

29/6 /43 - No.7

Air Ministry News Service

Air Ministry Bulletin No.10729

AN ENEMY CONVOY ATTACKED

An enemy convoy of three merchant vessels, heavily escorted by E-boats, which attempted to sail through the Straits of Dover under cover of darkness, was attacked last night by Typhoon fighters and by Albacores of the Fleet Air Arm operating with Fighter Command. One of the ships and at least two of the escorts were damaged.

The Typhoons went in first when the ships were sighted hugging the coast between Gris Nez and Boulogne. They flew through an "intense barrage of flak" to press home their attack.

One pilot after firing a two-seconds burst of cannon on the larger ship at the rear of the convoy turned his guns on the E-boats, giving them a five seconds burst. As he broke away he saw one E-boat on fire.

The Albacores then took up the attack with bombs. Despite heavy anti-aircraft fire from the escorts, one pilot who dropped his bombs on a merchant vessel saw explosions "straddling the ship and starboard escort".

All our aircraft returned safely.

---