

# REPRISALS FOR SUNK HOSPITAL SHIPS.

## BIG AIR RAID ON FREIBURG.

### THREE MACHINES LOST.

The Secretary of the Admiralty makes the following announcement:—

In consequence of the attacks made by German submarines on British hospital ships in direct and flagrant contravention of Hague Convention No. 10, a large squadron, composed of British and French aeroplanes, carried out a reprisal bombardment of the town of Freiburg on Saturday, April 14.

Many bombs were dropped with good results.

In spite of a large number of air fights with hostile aeroplanes, all machines returned safely, with the exception of three.

•• The threat of reprisals for the sinking of hospital ships was made at the end of January. The German Government having deliberately and publicly threatened to sink hospital ships, the Foreign Office issued a statement in which it said:—

His Majesty's Government have requested the United States Government to inform the German Government that his Majesty's Government have decided that, if the threat is carried out, reprisals will immediately be taken by the British authorities concerned.

The Germans, undeterred, twice put into practice their inhuman mode of warfare last month, when they torpedoed without warning the hospital ships *Asturias* and *Gloucester Castle*. In neither case were any of the wounded killed, though when the *Gloucester Castle* was torpedoed there were 450 wounded on board.

Freiburg is a university town in Baden with a population of nearly 80,000 people. It has been several times bombed by Allied air squadrons, the town being little more than 30 miles from the French front in Alsace.