

# FOREIGN PRESS REVIEW

## DAILY SURVEY OF WORLD COMMENT ON THE WAR

COMPILED FROM TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

27

14th February,

No.

....., 1940

### NORWAY:     "PIRACY IN LEGALISED FORM".

Some of the strongest comment that has yet been made in the Norwegian Press during the present war has appeared in the influential Right Wing newspaper AFTENPOSTEN.

This paper yesterday quoted at length from an article in the FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG, defending, by means of precedents, the Hamburg Prize Court proceedings in which the cargo from the Norwegian ship Korsnes was confiscated because the ship was forced into a belligerent harbour through stress of weather.

"Never have such weak and artificial arguments for a court verdict appeared in print," declared the AFTENPOSTEN. "There is not a shadow of evidence for the enemy destination in the case mentioned. They do not even trouble to give the verdict a veneer of logical reasoning.

"One is tempted to use the words 'This is piracy in a more or less legalised form'. The Germans need the cargo but they let the ship free because in prevailing conditions it cannot be used in German interests."

The NORGES HANDELS OG SJOFARTSTIDENDE printed an interview with a Norwegian Consul in which he said: "If I were a seaman, I would say to you at home, 'I won't bring a cargo into Norway until you stop the traffic in iron ore from Narvik.' "

The ARBERDERBLADET, the Labour Party organ, commenting on the seizure of Dr. Rauschning's book in Sweden, wrote: "It is perhaps the direct references to Scandinavia's position, which have led the Swedish Government to seize the book. If, however, it happened as a result of pressure from abroad, we are faced with a drastic interference in the freedom of expression in neutral countries. If it happened quite voluntarily, the Swedes have taken a course which may lead to dangerous consequences.

### TURKEY:     NAZI PROPAGANDA WANING.

The success of Nazi wireless propaganda has been declining ever since Germany marched into Czechoslovakia.

This belief was expressed by the ULUS, the organ of the People's Party, which stated: "The star of German propaganda has paled since the invasion of Czechoslovakia and has had an unproductive effect during the present hostilities. The Nazis underestimate the intelligence and comprehension of listeners."



Referring to the anniversary of Dr. Schuschnigg's meeting with Herr Hitler in 1938, this paper declared: "Schuschnigg was the first victim of a technique which was later extended to Czechoslovakia and Poland. If the Polish foreign minister had proceeded to Berlin, he would have experienced the fate of Schuschnigg and Dr. Hacha. It is strange that Germany holds responsible for the present hostilities those who opposed a manouvre against Poland, which had already proved tragic for Austria and Czechoslovakia."

U.S.A.:    IRONICAL COMMENT ON NAZI SCUTTling.

An ironical vein is adopted by the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE today, in commenting on the scuttling of the German freighter Wakama.

"Another Hitler sea triumph has been scored in the destruction of the Nazi vessel Wakama by her crew," states this paper. "This is the latest in a series of similar incidents showing a settled government policy. When it is recalled that the Graf Spee flight and scuttling were hailed in Berlin as a victory, it would seem as if a strange change had come over Germany's naval tradition. We doubt if the officers and men approve and are likely to continue indefinitely without emphatic protest."

A review of internal conditions in Germany was given by the Berlin correspondent of the ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH.

This correspondent declared yesterday: "The severest weather in 11 years and the constant tightening of the Allied blockade have wrought perceptible changes in everyday civilian life in Germany in the last three months. The visitor finds, on returning to the Reich after being away since last November, that food and other shortages are worse than they were last autumn. Hundreds of thousands of people in Berlin alone are without adequate heat in their homes and places of business."

The ST. LOUIS GLOBE DEMOCRAT wrote: "The entire Nazi Press has opened up a propaganda campaign against Capitalism. How can the German people forget the battle against Communism? With rapt attention they listened to the speeches of the World War corporal who heaped condemnation upon Russia. The Nazi Press has again demonstrated its versatility - not to mention its inconsistency - by permitting itself to be Sovietised."

The INDIANAPOLIS STAR declared: "The announcements from England that the third contingent of Canadians had been landed, more than offset propaganda sent from Berlin concerning raids on Allied and neutral shipping. Hitler's agents would have the world believe that U-boats, mines and bombing planes are making short work of traffic on the high seas. If Hitler were accomplishing anything like the success he claims, he would be able to stop troops from reaching England. Hitler has no excuse for boasting of his prowess at sea. The Fuehrer contents himself, as Mr. Chamberlain said, with attacking fishing craft and defenceless merchantmen,"

In an article in the DETROIT FREE PRESS it was stated: "Despite the spectacular character of German winter operations against merchant shipping in British waters, it has been something of a losing game for German sailors and airmen."



FINLAND: SCEPTICISM ON RUSSO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

A sceptical view of the Russo-German Trade Agreement was taken in yesterday's HELSINGIN SANOMAT, the National Progressive organ.

This paper wrote: "At least theoretically, Germany has avoided war on two fronts and secured a supply of raw materials. On paper, relations have been adjusted in Germany's favour and unanimity reached. But the question of an active and lively trade exchange is quite a different matter. The average German merchant will state that 25 years is a minimum time before goods can be delivered from Russia to Germany."

In a reference to Italian interests in the Balkans, the Agrarian newspaper ILKKA pointed out that the annexation of Albania meant the establishment of an Italian outpost in the Balkans and "if the European conflict increases, Italy may consider necessary the realisation of her anti-Bolshevik aims in the way of suiting her expansionist efforts."

The SOSIALI DEMOKRAATTI expressed pleasure with the new system of paying Finnish soldiers, under which the ranks are paid a daily rate together with a monthly salary in the same manner as officers. This paper, however, regarded the necessity for the slight reduction in the pay of officers and N.C.O's, and pointed out that officers in the past often kept only their daily pay and gave their monthly salary for national defence purposes.

FRANCE: HELP FOR FINLAND URGED.

The view of the French "man in the street" is that every possible help should be given to Finland in her fight against Russia, according to M. Leon Blum.

