

RAF Attacks Resumed, Paris Radio Indicates

(By WILLIAM R. DOWNS.)

London, March 10 (BUP).—The Paris radio suddenly went off the air tonight, indicating that the Royal Air Force, in a continuation of a round-the-clock offensive which started Sunday, again might be attacking French suburban factories producing German war equipment.

Paris stopped broadcasting at 7 p.m. (2 p.m., E.D.T.) a few hours after the Air Ministry revealed that R.A.F. bombers, including a number of Canadians, made a tremendous attack on Essen, Germany, site of the Krupp munitions works, and other targets in the industrial Ruhr Valley for the second successive night Monday night.

More than 100 British bombers were reported to have made the night attack. The first bombers set great fires which lit up the Ruhr Valley and served as beacons for other planes, which roared in, wave after wave, from the west, the Air Ministry said.

Extensive havoc again was wreaked at Essen and in the Ruhr, said the Air Ministry, which gave the following description of the raid:

"The fires multiplied with great speed. At 10:45 p.m., for instance, the crew of a bomber over a great industrial plant saw a large fire at the south end of the works. A short time later another crew reported three large fires at the same place."

Only three British bombers failed to return, compared to eight lost in Sunday's raids, the first on Essen, a city of some 650,000, since last Nov. 8.

The fact that Essen was raided on two straight nights, probably indicates a "revised policy" of continual hammering at German industrial districts until they are nothing but ruins, some observers said. In the past, the Bomber Command very seldom sent its planes out to attack an industrial centre more than twice in a row, although seaports such as Bremen, Brest and Emden frequently had been attacked night after night.

The Ruhr, although only about twice the area of Berlin, contains a large portion of the factories which have made Germany a great industrial country the Air Ministry pointed out.

"However much the enemy may disperse his industries elsewhere in Germany or the occupied countries, the Ruhr remains vital to German economy, indeed, to the entire economy of Middle Europe," the Ministry said. "This is due to the geology of the region, with its coal and iron deposits."

After raids late last year on the Krupp Works, the Germans, the Ministry learned, were forced to use over 1,000 workers to repair the damage.

Summing up Monday afternoon's daylight raids on Northwestern Occupied France, the Ministry said that six enemy fighters were destroyed, rather than five as had been previously reported. Five were shot down by British fighter planes and another by British bombers. The British lost three fighters, instead of four. The fourth plane, reported missing, now is safe, the Ministry said.

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