

FOREIGN PRESS REVIEW

DAILY SURVEY OF WORLD COMMENT ON THE WAR

COMPILED FROM TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

No. 54.

17th March
....., 1940

FINLAND: RUSSIA TO CONTINUE AGGRESSIVE POLICY?

The Russo-Finnish Peace cannot be regarded as permanent and the Soviet will continue her policy of penetration.

This belief was advanced by the HELSINGIN SANOMAT during the weekend.

Referring to the proposed Scandinavian defensive alliance, this paper wrote: "This is somehow connected with events preceding the recent peace. The transfer of the northern areas and the strategical railway line from Murmansk as well as the increasing interest in northern Norway are serious warnings, which have apparently been noted by our Nordic neighbours. In Moscow the present peace is only a stage and she will continue her march when opportunity comes.

"Swedish and Norwegian military commanders must now turn their attention to military necessities and consider them within the larger framework of military alliances. If Finland last autumn had had a military alliance, even with Sweden alone, Russia would not have started an attack, and in any case it would have failed.

"The Moscow peace is a high price to pay for the beginning of the idea of an alliance, but the Nordic countries now have time for consideration and on the right use of their reflections will depend their future as free nations."

SOSIALIDEMOKRAATTI admitted that private criticism of the Swedish attitude to the Finns was severe, but added: "The old co-operation between Finland and Sweden must be continued and better feelings must yield to facts. The Swedish nation is the most friendly of all countries towards us and she is still prepared to stand by our side, whatever may be the temporary policy of some of her governments."

In a dispatch from Berlin entitled "Russia is Germany's competitor" the HELSINGIN SANOMAT declared: "Russian activities will be directed towards the Balkans and Turkey and this causes anxiety in Berlin. It is hoped that the Russian 'fair demands' will be more easily realised elsewhere than in Finland. A Russian conflict with certain other states would be a most disagreeable blow to Germany. It seems that Russian ideas after the Finnish Peace do not harmonise with German politics.

"Amongst Germans there is noticeable an anxiety that Russia may systematically continue the policy taught her by Germany."

In a leading article entitled "Foreign Assistance" HELSINGIN SANOMAT stated in an earlier issue: "When the Finnish cause reached a decisive point detailed lists of war material and assistance were published in England and France. If the figures were correct they were surprisingly high, even from the standpoint of the average man unacquainted with military secrets. It is regrettable that we were unable to attack the enemy, which was the purpose of the assistance, but at any rate the armaments were well used in an honourable fight for western principles - and one must remember the offer to send troops if requested."

DENMARK: "DENMARK MAY FIND ITSELF ALONE."

An increasingly large number of Danes is of the opinion that Denmark should not remain outside a Scandinavian alliance, according to today's BERLINGSKE TIDENDE.

In a leading article commenting on Denmark's position in Scandinavia as a result of the Russo-Finnish peace, this paper writes: "During these last few days Nordic consciousness has become more alive than ever before in the minds of many Danes. Its regeneration takes the form of a fear that we may be slipping out of an organism to which we have belonged for a thousand years and anxiety that our country may one day find itself alone with all connections broken.

"No one can know how far and whither the negotiations for Nordic solidarity will lead. But we know that many throughout the country increasingly feel that if we are not to lose ourselves, and our hope, we cannot remain outside. At that table round which the most important questions in the history of the North are to be discussed, Denmark's chair must not stand empty."

U. S. A: SMALL NEUTRALS BEING THROWN TOGETHER.

Such is the fear of Germany and Russia among small nations in Europe - particularly the Balkans - that they may be driven together.

This view is expressed by Major Eliot in today's NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE.

After referring to recent events in Scandinavia and declaring that in the Balkans age-old prejudices may be overcome owing to the common fear of Russia and Germany Major Eliot adds: "It must never be forgotten that in the long run all such regional alliances are likely to be anti-German and anti-Russian in tendency.

"It is from Germany and Russia and not from the Allies that peril to the independence of the small states of Europe is to be anticipated."

Referring to the relations of Germany and Russia with Scandinavia the NEW YORK TIMES states: "Scandinavia owes her present insecurity to Germany even more than to Russia. Only when the power of aggression in Germany has been destroyed can Scandinavia breathe freely again."

