

11/7/40

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

NEWS BULLETIN NO. 28

APPEAL FOR ALUMINIUM.

Information has been received at the Ministry of Aircraft Production that unauthorised persons are collecting aluminium pots and pans. Pots and pans presented to the Ministry should be handed to the local office of the Women's Voluntary Services. If you are in any doubt please enquire at the nearest town hall or police station.

Do not give your pots and pans to any caller at the door. - Ministry of Aircraft Production. M.O.I. 4.

MORE NEW ZEALAND AIRMEN HERE.

A further large draft of young New Zealand airmen, officers and other ranks, arrived in England yesterday for service with the Royal Air Force.

All have had some months of training in New Zealand, but will receive further instruction in this country before being appointed to units.

The majority are pilots, but the draft includes a number of observers and air gunners. - Dominions and Colonial Offices Press Section. M.O.I. 1.

WAR GIFTS OF THE EMPIRE.

Further Help from Bahamas.

In view of the appointment of the Duke of Windsor as Governor of the Bahama Islands, interest attaches to the following statement of their war activities.

In addition to gifts of £25,000 the Legislature is considering further donations. A sum of £13,000 has been raised by private subscriptions for the Lord Mayor's Fund, King George's Sailors Fund and St. Dunstan's.

Further contributions will be collected for the purchase of planes and ambulances.

The War Material Committee organised by the "Nassau Daily Tribune" has collected a quantity of scrap metal and is planning a food-crop campaign to reduce importations and save exchange.

It is also canning fruit and vegetables as gifts to England, while the Red Cross Branch has sent 13,000 articles and £500 to the British Red Cross.

Citizens will give 600 gallons of preserves and 750 gallons of lime juice to the United Kingdom. Lord Lloyd has expressed his thanks.

from Ankole, Uganda.

At the spontaneous request of the Omugabe (Native ruler), the Chiefs and the people of Ankole, Uganda, the Governor has sanctioned the withdrawal of £1,000 from the Native administration surplus to assist in buying an aeroplane which will represent Uganda in the Royal Air Force.

Lord Beaverbrook has thanked the Government of the Straits Settlements for a gift of money to purchase a modern and powerful fighter which will be named as the Federated Malay States War Fund may suggest.

In a message to the Editor of the "Times of Ceylon", Lord Beaverbrook expresses appreciation of a third munificent offering which will make possible the purchase of a third modern fighter aeroplane. This will bear a distinctive name, and will display Ceylon's fighting spirit in the forefront of the battle.

Kenya's £10,000.

Lord Lloyd has sent a message to the Governor of Kenya expressing gratitude for the first contribution of £10,000 from the Kenya Central War Fund.

Patriotism of Cyprus.

Cyprus has extended the age limits for volunteers to cover all between 18 and 42. Over 8,000 Cypriots have applied for enlistment, and more than 2,500 are serving in the

Cyprus Regiment. A volunteer force will assist the military and police in the defence of the island.

A fund for purchasing a fighter plane for the Royal Air Force, opened by the Editor of the "Cyprus Post" has already yielded £1,000. A casualty hospital is being established in Nicosia.

Dominions & Colonial Offices, Press Section.

M.o.I. 2.

AID FOR THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA.

All possible assistance to save the London Philharmonic Orchestra is being given by the Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts.

The Council, from funds provided by the Pilgrim Trust and the Government, has guaranteed grants for ten concerts in the provinces.

Six have already been given and a further series in the Birmingham district is now being arranged.

It is hoped that by working from a provincial centre instead of from London it will be possible to give more than the four remaining concerts, and that such towns as Nuneaton, Walsall, West Bromwich, Kidderminster, Stourbridge and Dudley will be covered. -- Board of Education M.o.I.3.

MORE TRACTOR DRIVERS WANTED FOR THE LAND

So that all possible progress may be made before the winter with preparations for the 1941 crops, many additional tractor drivers will be needed for land work during the next two or three months.

Arrangements for training recruits, and for placing them later on in suitable employment, are in the hands of the County War Agricultural Executive Committees.