Writing in the POPULAIRE yesterday, M. Blum affirmed: "I do not think I am mistaken in saying that public opinion in France is firmly convinced that Finland must be saved at all costs. No effort that is humanly possible must be spared in order to save her. It is not yet realised how strong this feeling is because up to the present we have got used to the idea that Finland is resisting victoriously without outside help. But if this miracle were to cease, if it were to be felt that Finland was abandoned to extreme peril through insufficient aid or aid that came too late, then I am convinced that a wave of passion and anger would sweep through the whole country."

A similar line was taken by M. Jean Fabry in the MATIN.

"A favourable happening should always be exploited to the full and what is happening in Finland can and must have tremendous consequences," he stated. "We must do everything to accentuate the Soviet failure. We must help Finland. We must share directly in her effort."

"We cannot say to what this failure will lead. No-one can claim to measure its effects on Germany."



14.2.40.

HUNGARY: ROUMANIA'S ATTITUDE A DANGER?

The Balkan question and the attitude of Roumania to the present situation were referred to prominently in yesterday's Hungarian Press.

Some comments were to the effect that Roumania's attitude endangered peace in South-Eastern Europe and several newspapers cited Italian Press comments that Hungary would shortly begin intensive diplomatic activity. Rumours of Roumanian concessions to Bulgaria were not confirmed but there was some talk of a transformation of the Balkan Union into a military alliance.

Some prominence was given to the conclusion of the German-Russian economic agreement and a section of the Press stressed the exchange of Russian raw materials for Nazi industrial products.

Mr. Sumner Welles's European visit created considerable interest and the view of the Liberal organ PESTI HIRLAP was that the American diplomat's mission would be concerned primarily with preventing an expansion of the war and an extension of the war area. This paper also stressed the determination of Britain and France to insist on the fulfilment of their war aims.

BELGIUM: DOMINION FORCES' ARRIVAL FEATURED.

Considerable prominence has been given in the Belgian Press to the arrival of Australian and New Zealand troops.

In this connection the STANDARD, the Flemish Catholic newspaper, wrote yesterday: "This is the greatest force of troops hitherto transported overseas. This force, constituting the spearhead of Britain's strategic reserves, shows the determination of the Empire to continue the struggle."

Commenting on Mr. Sumner Welles's visit the GAZETTE DE CHARLEROI, the Liberal organ, stated: "There are two ways of conceiving peace. The first would demand from Britain and France recognition of a fait accompli and the second would demand from Germany her consent to a reconstruction of Europe on the basis of a status quo. There is no reason to imagine the belligerents will explain their war aims before arms have spoken. If one of them can make a pacific gesture it is of course Germany who must do so since it is she who has broken the European equilibrium."

SWITZERLAND: MILD RECEPTION FOR U.S. MISSION.

The forthcoming visit to Europe of Mr. Sumner Welles has been welcomed cautiously by the Swiss Press although one journal thought Mr. Roosevelt's reasons for the mission were "obscure".

DER BUND, the Radical Democratic organ, wrote yesterday: "We have no desire to under-estimate the action. It is in some degree a re-assurance when a powerful authority standing above Parties desires to promote peace through mediation."

"The American Government, like all good neutrals, has no intention of interfering in regard to the belligerents' war aims," stated the TRIBUNE DE GENEVE. "There is no doubt on whose side the U.S.A's sympathies lie, but the belligerents have made it clear that they do not intend to tolerate any attempt at mediation on this ground."



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The Basle newspaper NATIONAL ZEITUNG affirmed: "The reasons for President Roosevelt's diplomatic offensive are obscure and it has certainly made a bad start. Why it has been undertaken can only be explained by internal political reasons, namely the Presidential Election. It is evidently intended to demonstrate plainly to Republicans and Isolationists that Roosevelt has done his utmost to re-establish European peace and keep America outside the war."

Referring to the question of neutrality the NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG, the Radical Democratic organ, declared: "Swiss opinion has emphatically rejected the German accusation of double-dealing in the matter of neutrality. The Swiss Press is content to reject what is regarded as unwarranted interference in Swiss affairs."

#### DENMARK: INTEREST IN DOMINION FORCES.

The arrival of Dominion troops in Egypt has aroused considerable interest in the Danish Press, although a counter impression was made by the announcement of the German-Russian Trade Agreement, which was "splashed" in several newspapers.

The BERLINGSKE TIDENDE, the right-wing organ, published a German official agency message stating that the Germans, while able to care for their own population welcomed the help of the International Red Cross for the Poles.

#### YUGOSLAVIA: VIEW OF U.S. PRESIDENT'S POLICY.

The visit of Mr. Sumner Welles to Europe was compared by the POLITIKA yesterday with the mission of Colonel House during the Great War.

"It is too early to assume that America will participate in the war, but Mr. Roosevelt's decision shows the determination of America not to disassociate herself in European affairs," added this paper. "This alone is sufficient to ensure a world-wide welcome."

The Berlin correspondent of this paper affirmed that the Nazi Press would "soft pedal" on the German-Soviet Trade Agreement with the idea of making the Allies think that no real progress had been attained.

The Semi-official VREME forecast a Russo-Italian trade agreement on lines similar to the German-Soviet accord.

#### SWEDEN: EXTENSION OF WAR AREA?

The possibility that the theatre of war will be extended to the Near East has been referred to in the Swedish Press.

After stating that the New Zealand troops would be a valuable addition to the Allies' Forces in the Near East the STOCKHOLMS TIDNINGEN, the Liberal organ, declared yesterday: "Many observers expect that the Near East will become a decisive battle-field, though against whom is an unanswerable question. Perhaps the idea is only to exert pressure on States which might be engulfed by the German tentacles."



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The GÖTEBORGS MORGENPOST stated: "Certain old Communist friends now say that the raids on Communists should be extended to the Swedish Nazi Party. The Party changed its name six months ago to avoid the suspicion of German influence. The time has come to finish it."

ITALY: HERR HITLER'S ASCETISM.

The POPOLO DI ROMA, in a message from Berlin yesterday, gave a long account of Dr. Goebbels' description of Herr Hitler's ascetism, and the advantages in war-time of a Totalitarian regime.

The same newspaper also featured a Berlin report that Germans had been massacred in Poland, and a Belgrade dispatch to this journal, citing the VREME, emphasised the cordiality of Hungaro-Yugoslav relations and the hopes of a Roumanian-Hungarian settlement through Yugoslav influence.

