

MORNING BULLETIN

No. 57.

4th, October 1939.

The following statement about British contraband control is issued for the guidance of correspondents who are asked to regard it as background guidance but may make such use of it as they see fit.

The British contraband control acts with full respect for the position of neutrals. Only goods suspected of being contraband consigned to Germany are detained, and each case is ultimately decided by the Prize Court. The sittings of this Court are public, interested parties have the right to be legally represented, and decisions are given in strict accordance with the provisions of international law. If the Court decides that there was wrongful seizure, it orders restitution of the cargo to the owners or the payment of its monetary equivalent, and damages for detention may in addition be awarded against the British Government.

The normal British practice is furthermore to release neutral ships as soon as they have unloaded any cargo suspected to be contraband, and up to the present not one neutral ship has been seized. Ships would normally only be seized if there was evidence that they were being used with the knowledge of the owners for the carriage of contraband to the enemy.

The diversion and temporary detention of neutral ships while undergoing examination is inevitable owing to the impossibility under modern conditions of conducting adequate search at sea. The practice was fully recognised in the last war.

Germany, on the other hand, has now started to sink neutral ships in circumstances quite contrary to international law. Whereas the British Navy uses only surface craft to visit and search neutral ships, and, when necessary, to escort them into harbour, Germany uses submarines which by their nature are incapable of bringing captives into port.

Quite apart from the fundamental illegality of sinking a neutral ship the act is often carried out in circumstances causing or making likely serious danger to life and is thus also in flagrant violation of the provisions regulating submarine warfare against commerce laid down in the international Submarine Protocol, to which the German Government voluntarily acceded in 1936. Moreover, the German practice of sinking both neutral ships and cargo gives the neutral shipowner and merchant no chance to argue their case in a Prize Court but condemns both to certain loss.

The conclusion to be drawn is that the German method of economic warfare is now, as in the past, violent and indiscriminating, and, owing to the use of the submarine, inherently likely to cause loss of life, even where there is no deliberate intention of doing this.

The British method, on the other hand, pursued in legitimate exercise of Britain's sea-power, is directed to lawful ends and is not aimed against human life or innocent cargoes.

The instruments by which it is carried on, moreover, are such as to permit full conformity with the laws of war and to avoid loss of life or unnecessary damage.

The difference is that between what is essentially a weapon of terror, even if wielded, as it is often is, by men personally brave and gallant, and a carefully regulated system of warfare under the control of properly constituted Courts.

Sinking of the Steamer "WALMA".

The Finnish steamer "WALMA" was torpedoed by a German submarine off the West Coast of Sweden on September 23rd. This ship was laden with cellulose destined for England, and her captain received a written document from the U-boat's commander in which the nature of the cargo was given as the reason for the sinking of the ship.

A facsimile of the note written in German appeared in a Dutch newspaper. The translation reads:-

23rd September, 1939.

Certificate.

Re the holding up of the s.s. "WALINE":

1. The steamer carried timber for the firm of Price & Pierce Ltd., London, E.C.4. 27, Clements Lane.
2. The papers were taken from the captain.
3. The steamer had to be destroyed on the ground of destination of freight.

(signed) German Submarine.  
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The legal position is that nothing except the most urgent military necessity (i.e. the safety of the would-be captor) can justify the sinking of a neutral ship. In this instance there appears to have been no possible question of urgent military necessity. The carriage of contraband in no way affects the issue.

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EMPIRE ANNOUNCEMENT

South Africa's Seaward Defences.

South Africa has created a local seaward defence Corps and three companies allocated under the Cape, the Eastern Province and the Natal Commands have been established.

The decision to create these new units was taken shortly before the outbreak of war.

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FLASH NEWS.

From Foreign Affairs.

Official French Communique - Morning October 4th - 1939.

A quiet night. Artillery duels in the area South  
of Zweibruecken.

Issued through the Ministry of Information.

EMPIRE AFFAIRS ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE EMPIRES'S TOBACCO FUND

HIS MAJESTY'S PERSONAL LEAD

His Majesty the King has been first to send his personal doantion of £25.0.0. to the Tobacco Fund for our soldiers at the front.

It is being organised under the auspices of the Over-Seas League and with the approval of the War Office.

British subjects in all parts of the world, both in the Dominions, India and the Colonies, and among the large communities in foreign countries, will be sending their subscriptions to this fund, which proved one of the most valuable in the last war.

Every £1 subscribed will provide 1,000 cigarettes to the men at the Front.

The Secretary of State for War, Mr, Leslie Hore-Belisha, in a personal message of good wishes for the Tobacco Fund says:- "I am especially glad to think that the contributions will come largely from residents in His Majesty's Deominions overseas, and from British communities in foreign countries, and of course from large numbers in Great Britain. Believe me, from my personal knowledge, there is nothing more appreciated at the Front than a good supply of cigarettes"

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION.

No 1 4/10/39.

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MINISTRY OF HEALTH ANNOUNCEMENT.

HEALTH SERVICES FOR EVACUATED CHILDREN AND OTHERS.

The Minister of Health (Mr. Walter Elliot) in a circular (No.1882) issued to local authorities emphasises the importance of extending existing public health services in receiving areas to cover the needs of school children and others who have been evacuated under the official scheme.

As this is impossible in most cases without additional staff, he urges the evacuating authorities to give the utmost possible assistance by releasing such staff - for instance, medical officers, school dentists, nurses, midwives and health visitors - as may be practicable, at least, as a temporary measure.

