

Great Britain: Military Situation, June 1941

BRITISH EMBASSY.
WASHINGTON.

June 2nd, 1941

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED



Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy
of the latest report received from
London on the military situation. It
was dated May 30th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Harold Butler

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.



Telegram from London dated May 30th.

1. Naval. Enemy attacks on trade during last week much less successful.
2. Imports into Great Britain by ships in convoy, week ending May 24th, totalled 664,736 tons.
3. A trawler destroyed enemy aircraft off Plymouth May 28th.
4. One JU 88 believed destroyed by Anti-aircraft fire Malta.
5. Four ex United States coast guard cutters arrived United Kingdom May 22nd.
6. Suez Canal now open to shipping.
7. Attacks on Crete: during operations Dido and Orion twice hit by bombs. Former badly damaged, also Hereward.
8. More enemy parachutists and supplies dropped Heraklion area May 28th.
9. From captured documents evidence that the Germans hoped to occupy Canea first day by parachute troops. Extent of our resistance came as a complete surprise. Our failure to hold Maleme and subsequent withdrawals due to unprecedented scale of continued dive-bombing. Present attacks from the air heaviest yet experienced by troops familiar with conditions of France and Greece.

A.M. 29th, estimate up to 30,000 enemy troops landed in Crete, 90 per cent by air. Greek and Cretans have cooperated with great courage. Our troops have fought magnificently and undoubtedly set back German plans and inflicted losses the enemy can ill-afford in specialised personnel.
10. May 27th/28th. Heavy bombers attacked aerodromes at Scarpanto and Maleme and beaches near the latter. Fires started both aerodromes and amongst 100 aircraft on the beaches. Two Blenheims sent to attack troops at Maleme missing.

11. East Africa. Remarkable achievements of our troops here overshadowed by the other world events. Positions of great natural strength/^{captured}one after another in unbelievable climatic conditions. Fall of rock like Amba Alagi opens up communications between East African and Sudanese commands. In the battle at the Lakes our achievements no less spectacular in heavy and continuous rains from April to September.
12. Tobruk. Our continued occupation here has caused enemy to allocate disproportionately large number of troops to contain Tobruk itself.
13. Iraq. Capture of Fallujah and the continued successful raids by the Royal Air Force combined with the inadequate support from Axis seriously discouraging the rebels. Basrah quiet. Our troops arrived at Luqait 55 miles west of Basrah May 27th. Advance of our Forces from Kharput and Nuqta held up by flooding and damage to bridge eight miles west of Bagdad but small detachments have reached northern districts of Bagdad.
14. On the 28th and 29th our aircraft carried out reconnaissance and operated in support of our ground forces; a reconnaissance aircraft was forced down by three Italian fighters, one of which was destroyed by Gladiators. At Baquba aerodrome 10 enemy aircraft on the ground severely damaged by machine gun fire.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

3rd June, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein copies of the two latest reports received from London on the military situation. They were dated 31st May and 1st June, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

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REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.



Telegram from London dated May 31st.

1. Naval. His Majesty's Ship "Imperial" disabled by bomb later sunk by His Majesty's Ship during operations north of Crete night of May 28th/29th; her crew taken off. A/S trawler "Sidonis" sunk in heavy dive bombing attacks Tobruk. Admiralty tanker Cairndale (8129 tons) sunk by U-boat May 30th 150 miles west of Gibraltar.
2. Crete. Very little news owing to difficulty of communications. Further German air borne reinforcements arrived May 29th and intensive dive bombing continued all day. Our troops exacted heavy toll of the enemy.
3. Abyssinia. General Caparati Commander 21st Italian Division surrendered.
4. Libya. Patrols active night of May 28th/29th Tobruk, destroyed one enemy Breda post and inflicted at least 12 casualties. May 29th. Harbour heavily bombed, a jetty damaged and almost empty oil tanker set on fire. Four enemy aircraft destroyed by anti-aircraft fire.
5. German Air Activity. Weather has stopped enemy air attacks last week. Enemy appear to adhere to policy of holding resources for heavy attacks in good flying weather; hence the last 16 days have given Britain valuable rest and uninterrupted production. At least three bombs dropped in Dublin during night of May 30th/31st. 17 persons killed near Amiens Street station, total casualties about 100. Irish Anti-aircraft fired on the raider May 30th/31st. 135 enemy aircraft operating of which 25 were sea-mining off west coast ports. No concentrated attacks.
6. Iraq. Our column from Fallujah has reached outskirts of Bagdad. Our aircraft carried out operations in support of our ground forces in Bagdad area and caused a large fire in an M.T. depot at Rashid where screaming bombs were dropped.

Telegram from London dated 1st June, 1941.

Crete Operations.

His Majesty's A.S. Perth hit by bomb and speed reduced to 25 knots. His Majesty's destroyer Napier damaged by near miss. His Majesty's Ship Calcutta sunk.

2. British aircraft obtained three direct hits Italian merchant vessel Flora II outside Sfax.

3. At Home

Unfavourable weather prevented Royal Air Force operations during May 31st or night of 31st. Night of 29th/30th Royal Air Force bombed aerodromes Rhodes and Scarpanto. Our fighters maintained protective patrol over naval units between Crete and Egypt on 29th and 30th destroyed four enemy bombers, damaging others and forcing further 20 to jettison bombs.

4. Enemy Air Activity over United Kingdom negligible during daylight 31st but night of 31st/1st 130 aircraft operated over west and northwest, concentrating on Merseyside. Damage not severe and casualties light. Fighters destroyed three enemy aircraft.

5. Tobruk.

Attack on May 30th by enemy bombers three of which destroyed by anti-aircraft fire. May 30th, ten enemy AFV's were engaged by our artillery, one enemy tank knocked out. Five enemy tanks approaching perimeter dispersed.

6. Iraq/

6. Iraq.

Truce for time being ends Iraqi war. Two reasons contributing to this end (1) German assistance came too little and too late owing to bad timing of Rashid Ali, (2) commercial life of country paralysed because no faith in Rashid Ali and because we hold Basrah, country's only port.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

REGRADED
UNCL. & CONFIDENTIAL

4th June, 1941

~~SECRET~~
Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein copies of the latest reports received from London on the military situation. They were dated June 2nd and June 3rd.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

The Honourable
Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States of America,
Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON JUNE 3RD, 1941

SYRIA

Two French fighters attacked one Blenheim on reconnaissance in neighbourhood of Offak on May 31st, being the first occasion for French aircraft operating from Syria to open fire on British aircraft. Syria now regarded as enemy-occupied territory.

2. New form of attack by seven ME 109's experienced during recent operations in Crete. Horizontal or shallow dive-bombing at height of few hundred feet. Bomb trajectory so flat that bomb may ricochet on striking water.
3. The Royal Air Force scored direct hit on merchant vessel in Kiel Canal June 2nd. Also bombed and sank ship off South Norway.
4. LIBYA Royal Air Force bombed Benghazi Harbour on the night of the 31st/1st; also Herakleon, Maleme, Crete on the same night destroying four and probably five.
5. June 1st, 40 enemy bombers with fighter escort dive-bombed British positions at Tobruk. One gun put temporarily out of action; two enemy aircraft destroyed.
6. CRETE Very approximate estimate of numbers evacuated is 17,000.
7. ABYSSINIA Our forces advancing on Gimma held line of River Omo which is in flood.
8. Remainder of 16 Italian colonial battalions have been rounded up in Coddu area; 650 prisoners taken.
9. IRAQ Iraqi forces reported evacuating Ramadi on the night of May 31st/June 1st.
10. Officer-Commanding Iraqi troops at Al Qurna when informed of armistice terms replied that he could not act
on /

on orders from Baghdad alone. Emissary sent on June 2nd; no answer yet.

11. Night of the 2nd/3rd, 194 British aircraft attacked Dusseldorf, Duisberg, Berlin, St. Nazaire.

12. During daylight June 2nd and night of 2nd in the same of the 3rd air activity over United Kingdom slight; one bomber and one fighter destroyed.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON DATED JUNE 2ND, 1941

CRETE

The evacuation of Crete is complete. Total of troops evacuated approximately 17,000. Five hundred casualties from air attack on the passage. The moon allowed bombing of ships and beaches which made operations extremely hazardous and accounts for loss of the Calcutta and damage of two destroyers already mentioned. Royal Air Force attacked Maleme and Heraklion aerodromes on the night of May 30th/31st. During these operations seven more enemy aircraft destroyed on May 31st and three probably apart from aircraft destroyed on the ground. One Hurricane missing.