This newspaper also cited the POLITIKA report from Berlin of possible German proposals for the improvement of Russo-Roumanian relations

Dispatches from Cairo reporting the arrival of Australian and New Zealand troops were printed in several Italian papers, which took the view that the Dominion Forces would swell General Weygand's contingents.

BULGARIA: "SOVIET NOT PLANNING FINLAND'S DESTRUCTION".

"The conviction is growing that the Soviet is not planning the destruction of Finland, but wishes to make her completely independent in the interests of the defence of Leningrad."

This statement was made in a Kaunas message to the Bulgarian newspaper ZARIA, and it was added: "The Soviet wishes to win over the Finnish nation to the common cause."

All the Bulgarian newspapers yesterday reported the arrival of Australian and New Zealand troops in Egypt and the entire Press gave prominence to Moscow and Berlin messages with regard to the signing of the Russo-German Trade Agreement.

ROUMANIA: INTEREST IN U.S. MISSION.

Keen interest in Mr. Sumner Welles' visit to Europe is shown in to-day's Roumanian Press, and the UNIVERSUL under the signature of its Editor-in-Chief, M. Lugosanu, writes: "Welles' inquiry will be made only in the neutral countries and European belligerents, but not in Soviet Russia. This enquiry has an informative character as to the present condition of European neutrality, and the probable future economic organisation at the end of the war.

"Sumner Welles will try to find out how peace can be guaranteed in the future and how eventually restoration could be made within available vital space. American initiative seems to run parallel to the option taken by the Pope. It is more worthy to pay attention to the initiative taken by President Roosevelt than to look upon it in a casual way."

TIMPUL states: "Sumner Welles' visit has an unusual character. Probably no belligerent will give a precise answer and if the American envoy attempts to mediate in the cessation of hostilities, the chances are that he will not succeed. But Mr. Sumner Welles' visit will strengthen the neutrality of the neutral countries."



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CURRENTUL affirms: "American interests require strong solidarity with Europe in the interest of peace. The United States needs to be well informed. Mr. Sumner Welles' visit means that the United States is coming out of her isolation."

ARGENTINE: U.S. PEACE INITIATIVE WELCOMED.

A number of Argentine newspapers have approved the principle of Mr. Sumner Welles' mission to Europe and LA PRENSA thought that the war might be brought to an end if the neutrals supported President Roosevelt's peace effort.

ACCION and EL DIA considered that Hitlerism was an insuperable obstacle to peace, and other papers, including the influential LA NACION, thought that there was no prospect of peace owing to the incompatible positions of the belligerents. EL MUNDO stressed the purely informative nature of the U.S. Mission.

Referring to the execution of members of the I.R.A. LA PRENSA stated that the hanging was a psychological error, but Britain could not have acted otherwise. LA NACION said that the bomb plot was "one of the cruellest" and considered that the illegal activities of the I.R.A. embarrassed the Irish Government who were desirous of a peaceful settlement.

LA PRENSA reported increasing sympathy for the Allies among the Italian people, due to the recognition of the justice of the Allied cause and forecast the possibility of Italy eventually joining Britain and France.

BRAZIL: REACTION TO U.S. MISSION.

The announcement of Mr. Sumner Welles' visit to Europe has not so far met with a very favourable reception in the Brazilian Press.

O JORNAL affirmed yesterday that the only hope of success for the Mission was Germany's acceptance of the terms of the September ultimatum. Any other peace would stultify the moral reasons for which the Franco-British Governments finally declared war - to establish a new European order based on the principles of justice and respect for weaker nations.



Not to be quoted as an Air Ministry Announcement.

R.A.F. MAP THE ROUTE TO GERMANY.

The aerial photographs of Germany now being published are a vivid reminder that since war was declared aircraft of the Bomber Command have visited key points in all parts of the Reich as well as the German Islands. They have surveyed the whole of the Siegfried Line, much of it closely.

On these flights every man in the crew uses his eyes to aid in the selection of potential objectives for our bombers. The pilots become familiar with the lie of the land in every sort of weather. Sunlight and moonlight throw different shadows. Rain and snow may change the appearance of a place almost out of recognition.

But Royal Air Force airmen have made their visits in all these varying circumstances and are now unlikely to go astray. They know the position of enemy aerodromes, and where to beware of anti-aircraft batteries and searchlights.

All this information will be of great value when the time comes for our aircraft to make their way to their allotted objectives.

Besides man, there is another enemy to be reckoned with on these flights. This is the weather. On a single flight one aircraft encountered first lightning and then a snowstorm. At 20,000 feet ice formed on the airscrews. The pilot took off his glove for a moment to adjust his controls and was frost-bitten.

As the winter progressed, the threat from cold increased. There have been instances of ice forming within an aircraft at 8,000 feet. At relatively low altitudes it is not uncommon for ice to form in masses on the wings.

One aircraft, while on the way to Munich, had such an experience in cloud at 1,000 feet. Ice completely covered the

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front windows of the cabin, and there was extensive ice formation on the main wings. Ice could be heard coming off the blades of the airscrews and striking the sides of the nose of the aircraft.

Continuous movement of the controls was advisable to prevent them from freezing up. Some members of the crew were in such pain from frostbite that they butted their hands on the floor and navigation table.

Electrical storms are no less disconcerting. An aircraft flying through such a storm sets up what is known as the "brushing discharge." It is outlined in a weird violet light. Every movement of the crew gives off sparks and a noise of crackling.

It is in such conditions that our airmen collect information, photograph towns, fortresses, transport routes, and naval and other harbours and record landmarks for those who come after them.

At night the enemy opposition to the Royal Air Force over Germany has been in some ways ineffective. Their fighter aircraft for instance, have repeatedly failed to intercept our night reconnaissance aircraft. But on occasion, fire from enemy anti-aircraft guns, working in close co-operation with many searchlights, has forced us to take evasive action.

Anti-aircraft gunfire, however, varies in accuracy. The pilot of an aircraft that flew over Berlin reported that the defence organisation there must have been badly shaken. Not a shot reached home, although it was obvious that every available gun had been brought to bear on the visitor.