Where an arrangement of this kind cannot be made and additional staff has to be engaged to cope with the needs of the evacuated population, the cost will not fall on the receiving authority.

The circular deals in detail with medical arrangements for school children, maternity and child welfare services and additional hospital accommodation for infectious diseases. Special mention is made of the importance of ensuring that arrangements already in force in receiving areas for the provision of cheap milk and meals for expectant and nursing mothers and young children should be available for the evacuated population.

Hostels, Sick Bays and Nurseries.

Special arrangements of a residential nature are suggested for dealing with particular classes of children or mothers whom it has been found difficult to billet with a householder in the ordinary way.

One suggestion is that "sick bay" accommodation might be provided in separate houses for children suffering from minor ailments or convalescent from more serious illnesses who cannot be properly cared for in private houses. A trained nurse should be in attendance and children should be visited regularly by a medical practitioner.

In many areas difficulty has been found in providing suitable billets for women before admission to, or discharge from, an emergency maternity home. The Minister suggests that to meet such cases local authorities should consider establishing mothers' hostels within easy reach of the maternity homes.

Accommodation of hostel type - in an empty house or other suitable premises - with a staff experienced in child guidance methods is also desirable for "problem children" who are unacceptable in ordinary billets.

In many cases it may be necessary to provide short-stay nurseries for young children who have to be temporarily separated from their mothers during the mother's illness or confinement. These nurseries should be properly staffed and be in charge of a matron qualified as a State Registered Nurse. The Minister also suggests in the circular that there will be a need for long-term residential nurseries for young children separated from their mothers for longer periods, and even for day nurseries in certain of the more populous areas. Detailed advice is given on the size, staffing, equipment and management of these nurseries.

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ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE WAR OFFICE

General Orbay, the head of the Turkish Military Mission in London, will visit the Chief of the Imperial General Staff at the War Office this afternoon.

Issued through the  
Ministry of Information.  
No 3. 4.10.39.

NAZI LEADERS BUTTER SUPPLY.

While Field Marshal Goering was asking the German people to tighten their belts and put "guns before butter" he and other Nazi leaders were receiving supplies of butter from England. Information about which there is no doubt whatever has brought to light the transmission of certain parcels to Germany of which particulars are given below.

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Field Marshal Goering has never failed in the past to proclaim the merits of the four-year plan and, in particular, the sufficiency of the food provided for every German. True, the weekly ration of butter before the war broke out was 90 grammes or less than a quarter of a pound per head per week, tho' it has now been reduced, but the Field Marshal has explained in a public speech that butter makes you fat and that the people are better without too much of it.

It seems that when the Nazi leaders came to arrange their own rations they were prepared to take a broader view of butter; and an interesting story which has now come to light and of which all the facts have been verified shows that for many months past the Field Marshal, Dr. Goebbels, and other Nazi leaders have been receiving large supplies of butter from England.

So careful have they been not to disturb the morale of their compatriots that every care has been taken to ensure that the parcels should arrive without attracting attention. But information which has reached the Government from a private source and which has been confirmed by subsequent investigation has brought the following interesting facts to light.

At weekly intervals, a dozen parcels varying in weight from two to four pounds and about the size of a hat-box have been despatched from Bradford by Mr. Arthur Hentzen, principal of a large export wool firm, the contents described as Danish butter, and paid for at a special rate and routed via Cologne. In the week before the war broke out no less than 9 such parcels were observed, 3 addressed to General Goering, Dr. Goebbels and Dr. Bergmann, the remainder going to wives of other prominent members of the Nazi Party.

Complete justification is afforded to the care taken to conceal these consignments by the strict manner in which other consignments, addressed to less important destinations, have been treated. English people with friends in Germany have at different times taken a less spartan view than the Field Marshal about the butter ration meted out their friends and have occasionally sent supplementary presents of butter which were a grateful addition to the average household menu under the Four Year Plan. But it has been a common experience in such cases either that the senders received a pathetic letter warning them to send no more parcels, lest the displeasure of the Nazi Party be incurred, or - more ominous - that no letter of acknowledgment was received and letters of enquiry were met by the silence of the concentration camp.

German workers will hardly share the disappointment of Field Marshal Goering and his friends that his schemes have been unearthed, and his supplies of butter cut off.

EMPIRE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ULSTER BEAUTY SPOT

GOVERNMENT TO USE IT FOR FOOD PRODUCTION

A large area of the beautiful estate which surrounds Northern Ireland's Parliament Buildings at Stormont, near Belfast, is to be cultivated as part of Northern Ireland's scheme for an additional 250,000 acres of tilled land, and increased food production.

The Stormont estate, which includes fine woodland and lawns, is one of Ulster's beauty spots. It is situated on the side of a hill overlooking Belfast, and contains the residences of the Prime Minister (Lord Craigavon), and the Speaker of the Ulster Commons (The Hon. H.G.H. Mulholland, M.P.)

Certain parts of the estate, the Northern Ireland Government announce, are already being used for plant-breeding, egg-laying competitions, and for grazing experiments. It has been decided to use to the best advantage the remaining portions of land suitable for ploughing.

In this way the Government are giving a strong lead to the farming community. It is hoped that Northern Ireland will be able to send large quantities of surplus foodstuffs, if they are required, to the rest of the United Kingdom.

Golf courses in Northern Ireland are also to be tilled. The Minister of Agriculture has stated that under the compulsory tillage order, the intention is that occupiers of golf courses and other extensive sports grounds where the land is suitable for cultivation, should contribute their due quota to the increased tillage area demanded by the emergency. Each such case is to be considered on its merits.

