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## DEFIANTS IN THE MAKING.

Another revealing story of British Aircraft Production comes with a visit by Pathe Gazette Cameramen to a factory where men and women are building and assembling large numbers of the celebrated Boulton Paul Defiant fighter aircraft. From the maze of precision instruments and workshop tools, are being fashioned the planes which produced one of the first air surprises of the war. Over the Beaches of Dunkirk the Germans got the shock of their lives when, after getting on the tails of the Defiants they were shot down apparently from nowhere. The backward-firing power-operated four-gun turret ripped the Luftwaffe planes to pieces.

In the tailunit assembly shop girl operatives rivet the sections and fit the outer metal skin to the tail plane. With the increasing development of night flying interceptors, the Defiant has proved an excellent night fighter, and is now sharing that important duty with the Beaufighter, the American-Built Havoc, and others.

Elevators and rudders are here being covered. The fabric is then given its doping process. Sewing is an operation which calls for infinitely more skill than ordinary stitching.

Later on, when construction is completed... the whole machine will be sprayed with the black paint worn by all our night fighters.

The gun turret - the real sting of the Defiant, and the airscrew Spinner and engine cowlings are fitted. A final check up on the retractable landing gear and another fine machine takes its place in the line drawn up on the tarmac.

Before delivery to any squadron, the planes are taken up by test pilots, men who, as physicians of the air, diagnose every characteristic of each plane as they subject it to a whole catalogue of excessive tests.

The first time this type of machine was used on a large scale, one squadron shot down 37 German fighters and bombers without loss, and in three days accounted for 60 enemy aircraft.

Powerful... Defiant... and as dauntless as the brood that gave it birth.