This paper pointed out yesterday that Swedish ore was vital to Germany in view of the fact that she was not able to obtain ore from Lorraine as in the last war. The NEW YORK TIMES added: "The Ukraine is the only alternative source and this is all but helpless because of the Soviet's technological inefficiency."

In a dispatch to this paper from Paris, Anne McCormick contrasted the atmosphere of Paris with that of Berlin, from which city she had just arrived.

"The first feeling on this side of the frontier was one of safety", declared this correspondent. "Even in war-time France there are solid reason, law and rule. In Berlin there are no sand-bags and no precautions against air-raids except the black-out. The Berlin nights are darker and duller. In Berlin there is no debate but only a hush of waiting while a great people sit listening for the word that will decide their fate. In Paris there is more light, more life and a storm of argument."

GERMANY: PHOTOGRAPH BELIES GERMAN PROPAGANDA.

The dejected appearance and demoralised condition attributed in the German Press to the 16 captured members of the British Expeditionary Force were not borne out by a photograph published in the WESTFAELISCHE LANDESZEITUNG.

The picture showed some of the prisoners walking between their German guards. The broad smile of the leading prisoner seemed to have infected even one of the Nazi guards. He was smiling faintly in return. The other Germans wore the usual glum expression seen in photographs from the German lines.

Marshal Goering's organ, the NATIONAL ZEITUNG of Essen, in a message from its Hague correspondent attempted to convince its readers that the British Contraband authorities had been guilty of stealing neutral goods. The message ran: "The thefts of neutral goods by the English pirates have been increased by another item. A cargo of coffee from the Dutch East Indies on a Rotterdam-Lloyd ship was detained in the Downs in the usual illegal fashion. The cargo was taken off and stolen by the pirates for their own use. Cargoes of coffee on the steamers Kola Noteng and the Sinkep were similarly treated."

The BERLINER BOERSEN ZEITUNG under the heading "Outpost of the enemy - the Swiss VATERLAND and the Polish atrocities" wrote editorially in a recent issue: "From little Switzerland whose Press never misses an opportunity of showing to its great neighbour at war a more than surprising conception of neutrality, comes a voice surpassing in malice anything that has gone before. A senior officer of the Swiss army stated in a lecture on the Polish campaign that one of the prime causes of the rapid Polish collapse was the spying activities of the German minority. A large number of short range transmitters kept the German Command constantly informed."

The BOERSEN ZEITUNG did not trouble to deny this allegation but continued: "We will leave undecided from what muddy sources the Swiss officer obtained this information but we are compelled to pillory its effects as they are revealed in disgusting form by a paper with the name of VATERLAND. This paper - of a country calling itself Switzerland - draws from the lecture the following filthy conclusion: 'To our lay minds it means nothing else than that the German minority fought from the first day with the advancing German troops - that is to say its members were liable to the punishment which under the rules of war is given to francs-tireurs caught red-handed. Now the Germans have made a terrible charge against the Poles. They assert that the Poles murdered 58,000 Germans for no reason except insane national hatred. The question is permissible whether among the victims there may not have been some who perform this valuable, and at the same time deadly spy service. Time must elapse before an objective historian will be able to throw light on the whole double-game.' "

In furious comment on this modest statement - confirmation of which was contained in an eye-witness account published in a leading British newspaper on March 6th - the BOERSEN ZEITUNG stated: "The attempt to describe the 58,000 murdered Germans as guilty persons is an infamy - as unprecedented as the sympathy with the Polish murderers which is evident in the statement. If there is any question of double play then it can affect, at the most certain allegedly neutral newspapers which are permitted to set themselves up as outposts of the enemy propaganda against Germany."

SWEDEN: DEFENSIVE MEASURES URGED.

Sweden must look to her defences because the Soviet's word cannot be relied upon.

Expressing this view during the weekend NY TID, the Gothenburg paper, added: "Through Swedish mediation Finland learned the peace terms imposed upon her, but they did not then include the change of frontier at Salla which astonished the Finnish delegates in Moscow. Sweden's position is seriously worsened and she must give the gravest consideration to the changed situation.

"Efforts in the direction of defence must clearly be increased. The lack of officers, which is a serious hindrance to Sweden's defence, must be remedied.