Football grounds in Northern Ireland come under the provision excepting areas under ten acres from tillage.

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BURMA DEFENCE COUNCIL.

The Burma Defence Council, the chairman of which is Sir Archibald Cochrane, Governor of Burma, has met twice to set up nine Boards - four to purchase supplies for public utilities, essential industries and the needs of the civilian population, the defence services and civilian departments; three to control the production and marketing of cereals, sugar, salt, minerals, oil and other important products, and two which will deal respectively with shipping and finance.

The Burma Defence Council was formed to decide war problems, other than those falling within the sphere of the Military Command. The former Commerce Secretary, Mr. J.H. Wise, has been appointed Controller of Supplies.

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PRESS SUPPORT FOR EGYPTIAN PREMIER.

The Egyptian Premier's appeal to Egyptians to close their ranks is warmly supported by the newspaper Al Difaa, which urges that Egypt stands in need of the virtues of organised effort and co-operation, the keys to success in every land.

Al Difaa, like Falastin, deeply deplores and condemns in the strongest terms the recent murder of Mr. E.J. Lewis, Superintendent of the Animal Hospital at Jerusalem. Mr. Lewis and his Arab orderly were the victims of bandits who fired on their car near a village outside Jerusalem on October 1st.

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BOARD OF TRADE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

(Not for radio broadcast or club tapes. Morning papers only).

TRADING WITH THE ENEMY.

NOTICE TO TRADERS AND OTHERS.

1. The Board of Trade announce that they have made an Order amending the Trading with the Enemy (Specified Persons) Order, dated September 13th. The new Order, which is called the Trading with the Enemy (Specified Persons) (Amendment) Order, comes into force today, October 5th.
2. The original Order directs that 278 persons or firms, carrying on business in various foreign countries, shall be deemed to be enemies for the purpose of the Trading with the Enemy Act. The amending Order makes 36 additions, 4 deletions, and 21 amendments.
3. Traders, shipowners and others, are accordingly warned that as from today it will be unlawful to transact business or to have other dealings with any person specified in the original Order, as amended by the Amendment Order, without official permission (which will not be granted save in very exceptional circumstances). Offenders will be liable to heavy penalties.
4. The Order has been published by His Majesty's Stationery Office under the title "The Trading with the Enemy (Specified Persons) (Amendment) Order, 1939" [Statutory Rules & Orders 1939 No. 1333] Copies may be obtained (price 1d) from any of the Sale Offices of His Majesty's Stationery Office or through any bookseller.

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As announced in the House of Commons on the 3rd October by the President of the Board of Trade, it is not the intention of the Government to proceed in the present circumstances with the British Shipping (Assistance) Bill. Since, however, it is known that certain shipowners ordered vessels to be built in the expectation of being able to obtain a loan under the Shipbuilding Loans Scheme, which formed a part of that Bill, the Board will be prepared to consider applications from shipowners for loans towards the cost of vessels of the types to which the Scheme applied and in respect of which definite orders in writing, constituting a binding commitment, were placed by shipowners between March 29th and October 3rd 1939, both dates inclusive.

The terms and conditions on which the loans will be made are substantially those which would have applied to the loans contemplated by the British Shipping (Assistance) Bill. Full particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Assistant Secretary, Mercantile Marine Department, Board of Trade, Great George Street, London, S.W.1. All applications must be made on or before Wednesday, October 25th. No application received after that date can be considered.

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## A REGISTER FOR CAMOUFLAGE WORKERS

The numerous applications which have so far been received from artists and others wishing to offer their services for civil and industrial camouflage work have now been examined by a Selection Committee with a view to the compilation of a section of the Central Register now being prepared by the National Service Department of the Ministry of Labour.

It is considered that this register of qualified persons for employment on camouflage work in time of war which will now be included in the Central Register is now sufficient for present needs and further applications for enrolment cannot therefore be considered by the Camouflage Division of the Ministry of Home Security.

### FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Polish Ambassador in London has informed His Majesty's Government that M. Ignacy Moscicki promulgated an audience on the 17th September designating in accordance with article 24, paragraph 1 of the constitutional law of Poland M. Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz, former President of the Senate, as the future successor of the President of the Republic should that office become vacant before the conclusion of peace.

The Polish Ambassador had further informed His Majesty's Government that M. Moscicki has resigned his functions as President of the Polish Republic which have been assumed by M. Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz.

His Majesty's Government have acknowledged these communications and have thus given recognition to M. Raczkiewicz as President of the Republic of Poland.

### INDIA OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENT

#### INDIA'S RESOURCES

#### CONTROL OF KEY COMMODITIES

The Government of India are issuing a notification providing for the control of exports which will consolidate three existing notifications relating to the conservation of supplies. It will include a new list of exports which are key commodities in the economic life of the enemy and which must be prevented from reaching him through neutral countries.

The list will include such important articles of India's trade as cotton and jute, both raw and manufactured; wool manufactures (the export of raw wool is already restricted); hides and skins; mineral oils; castor oil; coconut oil; all oil seeds and oil cakes; mica; raw rubber; tanning substances; manganese ore and iron or steel up to the semi-manufactured stage.

Exports to non-British destinations will require licenses, but for the present licenses will be granted freely for shipments to all countries in America, to almost all countries in Asia (including Japan and China), and to France, Portugal, Turkey and Egypt.