Persons wishing to offer their services for this work of national importance should communicate as soon as possible with the Executive Committee for their county --- Ministry of Agriculture. M.o.I.5.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

The Minister of Agriculture announced in his broadcast on 29th June the intention to set up an expert Committee to consider war-time livestock production problems. The Committee held its first meeting on 11th July.

The members of the Committee are:-

The Right Honourable Lord Meyne,
D.S.O. (Chairman)

Prof. A.W. Ashby, M.A.

Mr. A.I. Eastwood

Mr. G. Gibbard

Mr. W. Graham

Mr. John Hammond,
M.A. D.Sc., F.R.S.

Mr. J. Mackintosh, O.B.E.
N.D.A., N.D.D.

Principal W.G.R. Paterson,
O.B.E., B.Sc., N.D.A.

Mr. T. Peacock, J.P.

Mr. W.J. Reid.

Joint Parliamentary Secretary to
the Ministry of Agriculture

Professor of Agricultural Economics
University College of Wales,
Aberystwyth.

London Wholesale Meat Trade
Supervisor of the Ministry of Food.

Chairman of the Livestock Committee,
National Farmers' Union of England
and Wales

President, National Farmers' Union
and Chamber of Agriculture for
Scotland

Animal Nutrition Research Institute
Cambridge University.

National Institute for Research in
Dairying, Reading University.

Principal, West of Scotland
Agricultural College.

President of the National Farmers'
Union of England and Wales.

Member of the Scottish Agricultural
Advisory Council.

The Secretary of the Committee is Mr. H. Gardner of the Ministry of
Agriculture and Fisheries. Ministry of Agriculture M.o.I.6.

THIS ITEM IS NOT TO BE PUBLISHED OR BROADCAST IN ANY WAY BEFORE
FRIDAY 12th JULY.

HELP FOR FIELD DRAINAGE

As foreshadowed in his broadcast on June 2, the Minister of Agriculture has now

announced a new scheme of financial assistance for field drainage to be administered by County War Agricultural Executive Committees in England and Wales.

Grants for mole drainage are already available, and the new scheme has been launched to assist owners and occupiers of agricultural land to recondition or carry out other recognised and approved forms of field drainage, with the object of bringing land into effective cultivation for the 1941 harvest at the latest.

The rate of grant will be 50 per cent. of the net cost, with a maximum grant of £7.10. per acre benefited by the work.

This overriding maximum may be waived by the Minister when the War Agricultural Executive Committee concerned certifies that the circumstances are exceptional, e.g. because of the heavy nature of the land the number of drains required is above the average; or that the land is inherently above the average for food production when properly drained. Ministry of Agriculture. M.o.I.7.

ANGLO-ITALIAN CLEARING AGREEMENT.

The Controller of the Anglo-Italian Clearing Office announces that on the 10th June, 1940, when distribution by the Clearing Office ceased, payments had been made to United Kingdom creditors in respect of lire deposits made on the following dates:-

Sterling Arrears Account "A" 18th May, 1940.

Sterling Coal Sub-Account 22nd March, 1940.

Sterling Sub-Account "D"
(Goods) 1st April, 1940.

Board of Trade. M.o.I.8.

COMPANIES ACT, 1939: LIQUIDATORS ON WAR SERVICE.

(1) A Defence Regulation has been made on behalf of the Board of Trade providing that the functions of a liquidator of a company appointed under the Companies Act, 1939, may at any time while he is engaged in war service be exercised by any person authorised by him by power of attorney. The following requirements must, however, be complied with:-

(a) the consent of the Board of Trade in writing must be given in each case.

(b) there must be filed with the Registrar of Companies -

(i) the instrument creating the power of attorney authorising the deputy or a copy verified by an affidavit sworn by the liquidator or the deputy, and

(ii) the document signifying the consent of the Board of Trade;

(c) where the liquidator was appointed by the court in England, the deputy must have given security to the satisfaction of the Board of Trade.

