

ANTI-MINE WELLINGTONS.

Many of us will remember seeing (and feeling mystified) by "the plane with the hoop". The book "Coastal Command" disclosed the secret, and revealed the purpose of this strange aircraft. A number of Wellingtons were fitted with this contrivance as a means of destroying Magnetic Mines. The hoop-shaped casing held a magnetic coil which (when it passed over a mine) caused it to explode. An Auxiliary Engine in the bomber supplied the current which set up a magnetic field similar to that created by a passing ship. This mine sweeping from the air was no easy business. When the mines exploded the Wellingtons were severely jolted. The fumes from the Auxiliary motor caused violent nausea. But the "plane with the hoop" was a winner. It triumphed over Hitler's Secret Weapon - The Magnetic Mine.