

1940

- Aug. 13, Air Ministry announced that German losses in attacks on Britain amounted to 606 aeroplanes since the outbreak of hostilities.
- Aug. 15, Raids on Britain by more than 1,000 German aeroplanes; 144 German and 27 British machines lost.
- Aug. 16, Britain charged that German aeroplanes deliberately attacked residential town of Eastbourne; day's losses: 71 German and 18 British aeroplanes.
- Aug. 18, Loss of 152 German aeroplanes out of 600 over Britain; British losses 16.
- Aug. 19- Sept. 5 Second stage of aerial "Battle of Britain", with aerodromes as main targets.
- Aug. 21, Germans resumed former tactics of numerous small air raids.
- Aug. 22, Germans, in first serious use of cross-channel guns, shelled a convoy and bombarded Dover.
- Aug. 23, First night air-raid on London. British first used cross-channel guns and R.A.F. bombed gun emplacements on French coast.
- Aug. 26, First serious British air raid over Berlin lasted 3 hours.
- Aug. 27, Aeroplane losses over Britain Aug. 8-26, 856 German, 202 British.
- Aug. 29, Mass formation of 200 German aeroplanes driven off Kentish coast.
- Aug. 30, Krupp works at Essen bombed by R.A.F.
- Sept 2, Heavy air raids on London during week-end; 100 German aeroplanes brought down.
- Sept. 5, R.A.F. launched heavy attacks on invasion ports.
- Sept. 6- Oct. 15, Third stage of aerial "Battle of Britain", with concentrated attacks on London.
- Sept. 7- May 10, **HEAVY AIR RAIDS ON LONDON—***Sept. 7-Oct. 5, "Battle of London": 38 major daylight air raids on London. Oct. 14, Raids featured by new combination high-explosive and incendiary bombs. Oct. 29, Resumption of mass daylight raids. Nov. 6-7, Heavy night raids. Nov. 29, Renewal of heavy night raids in attempt to ascertain whether anti-aircraft defences had been moved to provincial cities. Dec. 27, Heavy night raid. Dec. 29, Incendiary raid, with damage amounting to millions of pounds; Guildhall, churches and other historic buildings ruined. Jan. 7, Heavy daylight raid. Jan. 11-12, New attempts to burn London frustrated, but resulted in compulsory fire-warden service for all Britain. Jan. 30, Heavy daylight raid. Mar. 19, Six-hour night raid. Apr. 16, Dusk to dawn raids resulted in heavy death toll and widespread damage. Apr. 19, Night raid on large scale. May 10, Intense night raid resulted in damage to Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament and British Museum; 33 German aeroplanes brought down, 29 by night fighters.*
- Sept. 10, In retaliation for raid on London on Sept. 7, heavy attack on Berlin made by R.A.F.
- Sept. 11, R.N. and R.A.F. attacked German-held Channel ports. Mr. Churchill in an Empire broadcast warned that a German invasion of Britain was imminent.
- Sept. 15, 185 German aeroplanes brought down.
- Sept. 16, R.A.F. attacked and broke up large German troop concentrations in the Channel ports.
- Sept. 17, Mr. Churchill announced that civilian casualties from July 1 to Sept. 15 numbered 12,719 killed or wounded.
- Sept. 19-21 R.A.F. raided German concentration points along French coast and the Dortmund-Ems canal.
- Sept. 22, H.M. the King broadcasted a message, announcing the institution of the George Cross and Medal for civilian bravery.
- Sept 27, Over 1,000 German aeroplanes bombed London and many other British points; 133 German aeroplanes shot down and 34 British.
- Sept. 29, First ex-U.S. destroyers reached England.
- Oct. 3, Widespread air attacks on London and other British points.
- Oct. 6-21, Fourth stage in aerial "Battle of Britain", characterized by night raids on vital centres and the use of high-explosive and incendiary bombs.
- Oct. 11, R.N. shelled Cherbourg.
- Oct. 12, Heavy long-range artillery duel across Strait of Dover. R.A.F. bombed 40 separate points, including Berlin for 1 hour, and the Krupp factory at Essen for 2 hours.