For the most part the projectiles used in this case seemed to be experimental. Among the familiar ones generally used by the enemy are the "flaming onions", a string of balls of fire shot into the air in the presumed course of the aircraft, in the hope of setting it on fire.

There are also what a pilot described as "incendiary shells."

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When they explode, these shells discharge large red balls of fire that can be seen the whole way up. They eventually disappear without bursting.

Day reconnaissance is a very different matter. Though it is less handicapped by adverse weather, it is exposed to an enemy that can see.

The fact that our aircraft have been able to take photographs at low altitudes over enemy territory is proof of the crews' courage and enterprise and of their ability to make the most of the prevailing clouds to hide in.

Though nearly all our aircraft have come under heavy fire over Germany, there have been remarkable exceptions. Instances are recorded where Royal Air Force aircraft photographing an enemy aerodrome have apparently gone unnoticed by German fighters just about to land.

One British aircraft, flying alone over Germany, encountered three German fighters, all of which kept their distance and did not offer battle. Another Royal Air Force aircraft drove off three attacking enemy fighters at about 200 yards.

These last were exceptional cases. At times, the German fighters may have seemed reluctant to meddle with intruders, but generally our bombers have to face determined resistance by enemy aircraft.

Every photograph that appears and every piece of information brought back is a witness to many feats of endurance, patience and skill.

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AIR MINISTRY,  
WHITEHALL, S.W.1.



14/2/40. - No. 2.

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE.

(MORNING)

The following official communique was issued this morning from French G.H.Q:-

LOCAL ARTILLERY ACTIONS.



Summary of a speech to be delivered by Sir Edward Grigg, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Information, to the Altrincham Lunch Club on February 14.

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"A second phase of the war will soon begin," said Sir Edward Grigg, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Information, in a speech at Altrincham, to-day.

Hitler might launch a great offensive, or he might hold his hand.

If he took the former course, the British people would rise to the occasion, as they always had done in the past. Germany had the advantage of much longer preparation in time of peace and her stock of munitions was certainly very large.

It would be significant indeed, if she failed to deliver a carefully prepared and massive blow.

Paying a cordial tribute to France, Sir Edward declared that the British people could not show too warm a recognition of all that the French nation had done and suffered in the last five months, not could they be too grateful for the foresight of France's soldiers when, more than ten years ago, they started the Maginot Line.

Alluding to the Prime Minister's distinction between war aims and peace aims, Sir Edward observed that the latter will of necessity remain but dreams until the war aims are realised.

There could be no future but degradation and darkness for Europe and for this country, if the military power of Germany were not destroyed,

Four things, he added, were needed for victory. They were a rapid expansion of our fighting services, already formidable though they be; a vastly increased output of munitions; strong national finances and a buoyant export trade.

"We can all play our part," declared Sir Edward, "in one or other of these four branches of the national effort that has to be made.



"In particular, we can save, and we can bear a shortage of many things we normally enjoy, because we do not wish our ships and our seamen's lives or our financial strength in foreign exchange to be wasted on the import of a single article which will not help us to win the war."

While the Government was doing all it could by rationing, by pegging food prices and in other ways to lessen hardships, it was necessary to stress that hard times lay ahead.

"But let us face them proudly for no generation of men has ever marched beneath a cleaner banner for a nobler goal."

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STATEMENT GIVEN TO CORRESPONDENTS AT MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC  
WARFARE ON 14th FEBRUARY at 3.0. p.m.

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On 13th February there were 20 neutral ships in the three  
Contraband Control bases in the United Kingdom, of which 14  
had been there for 5 days or less. This total included:-

10 Dutch	{ 7 for 5 days or less }
3 Belgian	{ 2 " " " " " }
3 Swedish	{ 1 " " " " " }
2 Danish	{ Both " " " " }

There were also 1 Italian ship and 1 Norwegian ship  
which had been detained under 5 days.

During the week ending 10th February the Contraband  
Committee considered the cargoes of 123 ships which had  
arrived since 3rd February and 32 outstanding cargoes from  
the previous week. The combined total included ships of  
the following nationalities:-

34 Dutch
32 Italian
30 Norwegian
13 Swedish
9 Greek
7 United States
6 Belgian

In 97 cases entire cargoes were released, either on  
first consideration or after enquiries.

The system under which advance copies of manifests of  
cargoes are received and considered before the ships' arrival  
at ports in this country resulted, during the week under  
review, in 74 cases being so dealt with, and in 60 cases of  
the ships concerned being released by the Committee, subject  
merely to the formal checking of the original manifests on  
their arrival at the Control Bases.



14/2/40. - No. 5

THAMES ESTUARY RAIDER WAS HIT.

(Not to be quoted as an Air Ministry announcement.)

The three R.A.F. Fighter Command pilots who dived 14,000 feet in pursuit of a Heinkel raider off the Thames Estuary last night believe that their enemy was brought down.

They know that their machine-gun bullets hit the Heinkel and, in spite of rapidly failing light, they saw signs that he was disabled.

"The Heinkel was definitely hit", said one of them today. "His undercarriage was lowered half way down, and he was attempting to fly eastwards at cloud level. The rear gunner was probably hit, as no more fire was encountered. It is improbable that the enemy aircraft got home".

AIR AFFAIRS.



14/2/40 - No.6.

DEVELOPMENT OF BROADCASTING IN MALAYA.

Malaya is developing on a wide scale the installation of radio receivers and public address systems at centres throughout the country, for the distribution of war news, food and commodity prices, etc. These are supplemented by public address vans in the country districts. Bulletins are broadcast in Malay, Tamil, Chinese and English.

There has been a marked rise since the beginning of the war in the number of broadcast listening station licences issued; and a steady supply of receiving sets is now available. There was an increase of nearly 2,500 licences issued during the second half of 1939, - 17.722 compared with 15.309 at the end of June

EMPIRE AFFAIRS.



COMFORTS FOR THE NAVY

The following is issued to the Press, by Naval Affairs, for such use as they may like to make of it.

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In spite of increasing difficulty and delay in obtaining supplies of knitting wool, the "Depot for Knitted Garments for the Royal Navy", 11A, West Halkin Street, S.W.1., has just completed a record week of work. 95 bales containing 34,000 garments were dispatched to H.M. ships in 5 days.

