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GERMAN BOMBS WERE DROPPED ON DUBLIN

GOVERNMENT PROTEST TO BE MADE IN BERLIN

DEAD NUMBER 30; INJURED OVER 80

THE bombs which were dropped in Dublin early on Saturday morning were of German origin.

An official statement last night says:—

"The Government regrets to announce that, as a result of the bombs dropped in Dublin during the early hours of Saturday morning, at least 27 persons lost their lives and about 80 received injuries. Considerable damage to property was caused.

"A further bomb was dropped near Arklow on this (Sunday) morning. No lives were lost, but there was some damage to property.

"Investigations having shown that the bombs dropped were of German origin, the Chargé d'Affaires in Berlin is being directed to protest, in the strongest terms, to the German Government against the violation of Irish territory, and to claim compensation and reparation for the loss of life, the injuries suffered, and the damage to property. He is being further directed to ask for definite assurances that the strictest instructions will be given to prevent the flight of aircraft over Irish territory and territorial waters."

In a second message the Government, on behalf of the whole nation, expresses its sympathy with all who have been bereaved or have suffered injury or loss in the bombing.

The Government wishes also to express its appreciation of the splendid services rendered by the Garda, A.R.P. organisations, L.S.F., the first-aid and medical services, and, in particular, the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Brigade, and the staffs of the city hospitals, who gave such devoted care to the injured.

MANY PEOPLE STILL MISSING

With the death yesterday of Charles Sweeney, 11 North Strand road, in the Richmond Hospital, and the recovery of four bodies during the day, the death roll in the Dublin bombing on Saturday has risen to 30.

Twenty-nine people still are unaccounted for, and it is feared that some of them still are buried in the ruins.

Should any of these people be staying with friends in the city or country they are requested to telephone Area Warden, Mr. P. J. MacDonagh, at 76925 or 35567 or any Gardaí station.

The four bodies recovered yesterday are those of Thomas Carroll, 157 North Strand; two unidentified people from 155 North Strand, where the only residents on record are Mr. and Mrs. Foran; and Marion Houlton, of 155 North Strand.

The twenty-nine people unaccounted for are:—

No. 156—James McCarthy and William McCarthy, jun.

No. 157—Patrick McLoughlin and William McLoughlin (2), and Mrs. Josephine Fagan.

No. 159—Mrs. Rooney and J. Rooney.

No. 160 (boarding house)—A. Hastings, Francis O'Reilly, Arnold Whittaker, Christopher Bohan, Edward Berry, Eileen Martin.

No. 161—Elizabeth and William Donnery, ——Tormley, T. Byrne, E. Byrne (female), Dolores Byrne, L. Byrne and Miss Hough.

No. 162—Mr., John and Mr. Smith, Kathleen Caul, James Daly, Mr., Mrs. and baby McGlade.

All around the 1,000-yard line along which three of the most destructive of the four bombs were dropped work was proceeding yesterday to clear up that swathe of devastation which the explosions cut across the Ballybough and North Strand areas, where 20 houses were completely demolished, 55 seriously damaged and many others badly injured.

In Dublin hospitals many cases were still being attended, many of them serious.

THE HOMELESS

In Mespil road, Divisional Headquarters of the Red Cross, sixty workers were on continuous duty feeding a total of 441 people whose homes had been considered unsafe by wardens and Corporation officials. Of these homeless ones 80 were men, 132 women, the balance being young people and children. They were in remarkably good spirits considering their plight, according to Mr. Rory Henderson, County Divisional Director of the Red Cross, who also praised his colleagues, many of whom had been on thirty-six hours of continuous duty after the bombing.

During the day the "refugees" were visited by the Most Rev. Dr. Wall, Bishop of Thasos, who comforted the people and gave a personal subscription to the Red Cross. Twice during the day Alderman A. Byrne visited the headquarters, where a total of 1,200 meals were served throughout yesterday.