(d) Where the liquidator was appointed by the court in Scotland, the deputy must have made application to the court on the question of security and either have given security in accordance with the court's determination or court has dispensed with the giving of security.

(2) By another Regulation, designed to save paper and clerical labour, it becomes unnecessary for the annual return of a company to be contained in the register of members, as hitherto required by Section 110 of the Act, but the return will still have to be forwarded to the Registrar of Companies as provided in that Section. Board of Trade. M.o.I.9.

ANTI-RUMOUR CAMPAIGN

Tomorrow, Friday, July 12th, the Ministry of Information, on behalf of the Government, is going to launch an urgent and intensive campaign to organise every man, woman and child of this country into a Silent Column - a column pledged to kill rumour, stop indiscreet talk and to mobilise itself against depressing and defeatist conversation. It is hoped by using every weapon of modern publicity, to succeed quickly in all these objectives with the full co-operation of everyone.

The advertisement columns of the newspapers and periodicals, posters of every sort, B.B.C. Talks and dramatised programmes and broadcasts to the schools, will all be used to the maximum; "chatter boxes" will be put up in Clubs, hotels, homes, etc. and into them people who offend will be invited to put contributions to charity.

The three enemies the Silent Column is going to fight are:-

1. Rumour, - information which may be completely false or only partly true, which tends to cause confusion in the minds of the civilian population. Such rumour may be - and often is - started by the enemy and in the event of invasion could add very greatly to the difficulties of the military.
2. Gossip - which is usually innocent but at the same time passes into circulation military information which may reach the enemy.
3. Depressing and defeatist talk, some of which is probably inspired.

These three are the deadliest propaganda weapons in the enemy's hands. They can be made useless only by the full co-operation of the public. The Government is certain that this co-operation will gladly be given once the public is aware of what it has to do. It is hoped that the public will make a fresh resolution - although a difficult resolution - to become Silent Soldiers.

11/7/40 - No. 5.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

Following is the latest list of British prisoners of war in German hands, as broadcast by German radio:-

David ALLEN, born 7th April, 1914,
2, Martin Terrace, Haddon Place, Leeds, 4.

John CURREY, born 20th November, 1914,
50, Pollokshields Road, Glasgow.

Arthur Charles WARD, born 13th December, 1900.
Kirkee, The Avenue, Camberley, Surrey.

William HANSON, born 20th April, 1918,
Gondove Avenue, Moss Lane, Orwell Park, Liverpool.

Frederick James HARDING, born 2nd November, 1917,
118, Corryhurst (?) Street, Manchester.

John Robert TYREMAN, born 30th October, 1918,
9, Maglin Street, North Ormsby, Middlesbrough.

Frederick PIERPOINT, born 22nd June, 1918,
26, The Whard, Ironbridge, Salop.

Herbert Ellis JACKSON, born 8th October, 1918,
8, Waldcar Road, Hull, Yorks.

WAR OFFICE

11/7/40 - No. 7.

The Ministry of Home Security announces:-

During the night bombs were dropped in a **number** of scattered points in the eastern and south-eastern counties and in the Midlands.

No casualties were reported except a small number in two East Coast towns, of which a few were fatal.

Slight damage of no military importance was caused.

MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY

11/7/40 - No.8.

REF: Air Ministry Bulletin No.1082 (Casualty Communique No.38; Issue No.4 of today).

Please note the following correction:

Under heading "Missing".

Delete: McPherson	581188	Sergt. B.D.
Morley	40412	Pilot Officer S.B.
Reavell-Carter	76017	Pilot Officer L.

AIR MINISTRY

11/7/40. - No. 12.

CHAUFFEURS AND CHAUFFEUR-MECHANICS.

The Minister of Labour and National Service appeals to private employers to consider whether they could not release their chauffeurs or chauffeur-mechanics for vital war work in armament factories. These men should be able readily to adapt themselves to such work, especially after a period of training in a Government training centre or "on the job" in an employer's works.

