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LECTURE CXLV.

STALIN'S MAY DAY MESSAGE

I congratulate you on May Day. The peoples of our country are celebrating May Day in the stern days of the patriotic war.

They have entrusted their fate to the Red Army, and have not been mistaken in their trust. The Soviet Armies are defending their country with their breasts.

For nearly two years, they have been defending the honour and independence of the peoples of the Soviet Union. During the winter campaign of 1942, the Red Army inflicted serious setbacks on the German Army, wiped out large numbers of the enemy's men and great quantities of his war materials, encircled and liquidated two enemy armies before Stalingrad, took prisoner over 800,000 enemy officers and men, and liberated from the German yoke hundreds of Soviet towns and thousands of villages.

GERMAN PLANS FOILED

German troops counted on encircling the Soviet troops in the Kharkov area, and on German "Stalingrad" for our troops. This attempt of the German High Command to take revenge fell through.

Simultaneously, the victorious troops of our Allies defeated the Italo-German troops in Libya and Tripolitania, cleared these territories of the enemy, and continue to rout them in Tunisia; while the gallant Anglo-American Air Force is inflicting devastating blows on industrial centres in Germany and Italy, foreshadowing the formation of a Second Front in Europe against the Italo-German Fascists.

Thus the blow against the enemy in the East on the part of the Red Army—for the first time since the outbreak of the war—has merged with the blow from the West by the forces of our Allies, into one common blow. All this taken together has shaken the very foundations of Hitler's war-machine. It has changed the course of the World War, creating the necessary conditions for victory over Hitlerite Germany. As a result, this is forced to admit a serious deterioration in his position, and he began to scream the critical stage of the war.

amount of shouting can hide the fact that Hitlerite Germany is actually in a crisis. This crisis is shown, in the first place, by the fact that the enemy is forced to give up his original idea of a *Blitzkrieg*. It was further shown by the

fact that the Fascists now more often speak of peace. The Germans would like to make peace with Britain and the U. S. on condition that these countries abandon the Soviet Union. Or, on the other hand, they would like to make peace with the Soviet Union on condition that she abandons Britain and the U. S.

German Imperialists have the impudence to judge the Allies by their own standards, hoping that one of the Allies at least might be caught in the trap. This only means that they are passing through a difficult crisis. Is it not clear that only the complete defeat of the Hitlerite Army, and the unconditional surrender of Hitlerite Germany, can lead Europe to peace? The German-Italian Fascist camp is on the verge of a catastrophe.

This does not mean the catastrophe has already come for Hitlerite Germany. Hitlerite Germany has not yet been defeated.

IMPENDING DISASTER

It would be naive to think the catastrophe will come of itself. Two or three more powerful blows are needed from the West and from the East, such as have been dealt during the last 5 or 6 months, in order to make the catastrophe for Germany a fact. Therefore the peoples of the Soviet Union and the Red Army, together with our Allies and their Armies, have still a stern and hard struggle ahead of them. This struggle will demand from them great sacrifices and great courage and tenacity. They must mobilise all their resources to defeat the enemy, and thus pave the way to peace. The Soviet people are showing great solicitude for the Red Army. They have contributed over 7,000 million roubles to the Red Army Front. Workers, collective farmers and the intelligentsia are working ceaselessly, but the war against the German Fascist invaders demands that the Red Army should receive still more guns, aircraft, machine-guns, Tommyguns, rifles, ammunition, equipment, and food. In a war like the present one, one must not mark time. Those who lag behind are beaten.

The main thing at the moment is for the whole Red Army daily to perfect its military skill.

The time is near when the Red Army, together with the army of our Allies, will break the spine of the Fascist beast.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

1-5-43 to 7-5-43.

Russia.—On the first of May Russian forces broke the long spell by attacking a German bridgehead in the 'Kuban pocket'. In the NOVOROSSISK area an enemy attack persisted in for 6 days was beaten off. Fighting has flared up again west of ROSTOV, south of BALAKLEYA and south of OREL. With both sides preparing in secret for a summer campaign it is difficult to forecast future developments. It is safe to assume that there will be offensives on both sides. The German offensive may be directed towards MOSCOW from BRYANSK, or towards ROSTOV from TAGANROG and TAMAN.

Tunisia.—The bad weather which has come over the Tunisian battlefield has restricted operations and given both sides a spell of comparative rest. Although major fighting has died down, the Allies are still picking away at the Axis mountain bulwarks. Slowly the enemy is being ejected from JEBEL to JEBEL, and the Allies, British American and French are advancing, edging their way across intervening valleys and capturing small bits, here there and everywhere, along the line to TUNIS and BIZERTA. Thus the Allied Forces have captured LONG STOP HILL JEBEL SHUMARA, JEBEL ESTINA, JEBEL GEMIR, JEBEL GERALFA, GRAND DORSAB, SIDI AHMAS, JEBEL DERHAFIA, SIDI ABDALLAH.

The latest news is the fall of MATEUR. MATEUR connects TUNIS and BIZERTA by road and rail. By its capture the Axis North Front has been disorganised, TUNIS has been exposed and BIZERTA has been isolated, but for a passage across the Bizerta Lake.

The Pacific.—There are signs that the 'Battle of Shipping' in the S. W. Pacific is increasing in range and intensity. Besides the recent aerial attacks on Allied shipping the Japanese have now started submarine activities in this area.

American submarines patrolling the Pacific have sunk more than 125,000 tons of Japanese shipping. From aerial attacks in the past fortnight the Japanese have lost 8 times as much as the Allies. Since April 14, 20 separate missions of Allied aircraft have sunk or damaged over 90,000 tons of enemy shipping.

On May 2, 51 Japanese planes of which 13 were destroyed, heavily raided DARWIN. The damage was negligible.

Allied Air Raids in the Pacific for the week were as follows:—

April 23.—TARAWA (GILBERT ISLANDS).

April 24.—HOLTZ, Bay and CHICAGO Harbour.

April 27.—UBILI, GASMATA, ARAWE, FINSCHHAFEN, MUBO, KISKA.

April 28.—WATDOK (KAI Island), REBI (AROE Islands), BERU (TIMOR), WILLAMUZ (N. BRITAIN), GASMATA, Cape GLOUCESTER (2 cargo ships of 4,000 tons were sunk in the Arafura Sea).

May 1.—KAIRENG, GASMATA, KISKA (13 attacks), HOLTZ Bay and CHICAGO Harbour.

May 2.—TIMIKA (Dutch NEW GUINEA), NABIRE, MANSKWARI, LANGGOER, BIMA, Cape GLOUCESTER, MUBO, MUNDA.

China.—The Japanese raided KUNMING, capital of YUNNAN, with 240 planes, 10 of the aircraft were shot down. On another day 45 Japanese aircraft attacked the U. S. 14th Air Force base in YUNNAN, of which 6 were destroyed and 8 were probably damaged. Bitter fighting has broken out in the SHANSI-HONAN border, especially on the slopes of the Taihanshan mountains, described as the key to the control of the plains of N. CHINA. The present TAIHANSHAN battle is the 8th Japanese attempt to dislodge the Chinese forces there. The Chinese are reported to have liquidated half the Japanese forces stationed on the Western slopes.

Burma.—The Japanese, in their efforts to press northwards towards MAUGDAW and BUTHIDAUNG have repeatedly sent out patrols and repeated their familiar infiltration tactics. Murderous little battles are taking place, in which the enemy has sustained heavy losses.

The following Allied Air-Raids have been reported:—

April 22.—TAVOY (air-field).

April 25.—TAVOY, MAYMYO, YWATAUNG.

April 26.—2 villages on the ARAKAN coast, river transport on the Irrawadi; buildings near THAYETMYO, SHWEBO, RANGOON, HEHO, MONYAWA, KANGAUNG.

April 27.—THAZI, BASSEIN, AKYAB, NAGYICHAUNG.

April 28.—KANBALU, KATHA, NSOPZUP, NANYASEIK, TEHONA, MANYEWET.

April 29.—WUNTHOW, AKYAB, RANGOON.

April 30.—MAYU, MYINGAU.

May 1.—MYITHA valley, MYEBON harbour, TAUNGUP.

May 2.—AKYAB.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

25—4—43 (Sunday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

Railway and water transport in BELGIUM and FRANCE.

The lock gates near CALAIS (France)
(1 enemy plane and 2 Allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.
TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy transport and positions around TUNIS.

An air-field in TUNISIA.

The docks and shipping at BIZERTA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

The air-fields at WEWAK (N. Guinea), and MADANG (N. Guinea).

Jap positions at SAIDOR, FINSCHHAFEN and MUBO (all in N. Guinea).

TIMIKA (Dutch N. Guinea).

Jap occupied village of FERONI (Trangan Island).

The town of TOEAL (Kai Islands).

KOLOMBANGARA (Islands).

KISKA (Aleutians).

Enemy troops near PINBON (Burma).

Marshalling yards at RANGOON (Burma).

Rail road installations at MAYMYO and YWATAUNG (Burma).

26—4—43. (Monday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

Railway centres in N.W. GERMANY, RHINE LAND and FRANCE.

NIGHT:—

The docks and railway siding and extensive Iron, steel and engineering works at DUISBERG (Germany).

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

An air-field at BARI (Italy).

CAGLIARI (Sardinia).

AUGUSTA (Sicily).

Enemy transport and position in TUNISIA.

Enemy air-fields in TUNISIA.

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap convoy north-west of WEWAK (N. Guinea). Attu Island.

Jap position at KISKA (Aleutians).

UBILI, GASMATA and ARAWE (all in N. Britain).

FINSCHHAFEN (N. Britain).

Jap positions near MUBO (N. Guinea).

The THILAWA oil refinery south of RANGOON.

Jap airfield at HEHO (Burma).

The central railroad station at RANGOON.

2 Jap occupied villages on the ARAKAN coast.

Factory buildings and river transports

on the IRRRAWADDY (Burma).

The air-field at SH WEBO (Burma).

27—4—43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

Enemy shipping off JERSEY.

Air combat over the CHANNEL

(1 enemy plane shot down).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Troop concentrations, gun positions, tanks and transport in the battle areas in TUNISIA.

Airfields near BIZERTA.

Enemy shipping in the SICILIAN CHANNEL.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

An enemy base in Dutch New Guinea.

WATDEK (Kai Islands).

Enemy ships in the ARAFURA Sea.

REBI village (Aroe Islands).

An enemy base near Bern (Timor).

Fuel dumps at GASMATA (N. Britain).

An air field at CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).

Railroad installations at THAZI (Burma).

Factories and transports near BASSEIN (Burma).

Supply dumps at AKYAB (Burma).

Enemy village of NAGYICHAUNG (Burma).

28—4—43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

Enemy shipping off the NORWEGIAN coast.

The harbour at MESSINA (Italy).

The docks at NAPLES (Italy).

NIGHT:—

WILHELMSHAVEN (Germany).

Laying mines in the BALTIC Sea and enemy coastal waters.

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy position and transport vehicles in TUNISIA.

The axis airfield at EL AOUINA (Tunisia).

Enemy shipping in the Gulf of TUNIS.

E-boat base at SYRACUSE (Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Jap air base at TARAWA (Gilbert Islands).

Jap installations at KAHILI (Solomon Islands).

KISKA (Aleutians), VI.

Engine sheds at KANBALU.

Docks and shipping at KA.

29—4—43. (Thursday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.

HOLLAND, and

Enemy shipping in the North Sea (2 Allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—(1 Allied plane missing).

An enemy convoy off the Dutch Coast (2 ships set on fire).

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy shipping in the Gulf of TUNIS (2 vessels sunk).

Axis tanks and motor transport in the battle area.

Enemy air fields in TUNISIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at KAHILI (Short land).

GATERE (Kolombangara Islands).

MUNDA (Solomons).

DOBO (ARU Islands).

Air base at WEWAK (New Guinea).

Jap positions and other objectives in the WUNTHO area and along the IRRRAWADDY (Burma).

Enemy occupied villages in AKYAB Island.

30—4—43 (Friday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

A minelayer off the Coast of BRITTANY (France).

NIGHT:—

Industrial and military objectives at ESSEN (Germany).

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

A destroyer and an E-boat in the Gulf of TUNIS (destroyer sunk).

Enemy tanks and motor transport in the TUNISIAN battle areas.

Enemy air fields in TUNISIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

Reconnaissance over north-west sector of South-west PACIFIC.

A Jap cargo ship off KAVIENG (New Island).

The air field at GASMATA (N. Britain).

Jap position in the MYITHA valley (Burma).

Supply sampans, steamers and warehouses along the IRRRAWADDY and CHINDWIN Rivers from

UPROME to MONYWA (Burma).

A steamer in the MYEBON harbour (Burma).

Objectives at TAUNGUP (Burma).

Marshalling yards at MOULMEIN (Burma).

AKYAB town (Burma).

Railroad bridge at MYITNGE (Burma).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

26—4—43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

TUNISIA.

Forward positions of the British 1st Army in TUNISIA.

RUSSIA.

LENINGRAD area.

FAR EAST.

A place on the GUADALCANAR Island (5 Jap planes shot down).

27—4—43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

TUNISIA.

Air combats over the coasts of TUNISIA.

RUSSIA.

KRASNODAR.

28—4—43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

TUNISIA.

Air combats over the TUNISIAN Coasts.

RUSSIA.

KRASNODAR.

FAR EAST.

Air combats over the BAY of BENGAL (1 Jap plane shot down).

29—4—43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

1—5—43 (Saturday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

The air field at TROCQUEVILLE (France).

Railway objectives in Northern FRANCE and HOLLAND.

Port installations at ST. NAZAIRE.

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The port and power station at MESSINA (Sicily).

Enemy ground positions and jetties along the TUNISIAN coast.

A merchant vessel in the AEGEAN Sea.

Enemy airfields in TUNISIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

The air fields at TIMIKA and NABIRE (Dutch N. Guinea).

A cargo ship in the harbour at MANOKWARI.

The wharf area at LANGGOER (Kai Island).

The airfield at CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).

Jap positions at REISS Point and MUBO area (N. Guinea).

The enemy air field at PAGODA Point (near Rangoon).

Storage buildings near MANDALAY.

An enemy supply dump at KWITU.

Enemy installations at SHADUZUP, KAMAING and LA LAWNGGA.

Goktak viaduct between MANDALAY and LASHIO (Burma).

Engine sheds at MAYMYO (Burma).

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE RUSSO-POLISH TENSION.

Following POLAND's appeal to the International Red Cross for an investigation of the alleged 'discovery', by the Germans, of the remains of some 10,000 Polish Officers in the forest of Katyn, near SMOLENSK the Soviet Government has decided to break off relations with POLAND and the Polish Ambassador has left MOSCOW. The cause of the Soviet resentment is POLAND's attitude to her Russian ally and the agitation said to have been carried on by the Polish Press, to the prejudice of the Soviet and, possibly, in collusion with the enemy. The Soviet Government suspect a secret contact between certain Polish elements and the Nazis, with intent to deal treacherous blows at RUSSIA and, eventually, to secure territorial concessions in WHITE RUSSIA, Soviet UKRAINE and LITHUANIA.

'KATYN' PROPAGANDA. It is needless to say that all this has proved excellent grist to Goebbels' propaganda mill. 'The Katyn Crime', he has been trumpeting, 'is a true foretaste of what would lie before EUROPE if the wish of the Anglo-Saxons were fulfilled and if the Soviet Union were to be the victors in the battle of the Continent led by GERMANY.' It may be remembered that after the recent reverses in RUSSIA and North AFRICA, GERMANY has changed her rôle from 'conqueror' to 'saviour' of a 'United EUROPE' from the 'perils' of Bolshevism.

KATYN DISCREPANCIES. It is now more than a fortnight since the Germans announced their 'discovery', but already their accounts bristle with contradictions and discrepancies. At first the dead bodies were 'recognisable', now they are not: at first, the Nazis knew of the murder a year ago; now they say they heard about it only 'recently.' The number of alleged victims has also varied from 1,200 to 15,000, as also the manner of the death.

It is unfortunate that the Polish Government should have so easily swallowed the bait. They should have known better, having been themselves victims in the past, of Nazi massacres and deportations. They could not have forgotten ROTTERDAM or LIDICE; nor the recent attempt to invent 'Polish atrocities against innocent Germans in POLAND', eked out with concocted evidence and faked photography.

FISHY. Putting one thing with another, the Katyn story, is, on the very face of it, fishy. It is strange that though the Germans were in occupation of SMOLENSK from the end of 1941 the incident, a sensational affair, reached their ears 'only a year ago', and that they, so apt in capitalising any incident prejudicial to the Allies, should have waited till now to give it publicity.

The Polish Government should have also known that any impartial investigation, by the I. R. C. or any other body, is impossible in the present circumstances. The Nazis being in possession of SMOLENSK can easily manufacture, select or suppress evidence. Further, if as is alleged, there has been a massacre, the authors are as likely to have been Germans as Russians—Germans—rather than Russians, in view of the known atrocities perpetrated that they have in POLAND and other countries. At any rate such 'tales of horror' are best reserved for a dispassionate inquiry after the war. The Polish action, in creating a rift at present, and in the midst of war is, to say the least, both unwise and hasty.

THE POLISH NOTE. The Polish Government's reply issued on April 28 tries to make some amends, though it does not retrieve the situation. It affirms POLAND's desire for a friendly understanding with RUSSIA and reiterates POLAND's sense of responsibility for Allied solidarity and unity. Contact with Hitler is denied: the subject of the missing Polish officers and the idea of an investigation

by the I. R. C. are both dropped. In return the evacuation of all Polish women, children and ex-soldiers still in RUSSIA is demanded.

The tension has not eased. RUSSIA demands complete repudiation of POLAND's earlier attitude. BRITAIN and AMERICA are using their good offices to restore amity.

The breach is unfortunate, at a time when more than ever, the Allies should be united on the eve of victory. POLAND, in spite of all her sufferings, has shown a tendency to become sometimes unsteady in times of stress. Once before she played into German hands by agreeing to dismember CZECHOSLOVAKIA, and carve out an independent SLOVAKIA, and now behind the clamours of inquiry is the Polish Cabinet's wish to press territorial claims before the enemy has been beaten: they would have the skin before the bear has been killed.

PAST AND PRESENT.

It is interesting to compare what the Nazis said in the past and say now. In the pre-war years while the Germans were the Herrenvolk, the Serbians were 'regicides', the French 'Coxcombs', the Italians 'assassins' and the Japanese, 'apes and hyenas', now they are a happy family—comrades all. Formerly as Hitler wrote in *Mein Kampf*, the 'pacifist-humanitarian' ideal was possible only when the Nazis had conquered and subjugated the world to an extent that rendered them the sole lords of the earth. Now with increasing fear of an invasion Hitler says, 'My idea of reconstructing EUROPE does not call for the subjugation of those people not belonging to Germanic race.'

Last year, the talk was about 'hammering at the Bolshevik giant until he was smashed to pieces'; about 'conquering space' for Russian 'coal, iron, oil and wheat.' But now the Nazis have become less sordid; they are out on a humanitarian mission to save civilisation threatened by Bolshevism.

HITLERIAN CONFERENCES. As Hitler's fears of invasion grow his conferences with his satellites multiply. In the previous weeks he summoned Boris and Horthy and the ministers of HUNGARY and RUMANIA. This week, it was the turn of Quisling himself from NORWAY, Tiso from SLOVAKIA and Laval from FRANCE.

On April 9, NORWAY, it may be remembered, celebrated her anniversary of the German invasion, in a manner that left no doubt as to where her sympathies lay. Hitler has already constructed the biggest air-field in EUROPE at TRONDJHEM and strengthened the Norwegian coast-line at OSLO FJORD, LARVIK and DROBUK but his fears of Sabotage are increasing from day to day. Quisling was called in person to assure him of quisling loyalty.

For a similar task came Tiso, the puppet head of Nazified SLOVAKIA, created in the stress of 1939, under the pretext of liberating the Slovaks from 'Czech oppression.' Of late this puppet has shown signs of revolt, unable to meet the unceasing demands for soldiers for the Russian front, and so Tiso came to be pacified.

Last, but not least, to be summoned and to receive 'instructions in the event of an invasion' was Laval, the French Quisling. The number of French workers conscripted daily for labour in Germany is now said to be 10,000; a further demand has been made for 400,000 workers in return for 50,000 French prisoners of war; the Gestapo is busy taking a census of all childless women between 18 and 25.

Laval is the most hated man in FRANCE to day. A broadcast from Brazaville Radio, and from another source, (since denied by Vichy), reports a bomb attack on Laval when he returned from his conference with Hitler, or while staying in the Hotel Matignon in PARIS, or driving in his special armoured train.

THE GERMAN LOOT.

The German looting of EUROPE continues, surpassing previous records. According to a statement published by the U. S. Board of Information on April 27, the loot amounted to £ 9,000,000,000 at

the end of 1941, with plunder now running to billions yearly. Thousands of machines in factories have been dismantled to be refitted in GERMANY. Hundreds of thousands of cattle have been confiscated. Objects of art, furniture and tools have been taken away. 2,000,000 tons of shipping have been seized. All this is open robbery.

Indirectly a tax of two milliards of pounds is levied in the name of occupation costs, and as it exceeds the actual expenditure, the surplus is invested in buying up industries in the enslaved lands.

THE BATTLE OF THE TUNISIAN TIP

is no longer a battle for N. AFRICA, because N. AFRICA has been already won, nor for the Italian Empire, because it is already lost to ITALY, but is, as Mr. L. S. Amery told his audience at BIRMINGHAM the other day, a second front of Hitler's choosing, by his own reaction to the Allied offensive in N. AFRICA, and by the desperate defence he has chosen to offer to the inevitable advance of the Allied forces. It is a disaster that Hitler has invited on himself, and his losses have been so colossal that no second front opened in EUROPE could have been equally disastrous. It has certainly eased the conflict for Stalin by diverting considerable Axis forces and equipment from RUSSIA.

The disposition of the Allied armies in TUNISIA is now somewhat as follows: The burden of the assault from ENFIDAVILLE to MEDJEZ EL BAB now rests with the British 8th and 1st Armies. American troops formerly at GAUSA have been switched over to the Northern coastal front, while the Fighting French occupy the zone formerly held by the left wing of the British 1st Army. The ring round the Axis is complete.

THE BATTLE FOR THE MOUNTAINS.

But a speedy advance is no longer possible, because Allied superiority in tanks and guns no longer counts. It is now an infantry struggle on precipitous mountain slopes with knife and bayonet, hand-grenade and Tommy-gun. Here the cream of hand-picked Goering grenadiers stand at bay, counter-attacking for every inch of ground. The positions they occupy are almost impregnable. North of ENFIDAVILLE there is a series of ridges which run from the main mass of mountains to the sea. All these ridges, some of them unscalable owing to over-hanging rocks, are occupied by the enemy. Further, these positions, strengthened as early as December, are protected by enemy artillery and machine-gun nests on the flank and in front. For these reasons swift advances are no longer possible.

THE FIGHT FOR TAKROUNA.

But steadily, if slowly, the Allies gain ground. For instance, take the capture of TAKROUNA, dominating the road from ENFIDAVILLE inland. It is described as a 'conspicuous and grotesque-looking hump,' as 'more than a hill but not quite a mountain.' Its sides are precipitous. The British surrounded the hill, isolated the Axis garrison and finally exterminated it, after close fighting. Meanwhile Axis troops concealed in deep trenches in the slopes sniped and machine-gunned. The British had to cut their way with machetes through cactus hedges already mined by the enemy. It was a bloody battle in which heavy casualties were incurred on both sides.

BIZERTA.

The Allies are said to be in sight of BIZERTA town and lake. BIZERTA which stands at the head of the Gulf of Tunis, was originally fortified by the French and now it has been strengthened by the German engineers. It has a big arsenal, huge warehouses and extensive docks. From the sea to the end of her innermost basin BIZERTA extends over 8 miles. Here a deep channel cuts into the rocky coast and pours its waters into lakes. Between the lakes stands FERRYVILLE, another arsenal, with four large docks of its own. A suspension bridge between the lakes carries a railway. Two air-fields lie near the post, the larger one, at SIDI AHMED on the shore of the Lake of BUIRTA, large enough for the landing of the heaviest planes, and the other a sea-plane base at the harbour.

AIR TACTICS AND STRATEGY.

Now that the Allied Air Force is not of much service in the hilly country, its main task, besides covering and supplying land troops, is to destroy the enemy's sea and air communications. The functions, as General Eisenhower has pointed out, are two-fold, tactical and strategic. The duty of the 'Tactical Formation' is to support the land forces with fighters, light bombers and reconnaissance craft. The 'Strategical Formation' carries out long-range assaults on enemy bases in TUNISIA, SARDINIA, SICILY and South ITALY. There are 12 air-fields in SICILY and 7 in SARDINIA, and they are all pounded almost daily. The Italian Fleet is another target. Bombed out of NAPLES it is now being bombed out of SPEZIA. But the most brilliant work of the Allied Air Force is, the 'massacre' of the Axis air transports across the sea. 112 enemy planes, for instance, were destroyed over the Sicilian Channel in 2 days two weeks ago. On another day 31 Messerschmitt monsters, each capable of carrying 120 men or 10 tons of cargo, were shot down. We are told these air-giants were 'potted like sitting birds', or like 'clay pigeons'. There is no doubt that the Allied Air Force is making history in this way, and it would be well worth continuing this kind of fight, considering the losses inflicted, were it not for the fact that the opening of a European Front is more urgent.

THE ITALIAN FLEET.

By all accounts Mussolini is not likely to risk his Fleet, or what remains of it, to rescue his forces in TUNISIA. Italian warships are reported to be moving towards TARANTO. To-day, more than ever, the Italian Fleet is ill-equipped to fight. ITALY is naturally afraid that any naval losses incurred in an attempt to save the armies locked-up in TUNISIA would endanger the defence of the Italian homeland.

RUSSIA.

'Not many days separate us from big and stormy events', says the *Izvestia*; 'indications point to a renewal of the German offensive', says the Red Army. The storm, to which the patrol activities of the present form a prelude may break at any moment. The Germans are massing large forces. Stalin, whose May Day Speech we publish on the front page, is confident. He has said 'The time is near when the Red Army, together with the army of the Allies, will break the spine of the Fascist beast'. He has given good reason for the forecast. He has pointed how the blows in the east have merged with the Anglo-American blows in North AFRICA and over German territory, and how in combination they have shaken the very foundations of Hitler's fighting machine, and changed the course of the war itself.

MARTINIQUE

U. S. has repudiated all past agreements with MARTINIQUE, and stopped supplies of food. Early in March, Admiral Robert, MARTINIQUE's High Commissioner, had promised to join in the fight against the Axis, but events have shown that he is an agent of Hitler. A U. S. Note says, 'The U. S. Government do not recognise Vichy, nor will it recognise or negotiate with any French representative in the Antilles who remains subservient to or maintains contact with 'the Vichy régime'.

THE SOLDIER'S MAIL.

We are indebted to the *Times of India* for the following extract:—
'As the Fourth Indian Division advances with the Eighth Army in Tunisia, the field Postal services and field Post offices, which help to keep the troops in touch with those at home, also move forward, but these get their share of excitement also.

'In the prevailing conditions there is no such thing as a 'Quarter Guard' here, but safety from theft is almost assured. The cash, stamps and seals are placed in a locked chest, which itself is kept in a three-foot dug-out, to secure it as far as possible from an occasional shell of a long-range gun or bursting bomb.

'At night the F. P. M. sleeps (or tries to sleep) in this dug-out with the 'treasure' by his side, covered by a little bivouac tent, the whole structure and process resembling the Pharaoh with his treasure in the Pyramids—but of course, with this important difference, that, unlike the Pharaoh, the F. P. M. sleeps alive'.

THE CASE FOR THE BOMBERS.

MALLORY BROWNE—(From the Observer).

The case for bombing has been weakened lately by being pushed out of perspective. There are those, like Seversky and Ziff, who insist that the war can and should be won by bombing alone, and that consequently everything should be subordinated entirely to this single form of offensive action. There have been others who insisted on the all-importance of mass bombings of Germany and Italy, at a time when the simple fact was that Allied production of bombers was not sufficient to sustain even a moderately intensive attack.

The truth is that the case for bombing is irrefutable as long as it is assessed in its proper perspective. What then is the proper place of bombing in Allied strategy against the Axis at this stage of the war?

OTHER PRIORITIES.

It is, surely, at the very top of the list of offensive priorities, and second only to two overriding defensive demands. The first of these is protection of the Allies' vital life-lines, the defence of our shipping against the U-boat peril. The second is provision of an indispensable and ample minimum of air cover for the land and sea forces engaged in major combined operations now under way in the Mediterranean and the Pacific.

Strategy, in modern mechanised warfare on this world-wide scale, is primarily a matter of priorities. Hitherto, the defence of Britain itself, of our sea communications, of the Middle East and Suez, has necessarily headed the list of strategic priorities that predetermined the production, distribution, and use of our limited air-strength. That is no longer true to-day. Now, for the first time after more than three years of war, we possess both the initiative and the weapons. Obviously we have not yet all the planes and tanks and ships we would need to attack everywhere at once in force, but we can at least choose what form of offensive we will concentrate on next.

ITALY KNOWS.

The choice is—or ought to be—plain. It is bombing—intensive, sustained bombing of both Germany and Italy. The recent heavy air attacks on Turin, Genoa, and Milan have proved how devastatingly effective even a few mass raids can be. American daylight bombing is a valuable addition to our night attacks. Full results become known only gradually, but already it is clear that these hard-hitting raids have seriously shaken the morale of the Italian people.

The Fascist authorities are confronted with an evacuation problem that piles an added burden on straining supply, housing and transportation resources already overstrained. Furthermore, the direct material effects of the bombing have unquestionably been great, even if the most conservative assessment of damage be taken. On the Axis' own admission the port of Genoa is now closed. Air reconnaissance photographs show that such key plants in Italy's war production as the Fiat factory in Turin, where 50,000 people were employed in making airplane engines, tractors, and munitions; the Caproni bomber works, the Montecatini chemical factories, the Lancia transport works, have been badly damaged, where they have not been completely put out of action.

In Germany, our air-raids have been even more intensive and sustained. Within the last eight months the industrial centres and ports of Western Germany have been the targets for an air *blitz* far worse than that which the *Luftwaffe* carried out against England in the eight months from September to May, 1940-41.

Some idea, incomplete yet impressive, of the extent of damage done by these raids can be gained by the following facts and figures. In the City of London, an area of approximately 120 acres was devastated—that is, completely destroyed or damaged to such an extent that whatever was left will have to be pulled down and completely rebuilt. In Cologne there are 600 acres of devastation of this sort. The Germans themselves have admitted that forty per cent of the city has been destroyed.

ACRES OF RUIN.

And Cologne is only one of a dozen towns which have been heavily *blitzed*. In Dusseldorf there are some 380 acres of complete destruction. Here industrial damage was even greater than in Cologne, because the factories were located in the town itself. In Carlsruhe a huge central area of more than 300 acres was destroyed, in addition to other scattered damage. In Lubeck the total devastation is 270 acres. In Rostock a central core of 130 acres is burnt out, and other destruction totals at least as much again. In Mainz at least 135 acres have been devastated, and a similar story could be told of Emden, of Duisberg, of Bremen, of Aachen, and of Hamburg.

This is only a partial list. It gives only a very imperfect idea of the tremendous damage which has been dealt out to the German arms industry by the R. A. F. raids of the last eight months. In the first six months of this period, from March to August, it is estimated that more than 322,000 German dwellings were either completely demolished or rendered uninhabitable. Something in the neighbourhood of 645,000 persons are calculated to have been "unhoused" by these raids. These figures do not include damage done in many of the heaviest raids, which were made in the past three months. There are abundant signs that these *blitz* attacks on Germany's key industrial centres have begun to shake the morale of the working population in the Ruhr and the Rhineland. There are indications that saturation point is being approached in the efforts of the Nazi authorities to absorb the evacuees, and to re-clothe and re-house those who have lost their homes and possessions by bombing. Of course there are inevitable losses of young, brilliant, and gallant men, which everyone deplores, but the casualties may be considered light in relation to the damage done; far lighter than will be incurred when operations in Europe begin.

THE STRAIN ON GERMANY.

For one important point is often overlooked in assessing the effectiveness of these raids on Germany. It is often said that, just as the German raids on Britain failed to have any conclusive effect on our own war production, so British raids on the Reich cannot hope to disrupt war production there. This fails to take account of a very fundamental difference in the two cases. In 1940 and the first half of 1941 Britain was just beginning to expand its war industry. There was plenty of slack to be taken up. There was an abundance of labour for clearing and demolition purposes. There were plenty of factories on civilian work which could be switched over to war work in replacement of those plants that were knocked out. Above all, there were enough empty houses or rooms to take care of evacuees and homeless.

In Germany to-day the opposite is the case. Germany's industrial machine was already strained to the utmost when the *blitz* began. Labour was scarce. Communications were already over-burdened. Clothing and furniture were already almost non-existent, so that the question of reclothing bombed populations has been a grave problem.

ONLY TEN PER CENT.

