

Great Britain: Military Situation: Sep. 1941


THE BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

September 2nd, 1941.

~~SECRET~~
Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein copies of the
latest reports received from London on
the military situation. They are dated
August 29th and August 30th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

REC'D
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED AUGUST 29th, 1941

British submarine reports sinking of laden 2,000 ton merchant ship off North West Sicily on August 20th and obtaining two torpedo hits on Italian fleet oiler in same area on August 27th. H.M.S. Phoebe hit by aircraft torpedo north of Bardia p.m. August 27th has returned to harbour 12 knots. H.M.S. Hawkins on arrival at Simonstown on August 26th had been 47 days at sea out of 50.

2. Imports into Great Britain in convoy for week ending August 23rd totalled 1,373,683 tons. Highest weekly figure during past 12 months.

3. August 28th. Blenheims with fighter aircraft made low-level attack on Rotterdam docks. Direct hits on one merchant vessel of 8 to 10 thousand tons and on another of 8 thousand tons; other vessels and ships under construction attacked with unobserved results and one aircraft claimed direct hit on sheds in docks. Heavy anti-aircraft opposition. 7 Blenheims, 5 fighters missing.

4. Night August 28th-29th. 150 aircraft despatched to targets including Duisburg railway centres and searchlights Ostend and Dunkirk, 9 missing, at Duisburg concentration Flak and searchlights was the biggest experienced but good results obtained. Direct hits claimed on railway station and huge explosion close to it. Very large fires also started.

5. Middle East. August 26th/27th. Light attacks by Wellingtons on Benghazi harbour and by Marylands on tank concentrations 45 miles east of Tobruk. Fighters protecting shipping shot down 3 German fighters; one Hurricane missing.

6. August 27th/28th. Our torpedo bombers scored hit on 8,000 ton merchant vessel near Lampedus and on August 28th Blenheims over Iomian Sea made 3 hits on 5,000 ton merchant vessel last seen stationary and down by the stern; 1 hit obtained on another ship.


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED AUGUST 30th, 1941.

Deucalion has arrived Gibraltar Phoebe has arrived in harbour. A British submarine scored a possible hit on merchant ship in Mandri Channel a.m. 15th. Also sunk by gun fire on August 20th schooner with cargo of oil. H.M.A.S. Yarra captured Italian merchant vessel Hilda 5,000 tons in the Persian Gulf August 27th fires started on board the Hilda were extinguished. She is being towed into harbour. During air raid on Suez Canal zone night of August 27th/28th only damage reported at ABU Sultan where ammunition train hit. Suez Canal reported closed.

2. Royal Air Force August 29th. During day our fighters over Northern France destroyed 10 enemy fighters; we lost ten Spitfires. August 29th/30th. Over 240 despatched to targets including Mannheim and Frankfurt. Five missing. Results not yet known.

3. German Air Force. 52 German aircraft operating, 13 crossed the coast. Majority mine laying or working against shipping off the East Coast. One destroyed by balloon cable and another probably destroyed by night fighters.

4. Royal Air Force August 28th. 5 Blenheims attacked by two ships previously reported west of Sapienza. Three hits obtained on one ship of 5,000 tons; when last seen ship stopped down by the stern. One bomb hit the other ship but the results not seen. No opposition. Believed ships probably Italian Ciliccia and Orion. P.M. August 27th at Tobruk during air raid by 40 dive bombers mine sweeper Skud 3rd sunk. One aircraft shot down certain three probably.

5. Germany. Air reconnaissance August 24th shows traffic border area increasing. Marshalling sidings filled. Continued indication traffic trend southwards towards Spanish frontier. Exceptional activity of Military.....seen.

THE BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

September 2, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It is dated August 31, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


COPY OF TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED AUGUST 31,
1941

On 28th off West coast of Crete British S/M sank an enemy motor vessel estimated at 10,000 tons.

2. Suez Canal is open.
3. A Soviet destroyer has cut one moored mine entrance to White Sea.
4. Deucalion on arrival at harbour reported two attacks 27th by two Italian torpedo bomber aircraft. All torpedoes and bombs missed and she shot down one of the bombers during the second attack.
5. German advance south of Leningrad proceeding. If it continues grave danger of city being cut off from Russian forces to the South.
6. Royal Air Force 29th/30th Frankfurt. 100 tons H.E. and 9,000 incendiaries dropped on East Harbour and railway centre. Mannheim. 45 tons of H.E. and 9,000 incendiaries dropped. Many fires reported some of which were large. One M.E. 110 was probably destroyed by a Wellington.
7. 30th. Four coastal command Hudsons scored one hit on a 3,000 ton ship off Norway: three of them are missing.
8. Middle East 28th/29th. Twenty-six Wellingtons from Egypt bombed two aerodromes near Athens. At one four hangars were hit, two caught fire and several aircraft on the ground are believed destroyed. At the other one or more hangars were demolished and fires caused in adjacent woods.

9. 29th/30th. 26½ tons of H.E. and incendiaries dropped on Tripoli (L) Harbour. One merchant vessel of 8,000 tons and another of 5,000 tons set on fire and a third of 5,000 tons blew up; petrol dump exploded and extensive fires caused in dock area. A torpedo aircraft is believed to have hit an 8,000 ton enemy merchant ship off east Sicily.

10. 30 Blenheims attacked 2 ammunition factories in Sicily and made six direct hits on power house of both factories; damage considerable.

11. German Air Force. Tobruk 27th. 40 dive bombers attacked and sank one ship. One enemy aircraft shot down and three others probably destroyed.

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C.,

SEPTEMBER 2, 1941.



British Embassy,
Washington, D.C.,
September 3rd, 1941.

~~SECRET~~

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from London on
the military situation. It was dated
September 1st, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell

**REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED**

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

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 1st, 1941.

