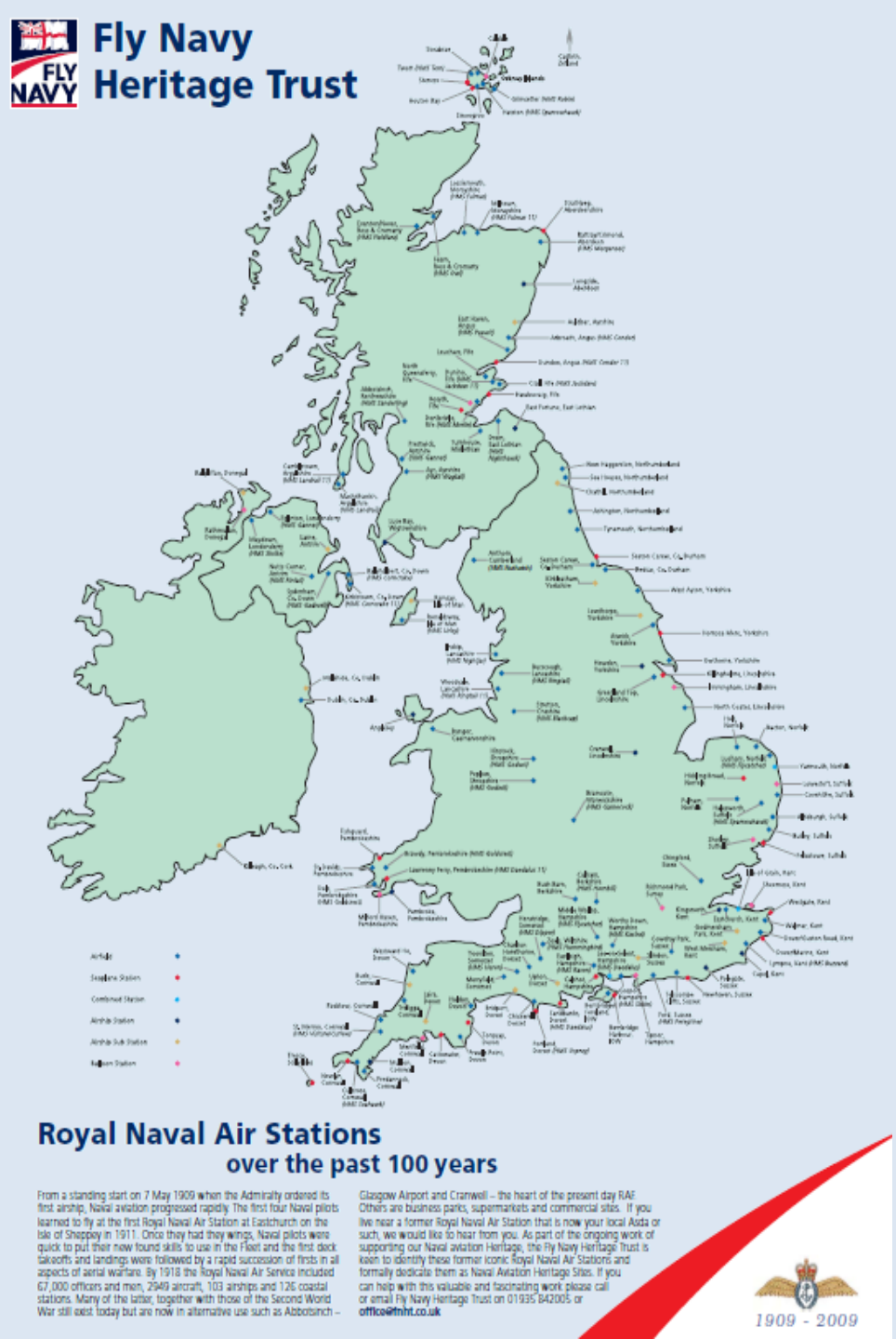
Royal Naval Air Stations

AIRFIELDS
SEAPLANE STATIONS
BALLOON STATIONS
AIRSHIP STATIONS
AIRSHIP SUB STATIONS
COMBINED STATIONS



The idea for this slideshow is based on the map on the left produced by the **Fly Navy Heritage Trust.**

One hundred years of
Royal Naval Air Stations.

Maps used in our production are prior to the 1974 boundary changes.

While every care has been taken in the preparation of this slideshow, accuracy cannot be guaranteed.

Royal Naval Air Stations Over The Past 100 Years

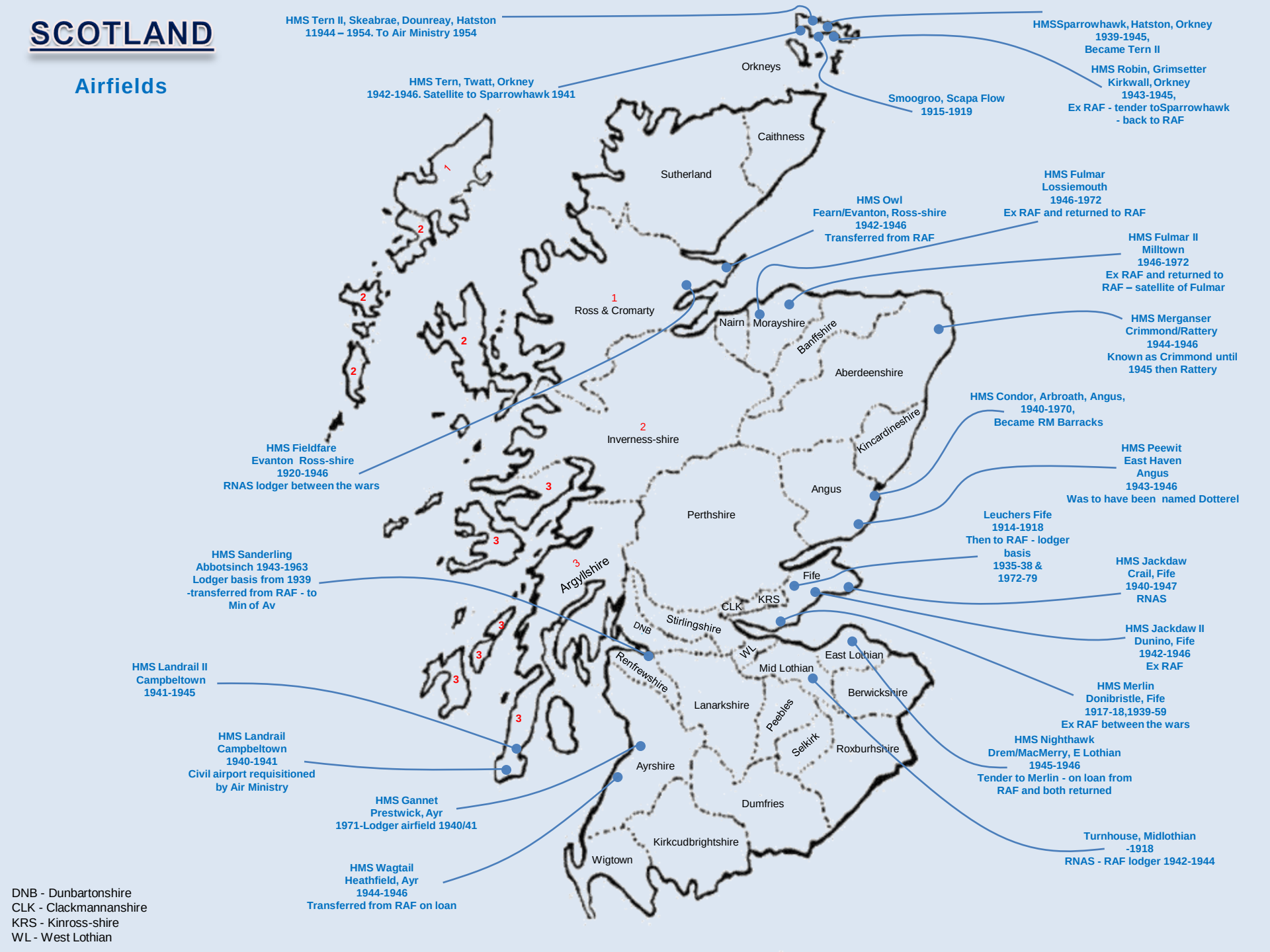
The Admiralty ordered its first airship on 7 May 1909 and it is from this single standing point that naval aviation progressed so rapidly. The first four naval pilots learned to fly on the Isle of Sheppey in 1911, home of the first Royal Naval Air Station at Eastchurch. Once their wings had been awarded, naval pilots put their new skills to use very quickly. The Fleet experienced its first take offs and landings to mention just one aspect of aerial warfare and by the end of World War 1 in 1918 the Royal Naval Air Service could boast 67,000 officers and men, 2949 aircraft, 103 airships and 126 coastal stations.