Employers are asked to discuss the matter with their chauffeurs and chauffeur-mechanics. Such men as are willing and can be released should be advised to register at their nearest Employment Exchange where they will be considered either for direct employment if suitable, or for a course of training. It is the desire of the Minister that the men should remain in their present jobs until the Exchange is ready to place them on Government work or in training.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE, S.W.1.

11/7/40. - No. 13.

P R E S S N O T I C E

The arrangements announced on the 22nd June, 1940 whereby persons coming from France were given facilities to produce and declare to banks authorised to deal in foreign exchange all the French bank notes in their possession, with a view to their exchange for sterling, will shortly be withdrawn.

On and after the 18th July, exchange facilities will only be granted for holdings registered with a bank on or before that date, with a limit of £10 (say francs 1765) per person per week.

This concession applies only to the French bank notes held by private individuals, and does not extend to business funds.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,
S.W.1.

11/7/40. - No. 14.

P R E S S N O T I C E

On the invitation of Mr. Morgenthau the Secretary of the United States Treasury, Sir Frederick Phillips, an Under Secretary of the British Treasury, will shortly arrive in Washington for a visit. This meeting will provide occasion for a discussion of technical and other questions between the American and British Treasuries. It will be recalled that Sir Frederick Phillips visited Mr. Morgenthau in Washington during the autumn of 1937.

TREASURY

11/7/40 - No. 15.

CANADA BUILDS A NAVY.

Eighty-two Ships Shaping in the Dockyards.

The building of eighty-two ships for the Royal Canadian Navy is moving at sixteen shipyards in Canada. The vessels are part of a £10,000,000 two year programme to construct a hundred ships.

While it can be said that three general types of vessels are being built, their classification and dates of commissioning must remain secret.

One problem in following the specifications of the British Admiralty has been to find allowable substitutes for some of the indicated material. A completely new line of electrical fittings, for example, has been developed with the help of Canadian manufacturers, while steel plate specifications have been altered to suit manufacturing plants.

Canadian industry and labour, skilled and unskilled, is rising to the emergency. Using Empire material throughout, the workers are making strenuous efforts to complete the ships in record time.

Commander A.C.M. Davy, Royal Canadian Navy, the Director of Shipbuilding in Canada, who is supervising the building of this new fleet, joined the Service in 1917, and has served in the Mediterranean and with the Home Fleet. He was for a period in the "Ramillies" and in destroyers of the Royal Navy.

DOMINIONS AND COLONIAL OFFICES.
PRESS SECTION.

11/7/40 - No. 19.

MINISTRY OF FOOD ANNOUNCEMENT.

Tea Rationing.

Information has reached the Ministry of Food that in some parts of the country retailers are selling tea in quantities above the ration of two ounces per week and without extracting the necessary coupons from the ration books.

It is pointed out that the rationing of tea is governed by the Tea (Rationing) Order, 1940, which came into force on 9th July and by Directions under the Rationing Order which came into force on 8th July.

It is accordingly now an offence "to obtain or supply" tea in quantities in excess of the ration. It is also an offence to obtain tea from the retailer except in exchange for the appropriate coupon from the ration book. Both the retailer and the customer are liable to prosecution for such offences.

MINISTRY OF FOOD.

11/7/40 - No.21.

MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY COMMUNIQUE

Enemy aircraft this morning dropped bombs on the east coast.

A railway siding was hit and several persons were killed.

Some damage was also done in a small town in the Midlands where casualties were caused to children by flying glass and a few persons were killed.

MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY

The following communication has been made by General Weygand on behalf of the French Ministry of Finance, to the French Delegation on the Armistice Commission in Wiesbaden:

German Control of Foreign Exchange in France.

The Ministry of Finance draws the attention of the French Delegation to the following text of a circular dated June 14th from The Devisenschutzkommando in France:

"To the Societe Generale, 29 Boulevard Haussmann, Paris.