August 30th/31st.

8 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of high explosives and nearly 1,000 incendiaries dropped Cherbourg. Many bursts seen in docks area.

2. 31 Blenheims bombed industrial buildings Lille, aerodrome in Brittany, and shipyards near Rouen. Fortress from 35,000 ft. dropped bombs in the centre of Bremen. Fighters escorting Blenheims destroyed 1 enemy fighter. We lost 2 fighters.

3. Night of 31st/September 1st.
Nearly 200 aircraft despatched; targets included Cologne and Essen; 7 missing.

4. Night of August 30th/31st.
9 Wellingtons attacked Tripoli L.
One ship hit and set on fire.

5. Malta. August 30th/31st.
Five torpedo bombers attacked 1200 ton enemy merchant vessel near Lampedusa. One hit scored left ship listing heavily.

6. German Air Force. Aug. 31st/Sept. 1st.
93 aircraft operating of which 35 crossed coast. One destroyed by night fighters. Main concentration on Hull and neighbouring district. Some damage to house property and some casualties.



~~SECRET~~

THE BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.
September 4th, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the
latest report received from London on
the military situation. It is dated
September 2nd, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

**REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED**

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


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1941.

Another Canadian Military convoy has arrived in home waters. His Majesty's Submarine reports possible hit on merchant vessel approaching Benghazi on August 19th and sinking two out of convoy of five large schooners and steamer between Tripoli and Benghazi on August 23rd and 24th. Night of August 30th/31st five Swordfish attacked merchant vessel of 1,000 tons with torpedos. One hit observed causing large explosion.

2. Photographic reconnaissance September 1st showed Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Prince Eugen at Brest. Tirpitz steaming towards Kiel. Scheer Hipper and Lutziw at Kiel. Koln at Travemunde.

3. Royal Air Force August 31st - September 1st. Cologne. 93 tons of high explosive 7,000 incendiaries dropped. Essen 28 tons of high explosive 8,000 incendiaries.

4. September 1st/2nd. Nearly 60 bombers sent mainly to Cologne. One missing.

5. August 30th/31st. Rhineland. 18 tons dropped on two enemy aerodromes. Hangars hit at one and numerous fires started at both.

6. German Air Force. September 1st/2nd. About thirty enemy bombers flew over land: chief objective Tyneside. Two destroyed by night fighters.

Newcastle. Sharp attack on town and surrounding districts. Two railway stations hit and main London-Scotland traffic temporarily diverted. Damage caused to two factories.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

5th September, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It is dated 3rd September, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

Telegram from London dated 3rd September, 1941.

H.M. Ship Triumph claims one possible hit on cruiser entering Straits of Messina a.m. 26th in company with one battleship, one cruiser, ten destroyers. Confirmed by British naval officer prisoner returning to Syria who sighted cruiser sic beached at Messina a.m. 26th.

2. On the 2nd three Beauforts claim two hits with torpedo on 7,000 ton merchant vessel off Stavanger. One Beaufort missing but one of five attacking M.E.'s shot down at 10 yards range. Three Blenheims scored hits on merchant vessel estimated 4,000 tons off Dunkirk, left sinking. One escort ship set on fire.

3. Night of 31st/1 nine Wellingtons attacked Tripoli (L) one medium sized ship left on fire and another believed sunk. Following night seven Wellingtons bombed Tripoli power station. 1st September seven Blenheims attacked Crotona three hits set fire to ship estimated at 4,000 tons; explosion caused in munitions factory,

4. Night of 2nd/3rd two hundred aircraft attacked German targets of which over one hundred twenty Frankfurt and about fifty Berlin. Twelve missing.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

8th September, 1941

~~SECRET~~
Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein copies of the latest reports received from London on the military situation. They were dated September 4th and 5th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1941

Wolfhound has arrived in harbour. At 0350/5 Scheer seen Northern Skagerrack steering north towards Oslo.

2. His Majesty's submarine demolished 120 feet railway bridge south coast of Sicily night of August 27th/28th. H. M. Submarine hit with torpedo Italian ship Aquitania and sank tanker south bound in convoy off Marittimo August 26th. August 28th she hit and probably sank Duilio class liner South bound near Capri. The latter in company with two Italian 19,000 ton ships. Night 3rd/4th three Swordfish failed to find damaged tanker outside Tripoli (L) but claimed destruction of destroyer by one torpedo two miles outside the harbour. Merchant vessel estimated 8,000 tons hit by one 500 pound bomb result not observed.

3. During week ending August 30th imports into Great Britain totalled 819,275 tons compared with 1,373,682 tons in previous week and average of 882,805 tons for past ten weeks.

4. Royal Air Force, 4th. Small force of Blenheims despatched with fighter escort to Cherbourg docks and Mazingarbe (near Bethune) synthetic oil plant. Both attacks successful. Several hits on oil plant and explosions. One Blenheim lost, 10 M.E. 109's destroyed; 11 probable and 5 damaged; we lost 8 fighters. A fortress bombed Rotterdam docks.

5. Libya. Night of 2nd/3rd. Wellingtons attacked Derna and landing grounds at Bardia and Gazala. 3rd, Syria. Fighters destroyed without loss, at least 5 of the 20 Italian fighters which attacked our landing grounds in Sidi Barrani area.

6. 4th, Our fighters destroyed 6 of the 20 Italian fighter planes which approached Malta. 3 more Italian fighters of 12 covering rescue operations off Sicily were destroyed later.

2 Hurricanes missing.



7. German Air Force 4th/5th. 40 enemy aircraft of which 14 were over land. Principal activity mine laying and anti shipping patrols off the East coast.

8. Libya, Egypt. Tobruk attacked. 2nd/3rd and night of the 2nd/3rd when mines also were dropped. No serious damage. 1 enemy aircraft destroyed and 2 probably destroyed. Same night 12 aircraft attacked Abu Sueir severly damaging Wellington.

9. Malta night 3rd 4th. 5 aircraft bombed damage negligible.


TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON SEPTEMBER 4TH, 1941

H.M.S. Wolfhound on escort duty off Sheringham had bows blown off by reported near miss. After part being towed to harbour.

2. Submarine Trident shelled merchant ship off Bredasund Norway; scored 5 hits. 22nd. She sank German Ost Preussen out of convoy of 4 ships entrance Fuglo Sound. 30th. She attacked convoy of 4 ships escorted by destroyers trawlers and 1 aircraft off Soreen Island and hit 1,500 ton ship and 3,000 ton ship. Former believed sunk. 2 hours later the latter observed on fire with heavy list. Trident sustained no damage though 56 depth charges dropped round her. Enemy convoy of 5 merchant ships estimated between 8,000 and 13,000 tons escorted by 7 destroyers off Cape Spartivento September 3rd surprised by 9 Swordfish. 1 merchant ship estimated at 8,000 tons torpedoed and blew up, another 9,000 ton torpedoed amidships and 2 others hit by 2 torpedoes these results not known. Convoy thrown into wild disorder, enemy destroyers firing in all directions.

3. Royal Air Force. Night of 2nd/3rd 84 tons of high explosive and 13,350 incendiaries dropped on Frankfort. Attack very successful. Many burst seen on and around aiming point; one particularly large fire reported near railway centre and 2 others in dock area. 46 tons of H.E. on Berlin. Many bursts and fires seen within one mile radius of Alexander Platz very large fire reported centre of the city. 12 tons of H.E. dropped on Ostend. 1 aircraft previously reported missing has returned. 3rd/4th. 70 aircraft despatched against warships at Brest. All returned. Night of 2nd/3rd/ 9 enemy aircraft attacked Port Said.



4. German Air Force 3rd/4th. 23 enemy aircraft overland in Tyne area, remainder on anti-shipping activities.
5. Russia Threat to Leningrad increasing. German attack south east of Gomel being developed. Attempt to cross Dnieper continuing.



BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

~~SECRET~~

September 10, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein copies of the latest reports received from London on the military situation. They are dated September 8th and 7th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

A. I. Campbell

RECORDED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED
SEPTEMBER 7, 1941

M.S. trawler Strathborve mined and sunk p.m./6th east of Spurn Point.

2. German activities on French Mediterranean coast reported increasing. Many Germans openly in Marseilles Port Caronte almost entirely taken over by enemy and will probably be used for import of iron ore and phosphates from Africa for Axis use.
3. Night of 6th-7th. British tanker of 4500 tons in east coast convoy damaged by bombs off Lowestoft but proceeding. Later attack by E. boat made off Cromer. Two ships torpedoed but no details yet.
4. Reported a.m./7th American ship Steel Seafarer 5,718 tons sunk by aircraft near Shadwan Islands, Red Sea. No further details but twenty-four of crew are on Shadwan Islands. His Majesty's ship sent to pick them up.
5. 6th. Three fortresses bombed port of Oslo. Primary target Admiral Yernot located. Night of 6th/7th more than eighty aircraft attacked Chemical Works near Krefeld and about 24 were min-laying. Oil installations near Stadtlandet attacked by four aircraft and set on fire. Night of 5th/6th three hits claimed on merchant ship in Tripoli (L).
6. Nine enemy aircraft attacked Alexandria hitting Naval Storage shed and railway station. No service casualties.
7. Germans reported to have established bridge head east bank of Dnieper at Kremenchug.

COPY OF TELEGRAM FROM LONDON

DATED SEPTEMBER 6, 1941

Southern part of Suez Canal
closed after air raid on 5th. About 16
enemy aircraft employed.

2. Night 4/5 successful attack by
13 Wellingtons on Tripoli (L) 4th. Five
Blenheims attacked shipping in Cotrone. One
hit scored on merchant ship estimate 7,000
tons.



BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

~~SECRET~~

September 10, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

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

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

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


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED
SEPTEMBER 8, 1941

In foul weather at 08.30/7 Nigeria and Aurora engaged enemy force in inlet east North Cape; result obscure but seems certain that small destroyer, one trawler and another ship sunk. German Bremse and another ship were hard hit and former may have been torpedoed by our side. We suffered no casualties but Nigeria damaged her bow by ramming a wreck in a smoke screen.

2. In east coast convoy attacked by E boat night September 6th-7th one British ship of 478 tons and one of rather more than 1436 tons were sunk.

3. Relating to air raid Alexandria night September 5th-6th Woolwich, Kandahar and Maine hospital ship slightly damaged by near misses.

4. Night of September 6th-7th 7 Swordfish attacked convoy of three merchant ships, 3 destroyers, 20 miles north of Pantellaria northward bound. Three hits made on merchant ship estimated at 6000 tons; last seen with heavy list. Ship tanker type estimated at 6000 tons also hit by two torpedoes.

5. September 7th. 12 Blenheims attacked shipping and believed hit merchant ship of 2000 tons west of the Hague; later seen enveloped in smoke. 1200 tons A.A. ship was hit and blew up. two A.A. missing.

6. Night of September 7th-8th over 300 aircraft despatched from United Kingdom - Kiel and Boulogne attacked by about 50 each and nearly 200 plastered Berlin. Estimated centre of city severely damaged.

7. Only/

7. Only about 17 enemy aircraft attacked United Kingdom but caused more damage than usual on East and South East coast.

8. South-east of Gomel Russians reported retreating to line of R. Desna. Some increase in military traffic Germany to Norway. A Second Italian motorized division reported arrived at Tripoli (L) area.



BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

~~SECRET~~
September 11th, 1941.

file ↗

Dear Mr. President,

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

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 9th, 1941.

1. Corfield minesweeper mined and sunk p.m. /8th south of the Humber Light-Vessel.
2. Suez Canal is open.
3. 8th. 10 Blenheims accompanied by fighters attacked two tugs and string of barges near Guernsey. Several barges sunk and one tug blown up by fighters.
4. Four fortresses despatched against Oslo but failed owing to strong attack by ME 109's. Two missing.
5. Night of 8th/9th about 100 aircraft despatched to deliver heavy attack on railway works Kassel and smaller attack on Cherbourg. Night of 7th/8th Suez was attacked twice by 24 aircraft.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

September 12th, 1941.

~~SECRET.~~

file →
Dear Mr. President,

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

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 10th, 1941.

- 1 p.m. September 9th Beaufort aircraft claims hit with torpedo on enemy merchant vessel about 6,000 tons in convoy off Stavanger.
2. Night of September 7th/September 8th Wellingtons dropped about 16 tons H.E. and incendiaries Palermo Harbor.
3. Attack on Kassel night of September 8th/9th very successful left whole town enveloped in flames and smoke.
4. Leningrad position serious. Heavy fighting Yelnya and Dniepropetrovsk. Germans believed made progress southern Berislav.
5. German army. Rations for armed forces were reduced June 1st for second time since war began. Weeks' meat and fats rations for "front line" troops was reduced from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 lbs. and $10\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. respectively, weeks' rations for other troops have been reduced to level of heavy workers rations namely $1\frac{3}{4}$ meat and $6\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. fat.
6. Our equivalent field service rations scale is a) United Kingdom frozen meat $3\frac{1}{2}$ weekly, margarine $10\frac{1}{2}$ weekly, bacon 21 ozs. weekly.
b) Middle East: frozen meat 4 lbs. 6 ozs., margarine $10\frac{1}{2}$ ozs., weekly bacon 21 ozs. weekly.

10
BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

September 13, 1941.

~~SECRET~~
file 7
Dear Mr. President,

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

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED
The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

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

4



COPY OF TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 11,
1941

- His Majesty's submarine sank Italian tanker *Maya* 3,867 tons on 5th near the Dardanelles.
2. His Majesty's ships *Kimberley* and decoy slightly damaged by near misses night 8th/9th leaving Tobruk.
 3. 10th and night of 10th/11th homeward bound convoy of 58 ships heavily (word omitted) by U-boats north east of Cape Farewell; at present 9 ships known torpedoed but no further details. Escorts should now have been reinforced.
 4. Imports into United Kingdom by ships in convoy week ending September 6 totalled 708, 151 tons compared with 819,275 tons in previous week and average 858,293 tons during the past 10 weeks.
 5. 10th. 3 aircraft off southern Norway scored hits with torpedo on largest ship estimated 5,000 tons of convoy of 4.
 6. Night of 8th/9th. 9 Wellingtons again attacked docks shipping at Palermo. Many hits round dockyard, believed 3 large merchant ships damaged, and possible hit on small merchant ship.
 7. 9th/10th. Wellingtons bombed power station and landing stages Messina starting many fires.
 8. Night of 10th/11th majority of 76 bombers including heavy bombers attacked royal arsenal and railway at Turin. One aircraft bombed Genoa, four missing.
 9. Same night 21 enemy aircraft approached Malta but only seven dropped bombs. Night fighters destroyed one bomber only slight damage was caused.

10. G.A.F. Egypt.

Tobruk attacked several times night 7th/8th and 8th/9th and during days following. No ships damaged but some mechanical transport stores destroyed. Mersa Matruh also bombed no damage. Ismalia attacked by 15 aircraft night of 9th/10th; our night fighters destroyed one JU 88.

11. German attack near Murmansk made slight progress. Southwards from Gomel Germans have cut Kursk-Kiev railway. Dniepropetrovsk heavy fighting.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

September 15th, 1941.

~~SECRET~~

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein copies of the latest reports received from London on the military situation. These were dated September 12th, 13th and 14th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

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

COPY OF TELEGRAM FROM LONDON

DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 1941.

1. 17 ships of homeward bound convoy totalling 63 ships attacked by U. boats off Greenland now believed torpedoed but salvage of three may be possible and one may only be missing from the convoy. Tonnage of ship torpedoed ranges from 1114-7465, total 65,360. These attacks by U. boats have not gone unavenged.
2. Three M.T.B.'s, 2 M.G.B.'s had inconclusive engagement with enemy light craft off Boulogne night of 11th/12th. Two of our boats sustained damage.
3. Panamanian "Honduras" 4,524 tons bombed and damaged in Gulf of Suez am/10th.
4. During last day or two Royal Air Force carried out several promising attacks on U. boats in the Atlantic.
5. Hudson on patrol claims two hits on merchant ship estimated 2,000 tons off Norwegian coast.
6. Night of 11th/12th. 191 aircraft despatched to deliver medium weight attacks on works and shipyards Rostock, docks Warnemunde, shipyards Kiel and light attacks Havre and Boulogne. Seven aircraft lost, two crews safe.
7. Night 10th/11th. Eight Wellingtons dropped bombs landing stage and power station Messina.
8. South west of Cape Matapan a.m./11th Elenheim aircraft scored two hits on 3,000 ton merchant ship. Observers confirmed serious damage.
9. German Air Force. 11th/12th. 26 bombers and 8 night fighters operated off East coast penetrating inland.
10. 10th/11th. Bombs dropped North Kame caused no damage or casualties. Larnaca (Cyprus) attacked without effect. German advance south eastwards from Gomel continues involving threat of encirclement to Russian troops north of Kiev.


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 13th, 1941.

1. Of seventeen ships reported probably torpedoed in homeward convoy off Greenland 11 are sunk, 3 still afloat, one missing and 2 doubtful but presumed sunk.
2. Dutch submarine O.21 on September 5th Isarco Italian 5,915 tons loaded with phosphates 70 miles west of Naples. She picked up master and 22 of the crew.
3. September 12th. 11 Blenheims escorted by fighters attacked convoy off Dutch coast. A ship medium size received two direct hits and smaller ship also believed hit.
4. Night of September 11th/12th. Seven Swordfish attacked with torpedoes convoy of six merchant ships six destroyers off Kerkennah, one ship estimated at 6,000 tons hit, probably sunk. Another estimated at 8,000 tons claimed damaged. Yesterday 8 Blenheims again attacked same convoy. Four bombs hit large merchant ship and two hits scored on another. Heavy anti-aircraft fire experienced. Three Blenheims lost.
5. Night of September 12th/13th. 162 aircraft despatched delivered heavy attack on Frankfurt and light attack on Cherbourg docks. Two missing.
6. Egypt. September 10th/11th. Six Wellingtons bombed Benghazi Harbour, and 6 more attacked about 50 enemy aircraft on landing ground near Derna destroying several.
7. Sicily. September 11th/12th. Over 16 tons of H.E. dropped Palermo docks. Drydock containing merchant vessel straddled by bombs.
8. German Air Force. Enemy activity slight over British Isles. Our night fighters destroyed two bombers and one possible.
9. Egypt. September 11th/12th. 13 enemy aircraft
/ bombed

bombed Suez without effect, one destroyed by Hurricanes.

10. Tobruk. September 9th/10th. Air raids reported as almost continuous. About 100 bombs and possibly some mines dropped but damage not serious. September 10th. Enemy aircraft bombs hit jetty and merchandise September 11th. Tobruk again attacked. No appreciable damage.

11. German advance held between Leningrad and Smolensk, southeast of Gomel, north from Kremenchug, and south from Berislav.

Telegram from London dated 14th September, 1941.

- At 0500/12 naval aircraft carried out attack on shipping on Bodo Fiord one ship estimated 2,000 tons sunk.
2. In Glom Fiord power station possibly hit and hits obtained on aluminium works where fires were started.
 3. Night of September 11th/12th a Soviet MTB claims torpedoed one destroyer, one transport, off Petsamo.
 4. Royal Air Force September 12th/13th. 132 tons H.E's and 8000 incendiaries dropped on Frankfurt; cloudy conditions hampered accurate bombing. 25 tons bombs dropped Cherbourg docks. Hudson made direct hit on 4,000 tons merchant vessel near Borkum, another 2,000 tons vessel probably hit.
 5. September 13th/14th. 154 aircraft despatched Brest and Havre docks. All returned safely visibility Brest was excellent until spoilt by effects of smoke-screen.
 6. Egypt. September 11th,12th Wellingtons successfully attacked Benghazi Harbour. One Italian bomber shot down near Mersa Matruh.
 7. North Russia. September 12th. Our fighters carried out sorties on aerodromes and six sorties escorting Russian bombers. One patrol destroyed two M.E. 109's probably destroyed another damaged one Henschel. We lost one fighter.
 8. Air Force September 13th/14th. 25 enemy aircraft sea-mining in Thames Estuary.
 9. Germans reported taken Svanka 60 miles east of Leningrad. Further German progress south-east of Gomel and north from Kremenchug is diminishing the prospects of successful extrication of Russians in Kiev salient.



BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

~~SECRET~~

September 17, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

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

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell

REGRETTED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 15th, 1941

Mediterranean.

Attack on Convoy off Kerkenah was continued by Swordfish night of September 12th-13th and by Wellingtons later the same night. Summary of results one merchant ship 6,000 tons seriously damaged, one merchant ship damaged, one merchant ship 12,000 tons sunk by Blenheims one damaged, one 6,000 tons on fire and two damaged by Swordfish, one 10,000 tons on fire and three others damaged by Wellingtons.

2. Dutch submarine reports having sunk by gun fire 1,200 ton enemy Barque and torpedoed merchant ship estimated at 6,000 tons which appeared sinking. Both were south bound fully laden.

3. British 8,000 ton tanker experienced heavy explosion off outer Dowsing night of September 14th-15th. She was blown in two, both parts afloat.

4. Night of September 13th-14th. Results of air attack on Brest could not be seen but 174 tons high explosives were dropped in target area.

5. Night of September 13th-14th. Nearly 13 tons of high explosives were dropped on shipping at Tripoli.

6. The final Vichy repatriation convoy has sailed from Beirut.

7. Reinforcement of air craft has arrived safely at Malta.

8. Mediterranean. September 12th-13th. Wellingtons dropped 19 tons of bombs on two Gretean aerodromes causing fires at both.

9. German Air Force Egypt. September 11th-12th. September 12th-13th. Tobruk bombed and some damage to stores resulted. September 12th RedSea area bombed but very little damage caused.

10. Pincers from South East Gomel and North from Krenenchug closing. Further German advance Berislav towards Perekop.

RC
BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

September 18th, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

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

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.


TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON
DATED SEPTEMBER 16th, 1941

Russian troops in Kiev are practically surrounded.

ROYAL AIR FORCE. September 15th.

Blenheims attacked Haugesund Seaplane base and shipping off Frisian Islands. At former a 1,000 ton merchant ship was damaged and factory hit; off Borkum one 3,500 ton ship hit and possibly two others of about 2000 tons. One ship was later seen awash. One Blenheim missing.

September 15th, September 16th over 200 aircraft despatched to targets including Hamburg and Havre. Nine missing.

LIBYA. September 14th. Maryland's attacked a column of about 500 vehicles near Naddalena and started large fires; Tomahawks destroyed and damaged many aircraft on enemy landing grounds. Two enemy fighters and a bomber shot down. We lost 5 aircraft.

GERMAN AIR FORCE. September 15th/16th.

Enemy aircraft mine laying in Thames estuary. Our fighters destroyed one enemy bomber.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

~~SECRET~~

September 18, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It is dated September 17, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.



TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED 17TH
SEPTEMBER, 1941

On September 14th Russian submarine torpedoed and sank laden 3,000 ton transport between Kirkenes and Petsamo. Russian MTBS claim torpedoing and sinking two transports off Petsamo night of September 14th/15th.

2. Stern portion of tanker recently blown up has arrived at Yarmouth but fore part sank.
3. In E boat attack off Sheringham night of September 16th two British merchant ships torpedoed but still afloat.
4. Over 60 bombers attacked Karlsruhe and Havre. Many fires started at both targets.
5. Russian troops in Kiev area encircled and under pressure. Germans from Berislav moving also Eastwards.



BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

~~SECRET.~~

September ²⁰⁷ 30th, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

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

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON
DATED SEPTEMBER 19/41

An eastward convoy attacked by aircraft afternoon of September 18th off Whitby. One ship has unexploded bomb on deck, no other hits or damage to convoy.

Focke-Wulf Aircraft approached convoy south of Cape St. Vincent afternoon of September 18th. Aircraft of Catapult ship drove it off.

Morning of September 18th. Three Blenheims and 30 fighters attacked merchant vessel estimated at 5000 tons and 8 escort ships off Ostend. Fighters attacked escort while bombers attacked merchant vessel; escort sunk, merchant vessel almost certainly destroyed. Later in the day 4 Hurricanes attacked 4 minesweepers off Ostend. Claimed all 4 were sunk or left sinking; during these operations we lost 2 Blenheims, 9 fighters, 2 fighter pilots saved; enemy lost 17 aircraft certain, 5 probable, 8 damaged.

September 18/19th, small force attacked Havre docks. All returned.

LIEYA. September 16th/17th.

Wellingtons continued their attacks on Benghazi harbour, on September 17th 9 Wellingtons successfully bombed stores, dumps at Bardia.

GERMAN AIR FORCE. September 18th/19th.

Small force of enemy aircraft, the majority sea mining and operating against shipping.



BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

September 20th, 1941.

~~SECRET~~

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy
of the latest report received from
London on the military situation. It
is dated September 19th, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

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


TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 19th, 1941

Ships sunk by Trident reported on September 4th were larger than at first believed and troops were carried, number were drowned.

2. Optel 260, 3rd paragraph.

Of two ships, one has arrived to (sic) harbour and one is on the way in tow.

3. On September 18th Beauforts hit ship estimated at 2,000 tons north of Bergen.

4. During bomber operations Northern France September 17th we lost 13 Spitfires, 1 Blenheim. Enemy lost 12 Messerschmidts certainly, 9 probably, 9 damaged. Four British pilots safe.

5. Night September 17th, 18th, 62 aircraft despatched from United Kingdom medium weight attacks made on Karlsruhe, light attack on Havre and a number laid mines.

6. Libya. September 16th, 17th, Wellingtons attacked Tripoli (1) and Swordfish mined harbour.

7. Sicily. September 17th, Blenheims attacked two munition factories Licata and destroyed several buildings.

8. German Air Force. Small number enemy aircraft over and round United Kingdom. Only serious incident at Dover where 5 H.E. caused considerable damage.

9. Russian troops in Kiev area encircled and under pressure. Germans from Berislsav moving also eastwards.

RC
BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

~~SECRET~~
September 22, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of
the latest report received from
London on the military situation.
It is dated September 20, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell

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

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED



TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 20th, 1941

Night of September 18th-19th homeward bound convoys C44 attacked by U-boats. Three ships reported torpedoed 200 miles east of Kunerinak (Greenland) but no further particulars received. Canadian Corvette Levis I escort sunk.

2. September 18th. Five Swordfish attacked convoy off Trapani three torpedoes dropped believed one hit scored on merchant ship estimated 6,000 tons. Following night further attack made by Swordfish. Results uncertain. September 17th, four Blenheims sank two 800 tons schooner off Zuara both laden. Two Blenheims missing.
3. During night of September 18th/19th liner estimated 24,000 tons at Tripoli (L) probably hit during attack by four Wellingtons.
4. During operations Libya September 14th/15th we captured one German heavy tank with crew complete destroying 9 others. Eight Italian aircraft shot down. Sixteen airmen captured.
5. Reference OPTEL September 12th/13th. Latest news of attack on homeward convoys C42 off Greenland shows ten ships sunk, five uncertain, one missing three believed torpedoed arrived United Kingdom. Remainder safe in harbour.
6. Royal Air Force. September 19th. During fighter sweeps over northern France and Belgium four goods trains, enemy troops and cargo ship were attacked. One fighter missing, two enemy aircraft destroyed. Coastal Command Blenheims estimates four hits on small merchant vessel Bay of Biscay. September 19th/20th. Over 70

aircraft/

aircraft bombed Stettin in good weather. Two missing.

7. Libya. Sept. 17th/18th. Benghazi Tripoli (L) Harbours attacked by heavy bombers. On September 18th 15 Marylands bombed enemy supply dumps and mechanical transport concentrations. Sept. 18th/19th; 14 tons of bombs dropped on Tripoli (L), 24,000 ton liner probably hit. Further attack at dawn resulted in three hits on this liner and two more on 8,000 ton merchant vessel.

8. German Air Force. Sept. 19th/20th. One German bomber destroyed off Lincolnshire by His Majesty's ship.

9. Russia. Germans reported occupied Bologoje Poltava and Geniwrok and entered Kiev.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.

23rd September, 1941.

~~SECRET~~

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy of the latest report received from London on the military situation. It was dated 21st September, 1941.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

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



Telegram from London dated 21st September, 1941.