"It would be disastrous to rest peacefully under the shadow of the Moscow Peace. The defence union of Finland, Sweden and Norway, is a natural step. No-one can rely on the Russian statement of her non-aggressive aims in the north. Finland had on paper every possible guarantee of Russia's peaceful attitude, but all promises were broken. Reality has given the North a bitter lesson."

A similar attitude was adopted in an article appearing in an earlier issue of the GÖTEBORGS MORGONPOST. The writer stated that it was hard "for the Swedes to look in the Finns' eyes. The disappointment which shakes the Swedish volunteer corps and all Swedes to the bottom of their hearts is a good sign. It means that the people understand that the Finnish peace is only a breathing space.

"Sweden failed in the matter of volunteers. Fifty-thousand or 70,000 men instead of 9,000 at the beginning of March could have made the Swedes self-respecting. One cannot free oneself from the feeling that the Government did not support the volunteer corps."

NORWAY: GERMANY ACCUSED.

The part Germany played in the Russo-Finnish conflict has been criticised in the Norwegian Press.

The ARBEIDERBLADET, commenting during the week-end on M. Koht's recent speech, wrote: "Thus, it has been clearly demonstrated that it was Germany who broke Finland. It was Russia who was the aggressor but it was Germany who forced Finland to her knees."

Urging the need for the immediate conclusion of a Scandinavian defence pact, the paper emphasised the danger of Finland and Sweden making a pact without Norway and falling under German influence.

"The only way to counter this and preserve neutrality is for Norway to join the pact," affirmed the paper. "Pro-German Swedish finance circles, believing Norway to be the most exposed of all Scandinavian countries, are against Sweden participating in a defence pact with Norway."

MORGENBLADET declared that the question of a defence pact must be exhaustively examined and discussed before any decision could be taken.

DAGBLADET wrote: "The defence alliance will be a startling breach of the Government's and the Storting's line of neutrality and a serious danger for our country's peace. Nor will it be of any help to Finland."

AFTENPOSTEN declared: "A German Foreign Office spokesman, when talking to the Foreign Press about the cession of the Viborg district to Russia, used the expression 'the Great Powers demand for living space'. One would have thought that Russia had enough living space, but according to German opinion this is not the case."

Concluding this paper wrote: "What is remarkable is that the Great Powers' demand for living space is to go over those who have much less of it. Those who have only a little living space must cede it to those who already have much."

SWITZERLAND: "WESTERN POWERS NO WEAKER."

"Militarily and politically the Finnish capitulation is of no consequence to the Allies."

This opinion was expressed by the Radical Democratic newspaper NATIONALZEITUNG on Saturday, and the paper added: "The Western Powers are no weaker. The worst that need be recorded is the psychological affect of lost prestige."

LA SUISSE, the Geneva newspaper, stated: "Poland was crushed because the Allies were unable to prevent it. Finland was forced to yield because the Allies were again unable to help but do not let us forget that Belgium was conquered in 1914, Serbia in 1915, Rumania in 1916, and Russia in 1917, yet the Allies won the war in 1918."

Criticism of the Allies was made in the TRIBUNE DE GENEVE which stated: "Public opinion is unanimous that the Russo-Finnish peace constitutes a grave moral defeat for the Western Democracies. It is false to regard the Allies as the champions of small nations."

HOLLAND: ALLIED PRESS CRITICISED.

Criticism of certain Allied newspapers, and especially LE TEMPS, on the question of forcing Norway and Sweden to allow the passage of troops to Finland, was made by the NIEUWE ROTTERDAMSCHE COURANT, the Liberal organ, during the weekend.

This paper added: "This view of things is as wrong and dangerous, if not more so, as Germany's attitude regarding torpedoing or sinking with bombs from the air of neutral ships."

"We may regret that Norway and Sweden would not go so far as military help to Finland and that they refused passage through their territory of foreign auxiliaries. But they have the right to judge for themselves, and the Allies' actions have been more in accordance with the justifiable attitude of Norway and Sweden than have the views of the French Press."

HET VOLK, the Social Democratic Labour Party newspaper, did not believe that Stalin would leave the rest of Scandinavia to Germany and added: "Whoever believes that Stalin would leave the rest of Scandinavia to Germany as a sphere of influence must be a believer in the lasting quality of friendship between German-Russian Imperialism."

HET HANDELSBLAD toned down its earlier criticism of Allied action in Finland, but this paper however attacked French Press criticisms of Norway's and Sweden's attitude and declared that the Allies had suffered a diplomatic reverse.

In an article on the anniversary of March 15th 1939 DE MAASBODE, the Catholic organ, wrote: "Seldom in the history of the world has a statesman had so great an opportunity to lead his country to greatness and prosperity as Hitler had after Munich. Subsequent psychological faults on both sides did not destroy that opportunity, but March 15th 1939 did by destroying all trust in him."

CUBA: PEACE A "BRUTAL IMPOSITION".

The Russo-Finnish peace was described in a recent issue of the Right-wing DIARIO DE LA MARINA as a "brutal imposition injecting the Communist virus into dangerous places and facilitating the expansion of Soviet domination."

In its column entitled "International events" EL MUNDO asked: "Who is responsible for the sacrifice of Finland? The fault for the moment lies with the Allies. Sweden is also accused of treachery but she acted in accordance with the stern reality of her difficulties. The present ambitions of Russia and Germany are attained but it cannot be said that their enjoyment will be lasting. The war has just begun and everything points to the preparation of a world coalition from London and Paris against the Nazi Fuhrer on the theory that the Soviet Union cannot remain the same once Germany has conquered."

EL PAIS wrote in an editorial article: "The peace imposed on Finland and the successes drawn from a defeat without glory will little affect the Allies. While the territory the Finns have been deprived of is not so large it is enough to weaken Finland in view of a possible enemy at the extreme end of her Eastern Barrier."

EL PUEBLO stated: "It is easily understood why the elimination of the Finnish war front is a severe blow to England and France for the Russo-German pact favours the Allies more than a duel against the Reich alone. Thus, the vast Franco-British resources can direct an offensive in the North and South-east of Europe, multiplying the weak points of the enemy."

URUGUAY: ALLIES CRITICISED.

The Uruguayan Press, which is normally almost uniformly friendly to the Allies, has reacted unfavourably over the Russo-Finnish Peace.

Senator Buero, a former official of the League of Nations, writing in EL PUEBLO, regarded the announcement that Great Britain and France would send a strong contingent to Finland as an "eleventh hour cover" and referred almost ironically to their waiting for a Finnish request "as if the leaders of the unfortunate state had not begged for reinforcements which military logic, as well as the true interests of the Western Powers, made an immediate necessity."

The writer added: "For the small neutral countries both in and outside Europe who are anxiously watching the course of events the Finnish episode will afford melancholy reflections. What will be the effect on the attitude of Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Roumania, Turkey and Greece towards the Allies?"

The influential evening paper EL DIARIO declared the outcome of the Finnish War to be "the laming of the civilised world in its struggle with barbarism" and added: "Some League of Nations countries, especially France and Great Britain, acted with caution and parsimony bordering on the most inept and incomprehensible pusillanimity."

The more moderate LA MANANA however, stated: "We must believe that there was good reason for the decision by the Finnish leaders who had conducted a heroic defence with such efficiency and courage. The governments who should have given effective help failed to do so either because of their desire to keep out of war or in the case of the belligerents because of their slowness to solve practical difficulties."

EL DIA could not see why so much blame had been put on Great Britain and France who were not at war with Russia and asked why the United States and Italy had not helped more.

IT IS REQUESTED THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE PUBLISHED
UNTIL THE MORNING OF MONDAY, MARCH 18TH, 1940.

AIR MINISTRY CASUALTY COMMUNIQUE NO.22.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

The Air Ministry regrets to announce the following casualties on various dates:-

KILLED IN ACTION

CARTER	72448	Pilot Officer, J.N.
CORVAN	549742	Aircraftman 1st Class, P.W.
FORSTER	524766	Leading Aircraftman, J.C.
HART	631366	Aircraftman 2nd Class, F.
POTTER	562838	Sergeant, J.A.H.
SAXON	581022	Acting Sergeant, A.K.
STEWART	70819	Pilot Officer, A.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED 'DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE' NOW REPORTED
'DIED OF WOUNDS OR INJURIES RECEIVED IN ACTION'

BEATTIE	521868	Aircraftman 1st Class, R.
McCLURE	816021	Leading Aircraftman, T.C.
LEGASSICK	551562	Leading Aircraftman, H.J.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED 'MISSING' NOW PRESUMED
'KILLED IN ACTION'

