

~~TOP SECRET~~  
USSR

Reference: 3/PPDT/T44

1. BRITISH USE OF DEGAUSSING EQUIPMENT REPORTED BY  
A SOVIET TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
  2. REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS
  3. PRESS REPORTS ON FIGHTER PILOT CALL-UP AND AIR LOSSES
- (1940)

From: LONDON

To: MOSCOW

No: 974

4th Sept. 40

To JOHN [DEZON][i].

1. One of our Trade Representatives has reported that the British are equipping ships with a special magnetic device against magnetic mines. The device is a special cable round the ship and a special magnetic installation in the ship for stopping the mines' magnetic action. The cost is about 21,000 sterling. He reported that there is a large number of British ships in the GLASGOW area.

2. The British FRIENDS [DEUZ'Ya][ii] have reported that a factory in NORWICH producing basic components for ROC aircraft has been badly hit.

3. The press reports that the Air Ministry is calling up fighter pilots up to 34 years old. Until now it has been up to 28 years old. The press reports that in a year of war the British have lost 1,026 aircraft and about 3,000 aircrew.

No. 254

DICK [DIK][iii]

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Comments: [i] JOHN: Unidentified MOSCOW addressee 6th July 1940 - 16th September 1940.

[ii] FRIENDS: members of the Communist Party.

[iii] DICK: Covername of unidentified LONDON signatory and addressee between 6th July 1940 and 11th October 1940.