Week ending 13th September, imports in convoy totalled 1,542,157 tons compared with 708,151 previous week and average 946,508 past ten weeks. This is the highest week's total of the war. During the past 12 months million mark exceeded eleven times. This huge total included exceptionally large tonnage of food-stuffs and tobacco totalling 9,542 tons. A.M. of 20th September at Gibraltar RFA Denbydale, Durham, British 10,000 tons and oiling hulk Fiona shelled anchored in bay appeared torpedoed by one-man submarine; Denbydale seriously damaged, Durham may have been beached, Fiona shelled and sank. City of Durham AMC arrived in Thames with 500 pounds unexploded bomb on board. In U-boat attack on convoy SC44 total of 4 ships so far known torpedoed. Three sank fourth on 8,000 ton tanker possible. On 10th September Dutch ship 5,719 tons torpedoed and sunk 400 miles north northwest of Natal, Brazil.

2. 12th September. Soviet submarine K2 sank laden merchant ship about 3,500 tons by gunfire off Varanger Fjord. Two E-boat attacks were made on east coast convoys last night. No damage reported our side. Vivien and Meynell each considers damaged one E-boat.

3. Night of 18th/19th September. British submarines attacked convoy of three very large liners escorted by destroyers North Khome. One liner sank another probably sunk.

4. 20th September. Royal Air Force off Dutch coast attacked two convoys result merchant ship estimated

5,000/

5,000 tons set on fire, large tanker hit several times one escort vessel, ship estimated 7,000 tons hit amidships, another similar tonnage had back broken. During day 15 enemy fighters were shot down certain, two probable, six damaged. We lost 7 fighters, 3 Blenheims. In Mediterranean 4 Blenheims off Kerkenah hit amidships small heavily laden merchant vessel; she was set on fire, claimed sunk.

5. Night 20th/21st September. Nearly 150 bombers despatched to deliver heavy attack on Berlin, lightning attacks on Frankfurt and Ostend, 5 missing. 20th September railway centres Hazebrouck and Abbeville, shipyards near Rouen and Cherbourg docks bombed by Blenheims and Hampdens, a fortress attacked Emden. 19th/20th September aircraft dropped 65 tons of high explosives and 2,000 incendiaries on Stettin. Many bursts seen in centre of town, on warehouses and on main railway station.

6. North Russia. 17th September. 8 Hurricanes destroyed four Messerschmidt 109's.

7. Libya. Tripoli (L). 19th September Blenheims scored hits on enemy destroyer outside harbour. 20th September. 11 tons of bombs dropped on docks.

8. German Air Force. 20th/21st September. About 40 enemy aircraft penetrated over southern and eastern coastal counties. One was destroyed by our night fighters.

9. Russia. Russians surrounded in Kiev area believed still fighting stubbornly.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

~~SECRET~~

September 24th, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a copy
of the latest report received from
London on the military situation. It
was dated September 22nd.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. J. Campbell

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

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

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED


TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON
DATED SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1941

British submarine torpedoed and sank 2,000 ton merchant ship a.m. 13th in Rolvsoy Sound near the North Cape. On 17th she attacked 3,000 ton merchant ship in the same area, 1 hit estimated.

British tanker 5,729 tons in convoy mined p.m. 21st near Holland light was blown in half by mine, after part sunk.

P.M. 19th, Elenheims despatched and attacked liner reported leaving Tripoli failed to locate her but attacked and scored four hits on flotilla leader outside harbour.

Night of 21st/22nd, owing to weather no bombing operations by Royal Air Force.

Yesterday during operations over France 24 enemy aircraft shot down certain, 8 probably, 13 damaged. We lost 14 fighters 11 pilots saved.

GERMAN AIR FORCE. 21st/22nd.

About 50 enemy aircraft mostly engaged in sea-mining and anti-shipping operations off East Coast.

Little doubt Germans obtained foothold several islands of Oesel. German's claim to one hundred and fifty thousand prisoners in Kiev area may well be true but encircled Russian troops east of city still resisting vigorously. Germans have cut rail and road communications between Dniepropetrovsk and split Crimea.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SECRET

September 25th, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

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

It was dated September 23rd.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell.

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States of America,

Washington, D.C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED



TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON
DATED SEPTEMBER 23rd, 1941

During night of 21st/22nd convoy attacked South West of Canaries. One British ship of 5,000 tons was torpedoed but still may be saved. Following night two further ships of this convoy torpedoed west of Canaries.

A Beaufort scored one hit on 5,000 ton merchant vessel off South-West Norway.

22nd/23rd. Owing to adverse weather conditions only few aircraft sent to Boulogne. They returned safely, bombs seen to straddle docks.

MEDITERRANEAN. 21st.

Two Blenheims attacked 24,000 ton liner escorted by six destroyers off Sfax. Eight hits obtained amidships and another on waterline.

LIBYA. 20th/21st.

Benghazi harbour again attacked by Wellingtons.

22nd. Blenheims dropped $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons of bombs on objectives at Homs (L) and Misurata. Much damage inflicted on barrack blocks, motor transport and dumps. 3 Blenheims lost.

Encircled Russian forces east of Kiev believed attempting strenuously to break through to the east. Germans while maintaining pressure on them continuing thrust eastwards towards Kharkov.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 26, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

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

It is dated September 24th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States
of America,

Washington, D.C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED



TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON DATED
SEPTEMBER 24, 1941.

U/B p.m./21 set on fire Palestine schooner
on passage from Beirut to Haifa; crew landed at
Tyre.

Further attacks L convoy at 2235/23 re-
sulted in British ship of 3,753 tons being sunk.

Air attacks on Benghazi harbour continue
almost every night and night of 21/22 hits on
ships at Italian mole observed.

About thirty enemy aircraft operated
mostly in Bristol Channel area night of 23/24th.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.
September 27th, 1941.

~~Secret~~

Dear Mr. President,

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

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

The Honourable

Franklin D. Roosevelt,

President of the United States

of America,

Washington, D. C.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM LONDON
DATED SEPTEMBER 25th, 1941

Between September 7th and September 14th, His Majesty's Submarine torpedoed merchant vessel of 1500 tons; believed sunk. Damaged probably sunk by gunfire, large schooner in area of by shore batteries. Torpedoed merchant vessel later seen to be on fire. Hit with one torpedo minelayer Crotone class which was laying mines off Benghazi. Attacked 5000 ton merchant vessel north of Benghazi; result uncertain.

P.M. September 24th, enemy Coastal batteries fired six rounds into sea west of Dover; convoy in vicinity suffered no damage.

French launch with cargo of petrol Djibuti to Obok has been intercepted and taken in prize.

Royal Air Force yesterday probably dropped two bombs on after part of tanker estimated 6000 tons off Gulf of Norway.

Night of September 22nd/24th, off Kerkenah island swordfish and Wellington believed another merchant vessel estimated 8,000 tons and damaged small ship.

September 24th/25th no offensive operations weather unsuitable.

Morning September 23rd thirteen enemy aircraft dropped mines at Tobruk.

Libya September 22nd/23rd. Six Wellingtons attacked Benghazi harbour hits seen on bases of central and cathedral moles seven tons bombs dropped at Tripoli (L) barracks and buildings hit. September 23rd/24th shipping in Tripoli

(L)/



-2-

(L) harbour attacked 13 tons of bombs dropped.
One Wellington missing September 24th 2 Blenheims
(one missing) attacked mechanical transport on
Misurata Sirte road destroying one petrol tanker
and damaging thirty other vehicles.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

~~SECRET~~ September 29th, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein a
copy of the latest report
received from London on the
military situation. It was
dated September 26th, 1941.

Believe me,
Dear Mr. President,
Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Campbell

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

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

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 26th, 1941.

Thunderbolt on 9th also bombarded Fortina Beroli Sirte. Night 23rd-24th during bombing of Benghazi by six Wellingtons a ship at outer mole blew up.

2. According to Finnish report which may well be true Finns have crossed River Svir at several points. Germans are continuing efforts to enter Crimea against substantial Russian resistance.

3. Royal Air Force. 25th. As results of attack on a JU 88 off Lizard one Spitfire missing.

4. Libya. 24th. Nine Hurricanes intercepted 24 ME 109's over Sidi Suleiman and damaged one. Two Tomahawks attacked one JU 88 which was damaged. Three Hurricanes and one Tomahawk shot down but pilots rescued one by another airman who landed in enemy territory and carried him off.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 30, 1941.

Dear Mr. President,

I enclose herein copies
of the latest reports received
from London on the military
situation. They are dated
September 27th and September
28th.

Believe me,

Dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

R. I. Capbell

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

REC-113
UNRECORDED
UNCLASSIFIED

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 28th, 1941.

During operations Mediterranean when large convoy escorted by strong forces of His Majesty's ships was successfully passed into Malta from the Westward a.m./28th, 1 British merchant ship 12,000 tons was torpedoed and later sunk by British forces.

2. Total of seven ships in this SL convoy have been sunk.

3. A/A ship Springbank escorting homeward bound convoy from Gibraltar torpedoed and sunk night of September 26th/27th, 600° (sic) N.W. of Finisterre.

4. On September 27th during R.A.F. raids over France, railway centres were attacked. Bombing of Amiens was very successful by 12 Blenheims, all bombers returned. Our fighters shot down 21 enemy aircraft certain, 9 probably and damaged 16. We lost 14 fighters; 8 pilots safe.

5. Russia. Between Murmansk and Petsamo Russians report driven the Germans across river Litsa and captured regimental headquarters. The Russians resisting German attack on the Crimea, also still fighting south of Dnieper river estuary.

TELEGRAM FROM LONDON DATED SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1941.

Homeward bound convoy from Gibraltar attacked by U-boat 25th and two further attacks night of 25th/26th; fourth attack night 26th/27th. Estimated losses about eight ships. Ammunition exploded on board S.S. Franconia loading at Liverpool. Casualties four killed, two wounded.

2. 26th. Royal Air Force destroyed two mine-sweepers and damaged two Flak ships off Dunkirk, also sank motor boat near Guernsey and destroyed trainer aircraft near St. Valery. Night 24th/25th. Wellingtons attacked Benghazi harbour. Same night and following night Swordfish and Wellingtons bombed barracks at Tripoli and laid mines in harbour approaches. 26th September merchant ship of 1000 tons sunk off Tripoli by Royal Air Force. Six Wellingtons bombed Palermo night of 24th/25th, started numerous fires. 25th September 3000 tons merchant ship attacked by Royal Air Force and set on fire and left almost submerged off Cotrone.

3. Royal Air Force 25th/27th. About 100 aircraft dispatched but recalled. Believed 5 raided Cologne, one bombed Genoa; others attacked channel ports. One missing, two crashed.

4. North Russia. 26th. Hurricanes on bomber escort destroyed two enemy fighters and probably a third without loss.

5. German Air Force 26th/27th. Very few aircraft over the coast, one destroyed by our fighters.



6. Lybia. 25th. Tobruk harbour attacked, few casualties. Malta 24th/25th and 25th/26th abortive enemy raids.
7. Russia. Murmansk front. German forces southern flank driven across Litsa river. Headquarters of 138th German Infantry Regiment captured with operation documents. German pressure towards Kharkon and the Crimea.
8. Iran. Tribal disturbances Ajerbaijan and Kindistan. Banda Shapur army disintegrating, Iranian authorities no longer in complete control. Communications becoming difficult.