Licenses for exports to neutral countries in Europe will be issued up to the limit of normal exports to those countries. Measures have been taken to reduce to the minimum the trouble that exporters will have in obtaining licenses, which will be issued by the Customs authorities.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION - No.5. - 4.10.39.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, NO.5, 4.10.39.

RELINQUISHED GREAT WAR PENSIONS.

It is learnt from the Minister of Pensions that, since the outbreak of war, several public spirited persons have voluntarily relinquished the whole or part of their Great War pensions.

In one case an officer living abroad has given up, for the duration of the present war, his wound pension and disability retired pay amounting to £126 a year: in another a widow entitled to pension at the rate of £2.11s.0d. a week has asked that this should be reduced by one half; in a third a mother has relinquished the whole of her small pension of 5s.0d. a week, awarded to her in respect of the death of her son.

In each case the Minister has sent a personal letter expressing the high appreciation of His Majesty's Government for this generous and patriotic action, of which evidence is abundantly shown in the following extracts from pensioners' letters:-

"I am willing to give up my pension if it is any help to my Country at this time."

"Having now got over my disability I have now been passed as fit and have joined the .....  
Therefore I am giving up my pension as I have been and put my services to fight for my King and Country again."

"As, owing to my disability, I am unable to take any part in National Service, I am returning my Pension Book for cancellation during the time the war lasts in the hope that, by doing so, it will help at least a little, in the service of my Country."

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Minister of Labour and National Service, Mr. Ernest Brown, today (Wednesday) presided over a conference of the Trades Union Congress General Council and of the British Employers' Confederation to discuss the formation of a joint committee to advise the Government on matters in which employers and workers have a common interest.

It was decided that a small number of representatives from each side should meet at an early date with a view to examining the scope to be covered by such a committee as was proposed and its method of operation.

Issued through the Ministry of Information.

No. 6/4.10.1939.

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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ANNOUNCEMENT.

COUNCILS RESPOND TO NEW ALLOTMENT DRIVE

500,000 War-time Kitchen Gardens

Although it is only a fortnight since the local authorities of England and Wales were given special powers to acquire additional land for allotments, a most satisfactory response is already evident.

It is obviously too early to quote any figures, for fresh land cannot be acquired and put to use in a day. But the number of enquiries the Ministry of Agriculture has received and the spirit in which they are being made suggest that the local authorities as a whole are not only willing but anxious to do all they can to provide war-time allotments for those who require them. Some Councils, such as Manchester and Leeds, had anticipated the Ministry's action and were establishing more holders on plots before special powers were granted.

Five hundred thousand new allotment holders are the immediate aim. This will bring our total up to over 1,300,000 allotments. In the last war, it may be remembered, we created 250,000 new allotments. This was good business from the national point of view. But this time we hope to do better.

Unoccupied land may now be taken over by local authorities for allotments, also common land with the Minister's consent. Other land will, as a general rule, be taken only at rents which will enable the authority to recoup itself by a reasonable charge for rent to the allotment holders.

In exceptional cases councils may undertake necessary work, such as fencing, to adapt the land for cultivation. The Ministry of Agriculture may re-imburse them up to £2 per acre for such work. But as a general rule a notice under the heading "Defence Regulations" warning off trespassers should dispense with the need for fencing. By these methods it is hoped to provide at least 500,000 additional war-time kitchen gardens.

No. M.A.F.49  
M.I.7

4th October, 1939.

Issued through the Ministry of Information

DOMINIONS OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENT.

NOTE FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE PRESS

TO BE USED IN ANY FORM THE PRESS THINKS FIT.

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The arrangement announced today for meetings between Ministers here and Ministers representing other Governments of the British Commonwealth is for the purpose of consultation, co-ordination and co-operation.

There is, and can be, no question of departing from the well recognised principle that executive responsibility remains with the several Governments individually.

This principle has been made abundantly clear by the constitutional developments of the last fifteen years, and by the passing of the Statute of Westminster.

But the fact that this is the position only emphasises the need for constant consultation by all practicable methods, especially when vital issues are at stake, and when the members of the British Commonwealth are concentrating all their energies on a common task.

ISSUED THROUGH THE  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

NO. 8.-4/10/39.

CONTRABAND WEEKLY REPORT

During the week ending September 30th the British contraband control intercepted and detained approximately 33,000 tons of goods in respect of which there was evidence that they were contraband consigned to Germany.

The total includes:-

|       |      |    |                  |
|-------|------|----|------------------|
| 8,600 | tons | of | haematite ore.   |
| 6,700 | "    | "  | copra.           |
| 6,000 | "    | "  | phosphates.      |
| 2,300 | "    | "  | oilseeds.        |
| 1,400 | "    | "  | fibres.          |
| 1,100 | "    | "  | gums and resins. |
| 1,000 | "    | "  | oils and fats.   |
| 870   | "    | "  | cotton.          |
| 830   | "    | "  | copper ore.      |
| 800   | "    | "  | rubber.          |
| 600   | "    | "  | fodder.          |
| 500   | "    | "  | lead.            |

and a number of consignments of chemicals, foodstuffs, silk, wool, tanning materials, timber and hides and skins.

This brings the total quantity of cargoes intercepted during the first four weeks of war up to a total of 289,000 tons.