2. No Royal Air Force operations June 1st or the night of June 1st/2nd owing to weather.

3. No enemy bombing June 1st over the United Kingdom but June 1st/2nd, Manchester centre of a two-hour raid. Damage by fire and blast in central area, mainly business premises, fairly extensive but casualties fairly light.

4. His Majesty's trawler "Stora" lost due to magazine explosion at Aberdeen.

SECRET.
BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

7th June, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It is dated 5th June, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

Telegram from London dated 5th June, 1941.

1. Naval.

During May 3548 tons cargo destined for enemy seized in prize; total seizures since the beginning of the war to the end of May 784,759 tons.

2. During the week ending 11th May imports in convoy exceeded 1 million tons again.

3. Ex. Dutch mine-layer Van Meerlant 690 tons sunk by mine Thames Estuary a.m. the 4th.

4. Military. Iraq.

Our troops reached Mosul morning of the 3rd gained touch with battalion of troops flown from Habaniyah.

In Bagdad demonstrations included considerable looting and civilian casualties.

Situation restored by 2 Iraqi battalions from Kirkuk. June 2nd, our troops continued advance N. West of UR without incident; tribes reported generally friendly; roads this area bad, flooded, unfit for mechanical transport. June 3rd, O.C. Iraqi troops Qurna received orders to cease hostilities and return peaceably to stations.

5. Ethiopia.

In the battle of the Lakes 5772 Italians, 12010 natives, much material including 14 tanks, 7 armoured cars and 65 guns captured. Debareyi twice changed hands, remained ours. Our troops still having difficulty crossing the flooded Omo river. Small bridge-head formed at one place.

6. Royal Air Force.

During daylight of the 4th four direct hits on 5000 ton merchant vessel west of Egersund. 12 bursts observed on the Mole Zeebrugge, 500 ton cargo vessel hit.

7. Daylight 4th. Three enemy aircraft destroyed; 3 probably destroyed, 6 damaged. Three Spitfires lost, 1 pilot safe.

8. Tobruk.

4 enemy aircraft destroyed during attack on anti-aircraft positions.

9. Royal Air Force bombed Benghazi night of the 2nd/3rd June. 3 enemy aircraft destroyed on the ground.

10. June 3rd. Royal Air Force from Malta attacked convoy escorted by six destroyers, destroyed one ship 8,000 tons, hitting another 5,000.

11. Maryland destroyed Italian seaplane on the water near Cephalonta.

12. German Air Force.

Enemy daylight operations over the United Kingdom slight, night of the 4th/5th bombing scattered, Birmingham, Medway, principal targets; no important damage. Two bombers destroyed.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 8th, 1941

~~SECRET~~

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy
of the latest report received from
London on the military situation.
It was dated June 4th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

W. L. Butler

The Honourable,

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON

DATED JUNE 4th, 1941

NAVAL

Photographic reconnaissance shows German battleship Tirpitz has left Kiel.

2. 4th/5th. Prinz Eugen and Battle cruisery sighted Brest.

3. Daylight of 3rd in territorial waters outside Sfax harbour one enemy merchant vessel of 8,000 tons hit by four bombs blew up, ships in the same convoy damaged by falling debris. June 2nd/3rd second ship hit with four bombs.

4. A.M. June 3rd, Dutch merchant vessel torpedoed about 500 miles off the Azores.

5. Military. Egypt. No change.

Second reconnaissance reported 24 enemy medium tanks approaching Halfa from the west.

6. Abyssinia.

Enemy have withdrawn from the bridges over the Romo but are keeping them under artillery fire. General Palermo and remnants of the Italian 24th Division 10 miles South West of Soddu have refused to surrender.

7. Iraq. Our column arrived at Mosul.

8. Royal Air Force.

Night of 2nd/3rd. 127 tons of H.E. and 13,000 incendiaries dropped on Dusseldorf, both here, and at Duisburg large fires started further results not observed owing to bad weather. Over Berlin conditions better although objectives difficult to locate owing to searchlights, large fires caused.

9. 3rd. During the daylight sorties over the French coast, enemy column with transport machine gunned, trawler sunk off Dunkirk direct hits scored on aeroplane factory at Havre.

10. German Air Force.

June 3rd/4th. About 120 enemy aircraft plotted. 2 destroyed.

11. Libya. Tobruk June 2nd.

30 hostile aircraft attacked anti-aircraft positions. Three destroyed.

12. Syria. June 2nd.

A monoplane believed French attacked a company constructing road on Trans-Jordan side on Syrian frontier.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 9th, 1941

~~SECRET~~

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It is dated June 6th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

Telegram from London dated 6th June, 1941.

1. Naval.

M.T.B. 215 Night of June 2nd/3rd intercepted auxiliary schooner, reported to be Turkish, north of Cyprus. She was set on fire, heavy explosion followed. Believed carrying petrol and had fake papers.

2. Government dredger sunk, possibly by mines, or torpedo, entrance to Lagos harbour on June 4th.

3. On June 4th German tanker was intercepted by Marsdale O.B.V. in 43 degrees 38 minutes north, 28 degrees 15 minutes west.

4. In position 43 degrees 32 north, 23 degrees 56 minutes west at 2030 June 4th, Nelson and Neptune intercepted a German supply ship. Ship scuttled and finally sunk by Neptune. Sixty eight prisoners including 32 naval personnel. Of the latter two stated they were from Bismarck. Prisoners state they left a French Port a fortnight earlier in connexion with Bismarck's operation.

5. Armed boarding trawler Northern Sky shot down HE 111, 220 miles west of the Faroes a.m. June 5th.

6. Nine aircraft bombed Alexandria night of June 4th/5th. No naval damage.

7. East Coast convoy south of Aberdeen twice attacked by aircraft on June 5th. One ship on fire, assistance sent. One tanker damaged.

8. Military.

Iraq. Under orders from Bagdad, Iraqi forces left Qurna on June 3rd. Euphrates bridge at Qurna is efficient, railway between UR and Samawa has been repaired.

9. Ethiopia. Our forces have crossed the river of Omo Lingah; in order to engage enemy artillery opposing crossing, they were obliged to man handle their guns up escarpment east of river.

10. On June 2nd Italians attacked and dispersed patriots operational centre near Gimma.

11. Royal Air Force.

June 5th. Two formations of 3 and 6 Blenheims, the former escorted by 12 fighters, attacked shipping with inconclusive results.

12. Mediterranean. On June 3rd/4th, heavy bombers successfully attacked Benghazi harbour and Maritza aerodrome Rhodes. On June 4th Lockheed set fire to two petrol cisterns at Beirut.

13. German Air Force. June 5th/6th. About 30 aircraft attacked shipping off the east coast of Scotland. Now known 3 more enemy aircraft were destroyed on night of June 4th/5th making total of 5.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 9th, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It is dated June 7th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Balifax

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of
America,

Washington, D.C.



Telegram from London dated 7th June, 1941.

1. S/M Upright at 2.0 a.m. May 28th landed a party four miles west of Punto Stilo light, Calabria, who blew up railway line.
2. A.M. June 6th. Outward convoy attacked by U-Boat 120 miles west of Cape St. Vincent. Two ships of 3,400 tons and 1,400 tons, torpedoed. Later at 0818 convoy bombed by Focke-Wulf. One ship reported sunk at 1400, further but unsuccessful torpedo attack on same convoy made 80 miles west off Cape St. Vincent.
3. Coastal aircraft night of June 4th/5th made reconnaissance of Narvik and Kirkenes. No unusual activity observed. 3,000 ton merchant vessel in Vest Fiord near-missed.
4. Norway. There are indications of continuous troop movements northward from Oslo to Trondhjem and Mosjoen. Believed tanks, estimated at six divisions are at present north of Trondhjem.
5. At 1900/June 6th two battle cruisers and Prinz Eugen were still at Brest.
6. Eight bomber command aircraft attacked convoy of eight or nine ships and escort vessels off IJmuiden a.m. June 7th. Two ships of 5,000 tons each bombed and hit from 100 feet, claimed total losses.
7. Night of June 4th/June 5th. Wellingtons from Egypt made successful attacks on Benghazi Harbour and Derna aerodrome and Kattanec aerodrome at Rhodes.
8. On June 5th three Blenheims from Palestine set fire two hangars Aleppo aerodrome.
9. Syria. Modern French bombers reported arrived Syria via Rhodes. Believed Italians have offered Anti-aircraft equipment to the French in Syria.
10. Iraq. Remainder of Indian battalions arrived Mosul by air on June 4th, 300 already having flown there. One British battalion was proceeding to Mosul from Habaniya via Bagdad June 6th.
11. Abyssinia. Northern column and part of southern one have now crossed River Omo in advance to Gimma.
12. French West Africa. On June 4th single aircraft, believed French Glenn-Martin bomber from Conakry, made reconnaissance of Freetown and aerodromes Sierra Leone at 1500 feet. On being engaged by Anti-aircraft fire aircraft replied with machine guns.
13. German Air Force. Night of June 6th-June 7th about 50 aircraft operated against coastal shipping and 17 inland. One destroyed by fighter.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 10th, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It was dated June 9th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Yours very sincerely,

Neville Butler

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D. C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

Telegram from London dated June 9th.

1. Two cruisers and four destroyers supporting left flank of Army in Syria. Rough sea prevented a landing from other ships being made at mouth of Nahr Litany River north of Tyre. Reports received, apparently we have occupied Dara Merdjayoun and Naqurra. Tyre surrendered 1700/8th.
 2. German aircraft made two heavy attacks on Alexandria night of 7th/8th Military damage slight, civilian population appeared main objective.
 3. British submarine reported a.m./8th that she had torpedoed French 3,300 ton tanker off Dardanelles. Tanker routed Naples to Constantza via Messina Corinth Canal Doro Channel.
 4. Night of 7th/8th coastal aircraft attack on Bergen started several fires in docks and one hit claimed on small ship entering harbour.
 5. Last night Royal Air Force carried out medium weight attack on Dortmund. Weather prevented other operations and enemy activity United Kingdom still very slight.
 6. Iraq. Night of 7th/8th small mobile column moved from Mosul to Tel Kotchek about 75 miles to the North West on the Syrian border. Our troops found no sign of German activity and received friendly welcome from inhabitants; they returned to Mosul.
 7. Abyssinia. Estimated enemy forces remaining in Southern Abyssinia 10,000 Italians 15,000 natives. Gondar area - 15,000 Italians and natives. In this area ground action is being taken against Tabor which has been cut off for several weeks. Elsewhere numbers negligible.
 8. Roumania. Roumanian mobilization almost complete. Army strength probably 20 divisions.
 9. H.M.S. London reports that German 10,000 ton tanker was sunk p.m./4th about 1000 miles from West Freetown and a second German 10,000 ton tanker was sunk in position few miles distant a.m./5th. Prisoners 28 officers 152 ratings of whom 7 officers 106 ratings were naval. Former left St. Nazaire May 20th latter left St. Nazaire April 20th.
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~~SECRET~~

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 10th, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London on
the military situation. It is dated June
8th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED



Telegram from London dated June 8th, 1941.

1. British submarines at O825/3 torpedoed and sank laden 1,000 ton merchant ship in Lampedusa harbour.
2. West-bound channel convoy repeatedly attacked by enemy aircraft from 0001 to 0340/7 Straits of Dover and to Westward. Enemy coastal batteries fired 19 rounds. 1 balloon vessel slightly damaged. No other damage, no casualties. 2 enemy aircraft shot down.
3. Night 6/7 enemy aircraft raided Loch Ewe. 1 ship damaged by 2 near misses.
4. Night 7/8 11 coastal aircraft despatched to attack shipping at Bergen and 37 bomber aircraft attacked Prinz Eugen at Brest weather clear but smoke screen was put up over warships. 24 2,000 pound bombs dropped amongst others.
5. On morning of 8th Free French and British troops entered Syria. Light naval forces are working in cooperation with army.
6. Abyssinia. Enemy apparently beginning withdrawal Lechenti area. Our troops Abalti area repulsed 2 enemy attacks June 5th and counter-attacked taking 100 prisoners. 300 prisoners have been captured by southern column. 19,000 prisoners have been taken in southern Abyssinia since May 20th of which 5,000 were Italian - remnants of the 24th Italian division, previously lost, now located west of Soddu in hills where they are being harrassed by Patriots.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 12th, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. I was dated June 10th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Yours very sincerely,

Wavie Butler

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

Copy of telegram from London dated June 10th, 1941.

1. During the action off Sidon with French destroyer P.M./9th, Janus was hit in the boiler room and is being towed into harbour. Isis, Jackal and Hotspur chased French Destroyer into Beirut.
 2. During the night raid on Alexandria 7th/8th 1 Greek merchant ship was set on fire, Damage caused to the town and warehouses. Civil population calm and orderly, evacuation proceeding.
 3. British submarine has torpedoed armed merchant cruiser in Benghazi, where 3 merchant vessels were also seen.
 4. Coastal command reconnaissance considerably reduced by the weather on the 9th but during the morning a Beaufort attacked 5,500 ton merchant ship alongside outer mole La Pallice. Six bombs dropped from less than 100 feet. One direct hit claimed on the stern of vessel. Remainder on mole alongside.
 5. Syria. On the 8th aircraft co-operating with army and naval forces started large fire in aviation petrol stores at Beirut. Also bombed aerodromes at Damascus, Rayak and Estable. Hangars hit, number of aircraft destroyed or damaged.
 6. Night of 8th/9th. Seaborne detachment landed at or near the mouth of River Litani. Heavy fighting reported north of the river. Yesterday our left hand column advancing astride the coast road secured the high ground south of the river and captured 200 prisoners. The bridge across the river reported blown up. Our right hand column has captured Isra, Sheikh Miskin, Kuneitra. A Free French Force at 15.00/9th was reported 18 miles south of Damascus.
 7. Iraq. Bagdad quiet. Friendly relations have been established with the local Iraqi commanders at Ur.

A mobile column has reached the junction of the pipe line on the River Euphrates 130 miles north west of Bagdad. Another left Bagdad on the morning of June 9th for Kirkuk.
 8. Libya & Egypt. On the night of 7th/8th June enemy aircraft dropped bombs at Tobruk without damage. Two aircraft destroyed, one by L.M.G. fire and by Bofors anti-aircraft fire. Ground situation unchanged. One enemy tank immobilised by artillery fire in El Adem sector.
 9. Abyssinia. Our two forces advancing on Gimma are some miles west of Omo river. Captures in the area of Omo crossing include 3900 prisoners, 14 guns, 180 lorries and other war material.
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BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 13th, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It was dated June 11th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Yours very sincerely,

Halifax

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,
Washington, D.C.

REGRADED
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Copy of telegram from London dated June 11th, 1941.

Night of 10th/11th. 93 bombers attacked enemy ships at Brest. Smoke screen over warships effective; identification difficult. 122 tons high explosives including 19 A.P.'s of 2,000 pounds and 12 of 1,000 pounds dropped. All aircraft returned safely. Large fires seen in docks. 8 aircraft Coastal Command bombed U-boat Penns, St. Nazaire. "Pintail", escorting east coast convoy was mined and sunk off Humber p.m./10, 22 survivors. On 10th, attack on shipping off Stavanger by Blenheims, resulted possible hit on 1,000 ton merchant ship.

2. Syria. Up to morning of June 10th our troops had taken 450 prisoners comprising French Tunisians and a few Italians. Free French on right encountered some opposition just south of Kiswe but morning of June 10th were able to push on. No progress at Merdjayoun. On left, bridge over River Litani repaired and our column resumed advance by coast road June 10th being five miles north of river by 0900 hours. Reference engagement 9th, French destroyers had previously bombarded our advancing troops north of Tyre. On 9th Royal Air Force fighters covering naval units destroyed 4 French aircraft, 3 Hurricanes missing. Gladiators drove off 4 French bombers attacking our troops South Damascus. Night of 9th/10th 20 aircraft probably from Dodecanese bombed Haifa. Tanker set on fire, power station and oil works damaged not seriously. Two certain one possible aircraft shot down by anti-aircraft.

3. Egypt. Libya. Labour situation at Alexandria which was bad after air raid now improving. Night of 8th/9th Royal Air Force bombed Benghazi and other targets in Libya with 10 aircraft, attacked Rhodes harbour and aerodromes where explosions and persistent fires occurred among dispersed aircraft. On same night Swordfish attacked Tripoli harbour starting fires near quay and in merchant ship. June 9th enemy aircraft bombed hospital at Tobruk. Our own and enemy patrols have been active both there and South of Halfaya. One enemy armoured car captured in area Sidi Suleiman. Enemy aircraft bombed Rabia damaging one aircraft on ground and attacked Matruh where no damage or casualties were caused.

4. Abyssinia. To 0700 June 9th. Northern column advancing on Gimma was delayed by road block at Socorro. This will take 36 hours to clear. On line of advance of southern column work proceeding on pontoon bridge over River Omo and on clearance of road block 12 miles west of crossing. Heavy rain impeding work.

5. Iraq./

5. Iraq. June 9th. Our flying column passed through Haditha (at pipe line junction) and head was reported to be in touch with some rebels two miles southeast Abu Kemal. Mobile column sent to Kirkuk has arrived. More troops have reached Mosul by air without incident.

6. Enemy activity United Kingdom, remains slight but night of 10th/11th brief attack on Pembroke area. No important damage reported.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 13th, 1941.

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Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report on the military
situation. It is dated June 12th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D. C.

Telegram from London dated June 12th, 1941.

1. At 11.20/11th capture of Assab had been successfully completed. Operation proceeded according to plan, surprise complete. Landing made by Indian troops. Indian naval sloop Clive Indus and H.M. Ship Chakdina took part. Two generals one naval captain prisoners.
 2. 11th three aircraft attacked merchant vessel at Zeebrugge. Four hits on mole observed. Five aircraft claimed destroyed 5,000 ton tanker between Dunkirk and Ostend last seen on fire decks awash.
 3. Last night three Swordfish attacked docks Dunkirk. All bombs target area. Enemy war ships Brest still in same position.
 4. Night of 10th/11th two Blenheims claimed one hit 1,900 ton merchant vessel near Haugesund.
 5. Night of 11/12th, 245 bombers despatched for Dusseldorf, Duisburg, Boulogne docks, Rotterdam docks, Cologne and shipping off Dutch and French coasts. 8 aircraft missing. 105 tons of high explosive bombs including the 4,000 pound and 42 1,000 pound and 4,380 incendiaries dropped over Dusseldorf. Number of fires started including oil fire west of the town. Duisberg 48 tons of high explosives 7,180 incendiaries dropped. Many fires started in inland port, one very large warehouse hit, set on fire. Boulogne docks 36 tons of high explosive bombs 1,780 incendiaries. Large fire warehouse south of dock.
 6. Successful bombing attack made Benghazi harbour night of 9th/10th.
 7. Syria. Morning of 11th. Free French assisted by Colonel Collets cavalry were developing attack on Kisup. No further advance on Merdjayoun. Force on coast road approaching Nahr Es Zahrani, 7 miles south of Sidon.
 8. Iraq. Our troops on way Bazra to Baghdad have passed Samawa.
 9. Libya. p.m.10th. Heavy shelling took place salient area Tobruk. Enemy AFV's active south of Halfya. Night of 9th/10th enemy aircraft bombed petrol dump Matruh and exploded 60 mines in our mine field east of the town.
 10. Abyssinia. To 7 hours June 10th. We are clearing road Omo to Abalti but delay caused by torrential rain. Italian commander has asked us to assist General Pralermo and remnants of 24 Italian divisions from attack by patriots. Patriot forces have occupied Lakebehi, important town 170 miles west of Addis Ababa.
 11. Night of 11th/12th about 100 enemy aircraft operated. Bombs dropped midlands, southern, eastern counties. One serious incident Dover. Parachute mines caused much damage to houses in Bristol, casualties probably heavy.
-

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 16th 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London
on the military situation dated June 13th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Stahfax

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED June 13th 1941.

Pocket battleship escorted by destroyers sighted early June 13th South Norway steering west. Aircraft of Coastal Command attacked. One Beaufort dropped torpedo from 500-700 yards, scoring a hit amidships. Another Beaufort attacked later reported target hit, aircraft also claimed probable hit. Ship since sighted ten miles south-east of Kristiansund heading eastward.

2. British submarine torpedoed and believed sank 8,000 ton tanker off Tenedos also sank two sailing vessels and one steel lighter in Mytilene harbour.

3. Haifa attacked by aircraft early morning of June 12th, little damage but some mines laid.

4. One MLC with six officers and 134 other ranks arrived Sidi Barrani area night 8/9th, having left Crete on the 1st. Another MLC with 53 men reported in vicinity.

5. Now known total number landed Alexandria from Crete 16,692, including 509 Royal Marines, 464 Naval ratings and Royal Air Force personnel, also Cypriots, Palestinians and Greeks, two thousand wounded.

6. Week ending June 7th 812,183 tons imported into United Kingdom in convoy.

7. Libya and Egypt. Except for enemy patrol activity south of Halfaya, situation quiet.

8. Abyssinia. Our columns operating against Gimma from Abalti and Soddu have made contact 20 miles east of Gimma.
9. Iraq. Further column has left Basrah for Bagdad.
10. Syria. Evening of June 11th, Free French were bombed and machine-gunned in Kiswe sector. In centre our troops are pursuing French, following capture of Merdjayoun. On coast-road we were one mile south of Sidon evening of June 11th after dispersing tanks by artillery-fire. Local inhabitants have received our troops well, and are cooperating in supply and conveying of food.
11. On 12th Blenheim set fire to merchant vessel 1400 tons off Gravelines.
12. Night of 12th/13th June. Total of 339 aircraft sent to attack marshalling yards at Soest, Schwerte, Hamm, Osnabruck, chemical factory at Huls, Brest, shipping at Rotterdam and Channel Islands. Reports so far received indicate large fires and gutted warehouses at Soest and many fires at Osnabruck. Seven aircraft missing.
13. Royal Air Force again bombed Benghazi harbour night of 10/11th and landing ground at Derna.
14. One Me 109 destroyed over channel by Blenheim near British convoy, two others driven off partly by anti-aircraft fire from ships.
15. In raid on night of 11/12th Portsmouth attacked by high explosives and oil bombs. Hillsea Barracks hit, four soldiers killed and 24 seriously wounded. Night 12/13th minor bombing mainly near east coast.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 17th 1941.

file

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London
on the military situation dated June
14th 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Herle Butler

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON DATED June 14th.

- Pocket battleship Lutzow last seen returning to Skaggerak with considerable escort with reduced speed.
2. Sheffield has sunk 10,400 ton German tanker in 44 degrees 48 minutes North 24 degrees West.
 3. Faroese trawler Thor, attacked by aircraft Kinnaird Head p.m. 12th shot it down. Dalemoor British 5,800 tons in convoy bombed off Stonehaven on 13th. Aircraft was shot down by Dalemoor which was towed into harbour.
 4. Naval aircraft torpedoed French destroyer Guepard class in Djounie harbour north of Beirut night of 12th/13th.
 5. On 11th Maryland aircraft from Malta bombed and hit 5,000 ton merchant vessel; total loss claimed. On 11th two Blenheims from Malta dropped five bombs on 5,000 ton merchant ship in convoy off Pantellaria. One Blenheim lost in striking ship mast.
 6. Over Malta on 12th our fighters destroyed nine enemy fighters and two sea float planes. We lost three Hurricanes, two pilots safe.
 7. Off Sidon 13th Tomahawks shot down three and damaged two JU 88's with Italian markings attempting to dive bomb our naval units.
 8. Syria. Vichy French have evacuated Kiswe and are holding positions on the road to Damascus. In Merdjayoun Sector Royal Air Force in close support attacked 40 enemy vehicles. On left of this sector we hold Nabatiye. On coast artillery opposition was encountered

at/

at Sidon now reported but not officially confirmed, in our hands. Action there is being strongly supported by our naval forces.

9. Lybia. Egypt. Morning of June 12th aircraft attacked pumping station and anti-aircraft positions Tobruk. No damage. One enemy aircraft shot down. Enemy armoured car captured in frontier area. Later enemy A.F.V.S. operating south east of Halfaya were withdrawn.
10. On night of 11th/12th three Wellingtons set fire to two ships and hit third at Benghazi.
11. Abyssinia. Our patrols were 12 miles from Gimma June 12th. General Pralermo has notified willingness to surrender.
12. Eritrea. Aerodrome near Assab secured and force now fully disembarked. Prisoners 950.
13. Iraq. Force at Haditha encountered local rebels who have withdrawn into Syria.
14. Night of 12th/13th our bombers dropped 300 tons of H.E. and 7000 incendiaries on four railway centres attacked. Night of 13th/14th we sent 184 aircraft of which 110 went to Brest, 42 Schwerte marshalling yards.
15. Night of 13th/14th enemy sent 145 to United Kingdom and United Kingdom waters, 70 of these over Kent. Several attacked Portsmouth but bombs fell in harbour off Eastney and Langstone harbour. Two civilians reported killed. No special damage reported. Seven shot down by fighters certain, possibly two more.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

18th June, 1941.

~~SECRET~~

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It is dated 15th June, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

W. B. Butler

**REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED**

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

Telegram received from London dated June 15th, 1941.

On June 14th substantial reinforcements of Hurricanes arrived at Malta.

2. P.M. 14th. Two French destroyers sighted five miles west of Beirut returned eventually when attempt to intercept was made. 3,300 ton Italian tanker was torpedoed and sunk off Cape Hellas a.m. June 10th probably by British submarine. Norwegian tanker of 6,000 tons reports that on the 12th was shelled by shore battery when 15 miles off Iles de Los, French Guinea. An aircraft which was spotting also machine-gunned her.

3. Night of 14th/15th, 29 bombers sent to Cologne. All returned but conditions bad. Night before Royal Air Force bombers dropped 71 tons of high explosives including 16 of 2,000 pounds on positions of Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, 86 tons of high explosives including 6 of 2,000 pounds dropped on positions of Prinz Eugen. Target screened and ground haze but many bursts seen very close to ships.

4. 6 offensive fighter patrols carried out over France 14th. They shot down 3 enemy aircraft and damaged 3 without loss. Night of 12th/13th 6 Wellingtons successfully bombed Benghazi. Bursts seen on or near two 3,000 ton ships.

5. Libya. Egypt. At the end of May estimated number of Italian tanks 18 medium, 45 light, all in Tobruk area. Originally there were 230. Night of 11th/12th mechanized patrol encountered 16 Italian M.T. vehicles destroying 12. Night of 12th/14th our troops improved/

improved our position in Medawa Salient by means of advance.

6. Abyssinia. June 9th in Gambela area our troops met considerable opposition in attack from the South. Casualties slight and operation continuing.

7. Iraq. Tigris column has arrived near Amara. Haditha column reports still some enemy activity near Abu Kemal.

8. Syria. In centre our troops have reached Jezzine and operations continue northwards. About Sidon strong Vichy resistance with tanks reported.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

18th June, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It is dated 16th June.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Harold Butler

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

Telegram from London dated 16th June, 1941.

- On 15th June the Royal Air Force attacked convoys off the enemy coast. One merchant ship of 1,000 tons and one 4,000 tons hit with bombs, one 5,000 tons hit torpedo and left with heavy list. During one attack 6,000 ton merchant ship thought to have received glancing hit by bomb. One E boat also damaged.
2. P.M. 15th June. Vichy destroyer Cassard class was sighted by aircraft northwest of Cyprus on Easterly course and at 03:00 June 16th she was hit by two torpedoes from aircraft about 40 miles northwest of Tripolis, Syria.
 3. Nine Wellingtons attacked Bengazi the night of June 13th/June 14th. During intensive operations in Libya our aircraft have destroyed 11 aircraft on the ground, 3 in the air and destroyed or disabled 3 light tanks and 23 M.T. vehicles.
 4. Sollum area. British patrol reached Gambut area 40 miles west of Bardia and destroyed 12 Italian M.T. vehicles. Yesterday our forces captured Capuzzo and Bir Waer.
 5. Abyssinia. In Gimnak area it appears that one enemy division has completed withdrawal from west of the river Didessa, Baco 65 miles east southeast of Maji has been evacuated by the enemy.
 6. Iraq. One of our columns has left Amara en route for Bagdad.
 7. Syria. On 14th June nine Blenheims destroyed at least 3 aircraft on the ground at Aleppo. On the right our forward troops are established north of river Nahr el Aouaj. Najha captured. Moukelba reported captured subject to confirmation. In center Jessine occupied/

occupied morning of 15th June. Sidon captured 12:00 hours 15th June.

8. Last night we sent over 182 aircraft which attacked railway centers in the Ruhr Hanover and Dunkirk. All returned but one. Enemy activity United Kingdom negligible.

Four aircraft of Condor unit attacked a convoy at 07:50 hours on 15th June. They were engaged one by one by a Catalina flying boat escorting the convoy. Catalina reported having received minor damage but no casualties. It was subsequently reported four enemy aircraft forced landed in Portugal, 3 of which were German and it is thought probable that these were the aircraft which attacked the convoy.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

19th June, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It was dated June 17th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Harold Butler

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON JUNE 17TH, 1941.

1. Photographs of Brest P.M. June 16th show floating crane alongside starboard bows of Scharnhorst. Gneisenau had dockside crane working on port side. Four mines were detonated off English coast June 16th, thirteen moored mines were cut in Lyme Bay.
2. June 16th six Blenheims with fighters attacked Boulogne. Our fighters destroyed eleven enemy aircraft, probably destroyed six, and damaged five. All but one were M. E. 109's, two of our bombers failed to return and we lost five fighters, three fighter pilots were saved.
3. Night of June 16th - June 17th, we despatched 222 aircraft to Coblentz, Cologne, Dusseldorf, Duisberg, Boulogne and Dunkirk. Four bombers overdue.
4. Libya and Egypt Advance by three British columns commencing June 15th; number of aircraft captured at Capuzzo and Bir Waer. Attack on Halfaya Pass repulsed. Left hand column captured Sidi Omar and attacked Bir Hafid penetrating defences and inflicting casualties. Daylight June 16th coastal column resumed attack on Halfaya Pass capturing high ground overlooking Pass, against heavy opposition. Since beginning of operations our forward troops immune from air attack.
5. Syria. June 15th. Tomahawks successfully attacked corps of cars and trucks at Izra and shot down two enemy aircraft. Hurricanes protected naval units, shot down another and in Kiswe area four Gladiators engaged twelve French fighters destroying one and probably a second. Three of our fighters are missing. By June 16th our troops

on the right captured Kiswe. Jebel Madani captured and Aatouz being attacked. Defensive detachment covering right flank of the forces engaged in this sector. Vichy forces reinforcing Ezra which they still hold and their A.F.V.'s and cavalry are reported on the road south east of Quneitra. Advance in coastal sector continuing up coastal road.

6. Home. Of about 30 enemy aircraft over United Kingdom night of June 16th - June 17th, three shot down by night fighters.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 20th 1941.

file ↗
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Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London
on the military situation dated June
18th 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Frank Butler

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED JUNE 18th 1941.

Air reconnaissance reports Tirpitz Lutzow and Scheer at Kiel and one Hipper class cruiser. Isis and Ilex both damaged by bombs while supporting army off Syrian coast. Main losses of merchant tonnage sunk in May were by submarine chiefly in Freetown area and western Atlantic, 23 ships were sunk by aircraft.

2. His Majesty's submarine sank 4,000 ton ship south east of Sardinia on June 1st, 2,500 ton ship off south west coast of Italy June 8th and 500 ton auxiliary sailing vessel south of Sardinia.

Seven Beauforts attacked German destroyers off Cherbourg p.m. June 17th one hit claimed results not confirmed. Our fighters provided a heavy escort for these attacks also offensive operations destroyed 13 ME 109's probably destroyed 8 damaging 13 - 12 of our fighters missing 2 pilots safe.

3. Night of June 17th/18th. 193 aircraft (1 overdue) raided Dusseldorf, Cologne, Duisberg, Hanover, Rotterdam and Channel ports.

4. Libya and Egypt. June 15th/16th. Benghazi harbour and enemy landing grounds were successfully bombed. On June 15th and June 16th further fighters protected our forward troops from enemy air attack and attacked mechanical transport in Capuzzo area. One enemy fighter and probably two others were destroyed. We lost eight Hurricanes. By evening of June 16th enemy had assembled strong armoured forces in area of Sidi Azeiz, Bardia and about Sidi Omar. On June

17th/

17th they attacked our troops in Capuzzo area and east of Sidi Omar. Considerable casualties inflicted on enemy. Our troops now withdrawing to positions east of Halfaya.

5. Syria. Free French maintaining pressure on Kiswe - Damascus road while our troops are attacking Mezze from Jebel Madani and have captured Aartouz. We have retaken Ezraa with 150 prisoners. Evening of June 16th Vichy French captured Quneitra holding up our advance from Mardkayoun and entailing withdrawal from there. Vichy French now cut off in Quneitra. Both places are being attacked by us but result not yet known. In Jessine operations, we inflicted heavy casualties and captured several armoured cars. On coast our troops are four miles north of Sidon with patrols further ahead. No contact with enemy forces.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.
June 22nd, 1941.

~~_____~~t.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London
on the military situation. It was
dated June 19th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

W. B. Bullen

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

Telegram from London dated June 19th.