It is this difference that makes the case for the bombing of Germany and Italy such a strong one. Admittedly it must be kept in perspective. The question is not whether bombing alone can win the war, but whether we are attaching its full weight to the important weapon of air attack in this new offensive phase of the war. No one suggests that our offensive against the Axis be restricted to bombing. It is not even proposed that all our air resources be directed to bombing alone. But Air-Marshal Sir Arthur Harris has been able to say without contradiction recently that what he has achieved has been done in spite of the fact that he is only able to use 10 per cent of Britain's first-line aircraft strength for his raids on Germany. Surely this is allotting a disproportionately small share of our air resources to what should be a most effective form of attack against Germany. Is it asking too much to propose that not 75 per cent, not even 50 per cent, but a minimum of 30 per cent of Britain's first-line aircraft be reserved exclusively for the use of our bombing offensive against Germany and Italy?

TRANS-AFRICAN AIR ROUTE.

(The Middle East Review).

The air route to Africa, which is playing an important part in getting supplies not only to the Middle East but also to India, Russia and China was pioneered seven years ago through British initiative. It runs from Nigeria through French equatorial Africa to Khartoum, and was originally developed solely for peace-time traffic.

The first service along this route, now the main airline to the East, was opened in 1936, and in October of that year the first aeroplane from Khartoum reached the Atlantic seaboard of Nigeria, 3,500 miles away. The early pioneering work was done under great difficulties. The first pilots of the British-run Imperial Airways had no direction-finding radio or weather service, while enormous ant-hills and "harmatama" dust storms rose suddenly on the aerodromes, giving visibility of as low as thirty yards. Runways to begin with, were only 700 yards in length. West African bees were also among the early difficulties which had to be faced, as they were attracted in hundreds by the oil used on the aircraft, and lions had also to be kept from the control huts by small bush fences.

REGULAR SERVICE OPENED.

When the Mediterranean was closed after Italy's entry into the war, a regular service to West Africa was opened, and linked up with the Lagos to Cairo route. The R. A. F. West African Command threw up bases on the most poisonous strip of coast in the world, hammered runways out of sand and undergrowth, and, with U-boat packs patrolling the South Atlantic almost within sight, opened up the Reinforcement Route that contributed to the Eighth Army's westward drive. The momentum at which the R. A. F. personnel discharged their work can be gauged from the fact that often aircraft were taking tests for air-worthiness within twelve hours of being unloaded, and an hour or two later, were on the runways ready for the next convoy to the battle zone.

THE HAZARDOUS ROUTE.

The route hugged the coast with a hazardous stage over Vichy territory, striking north through friendly Nigeria to Lake Chad, where the Fighting French were congregated. Between that point and the Sudan and the Nile route to Cairo lay a vast stretch of French equatorial desert and forest, broken only by a thin chain of landing grounds formerly used by French Colonial airlines.

These up-country landing grounds consist only of strips of runway and a cluster of native huts, in a tiny clearing in the forest and scrub. They are laid one way only—with the prevailing wind. Some of the landing grounds have been hacked out of the wilderness. Others are a little less primitive. The operations room and airfield control, at an important junction that has passed thousands of aircraft, are made from Hurricane packing cases.

A village of the West African Coast is now one of the United Nations' major supply bases for the Middle East, Syria, Iran, Russia and India. A steady flow of operational aircraft is maintained over it. It is also the base for ceaseless warfare against the long range U-boats in the South Atlantic.

SIR ARCHIBALD SINCLAIR.

(From the Observer.)

Twenty years ago a young Liberal back-bencher from the Highlands rose for his maiden speech in the House of Commons. His name was Sinclair; at the General Election of 1922 he had handsomely defeated the sitting Member for Caithness. His leaders spoke of him as a coming man; his war record had been long and gallant; but to the public at large, except in his own county of Caithness where he had been Lord-Lieutenant and had his seat at Thurso as fourth baronet of the Sinclair line; he was still quite unknown.

At the time his maiden speech drew little attention. It was a sound performance; but Archibald Henry Macdonald Sinclair had yet to serve a nine years' Parliamentary apprenticeship before coming to the Front Bench in 1931 as Secretary of State for Scotland. The theme of the speech interests us to-day more than the detail: Sinclair spoke on the growing importance of air power in war; in so doing he pointed the way to his own future.

He has always had a touch of the eagle. It appears in the contour of his lean, handsome face. It appears in his ancestry—he is the son of a Scots father and an American mother. It appears in his long devotion to the air. And we can see it also in the chart of his career; throughout his life he has flown "an eagle flight, bold and forth on," never deviating from his chosen course.

If he had not been a Liberal, a member of the party whose fortunes declined so sorely fifteen years ago, he might have held high office long before he did. He was known as a skilled and improving speaker, a politician of constructive ideas and potential administrative power, and a man whose charm of manner could freshen the often arid stretches of Parliamentary debate. But he was a Liberal, convinced and loyal, and his chance of promotion did not come until the economic crisis of 1931 temporarily fused the conflicting parties and Archibald Sinclair became Secretary of State for Scotland. His brief term in that respectable Department is still remembered with awe.

Sinclair is the kind of minister who will grow in relation to the size of the job he is doing. This, according to one writer, is "the essence of Celtic genius," the phrase is much rubbed and wantonly misused, but it is true that Sir Archibald's Highland background has had great influence on his life.

Now the eagle flight of twenty-years has taken him to the inner confidences of the Cabinet, to his valiant term at the Air Ministry—and who can tell to what further advancement?

That the advancement will come is certain. Sinclair was born for the heights, the eagle-crag. He is only just fifty-two; much has yet to be written in the biography of this dark and fiery chieftain.

THE ARAKAN OPERATIONS.

Spirit of Comradeship between Indian and British Troops.

After being with our troops in the Arakan throughout the present operations, I have seen for myself that the spirit of comradeship between British and Indian troops grow better and better as the days go by, writes an Indian Army Observer. Now that they have been in battle together their respect and liking for each other has reached a new high level.

The Britisher describes as "some of the very best" men like the Subedar, who after dragging the body of a Japanese officer four miles back to headquarters, was himself captured, shot his way free and climbed a tree where he remained for hours to gather valuable information.

The Jawan, in his turn, looks upon the Tommy as "Bahut Achcha"—a steady, courageous soldier who will not let him down, and with whom he can laugh and joke in a way that makes up for any difficulties of language. And so far as these are concerned it is often surprising how much each has picked up of the other's tongue. It may not be grammatical, but it gets by!

I have also found that men who have lived for years in towns, gone to the pictures once or twice a week, read a newspaper everyday, got very much into the grip of habit, can in a few weeks or months adapt themselves so well to an utterly different existence that they seldom appear to be bored. This, of course, applies mostly to the British, but the Indian, too, in some cases has had to turn his life inside out—and has done it most successfully.

It is months since some of us have been to a cinema. Newspapers are scarce, and often days old. Nearly all the old familiar pastimes are barred. Yet we are still a very cheerful crowd. So far as news is concerned, the regular distribution of troops' magazines is a compensating factor.

MOST IMPORTANT THING.

Quite the most important thing in a soldier's private life, such as it is, is the arrival of mail. Just a day or so ago I saw it being delivered to men within shouting distance of the Jap. For a few moments they forgot Japs, war and all else in a vision of home—and were all the better fighters a little while afterwards.

Next to mail, the most comforting things are tea and cigarettes. Somebody said that good hot tea did a lot to win the last war. It is certainly helping to win this one.

Our troops, I have discovered, look upon the Japs not as the "apes" they are sometimes called by non-combatants but as tough and clever opponents, whose defeat calls for the best that is in one. It is a safe and realistic view. To underrate a dangerous enemy is to court disaster.

After the Japanese in the Mayu Peninsula had endured for hours the biggest bombardment seen or heard on this front, and still had fight in them at the end of it, I heard one soldier say to another: "Well, it needs guts to take it like that! Still, if they won't run now, we'll make 'em run in the end."

That the Jap is a vocal fighter as well as a good one, is yet another of my discoveries. Orders are shouted at the top of the voice and constant loud chattering can be heard—but he takes good care to be behind cover or otherwise invisible at the time.

He is also a very cunning enemy, by day and by night. What about this as a night-time ruse? If he can find out who is opposing him in the tangle of the jungle he will cry out something like: "Don't shoot. I'm Rifles" (or 'Fusiliers,' or whatever it may be). Anyone who answers draws in his direction a furious burst of fire.

Or, again, the Jap may shout orders in a variety of languages—English, Urdu, Bengali and so on. These are often to the effect that "number.....section will attack." After thus attempting to put his opponent on edge, he usually contents himself with opening fire—without advancing a foot.

On the whole, except when bombers and fighters are roaring overhead, this is the least spectacular of wars. You may spend hours within a few yards of your foe, manoeuvring and circling, without even seeing him. The jungles on these hills hide many things, including death. The singing bullet, the barking gun, the coughing mortar give a harsh pattern of sound, but the eye is mostly baffled by nature—or by troops who have learned the lesson of concealment wisely and well.

THE MYTH OF JAPANESE SUPERMEN.

Shintoism, Japan's politico-religious creed, is "Emperor-centred". That is, an attempt is made to fuse the personalities of the people with that of an Emperor, who is dogmatically asserted to be a divine incarnation. One result of this is the myth of Japanese might, that is carefully built up by propagandists and uncritically accepted by others. Stories are fabricated about the alleged wonderful qualities of the Japanese soldier. Stress is laid on his cleverness as a sniper, his ability to move silently through the jungle, strike his enemy in the flanks without warning, his predilection for night attacks, his fanaticism and so on *ad infinitum*.

THE JAP SOLDIER.

There is no point in swinging to the other extreme and denying all virtue to the Jap soldier. There is no doubt he is a good fighting man, that he will fight to the death rather than surrender, that he executes his offensive tactics with dash and spirit. But to say that much is not to say everything. These very qualities of his, spectacular as they may sound, also help the Japanese to play into the hands of our men, and aid him in destroying himself. The U. S. Army units, the Marine Corps, the Australian forces have amply demonstrated, against the best jungle troops Japan can produce in Guadalcanar, Tulagi and New Guinea areas, that they can out-think, out-shoot, and out-fight the Japanese. And nearer home, British and Indian soldiers have shown that they are no whit inferior to the Japanese in courage, or in turning his own tactics on him as in the Arakan operations.

Let us analyse the position more closely. The Jap sniper has received a great deal of publicity. It is true he is clever at concealment and is expert in camouflage aids. But what is often overlooked is that he is more often than not a poor shot, and is a casualty-producing agent only at point-blank range. The Japanese has been readily combated by countersniping, and by the determined action of two to four men who search him out and destroy him. For example, recently even in air operations in the Arakan it has been seen that no longer does a single Jap fighter attempt its raiding operations, as the Japs were wont to do when the Allied fighting strength was not what it is at present, but the Japs set out in "wolf-packs" Nazi-wise. And in certain types of terrain, where the sniper may be working on the ground close to the Allied positions, the use of a hand grenade has often proved effective.

JUNGLE TACTICS.

Another illusion that needs to be dispelled is that the Japanese soldier moves about in the jungle silently and stealthily like a cat. He has often been trapped by our soldiers as a result of his own disclosure of his whereabouts by indiscreet noises, and the absence of quite elementary forms of local security. On the other hand, it has been the skill displayed by Allied soldiers that has helped them to bag many an unsuspecting Jap.

Our soldiers have noticed time and again that the Japanese invariably make avenues of approach to Allied positions, dig fox-holes, and have their paths lined with vines to facilitate night movement. Patrols by our men disclose these interesting facts, even as a judicious use of ambushes nullifies them.

THE ALLIED ANSWER.

There is nothing that the Japanese have yet employed which the Allies have not been able to meet and overcome. Infiltration tactics have been detected by cossack posts, noise devices, and booby-traps combated by tactical wire, bands of machine-gun fire and mortar-fire. Avenues of approach are covered by artillery-fire.

Attacks in force in darkness have been characterized by the Japanese using well defined ridge lines leading into Allied positions. Usually the attack is presaged by small arms and mortar fire and much shouting. This in fact is the machine-gunner's dream. Tactical fire suitably placed, final protective lines of automatic fire, and determination to hold fast to one's ground have reduced many an enemy onslaught to shambles. It is true the Japanese is most dangerous, and, to use a favourite journalese, "fanatical" on occasions like these. But cool judgment and superior fire power are more than a match for him, and there are indications that he has begun to realize so himself from his engagements in the S. W. Pacific.

As regards the other myth, that the Jap soldier can live on nothing for a long time, and can endure disease and inclement weather with miraculous powers, it has been shown by the enemy himself to be pure bunkum. Recent broadcasts from Batavia lament "the difficulties in malaria infested areas for our troops". Experience has shown that the Japanese are as little immune to tropical ills as the Allied soldiers. On the other hand, our men have faced the difficulties inherent in a strange and unfavourable terrain in a manner worthy of sincere admiration.

AN EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNT.

In case first hand evidence is required to attest the heroism of our men, here are extracts from an article written by E. V. Lucas in the "Star Weekly" Toronto, of March 13, 1943. Mr. Lucas is the correspondent accredited to the U. S. Pacific Command and was in New Guinea during the earlier part of the campaign. He writes:—

"These men had flung themselves time and again against Jap defences at Gona. There they had left a pattern of their bravery in front of enemy positions. For seven days men crawled through jungle, sick men, through jungle that was tough enough for men who were well and whole. For seven days they cut their way through jungle and fought off Jap patrols.....at last this lost company arrived back at Port Moresby. After a few weeks of rest and recuperation they were back again in the front line of battle.

"There was no let up in this campaign. Men lived and fought under conditions that have no equal on any other battlefield. It was a nightmare. 'Green horror'.

"For three months they lived on little else than bully beef and biscuits, with water or sometimes refreshing cups of tea. Less determined men would have been stumped by the rigours of the jungle alone. But these Australian battalions fought in several major actions against the craftiest jungle fighter and won them.

"One batch decided to get away by digging themselves out. For nine days they burrowed like moles. For five of those days they were without any food. On the ninth day they had sapped 500 yards and were clear of the encircling enemy ring."

"That struck me", says Mr. Lucas, "as an epitome of that courage and will to victory which had carried these Australian battalions through one of the strongest and toughest campaigns in history".

WANING STRENGTH OF JAPAN. PEOPLE BLIND TO THE REALITIES.

New York, Apr. 24.

"I have seen Japanese confidence reduced to Japanese fear," Senor Ramon LaValle, Argentine journalist, who was until recently Consular Attaché in Tokyo, declared in a nationwide broadcast.

The Japanese Government have warned the people to prepare for a 100-year war. Therefore, they are resigned to enduring great hardships. Before the war, the Japanese people were usually polite and honest among themselves, but all that is changed now. The Government are so worried that they conduct official kindness campaigns.

There is a limited Japanese underground which includes many prominent people.

The Germans were respected in Japan in the beginning of the war, but now that Germany's position is weakening, the Japs show their true feelings. They no longer respect the German technicians in Tokyo, who once lorded it over the Japs in their own country.

U. S. VICTORIES

American victories are never reported in Japan. I know because I speak Japanese. As the Government control all information sources, the Japanese people are entirely blind to the real situation. Naturally, the right Jap officials know what is happening—the American offensive in the Solomons surprised them very much. The people still do not know that they were defeated. I consider the taking of Guadalcanar, a master stroke against Japan. I doubt if the Americans fully realise how decisive it was. It completely upset the Japanese confidence, and changed their plans to attack Australia.

The Japanese announced the first American landing in the Solomons, saying that only a handful of American Marines were holding out in one of the smallest of the Solomons Islands. Reporting the second battle, they said that the Americans would soon be wiped out.

They were preparing for, and actually went so far as to announce to the Japanese people that they should be waiting to hear of, a great victory at any moment. Their intention was to retake the Solomons, attack Australia, and thus celebrate the first anniversary of the war.

A SENSATION.

When the announcement came, explaining that one Japanese battleship had been sunk and another damaged, it created a sensation throughout Japan. One official Japanese Navy Press Bureau went so far as to say, 'Before Pearl Harbour we over-estimated the strength of the U. S. Navy, but since Midway we have under-estimated it.'

Shipping is Japan's greatest potential weakness . . . Shipping losses are already worrying Jap officials.

From a Japanese shipping source I learned that Japan had already lost about 1½ million tons of ships in this war.

Another shipping official said to me, 'The position of Japanese shipping is very difficult. Shipping is the only means by which Japan can consolidate her gains, and unless the situation is solved we consider the war lost.'

JAPAN'S DEEPENING FEARS.

(Far East News Letter).

Though the Foreign Office spokesman, Hori, told press correspondents in Tokio on April 12th that Japan's battle-lines in East Asia are unshakable, Tojo's grave speech to the Prefectural Governors on the same date, and the flurry of conferences in Tokio and elsewhere, betray the deepening anxiety over future war developments. Tojo made a peculiarly significant admission in regard to the attitude of the Emperor when, in his speech to the Governors, he said "We feel overwhelmingly obliged at the Emperor's visit to worship at the Ise Shrine on December 12th last; since then he has been taking this sacred war to heart."

Calling for an increase in the war effort, materially and spiritually, he told the Governors that actual performance of plans was the most important thing in the "unprecedented national emergency." Pleading for an uplifting of morale and for unity between government and people, he said that "as the war situation develops we must expect to note with care many factors that would influence our plans.....The people must overcome these factors with warm, mutual affection. People should not express their anxiety and dissatisfaction."

The conference of Governors, following Tojo's demands on Nanking and Hsinking, as arsenal and granary respectively for Japan's war, is but one of many, dealing with the many problems the aggressors now confront. Conferences on the building of wooden ships, on the improvement of transport, and on the intensification of plunder in the occupied areas, have even extended to religion and art. Japanese Catholics and artists alike have been dragged into the "total war", as well as research workers in various fields.

In spite of all the boasting of their propagandists, it is clear that Tojo and his supporters are driven by a desperation in which the element of fear is growing. Japan's so-called new policy dates from the double shock of Stalingrad and Alamein, and the complete destruction of the grandiose strategic plan whereby Japan and Germany were to establish effective contact in the Indian Ocean. That plan was one of the essential conditions which induced the Japanese adventurers to take the plunge. It had a great deal more advertisement in the Far East than it had in Europe, and was openly discussed for months before the attack on Russia.

The dream has faded completely out of the picture in the past six months, and in its place has come the nightmare of a combined onslaught by the United Nations on Japan when Hitler has been smashed. The situation has compelled the Japanese to distribute "face" as widely as possible to the enslaved peoples, to be as free with promises of independence as they were reticent before, and to seek to drum up some measure of active co-operation in place of the passive resistance hitherto encountered, in the hope that they will harness themselves to Japan's battlegwagon and produce more and more of their resources for the war machine.

The longer the process of plunder and exploitation by the Japanese continues the deeper will become the resolve of their victims to throw off the yoke. Five years of Japanese occupation in China, for example, have produced a hard-bitten, awakened peasantry upon whom the conquerors have failed to make any impression save that reflected in the effective resistance of the guerillas.

The most important barometer is, of course, the food situation. It is almost as important in Japan as in the occupied areas. It was the outbreak of food riots, no less than the totally unexpected turn in the military situation in Europe in the early autumn of 1918, that brought about the downfall of Marshal Terauchi and the installation of Japan's first commoner Premier. Can and will Manchuria become the effective granary of North China and Japan? That is a question fully as vital as any that derives from purely military speculation.

POLISH REFUGEE CHILDREN IN INDIA.

*"Come to me, O ye children!
For I hear you at your play,
And the questions that perplexed me
Have vanished quite away."*

*"Ah! what would the world be to us,
If the children were no more
We should dread the desert behind us
Worse than the dark before....."*

Perhaps it is this sentiment more than any other that has prompted India to give a cordial welcome to hundreds of Polish children who have fled from the horrors and bestialities of Nazi rule. Here they are now—smiling, happy and apparently oblivious of the trials they had undergone a few months ago. Watching a troupe of them, dressed in national costume, performing folk-dances and singing the folk-songs of their native land, it is hard to believe that when they reached the quarantine camp in Iraq, they said: "Why go on? Why not stop here? There is BREAD here."

For over two years, bread has been their daily anxiety. One boy related how he found a piece of gold. Riches for a penniless wanderer? No! not even gold could buy a piece of bread, so he threw the gold away.

Journeying south towards their goal of safety, the children's sufferings were great, but most of them had their parents to guide and comfort them. Then typhus broke out. The parents died by hundreds, for typhus is far more deadly to adults than to the young. Here is the story of two of these families.

In one, both parents died, and a little son of seven years old was left as sole guardian of his younger sister. She was a baby of 18 months. How many youngsters of seven would have shouldered the burden as he did? He learnt that Polish lorries were collecting children to take them to India. Quickly he made up his mind. Strapping his little sister on his back, he set out, barefooted and over the snows, on the long march to where people said the lorries were waiting. And he got there, exhausted but triumphant.

"We want to go to India, please."

Now, he and his sister are in a Refugee Camp in Ootacamund, with three or four other children who were in dire straits when they reached this country. They are in the charge of a Lady Superintendent having great experience with children. "They are doing grandly" was her last report.

HELP FROM PRINCES AND PROVINCES.

Another family consisted of a mother and three children. She was expecting a fourth. While the mother was suffering from typhus, the baby, a girl, was born prematurely.

Though now two and a half years old, that child is no bigger than a baby of three to four months. She cannot walk, she cannot talk, only her head seems to have grown. But the whole staff of the camp have pledged themselves to try and save her.

India is famed for its charity, and the Poles have found good friends here. His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanganar has lent sites for two camps, and Her Highness the Maharani is a frequent visitor to the camp at Balachadi in the State. Mention must be made of the offer of H. E. H. the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar to pay for the maintenance of 50 children, and of the offers of the Rulers of Bhopal, Cutch, Gwalior, Jodhpur and Porbandar, who are contributing over Rs. 10,000 each for the purpose. Of the Provinces, Madras has undertaken to pay for the maintenance of over 80 children, the Punjab for 55, and Orissa for 15.

India has agreed to give refuge to 6,000 Polish children, mostly orphans, and to 5,000 Polish women and children and men of over military age; and it is hoped that the first 500 children will be treated entirely as guests of India, the whole cost of their maintenance being met from charitable funds. It is a tremendous task to build and equip camps for so large a family, to arrange education and medical facilities, to rebuild broken health, to bring forgetfulness of the past. But those engaged in the task are enthusiastic. In all the present orgy of death and destruction, it is good to know that one is saving young life, preserving it and training it to take its part in a better world.

POLISH GOVERNMENT THANKS INDIA.

His Excellency Count Alfred Poninski, Polish Ambassador-Designate to Chungking, with Countess Poninski, who has been staying as a guest of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and the Marchioness of Linlithgow on his journey through India to his new post, has formally conveyed to the Viceroy the thanks and gratitude of the Polish Government for the assistance extended to Polish refugees in India.

There are at present three big centres for Polish refugees in India, the temporary refugees' camp near Karachi, the Polish refugee children's camp at Jamnagar, and thirdly a number of refugees who are scattered over India but who are principally concentrated in the City of Bombay.

The arrival of a new group of refugees—women and children—for whom a new camp is being arranged in the Kolhapur State, thanks to the kindness of the Darbar, is now expected.

The Polish Government through Count Alfred Poninski, have expressed their deep gratitude for the warm welcome and generous help that has been given to refugee nationals in India.

MISCELLANY.

THE VULTURES OF THE EAST.

"The Japanese are addicted to plunder like the vultures to carcasses, with the difference that the Japanese do not confine themselves to eatables. They are very fond of gold and money. In villages in Shewbo district, I saw them entering house after house and searching for valuable things. They took away, or rather stole, watches, and plates, silver ware, and slippers. When they could not find gold or money in the houses, they approached haystacks and 'turned the earth'. Peasants are in the habit of keeping their life savings there. This the Japs knew, and got them."

(From the book 'What Happened in Burma', by Thein Pe, published by 'Kitabistan')

THE RECOLLECTIONS OF THE REICH PROPAGANDA MINISTER.

"We cannot retrace our steps. The Government could not possibly see right to the end what the future would be. We have always shown the utmost frankness in our reports concerning the military situation. The bluff which was practised on a large scale in the last war would be ridiculous now.....today it has become a question of life and death. History has shown that for the nations luck enters by one door.....we must go on not minding the obstacles."

(An article of Dr. Goebbels quoted by the Saigon Radio, April 17.)

PAPER ECONOMY AT HOME AND OFFICE.

Paper economy is vital. Here are a few hints!

1. Write on both sides; use the smallest sheet possible and the narrowest margin.
2. Don't destroy used envelopes. You can use them again with an economy label.
3. Don't destroy paper written on one side only. You can use the other side at least for rough notes, scribbling paper or economy label.
4. Finally, let it be known to your family and your employees that your favour depends on their playing up to your new slogan, "Don't Waste Paper"

If you are a businessman:—

1. Avoid printing reports, circulars, etc., that are not really essential in war time. Many of them are never read in any case.
2. Avoid unnecessary acknowledgments, etc.; this also saves postage and congestion in Post Offices.
3. Don't allow perfectly good blotting paper to be thrown away only because it has a few inkstains on it.
4. How do you know your clerks are carrying out your orders—why not go and see for yourself?

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU. PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CXLV. (Batch 4.)

8- 5-43 Municipal Office	... 6.00 p.m.	11- 5-43 Vadavalam	... 7.00 p.m.
9- 5-43 Nirpalani	... 7.00 "	" Sammattividuthi	... 7.30 "
" Avoor	... 7.30 "	12- 5-43 Nartamalai	... 7.00 "
10- 5-43 Karaiyur	... 7.00 "	" Uppiliakkudi	... 7.30 "
" Idaiyattur	... 7.30 "	14- 5-43 Konnaiyur	... 7.00 "
		" Melaveguppatti.	... 7.30 "

LECTURE CXLVI (Batch 5).

15- 5-43 Municipal Office	... 6.00 p.m.	19- 5-43 P. Puduppatti	... 7.00 p.m.
16- 5-43 Tiruvarangulam	... 7.00 "	" Vendampatti	... 7.30 "
" Vamban	... 7.30 "	20- 5-43 Vellanur	... 7.00 "
17- 5-43 Tirumayyam	... 7.00 "	" Sembattur	... 7.30 "
" Melur	... 7.30 "	21- 5-43 Puliur	... 7.00 "
18- 5-43 Pallivasal	... 7.00 "	" Kannangudi	... 7.30 "
" Pillamangalam.	... 7.30 "		

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

8- 5-43 Ponnamaravathi.	15- 5-43 Tirumayyam.
9- 5-43 Virachchilai.	16- 5-43 Tittanviduthi.
10- 5-43 Viralimalai.	17- 5-43 Arimalam.
11- 5-43 Vadakadu.	18- 5-43 Perambur.
12- 5-43 Kilanilai Puduppatti.	19- 5-43 Karambakkudi.
13- 5-43 Alangudi.	20- 5-43 Kilanilai.
	21- 5-43 Pudukkottai.

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai. 750—8-5-43.



PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN

MAY 15, 1943

[No. 146]

LECTURE CXLVI.

THE FALL OF TUNIS AND BIZERTA.

THE DEBT OF DUNKIRK REPAID.

His Majesty's Message to General Eisenhower.

Throughout the 6 months during which you have been in command of the Allied Forces in N. Africa, I have watched with admiration the progress of the operations on sea, on land and in the air.

Under your leadership, forces, diverse in nationality and race, have been knit into one united and successful whole. Their task has not been easy, and the resistance of the enemy has been determined and desperate. But now, with the capture of Tunis and Bizerta, your campaign is almost concluded.

The last enemy forces in Africa are being captured or destroyed, and the debt of 'Dunkirk' has been repaid. On behalf of all my peoples, I express to you, as the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces, and to all ranks under your command, our heartfelt congratulations on your victory.

FORTRESS OF EUROPE WILL CRUMBLE.

General Giraud's Broadcast to France.

Yesterday by liberating Tunis and Bizerta, the Allied Armies and the French troops accomplished their first great victory on soil protected by France. This victory shows once more, in a striking manner, that the German Armies are not invincible.

To-morrow, May 10, is the anniversary of the German push to France. May, 1940 to May, 1943 are the 3 years since our country was thrown into slavery, as a result of the defeat of our arms, by signing the Armistice which we have since denounced. These are the 8 years during which the resistance of Frenchmen has taken shape, and has shown the world that the soul of France has never been conquered.

A handful of courageous men, animated by the pureness of their patriotism, have kept France's presence at her post in battle. In Algiers, this morning, under a brilliant sun, before going to the cathedral to offer our thanks to Joan of Arc, the Protectress of France

all could see powerful vehicles rolling past the G.-in-C. of the U. S. Army. This army which is being formed here, wants to fight, and knows how to fight.

It will be their task to liberate you and our prisoners in Germany. We can be certain that we will keep our promises. We are fighting with one aim in our minds—your liberation.

In a few days, there will no longer be any Germans in Africa. Their rule of world domination is beginning to crumble. To-morrow, the fortress of Europe will be attacked. The struggle will still be hard and may be long. Above all do not worry. Give no pretext for savage reprisals.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

8-5-43 to 14-5-43.

Tunisia.—TUNIS, the capital and BIZERTA, the chief naval base fell on Friday (May 7), and were occupied on Saturday. For details of the storming of the two cities the reader is referred to Side Lights.

Preceding their fall, the following places were taken: GARECTAEKKEL, BALD HILL, GREEN HILL, MASSICAULT, JEBEL CHENITI, JEBEL ACHKEL, JEBEL BOU AKOUAZ and ST. CYPRIENE.

FERRYVILLE fell on the same day as TUNIS and BIZERTA.

Since May 8 have fallen HAMMAM LIF, CRETEVILLE (S. E. of TUNIS), KSAR TYRE (E.S.E. of MEDJEZ EL BAB), AIN-EL-ASKAR (S.W. of TUNIS), PONT DU FAHS, MICHERRA, ZAGHOUAN, CARTHAGE and LA GOULETTE (East of TUNIS), DEPIENNE (N. E. of PONT DU FAHS), MOGHRANA (S. E. of PONT DU FAHS), ELASID and ELAIA (near TUNIS), TEBURBA and DIEDOIDA.

64,000 men, including three German Divisional Commanders and their staff have been taken prisoners.

Broken and dispirited, the enemy has sought refuge in the CAPE BON Peninsula where he is being pursued. According to the latest reports, GROMBALIA and SALIMAN, at the entrance to the Peninsula, have been captured. The Germans have withdrawn the *Luftwaffe* from the area. The British Navy, watching the sea around, has orders to 'sink, fire, or destroy' any enemy vessel that tries to escape. The situation is hopeless [See Side Lights.—Ed.]

Russia.—Fierce fighting continues in the NOVOROSSISK area. Intermittent engagements are reported in the LISICHANSK (upper Donetz) and VOLKHOV sectors, west of ROSTOV, and in the BALAKLAYA, SEVSK, and LENINGRAD and VELIKIYE LUKI areas.

The Pacific.—It is now revealed that U. S. forces occupied RUSSELL Islands (N. W. of GUADALCANAR) in February and AMCHITKA Island (in the ALUTIAN ISLANDS) earlier in January, in both cases, without meeting with any enemy opposition.

On May 4, 2 Japanese aircraft carried out a harmless raid on Milne Bay.

On May 6, Japanese submarines sank 5 Allied ships off AUSTRALIA.

On May 9, Allied aircraft, attacked different targets between Dutch NEW GUINEA and NEW BRITAIN. In reply, the Japanese put up a single raid on MILLINGIMBI (near

Port DARWIN) in the N. of AUSTRALIA, and lost 2 aircraft, in the action, while three more were damaged.

There has been fierce fighting in the DOBODUBI area on the Japanese supply line from SALAMUA to MUBO. Allied ground forces have occupied BOBODUBI in NEW GUINEA.

On the night of May 9, HOROBETSU, a village in the island of HOKKAIDO included in the Japanese home country was shelled by a submarine; and on the same day a Japanese troop transport was sunk off MADANG.

Other Allied air-attacks of the week are given below:—

May 2:—MUNDA (Enemy installations), KISKA (8 attacks in a day).

May 3:—REKATA BAY (Enemy installations), SANTA ISABEL Island, KISKA (9 attacks), KOLOMBANGARA, VILA.

May 4:—ATTU.

May 5:—DABO, ARU Islands, TAJANDOE Islands, GAVEIVA (Kimba Bay), ATTU, KISKA.

May 6:—WEWAK, TIMKA, TOEAL.

May 7:—KISKA (6 attacks), ATTU (4 attacks), LAVELLA Island (SOLOMONS), MUNDA.

May 8:—MADANG, FINSCHHAFEN, MUBO, TIMOR, BUBO, OZI Island, KAHILI, BALLALE.

May 10:—KAIMANA (D. NEW GUINEA), MANOKWARI, SORONG, CERAM, UBILI (NEW BRITAIN), TALA Sea, GASMATA, CAPE GLOUCESTER, ROOKE Island (VITIAZ Straits), WEWAK, MADANG, SAIDOR, KOMIATU area, DOBODUBI.

May 11:—BABO, MAPPI Post, AROE Islands, SAUMLAKI (TANNIMBARI Island), TALA Sea, CAPE GLOUCESTER, FINSCHHAFEN, SALAMUA, LAE, MUBO.

China.—Japanese troops have launched a fresh attack from the south-bank of the Yangtse.

