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Air Ministry News Service

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HURRI-BOMBERS ATTACK CHANNEL CONVOY

An enemy convoy off the French coast was attacked by two bomb-carrying Hurricanes of Fighter Command during the night, and a large merchant ship was left stationary and listing.

The first Hurricane pilot was flying north-west of Calais when he sighted the merchant ship, strongly escorted. From 1,000 feet he made a 45 degree dive to mast height. As he turned and pulled out of his dive, he saw the flashes of his bombs on the large ship.

In the face of intense flak the pilot, a Canadian, made more approaches to the convoy and machine-gunned an E-boat, seeing strikes all over it.

Soon afterwards, when the second Hurricane came into the attack, the pilot, also a Canadian, saw the largest vessel had heeled over and was stationary. "There were several escort vessels ranging in size from an E-boat up to a destroyer," he said "from 1,200 feet, I dived to 300 feet, aiming my bombs, and then using my guns."

Flt/Lt. Kuttelwascher, the Czech, shot down his 19th enemy aircraft, a Dornier 217, when returning from an "intruder" operation. Kuttelwascher had just crossed the French coast near Cherbourg, when he sighted the homeward-bound bomber in the moonlight. A ten minutes chase followed, and the Dornier crashed into the sea.

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