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5/12/43 - No. 8

MIDDLE EAST AIR COMMUNIQUE

Headquarters,  
Royal Air Force,  
Middle East,  
5.12.43.

The island of COS yesterday, four long-range fighters on an offensive sweep destroyed two Arado 196s. A high-speed launch was also attacked and set on fire. Last night RHODES harbour was bombed. During the last week fighters and bombers have made a number of successful attacks on coastal vessels making for the enemy occupied islands in the AEGEAN.

Yesterday a large sailing vessel was hit, and, when the aircraft left, was down by the stern and on fire. An Arado 196 on the water was destroyed. Previously two other supply vessels were attacked and left smoking. The crews were seen to abandon ship. From these and other operations one of our aircraft is missing.

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