

MIDDLE EAST JOINT WAR COMMUNIQUE

Cairo, 23 October 1942

Apart from patrol activity yesterday there was nothing to report from our land forces.

On the night of 21/22 October our heavy bombers attacked the aerodromes at Maleme, Crete where fires were started among aircraft.

Our medium and light bombers were engaged over the forward enemy landing grounds in the Fuka area. Aircraft were seen burning and explosions were caused among dumps and encampments.

Yesterday our bomber and fighter attacks on enemy landing grounds were continued. Direct hits were scored on aircraft and other damage was inflicted. During subsequent air battles our fighters destroyed six enemy aircraft and damaged many more.

Our long range fighters successfully attacked road targets between Matruh and Sollum.

The enemy continued their fighter and fighter bomber attacks on Malta yesterday but with no more success than previously.

Our fighters shot down at least three of theirs and a further Me.109 was destroyed by ground fire.

From the above and other operations six of our aircraft failed to return.

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WAR OFFICE