The Devisenschutzkommando in France will take over in that part of France occupied by German troops the control of foreign exchange, and all Banks including branches and agencies in Paris and in the department of the Seine will be required to submit a statement of their position on the 14th June, 1940, as follows:-

- (a) Foreign exchange excluding Reichsmarks, Dutch crowns, Belgian francs, Danish and Norwegian crowns, zloty.
- (b) Gold, currency of all kinds, scrap and bar gold.
- (c) Securities, shares and foreign bonds.
- (d) French securities payable in foreign currency.
Such securities not to include those payable in Reichsmarks, Dutch crowns, Belgian francs, Danish and Norwegian crowns, zloty, in the form of foreign assets in foreign banks and credit establishments.
- (f) Securities in the form of foreign assets, with the exception of those mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (g) Precious stones, rough or unset diamonds.
- (h) Bank notes in Reichsmarks.

Until further instructions it is forbidden to dispose of all securities mentioned in paragraph 1.

Private safes in banks belonging to all clients are to be closed and are not to be opened except in the presence of the Devisenschutzkommando in France. The date on which these safes are to be opened will be decided by the Schutzkommando by arrangement with the Bank in question, which is to submit to the former a statement in triplicate of the securities mentioned by name, in francs, up to the 5th July, 1940, together with a list in triplicate up to the same date of all clients having a safe either at the Head Office of the Bank or at any branches or offices. This list is to contain:-

- (a) The name of the client
- (b) His address where known to the Bank, and the date on which he last paid a visit to it. Any infringement of this regulation will be punished.
(Signed) HARTMANN"

The Ministry of Finance maintains that this text is contrary to the clause of the armistice which stipulates that the French Government is to retain the administration of the occupied territories. It is necessary therefore to ascertain whether the above instructions have been rescinded since the 25th June. If this is not so, it will be necessary to ask for them to be rescinded at the earliest possible moment. Please note that since the departure of the Government from Bordeaux, the attached circular will presumably have been communicated to the Banks from the date of the occupation.

Signed: WEYGAND

PRESS NOTICE

A Pan-American Conference has been called by the U.S. Government to meet at Havana on July 20th. This Conference will deal among other things with the economic problem concerning surplus production in the American States. This problem existed before the war, but has been accentuated by the effects of the war. Similar problems have arisen for similar reasons in British and other colonial territories. The proceedings of the Havana Conference on this subject will therefore be of interest to the British Empire; and we are anxious to see whether we can co-operate in the study of any possible solutions of these problems. H.M. Ambassador at Washington has accordingly enquired of the U.S. Government as convener of the Conference, regarding the scope of their proposals on this subject.

Our interest in the Conferences is primarily economic, but we are also interested from the point of view of the blockade in preventing supplies finding their way directly or indirectly to Germany or Italy, or to countries in German occupation. Reports have sometimes bracketed Japan with Germany and Italy in connection with our blockade, but such reports are erroneous, since Japan is a neutral country, and so long as she remains neutral we have no intention of interfering with her legitimate trade.

The Havana Conference, of course, is in no way concerned with any of these blockade questions, but will presumably take into account the facts of the war situation. Shipments from the Americans if destined for enemy or enemy-occupied countries will be intercepted by our contraband control; or if destined for a harmless neutral consignee can be facilitated by adoption of the navicert system. In the face of the ruthless German blockade of the United Kingdom, it will not be for us to relax any of our blockade measures, but rather to persevere with them to the utmost, believing that any relaxation would serve to lengthen the war.

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC WARFARE

To be checked against delivery.

11/7/40

No.24.

Not for publication before 9.15 p.m.
this (Thursday) evening.

Broadcast speech, as a Postscript to the News, by the
Minister of Information, the Rt. Hon. A. Duff Cooper,
at approximately 9.15 p.m., 11th July, 1940.

RUMOUR

Everybody wants to help to win the war and lots of people are asking every day what more they can do for the great cause.

I am going to tell you tonight of something you can do; of a way in which you can definitely render important service to your country, and I am afraid you will be disappointed when you have heard what it is, because it is nothing brave, nothing heroic, nothing dangerous, and it is negative rather than positive. You won't have to wear uniform, you won't have to carry a weapon, you won't have to get up at inconvenient hours; you won't have to be trained, or perhaps I should say, you will have to train yourselves. What I want you to do is to watch your words, to be careful what you say, and to encourage others to be careful.

