

WORLD WAR II STATISTICS

Researched by Findlay Pirie

From an unknown newspaper:-

German Prisoners Killed By Own Airmen

There was free whisky for beast as well as man when a Banffshire distillery bond was hit and set on fire by a Nazi bomb. Cattle grazing on pasture soaked by whisky which flowed from the damaged bond fell under the influence of drink. The animals were seen "stytterin" in the field for days after. The incident occurred at Boyndie, early in the war.

It is recalled by Treasurer A.T. Morrison in his review as District Commissioner of air raids on the North-east-

From Banffshire, too, comes the story of the bombing on July 22, 1940, of Duff House, Banff, then a prisoner of war camp. Seven were killed and seventy-two injured.

In another North-east air raid - that at Sullom Voe in Shetland where the Nazis made their first attack on land in Britain - the only casualty was a rabbit.

Table of Toll

The table below gives, at glance the number of raids made on the North-east district and the casualties:—

	Raids	Killed	Injured
Aberdeenshire' Landward)	68	13	27
Peterhead	17	36	44
Fraserburgh.	19	49	249
Banffshire	9	10	90
Kincardine	16	—	—
Moray and Nairn	4	7	13
Orkney	16	2	11
Shetland	27	4	12

The main attacks on Aberdeenshire have fallen on Fraserburgh and Peterhead. In the nineteen raids on Fraserburgh, fifty-nine houses and twenty-four other buildings have been destroyed or rendered beyond repair, while 1296 have been damaged. The most serious Fraserburgh raid occurred on November 5, 1940, when the glare from a fire, started accidentally at Benzie and Miller's shop, attracted an enemy plane.

One of the bombs dropped hit a public house where a darts competition was in progress. The casualty list was heavy, thirty-one killed and seventeen injured.

Another serious attack on Fraserburgh was on April 5, 1941, when Messrs Maconochie's food factory got a direct hit, five persons being killed and 112 injured. Twelve days later a new housing scheme in Castle Street was hit the casualties being seven killed and twenty injured. An air raid shelter behind houses was slewed round eight feet off its base by blast.

In another raid on February 20, 1943 at the School Street housing scheme one person was killed and twenty-seven injured.

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On First-Aid Post

At Peterhead the Academy has been twice seriously damaged. Houses in Landale Road have been demolished.

One of Peterhead's most serious raids was on August 10, 1941, when a first-aid post got a direct hit. Five persons were killed and twenty injured.

On September 29, 1941, six bombs were dropped in the James Street area. Twenty-nine people were killed and five injured.

In Peterhead fifty-six houses have been demolished and 1138 damaged by Nazi bombs. In other parts of Aberdeenshire most of the bombs dropped have fallen on open, country, but on January 29, 1942, when Rosehearty was raided during a blizzard eleven people were killed and seven injured. Rescue parties from neighbouring districts were held up on snowbound roads.

Portsoy and Portknockie in Banffshire have also suffered considerable damage.

Lossiemouth has been the worst hit town in Moray and Nairn.