

MR. HERBERT MORRISON'S MESSAGE TO MEMBERS OF N.F.S.

Mr. Herbert Morrison, the Home Secretary, has sent the following message to all members of the National Fire Service in England and Wales:-

"Men and women of the National Fire Service, I send all of you my sincere wishes for a Happy Christmas and New Year.

"During 1942 some of you have again been in the fore-front of the battle and have again proved to the world your coolness and courage in face of danger, but the majority of you have had to maintain your cheerfulness and vigilance in the long periods of waiting and training which the past year has seen. Large numbers of you have made a valuable contribution by undertaking the erection of water dams, and other constructional work.

"Even so I know that these quiet times are often harder to bear than the danger and excitement of heavy raids. But you have faced them well; whole-time and part-time personnel have joined to build up a tradition of comradeship and efficiency, which will stand you in good stead in whatever trials may lie ahead of you.

"The year has seen a large increase in the numbers of women members of the Service. To them I send a special word of greeting and encouragement: they have shown aptitude and zeal and their services are invaluable.

"I greet also the members of the Corps of the Canadian Fire Fighters who now serve by the side of the National Fire Service in some of our key cities. They symbolise the comradeship which makes the Empire such a potent force for good in a troubled world.

"To them, as to you all, wherever your post of duty may be, and to your families and friends, I send a message of good cheer."

MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY