

MINISTRY OF FOOD ANNOUNCEMENT.

Margarine and Cooking Fats (Requisition) Order, 1939.

The Ministry of Food announces that, in connection with control of the margarine and cooking fats industries, which came into force at midnight, October 7th/8th, an Order has been made requisitioning all stocks of margarine and cooking fats owned by margarine and cooking fats manufacturers.

All imports of these commodities will also be requisitioned on arrival in this country.

After the 8th October all dealings in margarine and cooking fats situated abroad are prohibited, except under licence.

Manufacturers of margarine and cooking fats, and persons holding stocks of margarine and cooking fats situated abroad, or afloat to the United Kingdom, must make a return forthwith to the Ministry of Food, Oils and Fats Branch, Great Westminster House, London, S.W.1., giving details of their stocks at the close of business on the 7th October.

The Margarine and Cooking Fats (Provisional Control) Order dated 4th September will remain in force.

Margarine and cooking fats may not, therefore, be sold at prices higher than the average prices ruling during the seven days preceding the 4th September.

FOR MONDAY'S PAPERS ONLY.

MINISTRY OF FOOD ANNOUNCEMENT

Claims for Compensation in respect of Requisitioned Tea.

Compensation may now be claimed by traders in respect of tea requisitioned by the Government on 5th September, 1939. Forms and full particulars can be obtained on application to the Tea Control Committee (Selling Section), Plantation House, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

No. 2 - 8/10/39

FLASH NEWS.

French Official Communique issued this morning says:-

The night was quiet. Our fire has driven back enemy patrols south-west of Saarbrucken.

Issued through The Ministry of Information. No 3.-8/10/39.

PASSED BY R.A.F. CENSOR
EXPLOIT OF THREE R.A.F. MACHINES
A FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT'S GRAPHIC STORY
HOW SIEGFRIED LINE WAS PHOTOGRAPHED

WITH THE R.A.F.

BY "EYE-WITNESS"

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE.

Three R.A.F. 'planes have surveyed nearly twenty miles of the Siegfried Line at a height rarely exceeding 100 feet.

Throughout the whole of this amazing exploit, they were fired at once only - by an ordinary machine-gun - and they took a wonderful series of photographs of the German fortifications.

In an R.A.F. mess here the leader of the formation, a slim fair-haired young flight lieutenant, told me of the astonishing things he had seen.

"Most of all", he declared, "I was impressed by the obviously unfinished state of the Siegfried Line. It was absurdly easy to pick out, because the grass has not yet had time to grow again over the scarred earth.

"In many places we saw mounds of freshly-thrown up earth and white patches where they had been burrowing in the chalky soil.

"At the same time, however, we saw no one actually at work on it. In one place we flew right over a huge gun which a group of men were camouflaging. I could distinctly see them gaping up at us with their paintpots in their hands, apparently unable to move.

"Only when we were right past them did they seem to recover from their astonishment. Then some of them waved their hands and others went racing back to the nearby huts.

"It was just after this that we were fired on by a machine-gun.

"In another place we flew over a camp. Men came crowding out of the huts, and here too it looked as though they were waving at us - though of course they might have been shaking their fists.

"We passed many villages, but I did not see a single civilian inhabitant. Nearly always the streets were quite deserted, though sometimes soldiers were strolling about looking up at us.

"We saw parked lorries, cows in fields, a train in a station, and many of the signs of ordinary life, but no one about except soldiers".

The Flight-Lieutenant was frankly mystified by some of the things he saw - curious unidentifiable mounds and pits and emplacements in fields and woods; strangely-large barns, all of exactly the same pattern, on the outskirts of many villages; peculiar experiments in camouflage technique; suspicious-looking new buildings and concrete turrets among the huddles of ancient steep-pitched roofs; sometimes what might have been complete dummy villages.

He flew over miles of dense forest that might have concealed anything, but often on the fringe of the trees he could make out gun emplacements or spot concrete roadways leading apparently to nowhere.

Not once was an anti-aircraft gun fired at them. No single German plane appeared to molest them.

