

LONDON General De Gaulle announced on Thursday night that the French Cameroons and the Congo had followed the Chad Territory in declaring themselves in support of Britain in the war. French sources in London said that this development might vitally influence the outcome of the African war.

WASHINGTON The U S Senate approved on Thursday, a 5 billion dollar Defence Appropriation Bill carrying funds to start construction of 200 warships and 15,000 aeroplanes for the Army and Navy.

TOKYO The newspaper "Asahi" reported on Thursday that the Japanese Salvation Army had decided at once to sever connections with the London organization, changing its name to the Salvation Corps.

WASHINGTON The House of Representatives Military Committee approved on Thursday the Burke Wadsworth Conscription Bill calling for drafting of men from 21 to 44 years of age.

LONDON Although the enemy made several attempts to reach London today, no bombs were dropped over that area. Attempted attacks were made from several directions at once the German planes being in groups of about 15. However, our Defence Force was able to break the groups up and eventually drove them clear of the coast and out to sea. Up until mid-night there had been no air raid alarms over London for over 24 hours, but ^{parts} of England were not so fortunate. Many incendiary bombs were dropped in widely scattered areas, but no serious fires resulted. In the North and South-East of England there were some casualties due to high explosive bombs but not many. One family was trapped for a number of hours under a fish shop which was completely demolished, but voices could be heard from the cellar below. The number of German planes brought down today was not so high, the number of announced figures being 10 German lost and 9 British. But of the 9 British, 7 of the pilots were saved.

LATEST BULLETINS The Air Ministry states:

Yesterday R A F bombers carried out daylight raids on enemy occupied aerodromes in Holland, and on convoys and shipping along the Dutch coast. Last night our aircraft bombed the Krupp works at Essen, oil refineries and plants at Gelsenkirchen Bottrop and St Nazaire, power stations at Djisburg and Reisholz, various military objectives in the Rhur, a goods yard at Hamm and Soest, and a number of enemy aerodromes in Holland, Belgium, Germany and France. From these day and night operations a total of 3 aircraft have not returned.

It was learned authoritatively that up to 7.30 p.m. (5.30 a.m. today's ship's time) 42 enemy aircraft have been shot down in attacks on Britain today. 10 R A F machines were lost, but 4 pilots are safe. 3 daylight air raid warnings were heard in the London area today, but unofficial reports indicate no enemy aircraft were able to penetrate further than the outer London suburbs.

A pilot of a leading aircraft which attacked Krupps works at Essen last night said after dropping his bombs, "There came four large explosions followed by two smaller ones. A large red fire started immediately and two violent explosions followed." Other sections of the raiding forces continued the unremitting attack which the R A F have launched on Germany's vital oil supplies. An extensive number of oil tanks near St Nazaire of which the enemy has been availing himself since the occupation of the French coast, were heavily bombed and repeatedly hit and many explosions resulted. One of the pilots counted 15 separate fires. A pilot bombed the Cologne oil works at 1.30 this morning, and plainly saw a fire after his attack. Another force bombed Duisburg Electric Power Station, which was set on fire, the flames shining through the darkness, in spite of clouds, for 25 miles. Heavy bombs fell in a stick across the works.

Last night's attack on the Hamm goods yard was successful. One pilot saw wreckage from railway trucks and metal from sidings hurled into the air after a salvo of heavy bombs had fallen. Enemy ships were also attacked at several points yesterday afternoon. 14 trawlers and larger ships were attacked from 1000 feet and as the bombs exploded the ships were violently slewed around and a mass of black smoke arose.

Practical difficulties in catching aeroplanes in the searchlight beams were among interesting pieces of information about anti-aircraft defenses revealed in London. Searchlights have to rely on the sound of engines to give direction, and even with indicators to help, the fact that sound travels slowly gives modern fast aircraft an opportunity to get away. Thus, if flying at 20,000 feet the sound of the engines