American aircraft raided a Japanese air-field near CANTON on May 8.

Japanese attempts to secure a foothold on the north shore of Tungting Lake in N. HUNAN have been defeated.

Burma.—In the ARAKAN, Allied forces have been withdrawn from BUTHIDAUNG, and the battle for MAUNGDAW is proceeding.

On May 6, 20 Japanese planes attacked Allied positions in RAMU, near COX'S BAZAAR. The damage was slight.

Allied Air-targets of the week are recorded below:—

May 2:—YWATAUNG, MAYMYO, NAMKIN, MAINGKWAN, KANTAW, MYITKINA.

May 3:—SAGAING, MYITKYINA.

May 4:—TOUNGGOO.

May 5:—MYINZA, INDAINGGYI, MYINGYAN, MAGWE, AKYAB Island, ALON.

May 6:—AKYAB Island, INDAINGGYI.

May 7:—MAYU Peninsula, transport on the Irrawaddy and Chindwin, MANDALAY.

May 8:—MAYOHAUNG, MINDYA, KANTHA, MYINGYAN, RANGOON, MANDALAY, NATKAYANG, MONGAUNG, KAMANG, NANYASEIK.

May 9:—Transport on the Mayu river, steamers near PROME, HPAUNGZEIK Bridge, the jetty at KALEMYO.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

2-5-43 (Sunday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—(20 enemy planes shot down).

Industrial centres at IJMUIDEN (6 enemy planes and 4 allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

COMEL, MINSK, ORSHA, and BRYANSK (all in Russia). (2 allied planes missing).

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy transport and positions in the battle areas in TUNISIA.

Axis tanks in the MASSICAUT area.

Axis shipping in the Gulf of TUNIS.

Air fields in the TUNIS area.

The docks at BIZERTA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at MUNDA (Solomons) and KISKA (Aleutians).

Jap base at WEWAK (N. Guinea).

Enemy objectives south of BUTHIDAUNG

(Burma).

An oil town on the CHINDWIN (Burma).

AKYAB area (Burma).

3-5-43. (Monday).

EUROPE.

COMEL, MINSK, ORSHA and BRYANSK (all in Russia).

DAY:—

Railway workshops at THIONVILLE in the LORRAINE.

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy positions, transport and tanks in the battle areas near TUNIS and BIZERTA.

The docks at BIZERTA.

Enemy air fields in TUNISIA.

Jetties on the coast of TUNISIA.

The air field at LAMPEDUSA Island.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Jap installations at REKATA BAY and SANTA ISABEL Island.

Jap positions at KISKA (Aleutians).

AKYAB (Burma).

Villages in the AKYAB area (Burma).

Enemy road installations at YWATAUNG

(Burma).

Ferry docks at SAGAING (Burma).

Bridges near MYITKYINA and PINBAU (Burma).

4-5-43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

Industrial targets at ANTWERP (Belgium).

The electric power station at HAGUE.

Shipping off NORWAY. (3 allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—

Industrial targets at DORTMUND in the RUHR.

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Petrols over the forward areas in TUNISIA.

Enemy transport and Gun positions in the battle areas.

The docks at BIZERTA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Air base at DABO (Dutch New Guinea).

ARU Islands (6 Jap planes shot down).

Jap barges off TAJANDOE Island and LOLOBAU Islands.

Jap village of GAUEIVA (Kimbe Bay).

Petrol drums near MYINZA (Burma).

INDAINGGYI (Burma).

Marshalling yards at RANGOON.

HAINAN Island (near China).

The dock area at HAIPHONG.

5-5-43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

Ammunition and armed ships near the mouth of SEINE (blew up).

The harbours at REGI ODI CALABRIA and TARANTO (Italy).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

Ry. junctions of DNEPROPETROVSK, KREMENCHUG and BRYANSK (all in Russia).

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Shipping in the TUNISIAN Straits.

The harbours at TUNIS and LEGOULETTE.

Enemy troop concentrations near TUNIS.

Shipping in the Gulf of TUNIS.

The harbours at TRAPANI and MARSALA

(Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Jap shipping and air base at WEWAK (N. Guinea).

TIMIKA (Dutch New Guinea).

Barracks at TOEAL (Kai Islands).

Buildings and ground installations at TOUNGOO

(Burma).

Rail road at MYINGYAN.

VILA (Solomons).

REKATA BAY and SANTA ISABEL Islands.

KISKA (Aleutians).

6-5-43. (Thursday).

EUROPE.

No information available about day and night R.A.F. operations.

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Axis transport and tanks in the battle areas.

Airfields near TUNIS and BIZERTA.

TUNIS and BIZERTA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at KISKA and MUNDA (Solomons).

Jap installations at REKATA BAY and

SANTA ISABEL Islands.

Jap positions in the MAYU Peninsula.

MAGWE (Burma).

AKYAB Island (Burma).

7-5-43 (Friday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—

An armed ship off BRITANNY (sunk).

Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE, and ENGLISH CHANNEL.

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Axis position in and around TUNIS and

BIZERTA.

Axis remnants retreating from TUNIS and

BIZERTA.

Enemy shipping in the Gulf of TUNIS.

Targets in SICILY.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Jap installations at KISKA (Aleutians and

ATTU Island).

The air field at MADAUNG (N. Guinea).

FINSCHHAFEN and MUBO area (N. Guinea).

Air-fields at KOEPANG (Timor) and BABO

(Dutch New Guinea).

MU River bridge near MANDALAY (Burma).

Railroad at TOUNGOO (Burma).

Jap positions at HKANG PU (Burma).

Supply dumps in the MAYU Peninsula.

Rolling stock along the IRRAWADDY and

CHINDWIN Rivers.

Marshalling yards at MANDALAY.

8-5-43 (Saturday).

EUROPE.

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

3-5-43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

TUNISIA.

Air combats over the TUNISIAN coast

(2 enemy planes shot down).

RUSSIA.

KRASNODAR area.

FAR EAST.

Port DARWIN (Australia).

4-5-43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

NIGHT:—

A town in East ANGLIA (England).

TUNISIA.

Air combats over the TUNISIAN Coasts.

RUSSIA.

Russian air-fields in the KUBAN area.

FAR EAST.

No information available.

5-5-43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

No air raid anywhere in BRITAIN.

TUNISIA.

Air combats over the coast of TUNISIA.

RUSSIA.

Russian communications behind the Russian lines.

Locomotives and railway centres and trains at BRYANSK, POLTAVA and BYELGOROD

(all in Russia).

TUNISIA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy tanks, troops and vehicles in the CAPE BON Peninsula.

Landing grounds in CAPE BON Peninsula.

The dock areas at PALERMO.

Enemy shipping in the SICILIAN straits.

Air field at PANTELLARIA (Sardinia).

PORTO EMPEDOCLE (Sardinia).

RUSSIA.

(For the week 1-5-43 to 8-5-43 Russia lost 235 planes; Axis lost 980 planes).

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at KAHILI (FAOE Island)

and at KALLALE (Shortlands).

Jap destroyers off OZI Island.

MUNDA (N. Georgia).

KISKA (Aleutians).

Railroad yards at RANGOON.

Railroad bridge at SIN THE (Burma).

Railway yards near MANDALAY (Burma).

Railroad bridge south of MONGAUNG (Burma).

Railroad installations at ALON (5 miles north of

MONYWA) (Burma).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

6-5-43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No air raid anywhere in BRITAIN.

TUNISIA.

Air combats over the TUNISIAN coast.

FAR EAST.

Air combats over the BUTHIDAUNG area

(2 Jap planes shot down).

7-5-43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

A coastal town in East ANGLIA (2 Axis planes destroyed).

TUNISIA.

Air combats over the TUNISIAN coast, the town of TUNIS and BIZERTA.

RUSSIA.

LENINGRAD area.

8-5-43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area; A few places on the south coast of ENGLAND.

TUNISIA.

Air combats over NOVOROSSISK.

FAR EAST.

Air combats over the BUTHIDAUNG area.

SIDE LIGHTS.

AFRICAN VICTORIES.

With joy in the triumph and in humble thanksgiving to the Almighty we hail the news of the great victories that have crowned the Allied arms in North AFRICA. On the afternoon of Friday (May 7) within a quarter of an hour of each other fell TUNIS, the capital of TUNISIA and BIZERTA, her great naval base. With them, a little before or after, also fell FERRYVILLE, (an air-base),

LE BARDO, (the former seat of the Bey), PONT DU FARS, KSAR TYR, HAMMAM LIF, AIN EL ASKER, CRÉTIVILLE, BIR MICHERRA, ZAGHOUAN, CARTHAGE, LA GOULETTE, DEFIENNE and MOGHRANE.

The Axis collapse came about with dramatic suddenness. Responsible Allied leaders speaking a day (May 6) earlier, while confident of victory, held the view that the day of triumph was just not yet. Mr. Stimson, U. S. War Secretary for instance, thought that 'there was still no evidence of the evacuation of the Axis forces': Mr. Elmer Davis, U. S. War Information Chief considered that the enemy would make a final stand at BIZERTA; while Gen. GIRAUD was of the opinion that the Axis forces would break sometime before the end of the month.

THE FALL OF TUNIS.

But all predictions were falsified when Gen. Anderson, with 400 tanks and 2,000 aircraft launched his terrific drive on Thursday from MASSICAULT, near MEDJEZ EL BAB. Within 36 hours after the assault began, British guns and tanks, as *Reuter* tells us, 'rolled into the bomb-torn streets of TUNIS, through a road littered with masses of wrecked and abandoned war-material'. 'Out-gunned, out-generalled and above all with their morale broken', the enemy was unable to stop the flood-gates, as the British, piercing through the German centre at ST. CYPRIEN, forced their way into the city.

Covered with dust, the leading tank crews fought every inch of their way. The force of the British armour, guns and men proved over-whelming, as the victorious army crashed through the city, fighting from street to street, from house to house and hand to hand. Von Arnim's Barentin Division and his Hermann Goering Grenadiers were completely beaten and disorganised.

THE FALL OF BIZERTA.

Thus was TUNIS gained, by a *Blitzkrieg*, such as was never before known. The fall of BIZERTA was no less spectacular, and the glory fell to the Americans. U. S. artillery, discharging shells at 40 a minute, pounded the enemy positions on the mountains. The reverberation, says *Reuter*, was like thunder; the *Wadis* were creased and torn; red flashes, with thick, gray smoke enveloped the valleys.

TO WHOM THE HONOURS GO

'Yanks in Bizerta; British in Tunis', says the *Journal American* dividing the honours, but the victory is shared by the French also, who, in the words of Giraud, fought side by side with the British and the Americans, 'without arms, without clothes, without boots, but believing in victory.' The French are happy to-day, as the victory has coincided with the Day (May 8), dedicated to the memory of Joan of Arc, who, five centuries ago led fallen FRANCE to victory and liberation. It is also significant that the fighting French have adopted the Joan of Arc Flag, the Red Cross of LORRAINE—as the symbol of their determination to regain FRANCE, including LORRAINE.

THE BRITISH FIRST ARMY.

In this hour of triumph, however, a tribute, in special, is due to the British First Army, who rose to the occasion. Until recently Gen. Anderson's men have had a disappointing time, first in

November, when the Germans, in anticipation, established themselves in the horn of TUNISIA, and later, by being pushed back to MEDJEZ EL BAB.

THE EIGHTH ARMY.

We are happy to relate that in the assault on TUNIS Montgomery's 8th Army which had led up to this victory, through six months of hard campaigning, over 1,400 miles of hill and desert, from EL ALAMEIN to ENFIDAVILLE, had also its share. One of its units, the 11th Hussars, was switched from ENFIDAVILLE to MEDJEZ, at high speed, in order to take part in the final lap, and it was a joint First and Eighth Army, composed of tankmen who had fought all the way from EGYPT, that first rammed their way into the city.

TO SURRENDER OR NOT TO SURRENDER.

The pursuit has not ceased. The enemy, disorganised and routed is falling back upon the CAPE BON Peninsula, in the vain hope of gaining some respite. 64,000 prisoners, have already been taken. Some 120,000 troops have been encircled. The Allied forces are milling round the retreating forces. Where will the Germans now stand? Will they stand at all? If not, what is their fate to be? The Radio France, ALGIERS, has said, 'The Axis Forces are pressed against the sea. They can only surrender or be drowned. If the Axis attempts embarkation, it will mean a catastrophe. The British Fleet bars the way to SICILY and Allied aircraft dominate the African sky.'

[Since this was written the CAPE BON Peninsula has been captured, with further large numbers of prisoners including the German and Italian Commanders-in-Chief Von Arnim and Messe. The campaign is at an end.—*Ed.*]

THE ALLIED AIR

ASSAULTS

have been terrific. On the 7th alone 2,500 sorties were flown, concentrated in an area of 4 miles—17,000 yards. On that day, at sea, 12 Axis ships were sunk, and 15 were damaged, including a destroyer, 7 barges and 4 boats.

THE AFRICAN DISEASE.

Mussolini was evidently aware of the coming disaster. Speaking to a crowd assembled outside the Palazzo Venezia last week, he announced the extinction of his Italian Empire which had ceased to exist within 6 years of its formation. For once, he spoke the truth when he said that the wish to regain it was an 'African disease', but the next moment, with his wonted bravado he stated the loss to be temporary, and described his defeat as a 'pause.' But the speech betrayed the fear in his heart, fear of foes within and foes without. 'Bullets for traitors', he shouted, and this has been the way of the tyrants from the dawn of history.

HITLER'S DEFENCE

PREPARATIONS.

Hitler has occupied RHODES as part of his preparations to defend the Eastern Mediterranean. RHODES, 60 miles by 50, is Italian-administered. It is the largest island in the DODECANESE Group. Famous in the past for its Colossus, it is now important as a naval and air-base. It lies 10 miles from the coast of TURKEY in Asia.

HITLER'S 'CAIRO.'

Hitler is reported to have established his Mediterranean Defence Headquarters in the Istrian Peninsula, hidden at the topmost corner of the Adriatic. The Peninsula is triangular in shape, with TRIESTE, FIUME and POLA at the corners. POLA is to be a U-boat base; it is centrally situated, 650 sea miles from MALTA, 1,200 miles from ALEXANDRIA, and 1,650 miles from GIBRALTAR. Here Allied submarines can only penetrate with difficulty, while air-bombardment is possible. POLA is as far from TUNIS, as BERLIN is from LONDON. Bombardment by surface warships is ruled out as the long, narrow way through the Adriatic is guarded by Axis air bases throughout.

**HITLER CONFERS WITH
PAVELITCH**

Following the news of Hitler's Mediterranean Headquarters comes the report of his conference with Pavelitch, the puppet Croat leader and there is a reason for it: ISTRIA lies near CROATIA, and of late, Croat guerillas have been giving trouble.

CROAT GUERILLAS.

When the Axis invaded YUGOSLAVIA, ITALY occupied large portions of DALMATIA and SLOVENIA, which the Croats never forgave. The guerilla activity which extends to-day from ALBANIA to ISTRIA is the result of this irritation. The guerilla organisation (The Slovenski Nacionalni Oslobodilacki Pockret) commands the railway lines from LJUBLJANE to TRIESTE and FIUME, where lie GERMANY's Assembly yards and warehouses for the requirements of the Eastern Mediterranean defence. Hitler, naturally worried about the security of his new bases, has asked for drastic punitive action against the guerillas.

**BULGARIA IN A STATE OF
SIEGE.**

Martial Law has been proclaimed in the Black Sea coastal territory of BULGARIA, against possible attacks by Russian parachutists. The Bulgarian-Turkish frontier has been closed since Wednesday. The Germans have evacuated the coastal area. BULGARIA is said to be in a state of siege.

**DEPORTATIONS AND
ARRESTS.**

Hitler is said to have demanded the deportation to GERMANY of all Frenchmen between the ages of 18 and 40. All Republican Spaniards and members of the former Spanish Republican Government now residing in FRANCE have been arrested.

KIDNAPPED.

Dutchmen have kidnapped the daughter of Dr. Seyss Inquart, Holland's Gauleiter and are holding her as a hostage.

STRIKE.

500,000 people have struck work in SOFIA and 7,000 arrests have been made.

SABOTAGE.

In OSLO harbour, four ships have been blown up by saboteurs and the office of Registration of Norwegian Workers for GERMANY has been burnt.

Extensive sabotage is reported at TURIN (The Fiat works), MILAN and GENOA.

**NEW CONCENTRATION
CAMPS.**

In GERMANY itself new concentration camps have been opened to deal with 'politically unreliable persons'.

FALSE PROPAGANDA.

In order to divert attention from this unsatisfactory state of things, Goebbels is inventing fairy tales of U-boat successes, though he too has had to admit that the sinkings have gone down of late. One such story is the sinking of the U. S. aircraft-carrier, *Ranger*, which never happened; another is a Japanese air raid on CALCUTTA on April 26, as true as that on JAMSHEDPUR on March 26.

Of late, Nazi propaganda has also assumed the rôle of injured innocence. The tale now is that the war was forced on an unwilling GERMANY by Anglo-Saxon capitalism. In his speech on April 19, Goebbels exclaimed, 'how many times did the Fuehrer attempt to prevent the out-break of war—this drama of nations.' No doubt we shall hear more speeches in a similar strain as the military situation deteriorates for GERMANY. But the Allies have a pretty long memory. Not long ago, on Sep. 30, 1940, Goebbels said, "War is the most communal action of a nation"; in March 1940, Dr. Ley harangued, "War is no scourge of God, but a blessing of the Almighty"; and earlier still, in *Mein Kampf*, Hitler wrote, "Peace can be guaranteed only by the triumphant sword of a people endowed with a power to master the world."

Two more tricks in the Goebbelisian repertoire that came into recent prominence may be mentioned: one relates to the development of the UKRAINE and the other is the fairy tale about the Pacific.

THE UKRAINE MYTH.

When the German army launched its summer offensive last year Goebbels said that with the whole of the UKRAINE in German hands, economically, the war had been won.

But the facts have proved otherwise. RUSSIA's 'scorched earth' policy resulting in the destruction of the Dneprosteroi Dam and the removal of machinery and operators from the UKRAINE area has rendered production uneconomical. At first the blame was laid on frost, and finally on the 'Bolshevist system', which had deprived the Ukrainian peasant of the power 'to work independently.' So the exploitation of the UKRAINE still remains a dream and the varying shifts to which Nazi propaganda is driven are themselves a confession of the failure.

THE PACIFIC FAIRY TALE.

Another recent device of Dr. Goebbels has been to play up Japanese naval and air strength in the Pacific, in order to shift the emphasis from the Allied African and European victories to the Japanese Pacific 'successes' as though any Japanese success is going to help Hitler out of his present danger. Though it is true that of late there has been a concentration of Japanese submarines and aircraft in the South West Pacific, the net result achieved so far has been only the sinking of one or two small Allied vessels at the cost of a large number of planes. On the other hand the Japanese have lost at least 90,000 tons of shipping since April 14, and on the whole Japanese strength has seriously suffered in the Pacific waters.

The Japanese bases in S. W. Pacific are said to be about 60 in number. The most important of these are WEWAK (NEW GUINEA), RABAU (NEW BRITAIN), TRUK Island, KENDARI (CELEBES) and KOEPANG (TIMOR). Most of these, as the reader knows, have been under constant Allied fire. It cannot be repeated often enough that side by side with the Japanese moves in the area the Allies are simultaneously frustrating the enemy's efforts in the SOLOMONS, in NEW GUINEA and in the far off ALEUTIANS. The recent occupation of the island of FUNAFATI is of great importance. This island which belongs to the Ellice group lies between FIGI Island and the GILBERT group, and its occupation makes it impossible for the Japanese to dominate the sea-route between AUSTRALIA and AMERICA. The recent expulsion of an enemy convoy heading for WEWAK is an indication of Allied growing strength in the South. The raid on KUNDARI in the CELEBES is another such indication. To these may be added in proof, the raids on MUNDA, over a hundred and ten since November, and on KISKA, 129 in April alone.

TOWARDS UNION.

It is expected that before long a meeting between Gen. de Gaulle and Gen. Giraud will take place and Gen. Catroux's shuttling, back and forth, between LONDON and ALGIERS will bear fruit. According to Press reports, a compromise is within sight. The points of difference have now narrowed down to two. One is that as regards an interim administration for the present Gen. de Gaulle favours a coalition of the French National Committee, the North African Administration, the French Parliamentarians outside FRANCE and Delegates of the French underground movement, while Giraud is for a Colonial Committee in which each geographical area of the French Empire will be represented. The second difference relates to the future administration when FRANCE is free, Gen. de Gaulle favouring the continuance of the present provisional Government, and Giraud, arguing for the retention of power in the Commander-in-Chief, till the elections restore the ancient republic.

RUSSO-POLISH

RELATIONS

still continue to be unsatisfactory—Goebbels is doing his best—we mean, his worst, to divide the two nations. To the tale of KATIN he has now added the ODESSA 'murders', and has proclaimed the 'discovery' of another mass-grave, this time filled with the corpses of Rumanians alleged to have been shot by the O. G. P. U. during the Russian occupation of BUKOVINA and BESSARABIA. But the Polish Government have seen through the game. In his speech on Poland's National Day (May 5), Gen. Sikorski, alluding to the recent burning of 10 villages, in LUBLIN by the Nazis, 'most of them, with all the inhabitants' stated, 'this is one more act of bestiality which has placed an unbridgeable abyss between the Germans and the Poles'; and, on May 6, he added. 'The Germans have been for ages, the common and implacable enemies of both the Poles and the Russians. The Polish Nation, wants, of course, to continue its friendly relations with RUSSIA and base them on an alliance directed against GERMANY'.

Stalin's reaction to these sentiments, as revealed in a letter of his published in the *Times* on May 6, was equally satisfactory. He said that what the U. S. S. R. desired was a strong and independent POLAND placed on 'a basis of solid, good, neighbourly relations

with RUSSIA'. What with Stalin's frank letter and Sikorski's unequivocal denunciation of Germans the breach appeared to be closing, but the later pronouncement of Vyshinsky, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, and the Polish Foreign Minister's reply thereto, have set the ball of crimination and recrimination rolling once again. The Russian Minister accuses the Polish Government, her Press and her officials of Pro-Hitler sympathies; he says the Polish Government has asked the Polish troops in RUSSIA not to fight against GERMANY, and that it is false to say that the Russian Government has prevented any Poles from leaving RUSSIA. The Polish Minister, in return, complains that the Polish Army in RUSSIA was never properly equipped or fed, and that the return of the civilian Poles was rendered difficult by reason of their deportation to distant parts of RUSSIA.

The latest news from MOSCOW is reassuring. According to it the U. S. S. R. has decreed the formation of a Polish Division in the Soviet Union for joint action with the Red Army.

THE U. S. COAL STRIKE

in which half a million men are said to be involved is the outcome of a wage dispute between the United Mine Workers, whose President is Mr. John L. Lewis and the U. S. War Labour Board. The workers have flouted President Roosevelt's injunction that mines, as a major war industry should keep working. President Roosevelt has ordered the seizure of the mines.

A complicating feature is the personality of Mr. Lewis whose record is isolationist and whose method is to use the present opportunity to rise to power. The real issues however are being tackled, as is evident from President Roosevelt's message to the workers, in which he said, 'Prices of essentials will be brought down, rents have been fixed in most parts of the country, food prices will be established'.

FOOD-GRAIN SUPPLY IN PUDUKKOTTAI.

We are glad to learn that the Pudukkottai Government have made arrangements to sell their employees, including menial servants, their annual requirements of paddy at cost price, through the Pudukkottai Employees' Central Co-operative Stores. Should the price not be paid for the whole annual requirement at once the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, will arrange, on application, to conserve the total quantity required for the year and have it issued in monthly instalments on payment of cash.

THE MEDITERRANEAN.

(*The Times of India*).

As the day approaches when the Germans will be forced, by surrender, evacuation or annihilation, to yield their last stronghold in North Africa, it is worth recalling that, in Mr. Churchill's own words, the object of the United Nations' immediate campaign is to regain command of the Mediterranean. That is to say, the Allies intend to recover the use of the Mediterranean for their sea traffic and to deny its use to their enemies. The question will be asked whether it will be possible for the Allies to make use of the Mediterranean sea lane once they have gained complete control of the land mass to the south. Experience shows that where a convoy is protected by fighters it stands a very good

chance of surviving. A recent Murmansk convoy, though its escort consisted of only one aircraft-carrier, got through with the loss of no more than 30 per cent, despite intense German air attacks continued almost incessantly for five days.

It is reasonable to hope then that, if the Allies can establish land-based fighter cover over the coastal belt of the Southern Mediterranean, their chances of making effective use of the ocean for sea-going traffic are good. According to Rear-Admiral H. G. Thursfield in a recent article in the *National Review*, "there should be no greater difficulty in the free use by the Allies of the sea route from end to end of the Mediterranean than there is to-day of that of the English Channel and the North Sea." He goes on to say that the building up of Allied forces throughout North Africa should present no greater difficulty than does the building up of American forces in Britain at the present time. If this is so, the reinforcement of British forces in the Near East will no longer involve a voyage of 10,000 miles, and the transport route of American forces will be shortened correspondingly. What will be the next move? It is anybody's guess. It may be a landing in Sardinia, or Sicily, or Crete. It is just as well that there should be several alternatives, so that we may keep the enemy guessing.

MEDITERRANEAN: ALLIED SUBMARINE ACTIVITY.

In a despatch dated April 25, *Reuter's* special correspondent on board a submarine mothership somewhere in the Mediterranean writes:—

"Allied operations in the Mediterranean have been so successful that Axis convoys have more escorts than targets. Sinkings by submarines have been, and are now, so heavy that when the history of this campaign is written it will be shown that the part played by submarines was a decisive one."

140 SHIPS SINCE ALAMEIN.

In the six months since General Montgomery opened his offensive at El Alamein (October 23, 1942) Admiralty communiqués have reported the sinking by submarines of 18 Axis warships and 122 Axis supply ships in the Mediterranean.

"But this attack on enemy supply lines," said Lieut-Com. Thomas Woodroffe in a broadcast from London on February 11, 1943, "is not the only job our boats have had to do in the Mediterranean. They have had jobs of a Scarlet Pimpernel kind. They spirited General Giraud away from France, to produce him for an astonished world in North Africa. They landed American generals on unfrequented parts of the North African coast and brought them away when they had finished their business. They have landed Commando units in Libya, far behind the enemy's lines. When Malta was running short of supplies—and especially of petrol for her aircraft—the submarines were called upon... So our Spitfires were kept in the air over Malta by our submarines."

HITLER'S STRATEGY.

The key to Hitler's strategy of world conquest was the creation of a Eurafrian bloc. The Mediterranean hinge between the two continents is the 75-mile Sicilian Narrows which (after Wavell proved that the Italian Army was incapable of conquering Egypt unaided—final battle February 6, 1941) was covered by between 500 and 700 German

planes based on Sicily. The effect was to exclude British surface patrols from the Sicilian "moat," thus lowering the "drawbridge" between Europe and Africa for German reinforcements to pass in great strength.

SOLITARY STUMBLING-BLOCK.

It was about this time that Captain G. O. C. Simpson arrived in Malta to begin a two-years tour of duty as commander of a British submarine flotilla operating from the island base. He received this signal from the C. in-C., Mediterranean Fleet (Admiral Cunningham); "Your flotilla is on its way out to you in ones and twos. Your job is to prevent Axis ships reaching Tripoli. Malta is your base. How you achieve your object is up to you."

Thus a few submarines represented the sole stumbling-block in the path of the German Afrika Korps. Not until January 1943, did British destroyers re-enter the Sicilian Narrows.

The main difficulty facing the submarine commanders was the shortness of the Axis routes:—

	Sea miles.
Cape Littino (Crete) to Tobruk	... 175
Cape Passero (Sicily) to Tripoli	... 240
Cape Passero to Benghazi	... 360

Axis ships, at a speed of 15 knots, could cover 120 sea miles in the eight hours of darkness between 8 p. m. and 4 a. m., leaving the submarines only from four to 16 hours of daylight in which to locate and attack their targets. There was therefore no time for stalking and much depended upon infallible timing of interception. Finally, the submarines were unable to surface within torpedo range owing to 100 per cent Axis air protection of all routes. An interesting point arises here. It is a fact that in the clear waters of the Mediterranean a submarine is not invisible to aircraft until she is deeper than 90 feet, so the "crash-dive" loses much of its value as a form of evasive action. This helps to explain the success of Africa-based aircraft in sinking no less than 11 Axis U-boats in the past six months.

THE RESULTS.

In 1941, eight Axis divisions in Africa required a minimum of 4,000 tons of supplies daily, i. e., one 2,500-ton ship per day. It is estimated that, during 1941 and 1942, Axis ships undertook 720 voyages to Africa. Of these, British submarines sank 216 (30 per cent) and heavily damaged 61 (8 per cent), leaving Rommel's Army with a mere 60 per cent of its scheduled strength for the final decision in the Battle of Egypt. Six weeks before the crucial battle opened on October 23, 1942, our submarines opened their heaviest offensive ever, which resulted in not a single tanker reaching Rommel in time to meet Montgomery's assault. This may account for the fact that the *Luftwaffe* launched only one attack on the Eighth Army in the first four days' fighting at El Alamein, and also the abandonment of more than 500 aircraft in good condition on the air-fields between El Alamein and El Agheila.

Meanwhile, Axis U-boats were engaged in a similar attempt to intercept Allied supplies bound for Africa. Every factor overwhelmingly favoured the U-boats. To begin with, the distance from Liverpool to Aden, *via* the Cape is 50 times the distance from

Naples to Benghazi. For at least half of this long voyage of 12,000 miles our ships had no air escort. The U-boats—even where there were air patrols—could operate on the surface and, in an emergency, crash-dive to safety in the murky waters of the Atlantic. The supply ships were open to attack for weeks on end, compared with a matter of hours in the Central Mediterranean. For every British submarine in commission there were up to five U-boats. Yet, despite all these advantages, the U-boats failed so completely that 50,000 British troops rounded the Cape every month from January to June 1942 and won the Battle of Egypt.

THE PERSONAL ELEMENT.

The superiority of British submarine crews is one of the incontrovertible fact, which have emerged from operations in this war. Here are three examples:—

(1) A typical British submarine commander enters the Royal Navy at the age of 18 spends 4-5 years at the Royal Naval College, two years on a capital ship, three at submarine schools, two in submarines as junior officer, three months on a Commanding Officer's course, two years commanding a coastal submarine. Only then does he begin to command ocean-going submarines. The commander of the British submarine *Torbay*, for instance, has spent no less than 13 years in submarines; 12 of his ratings have served a total of 114 years in the submarine service.

Contrast this with the case of the German *U.570*, which surrendered on her first voyage. Her commander and five other officers, 11 of the 15 Petty Officers and 25 of the 26 ratings had no operational experience.

(2) In the summer of 1940, Axis shipping in the Mediterranean totalled 2,331,291 tons. In the 28 months from August 23, 1940, to January 23, 1943, British submarines sank 1,000,000 tons—43 per cent of the target.

In 1939 British and European Allied shipping totalled £0,840,000 tons. In the 28 months from the beginning of the war to the end of 1941 Axis U-boats sank not more than 7,250,000 tons—24 per cent of the target.

(3) These comparisons are put directly to the test when submarines meet U-boats in direct combat. The British submarine *Upholder* has sunk three U-boats. Another British submarine, operating in the Straits of Messina in March 1942, sank the brand new Italian U-boat *Ammiraglio Millo*.

THE BALKANS ARE WORRIED.

(Leonard Kirschen).

Spring has come at last. This fourth war spring has brought many a worry and many a headache, especially to the Balkans. The man responsible for most of this trouble is Hitler himself, for did he not say—he, the infallible Hitler—that he did not know where the British and Americans would strike?

No country can see and observe German indecision and worry so well as the Balkan countries. These countries, of weak military and political structure, the same countries

that gave in to the big bad bully and made him their overlord and protector, now see that the game is practically up as far as they are concerned.

Rumania, after losing two-thirds of her army on the Russian front, has started pondering over the problem whether it was really worth it. The opposition parties are making themselves felt, although their opposition is still strictly limited to underground activity. The muddle here increases every day. Replying to one of the opposition leader's memorandums which criticised the Government's policy, the Rumanian Quisling, Marshal Antonescu, issued a long memorandum containing 60 pages of tearful justification. The opposition spread this memorandum throughout the country. Result: a decree making punishable the reproduction of all memoirs and letters written by the Royal family and the Dictator, if permission for the publication is not granted. Thus the distribution of Antonescu's own justification has become a crime punishable with the concentration camp.

In Bulgaria, the Government has found it necessary to conduct a campaign of "popular enlightenment." Ministers and Deputies tour the country in order to justify to a sullen population the Government's pro-Axis policy. Only the other day Radoslavov, the Bulgarian Minister of Communications, took with him 1,500 commandeered railway workers to provide a cheering chorus to one of these provincial meetings held at Tarnovo. The Bulgarians are extremely pro-Russian, and it is very difficult to convince the Bulgarian people that there is difference between the Tsarist régime and the present Russia. The people do not believe it at all, because, after all, Russians are Russians.