While Mr. Henderson admitted that owing to limited space they are trying to avoid giving sleeping accommodation to the bomb victims, nevertheless, they are making plans to accommodate as many as possible; for on Sunday morning at 12.30 o'clock 108 dereliict persons unexpectedly arrived, and somehow they managed to accommodate them. The majority are sleeping at Baggotrath Hall, Baggot street; in the Y.M.C.A., of Middle Abbey street, and in George's Hall, South Great George's street.

MR. DE VALERA'S VISIT

Mr. de Valera, with members of his Cabinet, including Mr. Sean T. O'Kelly, visited the scenes of the bombing early on Saturday morning. The Archbishop of Dublin (Dr. McQuaid) also spent a considerable time in the district, talking with the rescued, and comforting the relatives of the victims. Many members of the Dail and Senate were present in an official capacity, including Senator Hayes, who is a section leader in the L.D.F. Among the others on the scene were Mrs. T. Clarke, Lord Mayor; Alderman Cormac Breathnach, T.D.; and Superintendent Hurley, retired officer of the Civic Guard, who arrived with his section of the L.D.F. Senator Michael Staines was in charge of the L.D.F. in the North Strand area.

The public representatives heartily commended the pluck and coolheadedness of people who had been bombed out of their homes but had stayed to help rescue neighbours. Among these was Miss M. Dempsey, of 25 North Strand road. Miss Dempsey was asleep in her bedroom with her aged mother when one of the first bombs tore a crater in the roadway outside the front door. The front of her house was reduced to rubble, and all that was left was portion of the bedroom walls.

The Dublin City Manager and his staff, including the Housing and Engineering Departments, were in session all day yesterday, dealing with the problems of accommodating the homeless in the bombed areas, and also those affected by the collapse of houses in Bride street earlier in the day, according to an announcement by Alderman A. Byrne, T.D.

It was decided to place at the disposal of the homeless about 100 houses in the Cabra section, and all night last night workers were rushing to completion the lighting, sanitary and other arrangements in these houses, which were not scheduled to have been completed for at least three weeks hence. It is expected that by working all day to-day they will have the houses ready for the refugees.

During yesterday the devastated area was visited by Alderman P. S. Doyle, Dr. Hannigan, T.D.; Alderman T. Kelly, T.D.; Councillor P. Medlar, and Senator Michael Staines.

Every effort will be made by the City Manager and the Dublin Corporation to take care of the homeless.

TWO FAMILIES

Rescue parties were throughout yesterday very active at North Strand road, where the greatest death-toll occurred, this being the location of the most violent explosion. Here, at No. 24, seven bodies of the Browne family, who came from Edenderry a few years ago, were identified by Mr. John Corrigan, father of Mrs. Mary Browne. Another grievously-stricken family was that of the Fitzpatrick's, of No. 28. The bodies of father and mother, their son Noel, and their daughter Madge were recovered on Saturday night. Another daughter, Mona (24), and a son, Gerard (19), are safe. From the remains of the two smashed houses, No. 155 and No. 156, the body of a woman was extricated. Members of the rescue party said there were more bodies beneath.

WORK OF RED CROSS

"The Red Cross worked magnificently," Assistant-Commissioner A. J. O'Connor, official of the St. John Ambulance Medical Department, declared yesterday. Assisted by the Red Cross they handled large numbers of casualties, fatal and injured. A large number of the injured were in a serious condition, he said. Assistant Commissioner J. P. McNamara, chief casualty officer of the Dublin Corporation, was also quite satisfied with the splendid work. The mobile unit, fitted out as a complete hospital and staffed by nurses, immediately went into action after the bombing. Later in the morning the mobile canteen went out to the bombed locations and served 1,000 breakfasts and later—at 11 o'clock—they served luncheon to many.

As the ambulance was being driven by Private John Doyle towards one of the places where the first bomb fell, a bomb struck North Strand, a bare twenty-five yards from them, literally blowing their car for an equal distance back down the road. The mudguards were splintered with bomb fragments, the radiator burst and the top of the ambulance was struck, the windows were smashed, but neither driver nor occupants were injured.

'PLANES HEARD AT DUN LAOGHAIRE

Between 12.30 and 1.30 yesterday morning 'planes passed over Dun Laoghaire, proceeding in a northerly direction. Searchlights were observed, but no incidents are reported.

