

German plane shot down over Shoreham

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# GERMAN PLANES BROUGHT DOWN ON SOUTH- EAST COAST

## Pilots Captured: Little Damage From Bombs

**PEOPLE IN SOUTH-EAST COAST TOWNS AND VILLAGES HAD THEIR FIRST REAL TASTE OF AERIAL WARFARE THIS WEEK. ON TUESDAY MORNING, WHEN DOZENS OF GERMAN BOMBERS AND FIGHTERS CROSSED THE COASTLINE THEY COULD BE SEEN ENGAGED BY BRITISH FIGHTERS. IN THAT BATTLE ALONE TEN ENEMY MACHINES WERE BROUGHT DOWN, AND SEVERAL PILOTS WHO BALEL OUT WERE MADE PRISONER.**

**SEVERAL BOMBS WERE DROPPED, BUT LITTLE DAMAGE WAS REPORTED, AND THERE WERE NO SERIOUS CASUALTIES.**

It was early on Tuesday that scores of planes could be seen in the brilliant sunlight, swooping and turning. Machine gun fire and the sound of anti-aircraft gunfire was heard.

In one village two British fighters were seen chasing an enemy plane. Residents saw smoke coming from the German machine after the first attack, and they saw the pilot leap from it as it nose-dived towards the sea. The pilot landed a short distance away from a public assistance institution. He was injured, and was taken to the institution for attention.

Not long afterwards a second plane was brought down in the same area, and again the pilot made a parachute landing and was injured. He was taken to join his colleague in hospital.

Further north a machine was seen to spiral out of the clouds and drift, apparently completely out of control. It landed in a lake in a private park. The pilot was drowned.

One enemy fighter, a Messerschmitt 109, tried to escape from a Hurricane by diving almost to the level of house tops. Hotly chased by the British plane it sped over villages and towns for a distance of three miles, but its fate was sure.

A rapid burst of gunfire finished it off, and it crashed into a corn field.

The pilot was unharmed, and when military authorities went towards him he jumped from his machine, lit a cigarette (which was later found to be of British manufacture), and cheerfully surrendered. He could not speak English, but judging by his broad smile he was happy to be safe on land.