In Yugoslavia the most gallant epic of the war is being written by General Draga Mihailovich and his hundred thousand. Unceasingly and untiringly they harass the Germans and Italians. Italian official figures for the last year show that the number of killed in the Balkans is slightly higher than those in North Africa, and only just below the number of killed in Russia—which is not a bad certificate for Mihailovich.

And what are the Italians worth? One Italian officer taken prisoner is exchanged for an automatic pistol, and an Italian soldier is worth a sack of flour or several hundred rounds of ammunition. As for an Italian general, Mihailovich can only get a light tank for him.

The much-trying Greek people seem to have awakened from the forced slumber of sheer exhaustion. Greek guerillas blow up bridges and chemical factories, besiege Italians in western Macedonia till they are driven off by squadrons of Italian planes. This last kind of warfare is what the Italians excel in, and it reminds them of the famous days of the Abyssinian campaign, when the glorious squadron comprising Bruno Mussolini and Ciano machine-gunned and bombed Abyssinian women and children fleeing through the mustard-gas infested bushes.

And while this is going on, the danger is approaching: Bucharest is being evacuated: Sofia, Varna, Burgas and other Bulgarian towns are following suit. Shelters are being dug, archives transported to the country. Yes, the horrors of war are near, and as the Axis satellites know what sort of war their masters have been waging, they are afraid of just reprisals.

At Falstad concentration camp, where the captives were, Russian prisoners-of-war had been ordered to dig graves in the courtyard where every one could see them working. No one knew who was to be killed, and the tension was almost unbearable. Then, on the Wednesday, the batch of 15 men, who came from the little parish of Grane, were called out at 8 o'clock in the morning and ordered to stand at attention. They were kept standing thus for 11½ hours until 7.30 in the evening. Then they were called in to listen to the announcement of their deaths. The following day they were taken to the edge of the big common grave which the Russians had been forced to dig. Here they were stripped naked, and shot dead. The final group of nine endured a similar protracted ordeal.

THE NEW AIR AGE.

(The Times).

Certain things are already clear and others are becoming clearer. The conception of the "closed sky", which dominated civil aviation between the two wars, is obsolete. The claim to ownership of the space over national territory, and the refusal of access to the air lines of another country, unless a similar concession was made in return, represented a narrow and cramping policy. It sprang from the old obstinate frontier complex, and in the new world it certainly cannot have the pre-eminent place of the past. Frontiers of the sky, at any rate, must not be restored to add to the acerbities of international life. With their disappearance, disappears also the idea of every country having its own civil aviation operating independently and competing wastefully. The form of international organization within and by which national services will both operate and co-operate will not be easy to define, and will plainly call for serious study and debate. One broad fact, however, simplifies its consideration. Such pattern of the future order as has so far emerged from the disruption of the war is based on four stout pillars—the British Commonwealth, the United States, Russia, and China. They mark firm geographical divisions. In any understanding for the international organization of civil flying after the war they seem destined to have a determining but not an exclusive voice. The collaboration between the air forces of the United Nations in time of war provides a starting-point and a basis for the future common organization of their air services for the needs of peaceful commerce.

Civil aviation may in fact prove a test case of that international co-operation which is essential if peace is to endure after victory. War is not all waste. The extraordinary progress which aviation had made under its fierce impulse and quickening spirit is opening the prospect of a real air-age of unalloyed good for man. Many hundreds of thousands of splendid men have become trained pilots. A mighty industry has been built up for the production of machines. Throughout the world air-fields, great and small but all serviceable, have been constructed. Technical advance has been such that a new era in safety has been reached. Space has been narrowed as at no period of history; time itself shortened. It is not to be supposed that these vast reserves, resources, and results will be incontinently scrapped once the "cease fire" sounds. Rather is it to be hoped that the gains war is yielding in such abundance will be transmuted and put at the service

of peaceful pursuits. Civil aviation, even on the vast scale now promised, is not a competing but a complementary method of movement of men and goods. In peace it must be the partner of land and sea transport, just as now air-power is the partner of the two other services. Indeed the analogy between defence and transport in the three elements is close and real, and yields some notion of the aim to pursue and the pitfalls to avoid. Civil aviation must not be fettered by the claims or conventions established by sea and land locomotion, but it must draw from them the experience and the support which they alone can give, and employ their organization when and where appropriate. In that sense too civil aviation cannot be trusted just to "fly by itself." It is for these and other reasons that the planning, in its national and international aspects, cannot be deferred to some more distant date.

The development of the war has already shown how lacking in imagination and niggardly in spirit was the old conception. Much was done, and many fine lives were dedicated to, and sacrificed in, the blazing of the trail. But it can be seen in retrospect how woefully few and inadequate were the air links forged between the components of the Commonwealth. Had vision gone with vigour in those days, the defence of the Commonwealth, and the sustaining of its myriad outposts and enclaves strung round the world, would have been simpler and surer. Peace itself might well have been less uneasy beneath the guardian wings of the civil aeroplane. The airlines established across the oceans and the continents were daring pioneer enterprises, but only now under the pressing needs of war have they been developed in any amplitude. The lesson of the missed opportunity has, in this respect at any rate, been learned—at much cost and delay. The even greater opportunity now given to plan national and international civil aviation on large lines for beneficent ends must be resolutely and imaginatively used.

WENDELL WILLKIE.

(The Observer.)

In the United Nations to-day Willkie seems to enjoy a sort of monopoly of strenuous political action. While others are fully occupied with affairs of State he raises discussions often based on popular misconceptions which are hard to correct. The American public and the British public are not easily convinced that a man of such importance as Willkie can be badly misinformed. Over the Empire, over India, over the Second Front, over the Atlantic Charter, he has shown only a superficial appreciation of contemporary and historical facts. In the last week he has given evidence that he is aware that there is a big job of "housecleaning" ahead at home before he can bring his country and his party nearer to the economic and political solutions of world problems he is beginning to envisage.

The fact is that we are often as puzzled by Mr. Willkie himself as he is by us. At one moment he is a liberal demagogue, apparently to the Left of the New Deal. At another, he is the big business man demanding a return to prosperity through the old "laissez-faire" policies.

Mr. Willkie's frankness is a quality to be welcomed. But words are often merely an instrument to him, the result of his debating-society training, and he seems able to

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Civil aviation may in fact prove a test case of that international co-operation which is essential if peace is to endure after victory. War is not all waste. The extraordinary progress which aviation had made under its fierce impulse and quickening spirit is opening the prospect of a real air-age of unalloyed good for man. Many hundreds of thousands of splendid men have become trained pilots. A mighty industry has been built up for the production of machines. Throughout the world air-fields, great and small but all serviceable, have been constructed. Technical advance has been such that a new era in safety has been reached. Space has been narrowed as at no period of history; time itself shortened. It is not to be supposed that these vast reserves, resources, and results will be incontinently scrapped once the "cease fire" sounds. Rather is it to be hoped that the gains war is yielding in such abundance will be transmuted and put at the service

of peaceful pursuits. Civil aviation, even on the vast scale now promised, is not a competing but a complementary method of movement of men and goods. In peace it must be the partner of land and sea transport, just as now air-power is the partner of the two other services. Indeed the analogy between defence and transport in the three elements is close and real, and yields some notion of the aim to pursue and the pitfalls to avoid. Civil aviation must not be fettered by the claims or conventions established by sea and land locomotion, but it must draw from them the experience and the support which they alone can give, and employ their organization when and where appropriate. In that sense too civil aviation cannot be trusted just to "fly by itself." It is for these and other reasons that the planning, in its national and international aspects, cannot be deferred to some more distant date.

The development of the war has already shown how lacking in imagination and niggardly in spirit was the old conception. Much was done, and many fine lives were dedicated to, and sacrificed in, the blazing of the trail. But it can be seen in retrospect how woefully few and inadequate were the air links forged between the components of the Commonwealth. Had vision gone with vigour in those days, the defence of the Commonwealth, and the sustaining of its myriad outposts and enclaves strung round the world, would have been simpler and surer. Peace itself might well have been less uneasy beneath the guardian wings of the civil aeroplane. The airlines established across the oceans and the continents were daring pioneer enterprises, but only now under the pressing needs of war have they been developed in any amplitude. The lesson of the missed opportunity has, in this respect at any rate, been learned—at much cost and delay. The even greater opportunity now given to plan national and international civil aviation on large lines for beneficent ends must be resolutely and imaginatively used.

WENDELL WILLKIE.

(*The Observer*.)

In the United Nations to-day Willkie seems to enjoy a sort of monopoly of strenuous political action. While others are fully occupied with affairs of State he raises discussions often based on popular misconceptions which are hard to correct. The American public and the British public are not easily convinced that a man of such importance as Willkie can be badly misinformed. Over the Empire, over India, over the Second Front, over the Atlantic Charter, he has shown only a superficial appreciation of contemporary and historical facts. In the last week he has given evidence that he is aware that there is a big job of "housecleaning" ahead at home before he can bring his country and his party nearer to the economic and political solutions of world problems he is beginning to envisage.

The fact is that we are often as puzzled by Mr. Willkie himself as he is by us. At one moment he is a liberal demagogue, apparently to the Left of the New Deal. At another, he is the big business man demanding a return to prosperity through the old "laissez-faire" policies.

Mr. Willkie's frankness is a quality to be welcomed. But words are often merely an instrument to him, the result of his debating-society training, and he seems able to

hold mutually conflicting views with apparent sincerity. His continual demands for clearer definition of British aims may serve a useful purpose if they force us to state our case more openly. But at this moment in the relations between the two countries it is vital that a man who may be the next President should speak with authority, knowledge and responsibility. Presidential campaigns should not be waged in Moscow, Cairo, or Chungking. Isolationism, not India, should be the domestic battle to be fought. It is certain that any man who strives to move the Republican party towards a responsible internationalism is a friend of Britain, Europe and the world.

NON-STOP RAIDS ON JAP BASES.

R. A. F.'s FINE RECORD FOR APRIL.

ENEMY IN BURMA GIVEN NO REST.

R. A. F. operations over Burma and India in April are reviewed in a Press Note which says: On the 1st of last month the R. A. F. celebrated its 25th birthday. 11 Hurricanes of the India Command made it a day to remember in S.E. Bengal, when they intercepted 30 Japanese bombers, with fighter escort, which attacked Feni villages.

Our fighter destroyed 5 of the raiders, probably destroyed 3 more, and damaged several others. One of our aircraft was shot down, but the pilot baled out. It was a good beginning for a month in which every day found the R. A. F. carrying the attack to the enemy in Burma.

Early in April, the tonnage of bombs dropped by the R. A. F. on Japanese-occupied Burma this year passed the 1,000th mark. The targets most consistently attacked were air-fields, transport and enemy positions in the Arakan.

A feature of the month's operations was the number of casualties inflicted on Japanese troops. One especially successful attack was on April 14 when R. A. F. fighters caught 6 power launches full of Japanese troops off Ramree Island, south of Akyab. Every launch was sunk, and from the number of bodies seen in the water afterwards it was evident that the percentage of casualties was high.

ENEMY CASUALTIES.

An exact estimate of the casualties inflicted on the enemy from the air is, of course, impossible, but it is safe to say that the total for April amounts to some hundreds.

Although the R. A. F. specialised in co-operating with our Land Forces by attacks on the enemy in Arakan, other parts of Burma were not neglected. A series of day and night attacks was made on air-fields, such as Shwebo, Meiktila and Toungoo. Railway stations, tracks and installations were bombed with good results. Throughout the month, low-level attacks were made on motor transport, rolling stock and river craft, ranging from supply sampans to good-sized river steamers.

In these operations, the Beaufighter—whose presence in India was announced on April 11—has been most successful. The concentrated fire-power of this aircraft—the most heavily armed fighter in the world—enables it to inflict severe damage or destruction on targets such as Japanese supply craft, lorries, factory buildings and railway engines.

Night bombing was carried out on 15 nights last month. Most of the attacks were on air-fields—including two long-range trips to Tavoy, on the Tenasserim-Siam Peninsula. Of the other operations, the best attack was on Rangoon marshalling yards, where a number of large bombs caused considerable damage.

JAPS' AIR EFFORT.

The enemy air effort, as usual, was not on a scale comparable with that of the R. A. F. A few attacks were made in S.E. Bengal, and there were two raids on Imphal. Since January no attacks have been made at night.

During April 11, R. A. F. aircraft were shot down, 10 of them on offensive operations. Our pilots destroyed 6 Japanese aircraft, probably destroyed 8 and damaged at least another 25. To these must be added 3 enemy aircraft shot down by A-A fire, and a number of others damaged.

EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNT OF BURMA TO-DAY.

It is not often that one obtains a first-hand pen-picture of Fascism at work in the East from a person whose *bona fides* are above reproach. M. Thein Pe, who has embodied his views and experiences in *What Happened in Burma* (published by Kitabistan, Allahabad), cannot be accused of any partiality towards the former régime in Burma. He was a leader of the Upper Burma Units of the National Revolutionary Party, a secret organization which for a time actively collaborated with the Japanese. Later, after having had a taste of Japanese rule, the young man made some outspoken comments about it, and was forced to "go underground". During this period he travelled about a good deal in Burma, and gained invaluable information about the nature and functions of the Scourge of Asia. He has since escaped to India where his book has been written.

MYTH OF "INDEPENDENCE"

The writer was among those whose political theories led them to believe that the difficulties of Britain and her Allies might prove to be Burma's opportunity, forgetting that "he who sups with the Devil must have a long spoon"; and he relates his disillusionment on discovering that Japanese "independence" for Burma was a myth. As General Lida the Japanese C-in-C. in Burma made it clear "to grant Burma independence during the war is impracticable and unthinkable. Your fate lies with the Japanese victory". The Tokyo broadcast made on the installation of "the new government in Burma" stated:—

"The new government will work in collaboration with the Japanese military administration, and the supreme power will be vested in the C-in-C. The government budget and other particularly important problems will be tackled by the Japanese military administration. Nippon government is entirely absorbed in its war efforts. Burmans must learn to regard Japan's war as their war".

THE JAP SOLDIER.

The Japanese soldier is shown to be a brigand of an extreme type. Stories of his atrocities abound. But his day-to-day pilfering and bullying are no less characteristic than the extreme forms of barbarism of which there is so much evidence. To quote:—

"Japanese soldiers get into a kitchen with or without the peoples consent and take away salt and fish or anything they like. Japanese soldiers visit shops and take away what they want without paying. Even the bazaars are frequently raided by the Japanese, for that is the effect of a Japanese bargain.

"They are addicted to plunder like the vultures to carcasses. They are very fond of gold and money. They took away, or rather stole, watches, plates, silverware and slippers. Peasants are in the habit of keeping their life savings during such times in haystacks. This the Japs knew and they got them. Bullocks are snatched away.....

"Our *pongyis* (Buddhist monks) are the hardest hit victims of Jap barbarism. The *pongyis* of Mingunkyayung in Kyaukse were forced to wash the clothes of the Japs and draw water for them.

"Most of these invaders have note books which give them some smattering knowledge of Burmese. The first sentence usually is, 'The Japanese are fighting for Burmese freedom', and the second famous sentence is, 'Are there young pretty girls somewhere here?'

The writer then goes on to show how Shintoism is being subtly imposed on the Burmese, and their violent reaction to it. "I take all Japanese advisers and Minami to be spying hell-hounds of Japan.....Minami is exploiting Burmese Buddhist religion to consolidate Japanese power in Burma...All propaganda forms are totalitarianized."

THE ECONOMIC PICTURE.

The picture painted is one of confusion progressively intensifying itself into an unalterable chaos. Paper currency is manufactured and distributed *ad lib.* Transport is disorganised; imports from all countries including Japan have stopped.

The thoroughness of the scorched-earth policy applied to the British oil-holdings gave the invaders plenty of trouble. "There in the oil-fields", says Thein Pe, "you can see the half clad and sweating Japanese toiling hard to clear the debris, and the spectacled officer of the Japanese engineering corps at a loss to know where to begin the work of reconstruction, while the gutted derricks around them depict nothing but dejection."

"Agriculture was disturbed in certain districts.....the disorganization in canal management and the folly of Japanese soldiers, all hinder the ordinary course of agriculture.

"Imported goods are running out. So far Japan was taking away what manufactured goods could be seized in Burma. Thus they shipped 30,000 bags of sugar from Zeyawaddy Grant, presumably to Japan itself".

The price of commodities necessary for every-day use was inevitably skyrocketed. A cake of soap costs a rupee, a needle Rs. 2, and a box of matches 4½ annas. Rice is rotting in some parts, and starvation is acute in others, thanks to inadequate transport. (This account was composed about six months ago).

THE AUTHOR'S CONCLUSION.

Despite this grave and gloomy picture of the situation, the writer believes that Burma's terrible experiences have taught her a valuable political lesson. "The advanced opinion of Burma", he says, "now boldly stands by world's progressive forces. They know that man's progress is absolute and certain".

He feels that promises which have to be implemented in a distant future have made many a Burmese heart-sick. But everyone is sure of one thing, and that is that there can be no truck with the Japanese. His counsel for those who have ears to hear is:—

"If there is any good thought about Japan or Germany in any Indian mind let it go instantly. A United Nation's victory will not allow a free India to emerge a Fascist India."

He repeats the warning that the Japanese is a terrible phenomenon; that India has fortunately been spared his atrocities up to now, and has good prospects of defending herself in the future, is due to her presence in the camp of the United Nations. He admonishes:—

"And every worker and peasant must know that Japan or Germany, by the very new order of capitalist exploitation that they have adopted, cannot pay him better wages and higher prices for his work and his yield. Their system requires that the people must all go further down in their living standards."

The young realist's parting word is reserved for India:—

"While fighting on your own initiative to smash Fascism, you gather strength and that strength will bring you India's independence. That is the message from Burma. She has suffered much. May Indians be helped to take right decisions for their country by a study of *What Happened in Burma.*"

GERMANS KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT WAR, EXCEPT HOW TO WIN

(From the *Madras War Review*).

Britain's Prime Minister is one of the few men in Europe who have watched every stage of the development of the German Empire into the Third Reich. In his latest book—*Thoughts and Adventures*—he gives a remarkable picture of Germany as she was at the very beginning of this development.

Yet development somehow hardly seems the right word, writes Harold Hobson in *London Calling*. It implies growth, and that again implies change. And in the case of Germany there appears to be no change at all. A monarchy has become a republic. A Kaiser has given way to a Fuehrer. But both Kaiser and Fuehrer have the same arrogance, the same scorn for the rights of other peoples, the same contempt for their opponents, the same uncontrollable ambition, the same mad urge towards destruction and disaster.

In *Thoughts and Adventures* Mr. Churchill goes back to 1906. In that year he was Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and he received from the German Emperor an invitation to attend, as his guest, the annual manoeuvres of the German Army in Silesia, just as, not so very long ago, the representatives of the democratic powers used to be invited to be present at the annual jamborees and flag-wagging and drum-thumping and hysterical speeches of the Nazi Party at Nuremberg. When the Germans went in for this sort of thing—and they went in for it constantly—they did it thoroughly. Every night there was a 'glittering full-dress banquet'; the guests went to bed about midnight, and they were got up again at three or four the next morning and shot off to the manoeuvring ground, where the daily display of German might began at dawn and continued for ten or twelve hours. Then there was another banquet, another few hours' sleep, another twelve hours' display, and another banquet, and so on. The idea seems to have been to tire the guests out, so that they might surrender all the more readily to the spectacle of German power unfolded before them.

FORMIDABLE AND EVEN STUPEFYING.

And what a spectacle it was! "In the Review," says Mr. Churchill, "which preceded the manoeuvres, 50,000 horse, foot, and artillery marched past the Emperor and his galaxy of kings and princes. The infantry, regiment by regiment, in line of battalion quarter columns, reminded one more of great Atlantic rollers than human formations. Clouds of cavalry, avalanches of field guns and—at that time a novelty—squadrons of motor-cars (private and military) completed the array. For five hours the immense onfilade continued. Yet this was only a twentieth part of the armed strength of the Regular German Army before mobilization; and the same martial display could have been produced simultaneously in every province of the Empire."

No wonder this tremendous display made Churchill think rather seriously. "I thought," he says "of our tiny British Army, in which the parade of a single division and a brigade of cavalry at Aldershot was a notable event. I watched from time to time the thoughtful, sombre visage of the French Military Attaché, who sat on his horse beside me absorbed in reflections which it would not have been difficult to plumb. The very atmosphere was pervaded by a sense of inexhaustible and exuberant manhood and deadly panoply. The glories of this world and force abounding could not present a more formidable, and even stupefying, manifestation."

Now, here comes the enormous German paradox. The Germans glory in war. They prepare for war. They devote most of their genius to war. They submit to all kinds of sacrifices in order that their General Staff may have all the men and all the weapons of precisely the sort it wants. They choose their opponents. They choose the time of attack. They go in at the most favourable moment, with the most overwhelming strength. And then they lose. They lost in 1918. They are losing now. The Germans know everything about war, except how to win.

It's an extraordinary thing, this. What is the reason? Mr. Churchill does not tell us exactly in so many set phrases. But his mind constantly returns to the German problem, and the alert reader can easily find in his pages brilliant indications why the Germans invariably finish their fights by being knocked through the ropes.

U-BOAT STRUGGLE OF THE LAST WAR.

One of them is to be found in the enthralling account that Mr. Churchill gives of the U-boat struggle in the last war, which is closely parallel to the battle under the water going on to-day. It began in 1916, this life-and-death struggle of the Royal Navy with the German U-boats....."It was a warfare hitherto undreamed of among men, a warfare at once more merciless and complicated than had ever been conceived. All the known sciences, every adaptation of mechanics, optics, and acoustics that could play a part, were pressed into its service. It was a war of charts and calculations, of dials and switches, of experts who were also heroes, of tense, patient thought interrupted by explosions and death; of crews hunted and choked in the depth of the waters, and great ships foundering far from port without aid or mercy. And upon the workings of this grisly process turned the history of the world."

That is what Mr. Churchill says about the submarine peril of the last war. We have the same peril to-day. But with this difference. In the last war there was unrestricted U-boat attack for two years only. The war had been on for twenty-five months before it started. In this war the Germans were not restrained by any scruples at any time. They threw in their submarines from the very beginning, and we have had to fight that menace for more than forty months.

Now the point about the unrestricted U-boat warfare of the last war is that it brought the United States in against Germany. By adding to the list of enemies of Germany an immensely powerful and brave nation, the Germans themselves made their own victory impossible. That is what they always do. They put on the bridge more than it will bear. For all their blatant and brilliant propaganda, the Germans lack the political art of limiting the number of their enemies. Sooner or later they build up against themselves an irresistible and huge coalition. They did that in the last war and they have done it again in this. Both times they have brought in America against them. They cut their own throats with submarines once. And now they have done it again with Japs. They are an ambitious and brave people, but stupid—ph, so stupid!

PURELY MILITARY CONSIDERATION.

But there is another reason Mr. Churchill hints at. This is that the Germans judge by purely military considerations. At the end of 1917 the Germans might possibly have made peace. The Allies might have been in the mood to consider the possibility of an armistice. If they had gained an armistice then, the German people would have avoided untold misery. But, says Mr. Churchill, "First Quartermaster-General Ludendorff, mounted on the German General Staff, dominated not only the military but the political scene, and Ludendorff had other ideas. The realities of war had reduced the Emperor to a mere function of the wartime situation. The political system of Germany was not such as to throw up from the Parliamentary machine the audacious or rugged figures that had seized the helm in England or France. Everything in Germany had been sacrificed to the military view. On every occasion the General Staff had had their way, and now this intense and mighty organism, at once the strength and ruin of the German Empire,

focussed itself in 'what for the actual guidance of events was virtually a Ludendorff Dictatorship.'

And so Ludendorff did not make peace, but war. At a conference at Mons on November 11, 1917, exactly one year before the end, Ludendorff declared: "The British must be beaten," and at dawn on March 21, 1918, sixty-six German divisions, with 375 field, 297 heavy, and twenty-eight super-heavy batteries or altogether 6,200 guns were launched against a front held by nineteen British divisions. But the assault, though powerful, was not powerful enough. "Everyone knows," says Mr. Churchill, "how the line of the British Fifth Army was bent backwards with a loss of 150,000 men and 1,000 guns, and how the Germans pressed into the ever distending bulge in their march upon Amiens; how General Pétain resolved to break contact with the British Army, and reserve the whole French Force for the defence of Paris; how, nevertheless, the thin line was never broken; how the British right-hand and the French left, joined as they had been during four shattering years, were destined not to be unclasped till victory was won."

NO LOVE FOR THE LAST DITCH.

Now Ludendorff had chosen war. But as soon as war began to go against him, he repented bitterly. On August 8 his army was cut to pieces. He called it "the black day of the German Army." And it sent him, literally, into fits. He decided with the utmost suddenness that Germany was beaten. He lost his nerve completely. He clamoured for instant surrender. It was a pitiful exhibition. The Germans, it seems, have no love for the last ditch. They don't like fighting with their backs to the wall. They lack the supreme military virtue. That is why they lose.

By the way, of all the high officers of the old Imperial German Army, the one who, right from the start, most favoured and supported Adolf Hitler in his bid for power in Germany, was this same Ludendorff, who surrendered so quickly that he took the Allied Generals by surprise. Hitler, of course, says that he will never surrender. That is what he has told the German people. He thinks himself made of sterner stuff than his old military friend. Well, we shall see—perhaps before very long. We can afford to be patient. We are watching.

And so is Winston Churchill.

TOMMY COMPLETES DUCE'S BOAST.

Soldiers of the Indian Army, sweeping through North Africa with the victorious 8th Army, have had a good laugh at the expense of Mussolini's lightning legions.

With typical arrogance, the strutting little Dictator had erected a signboard, with a boastful message of how the Italians were going to march into Egypt.

The laugh was in the last line. "Nothing can stop the Italian Army," proudly proclaimed Mussolini. The ending was the contribution of a British Tommy, who added the words—"When it is in retreat."

JAPS SLAY WOUNDED COMRADE.

Three Japanese air-men, emerging from their crashed bomber, north of Buthidaung, deliberately killed an injured comrade in order to prevent him falling into our hands alive.

Two bombers came down in the Taung Bazar area. The occupants of one were dead. The three unhurt occupants of the other aircraft ordered local inhabitants to provide materials for a stretcher.

Just as the stretcher was being prepared, sounds were heard which made the Japs believe that our troops were approaching. One of them promptly seized his sword and killed the wounded air-man with a thrust in the stomach. Then they escaped.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU. PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CXLVI (Batch 5).

15- 5-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	19- 5-43 P. Puduppatti ... 7.00 p.m.
16- 5-43 Tiruvarangulam ... 7.00 "	" Vendampatti ... 7.30 "
" Vamban ... 7.30 "	20- 5-43 Vellalur ... 7.00 "
17- 5-43 Tirumayyam ... 7.00 "	" Sembattur ... 7.30 "
" Melur ... 7.30 "	21- 5-43 Puliyur ... 7.00 "
18- 5-43 Pallivasal ... 7.00 "	" Kannangudi ... 7.30 "
" Pillamangalam. ... 7.30 "	

LECTURE CXLVII. (Batch 1.)

22- 5-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	26- 5-43 Malaikkudippatti ... 7.00 p.m.
23- 5-43 Kilanilai ... 7.00 "	" Tulaiyanur ... 7.30 "
" Kilanilai-Puduppatti.. 7.30 "	27- 5-43 Malampatti ... 7.00 "
24- 5-43 Perumanadu ... 7.00 "	" Perambur ... 7.30 "
" Pulvayal ... 7.30 "	28- 5-43 Alavayal ... 7.00 "
25- 5-43 Sadayampatti ... 7.00 "	" Ammankurichechi ... 7.30 "
" Oliyamangalam ... 7.30 "	

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

15- 5-43 Tirumayyam.	22- 5-43 Vettamviduthi.
16- 5-43 Tittanviduthi.	23- 5-43 Marudankoneviduthi.
17- 5-43 Arimalam.	24- 5-43 Mullangurichechi.
18- 5-43 Perambur.	25- 5-43 Konapattu.
19- 5-43 Karambakkudi.	26- 5-43 Rayavaram.
20- 5-43 Kilanilai.	27- 5-43 Kulipirai.
21- 5-43 Pudukkottai.	28- 5-43 Pudukkottai.

REWARD.

INFORMATION OF ENEMY WARSHIPS, MINES AND MINELAYING.

The Government of India offer the following rewards to members of the general public for valuable and authentic information about enemy warships, enemy mine-laying activities, and mines at sea or ashore.

	Amount not to exceed a maximum of
For accurate information, furnished at the earliest possible opportunity, which leads directly to the capture or destruction of an important enemy war-vessel ...	Rs. 12,500
For accurate and valuable information, rendered at the earliest possible opportunity, of the movements and activities of enemy war-vessels, including those engaged in minelaying.	600
For accurate information of enemy floating or moored mines, or of the dropping of parachute mines, or of British floating or aircraft mines, in or near a navigable waterway, to the person or vessel first furnishing the information ...	60
For the first report of a British or foreign mine washed ashore and recovered ...	12
Or if the mine is of a new or especially important type ...	60
For the recovery of floats, mine-sinkers, mine fragments, or other objects of enemy origin, if of patterns not previously known or which yield new information ...	60

The amounts awarded, within the total sums stated, will be decided by the Government of India according to the value of the information received. If a report is received from a ship, the Government of India will determine how the award should be divided between the Master and members of the crew.

Reports must be made to the nearest Naval Authority, Port Authority, Coast-guard, Customs Officer, or Police Officer. Full details must be given, including time, date and position, and in the case of an enemy warship, its name, description, course and speed. If possible, reports should be in writing, but on no account must they be delayed.

Important—Members of the public and other unauthorized persons are warned of the extreme danger of interfering with, or remaining in the vicinity of mines washed ashore.



PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

MAY 22, 1943

[No. 147

LECTURE CXLVII.

TUNISIA DAY-MAY 21, 1943.

PUBLIC MEETING AT THE TOWN HALL, PUDUKKOTTAI

SPEECH BY

Sir Alexander Tottenham, C. I. E., *Administrator.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

As I have more than once remarked, the present War may be divided into three stages. The first was a period of one disaster after another, though there were those (among whom I may claim to have been one) who never lost faith in the ultimate result of the War. Germany forced us to declare War, at a time when we were quite unprepared. But Germany had for years been equipping herself with enormous numbers of men and huge supplies of material. She had built up a very large Air Force, and as you all know, strong and efficient Air Force is a decisive factor in modern warfare. She had also built up a strong submarine fleet which is even now a serious menace to our shipping. France collapsed. There were the dark days of Dunkirk and Norway. One country after another was overrun by the enemy. We had to face alone, Germany and her Allies.

2. In the second stage, mighty nations like Russia, America and China were fighting on our side. We were still on the defensive, but the situation had entirely changed since we were not alone, but had powerful—one may say undefeatable—allies. The actual course of the War no doubt did not look promising. The Russians, who like ourselves had not prepared for a war on this scale, had to retreat further and further into their

own territory. The fate of Leningrad hung in the balance. The Germans were still pushing towards the Caucasus, with its oil-fields. In North Africa, the Germans, under Rommel, were at El Alamein, less than 70 miles from Alexandria. The Japanese were occupying one territory after another in the Far East.

3. When I addressed meetings during this period, my constant theme was "pay no attention to episodes—even major episodes. Ignore them. Consider the general trend of events and take a long view." Those who did so were more than ever confident of our ultimate victory.

4. Now we have entered on the third stage of the war. The tables have been turned. The Axis are everywhere on the defensive and we are on the offensive. Holding a wolf by the ears—as I have so often said—the Germans could not extricate themselves from Stalingrad, and suffered a catastrophic defeat. Enormous numbers of troops, including some of the enemy's best Generals, were either captured or killed. They lost huge quantities of war material. Leningrad which the Germans had besieged was relieved. The Russians have recaptured in the winter campaign practically all the ground that they lost in the summer campaign of last year. Much of the rich wheat country of Ukraine, and the precious oil-fields of the Caucasus have been cleared of the enemy. Novorossisk, which is an important port on the Black Sea coast and which forms the Caucasian Bridgehead for the Germans, will shortly be wrested from German hands. The Russians are now in a position to take the offensive, send their Air Force well behind the German lines, and attack the enemy's vital communication centres in enemy-occupied Russia. The Russians bombed Warsaw lately and even Interburg in East Prussia.

5. In North Africa, the battle of El Alamein was the turning point. After that, the enemy was driven back over 1,000 miles. The threat to Egypt was removed. Then American troops—convoyed across the Atlantic (who "rules the waves"?) in co-operation with "Free" and other French, sinking their differences in face of the common foe, and the British forces including Indians, attacked the Germans from two directions. The enemy was pent up in a small strip of territory in the north of Tunisia. The Germans thought that their Mareth Line, south of Tunisia, was impregnable. What could stand against the splendid co operation of the British, American and French forces? The Mareth Line was overrun in no time. Then the enemy established himself strongly behind strong natural defences in northern Tunisia. We thought we should have a very tough battle before we dislodged the enemy from these positions. But the collapse of the Axis troops was dramatically sudden. The great fortresses of Bizerta and Tunis fell in one day. Von Arnim was driven into the Cape Bon peninsula. His men were weary, his supply lines were constantly harassed by the Navy and the R. A. F., and suddenly on May 13th the campaign ended. About 200,000 Axis prisoners and vast quantities of war material, much of which was quite intact, were taken. Von Arnim, the famous German Commander, was made a prisoner of war. It was the proud privilege of the 4th Indian Division to take him prisoner. The Italian Commander-in-Chief, General Messe, was also captured. This is one of the most resounding victories that have ever been won by British Arms. The control of the coast of North Africa means that we have air bases from which to attack the Continent, and that though the danger of enemy submarines in the Mediterranean is not entirely removed, it will hereafter be greatly diminished.