IN OTHER PAGES
Tour of the Area 5
Pictures 6

AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS

PROMPT RESPONSE ASSURED

HUNDREDS of people, whose homes have been wrecked or damaged by the bombs that fell on Dublin on Saturday morning, many of whom are mourning the loss of a father or mother or other members of their families, have been and are being looked after by the Irish Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Both these organisations treated hundreds of injured people during Saturday, and their members still are working unselfishly in the interests of the unfortunate sufferers.

They have appealed for funds to enable them to help them carry on their humane work, and their joint appeal is meeting with a prompt response. Already subscriptions, large and small are being forwarded through various channels (including the *Irish Times*) to the headquarters of these organisations.

The joint appeal of the Irish Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade reads as follows:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE IRISH TIMES.

SIR,—On Saturday morning, in Dublin, the Irish Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade rendered first-aid to hundreds of casualties, and the Irish Red Cross Society is providing shelter, food and clothing for hundreds of others. Both these organisations are definitely short of funds, and they cannot carry on their work with empty hands. We appeal to the generosity and humanity of your readers.—Yours, etc.,

CONOR MAGUIRE,
Chairman,
Irish Red Cross Society,
20 Merrion square.

JOHN LUMSDEN,
Commissioner,
St. John Ambulance Brigade,
14 Merrion square.
May 31st, 1941.

OVER £4,000

The Hon. Mr. Justice Conor Maguire, Chairman of the Irish Red Cross Society, last night acknowledged receipt of a cheque for £1,000 from Mr. Joseph McGrath in response to the appeal. Mr. McGrath also has forwarded a cheque for £3,000 on behalf of Hospitals' Trust (1940), Ltd. by way of payment on account of what the Trust hopes to raise on the forthcoming sweep.

"While tendering, on behalf of the Irish Red Cross Society, our very sincere thanks," says the letter, "may I again ask for an immediate response to our appeal . . ."

Mr. Maxwell Arnott, The Cottage, Clonsilla, writes to the Editor of the *Irish Times*:—

"I enclose cheque for £100 towards the relief of those who suffered by the dropping of bombs in Dublin on Saturday."

This contribution, and all others received at this office, will be sent to the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Brigade Joint Appeal.

OVER 500 HOMELESS

Up to late last night the Red Cross Society had 514 people registered on its books as a result of the bombing, and eight of those have been taken away by friends, leaving 506 people in the Society's care.

Mobilising on Saturday morning with remarkable speed, the members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade worked uninterruptedly during the day. One of their ambulances alone carried no fewer than 40 victims to hospital. The mobile canteen of the Brigade provided meals for 1,000 people in the bombed area, and distributed a large quantity of food in the afternoon.

During the week-end, the Dublin Blood Transfusion Service had a good many calls for blood donors.

WEEK-END AIR RAIDS

FIVE BOMBERS SHOT DOWN

An "alert" sounded in London late last night. Spasmodic gunfire was heard for a few minutes after the "alert" was sounded, but this was followed by a long period of quiet.

"Alerts" were last night reported over the North Midlands and North-East England. At an early hour this morning no report had been received of more bombs on provincial centres.

A British Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security *communiqué* last night stated:—

"The destruction of an enemy fighter by anti-aircraft gunfire off the south coast on Friday last (May 30) has now been confirmed.

"During daylight to-day (Sunday) a few enemy aircraft have flown near the coasts. Otherwise there is nothing to report."

Four night raiders were brought down over Britain during the week-end—three on Saturday and two on Sunday, says the Press Association.

Sunday night's raids were described as "not heavy." The Air Ministry added that bombs were dropped on Merseyside, on points in North Wales and in the South and East of England.

"At Merseyside," it stated, some damage was done, and there were a number of casualties, including some persons killed. Elsewhere little damage was done, and the number of casualties was small."

A view of the houses in Old Bride street, Dublin, which collapsed yesterday, killing three people and injuring others.

