



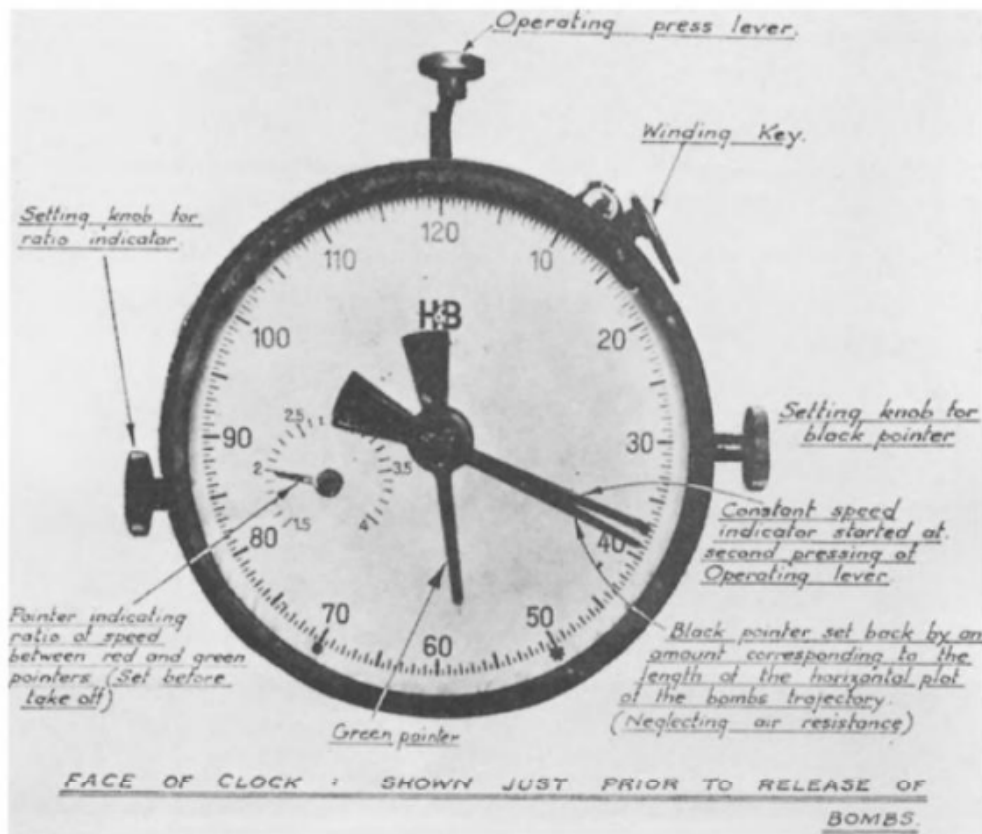
PEN & SWORD MILITARY CLASSICS

# THE SECRET WAR

BRIAN JOHNSON



An X-Geräte clock  
from a captured  
He111 of KGr100.



is also concerned with the fitting of an “X-Geräte” into an aircraft [a Heinkel 111] 6N+LK.’

6N was known to be the aircraft unit code of KGr100, a unit that specialised in blind flying. The inference Jones drew was inescapable:

‘. . . the X-Geräte and KG100 are closely associated. It will be recalled that there has already been some doubt concerning the identity of Knickebein and the X-Geräte; it is now certain that they are not the same, although they employ similar principles. . . . It is suggested that the X-Geräte may be a fully automatic system of blind bombing.’

The ‘Y’ Service, in the course of their routine electronic surveillance, had picked up new enemy radio transmissions on 74 mHz (4 metres) a week or so earlier. The signals were clearly not for communication, being similar to Knickebein and having a Lorenz characteristic, although with a different modulation note and rate of keying of dots and dashes; they were, too, on a much higher frequency. The ‘Y’ Service had reported that the signals appeared to originate from two sources, the Calais region and Le Havre, and had concluded that they might be intended for the navigation of minelayers or MTBs (Motor Torpedo Boats).

The discovery of these new beam signals was a disquieting one. The Germans appeared now to be exploiting their geographical gains. They held the whole of the coastline from Brest, on the Bay of Biscay, to Den Helder in northern Holland: from this great arc they could set up the new beams