It may be said that the Mediterranean, which is the shortest sea route from India to England, is once again open to Allied shipping. The Allied Air Force now control the Sicilian narrows. The Royal Air Force is now busy pounding Sicily, Sardinia and Pantellaria in the Western Mediterranean, which the German *Luftwaffe* are unable to protect. Malta is now practically free from Axis bombing. The Allies are now in a position to begin their campaign of wresting Europe from Hitler. It will soon also be possible to bring the War home to Japan. The vast territories which she has temporarily occupied will soon be released, and Japan will be forced to disgorge her ill-gotten gains. The time when Japan will no longer be allowed to raise her head as a great Power again is not far off. But until we have much more shipping at our disposal the vast spaces of the Pacific protect her, and we shall not be able to accumulate the forces and procure the bases which will enable us to bring the War home to Japan. It is now nearly three years since the War in North Africa began. During that period, we have seen both victory and defeat. It was the last battle, the battle in Tunisia, that sealed the fate of the Axis in Africa and was a glorious triumph for the Allied Arms. Mussolini's African Empire is at an end. This day of our rejoicing is fittingly termed "Tunisia Day".

6. The outlook was never so bright as at present. The world is on the eve of great events. The Allies are on the path to eventual victory. North Africa is only the beginning. Bigger things are coming. But do not think that the War is won, and that there is no further need to bother about it. Even after the War it will be long before the world returns to normal. Meanwhile, we must go on, all of us, doing what we can, in however humble a way, to hasten the Allied victory. You can all help by bearing cheerfully, without grumbling, the hardships and inconveniences that the War causes to all of us. You can refrain from spreading rumours likely to embarrass the Government. You can report to the Darbar authorities or to members of the N. W. F. people who spread such rumours. You can report in the same way profiteering or hoarding if it comes to your notice. *This is a matter in regard to which the help of the public is essential.* A handful of Government officials can do nothing unaided. You can do all that you can to Grow More Food, and I am glad to say that this year the area under food crops in the State is 20,000 Acres more than last. You can sink your differences and factions. You can refrain from wasting the time of Government servants, who are doing their best to help you, with petty squabbles and complaints, and unnecessary petitions and litigation. There is hardly one of you who cannot in these and other ways do something to hasten the approach of that Victory for which we are all longing and praying.

END OF THE NORTH AFRICAN CAMPAIGN.

H. E. The Viceroy's Broadcast, May 14.

The labour and the sweat, and the sacrifices of nearly three years of campaigning in North Africa have now been crowned with a magnificent, and final victory. The African continent has been cleansed, and great forces of the enemy have been captured

or utterly destroyed. The great strategic highway, the Mediterranean, has been opened, and along the length of its southern littoral stand division upon division of French American, British, Dominion, and Indian troops, all flushed with victory, all brothers-in-arms, whose mutual confidence has been tried in the test of battle, all eager for the next move forward, and filled with an implacable resolve to destroy, root and branch, the foul growth of Naziism that has cast its deadly shade, over the length and breadth of continental Europe. These troops have seen the superb performances of our Air Forces over Africa, and they rightly believe that in the great battles to come they will have air support of a quality and strength that the Axis cannot hope to equal. They have witnessed, in the Mediterranean, the matchless skill and gallantry of our navies and mercantile marine, and they know their people at home, in many parts of the world, are praying for their success and safety, longing for an early end to this world crusade, but ready to endure privation, and hardship for months, and indeed for years if necessary, till the victory is complete and our troops are in Berlin itself.

"TUNISIA DAY".

This great deed of arms in North Africa clearly marks the end of a stage in the war.

We pay tribute, richly deserved as it is, to the heroes of the Tunisian campaign, not only to British and Indian troops, but to our gallant American companions in arms to the nascent might of France, and to the splendid formations from the Dominions. We rejoice that our famous 4th Indian Division was in at the kill. But there are many troops not now in Tunisia, who won fame in Africa in 1940, 1941 and 1942, and it would be ingratitude to forget the part that Indian troops played in F. M. Wavell's great campaigns, and in Gen. Auchinleck's splendid last stand that saved Egypt. It has been the joint endeavour of all the troops engaged, since the beginning of the African campaign, that has made possible the final victory which we are now to celebrate. Again, the fighting forces would be the last to claim that the credit for victory is theirs alone.

We have been through great stress in India, we have had to resist civil commotion, and only a year ago we had to face the possibility of invasion, both from the east and from the west; indeed the most direct and immediate benefit to India from the African victory is the removal of a deadly threat to her own western approaches.

WAR EFFORTS.

We have had great anxieties over our food supplies, and in spite of all our difficulties, it has been essential that our war effort should go on, and increase. There are tens of thousands of men and women, police, railway staffs, civil guards, factory hands, doctors, nurses, engineers and countless others, to whom is due their share of each victory we win. India has been a vast base for our African operations, a base from which essential supplies in huge quantities have been sent, first to buttress our defence, and then to crush and overwhelm the enemy. I hope the National War Front, which represents the citizen's will to win this war, will in its celebrations stress the civilian share in the victory, and also rebuke those few who are absorbed, at present, in purely selfish schemes of profiteering.

GERMANY STILL POWERFUL.

But self-congratulation in the middle of a war is a dangerous indulgence, and I want to warn you to-night, against the slightest tendency to believe that the end is in sight. Germany is still a tremendously powerful nation, and may yet be able, not only to deal heavy blows against our supremely gallant Allies, the Russians, but also to offer strong resistance to any invading armies in the West. And after our foot has been planted firmly on the Nazi's neck, and his overwhelming pride is humbled in the dust, we have still to destroy the menace of Japan. The Japanese are, in essentials, a barbarous mediaeval race, with no true culture, and certainly no instincts of mercy. They are fanatical, and dedicated to what they are pleased to believe is a national mission. They have captured valuable territories and bases, and have had time to consolidate them.

The force that we shall, in due course, bring against them will certainly overwhelm them, but quick results, I warn you plainly, will not be possible.

THE JAP MENACE.

I have just returned from a visit to our troops on the eastern frontier, who have had to work hard, and suffer many hardships to make India safe from invasion. They are in splendid heart, and a great deal has been achieved in that area, but no one makes the mistake of under-estimating the Jap as an enemy. Defeat him utterly we will. The Americans, the Chinese, and we ourselves, have made up our minds about that, and indeed self-preservation demands it. If there are two poisonous snakes in your room, and you go to great trouble to kill one, it is hardly commonsense to relax before the other reptile is destroyed. The Jap stands for the same thing as the German.

Though we beat the German into the dust, a war that fails to mete out to Japan the punishment she richly deserves will be fought in vain, and a peace that left in Japanese hands one square mile of stolen territory would be fatal to the future of human happiness and human freedom, not only in the East, but over the whole expanse of the world.

Forgive me then, if I remind you in this hour of triumph, which we do well to celebrate, that final victory is not yet, and that we must derive from our rejoicings not a spurious confidence that the war is won, but strength to go forward, and win.

Good night; and to all our United Nations' Forces by sea, land and air I say "good hunting."

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

15-5-43 to 21-5-43.

Tunisia.—On May 11 the British First Army broke into the HAMMAM LIF area and captured HAMMAMET, SOLIMAN, GROMBALIA, METZEL and BON ZELFA; and, finally, hemmed the Axis forces in the CAPE BON area, while further south the British 8th Army held the enemy at BON FICHA, near ENFIDAVILLE. The French also struck a

frontal blow at ZAGHOUAN. The Axis forces, having no way of escape, and no means of getting supplies or reinforcements, surrendered. Gen. Baron Von Arnim, Commander of the Axis Forces in North AFRICA was captured by the 4th Indian Division. All Axis armed resistance ended officially at 8.15 p. m. on Wednesday (May, 12th) night, just 2 years, 11 months and 2 days, after the campaign in AFRICA began. Prisoners captured since May 5 number 150,000.

The Battle of the Mediterranean continues. NAPLES, CAGLIARI, CALABRIA, MESSINA, CIVITA VECCHIA and OBBIA have been bombed. In a 3-day pounding the axis air-base on PANTELLARIA is said to have been rendered unservicable.

Russia.—WARSAW was raided on Wednesday, May 12, by the Soviet aircraft. The fight for NOVOROSSISK continues. The Russian air offensive in the UKRAINE and the OREL bulge has been intensified. Russian attacks are reported from the LENINGRAD and BRYANSK areas.

The Pacific.—U. S. forces landed on ATTU Island on May 11 and a battle to wrest the island from the enemy is making satisfactory progress. ATTU is an island of the ALEUTIAN group, and was occupied by the Japanese last June.

China.—Heavy fighting is reported along the western shore of Lake Tungting in the HUNAN. The Japanese are reported to be driving towards CHENGTEH. The Chinese attack near ICHANG on the Yangtse is making progress.

Burma.—MAUNGDAW was evacuated on the night of May 11, without interference from the enemy.

The Allied Air Raids of the week, in EUROPE, BURMA and the Pacific are given in the next section.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

9—5—43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy waters.
CAPE BON, ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
Troops and transport in CAPE BON PENINSULA.
Enemy shipping round the coast of the Peninsula and east of BIZERTA.
The air-field on PANTELLARIA.
The docks and industrial area of PALERMO (Sicily).

Railway bridge at LICATA (Sicily).
Railway station at MARSALA (Sicily).
Air-field at GELA (Sicily).
The harbour at MESSINA.
An enemy ship in the AEGEAN Sea.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded enemy aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

CERAM and KAIMANA (Dutch New Guinea).
The Jap base at MANOKWARI (Dutch New Guinea).
A Jap cargo vessel off SUBONG (Dutch New Guinea).
The harbour at UBILI (N. Britain).
TALAL SEA.

Air-fields at GASMATA and CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).
BROOKE Island (Vitiav Straits).
The air-fields at WEWAK, MADANG and SAIDOR (all in New Guinea).
Jap transport along the MAYU River (Burma).
Oil installations south of MAGWE (Burma).
An oil barge near PROME.
HPAUNGIEK bridge near KALEMYO (Burma).
AKYAB (Burma).

10—5—43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Railway lines near TULA and KURSK (Russia).
BRYANSK-OREL area (Russia).

NIGHT:—

CAPE BON, the MEDITERRANEAN and ITALY.
Enemy troops and positions and motor transport in the CAPE BON Peninsula.
The air-field, docks and shipping at PANTELLARIA.
The air-fields at MILO and BORIZZO (Sicily).
The docks and other targets at PALERMO (Sicily).
The harbour at MARSALA (Sicily).
Enemy shipping near SICILY.

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

An air-field at BARO (Dutch New Guinea).
DOBO (Dutch New Guinea).
MAPPI POST.
SAUMLAKI (Tanimbari Island).
TRANCON Island (Aroe Islands).
A Jap vessel in TALA SEA.
The air-field at CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).
The air-fields at SALAMAU and FINSCHHAFEN (N. Guinea).
Jap installations at LAE (N. Guinea).
The railway station at WUNTHO (Burma).
Enemy objectives at ALLANNYO, PROME, MINDYA (all in Burma).

11—5—43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

NIGHT:—

DNEPROPETROVSK; POLTAVA; BRYANSK; KRASNOGRAD; LOZOVAYA; KOROSHA and several other places (all in German occupied Russia).

CAPE BON, the MEDITERRANEAN and ITALY.

Enemy troops, positions and vehicles in the CAPE BON Peninsula.
The harbour at CATANIA (Sicily).
Docks, railroad stations and hangars at MARSALA (Sicily).
Shipping off GREECE.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at MUNDA (N. Georgia).
KISKA (Aleutians).
VANGA (Vanga Island).
The air-field at CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).
Jap installations at WEWAK (N. Guinea).
Enemy water transport in the MAYU River.
Supply sampans on the IRRAWADDY between CHAUK and YENANGYAUNG.
The air-field at KANGAUNG.
The air-field at MEIKTILA (Burma).
YEGYANBIN (Akyab Island).
The oil refinery at SYRIAM (Burma).
Railroad installations at MANDALAY, NYAUNGBINWUN, LEGYI, MONYWA and SHWEDO (all in Burma).
The village of TIANZUP (near Myitkyina).

12—5—43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

EVENING:—

Enemy supply ship off NORWAY (sunk).

NIGHT:—

The industrial centre of DUISBURG (Germany).
WARSAW (Capital of Poland).
BRYANSK, OREL and other bases in occupied RUSSIA.

CAPE BON, the MEDITERRANEAN and ITALY.

Enemy troops and vehicles in the CAPE BON Peninsula.
Docks and Naval yards at NAPLES (Italy).
Railway stations in South Italy.
The railway station at PORTO EMPEDOCLE (Sicily).

The harbour at CATANIA (Sicily).
Docks at PANTELLERIA and MARSALA (Sicily).
Buildings in the harbour at SYROS Island.
Enemy shipping in the AEGEAN Sea and off the coast of GREECE.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at BALLALE Island (Shortlands).
KAHILI (Shortlands).
MUNDA (N. Georgia).
VILA (Kolombangara).
The air-field at GASMATA (N. Britain).
RATHEDAUNG, YEGYANBIN and two other enemy-occupied villages on AKYAB Island (Burma).
Jap communications between PROME and MAGWE (Burma).
Supply sampans from MAGWE to MYINTAN (Burma).
Boats near PAUNGTYIN (Burma).
Railroad bridge 28 miles north of PYINMANA (Burma).
Jetties at BASSEIN.
Supply dumps and barracks at KAMAING (Burma).

13—5—43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (Germany occupied).

DAY:—

Airframe factory at NEAULTE (France).
Air-fields at ST. OMER.
Railway yards at BOULOGNE (6 Axis planes and 3 Allied planes destroyed).
Air-field at ABBEVILLE.
The harbour at CHERBOURG (France).

NIGHT:—

BERLIN (Capital of Germany).
Targets in central RUHR and CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
The MEDITERRANEAN and ITALY.
The harbour and industrial area of CAGLIARI (Sardinia).
Shipping in the harbour at AUGUSTA (Sicily).
Enemy shipping in the AEGEAN Sea.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap installations at KAHILI (Shortlands).
KISKA (Aleutians).
LORANGA area (Admiralty Islands).
The air-fields at RABAU (N. Britain).
Jap barges off CAPE DAMPIER and RUDIGER Point.
The air-fields at CAPE GLOUCESTER and GASMATA (N. Britain).
MUBO and FINSCHHAFEN (N. Guinea).
Railway yards at MANDALAY (Burma).
The railway bridge at MYITONE (Burma).
Jap vessels between AKYAB and RAMREE Islands and on the MAYU River (Burma).
The air-field at AEHO (Burma).

14—5—43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

The air-field at TRICQUEVILLE.
Shipping near GUERNCEY.

NIGHT:—

Harbour installations at EMDEN (Germany).
Shipbuilding yards at KIEL (Germany).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Italian port of CIVITA VECCHIA.
The port of OBLIA (Sardinia).
The port of ALGHERO (Sardinia).
PORTO TERRES (Sardinia).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

Ry. station at BRYANSK.

Air-fields in occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

The air-field at RABAU (N. Britain).

NABIRE (Dutch New Guinea).

Jap troops and transport in the BU-PHIDAUNG area (Burma).

Shipping off RAMREE Island.

Supply sampans on the KALADAN River.

The air-field at KANGAUNG (Burma).

YEGYANBYIN and RATHEDAUNG (Burma).

PROME (Burma).

Railroad junction at THAZI (Burma).

SHWEBO (Burma).

Railroad installations at MYINGYAN and NYAUNGBINWUN (Burma).

15-5-43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

The air-fields at CAEN (France) and POIX

(7 Axis planes destroyed 6 Allied planes missing).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

9-5-43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

No air raid anywhere in BRITAIN.

TUNISIA.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

Russian positions in the KUBAN.

10-5-43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

Only an alert in the LONDON area (no bombs dropped).

RUSSIA.

UPPER DONETZ area.

FAR EAST.

MILLINGIMBI (Australia) (1 Jap plane destroyed).

11-5-43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

2 places in East ANGLIA (2 Axis planes shot down).

RUSSIA.

Russian communications behind the Russian lines.

FAR EAST.

MILLINGIMBI (Australia) (3 Jap planes put out of action).

MILNE BAY (New Guinea).

12-5-43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity over BRITAIN.

RUSSIA.

Russian air fields behind the Russian lines on all fronts in RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

Allied shipping off GUADALCANAR (Solomons).

13-5-43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

RUSSIA.

LISCHIANSK area.

FAR EAST.

PORT MORESBY (New Guinea).

14-5-43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

A town in EAST ANGLIA (Britain).

ALGERIA.

ALGIERS area (5 Axis planes destroyed).

FAR EAST.

Air combats over the RUSSEL Islands (16 Jap planes shot down; 5 Allied planes missing).

15-5-43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

Russian lines of communications behind the various fronts.

FAR EAST.

PORT MORESBY (New Guinea) (2 Jap planes shot down).

BOBDUBI village (New Guinea) and WAU (New Guinea).

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE END OF THE TUNISIAN CAMPAIGN. The Battle of North AFRICA is over. Officially on the night of Wednesday (May 12) the campaign in TUNISIA

came to an end. Three years of blood and toil have ended in a crowning victory. Pursued over 1,700 miles of hill and desert, and beaten to their knees, the remnants of the Axis hosts have surrendered; while, flushed with victory, the Allied forces stand, ready for new assaults and fresh triumphs. The chase is not going to stop till BERLIN and TOKYO have been reached.

LET US REJOICE

and lift our hands and hearts in thankful prayer. At this supreme hour, let the mind travel back to the dark days of 1940, when FRANCE fell, BRITAIN was bombed and AFRICA was invaded; and let us realise from what abyss we have been lifted by Providence, in vouchsafing the present victory

THE NORTH AFRICAN EPIC. The North African campaign, though only an episode in the larger global war, is an epic by itself. It has been marked by great victories for the Allies, as well as by grave reverses. It began with ITALY's entry into the war over the body of prostrate FRANCE, and her occupation of British SOMALILAND. Then came the miraculous British recovery, when Field-Marshal Wavell, with a small force, pushed Marshal Graziani back to EL AGHEILA and annihilated his armies. This was followed by the apparition of Rommel, with his Afrika Korps, which swept the British back again, almost to the Egyptian frontier. This was succeeded by the British conquest of SOMALILAND, ERITREA, and ABYSSINIA, and by the bitter tank battles, in which, under General Auchinleck, the Eighth Army drove Rommel back to EL-AGHEILA. But with amazing resilience, Rommel, returning to the charge, pushed the Eighth Army, back, once more, in a great offensive which took him to the very gates of ALEXANDRIA. Then began Gen. Montgomery's historic drive—certainly the most classic and rapid in history—which ended on Wednesday last, in the final clearing of the Axis, from the African Continent, some three years after the N. African war began, and six months after the Anglo-American landing in MOROCCO and ALGIERS.

THE HONOURS OF VICTORY. The victory, initially British and Imperial, has ended as a joint effort, in conjunction with American arms, and the French Forces in N. AFRICA. It has been achieved by the co-ordination of arms and armies, by superior strategy, in which great names have figured. And yet, if one personality could be named apart, who, without taking actual part in the fray, beheld the Pisgah vision of victory in the darkest hour of danger, and with an unflinching determination and courage marshalled the Allies and led them on to victory, it is Mr. Churchill—the man of destiny, to whom, as His Majesty has put it, the world itself owes a debt of gratitude.

AXIS' SUDDEN COLLAPSE. To return to the Tunisian campaign, the end of the CAPE BON fighting came sooner than expected, much sooner, even, than the collapse of TUNIS and BIZERTA, which was sudden enough. Mr. C.E. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister, announcing the fall of TUNIS and BIZERTA, to the House of Commons on the 11th stated, 'It is too early to say how long the last act will last and to speculate on the enemy's hope of resistance or escape.'

And, yet, in less than 4 days after he spoke, the campaign ended, the Axis armies surrendered and the Axis Generals surrendered or were captured.

ALLIED STRATEGY.

This amazing feat was primarily due to a clever move. While the Eighth Army held the bulk of the Axis forces, the First Army, reinforced by the transfer of three divisions from the Eighth struck the fatal blow at a weak spot.

THE 4th INDIAN ARMY'S PART.

While General Messe, the Italian Commander surrendered to his old enemy, the 8th Army, it was given to the 4th Indian Division to have the honour of capturing Von Arnim—the Commander in supreme charge of the Axis forces, after Rommel retired at GABES, as earlier it shared the honour of storming TUNIS.

AXIS LOSSES

have been colossal. In TUNISIA alone they have lost from 150,000 to 170,000 men (two-thirds, Germans), including 17 Generals (14 Germans), 3 Panzer Divisions, 1,000 guns, 250 tanks and thousands of vehicles.

LIBYA included, the losses have mounted upto 600,000 men (250,000 Germans) and 2,700 aircraft.

THE MORAL RESULTS

of the victory are still more significant. RUSSIA is heartened for a fresh encounter. The Arab countries are jubilant and INDIA, rid of the menace from the West, feels encouraged to meet her foe in the East.

On the Axis side, the morale has seriously suffered. Dr. Benes thinks that the Germans in EUROPE will crack as suddenly as the Germans in TUNISIA did.

RIOTS IN GERMANY.

An indication of the German reaction was the breaking-out of riots in BERLIN and other parts of GERMANY by crowds anxious to know the fate of their relatives in the Afrika Korps, which has surrendered.

PEACE-FEELERS.

Another symptom is the emergence of Franco as a peace-maker, on behalf of the Axis. On the Allied part, Mr. Eden has already given the categorical reply that the condition precedent to peace is an unconditional Axis surrender. The American rebuke to Franco's intrusion is no less unequivocal and more slashing. Comparing the ruthless German bombing of ROTTERDAM, with the ease with which the Germans now surrendered in TUNISIA, Mr. Elmer Davis, Head of the U. S. War Information says:—

'When you remember how they act when they can get away with it, you may find a little hard to be too much impressed with those Germans coming down the hills in TUNISIA to surrender, as cheerfully as a man who thinks his lawyer has arranged for his bail.

'May be some of them are hoping for something very much like that—hoping that their politicians and their propagandists will somehow be able to chisel their way out to a compromise peace.

'We heard some of this sort of talk this week from General Franco, the Spanish Dictator. Last summer, General Franco said the liberal world was going down—a victim of its own errors—and when he said, 'liberal world', he meant, our world—the world of democracy and freedom.

'He was sure then, or said he was, that the Axis was going to win. Two days after the fall of TUNIS and BIZERTA, while the remnants of the German army in AFRICA were being mopped up—why, then, Gen. Franco suddenly discovered that neither side could win and so, we might as well make peace now.

'There are good reasons why Gen. Franco should want a compromise peace now in the interests of his Government, but whether this was his own idea or reflected the ideas of others, it made no impression in WASHINGTON, where it was merely remarked that AMERICA, BRITAIN and RUSSIA are all determined to compel the enemy to unconditional surrender.

'From now on, every member of the German firing squad, every sadistic guard in prison and camp, every incendiary, every plunderer of children's food, is a marked man, whenever the master race quits, he is done for. The Germans, who don't want to be thus marked for retribution had better begin to earn their immunity by good behaviour now—and that goes for JAPAN also.'

ITALY'S PLIGHT.

It will be noticed that ITALY has been left out by Mr. Davis because her punishment has, in a sense, already begun. Mussolini's highvaulting ambition has over-reached itself. The empire which he would have extended to the shores of the Indian Ocean (and beyond?) has been wiped out.

Rumours of Cabinet resignations, of the abdication of Victor Emmanuel, the return of Badoglio, and the setting up of a Military Council to consider the terms of surrender are already in the air.

The Italian people are said to be sick of the war, and to be ready to hail an Allied invasion as the surest and speediest way of bringing the war to an end.

The Italians are heartily fed up with the war. They are afraid of the sufferings in store, when in the words of Churchill the whole of their country will be subjected to a prolonged scientific, aerial attack. They are afraid that they are going to be punished for the crimes and the sins of their wicked leader—for the sin of having stabbed prostrate FRANCE, for the dastardly attack on GREECE.

THE NEXT BLOW.

Speculation is rife as to where the next blow will fall. Speaking, prior to the WASHINGTON talks, now under progress, Col. Knox said that 'as long as the Axis holds SICILY, it is dangerous to Allied operations. The possession of SICILY by the Allies would obviously be a tremendous military asset'.

This is true. The Mediterranean waters between the horns of TUNISIA (now in Allied hands) and the western tip of SICILY, barely a hundred miles across, are the bottleneck, where the Allied ships have to run the gauntlet, in passing from the Western to the Eastern Mediterranean. The Power which owns SICILY will moreover control ITALY.

SICILY.

So, SICILY, one of the beauty spots of EUROPE, the home of many races, the cradle of Italian civilisation, and the arena of conflicts, ancient and modern, between Greek and Roman and Carthaginian, the Saracen, the Byzantine, the Hun, the French and the Spaniard, where, in 1860, Garibaldi landed with his famous Red Shirts to fight the battle of freedom, is once again going to become a battle-ground and once again, in the cause of liberty.

But the fight is going to be difficult. SICILY is a fortress. PALERMO, is said to have several caves stored with oil. AUGUSTA and SYRACUSE are formidable bases. But one advantage the Allies have. Her southern shore, facing the African coast is unprotected.

PANTELLARIA.

Another Italian island, which the Allies may attack is that which bears the poetic name of PANTELLARIA. The mass air raids that have been already launched on the island show the importance attached to it. PANTELLARIA is a small rocky island, roughly midway between SICILY and TUNIS. It is ITALY's mystery base guarding the Narrows. As early as 1936, Mussolini had forbidden the flying of any foreign aircraft over it. It is said to have submarine bases and an air-field hewn out of rocks, with a lake in the crater of an extinct volcano for a Sea-plane base.

THE WASHINGTON TALKS.

Mr. Churchill has gone to WASHINGTON, with his military and other advisers, to confer with President Roosevelt. This is the 5th Churchill-Roosevelt conference from which great results should flow, judged by the previous meetings. His first meeting in Mid-Ocean led to the Atlantic Charter; his second meeting at the White House, to Anglo-American Co-operation; his third meeting, this time, at WASHINGTON, to the planning of the landing in N. AFRICA, his 4th or CASABLANCA talks resulted in the conquest of N. AFRICA. We have no doubt that the present (5th) conference, described, as 'strictly strategic and military' will lead to equally important and greater results—the invasion of EUROPE and the destruction of the Axis.

THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST JAPAN.

Wayell has gone to WASHINGTON, and with him, Admiral Sir James Somerville and Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, and they are the men who control the army, the navy and the air force in and around INDIA. It may therefore be reasonably inferred that the question of an offensive against JAPAN from the Indian base will come up for consideration.

The words of His Excellency the Viceroy's broadcast on May 21 are significant:—

'And after our foot has been planted firmly on the Nazi's neck, and his overwhelming pride is humbled in the dust, we have still to destroy the menace of JAPAN. The force we shall in due course bring against them will certainly overwhelm them.'

Molotov's Note protesting against the 'abduction' of Soviet citizens for slave labour in GERMANY has just been released. It makes out two charges principally. Once is that Goering has issued official instructions for the abduction. Thus slavery has been reduced to a system, and slave-catching has been entrusted to a State department, with its own organisation and staff. Another charge is that Goering has also ordered deprivation of food, and death, by decisions of Court Martial, to persons refusing to render slave labour. It is also reported that Hitler has ordered his gauleiter Sauckel to deliver to GERMANY about 50,000 'picked, healthy, growing' Russian girls, and that Sauckel, in

order to carry out his master's behest, is starving young people and driving them to railway stations under pretence of distributing bread and thence embarking them on trains, under threat of shooting.

THE SPIRIT OF OCCUPIED EUROPE.

Monday, May 10th, was the third anniversary of the German invasion of BELGIUM, the NETHERLANDS and LUXEMBURG, three territories which remind us, that though conquered by brute force, they have not yet been conquered in spirit. LUXEMBURG, though too small to offer resistance had still the self-respect not to surrender. Invited by Hitler to regard themselves as Germans, the people of LUXEMBURG have chosen the privilege of continuing his enemies—the LUXEMBURG Government established in LONDON has identified itself with the Allies and the cause of liberty.

BELGIUM, which fell in an 18 days battle, has not yet concluded an agreement with Hitler. Her Government under King Leopold's original Ministers carries on the Allied war with all the resources of the Belgian CONGO.

Sabotage, passive resistance and thinly disguised hostilities undermine HOLLAND's New Order. Dutch workers who are forced to build Hitler's 'Atlantic Wall' in HOLLAND are helping to destroy it by extensive spying and sabotage—Gen. Christiansen, the German Commander in HOLLAND, has re-imprisoned all officers and men of the Dutch Army previously released in May 1942.

THE "SKIP OR SKID" BOMBING TECHNIQUE.

"Incessant aerial activity, has given rise to new techniques of bombing. General Bissell, in charge of the U. S. Tenth Air Force, has just spoken of one method which lends very great accuracy to bombs up to 1000 lbs.

From the S. W. Pacific comes news of yet another method evolved during this war. It was used to great advantage in the Bismark Sea battle (March 6), when the enemy completely lost his convoy of ten transports and twelve warships. Between April 14 and April 28, Japanese shipping losses in S. W. Pacific have amounted to 90,000 tons. Hence the technique of "Skip or Skid" bombing deserves attention.

An extraordinary feature of this technique is that Flying Fortresses designed for sub-stratosphere bombing have become by this means torpedo-bombers operating at the deck-level of shipping. The forces brought into play by the speed of the plane cause a heavy bomb to skip along the surface of the water like a pebble flicked over a pond, to hit the target on the waterline.

The target ship has the greatest difficulty in depressing her attack-guns quickly enough to meet a sudden swoop at deck-level. Bombs may ricochet along the surface into the vessel's side and thus produce an effect similar to that of a torpedo. If the bombs drop too steeply and sink, they maintain a forward impetus under water and explode near the vessel's side like depth charges. Finally, if they are dropped late, they may produce an orthodox bombing effect on the ship's deck or superstructure. This technique was developed in New Guinea by Major William Benn of Washington."

WAR AT SEA: MERCHANT SHIPPING SITUATION.

Rear-Admiral Land, Chairman of the U. S. Maritime Commission, said on April 28:—

"The Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, recently told the British people that the United Nations have a greater merchant tonnage in service to-day than they had a year ago. That statement can be affirmed, but, in affirming it, let us add we are still—as we have been since the war began—definitely short of ships. In my judgment, we will be short so long as the war lasts.

"There are more than 30 shipyards, with more than 250 quays, producing big ocean-going merchant ships to-day. In addition, there are about 40 other yards producing other types of auxiliary craft—some for the merchant service, others for the armed forces and some for Lend-Lease—located in 24 (of America's 48) States. Nearly 1,000 other plants in three-fourths of our States are producing parts and materials for merchant ships."

APRIL LOSSES MUCH LOWER.

Colonel Knox, the U. S. Navy Secretary, said on April 30: "Sinkings by submarines were much lower in April than they were in March.....During the past four months—since January 1—we have been steadily adding a number of surface units and aircraft to the battle with submarines." He added that he shared the hope of Admiral Kink that the submarine situation would be under control within four to six months.

On April 30 the Canadian Navy Minister (Mr. Macdonald) and the Canadian Air Minister (Mr. Power) issued a joint statement outlining the plan which was formulated at the recent Anti-Submarine Conference in Washington. Rear-Admiral L. W. Murray, of the Royal Canadian Navy, is appointed C.-in.-C., N. W. Atlantic, while an American officer will direct the anti-submarine operations of the new long-range Canadian and American machines patrolling the mid-Atlantic. British bombers will take over in mid-Atlantic, thus establishing an air "umbrella" over the entire Atlantic route between N. America and Europe.

LOSSES IN 1942.

The U. S. Navy Department announced on April 27 that Allied shipping losses in 1942 exceeded Allied construction by something over 1,000,000 tons. According to official American statistics, U. S. shipyards completed 5,663,560 gross tons of new merchant shipping in 1942. It is estimated that the output of British and Canadian shipyards in the same period brought the total United Nations output for the year to more than 8,000,000 gross tons. It follows that in 1942 we lost a total of more than 9,000,000 tons, or an average of at least 750,000 tons a month.

The Berlin Radio's claim for the month of April (broadcast on May 3, 1943) is only 423,000 gross tons—the lowest since December 1941 and less than half the total claim for March 1943.

This latest monthly claim was broadcast more than 24 hours later than usual, and was omitted from the main news bulletin of the day which carried the Fuehrer's Headquarters communiqué. The customary ululation was significantly absent.

THE REPLACEMENT BOGEY.

