

24/5/42 - No. 9

Air Ministry No. 7073

MIDDLE EAST COMMUNIQUE

H.Q., R.A.F.,
Middle East,
Sunday May 24.

Bomber and fighter activity over Cyrenaica was on an increased scale on Saturday (May 23). The enemy landing ground at Derna was effectively bombed, while our fighters shot down a Messerschmitt 109 in the Thimi region. Elsewhere, enemy motor transport vehicles were attacked. In the Gulf of Sirte an enemy merchant vessel was hit by cannon and machine gun fire and was brought to a standstill.

The aerodrome at Martuba was again bombed during Saturday night (May 23/24).

A Ju.88 was shot down into the sea off the north African coast by anti-aircraft gun fire during Friday night (May 22/23).

The crew was later captured.

During Friday night a Br.20 was shot down over Malta by our night fighters. On Saturday morning when enemy attacks on the island were resumed. Our fighters destroyed two RE.2001s and one Macchi 200.

Four of our aircraft are missing from operations.

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