

More on World War 2 Bombings

By Alan Miles ([email](#)) – July 2013

I was born in 1948 so fortunately I missed The Blitz and other terrors of war.

My family, i.e. my mum and dad, aunts and uncles often used to talk about the war. They often spoke about the V1 Rockets and the V2s and where a lot of where the bombs fell, and they said it was something they would not wish anyone to have to go through. As a small boy my Dad and I would cross the bombsite which later The Arcade was built upon. That bombsite was the remains of a Burtons tailor, which I think was targeted from information given by 'quislings'. They were known as Fifth Columnists aiding and abetting the Nazis.

The area where Lloyds Bank now stands was wasteland that was screened by advertising boards, that was also the reminder of the hideous bomb. Even people living in Leyton felt the blast and pieces of rubble fell in their back gardens from that bomb. It fell on a Saturday morning where nearby fishmongers were selling fish and where long queues of people were waiting to be served.

22 people were killed on that Saturday morning when the rocket fell, and twice as many were injured, this was obviously an anti-Semitic gesture as the rocket fell on the Sabbath. The old Granada was used as a temporary morgue where the dead were carried to. This was a symbolic bombing I believe by the Nazis. I truly believe a plaque or monument reminding people of what Fascism can do as a reminder of it should be erected in those areas.

Two parachute mines fell in Forest Road, these powerful hideous bombs were ejected from the aeroplane and they looked like black pillar boxes as they floated down on parachutes and exploded on impact. One fell on a large co-operative centre blowing it to smithereens and also many houses opposite. If you examine the railings of Lloyd Park you will find chunks missing out of them where the bomb shrapnel hit the railings.

The other fell near Bedford Road causing great damage to both sides of the road. It was believed that the Nazis were trying to hit the bus depot. My own belief is that these attacks were German propaganda attacks on the hated objects, after all the co-op was a socialist invention and the William Morris Gallery was a sort of shrine to William Morris the Communist,. that is my final opinion about those two bombs.