Many of these coastal or naval air stations along with those that came into being during World War 2 still exist today, a few still in use by the Royal Navy. Others have become civil airports or have been taken over by the RAF and Army whilst some have, sadly, fallen into disuse and either left to fall down or have become industrial estates, business parks, leisure facilities or supermarkets; one has even become a reservoir. The Fly Navy Heritage Trust has identified and is keen to identify even more of these former sites and to formally designate them as Naval Aviation Heritage Sites.

Gill Charles
2010

SCOTLAND

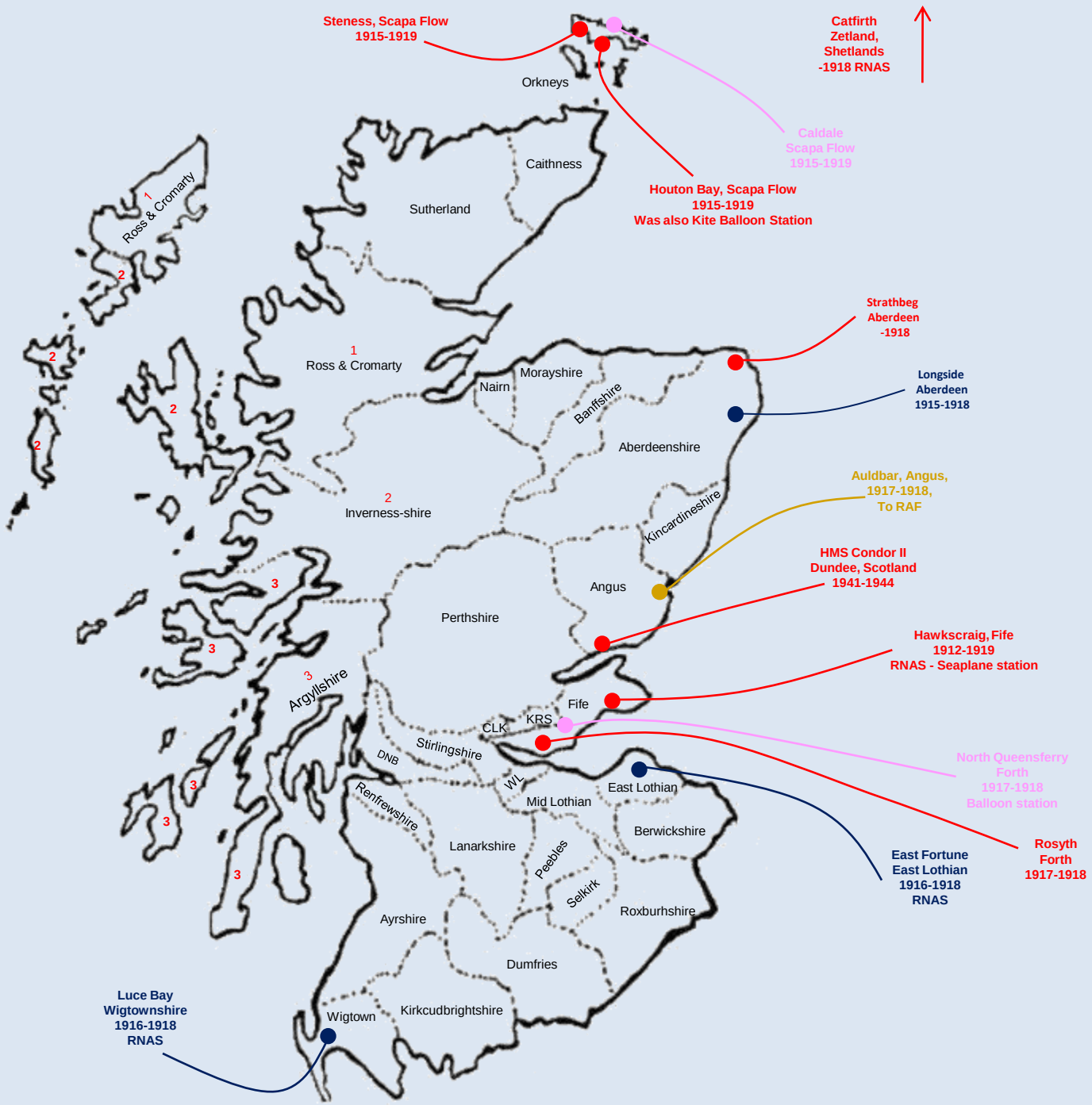
Airfields



DNB - Dunbartonshire
CLK - Clackmannanshire
KRS - Kinross-shire
WL - West Lothian

