

USSR

Reference: 3/PPDU/T57

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1. BOMB DAMAGE AND AIR DEFENCE IN SOUTH-WEST LONDON
2. MINISTER'S REPORT ON GERMAN BOMBING
3. CARPENTER'S REPORT ON GERMAN BOMBING
4. PRESS REPORT ON BRITISH BOMBING

(1940)

From: LONDON

To: MOSCOW

No: 966

2nd Sept. 40

To DIRECTOR.

1. Yesterday I looked round the south-western suburbs of LONDON and saw many damaged dwellings but there was no damage to factories or military objectives to be observed. I discovered that the new sound locators which were at certain air defence [FVO] points had been removed and replaced by old ones. Two air defence points in the NORDEN area are armed with only one light [B% machine-gun] each.
2. MINISTER [MINISTR][i] has reported that at 3.15 on 27th August the SAUSAGE-DEALERS [KOLBASNIKI][ii] bombed the HAWKER Aircraft Factory in KINGSTON from a height of 500 metres. Bombs fell close by but the factory did not suffer. On the night of 28th August the SAUSAGE-DEALERS dropped bombs on dwellings in NORDEN west of the railway works. On the night of 29th August the SAUSAGE-DEALERS repeatedly (four aircraft at a time) bombed in the HAMPTREAD GARDEN SUBURB area. Some dwellings were demolished and 10 people were killed. Five people have been arrested at the SMITH [SMIT] factory; some of them had been making light signals during the night bombing of the factory. One person at the HANDLEY-PAGE works has been arrested for making signals.
3. CARPENTER [PLOTHNIK][iii] has reported that on 26th August the grain silos at MILLWALL DOCK were burning as a result of the bombing. On 29th and 31st August the SAUSAGE-DEALERS dropped a large number of small bombs in the STEFNEY area. Dwellings were demolished. On the night of 28th August some bombs were dropped in the LITTLE WORMWOOD SCRUBS area near the gasworks.

4. The press reports that the success in the night bombing of Germany can be attributed to the fact that the British have been bombing the same allotted targets for months and the pilots have studied the targets well. Usually a few minutes before an attack one aircraft has set fire to the target and then bombing of the target by a wave of bombers has followed.

No. 249

BARCH [iv]

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Comments: ✓[i] MINISTER: Unidentified covername. See also MOSCOW's No. 450 of 7th September 1940, and LONDON's Nos. 766 of 15th July 1940, 798 of 22nd July 1940 and 966 of 2nd September 1940. The Russian word is used only in a governmental or diplomatic sense.

✓[ii] SAUSAGE-DEALERS: the Germans.

✓[iii] CARPENTER:

See also MOSCOW's No. 450 of 7th September 1940, and LONDON's Nos. 816 of 26th July 1940, 950 of 28th August 1940, 1277 of 15th November 1940 (3/NEF/T1762), 871 of 29th April 1941 (3/NEF/T1467), 2150 of 6th August 1941 (3/NEF/T1476) and 2211 of 9th August 1941 (3/NEF/T1747).

[iv] BARCH: Possibly Simon Davidovich KREMER, whose official post was Secretary to the Soviet Military Attaché in LONDON. He was appointed in 1937 and is thought to have left sometime in 1946. The covername BARCH occurs as a LONDON addressee and signatory between 3rd March 1940 and 10th October 1940, after which it is superseded by the covername BRION.