The British airmen can offer no explanation of this strange reluctance on the part of the Germans to protect the secrets of their line.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION.

No.4.

8/10/39.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ANNOUNCEMENT.

Foot and Mouth Disease in Dorset.

The existence of Foot and Mouth Disease was confirmed to-day among cattle at West Morden, Dorset. An Order has been issued, which is now in force, prohibiting the movement, except by licence, of all cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and deer within approximately fifteen miles of the infected premises. The area subject to restrictions lies principally in the county of Dorset, but small parts of the area are situated in the counties of Hampshire and Wiltshire.

For Monday morning papers, and
B.B.C. Sunday evening news
bulletin.

ISSUED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION.

No. 5.

8/10/39.

FLASH - 7.40.

ANGLO BELGIAN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

Negotiations between the Belgian Trade Delegation which has been visiting London and the British Authorities have been making good progress.

The object of the negotiations is to reduce to the minimum any temporary adverse effects on Belgium of the measures taken by Great Britain to cut off supplies going to Germany through Belgian ports.

A report broadcast this evening by the German wireless, to the effect that the negotiations had broken down, is thus completely untrue.

Equally misinformed is the German statement that the object of the negotiations is "to relax the blockade of neutrals". There is, naturally, no "blockade" of any neutral country. The British Government desire to maintain the friendliest relations with Belgium to their mutual advantage. At the same time they will continue to intercept cargoes destined to support Germany's war effort, even if these are on their way to Germany through Belgium.

This raises questions of the utmost complexity which cannot be settled quickly. The Belgian negotiators have therefore returned to Brussels for a few days to consult with their Government, and the British negotiators are using the interval for the same purpose.

FLASH

ADMIRALTY ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Admiralty announce that at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday October 5th, His Majesty the King, attended by Commander Harold Campbell, D.S.O., R.N., left Euston on a visit to a portion of the Fleet and its auxiliaries at the Northern base. His Majesty returned to London at 12.35 on Sunday October 8th.

The King visited representative vessels of the Fleet and inspected officers and men of ships of different classes including armed merchant cruisers, cruisers of the Northern patrol, and officers and men of base ships, tugs and Royal Fleet and other Auxiliaries.

Opportunity was taken to visit one of the Northern air stations and a shore base establishment. Here the King inspected officers and ratings of the Mine Sweeping and Patrol vessels, drifters and tugs.

On conclusion of the visit, the following signals were exchanged between His Majesty the King and the Commander-in-Chief Home Fleet.

"I am very glad to have had this early opportunity of visiting a portion of the Fleet and its Auxiliaries at the Northern base.

"Having visited representative ships and establishments I have been much impressed by the keen and cheerful spirit that unites you in a determination to bring the war to a successful conclusion. Your task may be long and arduous, but I have every confidence in your ultimate success.

"Please convey to all those under your command my high appreciation of their efforts and my sincere good wishes for a safe return to their homes."

Reply "Officers and men of the Home Fleet and Auxiliaries with humble duty thank your Majesty for your gracious message and the great honour of your visit. On their behalf I wish to assure your Majesty of their constant loyalty and devotion. However long and arduous the task may be, they will not swerve from their determination to do their utmost to ensure victory."

AIR MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT.

Read Out 10.2. p.m.

Royal Air Force reconnaissance aircraft on patrol over the North Sea encountered a flying boat of the German Air Force today. A combat took place and the German flying boat was shot down.

After the combat the pilot of one of the R.A.F. aircraft saw the German crew in the sea clinging to the wreckage of their flying boat. A ship in the vicinity was directed to the rescue, and our aircraft resumed its patrol.

ISSUED THROUGH THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION.

NO.10. - 8/10/39.

FLASH.

FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

French official communique, evening
October 8th:-

Surprise evening attacks in the region East
of the Moselle have been repulsed. There has
been artillery action by both sides to the south
and south-west of Sarrelouis.

ISSUED THROUGH THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION.

NO. 9. - 8/10/39.