DUBLIN HOUSES COLLAPSE

THREE PERSONS KILLED

THREE persons were killed and fifteen others had to receive hospital treatment when two houses collapsed in Old Bride street, Dublin, shortly after 10 o'clock yesterday morning. A third house partly collapsed.

The dead are: Mrs. Bridget Lynskey (30) and her five-months-old baby, Noel, and Samuel O'Brien (72), a pensioner of Messrs. Guinness. They all lived in the tenement house, No. 46 Old Bride street.

Several of the families—there were five families in all—living in No. 46 were preparing to move to new homes in the immediate future. Mrs. Lynskey, the dead woman, had the key to a new Dublin Corporation house at Kimmage in her possession; she and her family were to have moved there to-morrow.

Patrick Hanvey, a 15-year-old member of the A.R.P. Emergency Communications Service, who lived in No. 47 Old Bride street—the second of the wrecked houses—told an *Irish Times* representative that he had just got out of bed at 10 o'clock when "I saw bits falling off the wall. Then someone shouted, 'Come on quick—the house is falling.' Part of the wall of No. 46 collapsed, and then our own house fell as I reached the door. Something hit me and I fell. After a minute or two I managed to crawl out."

In escaping from the wreckage young Hanvey had saved the light blue helmet which he wears in the Emergency Communications Service. All the other members of the Hanvey family, who ran a small cycle shop at No. 47, escaped uninjured. They were Mrs. Hanvey, her mother and six children.

TRAPPED IN WRECKAGE

Most of the casualties occurred in No. 46. The Dublin Fire Brigade reached the street within a few minutes of the houses falling, and found that nine of the thirty people who lived in the three houses were trapped in the wreckage. Three persons crawled out while the crew of the Fire Brigade's rescue van worked to save the others. One fireman, George Leigh, forced his way through a narrow aperture to a point where a woman could be seen under the *débris*. She was Mrs. Georgina O'Brien, and he succeeded in bringing her to safety, although badly distressed himself by gas-poisoning, caused by a fractured gas pipe. Leigh was revived by the oxygen apparatus of the rescue van and then taken to the Adelaide Hospital; he was discharged later. Mrs. O'Brien also was taken to hospital suffering from gas-poisoning. One of her children, Elizabeth, also was treated in hospital, but only for shock. Her husband and the other members of the family escaped unhurt.

The firemen brought four persons out of the wreckage, including the body of Samuel O'Brien. O'Brien's wife was uninjured.

An A.R.P. rescue party was called from its work on the bombed houses at the North Strand and took over the rescue duties from the Fire Brigade. They were assisted for some time by a party of military. Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Brigade workers were assisting the injured and those suffering from shock to hospital. L.S.F. men were assisting the guards in holding the crowds back, and, standing by the wreckage were doctors from the Adelaide Hospital, together with the Rev. Father T. A. Walsh, from the nearby Carmelite Church, in Whitefriar street, while the search for Mrs. Lynskey and her baby continued. One of the onlookers was Mr. O'Connor, Mrs. Lynskey's father, who occupied a neighbouring shop.

The bodies were not found until more than three hours later. Mrs. Lynskey's husband and her three other young children were safe, although the husband, Thomas Lynskey, and two of the children, Esther and Fray, were treated in the hospital.

PEOPLE EVACUATED

Orders were given for the evacuation of several neighbouring houses, and 29 people from them were taken to the Red Cross headquarters, in Mespil road. Others found accommodation with relatives and friends in the district.

While the precise cause of the collapse of the buildings is unknown, it is believed to be due to a combination of factors—the old houses were shaken when the bombs fell in Dublin on Saturday morning, and a heavy lorry passed the buildings a short time before they collapsed.

Those who received hospital treatment, mostly for shock, were:—

Adelaide Hospital—Joseph Atkinson, Elizabeth O'Brien, Mary Doyle, Georgina O'Brien (detained), Miss Margaret Lawlor (detained), James Doyle, May Doyle, Thomas Lynskey, Esther Lynskey, all of 46 Old Bride street; Fireman George Leigh, 16 Parnell road; Patrick Hodgins, 15 Cross Kevin street.