Since the Depot opened on October 26th, 1939, 209,658 garments have been received and distributed to 763 ships of all types, from battleships to destroyers, submarines, trawlers and mine-sweepers. This great effort is the result of the excellent work which is being done by the 1,6000 Registered Sub-Depots, and the many hundreds of gifts of knitted goods and of money which have been sent to the Depot by members of the public all over the country.

The Admiralty has stated that still more seamen will be required for the Navy. It will therefore be necessary to provide still more garments, and the work cannot be allowed to lapse during the spring and summer. Wool, when obtainable, is supplied by the Depot to Registered Sub-Depots at the current wholesale price.

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14/2/40 - No.8.

SOUTH AFRICA'S LARGE FOOD STOCKS.

Latest official statistics issued in Pretoria show that the Union of South Africa's food-stocks are far greater than a year ago. Millions of pounds of butter, cheese, meat and flour among other commodities are in store for local distribution, or for export, mainly to the United Kingdom.

Butter stocks at the end of December stood at 4,300,000 lbs; cheese at 3,252,000 lbs; bacon and ham at 1,000,000. There were nearly 30,000,000 eggs in store, and large quantities of beef and mutton.

EMPIRE AFFAIRS.



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14.2.40

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No.10.

WHEN BRITON MEETS GERMAN - IN NEUTRAL CHILE.

The British and German colonies in neutral countries, who come into daily business contact with each other, are taking every precaution to treat each other with respect, and avoid any acts that might cause embarrassment to the Government of the country whose hospitality they are receiving.

This careful decorum is mentioned by a British business man in Chile, where the German community is considerably larger than the British.

However, he adds in a letter to Empire Affairs, it is interesting to note what a large section of the Germans repudiate the present Nazi regime. Many are of Jewish extraction, but even the "Aryans" do not always see eye to eye with the Fuehrer at the present time.

EMPIRE AFFAIRS.

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14/2/40 - No 11.

CANADIAN TROOPS MOURN LORD TWEEDSMUIR.

The Canadian troops in England have gone into Service mourning for their late Commander-in-Chief, Lord Tweedsmuir, for seven days. Gripe arm bands are being worn by all officers and the flag at Divisional Headquarters flies at half-mast. Concerts, entertainments and sports events have been cancelled for a week.

Arrangements are being considered for a memorial service to be held, either at Aldershot or in London, when Lord Tweedsmuir's body is brought home to Scotland.

EMPIRE AFFAIRS.



AUSTRALIA TELLS GERMANY

THINGS TO WHICH CAESAR HAS NO TITLE.

Mr. Archie Cameron, Leader of the Country Party in Australia, in a broadcast from Australia today which it was hoped would reach German listeners, again emphasized that the Commonwealth is in the war heart and soul with Great Britain.

"We fight", he said, "not because we object to Caesar having his own, but because we believe that there are things to which Caesar has neither right nor title.

"In the last war", he told German listeners, your men met ours in France, Flanders, Gallipoli, Syria, Mesopotamia, at sea and in the air. You have chosen to meet us again. Each knows the mettle of the other.

"We fight in this war, as in the last, not because the Government orders us to fight, but because we believe in the justice of the British cause. For this reason seven divisions crossed the sea in the World War; for this same reason others will follow them in this war; for this reason Australian seamen, airmen and soldiers will be found wherever a threat to British interests demands their presence."

EMPIRE AFFAIRS.



14/2/40.No.13.

IMPORT LICENSING DEPARTMENT

Notice to Importers No.41

With reference to Notice to Importers No. 35, dated 19th January, 1940, the Board of Trade announce that they have issued an Open General Licence extending to the 29th February, 1940, the period during which the importation of Mimosa and Paper-White Narcissi consigned from France will be permitted.

Import Licensing Department,  
Board of Trade,  
25, Southampton Buildings,  
Chancery Lane,  
London, W.C.2.

14th February, 1940.



14/2/40. - No. 14.

FOR PUBLICATION AFTER 9.30 p.m.  
THIS (WEDNESDAY) EVENING, FEBRUARY 14.

THE WAR AND THE PEACE:  
THE LABOUR PARTY'S DECLARATION OF POLICY

by

HUGH DALTON, M.P.  
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MEM. TO SUB-EDITORS: As this script is being issued in advance, it is necessary to check it against the broadcast this (Wednesday) evening at 9.15 p.m. in the B.B.C. Home Service on 391 or 449 metres.  
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Last week the National Executive of the Labour Party issued a Declaration on "Labour, the War and the Peace." This was reported pretty fully in most of the newspapers and extracts were given by the B. B.C. So I daresay most of you either read or heard something about it.

To-night I am going to talk about that Declaration and to quote from it. My colleagues and I who drafted it believe it speaks the will not only of the British Labour Party, but of the British Nation.

"The Labour Party", we declared, "unreservedly supports the Allied War of resistance to Nazi aggression because, though loathing war, it regards this war as a lesser evil than the slavery which in the last resort would be the only alternative.

"A crisis came in 1939 when the simple choice in Europe lay between Liberty and Serfdom. Month by month, as Hitler advanced, the threat to British liberty itself was intensified. It was high time, indeed it would soon have been too late, to make a firm and final stand against the expanding Nazi tyranny."

We of the Labour Party have been very critical of British foreign policy since 1931. That year the late Arthur Henderson ceased to be Foreign Secretary. He had done splendid work for Peace. He had raised the influence of the League of Nations to the highest point it ever reached. He had won the confidence of the representatives of all nations. They had chosen him unanimously to be President of the World Disarmament Conference which was due to meet in 1932. Remember that in 1931 Hitler and the Nazis were not in power in Germany. Brüning was still Chancellor, a civilised man and a devout Roman Catholic. At that time the Germans had no Air Force. Their Army and Navy were both very small. Britain was secure then, both through our armaments and through our friendships. Not only were we much stronger than Germany at sea; we were much stronger in the Air. We were on friendly terms with all nations, and we were working for a world-wide agreement to get.....

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rid of all bombing aircraft everywhere. If we had pulled that off - and there was a good chance of it -- what a different world it would be today.

