

The creation of British sea  
blindness – the case of the Royal  
Navy and the relationship with  
British national identity

Dr Duncan Redford

National Museum of the Royal Navy



“The Navy and the nation are one...”





# Britannia Royal Naval College

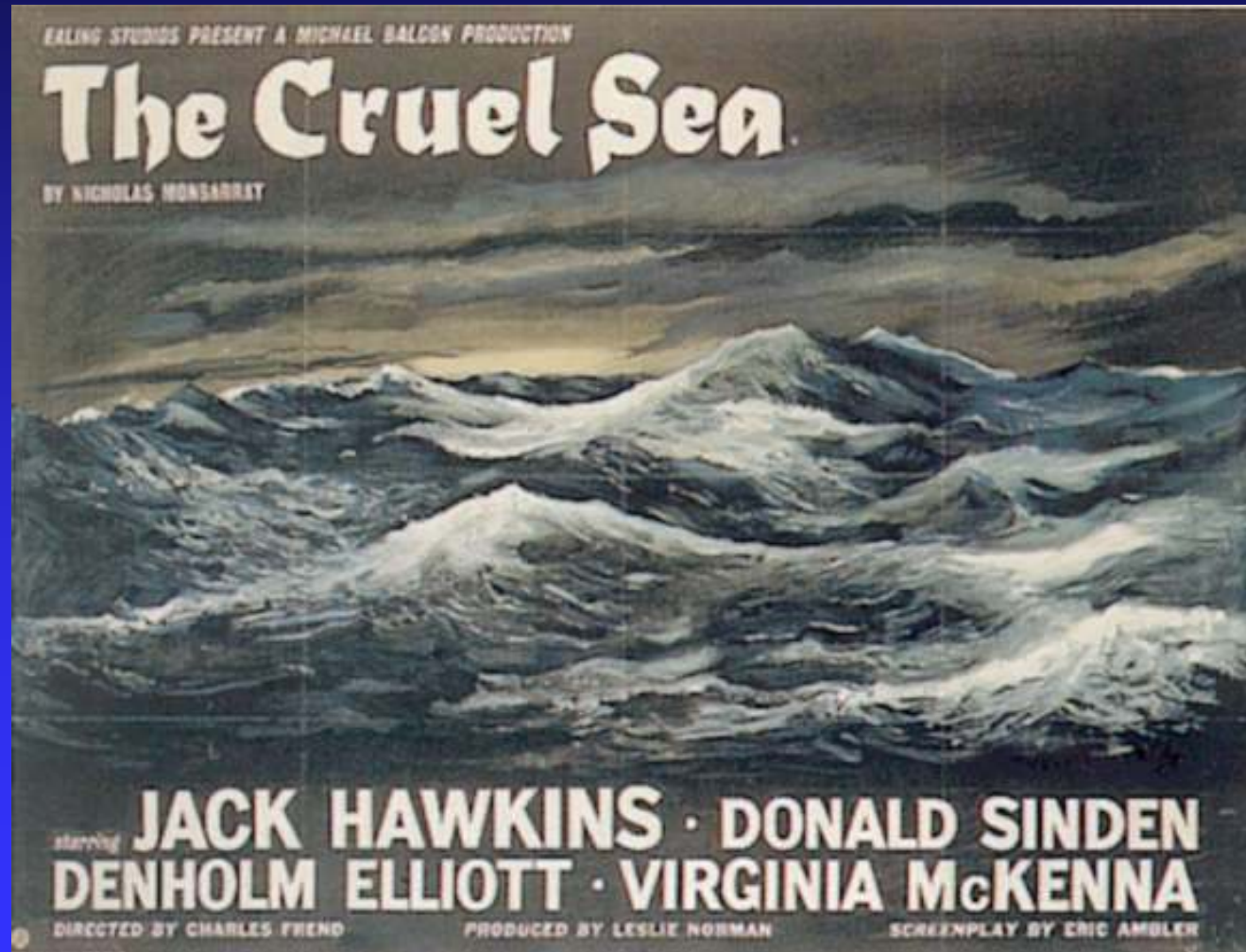




# Naval public houses



# The Cruel Sea theatrical poster



# Bryant & May matches: 'England's Glory.'





# The Royal Navy as a symbol of security



THE  
BRITISH NAVY  
guards the freedom of us all

# Unrestricted submarine warfare



A FEW  
CARELESS WORDS  
MAY END IN THIS—

Many lives were lost in the last war through careless talk  
Be on your guard! Don't discuss movements of ships or troops



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# Empire Marketing Board poster







"AM I AN ISLAND?"

[In two days there were a quarter of a million applications for service in the Local Defence Volunteers.]

Punch 22 May  
1940:  
"Am I an island?"

# Peace Pledge Union pamphlets, late 1930s

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## BURN THE BABIES !

THERE ARE SOME THINGS no one would do—not even in the name of Patriotism. For instance, no one, however loyal, would put his neighbour's baby on the fire at the suggestion of the Secretary of State for War. ....

*BABIES, WE FEEL, ARE NEUTRAL*

BUT MODERN WARFARE means war from the air. War from the air means bombing babies.

IS IT WORSE TO PUT THE BABY ON THE FIRE — OR THE FIRE ON THE BABY? You can't "defend" your country without burning your neighbours' babies. "The only defence is in offence, which means that you have got to kill women and children more quickly than the enemy," says Mr. Baldwin.

ISN'T THERE A BETTER WAY of settling the disputes of Governments and Financiers?

Dr. "Dick" Sheppard thinks there is. Sign the Peace Pledge:—

"I renounce war and I will never support or sanction another",

and send it on a post card to:—

**THE PEACE PLEDGE UNION, 96, REGENT STREET, W.1.**

T. W. Pegg & Sons, Ltd., Waltham Green, S.W.6.

P.P.U. 1936

## THE NEW TARGET