Meath Hospital—Fray Lynskey, Patrick O'Brien, Mary Lawlor (detained), all of 46 Old Bride street; Mrs. Annie Packman, 48 Old Bride street.

Among those who visited the scene were Mr. P. J. Hernon, City Manager and Town Clerk; Mr. J. P. Keane, Deputy City Manager; Mr. H. S. Simms, Housing Architect, who was in charge of the rescue operations; Mr. E. P. Burke, Deputy City Surveyor, and Mr. R. S. Laurie, Chief A.R.P. officer.

LORD HUGH BERESFORD "MISSING"

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

WATERFORD.

Telegrams received on Friday by his mother, the Duchess of St. Albans, and by his sister-in-law, the Marchioness of Waterford, announce that Lord Hugh Beresford, Lieutenant-Commander, destroyer Kelly, which was sunk in a recent naval action, is missing, and believed drowned.

BRITISH CRUISER AT GIBRALTAR

Rome radio last night reported from Algeciras that the British cruiser Sheffield had entered Gibraltar harbour in a damaged condition.—(A.P.)

THE STATE AND THE INDIVIDUAL

POPE DEFINES LIMITS OF INTERFERENCE

POPE PIUS XII. broadcast an address from Vatican Radio yesterday, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the encyclical, Rerum Novarum, issued in 1891 by Pope Leo XIII.

The Pope, having sent Whitsuntide greetings to the members of the Church throughout the world, described his message as being one of love and comfort in the present difficult times.

Wireless transmission, which for many to-day amounted almost to a weapon of war, was for the Vatican an instrument of Providence in the Apostolic task of pacification, he said.

RENEWED MIRACLE

Thus it would appear that the miracle of Pentecost was renewed. Just as the many different peoples assembled in Jerusalem were able to hear the voice of St. Peter and the other Apostles, so the Vatican across the ether called to the Catholic community.

"Within the general framework of labour and the responsible development of all physical and spiritual energies of individuals and their free organisations," the Pope said, "a vast field of multiform activities is opened in which the public authority collaborates, firstly, by means of local co-operative or professional organisations, and then by reason of the State itself whose superior and moderating social authority provides for a general economic equilibrium.

"It is, on the other hand, within the competence of the Church in that aspect of the social order into which moral considerations enter, to decide whether such social order is in accord with the unchangeable order of the Creator manifested by means of natural laws and the Revelation. This is the two-fold manifestation to which Leo XIII appealed, and with reason, in his encyclical."

HEART OF LABOUR

The Encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*, "went deep into the hearts of the working classes." "This call evoked a powerful response, and it is the clear duty of justice to recognise the progress which has been achieved in the lot of the workers through the pains taken by the civil authorities in many lands. Hence it can be well understood that the *Rerum Novarum* became the *Magna Carta* of a Christian social endeavour." Meanwhile, the Pope went on, half a century passed, leaving deep furrows and grievous disturbances, both in nations and society, until the years finally poured their dark and turbulent waters into the sea of war, "whose unforeseen currents may affect our economy and society."

The Pope then dealt with the problems likely to arise after the war, beginning with social evolution. Goods were created by God for all men, and "the natural right to the use of material goods provides man with a secure basis of the highest import on which to rise with reasonable liberty to the fulfilment of his moral duties."

HUMAN RIGHTS

"To safeguard the rights of the human person and to facilitate the fulfilment of his duties," the Pope went on, "should be the essential office of every public authority. It follows that the care for such a common good does not imply a power so extensive over the members of the community that in virtue of it the public authority can interfere with the evolution of that individual activity which we have just described, or decide on the beginning or ending of human life, or determine at will the manner of its physical, spiritual, religious and moral movement in opposition to the personal duties or rights of man and to this end abolish or deprive of efficacy his natural right to material goods."

The economic riches of a people did not properly consist in the abundance of goods, but in the fact that such an abundance represented the material basis sufficient for the personal development of its members.

NATIONAL ECONOMY

"If the scope of national economy is correctly considered it will become a guide for the efforts of statesmen and people, and will enlighten them spontaneously to follow a path which does not call for continual exaction in goods and blood, but which will give fruits of peace and general well-being.