BORLEY	365199	Flight Sergeant, I.E.M.
BROCKING	546065	Aircraftman 2nd Class, G.T.
CALPIN	531154	Leading Aircraftman, J.L.
CUNNINGHAM	16219	Acting Wing Commander, J.C.
GREEN	39155	Flying Officer, H.D.
HENDERSON	618765	Aircraftman 2nd Class, R.
KIRKUS	563852	Sergeant, N.M.
MILLER	580160	Sergeant, G.
PARK	524855	Corporal, G.W.
POVEY	366390	Sergeant, A.E.C.
RODGER	543962	Aircraftman 1st Class, A.M.
TURNER	508292	Sergeant, H.H.
TURNER	70689	Pilot Officer, R.
ALTON	550292	Acting Sergeant, B.G.
WHITTINGTON	36184	Pilot Officer, C.N.

WOUNDED OR INJURED IN ACTION

MONETTE	41309	Pilot Officer, J.A.E.
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MISSING

SHUTE	32020	Squadron Leader, F.W.C.
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KILLED ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

DEWAR	522984	Acting Sergeant, F.
DODGSON	41525	Pilot Officer, H.
ELY	70204	Flying Officer, G.C.F.
FARROW	41388	Pilot Officer, R.W.
LENTON	564249	Sergeant, S.W.
SANDERS	620465	Aircraftman 2nd Class, A.W.B.
WHITMARSH	41889	Pilot Officer, R.J.
WILTSHIRE	550694	Aircraftman 1st Class, R.F.J.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED 'DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE' NOW REPORTED
'DIED OF WOUNDS OR INJURIES RECEIVED ON ACTIVE SERVICE'

BATES	511737	Aircraftman 1st Class, C.A.
DAVIDSON	70161	Flying Officer, R.P.S.
KELLY	620024	Leading Aircraftman, W.G.
LOVEGROVE	527690	Leading Aircraftman, G.G.J.
McCLUGGAGE	521091	Sergeant, E.
McEWAN	624157	Aircraftman 2nd Class, W.
MacLAUGHLIN	516867	Sergeant, J.
POWELL	525528	Leading Aircraftman, F.G.
SKINNER	33286	Flight Lieutenant, M.P.
TAYLOR	552191	Aircraftman 1st Class, S.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED 'MISSING BELIEVED KILLED'
NOW PRESUMED 'KILLED ON ACTIVE SERVICE'

KELLER	36173	Pilot Officer, H.J.
ROBERTSON	41533	Pilot Officer, J.W.C.

WOUNDED OR INJURED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

HULBERT	39527	Flying Officer, E.V.
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DIED OF WOUNDS OR INJURIES RECEIVED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

DELAMORE	33500	Pilot Officer, A.F.
HUNTER	40225	Pilot Officer, W.B.
WINDER	77371	Acting Pilot Officer, G.W.

DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

BERESFORD	938810	Aircraftman 2nd Class, E.S.
KETLEY		Sister, A.S.
MACKENZIE	910346	Aircraftman 2nd Class, R.J.
MARSHALL	947538	Aircraftman 2nd Class, G.
MOULT	568184	Leading Aircraftman, H.T.
PARFITT	524625	Aircraftman 1st Class, R.E.
TURNER	639225	Aircraftman 2nd Class, D.W.
WAKE	225769	Leading Aircraftman, H.

Press and Publicity Branch,
Air Ministry,
King Charles Street,
Whitehall, S.W.1.

18th March, 1940.

17/3/40. - No. 2.

MORE U-BOAT PRISONERS.

Below is the latest list of prisoners from U-boats,
broadcast to Germany this weekend:-

The War Office,

London, S.W.1.

LIST OF PRISONERS OF WAR

<u>Rank.</u>	<u>Christian Names.</u>	<u>Surname.</u>	<u>Where from.</u>	<u>Age.</u>
Oberfeldwebel	Paul	AUST	Kiel	27
Maschinenmaat	Kurt	MATTUSSAT	Königsberg	25
Matrose	Horst	ZIMMERMANN	Wesermünde	19
Masch. Hauptgefreiter	Theodor	van MERWYK	Esserden	24
Funkmaat	Kurt	GROSSER	Kiel-Ellerbeck	24
Matrosengefreiter	Kurt	JUST	Konigsberg i/Pr.	18
Oberfeldwebel	Fritz	WIEMER	Zerbst i/Anhalt	26
Mech. Obergefreiter	George. Ludwig	HOFFMANN	Wickrath i/Rhineland	20

17/3/40 - No.3.