It may be that Goebbels feared the extensive publication of such a small claim would knock a big hole in all the propaganda he has built up in recent months about the "Doenitz" offensive. Wait for the Spring and the abatement of the winter gales. That has been the main theme of the Berlin Radio. Spring has come. The winter gales have abated—and so have the sinkings.

Parallel with this "threat-and-promise" campaign, Goebbels has been trying hard to counter Allied statements that losses are being more than replaced by new construction. The counter offensive began last Summer, when replacements began to outstrip the actual sinkings (though not the Berlin claims). In September 1942 American shipyards produced more than a million deadweight tons. Goebbels retorted by pushing his claim for September to more than a million gross tons. (1,000,000 deadweight tons are approximately equal to 700,000 gross tons).

German claims have always erred on the side of over-statement; but the progress of Allied ship construction has obliged Goebbels to lie harder than usual. For example, on March 3, 1943, the First Lord of the British Admiralty, Mr. A. V. Alexander, made the following statement: "From December 1 last to February 28 our tonnage losses have been *much less* than in the corresponding months of last winter." Yet the Berlin claims for that period showed an *increase of 40 per cent.* over the claims for the corresponding period of 1941/42.

OUTPUT EXCEEDS HIGHEST CLAIM.

As recently as April 29, a broadcaster from Berlin declared: "In spite of all the juggling with figures—between deadweight and gross registered tons—there can be no denying the fact that the sinkings of Anglo-American tonnage are still by far surpassing the new construction." No figures were quoted to substantiate this allegation. But it is a fact that the United Nations are now building merchant ships at the rate of 1,250,000 gross tons a month, which is more than the Berlin Radio has claimed sunk in any month of this war. The average monthly claim from the beginning of September 1939 to the end of March 1943 was 601,405 gross tons. The average monthly claim from the beginning of April 1942 to the end of March 1943 was 788,073 gross tons. The highest monthly claim ever issued from Berlin (November 1942) was 1,035,200 gross tons.

Something has gone wrong with the German plan to deal a shattering blow in the Spring of this year. It may be only a temporary hitch occasioned by severe U-boat losses in recent weeks; it is too early, therefore, to draw any definite conclusion. But it is a fact that convoys on the North Atlantic route are now assured of heavier protection by surface escorts than they have enjoyed at any previous time and of air escort throughout the voyage.

A GAP ELIMINATED.

In pack attacks, on which the Germans rely for their success, the U-boats operate on the surface. This is only possible under cover of darkness, or in daylight when no Allied aircraft are near. In the Northern Hemisphere the hours of daylight increase with the approach of midsummer, leaving the U-boats shorter periods in which to accomplish their task. The Germans have made frequent reference to a 600-mile corridor in mid-Atlantic which is alleged to have become "a graveyard of Anglo-American shipping"—presumably because it was considered beyond the range of land-based air patrols. The plan announced by the Canadian Government has eliminated this gap.

GERMAN FAILURE IN THE UKRAINE.

The exploitation of the wheat fields of the Ukraine has always been one of the most haunting obsessions of German leaders. Bismarck dreamt of an independent "principality of Kiev;" Kaiser Wilhelm II, did set up a principality, but it was short-lived and a failure, and now Adolf Hitler is trying desperately to bring to reality their dreams of a Ukrainian colony which would serve as the granary for the Greater German Reich.

It is a matter of record that Imperial Germany failed to exploit the wealth of the Ukraine in the last war. "If I pushed towards the East," wrote Ludendorff in 1918, "it is because our immediate military situation drove me to it. In the desperate struggle I had to wage there was no longer room for dreams of conquest—There was no longer any question of conquering the Caucasus, but only of laying hands on the necessary resources in order to be able to hold out." It is equally obvious that Hitlerite Germany also has failed to reap the rewards it had expected, and that what natural wealth it has captured is only just sufficient to enable it to hold on to the Ukraine.

MEAGRE RESULTS.

Hitler may have got something like 500,000 tons of food grains from the Ukraine in 1941—a mere fraction of the total German consumption. A detailed report compiled by British economic experts said that the total food production of the Ukraine in 1941 consisted of 200,000 tons of bread; 450,000 tons of potatoes; 40,000 tons of sugar beets; 120,000 tons of meat and 150,000 tons of fat. Even if the Nazis did reduce the local population to a starvation level, they could not have secured for themselves more than one-third, or at best one-half of this. When the needs of the army of occupation had been met, there could have been no surplus whatever for shipment to the Reich. The same report forecast a 40 per cent. reduction from those figures in the Ukrainian output of food in 1942. Contrast with this the figure for 1937, the last year for which Soviet statistics are available. In that year the Ukraine yielded 10 millions of tons of wheat of which about seven million tons were required to feed the 31 million Ukrainians.

DIFFICULTIES OF EXPLOITATION.

The exploitation of the Ukraine to-day is much more difficult than it was in 1917-18, because of the intricacies of the present Soviet economy. It is a centralised, mechanised and organised economy and, as such, has been completely paralysed by the Soviet "scorched earth" policy. The removal of indispensable machinery and its operators and the destruction of all control centres, like the Dneprostroi Dam, has denied to the Nazis the wherewithal to exploit the land.

Thus the 67,000 tractors; 18,500 heavy trucks and 22,000 combines which the Ukrainian Collectives possessed have been destroyed by the Russians. The army of 158,500 tractor drivers; 18,500 truck drivers and 15,000 mechanics who had been specially trained to handle and repair the machinery withdrew to the Urals. Moreover the Russians saw to it that they left no fuel behind.

BLOWING COLD.

In an unusually frank statement from the *Reichsnährstand* (the official Farmers' Union) published in the *Frankfurter Zeitung* of 26th February 1942, the German people

were warned not to expect any additional food supplies from the Ukraine before the 1943 harvest was gathered.

When the German Army launched its summer offensive last year, German propagandists began to pretend, however, to be more and more enthusiastic about the benefit which they saw the conquest would bring to Germany. In May, the Nazis claimed that "all the Ukrainian fields have been planted" and on July 22, the Berlin Radio announced: "With the whole of the Ukraine now firmly in German hands, with the oil reserves and other raw material resources of Southern Russia within easy grasp, the war is nine-tenths won. Economically the war is won." But as Soviet resistance stiffened, the propagandists got more cautious. By the end of July, the estimate of the land sown in the Ukraine was scaled down to 85 per cent, by Dr. Rosenberg, and a later Berlin broadcast said that only "seventy per cent, of the total Ukrainian acreage had been sown." With the beginning of Autumn, Berlin and Rome were already starting to explain to the people that all the agricultural surplus of occupied Russia would be required by the German Army, so that the fertility of the Ukraine would contribute to the welfare of the Reich only "indirectly."

At first the difficulties were blamed on the frost, then on transport problems, then on "stupid devastation" wrought by the retreating Russians. Finally they were blamed on the "Bolshevist system" under which the "Ukrainian peasant had lost the capacity to work the land independently."

BLOWING HOT.

In the winter of 1942, however, a new policy was adopted. Thus Gauleiter Koch, Chief Administrator of the Ukraine, declared that no less than 90 per cent., of the arable land in the territory under his rule had been sown last spring. This claim contradicted what Dr. Rosenberg had said in the summer. It was also incredible (as the Swedish paper *Social Demokraten* pointed out) in view of the admitted shortage of agricultural machinery and fuel, and the deportation of some 500,000 Ukrainian labourers to Germany. As this new theme in German propaganda was introduced at the opening of the 4th war-time Winter Relief Campaign in Germany, the purpose was clear. It was meant to delude the German people into believing that huge supplies were streaming into the Reich and that a new era of plenty was at hand.

The exploitation of the Ukraine still remains a dream: the vagaries of Nazi propaganda on the subject are in themselves a confession of failure.

WILL THE ITALIAN FLEET COME OUT OF ITS LAIR?

The Italian fleet, though its losses since Italy's entry into the war amount to ten cruisers, 48 torpedo boats and destroyers, and some 35 smaller men-of-war apart from submarines, in which class losses have also been heavy, is still a powerful and substantial factor in the war, observes *The Times*. Two of the six battleships in service in June, 1940, the *Littorio* and the *Cavour*, were beached after damage inflicted on them by the Fleet Air Arm in its attack at Taranto on November 11, 1940. The former, one of the most powerful battleships afloat, was evidently back in service after no long interval, for she has since been encountered at sea. It seems probable that repairs to the *Cavour*, an old ship reconstructed just before the war, have also been completed by now. The Axis has

announced that two newer sister ships of the *Littorio*—the *Roma* and the *Impero*—are in service. This is not impossible, though it seems unlikely that more than one of them can yet have been completed.

Nine cruisers remain out of the original 19, of which perhaps two may be of the 10,000-ton, eight-inch-gun type. Not all the 48 destroyers and torpedo boats sunk can be deducted from the 104 modern craft of those classes with which Italy entered the war. Some of them, veterans of the last war, may still be in service for subsidiary naval duties, and some may have been added to the fleet in the past three years. It may thus be calculated that Admiral Riccardi disposes of a surface fleet of six to eight battleships, two heavy and seven light cruisers, with nearly 60 destroyers and torpedo boats.

Admiral Doenitz, the new Commander-in-Chief of the German Navy, conferred with Admiral Riccardi in Rome for three days in March; in a broadcast from there on March 23 he insisted that the sea-lanes of the Allies were vulnerable, and that it was against them that the Axis must hit with all its strength. This visit undoubtedly had some meaning and purpose. A conclusion that irresistibly presents itself is that the Axis powers are diligently seeking some counterweight to arrest the swing against them in the Mediterranean theatre of war. They may well find it in the Italian fleet, which has long exhausted its potentialities as a "fleet in being", and must now appear as a fleet in action which its material strength requires it to become if it is to justify its existence at all.

Sir Andrew Cunningham would undoubtedly welcome an opportunity to put it to the test, now that means exist of producing Allied air superiority in the narrows of the Mediterranean, and of redressing the disadvantage under which his fleet laboured so long, yet so successfully, during his former tenure of command. He may not have to wait very long for the opportunity. Neither Hitler nor Rommel is likely to hesitate for a moment to insist on action which would send the whole Italian fleet to the bottom of the sea, if its sacrifice seemed likely to secure the withdrawal and save the lives of a few German soldiers.

THERE LIES OUR HOLY GRAIL.

Gen. Mac Arthur—May 6.

"Corregidor surrendered a full year ago to-day. Intrinsicly it is but a barren war-worn rock hallowed as so many other places, by death and disaster. Yet, it symbolises within itself that priceless, deathless, thing, the honour of the nation.

"Until we lift our flag from its dust, we stand unredeemed before mankind. Until we claim again the ghastly remnants of its last gaunt garrison, we can but stand humble supplicants before Almighty God. There lies our Holy grail."

CHINA RESISTS AND RECONSTRUCTS.

Dr. H. D. Lim.

In the first few months of war, failing to overcome our dauntless resistance, the Japanese resorted on an unprecedented scale to brutality, atrocity and savagery on the

civilian population. With a shock, the people of China realised that this was total war, and that total war must be met with total resistance..... The Government rose to the occasion with a clarion call to the nation. The Government proclaimed China's war and peace aims in simple and clear-cut and understandable terms.

The first aim is national unity and resistance to the end until victory is won, whatever be the cost. The second is national reconstruction; in other words fight the enemy with one hand and build up a new nation with the other, so that the China which will emerge after victory will not be completely exhausted and will be stronger and greater than the China which entered the war in 1937. Under this gigantic reconstruction programme, without going to extremes, it is our intention to make China belong, not to a few families as in Japan with the entire policy controlled by three families, but that China should belong to the 450 million Chinese.

PEOPLE'S POLITICAL COUNCIL.

The third aim is democracy. The democracy we want to see established in China should be genuine, to embrace both economic and political democracy.

Before the war we had no parliament. Since war began we have established the People's Political Council. Although this council is still an advisory body, its resolutions and recommendations have never been turned down by the Government. In fact, the Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek envisaged that the People's Political Council should be the embryo of the future parliament of China. China will therefore emerge as a democratic power, which will help to strengthen and promote a world of liberty. That is our third war aim.....

The spirit of China to-day calls for something contrary to what the Japanese want. Japan wants the people of the East to hate and dissociate themselves from their Western brothers. We in China stand for the closest co-operation between the free peoples of the West and the free peoples of the East, on the basis of equality, justice and honour. For only thus can world brotherhood and permanent peace be established.

It is for these war and peace aims that the Chinese people have made their supreme sacrifice. They have unstintingly given up their lives, their homes and their all for the survival of China as a free nation, for a stronger and greater post-war China, for the victory of the United Nations and for the victory of civilization over barbarism.....

CHINA INCIDENT.

But the cost of our resistance has been and is appalling.....About 200 million lives in China have been directly affected by Japan's wanton aggression, and yet the Japanese still call it the "China Incident". The Japanese boasted that they would beat China to her knees, that they would wipe out China, a mere geographical expression as they called it, from the map of the world. For this contempt, the Chinese nation with its four-thousand-year-old civilization and culture, like an avenging spirit has risen to defy the enemy.

We rejoice that to-day the people of the British Commonwealth of Nations are fighting by our side, for we are no longer alone.

THE THIRD MADRAS REGIMENT.

History, Battle Honours and Traditions of a Famous Regiment of South India.

On March 13, 1943, the Trichinopoly station of All India Radio presented a feature on the history, battle honours and traditions of a famous Indian Regiment, the Third Madras Regiment, which together with the Queen Victoria's Own Sappers and Miners and the Pioneers, has stood witness to the martial powers and fighting qualities of the men of South India, throughout recent history. The Old Regiment had been disbanded. The present War has once again proved to the world that, given an opportunity, the South Indian soldier is hard to beat for toughness, daring and dogged perseverance in the face of all danger, and some years after disbandment, the Third Madras Regiment has been reconstituted, throwing open once more to the sons of the soil the career of soldiering that had been their hereditary occupation, and the opportunity that now presents itself to defend their motherland against the invader.

The traditions of the Madras Regiment cover a period of over two centuries. The earliest Madras Army first originated as early as 1746, when it was generally known by the name of The Coast Army. The first party of Sepoys to be enlisted were formed into an irregular body of peons under their own leaders, and it was not until January, 1759, that some of these companies were formed into the first regular battalion. By this time these companies of Madras Sepoys had already seen much active service under Clive and Stringer Lawrence at Arcot and Trichinopoly. In Bengal they had assisted Clive to win the battle of Plassey.

DISCIPLINED BODY.

The new army proved its worth, and distinguished itself in the Siege and capture of Pondichery in 1761, and in the campaigns against Mahomed Yusuf and Hyder Ali (1764-1769). By about 1780 the number of battalions had risen to 29, and the sepoys had been "transformed from a rabble of peons into a disciplined body worthy to stand in line with British troops." In the successive campaigns this army came out with flying colours, and this in spite of distressing circumstances of want of food and arrears of pay. For its conduct at the battle of Sholinghur the army was granted the distinction of a special colour. From 1799 to 1803 the Army was kept active in the South, and in the campaign of Sir Arthur Wellesley (1803-04) it bore the brunt of the battle, carrying away the honours at Assaye and Argaum, now famous in history. The regiment which fought at Assaye was awarded honorary colours and received unstinted praise from Wellesley.

SERIES OF WARS, CAMPAIGNS AND EXPEDITIONS.

Then followed a series of wars, campaigns and expeditions, in all of which the Madras Army took active part and proved its worth as a fighting force of high quality. Some of these were the Travancore War, and the expeditions of Bengal (1757), Manila (1762), Mahé (1779), Ceylon (1782 and 1795), Amboyna and Spice Island (1796), Egypt (1801-2), Bourbon and Mauritius (1810), and Java (1811-12), the Mahratta War of 1817-18, the Afghan War of 1841-42, the Burmese War of 1852, the Second War with China of 1857-60, Service in Persia (1861), Abyssinia (1867-68), and Perak (1875-76), in series of small

campaigns and expeditions in Burma, Lushai and Chin Hills (1887-92), in the expeditions on the North-West Frontier, the War in China (1900) and the expedition to Tibet (1903-04). By this time the Army had been greatly reduced in strength. On the outbreak of the Great War in 1914, it could muster only 8 battalions of infantry besides the Corps of Sappers and Miners and 3 battalions of Pioneers. The Sappers and Miners maintained their high traditions in France, Egypt, Palestine, Mesopotamia, Persia and East Africa, and other units too gave ample proof that the Madras Sepoy was as good a soldier as any other. In 1928 the last of the infantry battalions was disbanded and Pioneers were disbanded in 1933, thus bringing to an end, though temporarily, a unique record of service extending over 174 years.

TRAINING CENTRE.

The Regiment was reconstituted and a training centre was set up amidst ideal surroundings in the heart of South India. The camp is a very hive of industry and activity, and hundreds of South Indian peasants are being turned out as finished soldiers, and sent to take their places in the front ranks in the War against the enemies of Civilisation.

The training in this camp consists of all types necessary for modern warfare. From sunrise to sunset the recruit goes through a strenuous course of parades, drill and practices, and learns to handle with confidence and efficiency the most up-to-date small arms and field artillery. Besides military and physical training, the routine includes elementary education of a general type in such subjects as Urdu, Geography and Mathematics. Good food, plenty of clean and healthy entertainment and the disciplined life of the training camp, provide the atmosphere ideally suited for the building up of the soldier. Not the least interesting of the features in the camp, is the Boys' Company, which, though not intended for immediate Service, keeps youngsters together in a disciplined brotherhood while they acquire the background of a soldier's life, until they are old enough to join the Regiment. The emphasis on soldiering as a hereditary occupation which this leads to, is perhaps best illustrated by the instance of a Lieutenant, who participates in the programme, whose forefathers for generations have served in this regiment.

THE I. A. F.

(A. I. R. March 31).

On the first of April, 1918—twenty-five years ago—was born the Royal Air Force. Its parents were the Royal Naval Air Service and the Royal Flying Corps—themselves both veterans of the last World War. On that same day ten years ago another healthy infant appeared—the Indian Air Force. Tomorrow then is a day of some particular significance to us airmen, and a day on which all those who have watched our struggle and growth towards manhood during the past 25 years will, I think, from their hearts send us their good wishes and encouragement.

This evening it is mainly to the young men of India that I want to speak, and to those of you who have already joined the Indian Air Force. Ten years is but a short time measured against men's lives—yet we of the Royal Air Force recognise you as our very

sturdy and belligerent brother—we know now that the hopes we held for you ten years ago when you were still an infant and inarticulate are justified—we see in you a younger generation growing up with all the virility and eagerness, the pioneer spirit and the will to express the innate courage and love of home and country, which has glowed in the hearts of airmen and animated their actions for more than thirty years.

So I say to you, young men of the Indian Air Force, look upon the Royal Air Force as your elder brother, and as an elder brother I can tell you that we are already proud to have you standing beside us sharing the burden: proud to see you building up a service and a tradition worthy of your great country. But remember, the burden is not just one of to-day and to-morrow. As you come to man's estate you assume his responsibilities. You have the proud task and trust of the pioneer. More, you will remain the vital and living memorial of those who have already given their all in this great crusade, and in the forging of this weapon upon which India will one day rely. See to it that their lives have not been wasted, let those who have gone before be proud of what you do, so that you shall be worthy sons of a noble heritage.

No Indian man, woman or child can be unmindful of the need of India to possess her own means of air defence, and so let me say a few words to them so that their encouragement which I have already mentioned can take practical effect.

GROWTH OF INDIAN AIR FORCE.

A year ago the Indian Air Force was small and ill-equipped by modern standards. The reason for this was not difficult to understand. There was no immediate threat to India, and the Allies were fighting in Europe and elsewhere with their backs to the wall and every airman and aeroplane counted in the struggle.

A brief year has brought about a profound change. A brutal and aggressive enemy threatens India's eastern borders to-day, her seaborne supplies are in constant danger, whilst Russia holds back the German hordes which a short while ago looked like seriously threatening India's North-West Frontier. But the strength of the Allies is mounting whilst that of our enemies diminishes, and this is very true of the air.

To-day, the many squadrons of the Royal Air Force in India have come equipped with modern aircraft. Rapidly are the squadrons of the Indian Air Force being re-equipped with similar types and new squadrons added, and by the end of 1943, it is intended that a further increase will have been made. But all this needs men; perhaps the public in time of war read only about the feats of pilots and aircrews in their exploits in the air. They hear little about that large and devoted band of highly skilled ground-staff who keep these aircraft in the skies, direct their operations by wireless, feed them with advice on weather conditions, maintain their aircraft engines and armament, load their bombs, and fuel their tanks. These men need to be highly trained and experienced; and experience needs years of practice. But on their efficiency hangs success or failure of the aircraft in battle; more, the lives of the aircrews are dependent on the untiring work and devotion of these ground crews. These are the men we want.

INDIAN AIR TRAINING CORPS.

Much has been done of late to provide schools, staffed and equipped to give both the preliminary and most advanced technical training required, and a few weeks ago

another step forward was taken when the Indian Air Training Corps scheme was inaugurated at Aligarh University. This we hope will provide pre-service training for students wishing to make a career in the Indian Air Force.

For every aircraft considerable numbers of airmen are needed on the ground—mechanics, riggers, fabric workers, electricians, wireless operators and the like. How many thousands of young men must there be in India with that reasonable education and intelligence which will enable them to become first class technicians; and what a future does this provide for so many. To each and all of you I say—the Indian Air Force can and will teach you; give the Indian Air Force that encouragement which it so earnestly needs.

"I AM PROUD TO COMMAND YOU".

I will close these words of mine with this message to the officers and men of the Indian Air Force;

I am proud to command you, you have done well—all and more than has been expected of you—but never be satisfied with the past, turn your eyes continually to the future, for young as you are you are the foundation on which India's Air Force is being built. It is up to you by continuing, as you have started, to create an air force which will not only ensure the safety of the homes and lives of your people against the aggressor, but will forge a tradition of gallantry and dignity worthy of your great country.

INDIAN SAPPERS' ENGINEERING FEAT ON PERSIAN GULF.

UNIQUE BRIDGE CONSTRUCTED TO SPEED UP AID TO RUSSIA.

From Richard Busvine, "The Times of India" War Correspondent.

I ran into a remarkable example of Indian aid towards Russia in a small town many miles from either country. This Indian aid will shortly bring into operation at the top of the Persian Gulf a bridge which defies all known principles of bridge building and will record one more wartime triumph of engineering ingenuity.

After their convergence, the rivers Tigris and Euphrates are known as the Shat-el-Arab, and it is on the banks of this river that the sinews of war from America are unloaded and relayed to Russia.

When the first shiploads arrived at Basra, it was necessary to combine a pontoon bridge with a ferry in order to carry trucks across. The Shat-el-Arab's wharves are on the wrong side of the river on account of dredging problems. Confronted with the complete absence of materials for the construction of a pontoon bridge the engineer in charge, Brigadier Gifford Hull, enlisted aid from the Indian Army. Without delay dozens of Indus barges were rushed from Karachi by ship and were accompanied by the Fourth Engineering Battalion of the Indian Army. The battalion consisted of Punjabi Muslim sappers, a Sikh Pioneer Corps and a handful of Hindu operators.

Under the direction of the Brigadier these men quickly constructed a plank bridge across the moored Indus barges, leaving a small gap in the centre for inland water traffic. Trucks were ferried across this gap and the moment they reached the other shore, drove away through Persia to Russia. For a short while this improvised bridge fulfilled its functions, but soon the shipping authorities declared that they must have a bridge capable of carrying tanks and a light railway also. Even to the obliging Brigadier this seemed a bit thick, considering the entire lack of engineering facilities.

ONLY FEASIBLE PLAN.

The difficulties confronting Brigadier Hull were a four-and-a-half knot tide, seasonal gales of 70 miles an hour, a muddy river bottom and the necessity of providing a 40-foot overhead clearance for inland water traffic. After considerable head-scratching the Brigadier decided that the only feasible plan was to construct a pile bridge with two tall towers in the centre by means of which he could lift a central 90-foot span when traffic demanded. It was by no means a perfect solution, but it seemed the best available, although the Brigadier shuddered every time he thought of those 70 mile gales and his delicately guyed towers.

Once more the Indian Army not only delivered the goods but stayed to put them in operation.

The Indian sappers and the Pioneer Corps seized on timbers as fast as they arrived from India, and right at the water's edge spliced and collared them until they became 40-foot piles. These were driven into the bed of the river. Swiftly adapting themselves to entirely strange jobs, this engineering battalion prepared, sank, drove home and finally braced hundreds of piles. Much of the bracing was done under water at the risk of death from sharks and the tide. One sapper has already given his life that this work shall not be delayed.

To-day, from each end the bridge approaches the centre of the river where the movable span must be erected, but it is not going to be erected with dangerous towers and unforeseeable stresses from the wind. Brigadier Hull has had a brainwave. It came to him one night in bed. He stayed awake many hours to draw and correct plans for a sinking span in the centre of his bridge. Once conceived this all sounds very simple, but never before in the history of bridge building has anyone utilised this simple alternative to a raising span.

The maximum draft of inland water traffic in this region is ten feet, and the only problem facing Brigadier Hull with his sinking-span was the very swift current. By devices which it is not for me to describe, tidal stresses have been neutralised. After exhaustive tests the Brigadier and engineering critics from far and wide are convinced that the sinking-span has come to stay.

While the Brigadier looks on his job like a child with a new toy, his bridge approaches completion. When I inspected the progress a few days ago I was deeply impressed by the cheerful, tireless energy of that Fourth Engineering Battalion. There is no doubt about it, those Indian sappers know that they are writing a page of engineering history, and for the first time in my experience I found bearded Sikhs chuckling as they worked.

It is their bridge, they told me.

A. R. P. MOBILE FORCES.

A new field of service and adventure has been opened to Civil Defence workers in India through A. R. P. Mobile Forces which are in the course of formation in various parts of the country. Two companies have already started intensive training in Delhi, and others are being set up in certain cities of the provinces of Bombay, Madras, United Provinces, Punjab and the North-West Frontier Province.

Recruited on a purely voluntary basis from the best officers and men of the present A. R. P. personnel, these men can choose to serve only in their provinces or be more closely associated with the war effort by volunteering to serve in any part of India. Consideration is also being given to the question of enabling volunteers to serve in Burma in due course, where they would be required to look after the Civil Defence arrangements for the population and labour returning to the areas in the rear and bases that have been consolidated.

The Mobile A. R. P. Forces are the outcome of the new Civil Defence policy for those parts of the provinces of Madras, Bombay, Central Provinces, United Provinces, Orissa, Sind, Punjab and North-West Frontier where the danger of enemy air-raids has diminished owing to the improved war situation.

A. R. P. ECONOMY AND INSURANCE.

As these provinces no longer require extensive A. R. P. organisations in every town, the formation of mobile forces was considered the best method of reconciling the need for effecting the maximum possible reduction in public expenditure on A. R. P. with the imperative need of maintaining well-trained personnel as an effective insurance against a future change in the war situation. The recruits will be collected together in big cities and intensively trained, so that they will be fully capable of carrying out every subject relating to Civil Defence. For instance, a fire-fighting unit would be able, if necessary, to carry out first aid and rescue work. Units from these forces when needed could be sent to any threatened areas in the province, where they would form the nucleus of the A. R. P. organisation required.

In most provinces where recruitment for mobile forces has started, the majority of A. R. P. workers who have volunteered have expressed their willingness to serve in any part of India or even Burma. This will enable provinces which are no longer threatened to come to the help, if required, of provinces like Bengal, Assam and Bihar, which are still under threat of enemy air raids.

The Mobile A. R. P. Forces are under the direction of Dr. P. G. Horsburgh, G. M., who has seen much "blitz" service in the London and Midlands areas, and who was responsible for the establishment of Civil Defence Specialist Schools in Lahore and Bombay.

500 MACHINES A MONTH. GOVERNMENT OF INDIA'S PLANS.

The Supply Dept.'s plans, to establish a first class machine tool industry in India have progressed by the arrival of two senior technical experts from Great Britain: Mr. S. Oldfield, who was formerly connected with machine tool control in the United Kingdom, and came to India first as technical adviser to the Roger Mission, and Mr. Trubshaw, who was, for many years, planning and production engineer, and later organised machine tool manufacture for a well known firm of British machine tool makers.

The scheme envisages production of 100 to 125 high class machine tool a month, from 5 firms alone, the target for the whole of India being 500 machines a month, which will be made up of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade tools. India's present production is some 275 machines a month.

THEY OPENED FIRE—WITH STONES!

It is a far cry from the highly mechanised warfare of to-day to the stones and slings of the warriors of the Cave Era. Yet stone throwing was recently used to good purpose by an Allied patrol, east of the Mayu River, in Burma.

The enemy was hidden somewhere in the thick jungle undergrowth. Just where, the patrol could not discover. Until they let fly with a barrage of stones and so successfully annoyed the concealed Japs that they opened fire, and gave away their new positions.

The patrol succeeded in all it set out to do—and demonstrated once again that, in the jungle, victory is to the cunning.

IN THE MAYU HILLS IT TAKES— 8 MEN TO BRING IN ONE WOUNDED.

An idea of the difficulties facing stretcher-bearers on the Arakan Front may be gauged from the fact that in almost every case it requires eight men to bring in one wounded man—the job of the extra bearers is to support the others on the steep gradients of the Mayu Hills.

"At all costs you must bring them back", stretcher-bearers are told, and no amount of obstacles are allowed to interfere with their work of finding the wounded.

With the Japanese practising their favourite infiltration tactics, stretcher-bearers are in imminent danger of capture, but they do not allow this to deter them in their work of mercy.

SHIPS THAT NEVER GO TO SEA. 'STONE FRIGATES'

Ships that never see the sea play an important part in the Royal Indian Navy's war contribution.

Known in Naval parlance or "Stone Frigates," they are shore establishments consisting of offices, barracks, store houses and buildings used for training.

Thus, at each of the main Indian ports, the shore establishment of the R. I. N. under the Naval Officer-in-Charge, rejoices in a nautical name, usually based on local geography.

Training establishments often bear names indicative of their functions. "*Valsura*" is a compound word from South India meaning a swordfish, and *H. M. I. S. Valsura* is an appropriate designation for the Navy's Torpedo School, *H. M. I. S. Bahadur* and *H. M. I. S. Dilawar*, which are really training colleges at Karachi, live up to their names by moulding lads into stout-hearted sailors.

In the Royal Navy, too, shore establishments are given a name with a nautical flavour, prefixed by the letters H. M. S. The reason—and it is true of the Royal Indian Navy as well—is that Naval personnel serving ashore must be "borne" in a ship, otherwise they cannot be made amenable to the Naval Discipline Act.

Naval officers employed in Delhi and ashore at Bombay nominally serve in *H. M. I. S. Dalhousie*, a ship that did good work in the last Great War, and is now used for training purposes. Only a small proportion of the officers and ratings borne on her books could find even standing room in her.

Similarly, in the United Kingdom, officers attached to the Admiralty, and many on special duty, are appointed to *H. M. S. President*, actually the headquarters ship of the London Division of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.

Naval history contains instances of isolated rocks being officially described as "His Majesty's Ship" when temporarily occupied by Naval forces. In the last Great War London's famous Crystal Palace rejoiced in the title of "*H. M. S. Crystal Palace*", because the Royal Naval Division had quarters there.

Early in the present war German propaganda committed some ludicrous errors over Royal Navy's "ships that never see the sea". On one occasion it announced the "sinking" of quite a well-known shore establishment—a feat that only a large-sized subsidence of the earth could have performed!

THE MOSQUITO. FASTEST AIRCRAFT IN THE WORLD.

Britain's famous wooden Mosquito bomber, which was responsible for the first daylight raid on Berlin, has flown non-stop from Britain to Russia in the morning and returned in the afternoon. From Britain to Malta is an afternoon trip.

The Mosquito is the fastest aircraft in operation in the world. I am not able to give details of its speed, but the secrets of its construction were officially released when a party of newspapermen visited one of the De Havilland aircraft company assembly factories in the Home Counties.

The basic fighter may have four 20-m.m. cannon and four 7.92-m.m. machine guns, all mounted in the nose giving a highly concentrated fire. The basic bomber carries 2,000 lbs. of bombs, with a fuel capacity which brings practically the whole of Germany within its reach.

The Germans have nothing to match the Mosquito. The best they can put up against it is the Messerschmitt 210. The Mosquito is likely to remain on top as other types with increased speed are being developed and advanced.

The only entirely new operational aircraft designed since the war began and used extensively against the enemy. Within 22 months of the drawings being made, it was in operation and set a world record.

HEAVY CUTS IN PAPER CONSUMPTION. GOVERNMENT MEASURES.

Cuts ranging from 20 to 40 per cent of last year's consumption have been enforced in all Government Departments to meet the acute paper shortage. Besides an outright cut of 5,000 tons on over-all consumption, percentage cuts include 50 per cent on writing paper, 75 and 50 per cent on envelopes of small and large sizes, 33½ per cent on blotting paper.

All Central, Provincial and Indian States Governments' demands are expected to be centralised through the Controller of Printing and Stationery, who exercises a rigorous control over all printing work, eliminates non-essential printing, and curtails number of copies printed to the minimum. Provincial Governments have been asked to take steps to effect all possible economy in their consumption of paper.