"The right to work was conceded to the individual in the first place by nature, and not by society, from which it resulted that the right to organise labour belongs, above all, to those immediately interested—the employers and workers. Every legitimate and beneficial interference of the State in the field of labour should be such as to safeguard and respect personal character.

"This would happen if the State did not abolish or render impossible the exercise of other rights and duties equally personal—the worship of God; the right to marry; the right of husband and wife or father and mother to lead their married domestic life; the right to a reasonable freedom in the choice of a condition of life and of the fulfilment of a true vocation."

The Pope urged the more favourable distribution of men on the earth's surface and a spirit of confidence between the countries of emigration and immigration.

The Pope urged the need for the co-operation of all. Failures common to all human activity should not make mankind forget the inspiring message of the *Rerum Novarum*, which "to-morrow, when the ruin of this world hurricane is cleared, may be the outset of a reconception of a new social order worthy of God and man, and will keep living the noble flame of a brotherly social spirit. Nourish it; keep it burning, even more brightly; carry it wherever a cry of pain reaches you," the Pope concluded.—(Reuter.)

WAR IN IRAQ ENDED

REGENT RETURNS TO CAPITAL

PRESS ASSOCIATION TELEGRAM.

LONDON, Sunday.

BRITAIN will abstain from any infringement of Iraqi independence and will afford the Regent every help in re-establishing the legal government of the country.

These are the chief provisions of the armistice, signed in Iraq yesterday afternoon. Fighting ceased at 8 o'clock this morning.

PRESS ASSOCIATION.

CAIRO, Sunday.

Six years old King Feisal of Iraq, whom Rashid Ali was reported to have kidnapped when he fled to Iran (Persia), is understood to be safe in Baghdad. The Governor of the Mosul area, Northern Iraq, where the oilfields lie, is now stated to have been opposed to the Rashid Ali movement from the start of the revolt. Thus it is considered in usually well-informed circles here that the trouble in Iraq is virtually at an end.

The anti-British Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, who has left Iraq following the collapse of the Rashid Ali régime, is expected to try to transfer his activities to Syria, says an Ankara correspondent, who states that the terms of the armistice include life exile for Rashid Ali.

The Emir Abdul Illah, Regent of Iraq, entered Baghdad this morning, according to Iraqi sources here.

SYRIA NEXT?

PRESS ASSOCIATION.

ANKARA, Sunday.

Turkish unanimity that Bsitain's next move should be to take over Syria has become stronger. Cyprus, most Turks say, will be the next German objective, and then Syria, where, according to some reports, the Germans have more materials, and their plans are more advanced than is generally supposed.

Ankara reports that certain barracks have been evacuated by French troops and many boats are being assembled north of Tripoli and are being overhauled under German supervision. It appears that Germany's Near Eastern expert, von Hentig, is now operating along the strip of Syria tepritory traversed by the Turkey-Iraq railway line, and attempting to organise bands of volunteers.

Influential Arabs are receiving special excess food rations from the Germans, while others, it is reported, have been given large sums of money. It appears that the Germans now control one newspaper in Damascus and one in Beirut.

ARMISTICE TERMS

PRESS ASSOCIATION.

CAIRO, Sunday.

The armistice terms in Iraq were officially announced here to-night. They are:—All hostilities to cease. Return of Iraqi troops to their peace-time stations, including the Ramadi garrison. British prisoners to be released. Axis prisoners to be interned in Iraq, and Iraqi prisoners to be handed over to the Regent.

British troops entered Baghdad to-day, and it was assumed that larger forces would be stationed in the country henceforth to emplement the Anglo-Iraqi Treaty. Nearly normal conditions have been re-established in Baghdad itself.—(Associated Press.)

GERMAN CAPTURE OF CRETE

15,000 British Taken To Egypt

SEVERE LOSSES ADMITTED

AFTER twelve days of the fiercest fighting of the war, British troops have been withdrawn from Crete. A communiqué issued in London yesterday states that some 15,000 of the British troops have been removed to Egypt.

It is assumed in London that General Freyberg came out with the troops which were withdrawn, as the latest statement about him had explained that he was alive and with his troops.

