

E 2200 London 44/7

*Le Département politique à la Légation de Suisse à Londres**Copie**T 44.*

Bern, 12. Juni 1940

Ausländische Flugzeuge überflogen nacht 11./12. Juni die Umgebung des Genfer-Sees stop Um 1 Uhr 27 wurden 8 Bomben auf den Bahnhof von Renens abgeworfen, welche zwei Personen töteten und am Bahnhof und den naheliegenden Gebäuden Schaden anrichteten stop Kurz nachher fielen drei Bomben in der Nähe von Daillens stop Um 1 Uhr 50 bombardierten sie Genf in der Nähe der Brücke Carouge und töteten einen Soldaten und eine Frau, ferner wurden 18 Personen verletzt und materieller Schaden angerichtet stop Die technische Untersuchung ergab, dass die Bomben englischer Herkunft sind stop Erheben Protest gegen schwere Neutralitätsverletzung Schweiz und machen Vorbehalt betreffend Genugtuung Unrecht und Schaden<sup>1</sup>.

---

1. *Cf. l'annexe I au présent document.*



12 JUIN 1940

715

## ANNEXE I

*La Légation de Suisse à Londres au Ministère britannique des Affaires étrangères<sup>2</sup>**Copie*  
N CJ/nb

[London], June 13th, 1940

The Swiss Minister presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and acting on instructions from the Swiss Government, has the honour to submit the following:

During the night of the 11th-12th June foreign aeroplanes flew over the region of the Lake of Geneva. They dropped eight bombs on the railway station at Renens, killing two persons and causing damage to the installations of the station and to houses in the neighbourhood.

Sometime later three bombs were dropped on the village of Dailens. At 1.50 a.m. planes bombed Geneva, near Pont Carouge, killing a soldier and a woman, wounding eighty<sup>3</sup> persons and causing material damage.

The technical enquiry which has been made has proved that the bombs were of British origin.

The Swiss Government have asked Monsieur Thurnheer to protest to His Majesty's Government against this grave violation of Swiss neutrality and reserve the right to claim reparation for the moral and material injuries caused.

## ANNEXE II

*Le Ministère britannique des Affaires étrangères<sup>4</sup>*  
*au Ministre de Suisse à Londres, W. Thurnheer*

N No. C 7229/1193/43.

[London], June 21st, 1940

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the competent authorities of His Majesty's Government have given careful consideration to your note of 13th June in which it was alleged that bombs of British origin were dropped on Swiss territory in the region of the Lake of Geneva during the night of June 11/12.

2. Enquiries made as a result of this allegation indicate that certain units of the Bomber Command which undertook operations against objectives in Northern Italy on the night in question lost their way on account of severe weather conditions encountered over the Alps and inadvertently flew over Swiss territory. In these circumstances His Majesty's Government accept responsibility for the bombs dropped in the region of the Lake of Geneva. They have charged me to request Your Excellency to inform the Swiss Government of their profound regret at this unfortunate incident and of their sorrow that it should have had such tragic consequences. They would also assure the Swiss Government of their readiness to pay compensation on account of loss of life, personal injury or material damage; and they will give prompt consideration to such claims on this account as the Swiss Government may see fit to present to them.

---

2. *Annotation (auteur non identifié) en haut de page:* Am 13. VI. von Herrn Minister Butler direkt übergeben.

3. *Sic! Souligné et corrigé en marge:* 18.

4. *La note est signée* R.M. Makins.