INSPECTORS SUGGEST ECONOMIES.

The Controller is assisted in this task by four Inspectors of Economies and ensure their observance.

The steps proposed include substitution of printing for duplicating wherever possible, as printing saves both writing and wax-paper. Standard forms are being reduced or abridged, and the quality of paper altered to one of cheaper or more simplified type.

The Defence Department and Posts and Telegraphs Department have set up similar organisations for form revision, while Government publicity organisations have been allotted fixed quotas and must work out within these limits.

PAPER PRODUCTION.

Publication of annual reviews, reports, etc., has already been eliminated, or they are printed on a reduced scale or abridged summaries substituted. This restriction will be still

further observed, while under certain conditions suspension of action for six months on non-essential files has been recommended.

Paper production in the country has been stepped up within the limits of present machine capacity, but if the gap between supply and demand is to be bridged, economy on all fronts will continue to be the watch-word.

By effecting savings in Government consumption, there will be a more generous release of paper from Indian mills production for public use, representing 30 per cent of the country's production. Nevertheless, this cannot meet all requirements unless demands are scrupulously related to essential purposes.

If an equitable distribution of paper is to be achieved—Government can and are determined to ensure equitable distribution—the co-operation of commercial houses, public and private bodies, societies, associations, schools, homes and every individual user is important. For by energetic action now, the drastic restrictions in the use of paper which have been imposed in England and other countries may be avoided.

PAPER SALVAGE SCHEME.

One ton of salvaged paper can be turned into anything up to 100 anti-aircraft shell containers or 600 bomb interior containers, 7,500 gun fuses or 110,000 washers for shells.

Not since the days of the invention of paper have its varied uses been subjected to such close scrutiny as during the present time, because not only have demands for paper increased but even waste paper reappears in various guises as material for munitions.

Experts have discovered altogether 18 different uses for waste paper for war stores alone, not to mention its use as the most valuable raw product for the paper mills themselves, because fed into the mills, it requires the least amount of processing to be turned into fresh paper.

So that liberties may not be taken with paper, it has been found necessary to institute various punishments so that paper is not wasted and waste paper finds its way back again into the mills. Thus to burn any piece of paper however small, is a crime punishable with a fine extending to £ 100 in England.

Much remains to be done in India to avoid uneconomical use of paper. The problem in India is not only to make up for fall of imports by expanding indigenous production, but to meet the greatly increased demands which have arisen as a result of the war in administrative and production departments. A balance between supply and demand can be reached only by carefully regulating the uses to which paper is put—to cut the coat according to the cloth—and by ensuring that waste paper gets back to the mills.

SALVAGE BAGS.

Manufacturers of cigarettes have recently called for the return of all cartons from dealers, and have invited their customers to accept cigarettes packed in loose foil. It is believed that if shoppers who take away waste paper as wrappers for groceries and other purchases can refrain from asking for wrappers, shopkeepers will not be compelled to bid at fabulous prices for waste paper, which will then find its way more readily to the mills where alone it can be put to its best use.

Government departments have organised a comprehensive waste-paper collection scheme and salvage bags are now being regularly issued from a central source for the collection of all waste paper. Even circulars and memoranda, which are usually burnt when not wanted, are now taken care of, and specially appointed officers have been posted at the mills to keep them under their eye until they have been pulped beyond recognition.

STEPS TO SECURE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSPRINT.

In order further to implement the policy of securing a more equitable distribution amongst the various newspapers of all consignments of newsprint arriving in India in future, a Gazette of India Extraordinary has been issued amending the Newsprint Control Order 1941 with a view to freeze all newsprint imported by newspapers.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU. PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CXLVII. (Batch 1.)

22- 5-43 Konapattu ... 7.00 p.m.	25- 5-43 Oliyamangalam ... 7.30 p.m.
" Vengalur ... 7.30 "	26- 5-43 Malaikkudippatti ... 7.00 "
23 -5-43 Kilanilai ... 7.00 "	" Tulaiyanur ... 7.30 "
" Kilanilai-Puduppatti.. 7.30 "	27- 5-43 Malampatti ... 7.00 "
24 -5-43 Perumanadu ... 7.00 "	" Perambur ... 7.30 "
" Pulvayal ... 7.30 "	28- 5-43 Alavayal ... 7.00 "
25- 5-43 Sadayampatti ... 7.00 "	" Ammankurichchi ... 7.30 "

LECTURE CXLVIII (Batch 2).

29- 5-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	2- 6-43 Mirattunilai ... 7.00 p.m.
30- 5-43 Kiranur ... 7.00 "	" Arimalam ... 7.30 "
" Nanjur ... 7.30 "	3- 6-43 Pungudi ... 7.00 "
31- 5-43 Puvarasakudi ... 7.00 "	" Satyamangalam... 7.30 "
" Venkatakulam ... 7.30 "	4- 6-43 Udayalippatti ... 7.00 "
1- 6-43 Perungalur ... 7.00 "	" Killukottai ... 7.30 "
" Adanakkottai ... 7.30 "	

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

22- 5-43 Vettamviduthi.	29- 5-43 Ponnamaravathi.
23- 5-43 Marudankoneviduthi.	30- 5-43 Embal.
24- 5-43 Mullangurichchi.	31- 5-43 Konnaiyur.
25- 5-43 Konai	1- 6-43 Ramachandrapuram.
26- 5-43 Rayavaram.	2- 6-43 Kilanilai-Puduppatti.
27- 5-43 Kulipirai.	3- 6-43 Alanganthi
28- 5-43 Pudukkottai.	

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai. 750—22-5-43.



PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

MAY 29, 1943

[No. 148

LECTURE CXLVIII.

MR. CHURCHILL'S REVIEW OF THE WAR.

Address delivered to the Joint Session of the U. S. Congress, at Washington, on May 19, 1943.

The United States, Britain and their Allies have toiled and suffered and dared against a great and mighty enemy and have operated in the closest contact in many parts of the world, on land, sea, and in the air. The last time I addressed the U. S. legislature, was at a moment when the U. S. was aflame with wrath at the treachery of Japan.

In the days between May 1940 and Dec. 1942, we in Great Britain were waging a lonely struggle. But our experience and yours led us to the conviction that a closer association of our two peoples was essential for the future of the world and its peace. Despite the heavy misfortunes that we met in the Pacific theatre and elsewhere, we had confidence in the ultimate outcome of our efforts. In Malaya, and especially at Singapore ourselves suffered the largest military disaster in British history.

All this has to be retrieved, and all this and much else has to be repaid.

Here let me say, let no one suggest that we, British, have not at least as much interest in the relentless waging of the war against Japan as the U. S. We will be in the war side by side with you, in accordance with the best strategic deployment of our combined forces, while there is strength in our bodies.

A definite part in this war against Japan must, of course, be played by the large Armies and the Air and Naval forces now marshalled by Great Britain on the E. frontiers of India. In this quarter lies one of the means of bringing aid to hard-pressed and long-tormented China.

HELP TO CHINA.

Immediate and effective help to China is one of the most urgent and important aims of our common task. Field Marshal Wavell and the other Commanders-in-Chief in India have come here, and they did not travel many thousands of miles merely to visit Washington. They like ourselves, and all concerned in the task are met together to thrash out, in a friendly heart-to-heart discussion, all the points that arise.

You may be sure that if all that was necessary was that an order be given to the great Army standing in India to march towards the Rising Sun and open the Burma Road that order would be given. The matter is, however, somewhat more complicated, for there are mountains and jungles in N. E. India.

AIR WAR AMONGST GERMANY. PROMISE OF INTENSIFIED BOMBING

From the British Isles are conducted terrible air offensives against Germany, and in this we are powerfully aided by the U. S. In this war numbers count more and more both in the day and the night attacks. In aerial war, by which Germany and Japan imagined they could strike decisive and final blows on terrorised nations, big and small, and beat them into submission, the United Nations have already proved superior and shown the weakness of the Axis. The more continuous and severe the air fighting becomes, the better for us. For we can replace our casualties and machines far more rapidly than the enemy, and our progress in this sphere is safe and sure. But the potential development of great masses of ground personnel on which the efficiency of the aerial forces depends, however earnestly pressed forward, is bound to take time.

Regarding the question whether the use of air power by itself, could bring about the collapse of Germany or Italy. We are all agreed, that the damage done by aerial attacks to the enemy's war potential is enormous. The condition to which the great centres of German war industry, and particularly the Ruhr, are being reduced, is one of unparalleled devastation. You would have just read of the destruction of two great dams in Germany which feed canals and provide power to the enemy's ammunition works. It is also our settled policy to make it impossible for Germany to carry on her war industry on any large or concentrated scale, either in Germany, Italy, or in the occupied countries. Wherever these centres exist or are developed, they will be destroyed, and the ammunition will be dispersed.

ADVICE TO GERMANS

These raids will increase in intensity—and they are increasing in intensity—until the people of Germany and Italy abandon the monstrous tyranny which they have incubated and reared in their midst.

Meanwhile, the Allied air offensive is forcing Germany to withdraw a very large proportion of its air power from the fighting fronts to provide protection against air attacks. Hundreds of fighter aircraft, thousands of A-A. guns, and many hundreds of thousands of men, together with the output of vast war factories, are already being assigned to this defensive function.

This air war is a major factor in the process of victory. It is, however, agreed that we should, at the earliest possible moment, similarly bring our joint air power to play against the military targets in the homelands of Japan.

The cold-blooded execution of U. S. airmen by the Japs is an act of barbarism which provides good proof of the way in which they regard this possibility.

It is the duty of those who are charged with the prosecution of the war to overcome, at the earliest possible moment military, geographical, and political difficulties, and bring the necessary destructive forces into action over the munition centres of Japan; for they must surely be destroyed before peace comes to the world.

TRANSPORT OF ALLIED TROOPS. A GLOBAL STRATEGY

The prime problem before the United Nations, is not so much the creation of armies of men or aircraft, as the obligation to get these forces, in the teeth of enemy opposition and U-boat resistance, across the narrow seas and great oceans, and on land through mountains and jungles to the various parts of the globe.

All our war plans must, therefore, be inspired, and even dominated, by the supreme object of coming to grips with the enemy at the earliest possible moment, and engaging the enemy wherever it is profitable and, no doubt, wherever it is possible to do so.

The employment of our vast forces, the selection of the points at which to strike with the greatest advantage to those forces, and the emphasis and priority to be assigned to the various theatres—that is the task requiring the constant supervision and adjustment of our combined Staffs and all the heads of the Governments.

This complicated process calls for the utmost goodwill and readiness to think of the common cause. The war scene is constantly changing for the better.

I regarded it as my important duty to come here with the full authority of H. M.'s Govt, and with the highest officers, in order that the combined Staffs might work in the closest contact with the President.

We hope that at no distant date we may be able to achieve a meeting with Marshal Stalin and, if possible, with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. But how, when, and where, is not a matter on which I am able to shed any clear light at the present time. Even if I were, I certainly would not.

Meanwhile, we will do our best to keep the closest association between the authorities of the countries who are engaged in the active direction of the war. It will be my special endeavour to promote and maintain intimacy and contact between all parts of the British Commonwealth and the leaders of the United Nations.

WAR AGAINST THE U-BOATS. SHIPPING POSITION MORE ENCOURAGING.

While the U. S. take a greater interest in the Pacific theatre, we take the main burden on the Atlantic. It is only natural. We have sustained, since the alliance began, more than double the losses in merchant shipping tonnage that have fallen upon the U. S.

On the other hand, the prodigious output of shipping from the U. S. Naval yards has in the last 6 months overtaken, and now far surpasses, the losses of both the Allies. There is reason to count upon a ceaseless and progressive expansion of Allied shipping available for the prosecution of the war.

Our killings of the U-boats have as your Navy Secretary will readily confirm, greatly increased in the last 3 months, and particularly the last 3 weeks have yielded record results in this connexion.

This of course, is due, to some extent, to the larger numbers of U-boats operating, but it is also due to the marked improvement in the severity and power of our measures against them, and the new devices continually employed.

While I repeat that the U-boat danger is still great, I have good, sober confidence that it will not only be met and contained, but will be overcome.

The increase of shipping tonnage over sinkings, for the movement of battle-supplies has provided that margin which is the main measure of the joint war-effort.

THE INITIATIVE HAS BEEN WRESTED FROM THE ENEMY.

One morning, during my visit to Washington in June 1942, the President handed to me a slip containing news of the Tobruk disaster, and the surrender of 25,000 men there. It was a grievous blow. But I was comforted by the knowledge that the one thought of Americans at that time was how to help to retrieve the situation.

The President immediately withdrew General Sherman tanks from U. S. units in training and sent them to N. Africa, and when the first ship-load of 150 was lost by U-boat action, he immediately sent others to replace them. These Sherman tanks played a very important part in the battle of El Alamein. The recent successes in N. Africa were most encouraging examples of what could be achieved by Britons and Americans working together.

If we can keep it up, there is hardly anything we could not do in the-field of war, or in tackling the problems of peace.

The Allies have recovered the initiative, and retained it, and have rallied to their side French forces under the gallant leadership of Gen. Giraud. They have secured bases of vast strategic importance, and violent attacks will be delivered on the whole of Italy with results which no one could measure, and which must be beneficial to the common enterprise. Incessant attacks have been made on enemy shipping in the Mediterranean, which have proved to be of great importance to the Middle East and the Far East. They have struck the enemy severe blows which have equalled Stalingrad, and which took off a little of the burden of our heroic and heavily-engaged Russian Ally,

All this has been achieved notwithstanding Corporal Hitler's cheap sneer that Parliamentary democracies are incapable of waging effective war. Corporal Hitler's military intuition, the same Master Hand that condemned Marshal Paulus at Stalingrad, has also condemned a fine army in Tunisia.

THE AXIS LOSSES.

Here the Allies have destroyed or captured considerably more than a quarter of a million of the enemy's troops, together with vast masses of material. The injury that has been inflicted on the enemy, physically and psychologically, the training of troops in the hard school of war, and the welding together of the Anglo-U. S. Staff machines, are advantages which far exceed anything which has been lost by the delay in achieving their objectives. The African war is over; Mussolini's Empire is no more. The Emperor of Abyssinia once again sits on his throne. From Dakar to Alexandria, from Casablanca to Cairo, from Madagascar to Morocco, the whole territory is under British, U. S. or French control. The whole continent has been cleansed of Fascist and Nazi tyranny. The African excursions of the Dictators have cost them 627,000 soldiers, 2,400,000 gross tons of shipping, nearly 8,000 aircraft destroyed—all these figures excluding large numbers of ships and aircraft damaged or sunk. There have also been losses to the enemy of 6,200 guns, 2,550 tanks and 70,000 trucks.

The N. African campaign, and particularly the Tunisian climax, is a fine example of the co-operation of three different countries, and the combination, under one Supreme Commander, of the Sea, Land and Air Forces of those countries. The British and U. S. Staff work is a marvel of efficient organisation, which has enabled the 2nd U. S. Corps, and the British Army, to be moved 300 miles from the S. sector to the N. coast, beating all opposition in their advance towards Bizerta.

No more capable officer could have been chosen than Gen. Eisenhower for keeping such a large and heterogeneous force together, and creating the conditions of harmony and amity which were the indispensable elements of victory.

HITLER AND RUSSIA.

Heavier work lies ahead, not only in Europe but in the Pacific and the Indian spheres. The President and the combined Staffs and myself have gathered here in order that this work may be, so far as it lies in our power, well conceived and pressed forward without losing a day.

Not one moment must we forget that the main brunt of the battle on land is still borne by the Russian Army which is holding, at present, 190 German divisions and 28 satellite divisions on its Fronts. A further trial of strength between the German and Russian Armies is intended. Russia has already inflicted injuries on the German military organisation which will, I believe, prove fatal.

There is little doubt that Hitler is making the supreme gambler's throw in another attempt to destroy the armed forces of the mighty nation which he has already twice assaulted in vain. He will not succeed.

But we must do whatever lies in our power which is profitable and practicable to take more of the weight off Russia in 1943. How and when cannot be foreseen, still less foretold.

RUIN SPREADS OVER EUROPE.

NEED FOR EARLY ALLIED OFFENSIVE.

It is necessary to take the most early steps, so that the favourable position which has already been reached both against Japan and against Hitler and Mussolini is not let slip by.

It is our wish to stop the ruin which is spreading rapidly to so many lands, and to this end we must contribute in a larger measure in sacrifice and suffering.

We cannot tolerate for a moment the slightest abatement of our war effort. The enemy is still powerful and hard to get at; he still possesses enormous armies, vast resources, and invaluable and strategic territories.

One false step, one wrong direction of the strategic effort, or any lassitude among the Allies, may leave the common enemy with the power to confront the Allies with new devilish threats. We have surmounted many serious dangers, but there are still dangers ahead—not the least of which is an undue prolongation of the war.

No one can tell what new complications and perils may arise. Dragging on the war at an enormous expense till the Democracies are tired of war—that is the main hope of

Germany and Japan just now. We must destroy this hope, as we have destroyed so many others, and to that purpose we must beware of every topic, however attractive, and every tendency and every suggestion, however natural, which turns our minds from the supreme objective of a complete victory of the United Nations, by singleness of purpose, steadfastness of conduct, tenacity and endurance such as we have so far displayed.

By these, and only by these, can we discharge our duties to the future of the world and the destiny of Man.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

22-5-43 to 28-5-43.

Germany.—A new kind of blow was delivered on GERMANY on May 17 when the Bomber Command attacked and breached the Mohne, the Sorpe and the Eder dams, which together control two-thirds of the water-storage of the RUHR. The operation, which was one of extreme difficulty, was carried out by picked crews under Wing-Commander Gibson. The Eder dam—400 metres long and 41 metres high, with a reservoir 25 kilometres long by 2 kilometres—the largest in EUROPE, controls the waters of the Weser and the Fulda and operates several power-stations. The Mohne dam, not so large, is the biggest source of water-supply for industrial and domestic purposes in the RUHR. The floods caused by the breaches have flooded the country around for miles. 54 towns are reported to be under water and 50,000 families have become homeless. Power stations and factories have been destroyed. The inundation has seriously affected German war production.

Italy.—Smashing raids on the Italian bases are being carried out, of which the reader will find an account in the next section. Among the targets of the week may be mentioned LIDO DI ROMA, ALGHERO, PANTELLARIA and SICILY.

Added to this, the British Navy is destroying enemy shipping in the Mediterranean.

The Allies have occupied LA GAULLEITA—an important island off the north coast of TUNISIA.

Russia.—The fight for NOVOROSSISK continues. Local fighting in the TULA, KALUGA, IZYUM, KALININ, SYEVSK, VOLKOV, ROSTOV and LISICHANSK, is reported.

Pacific.—The chief event is the steady American advance in ATTU Island. The high grounds near Holtz Bay were occupied on May 17; SARANA PASS was taken on May 19; ATTU village was destroyed and the Japanese forces were split on May 21. According to news dated May 23 U. S. troops have launched a new triple drive on E. ATTU Island against the remnants of the enemy still holding out near CHICAGO harbour and Lake Nicholas.

Ground fighting has flared up again in the MUBO area in NEW GUINEA. Clashes have occurred near CISSEMBOM, S. W. of SALAMAUA.

The Japanese made 2 attempts in the week to raid Exmouth Gulf, near ONSLOW, in W. AUSTRALIA. 10 bombs (one, in the first raid and 9 in the second raid) were dropped, and all fell harmlessly into the sea.

Reports are to hand of a dastardly attack on the Australian Hospital ship *Centaur*, off BRISBANE, by a Japanese submarine. The ship was torpedoed and sunk, though it bore the mark of the Red Cross and was brilliantly lit. Out of 332 passengers 268 were lost and 64 saved.

China.—Sanguinary fighting is reported west of the Tungting Lake (N. HUNAN), and in SZECHWAN, CHITUOHO. A Japanese army of 60,000 is driving from ICHANG along the Yangtse.

Burma.—The successful completion of a daring, 3 months campaign by a mixed force of British, Burmese, Gurkha and Indian troops, in the heart of BURMA is reported. Marching through the jungles of ASSAM it crossed the Chindwin on Feb. 16, depending on wireless for communication and on plane and parachute for food and other supplies. Breaking into columns, they penetrated 200 miles inside BURMA, making forced marches through jungle and mountain. In March, they put the MANDALAY-KYITKINA railway out of action, cutting it in 75 places. Some columns also operated east of the Irrawaddy. Having completed its appointed mission, the force has returned in spite of the enemy's attempt to trap and overwhelm it. One of the results of the campaign has been to compel the enemy to call off his offensive against the Kachin Levies, north of MYITKINA.

Patrol activity continues on the Arakan Front. The air-raids of the week are recorded in the next section, including the enemy's puerile attacks on COX BAZAAR and the CHITTAGONG air-field.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

15-5-43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German-occupied).

NIGHT:—

Trains, barges, motor lorries and airfields in FRANCE, BELGIUM, HOLLAND and GERMANY (2 Axis planes and 1 Allied plane destroyed).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The railway station and barracks at TRAPANI (Sicily).

Shipping around GREECE.

RUSSIA.

(For the week 8-5-43 to 15-5-43 Russians lost 104 planes; Axis lost 370 planes).

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Air-fields at BUNA and FINSCHHAFEN (N. Guinea).

The Vunakanan air-field at RABAU (N. Britain).

The air-field at GASMATA and CAPE GLOUCESTER (both in N. Britain).

Air combats over LANGGOER (3 enemy planes shot down).

Railhead of the Burma road at LASHIO (Burma).

Railway installations at SEDAW, ALON and NAMKAN (all in Burma).

TAVOY (Burma).

16-5-43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

Enemy air-fields at CAEN and MORLAX (France).

Railway yards at EU.

Enemy vessel off the French coast (1 Allied plane missing and 2 Axis planes destroyed).

NIGHT:—

Targets at the RUHR, RHINELAND

and at BERLIN.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The sea plane base at LIDO, DI ROMA (Italy).

Shipping off SICILY.

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Enemy shipping in the BUIM area (Solomons).

The air-field at GASMATA (N. Britain).

ATTU Island.

KISKA (Aleutians).

Railroad installations at SHWEBO,

MOKSOGYON, ZIGON (Burma).

Warehouses at WETLET and MAGYIZAU (Burma).

Jap H. Q. at MYITKINA (Burma).

Villages on the AKYAB Island (Burma).

KALEYMYO (Burma).

Jetty at MAUNGDAW (Burma).

17-5-43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

MOHNE and ELDER dams and SORPE

reservoirs in the RUHR (Germany).

NIGHT:—

Enemy convoy off DUTCH coast.

Road and rail communications and enemy air

bases in Northern FRANCE and BELGIUM;

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

Targets in south GERMANY (3 allied planes missing).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The port and air field at ALGERO (Sardinia).
Landing crafts with troops at AUGUSTA (Sicily).
Power stations at PORTO EMPEDOCLE (Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap installations at REKATA BAY.
WAKE Island.
Jap forces on ATTU Island.
The air field at KAVIENG (New Ireland).
Jap radio installations near AKYAB (Burma).
GUDABYIN (Burma).
Transport on the MAYU river.
The air field at KANGAUNG, YENANGVANG and RATHEDAUNG (Burma).
Objectives at TAUNGUP (Burma).

18—5—43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—
The air fields at ABBEVILLE and POIX (both in France.)

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.
ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
6 merchantmen in PANTELLARIA harbour.
TRAPANI (Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Air combats over KAVIENG (New Ireland).
The air fields at RABAU, GASMATA and CAPE GLOUCESTER (all in New Britain).
Air fields at LAE (N. Guinea).
The water front at FINSCHAFEN (New Guinea).
LORENGAU (Admiralty Islands).
ARAWA (New Britain).
Warehouses near AKYAB town (Burma).
Water transport on the MAYU river (Burma).
Motor vehicles in the BUTHIDAUNG area (Burma).

Objectives at TOUNGOO (Burma).

Jap installations at MINBU (Burma).

Railway yards at PROME (Burma).

EUROPE (German occupied).

19—5—43 (Wednesday).

DAY:—

The German Naval base at KIEL.
Diversionary sweeps over the Northern FRANCE.

NIGHT:—

BERLIN (Germany).
Enemy air fields and railway lines in FRANCE and BELGIUM.
Barges in the GHENT area and on the LYS river (France).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The Milo air-field in SICILY.
Four air-fields in Sardinia (18 enemy planes destroyed).

Communications in Sardinia.

The docks at PANTELLARIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Enemy troops in ATTU Island.
The air-field at RABAU (N. Britain).
Enemy objectives at KYAUKTLAW and GANGAW (Burma).
Jap water transport in the coastal area of Burma, from AKYAB to RAMREE Island.

TAUNGUP (Burma).

LANYWA workshops near CHAUK (Burma).
Enemy installations at MAGWE (Burma) and THAYETMYE and PYAYE (Burma).
PADAUKKAN oil fields south of MAGWE.
EUROPE (German occupied).

20—5—43. (Thursday).

DAY:—

Air duel over the BAY of BISCAY (1 enemy plane destroyed).

NIGHT:—

The railway yards at TERGNIER.
Laying mines in enemy waters.
Railways and transport targets in FRANCE and North west GERMANY.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

A convoy between PANTELLARIA and MARETTIMO.

A train near CATANZARO (Italy).

A motor vessel and an E-boat off SICILY.

Air-fields at VILLA CIDRO and DECIMOMANNU (Sardinia).

Railway ferry termini at MESSINA.

REGGIO DI CALABRIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Jap bases on New Guinea and New BRITAIN especially GASMATA and SALAMAUA.
Jap troops at ATTU.

KISKA (Aleutians).

Enemy objectives at LEPTAN, KYWEGU and the route from ARAKAN to TAUNGUP (Burma).
Warehouses at AKYAB.

Jap water transport along the coast of Burma.

Warehouses at MONYWA and MYINGYAN (Burma).

Cement plant at THAYETMYO (Burma).

A Jap workshop at YENANG (Burma).

PROME (Burma).

A mill at ALLAMYO (Burma).

21—5—43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).**NIGHT:—**

Railway targets at ORLEANS (France).
BERLIN (Germany).
An enemy convoy off the FRENCH coast.

DAY:—

Submarine yards at WILHELMSHAVEN and EMDEN.

Patrolling over the DUTCH coast.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy air-fields in SICILY and SARDINIA.

Harbour installations and gun positions at PANTELLARIA.

Wireless station and camp at MELILLI (Sicily).

A factory at POZALLO (Sicily).

MESSINA (Sicily).

Targets in South ITALY.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap installations at KAHILI and BALLALE; ATTU village.

KISKA (Aleutians).

Jap bases in New GUINEA and New BRITAIN.

Railway stations at INDRAW (Burma).

AKYAB Island.

The marshalling yards at MANDALAY (Burma).

Workshops at CHAUK (Burma).

22—5—43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).**DAY:—**

7 trains in FRANCE.
Laying mines in enemy waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

BORIZZO, air-field and other air-fields in SICILY.
Shipping in the AEGEAN SEA.

RUSSIA.

For the week 15—5—43 to 22—5—43 Russians lost 61 planes and the Axis lost 313 planes.
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Enemy ships over the Gulf of MARTABAN.
Railway installations at KANBALU (Burma).
Jap installations at PROME, RANGOON and TAUNGUP.

Jap bases in New Guinea and New BRITAIN.

Jap troops and positions on the ATTU Island.

23—5—43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied).**DAY:—**

Axis transport in the occupied COUNTRIES.
3 railway tankers and marshalling yards in Northern FRANCE.
Coke ovens at ZEEBRUGGE (Belgium).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

16—5—43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area (only 3 alerts).

RUSSIA.

Air combats over the KUBAN.

FAR EAST.

WAU area (Many Jap planes damaged).
PORT MORESBY (New Guinea) (2 Jap planes shot down).

17—5—43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

Places in South and East ENGLAND, ESSEX and the Greater LONDON area.

RUSSIA.

Russian air fields behind the Russian lines.

FAR EAST.

Air combats north of MAUNGDAW.

18—5—43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area (a few civilians killed).

MEDITERRANEAN.

Outskirts of MALTA.

RUSSIA.

LISICHANSK area.

FAR EAST.

U. S. Positions in GUADALCANAR and RUSSEL Islands.

19—5—43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area.
South east

Air duel over Channel (1 Jap plane shot down).

FAR EAST.

The allied Jap planes (Many shot down).

NIGHT:—

Industrial town of DORTMUND (Germany).
E-boat off the Isle of WIGHT.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The docks and air-fields at PANTELLARIA.
CARI FORTE harbour and air field in Sardinia.
Enemy shipping in the AEGEAN SEA and off GREECE.

Warships south-east of CATANIA.

The air-field at LAMPEDUSA.

A train near CATANZARO (Italy).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap air-fields at GASMATA and RABAU (N. Britain).

KAVIENG (New Ireland).

Railway objectives at YE U (Burma).

AKYAB Island (Burma).

24—5—43 (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).**DAY:—**

A convoy off the DUTCH coast.

20—5—43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area (only an alert).

RUSSIA.

Russian communications behind the Russian lines

FAR EAST.

GUADALCANAR (Solomons).

A town on the S. E. coast.

21—5—43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area (only an alert) (1 Axis plane shot down).

RUSSIA.

LISICHANSK area.

FAR EAST.

Air combats over COX'S BAZAAR (India) (4 Jap planes damaged).

22—5—43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

RUSSIA.

Russian air fields behind the Front lines.

FAR EAST.

Air combats over the CHITTAGONG area (India).
(9 Jap planes shot down and 6 damaged).

23—5—43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

A town on the South east coast of ENGLAND.
2 places on the South coast of ENGLAND
(3 enemy planes shot down).

FAR EAST.

Air combats over ATTU Island.

24—5—43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

Towns on the North east coast of ENGLAND

RUSSIA.

Air combats over the KERCH STRAITS.

FAR EAST.

No information available.

SIDE LIGHTS.

Mr. CHURCHILL'S WASHINGTON ADDRESS.

On May 19 Mr. Churchill delivered his second address to the U.S. Congress. His first address was at a time when Japanese treachery drove American isolationism to take part in a World War. Then Mr. Churchill's speech was to prepare the Nations for united action. The second speech was a fitting sequel to the first. The mighty invasion which his genius had planned had borne fruit in a resounding victory. It was only natural that he should tell the tale of the triumph and call the Nations to a fresh effort, as only he could do it, with all the force and grandeur of superb oratory. No wonder that Mr. Churchill, now the centre of a world's admiration, should receive a tremendous ovation, as he did, when he addressed his American audience—Tears stood in his eyes, we are told, 'at the ovation which greeted him from isolationist and interventionist' members. 'He shoved his thick, horn-rimmed glasses', says an eyewitness, 'over his nose, blinked and balanced himself like an old sailor. Then he left himself go in eloquence, blunt and effective, as an old Knob Kerrie, with growling and galling scorn for his enemies and in passages of noble purple for his friends. Between the bursts of applause, in which supreme court justices and diplomats joined as lustily as the doormen, the galleries wondered whether ever before such a moving and eloquent speech had been made on the floor of the Senate. Actually it was not the speech so much as the personality that put it over'.

One great point which Mr. Churchill made in his great speech was to expose the fallacy that BRITAIN was not interested in the fight against JAPAN, and that after defeating Hitler in EUROPE she would leave AMERICA in the lurch, and that AMERICA must fight JAPAN alone. While he still held to the thesis that while the defeat of GERMANY in EUROPE would lead to the collapse of JAPAN in ASIA, a Japanese defeat in ASIA would not bring about the downfall of GERMANY in EUROPE, he also drove the point home that even more than AMERICA BRITAIN was interested in a Japanese defeat. It was only a case of priorities. If AMERICA had lost the PHILIPPINES, BRITAIN had lost both BURMA and MALAYA—and SINGAPORE. Set against the distant chances of a Japanese attack on AMERICA, was the more immediate danger of an invasion of INDIA and AUSTRALIA. For this reason, BRITAIN had massed great forces on the N. E. Frontier of INDIA, and Field Marshal Wavell had come all the way to WASHINGTON to confer.

THE TIME FACTOR.

One other point in this historic speech deserves mention. Mr. Churchill made the significant observation that Time had now changed in value for the Allies. In the early, unprepared stages of the war, time was required to build up the Allied strength, and a defensive, delaying tactic was necessary. Now that the Allies were strong and the enemy had grown weak and a strategic position had been gained in N. AFRICA delay would be dangerous. 'The blows must now fall quickly: the iron must be struck while it is hot; the enemy must be overpowered, while he was exhausted. To delay now would help the enemy to recuperate, to recover.'

It was to gain time that Hitler—though he knew too well that he had lost his African battle even at EL ALAMEIN, still continued the hopeless fight as far as CAPE BON-

A MYSTERY.

It is possible to argue the point and to ask, 'why, then, in the final stages, the fortifications of BIZERTA were evacuated in favour of an undefended place like CAPE BON, undefended by the *Luftwaffe* and unassisted by the Italian fleet.'

HITLER'S MASTERHAND.

This, we confess, is one of the mysteries of the N. African campaign—which time alone will solve. Perhaps it was a touch of Hitler's 'masterhand'—the result of a change of mind, brought on by despair and vacillation—a sudden collapse of morale—the knowledge that an axis Dunkirk was impossible with the Royal Navy near by.