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE (MORNING)

The following official communique was issued
from French G.H.Q. this morning:-

Nothing to report.

17/3/40 No 4

ADMIRALTY OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE

At 7.50 p.m. on Saturday March 16 German aircraft made a raid on the fleet anchorage at SCAPA FLOW. About 14 enemy aircraft reached the objective.

A considerable number of bombs was dropped, one hitting a warship which sustained only minor damage.

Bombs were also dropped on the land, no military objectives being hit, but one civilian was killed and seven wounded, including two women, in the village^{of}/BRIDGE OF WAITH, and 5 cottages were damaged.

There were 7 casualties to naval personnel. The next of kin have been informed.

Ships' batteries, shore defences and fighter aircraft combined to drive off the enemy.

One enemy aircraft was shot down and others believed damaged.

ADMIRALTY
WHITEHALL.

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17/3/40 No 5

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED ON THE CLUB TAPES
OR BY BROADCAST OR IN ANY OTHER WAY BEFORE
THE MORNING OF MONDAY 18TH MARCH 1940.

SECURITIES (EXEMPTION) ORDER 1940

The Treasury have decided to exempt from the provisions of Regulation 1 of the Defence (Finance) Regulations, 1939, certain securities in respect of which the option to receive payment in one of the specified currencies is either at a nominal rate or not at present exercisable.

An Exemption Order has accordingly been made under Defence (Finance) Regulation 5(A) (1) covering a number of securities; these are listed in a Schedule to the Order which has been published as Statutory Rule and Order No. 356 and may be purchased directly from H.M. Stationery Office or through any book-seller. No action need be taken by holders of the securities in question, which are now subject only to those restrictions which apply to sterling securities.

TREASURY,
WHITEHALL.

17/3/40. - No. 6.

The War Office announces that owing to unforeseen delay men coming home on leave from the B.E.F. have been temporarily retarded.

Normal leave will be resumed as early as possible.

MILITARY AFFAIRS

17/3/40. - No. 7.

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE

(EVENING)

The following official communique was issued
from French G.H.Q. this evening:-

Marked activity of reconnaissance parties
west of the **Vosges.**

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GERMAN PATROL VESSELS BOMBED.

The Air Ministry announces:

In the course of yesterday's daylight reconaissance of the Heligoland Bight, a number of naval patrol vessels were sighted at various points between Borkum and Heligoland and attacked with bombs.

This morning two enemy aircraft which were engaged in attacks on shipping off the East coast of Scotland were intercepted and attacked by R.A.F. Fighter Command aircraft, and pursued into the clouds. Damage is believed to have been inflicted on both.

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Not to be quoted as an official Air Ministry Announcement

DAYLIGHT RAIDS IN HELIGOLAND BIGHT.

Daylight reconnaissances of the Heligoland Bight were successfully carried out yesterday morning by aircraft of the Bomber Command in the face of opposition from both air and ground defences.

West of Heligoland one Blenheim bomber sighted a German naval patrol vessel and attacked. Simultaneously three Me. 109 fighters engaged the Blenheim but without success. The Blenheim climbed into the clouds where the fighters lost contact. The British aircraft had previously come under heavy anti-aircraft fire from Heligoland ground batteries, but had succeeded in completing a reconnaissance of the island.

Another Blenheim bomber reconnoitring to the south of the island also encountered enemy fighters two of which attacked simultaneously from astern and from one quarter. The British aircraft evaded his attackers by skilful use of the clouds.

The Frisian Islands also received a visit from Bomber Command. A.A. fire was encountered from Borkum and two Me. 110's - Germany's latest and fastest fighter type - were sighted. They did not attack.

East of this island naval auxiliary vessels were seen by one of our aircraft. Diving from six thousand feet to within a few hundred feet of the water, the British aircraft dropped a salvo of bombs on the formation. One of the vessels was partially lifted out of the water by the force of the explosion. The bomber came under the concentrated fire of the patrol vessels but was not hit.

All the British aircraft engaged returned safely to their bases.