During the first weeks a great proportion of the cargoes intercepted had been consigned openly to Germany before the war began. Few more such cargoes can now be expected and the next weeks may therefore show a decline in the total quantities of goods seized. Such a decline would itself constitute an indication of the success of the British contraband control, as showing that Germany is now effectively cut off from practically all her overseas sources of supply. But it remains the object of the contraband control to intercept all cargoes of suspected contraband for Germany, and, while account will be taken of the bona fide trading needs of neutral countries, all consignments will be carefully watched for any evidence of ultimate enemy destination.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY

OF INFORMATION

No. 9 - 4/10/39.

MINISTRY OF PENSIONS ANNOUNCEMENT

Lord Horder, G.C.V.O. F.R.C.P. etc., has, at the invitation of the Minister of Pensions, accepted appointment as Honorary Consulting Physician to the Ministry.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION No. 10 - 4/10/39.

1.

BROADCAST SPEECH BY MINISTER OF ECONOMIC  
WARFARE AT 4.15. p.m. on October 4th.

Economic Warfare.

It is not everyone who knows what is meant by Economic Warfare. But when I tell you it is what is often called "blockade", you will have some idea of what I am going to talk about. Let me say first, however, that "blockade" is not an accurate description of what we're doing. Economic warfare is the term that correctly describes our business, and I am going to tell you something about how it is carried on, and why it is one of the most important weapons in the British armoury. First, let me emphasise that an army in the field requires a far greater body of men behind the lines who transport the, to the front, who repair and service its tanks and its aeroplanes and import and process the raw materials necessary for the manufacture of all its complex weapons of war. It isn't possible to quote any exact proportion between an army in the field and its industrial army behind the front, because obviously you need far more men to produce and keep in action a tank or an aeroplane than you require to keep an infantryman equipped. But modern armies are so highly mechanised that what I can state positively is that they depend on a far greater industrial output than was ever needed by any army in the past.

It follows from this that if we can strike at Germany's chain of armament production to such an extent as to cripple the power of her army to carry on the war, we shall deal her just as deadly a blow as any that can be delivered in the front line.

That is economic warfare. And the next question is; How is it carried on? Well, it is carried on in the main by trying to prevent the German Government from importing

to be able to prolong the war. Our power to do this is based on the fact that our Navy has the command of the seas. Our right to do it is derived from those belligerent rights which international law entitles us as a combatant to exercise.

The first thing that we did was to set up a number of contraband control bases, three in the United Kingdom, at Weymouth, the North Foreland and Kirkwall in the Orkneys, and two in the Mediterranean at Gibraltar and Haifa. We informed all neutral Governments and we asked all shipping coming into these areas to call voluntarily at one of the bases. The Navy at the same time started constant patrols off the coasts with the right to intercept on the high seas all shipping which did not call voluntarily at a base. Whenever necessary naval vessels escort a merchant ship into a base for examination. Every ship, whether calling voluntarily or whether brought in to a base, is boarded by an examining officer who notes full details of the ship's manifest of cargo and reports them immediately to London. It is then the task of the Ministry of Economic Warfare to examine each case for evidence whether or not the cargo is destined for Germany, and whether or not that cargo comes within the classes of goods which we have proclaimed to be contraband. When the available evidence is collected, the case is referred to the Contraband Committee. The Committee, which has been set up by the Ministry, meets daily under the Chairmanship of that distinguished judge, Lord Finlay. The Committee gives its decision whether the goods should be released, seized or detained for further enquiries; instructions in accordance with this decision are sent down to the port, and the necessary action is at once taken. When the decision is release, the ship is given a pass to facilitate its onward passage; when it is seizure, that part of the cargo which is regarded as contraband is unloaded and, as soon as this has

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been done, the ship is allowed to proceed. Neutral ships would only themselves be seized if evidence was available that they were being used with the knowledge of the owners for the carriage of /contraband to Germany. Practically no neutral ships now attempt to sail to Germany's North Sea ports and shipowners may frequently not be aware that cargoes which they are carrying to neutral ports are in reality destined to be forwarded on to Germany.

The next step is for any cargo seized to be handed over to the custody of the Admiralty Marshal, who has charge of it until the Prize Court sits and gives its decision. The Ministry of Economic Warfare is, so to speak, the detective; the Navy is the policeman who makes the arrest; and in the end every case must be decided by the Judge in the Prize Court, which sits in the Royal Courts of Justice in London. The sittings of this Court are public, all interested parties have the right to be represented and the Court gives its decision, whether it is for seizure or for restitution, in accordance with the strict principles of international law.

So far in the first four weeks of war, we have intercepted and detained 289,000 tons of goods, in respect of which there was evidence that they were contraband consigned to Germany. This total includes:-

81,500 tons of iron ore, including haematite ore.  
62,000 tons of petroleum products.  
37,000 tons of manganese ore.  
21,500 tons of aluminium ore,  
and important quantities of rubber, lead, copper and other vital commodities.

French figures at the moment are only available for the first three weeks of war, but during that period the total of contraband intercepted by the French Navy amounted to over 100,00 tons, including 24,000 tons of liquid fuel. Now that gives you the achievements of the first 3 or 4 weeks, but you must realise that economic warfare cannot be expected to produce quick results, and one good reason for this is that

Germany had accumulated considerable stocks of material before the war. But what we have done is to cut her off from the day when war broke out from many of her sources of supply, and with every day that passes her stocks are being drained and she is finding it increasingly difficult to replace them.