SCOTLAND

Seaplane
Balloon
Airship
Airship Sub Stations



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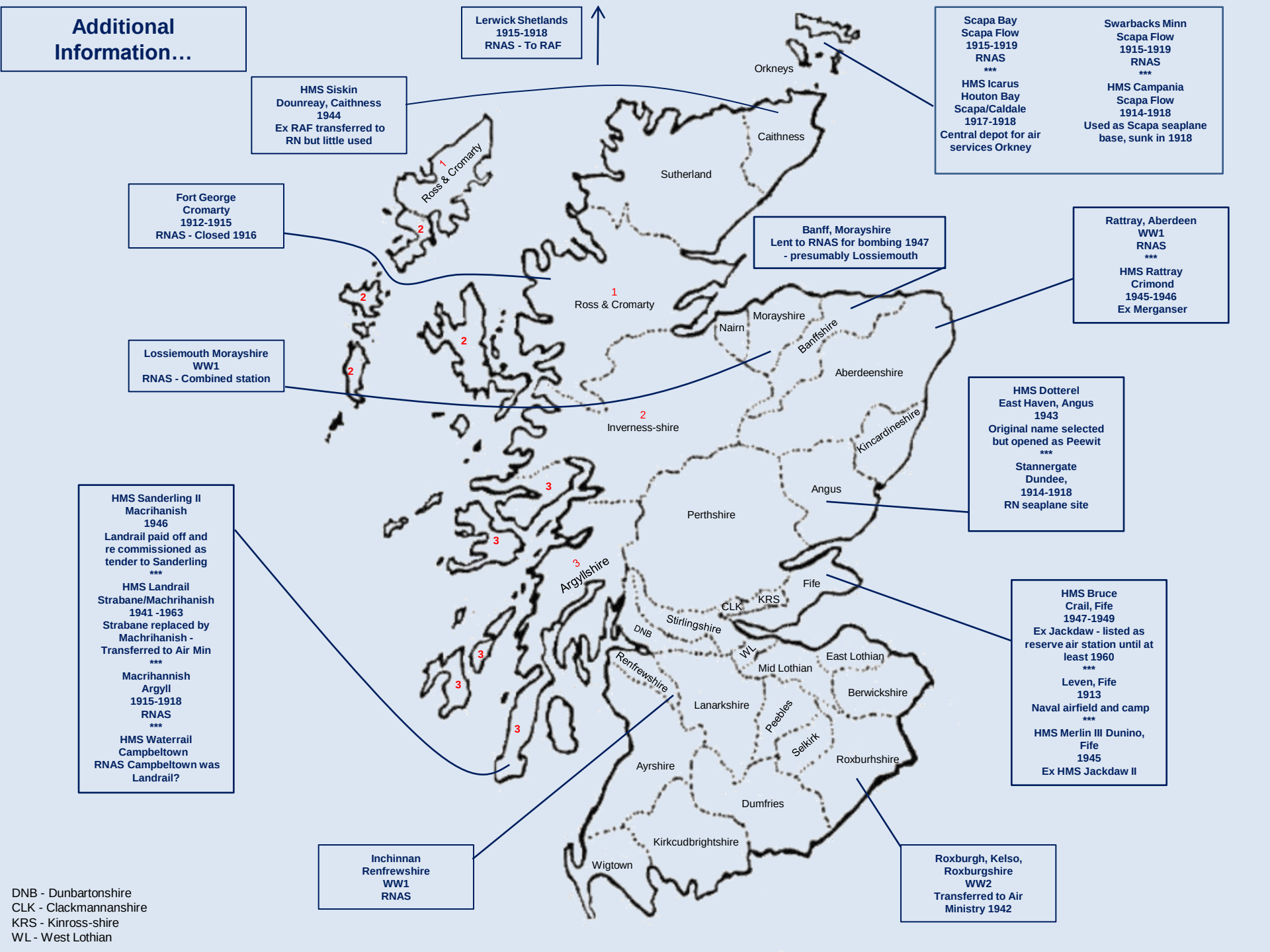
Additional Information…



DNB - Dunbartonshire
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KRS - Kinross-shire
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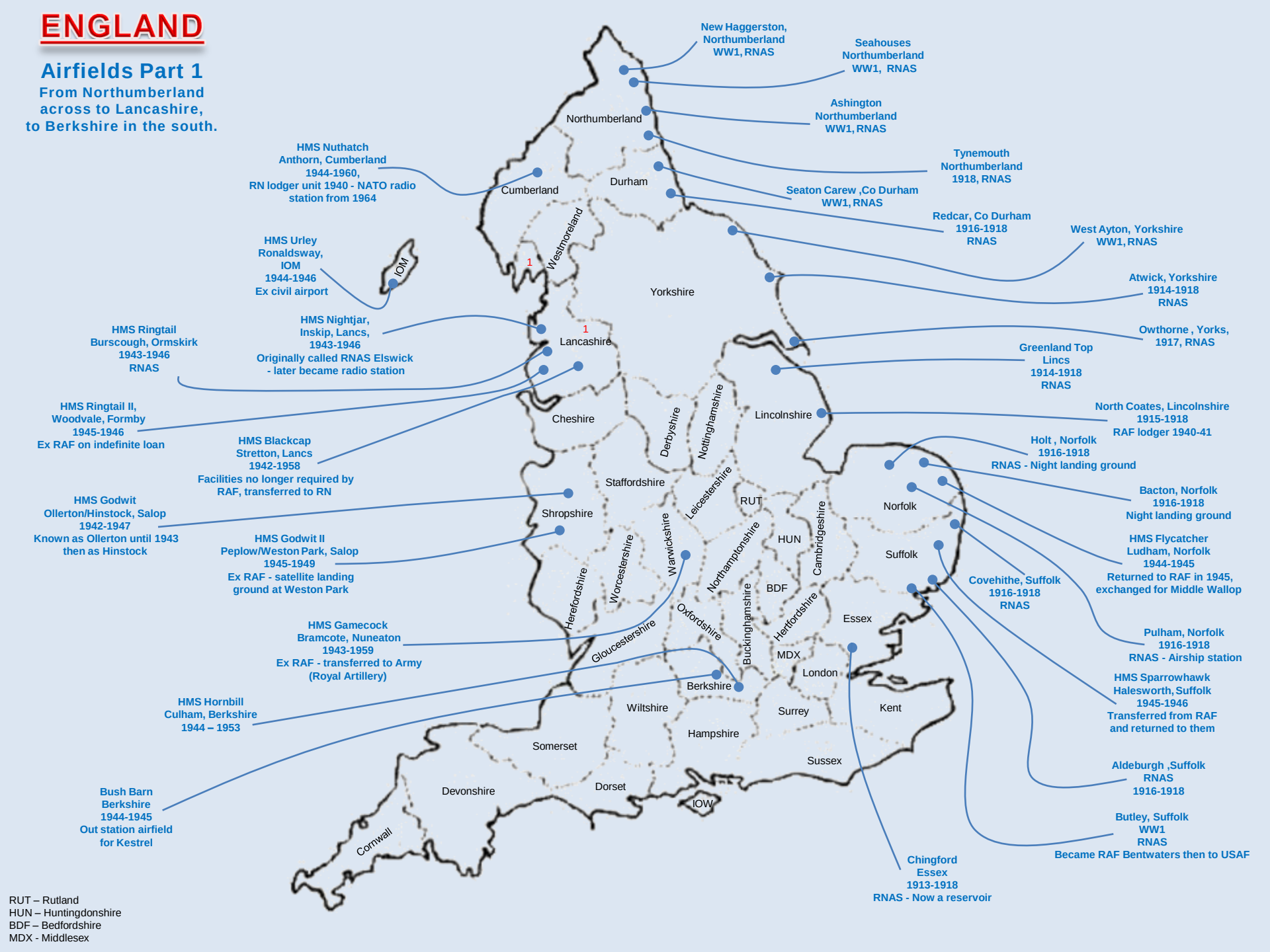
ENGLAND

Airfields Part 1

From Northumberland across to Lancashire, to Berkshire in the south.



