/26th April 1941 to 2nd/3rd August 1943) it had logged 1,117 sorties and dropped/laid 1,555 tons of bombs and mines. On the debit side it had lost 136 airmen killed, 10 missing and 33 taken prisoner. At Swanton Morley No. 305 converted to North American Mitchell B-25 light bombers and during the first half of November started daylight bombing in formation with fighter escort, attacking Noball (V-1 launching) sites, enemy headquarters and fortifications in the Cap Griz Nez region. The squadron was transferred to RAF Lasham on 18th November where it became part of 138 Wing, No. 2 Group, 2nd TAF. It ceased flying Mitchells in December and began to convert to Mosquito FBVIs. With these, during the remainder of the European war, it operated somewhere on the hazy frontier between light-bomber and fighter-intruder duties; it operated both by day and night and from November 1944, onwards was based on the Continent.