There is another aspect to economic warfare about which I would like to say a few words. Neutral countries are naturally anxious to see that their interests and needs are recognised. I need hardly tell you that we fully appreciate this. As soon as war broke out, we declared that we were anxious to take account of the legitimate trading requirements of neutral countries, and we informed neutral governments that we would gladly consider any suggestions which they might care to make to us. Britain seeks to maintain her own exports at the highest possible level and from the very beginning we have done, and are doing, all in our power to ensure the continuance of the friendliest trading relations with neutral states to our mutual benefit.

Naturally we do not desire to prevent neutrals from importing foodstuffs and other goods and materials for their own people. Nor do we wish to cause more than the inevitable minimum of inconvenience to neutral shipping at our control bases. Already we have opened talks with several neutral Governments and a number of missions have come over from neutral countries to carry on discussions with us. These discussions are taking place in the friendliest atmosphere and we hope in certain cases to be able to come to arrangements which will still further simplify the procedure of contraband control.

In the meantime Germany has been flooding neutral countries with a mixed stream of assurances, protests and threats. Latterly she has begun to translate these threats into action and nearly every day brings the news of a fresh sinking by German submarines of neutral shipping under.....

circumstances/

circumstances clearly contrary to international law. Just contrast this with our methods. What a contrast there is between these German sinkings and the fact that at our hands neutrals have suffered neither loss of life nor loss of ships!

I am often reminded how true today is a verse in the poem of the Walrus and the Carpenter in Alice Through the Looking Glass, when the walrus gobbled up the oysters and wept for the poor oysters as he eat them -- Hitler and his U-boats gobbling up the neutral ships are very much the same.

This is the verse:-

"I weep for you, the walrus said,

"I deeply sympathise.

"With sobs and tears he sorted out

"Those of the largest size,

"Holding his pocket handkerchief

"Before his streaming eyes".

Neutral countries must judge for themselves from which side comes the threat to their neutrality and independence.

I for one have no doubt as to how they will answer.

These then are the two main objectives for which we are working; the prevention of the passage of contraband to the enemy, and at the same time the maintenance of the friendliest relations with neutrals. In our task we are being immensely helped by our representatives abroad, and I should like too to take this opportunity of paying a tribute to the tremendous assistance which we are receiving from the Dominions and from all those British subjects and British firms overseas, who are so patriotically furnishing us with such important help at the present time.

One last word. In economic warfare, as on the field of the battle, the closest co-operation is essential with our Allies. We have here in the Ministry of Economic Warfare a permanent French liaison mission. At its head is the

distinguished/

distinguished French public servant and writer, Monsieur Paul Morand. We work together in daily contact to achieve the most complete co-ordination of our work. Germany has her weaknesses. Already she is 389,000 tons short of vital commodities and, though we realise that the road is long, allied pressure will be kept up with the relentless object of making it impossible for the German Government to obtain those essential materials without which she cannot continue to manufacture the weapons of war for her armies.

German propoganda tells the world that we are trying to starve ~~the neutrals~~. Who can believe that we waste our effort in torturing our friends ? The truth is too obvious to be disbelieved. We seek to prevent Germany having the weapons with which to destroy the flesh and blood of our folk. And we seek to prevent her from establishing a hegemony in Europe, under which countries which today are free would lose their liberty of speech, their liberty of action and even their very liberty of existence.

Issued through the  
Ministry of Information

cto. 11. 4/10/39

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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ANNOUNCEMENT.

STATE VETERINARY SERVICE: APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHIEF  
VETERINARY OFFICER

The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries has appointed Major A. Douglas, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M. to the post of Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer (acting) in the State Veterinary Service in succession to the late Mr. R. Simpson, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M. Major Douglas was formerly Chief Veterinary Inspector, Ayrshire County Council, and on the transfer of veterinary functions from Local Authorities to the Ministry under Part IV of the Agriculture Act, 1937 was appointed a Superintending Inspector in the State Veterinary Service in charge of an Area comprising the counties of Ayr, Kirkcudbright and Wigtown.

Issued through the Ministry  
of Information.

No. M.A.F. 50  
M.I. 12

4th October, 1939.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION IN ANY FORM BEFORE MORNING PRESS OCTOBER 5TH.

BOARD OF TRADE ANNOUNCEMENT.

Trading with the Enemy Act, 1939.

All persons responsible for keeping in the United Kingdom any register branch register or other record of the allotment or transfer of any annuities stock shares bonds debentures or debenture stock are reminded that under Section 5 of the above Act it is an offence to take cognisance of or otherwise act upon any allotment or transfer of any such securities (except with the consent of the Board of Trade) to or for the benefit of an enemy subject or of any transfer by or on behalf of an enemy.

In their own interests, therefore, the persons in charge of any such registers should in the absence of the express authority of the Board of Trade decline to act on any allotment letter or transfer which is not accompanied by a declaration signed by the transferor that he is not an enemy as defined in the Act or by a declaration signed by the applicant for shares or by the transferee (as the case may be) that he is not an enemy subject and that he is not acting on behalf of an enemy subject or for the benefit of an enemy subject.

An enemy is defined in Section 2 (1) of the Act as meaning:-

- (a) Any State or Sovereign of a State at war with His Majesty;
- (b) Any individual resident in enemy territory;
- (c) Any body of persons (whether corporate or unincorporate) carrying on business in any place if and so long as the body is controlled by a person who, under the section, is an enemy: or
- (d) Any body of persons constituted or incorporated in or under the laws of a State at war with His Majesty:

but does not include any person by reason only that he is an enemy subject.

MINISTRY OF FOOD ANNOUNCEMENT

EXPORT OF PILCHARD

The Ministry of Food announce that the restriction on the export of pilchard has been removed.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

No. 14 - 4/10/39.