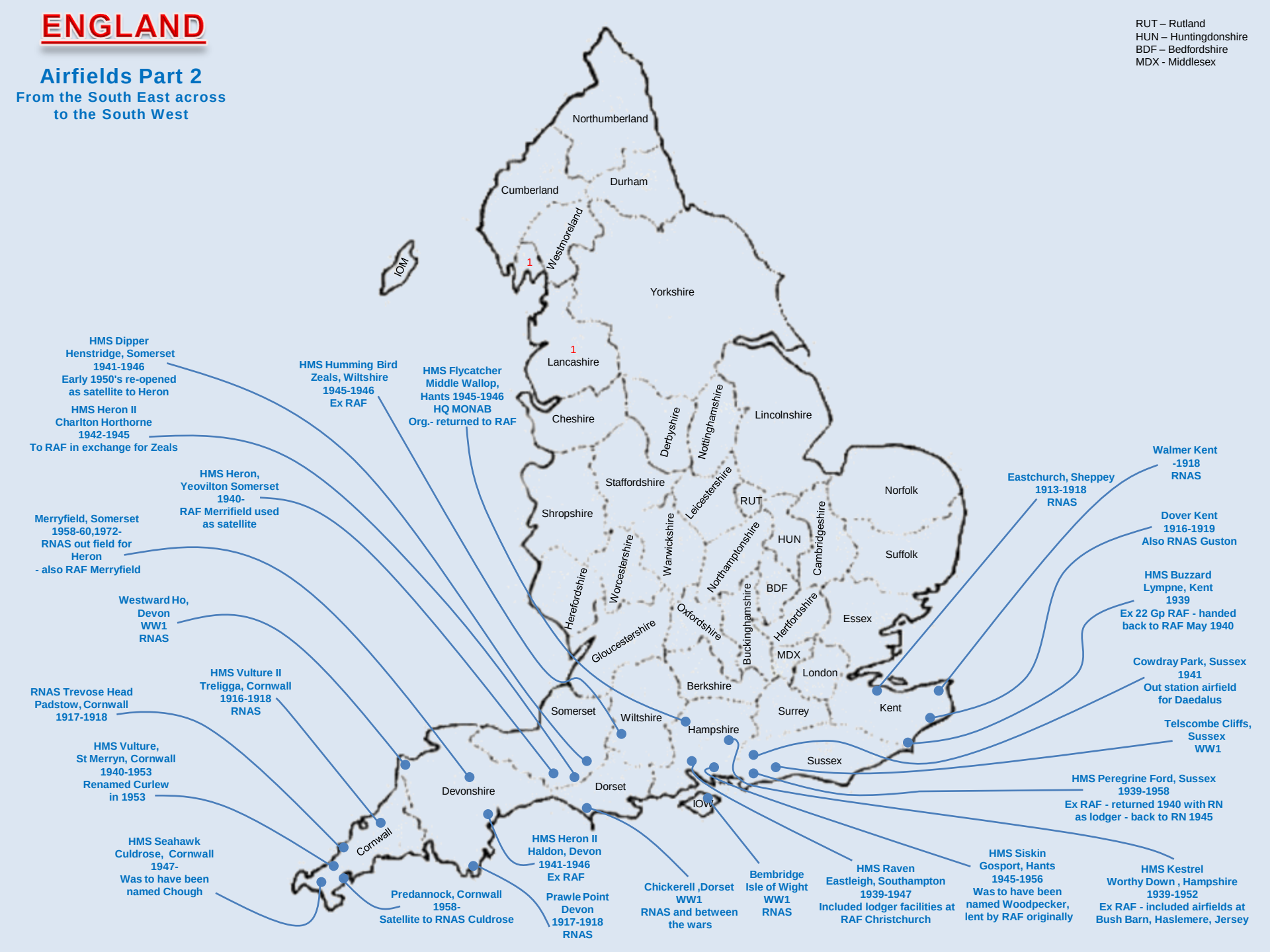
RUT – Rutland
HUN – Huntingdonshire
BDF – Bedfordshire
MDX - Middlesex

ENGLAND

Airfields Part 2

From the South East across to the South West

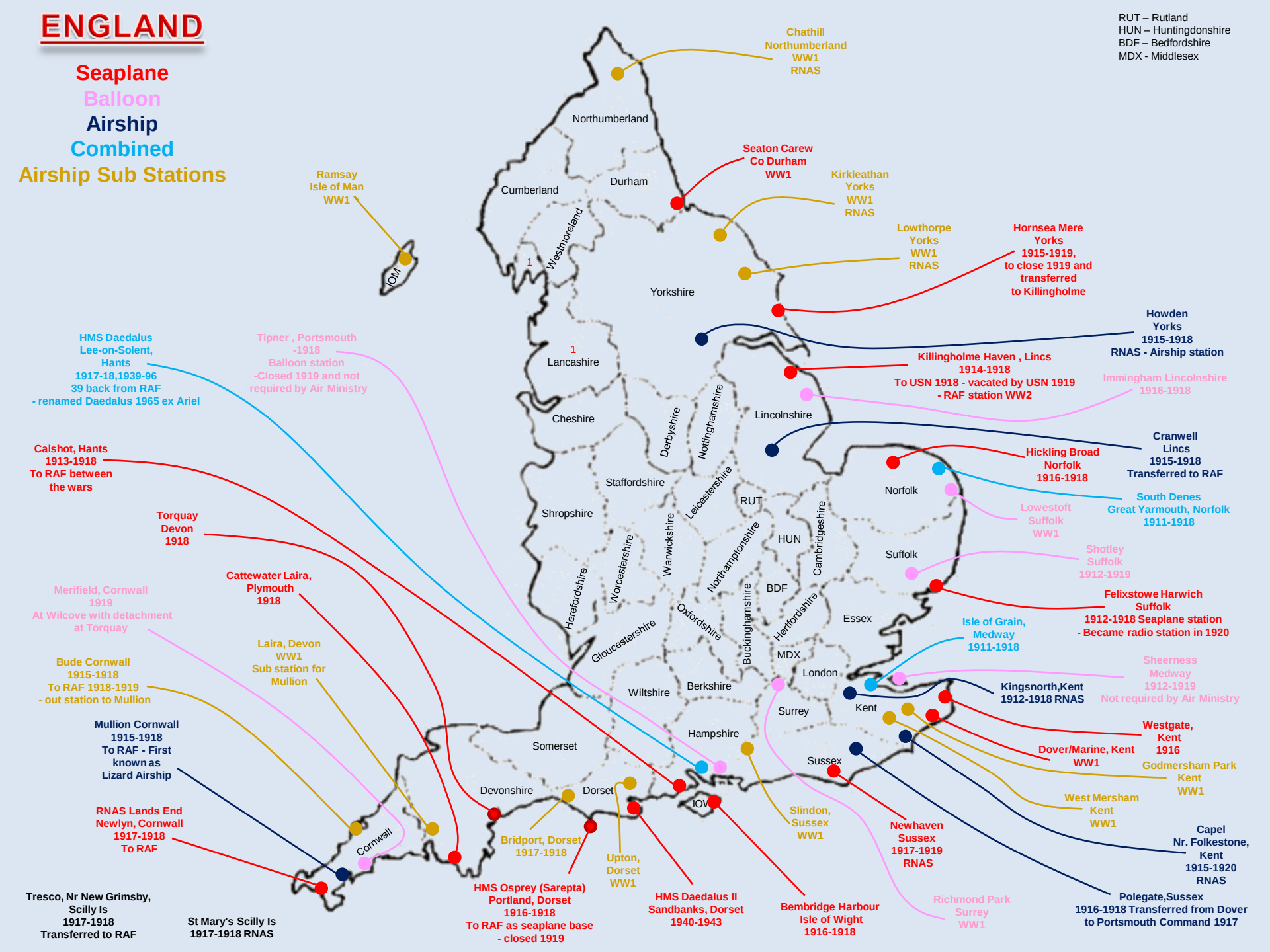
RUT – Rutland
HUN – Huntingdonshire
BDF – Bedfordshire
MDX - Middlesex