The first time that I spoke on the Radio after taking up my present office, I warned you about rumour, and told you that rumour was one of the enemies we had got to fight, and I want you now to join an imaginary regiment, the Silent Column, composed of men and women who are resolved to say nothing that can help the enemy. There are three different kinds of dangerous talk: first of all, there is the talk that is depressing; those who spread gloom and despondency do definite harm; they are hurting the cause; they are delaying the victory; they are enemies - unintentional enemies probably, but enemies of our side. Do not be one of them, and when you meet one of them, stop him, cheer him up. If you cannot cheer him up, tell him what you think of him and don't mind being rude. Gloom is one of our enemies - fight against it.

The other two kinds of dangerous talk are those that give information - true information or false. True information may help the enemy, false information may hinder ourselves.

It is not an easy task I am asking you to perform. After a long day's work, or in the intervals of it, when we get together for a moment of relaxation or refreshment, we all want to talk, and naturally, and we cannot talk about much except the war. If we have got a piece of information, we love to give it, even though it may only be that one of our friends or relations who is serving in a certain ship in the Navy, or in a certain regiment in the Army, or in a certain squadron of the Air Force, has recently been moved from one locality to another. It really does not seem a matter of much importance to anybody, but there may be ears listening which are not friendly ears, or the information that you have just given may be repeated with the best intentions by one of your hearers on another occasion and eventually reach those whose business it is to carry information to the enemy, and it is out of little scraps of information of this sort, carefully pieced together that a whole picture is constructed by those who are engaged in nothing else but in finding out just how our resources are distributed, where is our strength, and where our weakness. It is a vast jigsaw puzzle that they are engaged in putting together and the smallest piece of it may prove invaluable to building up the whole.

(Over)

In the last war, raids were frequently made on the enemy's trenches with the sole object of finding out what regiment was holding them. Men's lives were risked to get these little items of information which are sometimes so carelessly thrown away.

The same is true about information concerning air raids. I think some people are disappointed that fuller accounts are not given in the Press as to where bombs have fallen and how many people were hurt, but unfortunately the enemy read our Press, the enemy listen to our broadcasts and nothing that is printed or said escapes the eyes and the ears of the enemy. The enemy airman on his return can be uncertain as to whether he dropped his bombs on Barchester or on Cranford. If we tell him which it was, he will know for another time and if we tell him how many people were hurt, we may be sure he will be delighted to hear it. We do not want to help him and we do not want to give him pleasure. That is why these things are not stated in the Press and that is why you should try to avoid stating them in conversation, especially in conversation on the telephone, to which thousands of people may be listening.

So much for the danger of spreading true reports, but spreading false reports may be equally dangerous and it is a weapon of which the Germans have made great use in the present war. Here is an example during the fighting in France. On one occasion when our troops were in a strong position to meet the enemy advance, a parachutist was dropped behind the lines and spread the rumour that the British were surrounded. He was believed, and in a few hours the roads were so blocked with refugees that military supplies and reinforcements could not reach our advanced post, and our men were cut off because they were surrounded, not by the enemy, but by the unfortunate refugees who had been driven from their homes by a false rumour.

If the Germans invade this country you may be sure they will make every use of this particular method and we must make up our minds not to believe anything that we are told on mere hearsay; to keep calm and resolute and to do what we know to be our duty, or else to await instructions from those in authority.

Join with me the ranks of the Silent Column, imposing discretion on ourselves and on all the people whom we meet. Be silent rather than say anything depressing; be silent rather than say anything which could give information to the enemy; be silent rather than spread a rumour which you do not know to be true, but otherwise talk as you will - talk of victory - talk of the grand cause for which we are fighting, talk of the horrors of Nazi rule, the cruelties they commit, the liberties they deny, talk of the land you love and the privileges you enjoy in it, and that great privilege which has now been stamped out throughout the whole of Europe, except in this little corner of it, the privilege of free speech. Like all privileges it carries with it a high responsibility and we must show ourselves worthy of that privilege by knowing how to exercise it and by saying nothing that can hurt our cause or delay our coming victory.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION.