After Arthur Henderson left the Foreign Office, things very soon began to go wrong. How and why they went wrong, is too long a story for tonight. But a few years later we had to face a quite new situation in Europe. The Germans, under Hitler's rule, had been ordered by the Nazi drill sergeants to turn their backs on freedom, and truth, and kindness, and international brotherhood. Now they were goose-stepping back into the Dark Ages, down a road which ran between concentration camps and Torture Chambers, where day by day nameless outrages were inflicted on helpless victims. Germany, for the time being, had ceased to be a civilised country.

Nor was this a matter which concerned Germans only. Nazi Germany was setting all her neighbours' teeth on edge.

Hitler, moreover, had been allowed to outbuild us in the Air. His Air Force was now much stronger than ours. We had neither disarmed by agreement, nor rearmed when he did. We had fallen between two stools. Britain was no longer secure, as in Arthur Henderson's day.

Some people in this country, chiefly wealthy people, were taken in by Hitler. The British Labour Party never were. We knew too much about the Nazis. They had murdered personal friends of ours in Germany, whom we used to meet at International Conferences in the old days. They had suppressed the Trade Unions and the Cooperative Societies and the Socialist Party. "Ye cannot gather grapes of thorns, nor figs of thistles."

Therefore, we were deeply suspicious of the repeated attempts at the so-called "appeasement" of Hitler.

Munich, we thought, was a disgrace and a disaster, and we said so at the time.

But now we are at war, and in last week's Declaration "the Labour Party calls upon the British people to contribute their utmost effort to the overthrow of the Hitler system in Germany."

Further, we are "convinced that the Allies ought not to enter into peace negotiations, except with a German Government which has not merely promised, but actually performed, certain acts of restitution. In view of the experience of recent years, no one can trust a Nazi Government honestly to perform such acts or to abstain from future aggression. Restitution must include freedom for the Polish and Czechoslovak peoples. No promise of independence for these peoples will suffice, unless accompanied by the withdrawal of the German forces and police."

"The Austrian people, must be left free to decide whether or not they wish to remain within the German Reich" and "in the general re-arrangement after the War, the just and real interests of all the peoples must be respected, including those of the German people."

Arther Henderson always maintained that the key problem in Europe was to reconcile the French claim to security with the German claim to equality. He himself wished to give the most definite British guarantees to France, in order to win French consent to reasonable German demands. He could not get his way.



A few weeks before his death, in October 1935, Arthur Henderson said sadly to a friend, "They wouldn't take my way. But they will have to come back to it .... after a waste and suffering that cannot be measured." Those were prophetic words.

In last week's Declaration the Labour Party is loyal to Arthur Henderson's memory and to his practical wisdom.

"Whatever else," we say, "may be contained in the Peace Treaty, this will assuredly not be the last War in Europe, unless, when this War ends, we can succeed in reconciling the French claim to Security with the German claim to Equality. In reply to the just claim of the French, the Labour Party answers, "We share your determination that this recurrent German menace, requiring these repeated mobilisations of the whole manhood of France, shall not plague your next generation and ours, if our strength and foresight can prevent it. Henceforth, in resistance to any German aggression, our two peoples must be not merely allies for a season, but brothers for all time."

In reply to the Germans, the Labour Party would say, "We are opposed to any attempt from outside to break up Germany. We do not seek the humiliation or dismemberment of your country. We wholeheartedly desire to welcome you without delay into the peaceful collaboration of civilised nations. We must warn you, however, that Hitler and his system prepared and started this War. He could not continue it if you ceased supporting him. Until this accursed Nazi regime is overthrown, there is no hope of peace between us. But if you establish a Government sincerely willing that Germany shall be a good neighbour and a good European, there shall be no humiliation nor revenge."

To avoid all misunderstanding, we make in our Declaration the following brief reference to Russia:

"We had hoped that she would join with the Democracies for the collective organisation of peace and resistance to aggression. We worked hard to that end. We condemned the clumsiness of the British Government in its earlier relations with the Soviet Union; but this cannot excuse the Russian Government's Pact with the Nazis on the eve of the War, much less its unprovoked attack on Finland in shameless imitation of the Nazi technique in foreign policy."

Only the mental contortionists of the Communist Party, and their hangers-on, can try to justify this act of Stalinist imperialism.

Labour's Peace Aims are clearly set forth in our Declaration. National Sovereignty must be held in check or it will land us in war again and again.

"The Peace Settlement must establish a new Association or Commonwealth of States, the collective authority of which must transcend, over a proper sphere, the sovereign rights of separate States. This authority must control such military and economic power as will enable it to enforce peaceful behaviour as between its members, and thus secure the all-round reduction of national armaments to the level required for the preservation of internal order.

"All international disputes, wherever arising, and of whatever sort, must be settled by peaceful means.



"The present close cooperation between the British Commonwealth, France, and their Allies in the political and economic spheres should be the nucleus of this wider Association, membership of which should be open and advantageous to all nations."

In particular, "Labour demands that Colonial peoples everywhere should move forward, as speedily as possible, towards self-government. In the administration of Colonies not yet ready for self-government, the interests of the native population should be paramount and should be safeguarded through an extension and strengthening of the Mandate system. There must be equal opportunity of access for all peaceful peoples to raw materials and markets in these Colonial territories."

"A new world order, which applies these principles, can only be securely founded on Socialism and Democracy. The necessary unity of purpose will be lacking if the peoples remain divided internally into two nations, sundered by wide differences of wealth, privilege, and opportunity. Lasting Peace depends on social justice within States, no less than on political justice between States. The necessary vigour and power of growth will be lacking if the individual citizen is treated as the slave of the State or is denied such freedom of opinion, speech, and faith as is compatible with the freedom of others."

"A very grave economic crisis will confront all nations at the conclusion of the War. In addition to national policies of reconstruction, therefore, there must be bold economic and financial planning on a world-wide scale. International public works, and also the comprehensive development of great colonial territories now divided between two or more Colonial Powers, as in Africa, must be undertaken through an International Authority with a budget and powers far greater than the League of Nations ever had."

"To aid in raising the standard of living of workers in all lands, a new impetus must be given to the work of the International Labour Organisation"

"The ineffectiveness of the League, was partly due to the lack of conviction and sincerity of its leading member States, and partly to its comparative neglect of economic questions. We must learn the lessons of experience and build better next time."