EMPIRE ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE MAIN RIFLES SPECIAL BATTALION TO BE  
FORMED IN N. 3.

It is learnt from New Zealand that the Ministry of Defence announced today that it has been decided to form a rifle battalion from members of the Maori race for service in or beyond New Zealand as combatant troops.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY  
OF INFORMATION.

No. 15 - 4, 10, 39.

EMPIRE ANNOUNCEMENT.

HOW WAR CAME TO TANGANYIKA.

Governor says Natives Execrate Hitler's Name.

A despatch from Sir Mark Young, Governor of the Tanganyika Territory, has now reached Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, Secretary for the Colonies, which gives, in detail, the steps promptly taken by the Tanganyika Government on the outbreak of war. From this despatch it is clear that the situation was smoothly and efficiently handled throughout the Territory.

In Dar es Salaam, as in other parts of the Territory, the arrest of enemy nationals began as soon as we were at war. On August 26th the German Consul had called a meeting at the German Club in Dar es Salaam and instructed his community to give no trouble. Many Germans voluntarily handed in their arms and ammunition before the war began. No resistance was offered by enemy nationals and, for the most part, they submitted cheerfully and good-humouredly.

On September 3rd and succeeding days the various Districts reported the completion of arrests. The rounding-up of Germans in the Territory was carried out without any untoward incident and with no dislocation of native life. Women dependents and children of the internees were advised where possible to remain on their farms, and many are doing so. Certain of them who are unable to provide for themselves are being maintained by the Government.

On September 3rd a special meeting of the Legislative Council was held, and a loyal Resolution offering "whole-hearted and willing support" to the Empire's Cause was carried with acclamation.

From all areas in the Territory reports indicate that the attitude, both of the native and non-native population, is reassuring. Everywhere the declaration of War by His Majesty's Government was received with relief by the British people. European neutrals have expressed their sympathy with our cause and good wishes for its success. Indians, Arabs and Natives have co-operated loyally. The name of Hitler is widely execrated in the Territory among the native elements.

The Governor pays a tribute to the valuable services which were rendered by officers of the military forces and civil administration during the period covered by his despatch. The work of preparation and the execution of the Territory's plans for immediate action on the outbreak of war with Germany have been carried out, he states, in a most praiseworthy manner by the officers primarily responsible and by their staffs.

MINISTRY OF FOOD ANNOUNCEMENT

Control of Oilseeds, Vegetable Oils and Fats  
and Marine Oils

An Order has been made to-day by the Ministry of Food the effect of which is to bring under complete control as from midnight on Saturday, 7th October, the industries engaged in the crushing or extracting of oil from oilseeds, nuts and kernels and in the refining of vegetable and marine oils.

On and after 8th October all imports of oilseeds, oils and fats specified in the Order will be requisitioned on arrival in this country. All stocks in excess of 5 tons owned by Brokers, Merchants, Seed Crushers, Oil Refiners, Oil Hydrogenators, Margarine Manufacturers and Compound Cooking Fat Manufacturers will also be requisitioned.

Persons owning stocks in the United Kingdom of the specified oilseeds, oils and fats in excess of 5 tons or owning any stocks situated outside the United Kingdom, must, as soon as possible after 8th October, furnish a return to the Ministry of Food showing the quantities in their possession at the close of business on Saturday 7th October. The return must also include all oilseeds and oils afloat to the United Kingdom.

Persons owning stocks abroad must comply with such directions as may be given by the Ministry of Food for the purpose of securing that the ownership is transferred to the Ministry.

The order also includes the licence provisions set out in the Oilseeds, Vegetable<sup>Oils</sup> and Fats (Provisional Control) Order of the 4th September and Amending Order of the 11th September and the Marine Oil and Fats (Provisional Control) Order and Amending Order of the same dates.

These Provisional Control Orders are revoked without prejudice to any proceedings in respect of any contravention of the Orders. Also any licences granted under these Orders will continue in force.

Every effort will be made to meet the requirements of the various users of vegetable and Marine Oils and in order to ensure a fair distribution of supplies, a system of Buying Permits is being introduced. An Official Buying Permit must be produced to the Suppliers before any supplies can be obtained. In the case of small users of Linseed Oil and refined fish oils (other than Whale Oil), who purchase their requirements from Wholesalers or linseed oil refiners or fish oil refiners, supplies can be obtained until further notice without the production of a Buying Permit.

Details of the arrangements for obtaining Buying Permits are set out in Oils and Fats Memo. No.1., copies of which may be obtained from the Ministry of Food, Oils and Fats Branch, Great Westminster House, London, S.W.1.

The object of this complete control of the crushing and refining industries is to safeguard the supplies of raw materials for the margarine and compound cooking fats industries, and to ensure economical production at all stages. It will also prevent wide fluctuations in the prices of margarine and manufactured cooking fats and should enable these fats which are vital to the community to be sold at reasonable prices.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY  
OF INFORMATION

-- No. 17 - 4. 10. 39.

FROM THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY.

ARMY GREATCOATS.

LORD WOOLTON'S STATEMENT.

In response to Press enquiries, the following account of the situation in respect of Army greatcoat deliveries was given by Lord Woolton, Director-General of Equipment and Stores at the Ministry of Supply to-day;

"Cloth required for Army greatcoats is of a type not made in large quantities in this or any other country in normal peace times. This Spring it was decided to increase the size of the Army. This involved demands for this special cloth greatly beyond the peace-time productive capacity of the trade.