11/7/40 - No. 25.

AIR MINISTRY NO. 1094.

AIR MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE.

Attempts by strong forces of enemy bombers escorted by fighters to attack shipping and other objectives round our coasts today (Thursday) were met with vigorous resistance. Our fighters shot down twelve enemy aircraft and damaged many more. One of our fighters was lost.

An aircraft of the Coastal Command, while on patrol in the Channel, accounted for an enemy floatplane.

In the course of the day, R.A.F. bombers have attacked military objectives in France and the Low Countries. Aerodromes, concentrations of barges and other targets were bombed. One of our aircraft is missing.

Yesterday (Wednesday) our bombers delivered a daylight attack on the aerodromes of St. Omer and Amiens. Five of our aircraft failed to return. In addition, an aircraft of coastal command was lost on patrol.

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AIR AFFAIRS.

Air Ministry News Service

ANSON SHOOTS DOWN HEINKEL

An Anson patrol aircraft of the coastal command today (Thursday) destroyed a twin-engined Heinkel float plane in the English channel.

After a running fight at a low altitude the Heinkel fell into sea and sank.

Three of its crew were seen to launch a dinghy.

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AIR AFFAIRS.

11/7/40 - NO. 27

AIR MINISTRY BULLETIN 1093
AIR MINISTRY NEWS SERVICE

DAWN RAID ON ENEMY AERODROMES

Five enemy aircraft are believed to have been destroyed, and others severely damaged, in a dawn raid on Boulogne aerodrome this (Thursday) morning by medium bombers of the R.A.F.

Diving on the aerodrome through a storm of sleet and rain, the British raiders took the ground defences completely by surprise. They were able to drop their bombs and get clear of the defences before the anti-aircraft batteries could open fire.

Releasing their bombs from a low level, the first of the attackers scored a number of hits with high explosive bombs, along one side of the aerodrome.

A second sortie following ten minutes later, attacked a concentration of about 20 enemy aircraft standing in a field at the back of some hangars.

This morning's attack was a continuation of yesterday's raids on enemy-occupied air bases when the aerodromes at St. Omer and Glisy (near Amiens) were successfully attacked by our bomber forces.

At Glisy, bombs struck the tarmac and others were seen to burst close to the main hangars.

A British bomber engaged in this raid had part of one wing shot off in an engagement with two enemy fighters, which lasted for thirty minutes before the pilot succeeded in shaking off his attackers and returning safely to his base in England.

AIR AFFAIRS

11/7/40 - No.28.

P R E S S N O T I C E .

Statements have appeared in the Press about the treatment received by Mr. J.F. Floray, an Oxfordshire farmer.

The War Office states that Mr. Floray had an interview this (Thursday) morning with Sir Edward Grigg, the Joint Under Secretary of State for War, and gave him a full account of what had occurred.

Sir Edward expressed the great regret of the Secretary of State and the Army Council for the treatment to which Mr. Floray and his family had been subjected and undertook that a full enquiry would be held and appropriate action taken by the Army Authorities.

WAR OFFICE.

Note.

It is understood that the Commander in Chief Home Forces has written a personal letter of apology to Mr. Floray.

Air Ministry No. 1095

11/7/40 - NO: 30.

AIR MINISTRY AND MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY
COMMUNIQUE

Enemy aircraft carried out attacks on towns on the South Coast this evening. Bombs were dropped, causing damage to buildings. There were some casualties, a few of which were fatal.

Our fighter aircraft and anti-aircraft guns went into action and heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy.

It can now be stated that twenty-two enemy aircraft (thirteen bombers, eight fighters and one float-plane) have been destroyed in today's operations round our coasts. Of this total, three have been accounted for by our anti-aircraft guns, eighteen by our fighters and one by a reconnaissance aircraft of Coastal Command. Many others have been so severely damaged that it is unlikely that they reached their bases.

In the course of these operations, our total losses were four fighters: and it is already known that the pilots of two of these are safe.