"The repeated aggressions of the last few years and the evasive neutralities in face of aggression, mark the breakdown, moral and material, of the old world order. The foundations of a new order must be laid now."

"Victory must come to the arms of Britain, France, and their Allies: the Peace must be won for Humanity."

BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION



NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE & LORD DERBY'S SCHEME.

The National Youth Committee met at the offices of the Board of Education yesterday (Wednesday) under the Chairmanship of Mr. Kenneth Lindsay.

Among many matters considered was Lord Derby's scheme for those unemployed between the ages of 16 and 20. The Committee did not favour a scheme of labour camps and agreed that a better way of meeting the problem was by developing existing opportunities for occupation and encouraging new ones. The Committee considered particularly the possibilities of agricultural and forestry work, an extension of the Y.M.C.A. hostel scheme, run jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Board of Education; industrial and commercial apprenticeships, special mention being made of the scheme sponsored by Sir Woodman Burbidge, the Dunlop Rubber Company and Messrs. Thornycroft; courses at Technical Colleges and Universities and social work in clubs and centres for young people. They agreed that fullest possible publicity should be given by Government Departments, Local Education Authorities, private firms and schools to the various openings which exist or which in the future may be developed in these directions. They passed a strong resolution in favour of the resumption of Civil Service Examinations and were also strongly in favour of the restoration of all Advisory work in connection with Juveniles.

The Committee commended the growth of Youth Recreation Centres which are extending throughout the country and some of which have already been given financial assistance. They were also impressed by the need for more leaders and agreed to set up a committee to advise on recruitment and training.

The Committee considered the need for hostels and clubs for young workers, owing to the war-time expansion of industry and the establishment of new industrial centres. Encouraging reports were given from Local Education Authorities of the formation of Youth Committees.

Mr. Kenneth Lindsay will next week made a Midland Tour speaking at Stoke on Monday, Wolverhampton on Tuesday and on Wednesday he will address at Birmingham a large gathering of Education Authorities and Voluntary Bodies drawn from Birmingham, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Coventry and the surrounding country.

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GENERAL AND TRADE PRESS NOTICEPreference System for Government and Export  
Orders in the Cotton Industry.

With a view to expediting the production and delivery of cotton goods to meet Government requirements and export orders, a system of preference Directions is to be brought into operation on Monday, the 19th February, under the Control of the Cotton Industry (No.4) Order, which is issued today. The Order empowers the Minister of Supply to issue directions to producers and distributors in the cotton industry to give preference to the production and delivery of goods which they have agreed to produce and deliver under contracts made with Government Departments or for other approved purposes, notwithstanding obligations to which they may be subject under contracts for which no directions have been issued; for example, orders for the home trade.

It is proposed to use the powers under the Order to ensure, so far as possible, the prompt carrying out of existing contracts or contracts which firms may accept in future for Government requirements and for export trade. "Directions" may be given that work under a contract of either kind shall have preference over other work so far as may be necessary for its due performance and subject to the delivery of material or performance of any work by any other person.

Preference directions will be issued by the Cotton Controller on behalf of the Minister of Supply. They will be in two categories, the first - Class "A" - being those to be issued in respect of Government requirements. Government contractors are being instructed by the Departments concerned to inform the Cotton Controller of the number of Government contracts they hold for cotton goods; the Controller will then forward to them a form for completion in respect of each contract.

Directions in respect of export orders will be in Class "B" and will rank after directions given for Government orders. The new preference system will not interfere with the normal trade procedure in placing orders for export; it is intended to assist in the execution of such orders booked in the customary way between merchants and manufacturers and manufacturers and spinners. The exporter who has placed an order for cotton goods, whether before or after the introduction of the scheme, will be able to apply for preference directions to be issued to his suppliers with a view to facilitating prompt delivery.

Export applications can be submitted by export houses in the cotton industry, and also by firms in other trades (e.g. the hosiery trade) who have placed contracts for yarn or other cotton materials required for export orders. It is proposed that export applications should be submitted through the Federation of British Industries and the Chambers of Commerce in textile centres. The Federation of British Industries and the principal Chambers of Commerce have already agreed to assist in the operation of the scheme; they will supply application forms to the exporters on request and will subsequently certify the completed forms. In this way it is hoped to avoid the delay and expense which might otherwise be involved if all applications had to go to the Cotton Control in the first instance. The organisations concerned have undertaken this duty as part of their service to the trading community, and exporters will benefit from the fact that in this way it will be possible to reduce formalities to a minimum. A list of approved



certifying authorities may be obtained on application to the Cotton Control (Preference Department), 3 Albert Street, Manchester, 3.

The Order also provides that merchants, wholesalers and others who buy direct from cotton spinners or manufacturers shall, upon notice being given to them individually by the Minister of Supply, furnish such information in regard to their stocks and purchases of cotton products as may be required.

Ministry of Supply,  
The Adelphi, W.C.2.

14th February, 1940.



The War Office,  
London, S.W.1.  
14th February, 1940.

The War Office desires to draw the attention of the relatives of officers and soldiers of the British Expeditionary Force to the following matters in connection with the special telegraph service for private messages of an urgent nature which was made available from February 9th, 1940, as announced by the Post Master General in the House of Commons on February 7th, 1940.

1. This service should NOT be used when it is desired that officers and soldiers be granted leave from the B.E.F. on compassionate grounds, but telegrams preferring such requests should continue to be sent to The War Office (A.G.4a) Romney House, Marsham Street, London, S.W.1. and should give full details of the officer or soldier, the address to which he is asked to return and the address of the sender of the telegram, where this is different.
2. Telegrams conveying a personal message and signed by a Christian name only should NOT be sent to the War Office, as no action can be taken in such cases beyond forwarding them by post.



The War Office,

London, S.W.1.

14th February, 1940.

U BOAT PRISONERS OF WAR.

The following officers and men are prisoners of war  
in this country:-

HUTTEL	Leutnant
JACOBI	Bootsmannsmaat
MIKS	Maschinenmaat
MENZEL	Mechanikersmaat
RADEK	Maschinengefreiter
FORGER	Maschinengefreiter
STEINERT	Matrosengefreiter
PETZOLD	Funkgefreiter



INDIA'S WAR CONTRIBUTIONS.

