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NIGHT FIGHTERS' RIVALRY

Fighter Command has two ace night Hurricane pilots who are very unwelcome visitors to the Luftwaffe based in occupied France.

Flight Lieutenant Kuttelwascher, the Czech pilot who shot down three enemy bombers over their bases in one night this week, is a flight commander in the squadron led by Squadron Leader MacLachlan, Fighter Command's one-armed pilot.

"We are great rivals in this night business," said Squadron Leader MacLachlan today, and 'old Kuttel' always manages to keep one jump ahead. He's a 'Natural'.

"The other night, when I shot down two Hun bombers over there, we had a tie of five each with my squadron and eleven each altogether, including day scores. However, 'Kuttel' just grinned when I said we were neck and neck, and that night, of course, he went out and shot down three.

"He once destroyed a Hun night fighter which had been sent up to get him after he had shot down one of their bombers. The Hun fighter - all black, of course - swept across his nose in a shallow dive from above.

"Instinctively he put his Hurricane's nose up and gave it a burst. You can squirt at anything you see over France without enquiring first what it is. Down it went to pile up in flames near the bomber.

"The squadron now has a bag of eleven destroyed, others severely damaged, and seventeen trains bagged since the last moon in March."

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