

R.A.F. Training Camps

Southern Rhodesia was an important country for training R.A.F. pilots with eleven different camps for different levels of pilot training. The large number of pilots undergoing training results in many of the cachets being very common. Even so in a number of cases only one or two types have been recorded. A full description of each camp together with its postmarks and cachets is given in the published version of Memoir 17.

The camps are listed in the logical sequence of the stages that a pilot would progress through. i.e. Initial Training Wing (I.T.W.), Elementary Flying Training School (E.F.T.S.), Service Flying Training School (S.F.T.S.) and specialist training schools for Bombing, Gunnery and Navigation (Moffat), and Norton for Flying Instructors. It is likely that each camp had a special cachet for its "Sick Quarters" but to date only four types have been recorded. In addition several camps had Askari Corps. Units attached with their own cachets.

All cachets unique to individual camps were replaced in late 1941 by the standard "Rhodesian Air Training Group – Official Free" cachets.

I.T.W. Hillside Camp



RAF 10 - Dated TO
"Initial Training Wing - Hillside Camp".



RAF 11 - Dated TO
"Rhodesian Air Askari Corps - I.T.W. Bulawayo"

E.F.T.S. 25 Belvedere



RAF 2 - Dated TO
"Southern Rhodesian Air Force -
Belvedere Camp"



RAF 3 - TO with crown
"Royal Air Force No. 25 E.F.T.S. Belvedere,
Salisbury, S. Rhodesia"



RAF 4 - Dated TO
"R.A.F. Disposal Depot - Belvedere"



RAF 27 - Dated Rect.
"Pay Accounts Section Royal Air Force -
Belvedere, Salisbury"

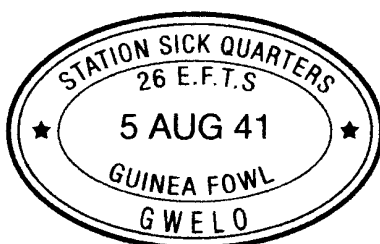
E.F.T.S. 26 Guinea Fowl



RAF 6 - Dated Rect.
"Royal Air Force No. 26 E.F.T.S. -
Guinea Fowl, Gwelo"



RAF 7 - DO with crown
"Royal Air Force No. 26 E.F.T.S. -
Guinea Fowl, Gwelo"



RAF 8 - TO
"Station Sick Quarters - Guinea Fowl, Gwelo"

E.F.T.S. 27 Induna



RAF 12 - SO
"Royal Air Force - Induna, Bulawayo,"



RAF 13 – Dated TO
Station Sick Quarters -
Induna Bulawayo

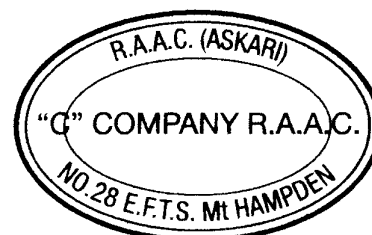


RAF 14- Dated TO -
"Native Labour- Induna"
(This is an "Artst's impression"
actual design unknown)

E.F.T.S. 28 Mount Hamden



RAF 21 - Dated TO
"R.A.F. 28 E.F.T.S. - Mt. Hampden"



RAF 22 - TO
"R.A.A.C. (Askari) -
No. 28 E.F.T.S.Mt. Hampden"
with "C" Company R.A.A.C." in centre.

S.F.T.S. 21 Kumalo



RAF 15 - Dated TO
"No.21 S.F.T.S - Kumalo Air Station,
Bulawayo"



RAF 16 - Dated TO
"Initial Training Wing - Kumalo Station"



RAF 17a - TO with crown
"R.A.F No. 21 S.F.T.S.- Kumalo"



RAF 17b - TO with crown
"R.A.F No. 21 S.F.T.S.- Kumalo"
(inner oval serrated)



RAF 18 - Dated TO
"Rhodesian Air Askari Corps -
Kumalo Detachment"



RAF 19 - Dated TO
"Station Sick Quarters -
No. 21 S.F.T.S. Kumalo"

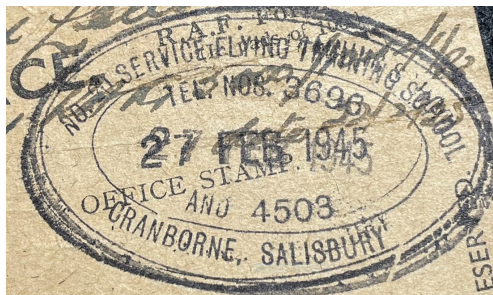
S.F.T.S. 20 Cranborne



RAF 1 - TO
"Rhodesian Air Askari Corps - Salisbury"
It is not known which base this corps
was attached to. Assumed Cranborne.



RAF 5 - TO with crown
S. "Rhodesia Air Force Station - Cranbourne,
Salisbury"

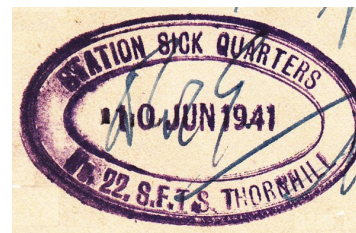


RAF 28 - TO
"No. 20 Service Flying Training School -
Cranborne, Salisbury"

S.F.T.S. 22 Thornhill



RAF 24 - Dated TO
"No. 22 S.F.T.S. - Thornhill, Gwelo"



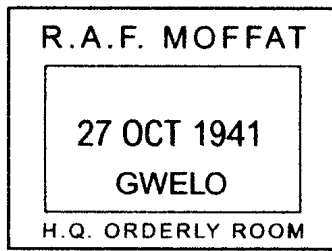
RAF 25 - Dated TO
"Station Sick Quarters -
No. 22 S.F.T.S.-Thornhill"

S.F.T.S. 23 Heany



RAF 9 - Dated TO
"No. 23 F.S.T.S. - Heany"

24 C.A.O.S. Moffat



*RAF 20 - Dated Rect.
"R.A.F. Moffat - H.Q. Orderly Room"*



*RAF 26 - Dated TO
"No. 24 C.O.A.S. Moffat"*

Central Flying School Norton



*RAF 23 - Dated TO
"Central Flying School - Norton"*