The number of troops withdrawn is believed to relate only to British troops and does not include Greek troops. It is not known yet what proportion of Dominion troops to British are among the men saved.

The Germans claim to have captured 10,000 British and Greek prisoners.

AIRCRAFT SUPERIORITY

Against overwhelming odds of air superiority, the British Forces put up a terrific struggle, says the Press Association. The German troops landing from troop-carriers, gliders and by parachute were mown down by the defence, but still they came, their 'planes maintaining a minute-by-minute time-table, and each new arrival being preceded by the most ruthless and devastating bombing of the war.

It was the first large-scale airborne invasion attempt in history, and put into practice all the tricks by which the Germans have threatened to invade Britain.

The deciding factor was Britain's lack of fighter aircraft within reach of the battle area. Against the devastation of the German air armada, British fighters had to be withdrawn from the weakly-defended aerodromes, and from that point onwards Germany flung in large numbers of bombers of every kind, particularly dive-bombers, to blast a way for her paratroops.

Aerodromes and beaches were littered with the blazing wreckage of Junkers troop-carriers and the dead bodies of Germans, many of whom were shot before they landed.

NON-STOP METHODS

Still Germany maintained her non-stop offensive. British fighters, operating from bases in Egypt, took heavy toll of the troop-carrying 'planes and bombers, but the disparity in distances between the British and German bases from Crete proved too great a handicap.

Attempts by Germans to transport troops and material by sea and convoys were smashed or turned back, and many ships sunk.

It is not yet known how many troops Britain had in Crete, or whether the evacuation is completed or is still being continued, adds the Press Association. One factor that has been proved beyond doubt, adds the Agency, is that the magnificent resistance of the British and Greek troops in Crete has not only struck heavy blows at German forces, material and equipment, but it has also given Britain a victory in Iraq. Finding the opposition much more stubborn than was expected, the Germans were unable to fulfil the promise to supply large numbers of aircraft and other forms of aid to Raschid Ali.

Meanwhile General Wavell has had an invaluable breathing space in which to strengthen his positions on other fronts.

"SEVERE LOSSES"

The British *communiqué* yesterday evening described the evacuation of Crete in these words:—

"After twelve days of what has undoubtedly been the fiercest fighting in this war, it was decided to withdraw our forces from Crete.

"Although the losses we inflicted on the enemy's troops and aircraft have been enormous, it became clear that our naval and military forces could not be expected to operate indefinitely in and near Crete without more air support than could be provided from our bases in Africa.

"Some 15,000 of our troops have been withdrawn to Egypt, but it must be admitted that our losses have been severe."

HUNDREDS OF 'PLANES USED BY GERMANS

A senior R.A.F. officer, reviewing the air war in Cairo, last night estimated that the Germans used 1,000 'planes in the battle of Crete.

Hundreds of these machines were destroyed, he said, while a great part of the remainder were now "part worn." The parachutists division, in particular, was considerably "shop soiled," the officer added. He described the parachutists as a "busted flush," saying that it was not the parachutists, but the bombers and fighters who captured Maleme. This enabled airborne troops to land. It was the airborne troops, not the parachutists, who were dangerous.

DANGEROUS FIGHTERS

The concensus of opinion from Greece and from Crete was that low-flying fighters were far more deadly than dive-bombers.

While the German successes in Crete had complicated Britain's problem, the Germans, he said, would never find anywhere elese such geographical conditions as existed in Crete. As they went further and further resistance would grow, and their commitments would grow, too.

Explaining the difficulties of the R.A.F. in Greece and Crete, the officer said that in winter it was impossible to use aerodromes without properly prepared runways, but after two days of fine weather it was possible to create a number of improvised aerodromes.

"We were hampered by the fact that the weather did not improve until two days after the German advance," he went on. "The Germans had the advantage of fine weather and were also ruthless in conscripting labour. The main trouble, however, was that we were being forced into the apex of a triangle, with the Germans having a wider and wider ring of bases round us.

"One of the problems then arising

(Continued in Page 5, Col. 2.)

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