

PATHE GAZETTE: 41/27.

ITALIAN FLEET SMASHED

These pictures of the Italian fleet, before they met the British in the Mediterranean, are presented as the last, I didn't say latest, the last pictures of Mussolini's Navy as a whole. It's whole no longer, for in one devastating battle with our Navy the top wops, no the flop wops, have been much reduced in strength. Oh, what a surprise for the Duce. Three, maybe four, cruisers including Pola, Zara and Fiume, and at least two destroyers have been sent to the bottom of the deep blue sea, while the pride of the Italian Navy the battleship "Vittorio Veneto" is about as much use to Musso as Musso is to Hitler. And talking of Hitler, I bet he's not much inclined to wring Musso's hand right now, he wants to wring his *** neck morelike it. Now with pride we offer you a glimpse of the British men of war who humbled the fat Fascist pride on his own doorstep, Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham, and the ships "Warspite" "Valiant" "Barham" not forgetting the gallant destroyer "Abbott" of Narvik fame. Not one of our ships suffered so much as a scratch on her paint, nor was there a single casualty among our men. You mustn't overlook the Fleet Air Arm which accounted for the "Vittorio Veneto" and kept our C-in-C informed of the enemy's movements. The eyes of the fleet were well skinned they don't need glasses, but old has-been 'Nito needs stronger ones than those to see what's left of his navy.