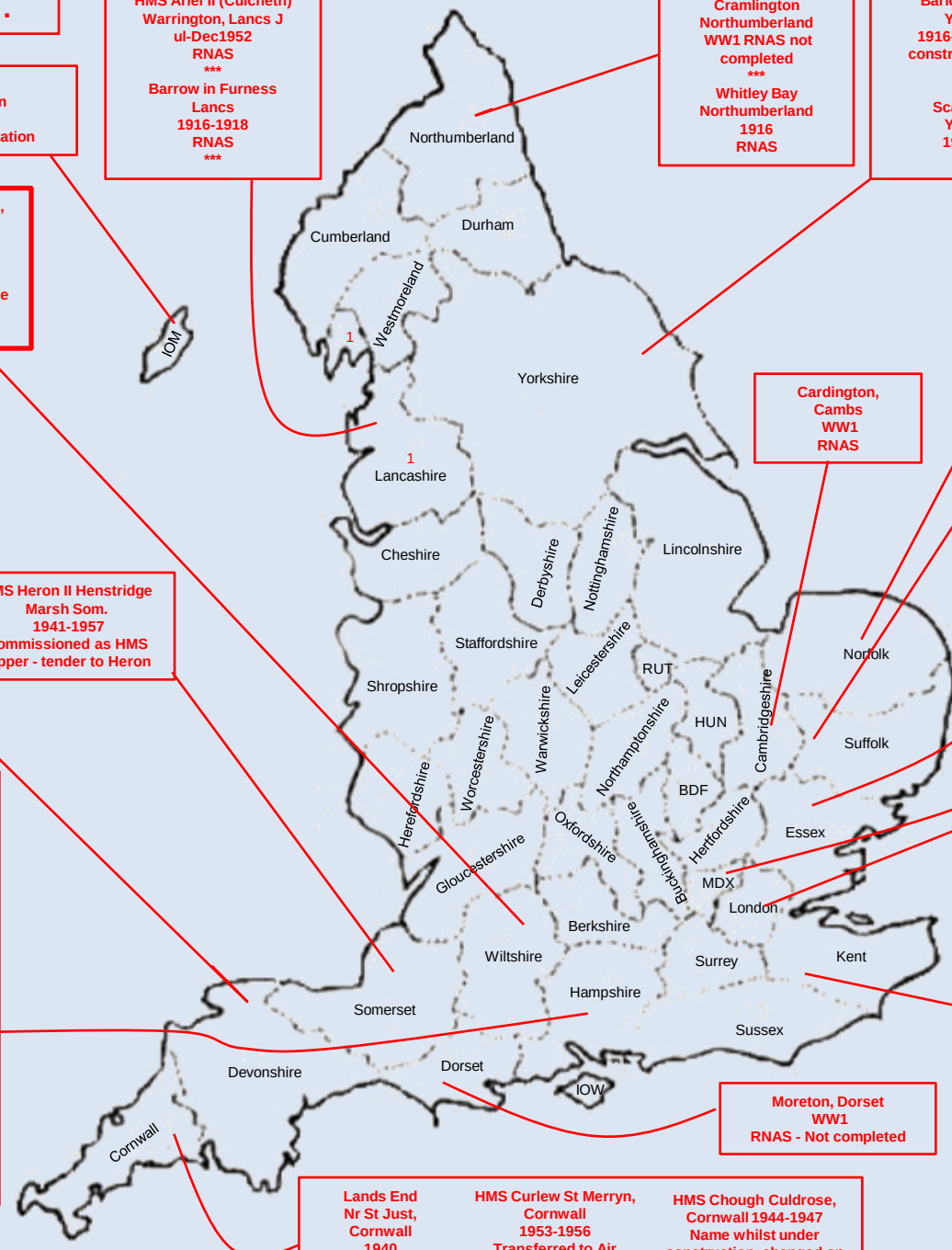
ENGLAND

Seaplane
Balloon
Airship
Combined
Airship Sub Stations

RUT – Rutland
HUN – Huntingdonshire
BDF – Bedfordshire
MDX - Middlesex



Additional Information…



Ramsay
Isle of Man
WW1
Airship sub station

HMS Ariel II (Culcheth)
Warrington, Lancs J
ul-Dec1952
RNAS
***
Barrow in Furness
Lancs
1916-1918
RNAS
***

Cramlington
Northumberland
WW1 RNAS not completed
***
Whitley Bay
Northumberland
1916
RNAS

Barlow Nr Selby,
Yorkshire
1916-1920 Airship construction station
RNAS
***
Scarborough
Yorkshire
1915-1916
RNAS

Sedgeford Norfolk
1915-1917
Night landing ground
-To RFC 1917
***
Narborough Norfolk
1912 -1916
To War Office - later became RAF Marham
-***
Burgh Castle Norfolk
-1918 Night landing ground - RNAS

HMS Humming Bird,
Zeals, Wiltshire
WW1
RNAS
***
Stonehenge Wiltshire
1918
RNAS

HMS Hornbill II
Beccles/Halesworth, Suffolk
1945-1953
Ex RAF - lodger facilities

Mount Batten,
Plymouth 1917-1918
To RAF - Used by RN between wars
***
Teignmouth Devon
1940
RNAS
***
RNAS Tregantle Ft
Plymouth
1917
RNAS
***
Tregantle & Withnoe
Plymouth
918
RNAS

Cardington,
Cambs
WW1
RNAS

Fairlop, Essex
1913-1918
Sub station to Chingford - Now a Leisure Centre
***
Chelmsford, Essex
1915-1918
RNAS

HMS Heron II Henstridge Marsh Som.
1941-1957
Commissioned as HMS Dipper - tender to Heron

Stratford London
1917-1918
To be Admiralty Establishment
***
HMS Victory VI
Crystal Palace, London
1918
RNAS
***
Roehampton London
1918
RNAS
***
Wormwood Scrubs
London 1915-1917
RNAS

Eastcote,
Ruislip
WW1
RNAS

Fort Grange Gosport, Hants
1914-1918
RNAS - Became No 1 Naval Air Squadron
***
HMS Ariel Worthy Down , Hampshire
Jul 1952-1959
Transferred from Warrington
***
HMS Daedalus III
Lee/Bedhampton, Hants
1943-1947
Also release centre - known as Bedhampton Camp
***
Arnold House
Farnborough, Hants
1912-1918
RNAS

HMS Woodpecker
Gosport, Hants
1945
Name proposed for RNAS Gosport but Siskin used instead
***
HMS Ariel
Lee-on-Solent, Hants 1959-1965
Daedalus renamed Ariel when ground training moved there
***
Lee-on-Solent
Portsmouth
-1918
RNAS
***
Gosport Portsmouth
-1918
RNAS

Lympne Kent
1914-1918
RNAS
***
HMS Daedalus II
Lympne, Kent
1939-1940
EX RAF and transferred back to them
***
Rochford, Kent
WW1
Transferred to War Office 1916
***
Detling Maidstone, Kent 1916-1918 to Military 1917
-RAF lodger 1940-1941 - RNAS

HMS Pembroke II
Eastchurch, Sheppey 1913-1918
Transferred to RAF
***
Folkestone Kent
1915-1918
RNAS - Also naval base during WW1 - closed 1919
***
HMS Bluebird III
Folkestone, Kent
1942-1944
Ex Air Sea Rescue Folkestone
***
Wittersham, Kent
WW1
RNAS
***
Ramsgate, Kent
1914-1918
RNAS