1. Vanessa hit amidships by bomb off East Coast on 19th, boiler rooms flooded, being towed into harbour. Gorleston and Landguard ex-United States cutters have arrived at United Kingdom.
2. Netherlands submarine sm/18 sunk 7,000 ton tanker and another 500 ton ship in Gulf of Genoa.
3. Coastal aircraft southwest of Ushant 18th believed scored two under water hits small merchant ship.
4. Libya and Egypt. Our forces have withdrawn successfully to original positions Sidi Barrani area without being followed up by the enemy. Fighters destroyed twelve JU 87 four ME 109 two G 50 for loss of seven Hurricanes.
5. Abyssinia. Gondar area. Surprise night attack on Wolcheat Fort north of Debarech resulted in 100 enemy casualties. Gimma area our troops captured prepared enemy positions 15 miles west of Lechemti killing 160 enemy and taking about 150 prisoners four guns and twenty M.G.'s.
6. Syria. Operations against Merjayoun are continuing June 18th Quneitra recaptured without any real resistance.
7. Over France 18th during bombing operations our fighters shot down nine ME 109 six ME 109 probably. We lost four fighters with pilots.
8. Night of 17th/18th. 164 tons of high explosives and 16,220 incendiaries dropped on enemy targets. Night of 18th/19th Royal Air Force sent 165 bombers to Bremen and Brest; majority attacked their targets but haze prevented observation of most results. Six bombers missing. Enemy air activity United Kingdom very small.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

23rd June, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

— I enclose herein copies of the latest
— reports received from London on the military
situation. They are dated 20th and 21st
June 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

Telegram from London dated 20th June, 1941.

1. H.M.S. Vanessa arrived at Yarmouth. Two mine-sweeping trawlers bombed in Peterhead Bay a.m. 29th June. One sunk, other damaged. A coastal command aircraft obtained direct hit on merchant vessel of 5,000 tons off Etaples.

2. Royal Air Force.

Successfully bombed docks at Havre on 19th June. Enemy air activity against United Kingdom very slight. Night of 17th/18th June enemy aircraft dropped bombs in harbour area of Alexandria, damage small.

3. Imports into United Kingdom in convoy week ending 14th June exceeded one million tons, average 795,445 tons for past ten weeks. Last week 900 British, Allied and Neutral ships were convoyed and only one lost, making total 68,202 ships convoyed and 344 lost since the beginning of the war.

4. German and Italian war expenditures estimated at £16,000,000 a day.

5. Benghazi bombed nights 17th/18th June and 18th/19th June also Derna.

Syria. During morning 19th June our troops advanced at Mezze and Damascus but held up by heavy artillery fire. Free French attacked Jebel Kelb 6 miles north Kiswe but Vichy troops counter-attacked inflicting heavy casualties. Note sent to General Dentz informing him we would shell Damascus unless declared an open town. In centre we attacked

Merjayoun/

Merjayoun where estimated three Vichy battalions holding out from north. After initial success advance was held up on outskirts of the town. Coastal sector, our patrols pushed ahead.

6. Night of 19th/20th June. 48 aircraft sent to Cologne and Dusseldorf, 2 are missing. At Cologne 23 tons of high explosives including 9 one thousand pound and 5,300 incendiaries were dropped, and at Dusseldorf 18 tons of high explosives including 10 one thousand pound and 3,800 incendiaries. Results difficult to observe but fires seen in both target areas.

(Embossed Seal)

Telegram from London dated 21st June, 1941.

Reconnaissance Oslo 20th June showed Leipzig class cruiser in Harbour. On 20th June 65 mines exploded or were detonated off the British coast. British submarine on 11th June torpedoed ship in Benghazi harbour causing fire and explosion. She also sank one ship in convoy on 12th June. No further details received. His Majesty's Trawler Capstone shot down enemy bomber off Mounts Bay a.m. 20th June.

2. Libya and Egypt.

No activity frontier area 19th June over mobile columns reported no enemy escarpment area east of Bir Sofafi. 17th June four aircraft with French markings bombed locality south-east of Sidi Barrani.

3. Abyssinia.

Large enemy concentration reported near Mendi about 50 miles from the Sudan border. Enemy's morale there reported low. Gunina area enemy appears to be burning petrol and M.T. A force has been sent to support patriots being attacked 70 miles south south-west of Lecamoti.

4. Syria.

Damascus area. We opened road to Mezza 19th June. Free French have successfully held counter attacks. Quneinam area Vichy French still occupying area 5 miles north-eastwards. Situation in Merdjayoun obscure our troops hold position 1,000

yards/

yards to south-west and Vichy-French on high ground 5 miles to the south. Coastal area we are advancing slowly against M.G. fire. In Jebel Druse country our bombers attacked Suweida fort 18th June where local tribe reported to have surrounded Vichy garrison on afternoon of 19th June.

5. 13th June. Bomber command aircraft sank small vessel off the Dutch coast.

20th/21st June. 128 aircraft despatched to Kiel shipbuilding yards battleship Tirpitz and industrial targets. Small numbers also to Boulogne, Cologne and Essen. Two aircraft missing.

German Air Force 20th June

Two Spitfires intercepted three German bombers escorted by five fighters south of Plymouth and destroyed two fighters. 20th/21st June. Forty-two enemy aircraft were plotted of which 17 came overland. One was damaged by a night fighter.

6. Comprehensive photographs taken 16th June to 18th June of all important ports Kiel to Bordeaux reveal practically no movement of ships or barges except merchant shipping activity at Bremen, Emden and Rotterdam though that not abnormal. Believed much activity on defences and storage Cap Grisnez and Boulogne areas. Work continuing on the projection and extension of ammunition dumps N. Holland and Germany.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Secret.

June 24th 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London
on the military situation dated June
22nd 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Navile Butler

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED JUNE 22nd 1941.

1. German s.s. "Raritonga" 4422 tons disguised as a Dutch ship when intercepted by the "London" scuttled herself. Vichy - French "Desirade" 9645 tons intercepted 7th and taken into St. Helena. Vichy - French hospital ship "Canada" intercepted by H.M.S. "Jackal" on 21st and taken to Haifa for examination.
2. During the night of 21st - 22nd, parachute mines and high explosives dropped in Southampton and surrounding district. Fires started in the docks and central station, latter badly damaged. About 55 people known injured but full details not yet to hand. Other incidents are Orpington, Poole, Ryde, Isle of Wight, Tisted, Eastleigh, Fareham, Darley, also Orkneys. Two enemy bombers destroyed by night fighters definite, and one probable.
3. On the night of 20th - 21st Royal Air Force dropped 134 tons of high explosives on industrial areas of Kiel. During daylight of 21st Blenheims escorted by fighters attacked aerodromes near St. Omer and Boulogne. One Blenheim missing. Twenty-six Me. 109's destroyed and 7 probable. We lost six fighters four pilots safe. On the night of 21st - 22nd 152 aircraft attacked Cologne, Dusseldorf and Boulogne. One Manchester missing.
4. No details yet available of Russo-German operations.
5. Libya and Egypt.
Reconnaissance confirm reduction of 300 to 400 M.T. in frontier area since June 18th.

6. Abyssinia.

Patriot forces led by British Officers have captured Gimma.

7. Syria.

June 21st - Vichy forces evacuated Damascus. Town occupied same day by Free French. Centre sector. Our attack on Merjayoum from the North unsuccessful. After heavy fighting our troops forced to withdraw to a line on River Litani north-west of Merjoyoum. Coastal sector. Our infantry consolidating at Jadra 10 miles north of Sidon. 20th. Eight Tomahawks destroyed or disabled 100 mechanical transport on Damascus - Bayrout road, further 20 mechanical transport were destroyed or damaged by Blenheims in the same area.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

June 25th 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London
on the military situation dated June
23rd 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED JUNE 23rd 1941.

On June 21st "Arrow" mined off Flamborough Head has arrived harbour.

2. On June 22nd/23rd two M.S. trawlers bombed and sunk.

3. Marsdale O.B.V. a.m. June 22nd. Sighted suspicious vessel believed enemy supply ship which escaped to the north east at 21 hours. Catalina aircraft attacked her with bombs but without success, operations continuing.

4. During air raid Alexandria Harbour night of June 20th/21st no naval or military damage caused.

5. British ship of 5,000 tons bombed and sunk whilst in convoy off Cromer night of June 21st/22nd.

6. Convoy previously sighted off Lampedusa on June 22nd attacked and medium sized merchant vessel severely damaged.

7. LIBYA and EGYPT. Enemy covered by offensive patrols of A.F.V.S. appears to have carried out extensive recovery of derelict vehicles.

8. BENHAZI. Night of June 21st/22nd again attacked: one ship set on fire.

9. ABYSSINIA. After sharp engagement June 20th our troops captured prepared enemy position 15 miles west of Lechemti inflicting severe casualties and capturing four guns and 20 machine guns. Small enemy parties still being rounded up southwest of Soddu.

Deserters have confirmed presence of 3,000 white and 1,000 Banda 10 miles north of Debarech. Steps being taken to round these up.