"The War Office at once set to work to bring in new sources of supply, new manufacturers were called upon to experiment in making this cloth. In peace time not more than 500,000 yards are required in a year. Since April we have placed orders for millions of yards of this material. More manufacturers are now able to make it.

"Deliveries for the week ending 15th September this year were a record. In the following week they increased by 20%. By the end of September they had increased by 50%.

"Deliveries of overcoats have increased even more rapidly; during one week in September they were trebled. Between the 8th and 29th September deliveries were increased nearly eightfold.

"The making up of greatcoats has been in the hands in peace time of a very few manufacturers. It has been necessary to increase enormously the number of manufacturers engaged and contracts have been placed for a vast number of greatcoats for delivery before the end of November.

"But these making-up firms have had their teething troubles like everybody else; some time expired before the new people were able to produce a satisfactory garment. They are producing a very satisfactory garment now.

"Then, again, there has been difficulty in obtaining the precise dye to dye the thread and in getting sewings.

"Buttons alone presented a big problem. Even if the industry had known long before that the Army would be increased and that such vast quantities would be needed, the industry could not possibly have afforded to maintain machinery for production in anticipation of demand.

"If it had not been for these teething troubles there would have been no shortage. Actually, had the quantity of greatcoats ordered and promised for delivery by the end of October been delivered we should have had a considerable surplus in stock. As it is, in spite of some unavoidable delay, it is confidently expected that there will be full supplies by the middle of November."

"A thousand and one adjustments have to be made all the time, especially during the initial stages while the work of supply on its greatly expanded basis goes forward. It is only natural that this should be so when suddenly industry is called upon to produce in a few months quantities normally taking many years to supply.

"No doubt there will be many more examples of failure to meet such suddenly increased demands. However, if our critics will be patient they can be assured that nothing is being neglected. It is not saying too much to add that relatively today we are infinitely better off than we were in the early days of the last war.

"Every soldier in the British Army on August 30th, for instance, was fully equipped except for greatcoats and they were coming along at the greatly increased rates I have mentioned. Nobody has gone abroad without a great-coat.

"There has, of course, been no division of opinion at all on this subject as between the War Office and the Ministry of Supply. From the start we have been working together. Before I became a member of the Supply Council of the new Ministry of Supply I was myself honorary Adviser to the War Office on Army textile and clothing supplies."

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY

OF INFORMATION

No.18 - 4.10.39.

FROM MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY

The Home Office announces that it has been decided not to maintain control over passenger traffic between the Isle of Man and Great Britain. It will, therefore, no longer be necessary for travellers to the Island to provide themselves with documents or to obtain Exit Permits.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY  
OF INFORMATION

No. 19 - 4.10.39.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH ANNOUNCEMENT.

HOARDING OF OXYGEN  
AND  
NITROUS OXIDE CYLINDERS.

The Ministry of Health wishes to remind hospitals, private individuals, and industrial concerns that it is contrary to the national interest for them to hoard oxygen and nitrous oxide cylinders, whether filled or empty.

While there has been a definite response to the appeal made at the beginning of September, the Ministry is informed that there appears to be a renewed tendency to hold undue supplies.

The adequacy of the existing supplies can only be ensured if cylinders are not held in excess of actual requirements and if they are kept in constant circulation. Empty cylinders should be returned with the minimum of delay to the suppliers by whom they were issued.

ISSUED THROUGH THE  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION.

No. 20 - 4/10/39.

SCOTTISH OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. A.G. Erskine-Hill, K.C., M.P., has been  
appointed Parliament Private Secretary (unpaid)  
to the Lord Advocate.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY

OF INFORMATION

No. 21. - 4.10.39.

For publication only in Morning Papers of THURSDAY, 5th OCTOBER, 1939, and for broadcast at 8 a.m. on THURSDAY 5th October, 1939.

FROM THE MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY

NEED I GO ON CARRYING MY GAS-MASK?

In general, members of the public have responded admirably to the advice given by the Government at the outbreak of hostilities that they should carry their gas masks with them always. Indeed, the carton or carrier has become such a familiar part of our everyday equipment that when you meet anybody without one, you wonder for a moment what is wrong with his appearance. Questions are, however, being asked whether it is really necessary to continue to go always armed with a gas mask, and whether the risk of damage by wear and tear, which might render the mask useless, is not greater than the possible risk of being caught without it in emergency.

Nothing in the existing situation would warrant any general relaxation of this precaution, and all those who live or work in evacuation or neutral areas are advised not to discontinue a habit to which they have now become so well accustomed, except in so far as they may act on the suggestion, put forward recently, that it is unnecessary to carry your gas mask with you if you are to be separated from it only for a very short while.

In the reception areas, however, where the risks are substantially less, the situation is rather different; in particular, the conditions of life and work in rural areas render the gas mask more liable to the risk of damage by exposure to the weather than do the conditions of urban life. Those who are living in reception areas need not, therefore, feel under the same necessity to carry their gas masks always with them. It should, however, be noted that in the event of leaving home to stay away for any period, they should take their gas masks with them.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY  
OF INFORMATION

- No. 22 - 4.10.39.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FLASH

French Official Communique: Oct. 4. night.

"There were patrols and ambushes at several points of the front. The enemy have attempted a raid to the south of Pirmasens, and have been repulsed.

"One of our submarines has seized a German merchant ship and taken her into port".

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY  
OF INFORMATION

- No. 23 - 4. 10. 39.