

3-4 OFF 20
40/2

AIR GUARDIANS OF THE COAST.

Each dawn from Britain's air bases the giant flying boats of the R.A.F. Coastal Command take off. They're flying battleships ... that keep the air as the Navy keeps the sea. Often they spend whole days out of sight of land. Would you like to take the air with them? So far as Pathe Gazette is concerned that's easily arranged. With the first light of day we are rearing out to sea... above the guarded Harbour Mouth.

In war time we have no radio to guide us. So everything depends on the Navigator. Today he must lead us by dead reckoning out to an incoming convoy. And all the time we are watching for the white feather on the water... that would indicate the periscope of a pirate submarine.

When we sight a foreign merchantman we take a picture, which may be useful for contraband control. When we reach the convoy we find that three ships have lost their way. So we sweep low and signal to them the position of the rest of the Convoy. We use our Aldis Lamp for a Radio Message might be picked up by the enemy, and lead them to the spot. Four hour after hour we guard the Convoy until it reaches harbour and then we turn for home. On the way back our Captain orders a practice aircraft alarm. The guns are manned, and here's how they'd meet the first enemy plane that dared to attack. Already the R.A.F. have flown many ~~times~~ million miles on Coastal Patrols. They are the watch tower of Britain's ships at Sea.