Moreton, Dorset
WW1
RNAS - Not completed

Lands End
Nr St Just, Cornwall
1940
Temporary RNAS

HMS Curlew St Merryn, Cornwall
1953-1956
Transferred to Air Ministry

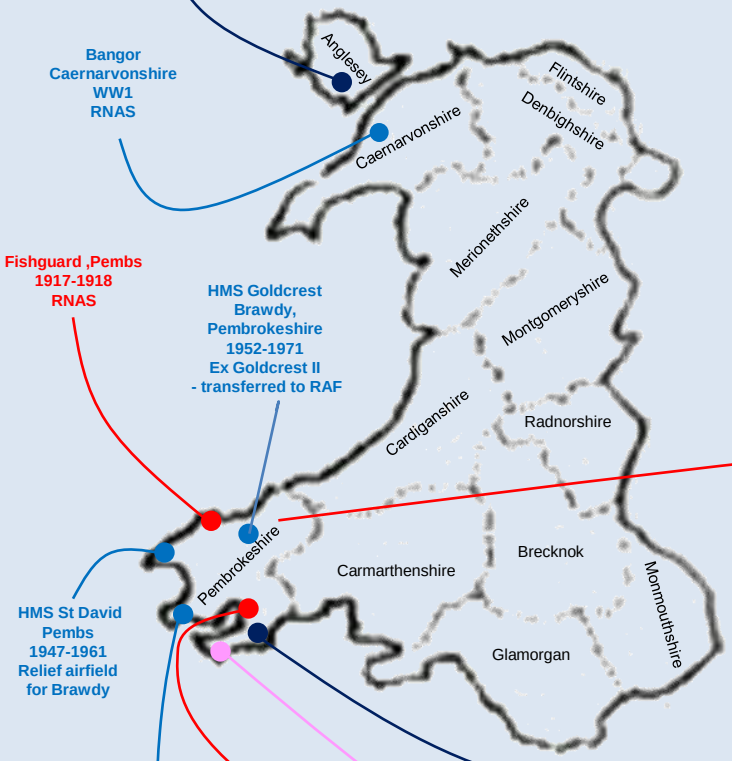
HMS Chough Culdrose, Cornwall 1944-1947
Name whilst under construction, changed on completion

RUT – Rutland
HUN – Huntingdonshire
BDF – Bedfordshire
MDX - Middlesex

WALES

Airfields
Seaplane
Balloon
Airship

Additional Information…



Conway
Anglesey
1916
RNAS

Bangor
Caernarvonshire
WW1
RNAS

Fishguard ,Pembs
1917-1918
RNAS

HMS Goldcrest
Brawdy,
Pembrokeshire
1952-1971
Ex Goldcrest II
- transferred to RAF

HMS Goldcrest
Angle, Pembs
1943
Ex RAF and transferred back to RAF
***
HMS Goldcrest II
Brawdy, Pembs
1946-1952
Ex RAF - Satellite to Goldcrest (Dale)

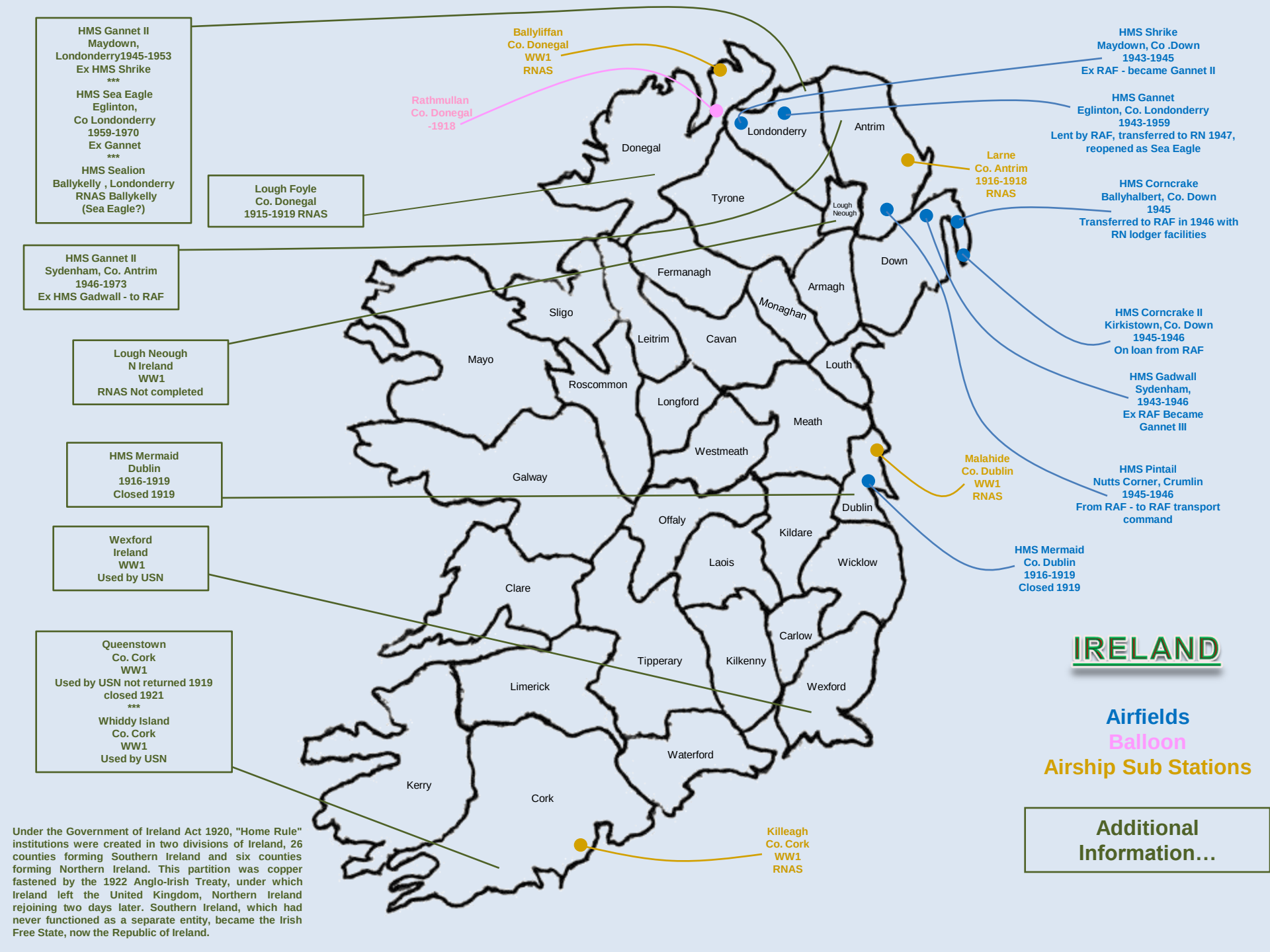
HMS St David
Pembs
1947-1961
Relief airfield
for Brawdy

Pembroke Dock
Pembrokeshire
WW1

Milford Haven
Pembrokeshire
1916

HMS Goldcrest
Dale, Pembrokeshire
1943-1948
From Angle to Ex RAF Station
- became Harrier in 1948