10. SYRIA. All resistance in Damascus has ceased. Capture of Mezze complete. Merjayoun sector operations proceeding.
11. IRAQ. Tigre's convoy arrived at the area on the evening of June 19th.
12. ROYAL AIR FORCE. June 22nd. Formation of Blenheims attacked railway centre at Zealbrouck. Sixteen squadrons of fighters acted as escort and destroyed 29 enemy fighters in air combats. Two were lost but one pilot safe. The Blenheims also probably destroyed one enemy aircraft and destroyed another which had already been damaged by fighters.
13. Night of June 21st/22nd. Manchester reported missing yesterday has returned.
14. Night of June 22nd/23rd. 111 bombers sent to Bremen and Wilhelmshaven. Three missing. Seven coastal command aircraft operated against shipping. One missing.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.


26th June, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the
latest report received from London on
the military situation. It was dated
June 24th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


Telegram received from London

dated June 24th, 1941.

Naval. Pytchley damaged by mine east of Flamborough Head arrived at the Harbour in tow.

2. Enemy supply ship Alsterufer intercepted by eighth D.F. southwest of Cape Finisterre afternoon of June 23rd scuttled, survivors rescued include 44 British.

3. Solon, mine-sweeping trawler, shot down enemy aircraft which had sunk another mine-sweeping trawler off Cromer.

4. British submarine morning of June 16th in Messina Straits possibly hit with torpedoes Italian liner of about 19,000 tons.

5. French hospital ship Canada has been released, no irregularity discovered.

6. From June 12th to June 18th inclusive 22 French vessels total tonnage 100,000 tons passed Gibraltar east-bound and eleven passed west-bound. Ten east-bound vessels totalling 40,000 tons have not previously been employed in the Mediterranean.

7. Military. Abyssinia. Our forces occupied Jimma without incident morning of June 21st. Estimated 8,000 Italian troops in the town including Generals Tessi, Scale, Maynardi, and eight Brigadiers.

8. Syria. Palmyra. Vichy aircraft here repeatedly and accurately attacked columns moving from Iraq into Syria causing casualties to personnel and vehicles. June 22nd. Vanguard reached outskirts of Palmyra which Vichy still holds. Two further columns are moving up.

Damascus/

Damascus Area. The Free French have captured Barze and are on the high ground about Charqi feature (sic) of North Damascus. We are on the same feature astride Damascus-Beyrout road. Further British troops began attack on Mafia-Beyrout road through Qatana June 23rd. Damascus quiet.

Merjayoun Area. Attack by our troops from the south began June 23rd.

Coastal Area. Area 4 miles north of Barja reported clear of the enemy. Our artillery fire Damour area increasing.

9. June 23rd. Blenheims, escorted by strong force of fighters carried out successful attacks on industrial plants and railway centres in Northern France. Fighters destroyed 20 German fighters; we lost 2 Blenheims and 4 Spitfires, 2 pilots safe.

10. June 23rd/24th. 145 bombers sent to Cologne, railway centres, main station and industrial centres; Dusseldorf and Kiel, amongst the bombs dropped were 3 of 14,000 pounds, one burst just east of the industrial centre; the other two caused explosions. One aircraft missing.

11. Malta. 4 Hurricanes attacked and hit a number of flying boats at Syracuse.

12. German Air Force. June 23rd/24th. About 135 enemy aircraft operated against shipping and in the vicinity of night bomber stations.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

27th June, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It was dated June 25th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Kalpa

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON JUNE 25TH, 1941

1. Naval. During air raid on Alexandria June 22nd - June 23rd, Warspite slightly damaged by near miss.
2. British Yusang Shanghai to Hong Kong intercepted off Suntow boarded by armed party from Japanese auxiliaries. After search the master signed statement under protest, that he had no objection to the visit.
3. June 23rd two Blenheims attacked 2,500 ton ship near Kerkenah. No direct hits seen but crew took to the boats. Further force of Blenheims sent to sink her.
4. Military. Libya. Enemy's A.F. V's in frontier area estimated 200.
5. Syria. Palmyra still held by Vichy-French, almost surrounded. Damascus area: Free French attacked from Barze successfully,.....Astride Damascus-Beyrouth road. Our cavalry have occupied Deir Qanoun 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.W. of Damascus, infantry brigade has advanced 10 miles from Damascus from Beyrouth road capturing 9 tanks and 3 other A.F.V.'s. Merjayoun: our advance progressing. Coastal area: Naval units cooperating with our troops in bombarding Vichy positions about Damour. Resistance encountered in Syria has been considerably stiffer than was anticipated but it is thought that the reserves, particularly material, must now be running short.
6. Royal Air Force. June 24th, evening, 243 aircraft operated over France. 19 squadron fighters provided escort and support for 15 bombers attacking power station. 9 enemy fighters destroyed, 7 possibly destroyed, 5 damaged. All bombers returned safely, 2 Spitfires lost.

7. Night /

7. Night of June 24th - June 25th. 137 bombers despatched to Cologne, Kiel, Dusseldorf, Emden, Boulogne, shipping off Norway. 3 missing. In attack on Cologne railway centre 34 tons of high explosives including sixteen 1,000 pound and 5,700 incendiaries dropped; on the main railway station Cologne 21 tons of high explosives including 16 1,000-lb. and 3,500 incendiaries; on Dusseldorf main railway station 39 tons high explosives including 2 4,000-lb. and 38 1,000-lb. and 4,300 incendiaries; Deutsche Schiff shipyards Kiel 17 tons high explosives including 7 1,000-lb. and 800 incendiaries; shipyards Kiel 16 tons H.E. including 7 1,000-lb. and 700 incendiaries
8. Libya. June 24th. 20 enemy transport vehicles destroyed at Agedalam by fighters.
9. Syria. June 23rd. Hurricanes operating at Ras Baalbek Talwa and Rayak destroyed seven Vichy-French aircraft and damaged many others. 3 of ours missing.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 28th, 1941.

t.
Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the
latest report received from London on
the military situation. It was dated
June 26th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Balfour

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED June 26th 1941.

1. His Majesty's ship Aukland (sloop) sunk by air attack 20 miles ENE of Tobruk afternoon June 24th.
2. Reconnaissance on June 25th showed two battle cruisers and Prinz Eugen still at Brest, Emden cruiser at Oslo and a Leipzig class cruiser at Horten near Oslo.
3. Early on June 23rd naval units off Beirut damaged two French destroyers by fire who retired to harbour behind smoke screen.
4. Morning of June 25th enemy dive bomber unsuccessfully attacked east coast convoy and was shot down by gun-fire from convoy escort.
5. R.A.F. June 25th. Twenty-four Blenheim bombers escorted by fighters attacked 2 objectives in Northern France. At Hazebronck direct hits made on ammunition train and two railway bridges. At aerodrome near St. Omer bursts seen among aircraft and hangars. During operations 13 enemy aircraft destroyed, 7 probably destroyed and 7 damaged. Our losses one bomber and 6 fighters.
6. Night of June 25/26th. 127 bombers despatched against Bremen, Kiel, Rotterdam. Two aircraft missing. Bremen shipyards and goods station 23 tons H.E. 1400 incendiaries; Bremen industrial centre 6 tons H.E., 1200 incendiaries; Kiel shipyards 42 tons H.E., 2200 incendiaries.
7. Libya. Night of June 23rd/24th. Five Swordfish scored direct hits on railway lines and two or three quays at Tripoli (L). Following night 5

Wellingtons/

Wellingtons attacked Benghazi causing fires.

8. German Air Force. Night of June 25/26th.
Eighty aircraft operated against this country of
which 40 penetrated inland.

9. Libya and Egypt.
Enemy AFV patrols active June 24th
neighbourhood of Sidi Suleiman.

10. Abyssinia.
Gondar area. June 22nd enemy attacked
patroits near Wolchehit inflicting heavy casualties.

11. Gimma area. Troops supported by
patriots have mopped up enemy forces west of
Argio taking 60 prisoners. We encountered resistance
on R. Didessa but are advancing along Gimma except
in Bedelle Road.

12. Syria.
Our troops are meeting with considerable
resistance from MG's and aircraft at Palmyra. We
have occupied Merjayoun and hold El Aichive, 4 miles
to North West. Vichy French holding Habaya (7 miles
ENE) in force. Indian troops fought magnificently in
operations leading to capture June 7th.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 30th, 1941

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy
of the latest report received from
London on the military situation.
It was dated June 27th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


Telegram received from London
dated June 27th, 1941

NAVAL.

M/S trawler bombed and disabled off
Cromer p.m. June 26th.

TURKEY.

2. Refah was torpedoed 40 miles north east
of Cyprus 2230 June 23rd. She carried Turkish
submarine crews to Egypt for onward passage to
the United Kingdom.

3. Total enemy merchant ship losses to June
17th - captured or seized 102; 469,000 tons;
scuttled or sunk 198; 1,060,000 tons; unidenti-
fied ships estimated 345; 1,725,000 tons: total
645; 3,254,000 tons, also 47 ships 84,000 tons
under enemy control or allies of the enemy sunk
and 33 of 320,000 tons arrested in United States
or South American ports.

