

COMBAT F

18.30 hrs... off Isle of Wight



The final combat in a day of scattered engagements came, once again, off the Isle of Wight. Three Hurricanes of Red Section 145 Squadron from Tangmere engaged Me110s and Ju88s attacking shipping. The Steamer Josewyn (1926grt) was damaged 8 miles west-north-west of St Catherine's Point.

145 SQUADRON INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Weather: Cloudy with bright intervals – some rain. Red Section (Squadron Leader Peel, Yule and Newling) encountered large enemy forces three miles south of St Catherine's Point, at 18.30 hours. Squadron Leader Peel and Pilot Officer Newling each damaged one Me110. Pilot Officer Yule also damaged one Me110 and, in addition, shot down one Ju88 into the sea. This combat took place just under, and in and out of, dense clouds which came as low as 700 feet.

RAF Victory Claims Combat H 18.30 hrs

145 Sqn	S/Ldr J R A Peel	3 x Me110 damaged and a Ju88 u/c. - off St Catherine's Pt
145 Sqn	P/O M A Newling	-shared-
145 Sqn	P/O R D Yule	-shared-

Luftwaffe Casualty Combat H 18.30 hrs

Ju88A	I/KG51	Crashed on return to Vilaroche aerodrome, France. Four airmen killed.
-------	--------	---

Other Incidents on 12 July 1940

12.30 hrs RAF Casualty

145 Sqn Hurricane N2703 Sub.Lieut Smith while on patrol with 'B' Flight, made a forced landing north-west of Ringwood at 12.30 hrs. His V.P. Hurricane N2703 broke in half, after turning two summersaults. He escaped with bruises and a cut lip.

16.45 hrs Red Section 74 Sqn claim a He111 off Margate

Three Spitfires of 74 Squadron led by F/Lt A G Malan reported intercepting and shooting down a He111 fifteen miles NE of Margate. "Red 3 received no fire from e/a and observed flames underneath port engine and smoke from starboard engine. Red 2 again attacked with 2 bursts of 3 seconds closing from 350 yds to 100 yds, thick black smoke poured from starboard engine and wheels dropped down and enemy aircraft gradually lost height and crashed into heavy sea."

16.45 hrs Spitfires of 234 Sqn chase a Ju88 over St Eval

From the 234 Sqn Intelligence Report: "E/A was first seen approaching St Eval at 16.30 hours and was machine-gunned from the ground. It flew into wind on a W. Course and dropped a cluster of 9 bombs near one of the hangars, which did no damage. Yellow and Blue sections scrambled after it. On its second circuit it was seen by Blue 2 [P/O Lawrence] who delivered a quarter deflection beam attack at 225 yds firing one burst of 160 rounds of one second, which was seen to enter the lower gun position. The E/A did not fire back and took avoiding action by climbing into cloud." P/O W H G Gordon's Spitfire N3231 was damaged by return fire but landed safely.

SATURDAY 13 JULY

DEFENDING BOOTY AGAIN - 473 RAF Fighters fly 143 patrols

Cloudy with heavy rain in the north, clearing during the day. Fog and low cloud over the Channel with showers and thunder storms in the morning, but clearing later in the day.