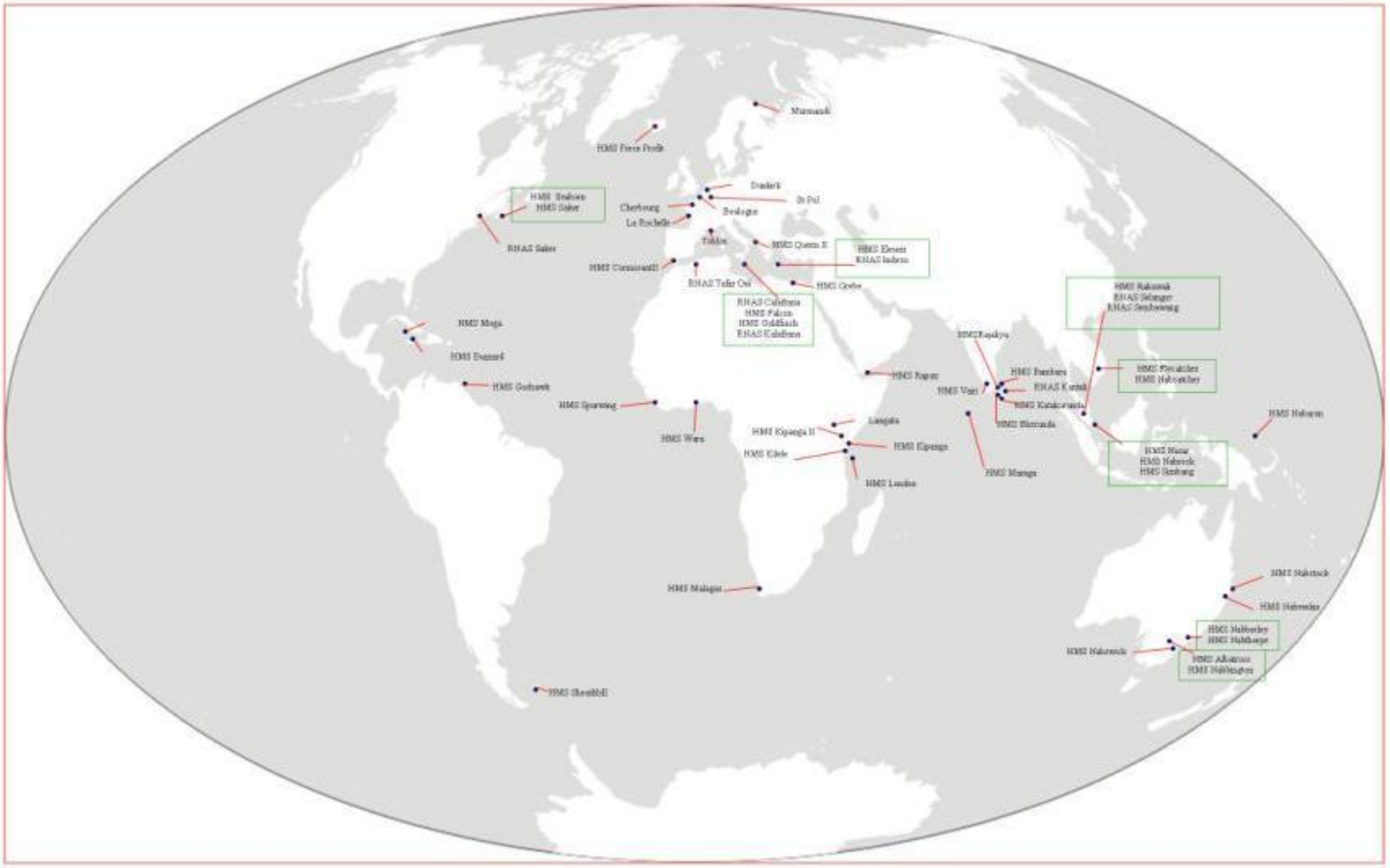
HMS Daedalus II
Lawrenny Ferry,
Pembsrokeshire
1942-1943
Ex RAF and detached
from Pembroke dock

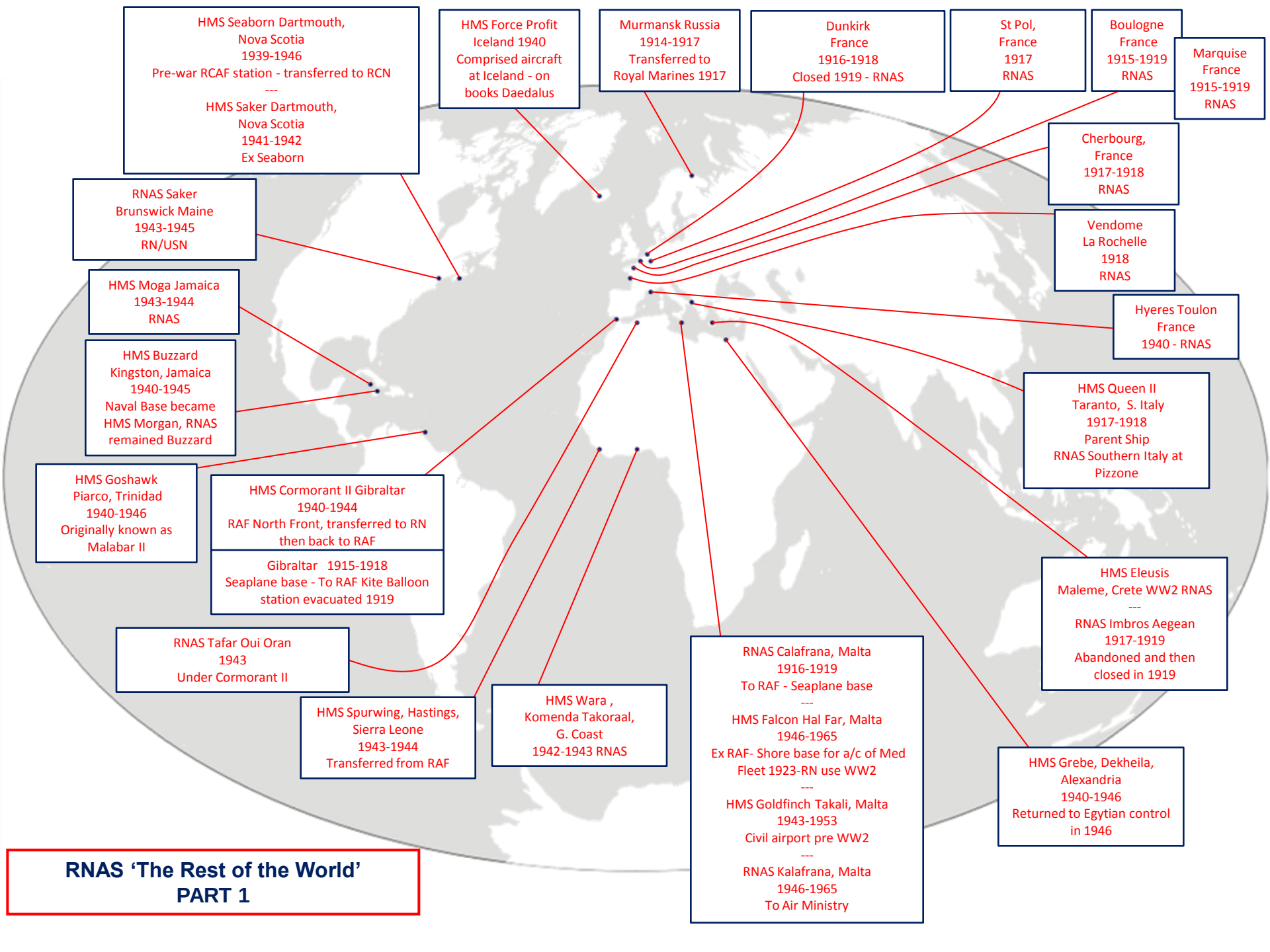


Under the Government of Ireland Act 1920, "Home Rule" institutions were created in two divisions of Ireland, 26 counties forming Southern Ireland and six counties forming Northern Ireland. This partition was copper fastened by the 1922 Anglo-Irish Treaty, under which Ireland left the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland rejoining two days later. Southern Ireland, which had never functioned as a separate entity, became the Irish Free State, now the Republic of Ireland.

Royal Naval Air Stations throughout the rest of the world.