4. Military. Libya.

Egypt. June 25th we advanced 500 yards
front of 2000 yards thus strengthening our position
Medawar salient Tobruk. Long distance patrol re-
ports Mekili occupied by Italians, little activity.

5. Syria.

Evening June 24th, local Vichy counter
attack on Jezzin met slight success. Morning June
26th situation in Palmyra improving. Hostile
aircraft bombed Damascus. Free French occupied
Maaraba before Quastal 25 miles north east of
Damascus. Our troops held up by artillery fire
twelve miles north of the city on Beirut road.

Merjayoun/

Merjayoun area, our cavalry patrols in touch with Vichy French. One hundred and twenty Circassians have surrendered.

6. Royal Air Force. June 26th.

Northern France bombers unable to locate target owing to weather; fighters shot down nine certain, four probable eight damaged. We lost three Spitfires.

7. Even before Russian hostilities began German propaganda commenced complaints that Luftwaffe were fighting against superior odds possibly to explain increase of losses, which were uncomfortable.

8. Night of June 26th/27th.

143 bombers attacked Cologne, Dusseldorf, Kiel. Four bombers missing.

9. Libya. June 26th.

Royal Air Force successfully raided Gazala destroying five and damaging other enemy aircraft on the ground. Our fighters for loss of 3 shot down 6 certain, 2 probable.

10. Syria. In Palmyra Sector our aircraft destroyed four Potez 63 bombing our troops.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 30th 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London on
the military situation dated June 28th 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,
Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED JUNE 28th 1941.

After a very quiet period in the North Atlantic U. Boats torpedoed three ships out of homeward Halifax convoy on 24th. On the night of 25th/27th four more ships of this convoy torpedoed but of these only two sunk. These losses not left unavenged. On 27th we lost one M/S trawler and night of 27th/28th another bombed, sunk, both off the East Coast. British submarine sank southbound merchant ship 2800 tons p.m. /22nd 50 miles from north west Lampedusa. Swordfish aircraft claim 3 hits with torpedoes and Maryland one hit with 500 pounds bomb on two merchant vessels in convoy in Mediterranean on 26th. Off Dunkirk on 27th Royal Air Force aircraft hit and probably sank merchant vessel estimated 3000 tons.

2. Over France 27th, 8 enemy fighters destroyed certainly, 3 probable, and 8 damaged. We lost 9 Spitfires, one pilot safe; night of 27th/28th 158 bombers despatched to Bremen and shipyards at Vegesack near Bremen. Small numbers to other objectives including sea mining. 12 Bombers missing. Benghazi harbour again bombed 26th/27th by five Wellingtons, also Tripoli harbour by five Swordfish and four Wellingtons. In Syria on 26th our fighters destroyed eight enemy aircraft on the ground and damaged others during attack on 3 aerodromes.

3. Russia.

German armoured formations making headway
towards/

towards Minsk. Heavy fighting in progress line Kaunas-Libau from Pribag Marshes to the Black Sea. Russians offering strong resistance.

4. Finland.

Reported that Russians have bombed at least 8 places. Some fifty German aircraft from Norway reported arrived at Helsingfors airport.

5. Abyssinia.

To 7 hours 25th June. Lekemti area, we have crossed river Dadessa. Patriots have entered Bedelle and are advancing towards Gore. Patriots operating from Dessye along Assab road have collected 125 deserters.

6. Syria.

To 17.45 hours 26th June. Free French have established troops 3 miles south of Nebek and have occupied Seidnaya. Coastal (some words undecypherable) we have reached position 4 miles south Damour 12 miles south of Beyrouth.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

1st July, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It was dated June 29th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Stalifax

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON JUNE 29TH, 1941

Another British ship of 6,000 tons in the same half of convoy was torpedoed night of June 28th/29th. Though the losses of this convoy heavy, on balance we have scored. One tanker 9,000 tons previously reported torpedoed now known safe. Naval force of one cruiser three destroyers swept the Syrian coast night June 26th/June 27th bombarding enemy positions dawn June 27th.

2. Night June 27th/June 28th, over 80 tons of bombs dropped on industrial and railway centre Cologne. June 28th we made further sweep over France for the loss of three fighters (one pilot safe), five Messerschmidt 109's shot down certain, 2 probably. On June 27th considerable increase of German fighter patrols over France. Bengazi and Tripoli Harbour where large merchant vessel hit have been again attacked. On June 27th of 25 Macchi 200 approaching Malta escorting one S. 79 Hurricanes shot down six certain, 2 probably and damaged the S. 79.

3. Abyssinia. June 26th. Our troops occupied enemy positions across the River Didessa, west of Lekenti and now advancing towards Chimbi. Further South we are established on line of River Didessa in Dembi area.

4. Syria. Enemy aircraft attacks continue Palmyra. We have taken Saba Biya, sixty miles to south-west Free French captured Nebek. On Beyrouth road we have taken part of Jebel Mazar (13 miles west of Damascus). Coastal sector June 27th area Chehim Mazboud, 8 miles northeast of Sidon, captured in face of Vichy A.F.V. opposition. Further progress towards Damour was also made.

5. Iraq./

5. Iraq. Protective detachments now guarding pumping stations on oil pipe line.
6. Russia. Though formations believed armoured and motorized have reached line Minsk-Vilna-Liban, they must have by-passed Russian infantry, who are thought holding back German infantry considerable distance behind armored troops. Elsewhere Russians appear holding on well. Estimated 2,000 German operational aircraft engaged against Russia.



REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 2nd, 1941



Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London
on the military situation. It was
dated June 30th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

The Honourable,

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON
DATED JUNE 30th, 1941

NAVAL.

2100/29th. Defender in position north of Sidi Barani reported picking up all survivors from H.M.A.S. Waterhen seriously damaged by bomb during air attack. Defender attempted to tow her into harbour but she capsized 0150 June 30th.

2. Canadian Troop Convoy No.11 has arrived safely in United Kingdom.

3. Military. Abyssinia.

Our column from Gimma has captured Demei taking 600 Italians and 100 Africans.

4. Syria.

Vichy French have not withdrawn from positions north west of Damascus. We met with considerable opposition and withdrew to line on south east slopes of Jebel Mazar astride Damascus Beirut road.

5. Russia.

No official news available. Germans believed to have crossed Dvina captured Dvinsk and passed Minsk.

6. Royal Air Force.

Night of June 29th/30th, we sent 139 bomber aircraft against Bremen Hamburg - 12 missing.

7. Syria.

Royal Air Force continuing to attack enemy. June 28th, while escorting our bombers Tomshawks shot down 6 Vichy Glenn Martins attacking our troops Palmyra area.

Alexandria/



- 2 -

8. Alexandria was attacked night of June 27th/28th by 17 aircraft. Bombs and mines dropped only slight damage.

9. German Air Force.

June 29th/30th about 45 aircraft engaged mainly in sea mining and against shipping off east coast. One JU 88 destroyed by night fighters.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 7th, 1941.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

file → ~~SECRET~~
Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein
a copy of the latest report received
from London on the military situation.
It was dated July 4th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

Halifax

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D. C.

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED JULY 4th.

Naval. Night of July 2nd - July 3rd Tripoli (Lybia) harbour and shipping bombed, one ship set on fire. Following day low level attack was carried out on shipping Tripoli (Lybia) when three ships, two being estimated at 5,000 tons, were set on fire.

2. R.A.F. Night July 2nd - July 3rd more than 160 tons of H.E. and over 16,000 incendiaries were dropped on targets in Germany.

3. Last night 163 aircraft despatched to attack ship yards and industries Bremen, Krupp works and railways Essen. Seven aircraft missing.

4. Day light yesterday 33 squadrons of fighters escorted small force of bombers over France. Eleven enemy aircraft destroyed seven probably and seven damaged. We lost one bomber, six fighters.

5. Military. Russia. Apparently Germans have not yet reached Murmansk. Pressure between Riga and Dvinsk towards Smolensk and Kiev continues. In the south Germans and Roumanians appear to have crossed the Pruth River. Estimated over 2,500 German operational aircraft engaged against Russia.

6. Lybia. Egypt. Small enemy patrol activity.



- 2 -

7. Abyssinia. Gondar area. Garrison Debra Tabor has surrendered, Prisoners 3,000 Italian and 1,200 native troops.
8. Cyprus. July 2nd. Unidentified aircraft dropped bombs on Paphos area causing no damage beyond cut telephone wires.
9. Syria. Garrison of Palmyra surrendered July 3rd.