Specific war contributions in money and kind continue to reach His Excellency the Viceroy from all classes of Indian society. The wide range is illustrated by the following contributions which appear in the latest list received from India:

His Highness the Maharaja of Bhavnagar:- Two lakhs of rupees and the workshops of Bhavnagar State Railway for the manufacture of munitions and other articles useful in the prosecution of the war;

His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa:- Food and agricultural produce valued at one lakh for the Defence of India Service or for export.

His Highness the Maharaja of Dewas (Senior):- An ambulance unit with 32 stretcher bearers, an Indian officer and a sub-assistant surgeon;

The Nawab of Kurwai:- Rs.2,500 for the aid of British wounded;

His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin:- One lakh of rupees and Rs.2,000 each to the Indian Red Cross and St. Dunstan's Hostel;

His Highness the Maharawal of Jaisalmer:- Rs.5,000 for the War Department and Rs.1,000 each to the Indian Red Cross and St. Dunstan's Hostel.

His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner:- In addition to previous donations, 1,000 maunds (80,000 lb) of babul tree bark for munitions;

The Mir of Hunza (on the road from Kashmir to Turkestan):- Rs.2,000;

A Sikh living in Teheran, Rs.6,666; Mohammed Elias Khan, living in the Netherlands, Rs.42; Mr. P. Chacko Pothan, a second consignment of 500 lb. of tea for the troops.



There are a large number of recurring contributions from one rupee monthly upwards, while several sums from humble donors are earmarked for the aid of British wounded. The approximate totals now stand at Rs.50 lakhs non-recurring and Rs.34 lakhs recurring.

INDIA OFFICE.



14/2/40 - No 20.

A CHIN CHIEF'S WAR GIFT.

Pum Za Maug, Chief of the Kamhau Tribal Area in the Chin Hills, has offered the sum of Rs. 500 to the British Government as a war contribution.

This spontaneous gift, which has been gratefully accepted on behalf of His Majesty's Government, represents a substantial amount for a Chief of the Chin Hills to contribute. The Chief's father, How Chin Koop, also gave a donation during the last Great War.

BURMA OFFICE.

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THE LATE LORD TWEEDSMUIR.

The Prime Minister of Canada has to-day sent the following message to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs in reply to his message conveying the sympathy of the United Kingdom Government at the death of Lord Tweedsmuir:-

"Please accept my warmest thanks on behalf of the Canadian Government and people for your telegram in which you record the deep regret of His Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom at the passing of His Excellency Lord Tweedsmuir, and its desire to be associated with us in our national sorrow.

"By his broad humanity, his great gifts, his high conception of office, his devotion to duty, his unsparing dedication of himself to the service of Canada, his wide knowledge of our country and its people, Lord Tweedsmuir had endeared himself to all classes of Canadians. His passing is regarded as a personal loss in thousands of homes in this land. The telegrams of sympathy which have reached us from all parts of the world bear witness to the affection, regard and admiration which his character, and the labours of his life, won for him among men of many races.

"Everything that he did and said brought honour to the country of his birth and the country of his adoption. His presence amongst us made our people proudly happy, and the example of his life will remain as an abiding memory in this land which he loved so much and served so well".

EMPIRE AFFAIRS.



14/2/40 - No 22.

FRENCH OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE (EVENING).

Paris, Wednesday, February 14, 1940.

The following official communique was issued this evening from French G.H.Q:-

"An enemy raid failed to the West of the Saar.

"A German cargo has been captured and taken into a French Port."

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(NOT TO BE QUOTED AS AN AIR MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT).

CIVIL PILOTS TO FERRY R.A.F. AIRCRAFT.

The first all-civil ferry pilots pool is opening tomorrow (Thursday). Its personnel will consist of 40 pilots of the Air Transport Auxiliary who, after four months' attachment to R.A.F. units to learn the work are now forming a first civilian ferry organisation for dealing with all types of R.A.F. aircraft.

The Air Transport Auxiliary was formed just before the present war by British Airways Ltd. It was felt that R.A.F. pilots who had special training and qualifications for particular R.A.F. tasks should not be employed longer than was necessary on the work of ferrying aircraft from contractors' works to their R.A.F. destinations.

Experienced pilots who were too old or otherwise unfit to qualify for the R.A.F. might still, it was felt, be a valuable source of supply for non-operational work. Forty pilots were accordingly signed on, the requirements being a certain standard of experience, a good record, and unfitness for the R.A.F. for physical reasons or because of age.

Private owners from the Civil Air Guard and the various flying clubs, well known amateurs who have toured Europe in their private aircraft before the war, professional men of all sorts, including some of the older professional pilots have all been taken on and are doing very well. Lieut. Col. Sir Francis Sheldermine, Director-General of Civil Aviation, who has taken a keen interest in this experimental use of the "owner-pilot class", represented to the Air Ministry that if the men proved able to fly modern military aircraft, their navigational and bad weather experience should make them very useful for ferrying aeroplanes where they were needed.

A number of A.T.A. pilots were therefore sent to the R.A.F. Central Flying School for "conversion" to modern service types. In due course, all were passed through, some for single-engined types and others for all types.

They were then attached to existing ferry pools where for the past four months they have been flying fighters, bombers, reconnaissance and training craft over many parts of England and Scotland.

In other words they have been in training in the R.A.F. where the helpfulness and generous attitude to the 'amateurs' - many of them veterans of the last war - have been warmly appreciated by the A.T.A.

When the success of the scheme became assured, a womens section was started to ferry light machines, as has already been announced. Both the work itself and the A.T.A. share of it is expanding rapidly and the original forty pilots, no longer sufficient, are being added to by new recruitment.



14/2/40 - No.24.

OFFICIAL ADMIRALTY COMMUNIQUE.

Since the sinking of the two U-boats by one British destroyer was announced on the 9th of February, 3 large British merchant ships, namely SS. GRETAFIELD 10,191 tons, S.S. BRITISH TRIUMPH 8,501 tons and S.S. SULTAN STAR 12,306 tons, have been sunk, but 2 of the U-boats concerned have also been destroyed.

In the case of the sinking of the SULTAN STAR, the U-boat only survived her victim half an hour.

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