

Air Ministry News Service

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THREE ENEMY RAIDERS DESTROYED

One of three enemy raiders destroyed last night was shot down into the sea off the East Coast by a Beaufighter.

The successful crew were a D.F.C. wing-commander and his flight-lieutenant observer. It was the wing-commander's first victory since he took command of the squadron three weeks ago.

Their victim was believed to be an Me.410, though identification of this type is difficult because of its similarity to the Me.210, from which it has been developed.

The encounter took place at more than 13,000 feet. Cannon shells from the Beaufighters made many strikes on the Me.'s fuselage and the enemy aircraft turned on its back and dived vertically through cloud.

"We followed in a dive" the wing commander said, "and as we broke cloud could see the wreckage burning on the water".

Fighter Command intruders were over occupied territory during the night, attacking airfields and rail and water transport. Typhoons took part in these moonlight raids and one pilot, a Belgian, damaged a tug on the Seine with five cannon attacks. Another Typhoon, piloted by a Canadian, scored many strikes on two barges near St. Quentin. Two more Canadians, crew of a Mosquito, bombed searchlight posts at Abbeville airfield, and rounded off their low-level attacks with a cannon-gun attack on the watch tower from which aircraft taking off and landing are controlled.

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