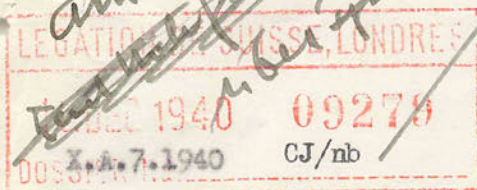


129
X

18, Montagu Place, W.1.

December 19th 1940

Dear Lord Halifax

You will remember that during our interview to-day I mentioned the fact that the Swiss Radio Station at Beromünster had announced a new violation of Swiss neutrality by the Royal Air Force, which occurred last night.

On my arrival back at the Legation from the Foreign Office, I found a cable from the Swiss Government informing me that during the night of December 18th/19th, between the hours of mid-night and 1.17 a.m. about ten British aircraft, flying in three groups, crossed the Jura mountains between La Chaux-de-Fonds and Les Verrières and then the Alps between Collon and the Simplon. Italian anti-aircraft batteries came into action at Verèse and Milan.

Five groups of aircraft returned across Switzerland between 1.50 a.m. and 3.55 a.m. crossing the Alps between the Simplon and the Great St. Bernard, and the Jura mountains between Basle and Neuchâtel. The night was perfectly clear, with fog up to 300 metres, only, offering good conditions for navigation.

The Swiss Government have asked me to protest anew against this breach of Swiss neutrality. They are especially astounded by this fresh incident committed two days after the

The Right Honourable,
 Viscount Halifax, K.G., P.C., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., D.C.L.,
 His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
 etc., etc., etc.,
 FOREIGN OFFICE.



- 2 -

bombardment of Basle. They wish me to inform the British
Government that under these conditions indignation amongst
the population is growing.

Please me
dear Sir believe
yours sincerely

A large, stylized handwritten signature, possibly reading 'M', written in dark ink.