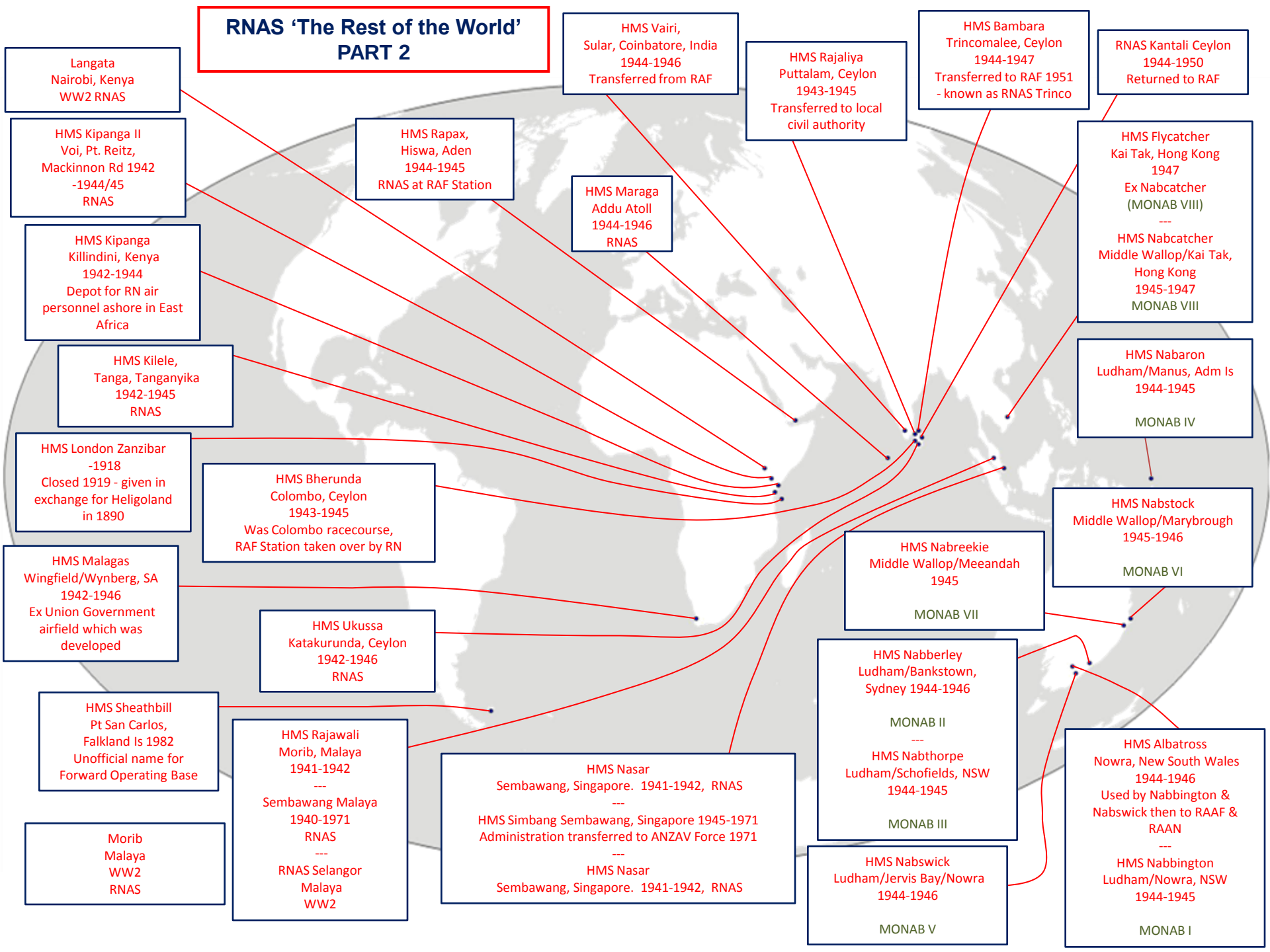
Researched and compiled by Gill Charles.


Murmansk
HMS Force Profit
Dunkirk
HMS Seahorse
HMS Salve
Cherbourg
St Pol
Boulogne
La Rochelle
RNAS Yeovilton
Tobruk
HMS Queen E
HMS Illustrious
HMS Centaur II
RNAS Tatta Ord
HMS Goshawk
RNAS Culdrose
HMS Falcon
HMS Oldfinch
RNAS Culdrose
HMS Maga
HMS Diamond
HMS Goshawk
HMS Sparrowhawk
HMS Wara
HMS Nagara
HMS Kasakya
HMS Implacable
HMS Vairi
HMS Formidable
RNAS Kamikazeroads
HMS Flycatcher
HMS Hebrides
HMS Indomitable
HMS Victorious
HMS Kipanga II
HMS Eagle
HMS Ocean
HMS Langata
HMS Eagle
HMS Eagle
HMS Landau
HMS Mauga
HMS Nabstock
HMS Nabstock
HMS Nabstock



RNAS 'The Rest of the World'
PART 1

RNAS 'The Rest of the World' PART 2



Langata
Nairobi, Kenya
WW2 RNAS

HMS Kipanga II
Voi, Pt. Reitz,
Mackinnon Rd 1942
-1944/45
RNAS

HMS Kipanga
Killindini, Kenya
1942-1944
Depot for RN air personnel ashore in East Africa

HMS Kilele,
Tanga, Tanganyika
1942-1945
RNAS

HMS London Zanzibar
-1918
Closed 1919 - given in exchange for Heligoland in 1890

HMS Malagas
Wingfield/Wynberg, SA
1942-1946
Ex Union Government airfield which was developed

HMS Sheathbill
Pt San Carlos,
Falkland Is 1982
Unofficial name for Forward Operating Base

Morib
Malaya
WW2
RNAS

HMS Rapax,
Hiswa, Aden
1944-1945
RNAS at RAF Station

HMS Vairi,
Sular, Coinbatore, India
1944-1946
Transferred from RAF

HMS Maraga
Addu Atoll
1944-1946
RNAS

HMS Rajaliya
Puttalam, Ceylon
1943-1945
Transferred to local civil authority

HMS Bambara
Trincomalee, Ceylon
1944-1947
Transferred to RAF 1951
- known as RNAS Trinco

RNAS Kantali Ceylon
1944-1950
Returned to RAF

HMS Flycatcher
Kai Tak, Hong Kong
1947
Ex Nabcatcher
(MONAB VIII)

HMS Nabcatcher
Middle Wallop/Kai Tak,
Hong Kong
1945-1947
MONAB VIII

HMS Nabaron
Ludham/Manus, Adm Is
1944-1945

MONAB IV

HMS Nabstock
Middle Wallop/Marybrough
1945-1946

MONAB VI

HMS Bherunda
Colombo, Ceylon
1943-1945
Was Colombo racecourse,
RAF Station taken over by RN

HMS Nabreekie
Middle Wallop/Meeandah
1945

MONAB VII

HMS Ukussa
Katakurunda, Ceylon
1942-1946
RNAS

HMS Nabberley
Ludham/Bankstown,
Sydney 1944-1946

MONAB II

HMS Nabthorpe
Ludham/Schofields, NSW
1944-1945

MONAB III

HMS Rajawali
Morib, Malaya
1941-1942

Sembawang Malaya
1940-1971
RNAS

RNAS Selangor
Malaya
WW2

HMS Nasar
Sembawang, Singapore. 1941-1942, RNAS

HMS Simbang Sembawang, Singapore 1945-1971
Administration transferred to ANZAV Force 1971

HMS Nasar
Sembawang, Singapore. 1941-1942, RNAS

HMS Nabswick
Ludham/Jervis Bay/Nowra
1944-1946

MONAB V

HMS Albatross
Nowra, New South Wales
1944-1946
Used by Nabbington &
Nabswick then to RAAF &
RAAN

HMS Nabbington
Ludham/Nowra, NSW
1944-1945

MONAB I

Acknowledgements

‘Shore Establishments of the Royal Navy’ by Lieutenant Commander Ben Warlow R.N.

Fly Navy Heritage Trust.

Research and Map of the World - GWC

Compiled on behalf of Cloud Observers by MIS 2010