THE DOUBLE PURPOSE.

The African Campaign had a double purpose—a political one to humour ITALY, by fighting her African battle in order to keep a lingering hold on the vanishing Italian Empire; and a military necessity, to hold on and gain time. But in the final stages both evacuation and resistance becoming hopeless, there was nothing to do but surrender.

Thus, Hitler, did not delay longer, because he could not, not because he would not. He did not change his strategy; but circumstances overpowered him. He would have held on longer, if he could.

FESTUNG EUROPA.

But let it also be admitted that, in the six months of the campaigning in AFRICA, though at great sacrifice Hitler has had a spell of time in which to strengthen his European defences. But the claim to have built up an impregnable fortress—a Festung Europa—is mere bunkum. As Major George Fielding, the American Military Commentator has pointed out, in the April 5th issue of the *New York Herald Tribune*, 'a nation which builds a wall upon its frontier to defend it from enemies is already beaten. By that very act it proclaims its decadence or weakness. It puts its faith in stones and mortar rather than in the stout hearts and strong arms of its fighting men. It does so either because its men are no longer willing to march beneath its battle-standards, or because it no longer possesses enough men to form adequate armies. In either case the building of walls is the inevitable herald of disaster.'

This is also the Verdict of history—both ancient and modern. The instances are the Great Wall of CHINA, the Roman Walls, the Maginot Line and the Mareth Line.

The reason is apparent;—

'The wall on the frontier is based on a false military principle. It seeks to be strong everywhere; the wall itself may be assumed to be equally strong at every point. But as a practical matter, it is only as strong as the troops assigned to defend it; which means that it tends to bring about dispositions of troops on a linear system, which can be pierced anywhere by a strong enemy concentration.'

The wall no doubt, fixes the location of the front to be defended but it leaves the enemy outside free to manoeuvre, to choose his own time, place, and method of attack. In these circumstances mobility and strength alone can save a weak point from being pierced.

The building up of a wall is by itself a confession of the inability to fight a battle of manoeuvre. It may bring disappointment at any moment, at any point.

But, till that sad moment may arrive, the existence of a wall may tend to lull the minds of the beleaguered into a sense of false security, and may also lead to a senseless slackening of efforts needed to defend the country. That is how FRANCE fell in 1940.

Thus, Festung Europa, which is now Goebbels' principal propaganda theme, and which he boasts has been erected impregnably from the Arctic Sea to the Aegean, will be no stronger than its weakest spot, and no safer than available reinforcements can make it. Nearly four years of war have depleted the German strength. Owing to difficulty of communications the mobility of her available forces has become poor. In 1918, with her strength reduced to the present level, GERMANY could not hold a short line between SWITZERLAND and the sea. Festung Europa is a boggy.

WHEN ? WHERE ?

Inebriated, no doubt, by the recent African Victories, the question is impatiently asked, where will this fortress be pierced ? 'O ! Where ? When ?' 'Where ? When ?', answers the echo. 'Patience' is our answer. Great decisions, no doubt, must now have been reached at WASHINGTON but that is a secret safely locked up in the bosoms of Churchill and Roosevelt. But though speculation may be idle, one thing is obvious. Steps must be taken to follow up the African Victory by a Mediterranean descent, to remove the remaining obstacles to a free passage through this sea ; otherwise the advantages already won will be lost. SICILY, SARDINIA, PANTELLARIA, and S. ITALY must be occupied by a direct assault, while an oblique operation, aided it may be by TURKEY, may also be made to free the E. Mediterranean and land forces in the BALKANS, which will relieve the pressure on the Russian Ally. All this implies another invasion campaign on a larger scale than in AFRICA, a larger armada, and—time for preparation. Meanwhile, Hitler may attempt another gambler's throw in RUSSIA. Time is not only precious now ; but the times are also critical. One false step, as Mr. Churchill has warned, would undo the gain of years. But fortitude and perseverance will win. So we repeat, 'patience'.

THE WHIRLIGIG OF TIME.

A strange change has now come about in the attitude of the Allies and the Axis towards the unknown future. 'When', 'Where', are questions, now more eagerly asked by the Axis than by the Allies. The tables have been turned. It is now the turn of the Allies, because they hold the initiative, to play a war of nerves upon the enemy. The question no longer is, 'where will Hitler strike next', but where, with the great armies released from AFRICA, and with other armies forming and formed in the MIDDLE EAST and in other centres and other continents, the Allies will strike next.

THE AERIAL WAR.

Another demoralising factor is the aerial warfare, which now devastates Hitler's EUROPE, and Mussolini's ITALY. It is no longer a raid, or a demonstration, but a major battle, carried on ceaselessly, relentlessly, day and night, hour by hour. The word 'raid', says Viscount Trenchard, Marshal of the R. A. F., is incorrect and conveys an entirely inadequate notion.

These bombing assaults, he explains are major operations carried out against formidable defences and are, in importance, comparable with the great battles of the past. These 'battles', observes Mr. Eden, are planned not only around the clock but round the map. Sir A. Sinclair adds that the only way to save GERMANY from slaughter is to raid the Allied way to BERLIN.

Of late, the RUHR industrial area has received the particular attention of the R. A. F. Over 750,000 men here are engaged in defence operations against air attacks ; another 750,000 in fire-fighting and half of the fighter-forces of GERMANY in self defence.

THE BREACHING OF THE DAMS.

The breaching of the Mohne, the Sorpe, and the Eder dams on the 17th, is a new kind of aerial blow. The reservoirs supplying water to the RUHR have been breached, Power-plants have been immobilised ; 54 towns and villages, submerged ; and 50,000 families, rendered homeless. In dismay, Hitler has rushed an entire sapper division of 9,000 men to the inundated area, and in frenzy has vowed vengeance on the Jews, as if they were the agents who secretly revealed the location of the dams. But it was British aerial reconnaissance that reported on the location and the Bomber Command under Wing-Commander Gibson that planned and carried out this new and hazardous enterprise.

ATTU.

The American occupation of ATTU Island is according to official reports 'going satisfactorily' and the Japanese own admission that the Americans in this area are in a numerical superiority is a good augury of further success.

The ALEUTIANS of which ATTU is on, are a chain of 150 islands, stretching over 1,200 miles, across the North Pacific between ALASKA in AMERICA and KAMACHKATKA in ASIA. This island originally Russian, was sold to the U. S. in 1867.

KISKA, another island of this group was occupied by Japan eleven months ago, on June 13, 1942, and it has become a threat both to AMERICA and RUSSIA, especially after the loss of WAKE and GUAM.

The occupation of ATTU, which is now in progress, will have important repercussions. The island is the most westerly of the group and the nearest to JAPAN. From here super-bombers can visit JAPAN and return. AMACHITKA, another island in the Aleutian chain to the east of KISKA has been already taken ; and though KISKA is still in enemy hands it may be by-passed and isolated by the capture of ATTU, which lies further west.

When the possession of the ALEUTIANS is completed, the 'sons of heaven' can be blasted from these northern bases, and supplies in plenty can be taken to PETROPAULOVSK in KAMACHKATKA for Russian relief.

DUTCH HARBOUR.

the target of recent Japanese attacks, is another ALEUTIAN island, which, for its strategic importance, has been called the 'Singapore of the North Pacific'. Situated 28,500 miles from TOKYO, this ice-free base is a potential threat to the Japanese mainland. It is a strong air and naval base.

THE NEW CHINA ROUTE.

The completion of a new route to CHINA is reported. KALIMPONG—its starting point lies midway between BOMBAY and CHUNGKING. The first half of the journey from BOMBAY to KALIMPONG can be done in 4 days, but the second half of the journey will take 12 weeks. In the first half supplies can be loaded on railways trucks, while in the second half, they have to be carried by mules. Thus, the quantity of materials that can be transported becomes limited; medical supplies will have the preference; but 'every little helps'. It is a great thing that TIBET, through which the route lies, has agreed to the passage of the supplies in spite of its traditional pacifism.

THE EXPEDITION INTO BURMA.

Our commentary of the week would be incomplete without the story of the expedition of a small force, British and Indian, Gurkha and Burman, which stole into the interior of BURMA three months ago and has now returned, having successfully completed its mission. The expedition owed its conception to F. M. Wavell and its execution to Brigadier Wingate. When seeing the men off at IMPHAL, Wavell showed them a special honour by reversing the usual practice and saluting them first, in recognition of the hazardous enterprise on which they were embarking. Proceeding east, the force crossed the Chindwin and cut the MANDALAY—MYITKYINA railway in 75 places, marching over 750 miles. Communication was by wireless, and supplies were dropped by air. Parachute-Freighting was the method. Food-parachutes were brought by planes and flung at the 'delivery stations': in urgent cases, the planes themselves descended, and when they returned took back the wounded.

The enterprise has provided a unique experience of land and air co-operation in jungle-fighting. As a result of the effort the Japanese have called off their offensive against the Kachin Levies, north of MYITKYINA.

EXIT SIDI MONOEF PASHA.

The deposition of Sidi Monoef Pasha, and his removal to MADAGASCAR with his family, are not matters for surprise. During the initial stages of the Tunisian campaign he was anything but friendly to the Allied cause. Latterly he had become a tool of his German masters. He got what he deserved, much more than Quislings deserve.

WAR MEASURES IN PUDUKKOTTAI.

The Pudukkottai Government have prohibited the transport and the sale of cotton yarn without permit. Cotton spinning mills must submit monthly returns. Owners of rice mills must submit fortnightly returns of their stocks of rice and paddy. Milling has been licensed.

Another order prohibits persons engaged in retail sale from using any paper other than old newspaper for wrapping or packing goods, except food-stuffs or of articles, which they have agreed to deliver away from their premises.

THE PILLARS OF SECURITY.

A PEOPLE'S WAR FOR A PEOPLE'S PEACE.

BY SIR WILLIAM BEVERIDGE.

(From the Observer).

One of the discoveries of the year 1942 is the deep and vivid interest of the people of Britain in the kind of Britain which is to emerge when the floods of war subside. This interest in post-war problems implies no slackening of war effort; it has been shown most conspicuously in a year of war effort growing steadily and without weariness to a climax. It implies no unwillingness to make all the sacrifices required for victory. It represents simply a refusal to take victory in war as an end in itself; it must be read as a determination to understand and to approve the ends beyond victory for which sacrifices are being required, and the purposes for which victory will be used.

For the leaders of a nation at war, dealing as they must day by day with the urgent problems of each day, feeling directly the weight of the enemy's resistance and seeking to anticipate his thrusts, it is easy to feel that victory itself may be an end; that when at last they are in a position to impose their wills on the leaders of the foe their task will be done; that the performance of that task should not be complicated by considerations of what may follow its achievement.

VICTORY AND AFTER.

It is possible that the common people of totalitarian countries, drilled from youth to be instruments of a tyrant's dream or a madman's revenge, living in the servitude of war for years before open war begins, may be incurious or fatalistic about their futures. For them victory or mere escape from war may seem an end. The common people of a pacific democracy are in different case. It will not appear to them sufficient reason, either for risking death in youth or for killing others, that they may thereby be in a position to impose their wills upon another people. They will fight to the death—all people will fight—in defence of their invaded homes. They can be roused for a time to anger against inhumanity abroad—as the British have been roused time and again, as the American people were in the first World War. But this anger may not last long enough to accomplish its aim. The sustained free effort required of the democracies to-day, to lead them to die and to kill in every quarter of the globe, until the forces of barbarism in every quarter are overcome, must be directed not by anger or fear or hate, but towards a clearly seen aim beyond the war—to the making of a world in which the common people of all nations and their children after them may live and work in security.

The people of a democracy, no less than those of a totalitarian State, must have leaders. The difference between democracies and totalitarian States lies, not in absence of leaders, but in the power of a democracy to change its leaders without shooting. To have the power of peaceful change of Governments is the essential condition of a democracy. To exercise that power and make changes repeatedly or frivolously brings weakness in peace as in war. But desire for change can be prevented only by mutual understanding

and trust between leaders and people. That is the real meaning of national unity in war.

National unity is not an affair of party bargains or coalitions. It can spring only from mutual understanding between Government and people. A vital factor in that mutual understanding to-day is recognition by those who govern of what has been described above as one of the discoveries of 1942, namely, the determination of the British democracy to look beyond victory to the uses of victory. This recognition in turn will be made easier by realisation of the difference in the personal impact of war upon the common people and on those concerned with the daily tasks of government.

The most general effect of war is to make the common people more important. In war, needs become manifestly greater than the resources of man-power, machines, and materials available for meeting them, so that any waste of resources is a crime. Every able-bodied person in the community becomes an asset; all men can have the happiness of effort and of service; unemployment with its privations and frustrations disappears. All this happens because the urgency of the needs of war is recognised by the leaders as well as by the people, and by general consent the whole power of the State is used to organise resources so as to meet them.

LIMITLESS NEEDS.

Yet the needs of war, though they may be more urgent, are not in fact greater than the needs of peace. The needs of peace are as limitless as those of war. If and when a community reaches the stage when physical want has been abolished; if and when, proceeding beyond that point, it is able to ensure for all, on condition of service, comforts and material luxuries as well as necessities, the limit of needs will not have been reached; new needs will arise and should be fostered by education—desires for leisure, for learning, for travel. But these stages are not in sight.

The condition of all peoples to-day leaves many needs unsatisfied which to those who feel them are as urgent as the needs of war. There is here another difference that requires to be overcome between the governors and the governed. Those in charge of affairs may find it easier to appreciate the urgency of the needs of war than that of the needs of peace, because for themselves the most urgent needs of peace have long been met. They may not always find it so easy from their own experience to realise the compelling necessity, in peace as in war, to organise resources for meeting needs, without waste or idleness. They are often engaged during war in much the same activities as those of peace, as Ministers, in Parliament, in the organisation of parties or trade associations, in the higher administration of public affairs or of business. The coming of war does not mean for them what it does to millions of the common people, a violent change of occupations, with prospect of another violent change to an uncertain future when war ends.

THE MEANS TO SUCCESS.

This feature of war, as a time of violent changes in the direction of human effort and so of human occupations, involves change in the scope and functions of Government. Automatic adjustment of economic activities by the price mechanism is too slow for times of rapid change; adjustment must be made directly by use of the powers of the State:

adjustment will be made more rapidly and more smoothly in proportion as all the necessary measures have been planned beforehand. This is generally recognised of the changes required on passage from peace to war; it is as true, though not equally recognised, of the changes required in passing back again to peace.

It is axiomatic technically that preparations for war ought to be made before war begins, during peace; the fact that adequate preparations for war have seldom if ever been made by modern democracies is due to a political obstacle—to their essentially pacific nature. It is as axiomatic technically that for smooth transition from war to peace adequate preparations must also be made in advance, that is to say planning for peace ought to be undertaken in war. Here there is no political obstacle. Planning ahead for peace even during war accords with the sentiment of democracies. It is one of the services desired by them of their leaders.

The more fully this fact is recognised, in principle and in the practice of Government, the greater will be the unity of the nation in war, and the greater by consequence will be its strength for war. Only through complete mutual understanding between leaders and people can come the unswerving support and untiring effort for which the crisis calls. For the leaders of a democracy at war to concern themselves with the purpose of victory as well as with the means to victory is not a diversion of effort from more important to less important tasks. It is a part of their task—the means to success. Victory against an enemy as strong and as well prepared as our present enemy depends on making the war a people's war. One cannot make a people's war except for a people's peace.

ITALY'S PLIGHT.

AN ITALIAN OFFICER CONDEMNS MUSSOLINI.

(From the Times of India, May 15, 1943).

A frank admission of Italy's present plight and a review of the causes which led to it are contained in a document published in "The Examiner" of May 1. This document was written by an Italian officer, Colonel Villa, now in India as a prisoner of war. Below are some extracts.

Colonel Villa begins with a review of the war position at the end of last year, and concludes: "In the military field the end of 1942 shows that Germany and Japan have lost the advantage they owed to surprise and many years of careful preparation. The armament of the belligerent nations is now balanced and is heading in an impressive crescendo in favour of the United Nations."

Italy should never have entered the war, says Col. Villa, least of all on the side of Germany and Japan. "Mussolini has always claimed that Italy needed 50 years of peace and work, and in the rural visits where he is so fond of displaying himself, I don't know how many times he has repeated 'This is the war we want,'—honest work in the fields and offices, not a senseless imperialist war!"

CLAIMS RENOUNCED.

"Not even her territorial claims against France can justify Italy's intervention in the conflict. Why, in January, 1935, on the strictest terms with Laval, Mussolini

definitely renounced all Italian claims not only on Corsica and Nice, but also on Tunisia where all privileges for our flourishing colony would finally have ceased in 1950. Even the troubles and quarrels between the countries, which were reawakened by sanctions, could have been settled pacifically to their mutual satisfaction, once everyone had calmed down. The means of access to the Empire, the passage of the Suez Canal and the use of the port of Jibouti could have been likewise settled peacefully. England made Italy the most concrete and advantageous proposals about it—although at the last minute—to persuade Italy in 1940 to stay neutral.

"Morally the people did not want war, and had shown it by the demonstrations of joy with which they welcomed Mussolini's return from Munich in September, 1938 'after saving the peace.' They confirmed it still later in the anxiety of the early days of September, 1939, when it appeared that Italy had to come in on Germany's side right from the first, and in the general sigh of relief when it was known that there were no pledges or probability of war before 1942 at least. The people gave a third, very obvious, proof by their almost hostile chilliness, when, in June, 1940, the first thin columns of conscripts began to appear in the city streets to glorify war and by the absence of similar manifestations among the real masses.

STABBING FRANCE.

"The worst of all is to have attacked prostrate France and, without any serious motive, Greece. For that was unpardonable. A country can lose a war without losing its dignity and honour. In the thousand years of Italian history there are plenty of invasions, dominations, humiliations and destructions, and she has been bled white in struggles for districts, cities and fortresses. All her path—as with other nations—has not been happy and worthy and glorious. But no other period has ever been so humiliating and immoral.

"The shame of having stabbed a friendly nation of our own blood when others had struck her down and she was on her knees; and then as a nation of forty million to attack Greece with her seven million, and accuse her of treachery when she prepared to defend herself! Even more, to have attempted to attack her with such nonchalance as to expose our troops to contempt and the danger of having to retreat even out of Albania! We sacrificed two armies in Libya and Abyssinia through not knowing how to arm, wield or command them. We not only lost an empire within five years of having conquered it but all that our fathers had won in over half a century. We screamed and yelled to the four winds about our military strength, and then had to put up with aerial and naval attacks, almost without defence, against our people, our cities and our industries. We have brought the name of Italy into contempt throughout the world and made ourselves enemies everywhere. All these disgraces are enough to make any Italian's heart bleed and to make all among us blush who still have a feeling for our national dignity and chivalry.

"All make mistakes, but the heads of England and America openly admit their mistakes and are not frightened of admitting that they will inevitably make more, while the heads of the Axis shelter behind their presumptuous dogma of infallibility.

DILEMMA.

"In his speech on November 29, Mr. Churchill in a few words outlined the terrible dilemma facing Italy. 'The whole of Southern Italy, all her naval bases, all her munition factories and other military objectives wherever they may lie will undergo a prolonged scientific aerial attack. It is up to the forty million Italians to say whether or not they want this to happen to them.'

"But a dilemma supposes the possibility of choice. Italy's only choice is between suffering the destruction of its cities, lives, industries, ports and shipping, and sufferings perhaps just as great in the form of cruel and bloody repression. All that without knowing where it is leading, what her lot would be if she laid down her arms, what her future will be. Let the Allied Nations clearly tell the Italians how things will be, what position they will have, what means and what territory will be at their disposition in the future new world, which all want to be a better one.....

"Let the military and civil heads of the United Nations announce at once—the sooner the better—a programme affecting Italy, which will be neither oppressive nor mean but generous, noble and far-sighted, neither vague nor theoretical but concrete, if possible with all the 'i's dotted and the 't's crossed to eliminate all ambiguity and uncertainty, and it will be acceptable even to the usual doubters and comprehensible even to the humblest.

"Only then will Italy be able to choose and it will not be a decision taken blindly with death in their hearts. Already there are symptoms of ferment and of action—still unco-ordinated and uncertain but with increasing vitality. Movements among the Italians abroad, especially in America, movements among prisoners of war, the Italian Socialist parties' manifestoes, attempts by other elements, and it is said even among senators and military personalities—all these activities must have a secure basis from which to start and be clear in their intentions."

NEED FOR TRUTH.

Explaining why he wrote this document Col. Villa concludes: "It is right that the truth should be openly spoken to the Italians by an Italian, who is proud never to have asked anything of his country except that he has done his duty, both as a citizen and a soldier, if sometimes not too thoroughly, at least without worrying about sacrifice or self-interest. It is right that it should be said openly without sheltering behind anonymity, since everyone should know how to assume his responsibilities as an Italian."

THE JAPANESE POLICY IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

(By Peter Hume—from the *Asiatic Review*, January, 1943).

What is true of Manchuria is true of all the occupied parts of the Far East. The Japanese come to "bring peace to the Far East," to liberate the Asiatic peoples from the white man's yoke. Some people in the victim countries believe these protestations; so once did some people in the West. Many propaganda-fed Japanese believe that that is in fact what they are doing. Around the whole dirty picture there is a misty fog of benevolence, reform and legality. Disillusion comes too late.

That is what is now happening in Malaya. The Japanese descended on a prosperous land with a parrot-cri of slogans which were bound to appeal to the people. "Asia for the Asiatics." Why not indeed? We are not to expect the ordinary Malay, say, to be able to reason out the truth behind this slogan, to realize that the comparatively high standard of living afforded him by British administration was endangered. It was the Japanese who had the idea, the moral token, which people somehow find necessary to strengthen them. We had none; only the negative propaganda of pointing out the material benefits enjoyed by the people of Malaya and of calling the Japanese liars. That is not dynamic. The Japanese slogan is. And though we know the slogan is a lie and a deceit, we should not be too ready to assume that others know that too.

And when the Japanese did come to Malaya, what did they bring? In the first place, judging from the accounts we have got through, they did attempt peaceful measures to harness the country to their war machine. They gave the people of the country the titles of the offices which the British had always held before. It does not matter that they had no intention of giving them the authority of those offices. The title—the apparent access of dignity—is enough in the first instance to make the people feel that here is a benevolent reformer. It is only gradually that people—first the title-holder himself, then very slowly filtering through to his compatriots—realize that all is not as it seems. As a short-term policy it is most effective in a politically uneducated country.

Fortunately though, as far as the United Nations are concerned, there is in Malaya at least one factor to accelerate the failure of that policy. That is the presence of great numbers of Chinese, who, in their knowledge of what has happened in their homeland in the past five years, are not inclined to take the Japanese protestations at their face value. And what is more, they, in so far as they have been in touch with China's struggle, have a dynamic cause of sufficient force to give them a positive background for resistance. Again, judging by reports we have so far had, they have resisted successfully enough to break down this Japanese goodwill policy very quickly. They have been called Communists by Mr. Suzuki, who leads the Japanese civil administration, and some have been shot as Communists in Penang.

This "non-co-operation" by the Chinese has been followed, tragically for the people of the country, but necessarily, by the terror methods with which the aggressor always tries to break, but seldom succeeds in breaking, resistance. And although this resistance is largely in the passive form of non co-operation, I think we may say that by the suffering they have brought upon themselves, these Malayan Chinese, like their kinsfolk in occupied China, are fighting our battle and helping us to beat Japan.

Another thing, of course, which tends, wherever the Japanese go, to break down their policy of peaceful enslavement, is the behaviour of the Japanese Army. There are two aspects of this. One I do not want to talk about much is the incidence of atrocities—such things as have happened in Nanking and Hongkong. We have all heard plenty about those atrocities, and I do not think anybody now discredits the thoroughly authentic accounts that have come from many sources. They are only on the shortest view "policy," and therefore it does not seem within the scope of this talk to dwell on them.

One thing I would say, though, is that they cannot be dismissed as heat-of-battle excesses. You will have read, and I myself have been able to authenticate, all too many cases where there was no battle to provide the remotest excuse. In Kaifeng, for instance, I was told by a Catholic missionary that it was not only the division which captured the town that followed its fighting with excesses. The same story was repeated by every division that went through—to or from the front—and by the second-line garrison troops, who were hardly concerned with battle at all.

The other and more long-term aspect of the army's behaviour is the systematic looting, the corruption, the drug-smuggling activities of the garrisons and the special service officers, who carry on the politico-military administration of the occupied areas. In the recent Chekiang-Kiangsi campaign, for instance, the towns and countryside were ruthlessly stripped by specially detailed squads of everything that could conceivably be of value to Japan, from scrap-iron to bandages from mission hospitals. That was not individual looting; it was undoubtedly part of a definite policy of grab, ordered from on high.

Then there are the carpet-baggers, the army of civilians, *ronin* or ruffians they call them in Japan, who are allowed to follow up the army and to live under their wing in order to steal from occupied territories a living by any means they think fit. All the expenditure they need is bribes to the Japanese special-service section. A lot of statistics have been released about these men.

There are, for instance, now some 100,000 Japanese children in Peking alone, which implies an adult population of 200,000 to 300,000; and in 1940, out of 2,240 Japanese establishments in business in Peking, 500 were brothels. In Taiyuan nearly half of the Japanese shops were such establishments. One can quote innumerable lists of this sort of thing. It is a means by which Japan gets rid of her most undesirable characters, so that they shall prey on the people of the occupied territories rather than on the Japanese themselves. It is also a means by which the Japanese special service officer is able to to enrich himself by what are almost directly Chicago gangster methods—*i.e.*, that the *ronin* are permitted to chuck any Chinese out of his business and to refuse to pay rent, provided they keep in with the special service officer concerned, which tends to mean 10 per cent.

That brings me on to the main trade of many of these people, which is, of course opium; or, rather, probably less opium than the stronger drugs, such as heroin, which are more profitable because more concentrated.

There has been a lot talked about the systematic Japanese plan to demoralise the Chinese populace by giving them opium, but I am inclined to think that demoralization is probably only a secondary motive. I think the *prima* motive behind the undoubtedly extensive drug activities in China is desire for profit. The army and the *ronin* are able to make probably more and quicker profits out of drugs than out of anything else.

Not that they do not manage to get their profit from many other things—by their hold on the local administration, by innumerable small taxes, which go in general to the army authorities in the place concerned, and by all manner of rackets.

Here is a story I got about Peking again. One ingenious Japanese decree orders that all the Chinese shops in the city shall buy their stocks from Japanese merchant houses at Japanese dictated prices. All Chinese enterprises, whatever their size or capital, are forced to pay a business tax of 500 Chinese dollars. The trouble is that there are almost too many examples of anything like this, and, as I have said before, and I would like to emphasize again, it is difficult to sort them down into a coherent policy, as against a large number of rackets carried out by a large number of unscrupulous men.

What lies behind it all, and what is undoubtedly the basis of Tokyo's policy, is the creation in Manchuria, China and now in the South Seas, of so-called development corporations, mostly financed on a rather bogus basis from Tokyo, which does give Japan and Japan's financiers—the Mitsuis and so on—a tight control over the economic resources of the occupied territories. Thus the conqueror can see that these are diverted to the one purpose of furthering Japan's aims, and swelling the pockets of Japan's industrialists, rather than providing any benefit for the people of the countries concerned.

One last thing, and that is about the so-called material benefits—we used to hear a lot about these some time ago—which Japanese administration effected especially in Manchuria. The Japanese, we used to be told, have opened schools, improved the trains, made the trains run on time—like Mussolini in Italy.

I think these benefits need to be looked into a little more closely. The number of schools they have opened, for instance. They have indeed opened many, but what do they teach? All the information I have been able to gather is that they teach the pupils to be good puppets of Japan. Drastic changes are made in textbooks in order to purify the thought of young China. All courses in Chinese national principles are suspended and the Japanese language becomes a required subject.

Special Japanese language schools sprang up like mushrooms, attended by merchants and clerks motivated by commercial reasons.

After last December, all missionary, middle and primary schools in occupied China were seized and put under the puppet régime, which means under the Japanese advisers to that régime. Each school also has its own Japanese adviser. Even Peking's Catholic University was subjected to constant pressure to slip into line with this programme. All students were required to participate in all mass meetings and demonstrations sponsored by the Japanese, celebrating a new attack against their mother country. Japanese paid agents were placed in all schools to act as fifth columnists.

To sum up, I must say again that it is difficult to achieve a coherent idea of what is Japan's policy. You have, in the first place, the announced policy, the grandiose scheme with which many of us on paper would agree. You have, secondly, the policy which one tries to discern through the rackets and army excesses. And that policy is twofold, representing the two dominant interests in Japan. Firstly, it seeks to harness the resources and the man-power of the occupied country to the Fascist war machine which is striving to gain world domination for the power-drunk militarists of the Rising Sun. Secondly, it seeks to ensure that the profits from the exploitation of those resources by forced slave-labour in the victim country go into the pockets of the Imperialist business interests which work hand in hand with, and indeed egg on, the conquest-lusting maniacs of the Japanese armed

forces. What in fact is happening is, I am sure, exactly the same as is happening in Europe, and the political exploitation of the Japanese China campaign especially presents the most extraordinarily close parallel to that of the German campaigns in Russia and Poland. In the same way, Japan's labour policy in China and Manchuria presents great similarities to what is going on now in France.

There is, we must admit, behind it all a basic idea that some readjustment of the world's economic structure is necessary. But both Japan and Germany have decided that they will do the readjusting in their own interests. They both have this *Herrenvolk* idea, and feel, in many cases quite sincerely, that they are entitled to undertake the rehabilitation of their particular area and must lead it, which means that it must work in their exclusive interest. Incidentally, they find out on putting their policies into practice when they get there, that it is for the individual a very profitable game if you can really be rough with the other fellow.

JEEPS: WHAT THEY ARE, AND WHAT THEY DO.

(From the Automobile Association of Southern India Magazine, May 1943).

For many months now, Jeeps have been in the news, on many battle fronts, as part of the mechanical equipment of the Allied armies. How was the Jeep designed, and what are its functions? The following notes are taken from a contemporary, and adequately describe this modern addition to warfare. There are some operating in India, and some have been seen on the roads of the south.

STRING OF NAMES.

People who were privileged a year or two ago to inspect a small motor vehicle designed for the U. S. Army were instantly full of praise for it. They were right.

There was a whole string of names for the vehicle. It was called a technical thing like "reconnaissance car," but that didn't mean much to newspapermen who had to fit words into small spaces. Then they tried "quad car," but that was no good either. Somebody had a good bit of success for a while with "blitz buggy," but that wore out its welcome, too. Probably it was some unsung hero in an army camp who saw "G. P." painted on the side, meaning "general purposes," and called it "jeep," but "Jeep" it is.

Jeeps are the only really new thing a mechanically-minded nation has produced for a mechanical war. Bombers are just bigger and better editions of the things we have seen over our heads for years. Pursuits are snappier, but they are still the same small aeroplanes with guns. Tanks we know about. And so on. We know about automobiles too, but we had got so used to streamlined showcases with sweeping curves of sheet metal for fenders, chrome for trimming, no clearance underneath, low doors, and small windows, that we had forgotten that the framework, not the frills, is what provides the transportation.

DESIGNED TO BE TOUGH.

The Jeep was designed from the ground up to be tough; a quarter-ton truck with drive to all four wheels. It's simple too, without an extra gadget anywhere on it, and maintenance in the field is eased by that fact.

DIFFICULT JOBS.

It took the Jeep to conquer the precipitous heights and dense jungles of a new Indo-China supply route supplanting the Burma road, according to reports from Chungking. It carried four passengers and is believed to be the first motor vehicle to traverse the route. Press correspondents have been using them to get the news and pictures out to the folks at home. They borrow them from the Army.

In Australia, American soldiers had to lay an underground cable at an airfield without interrupting field operations. Normally, it would have taken several days. But the Jeep rolled in—it was hitched to a plough and the ditch was dug at 10 miles an hour. Close behind came another Jeep, towing a spindle of cable, and behind it came a third Jeep towing a roller that covered the cable and levelled the ground. The job was completed within two hours.

In China, the British forces are using them for liaison work behind the lines. With their four-wheel drive, it is reported, the Jeeps can bounce over the roughest rice fields and plunge across irrigation ditches. They are excellent for night patrol work and for towing smashed planes from bomb-pocked airfields.

The last guard at Rangoon was evacuated to Lashio in Jeeps. They rolled along the bumpy roads at 40 to 50 miles per hour, and pulled many a three-ton lorry from the ditches along the highway. One reporter, after watching them perform in China, said they would have been a tremendous asset in the mountains and mud-bogged valleys of Greece and Albania.

Soldiers in training like them because they're small, rugged and fast. They say the Jeep practically swims. It takes a 65-degree hill like a mountain-goat and scoots over mud like a jack-rabbit. It is used to deliver messages and by generals to inspect troops. With a few changes, it makes a first-rate field ambulance that will haul four casualties, and it can work much closer to the front line than regular ambulances because of its very low silhouette. In a battle or manoeuvres the Jeep can be used as a weapon carrier. It will pull a 37-mm. anti-tank gun around without a whimper; has been known to haul 75's.

OTHER POSSIBLE USES.

Engineers at the Willys plant, where thousands of Jeeps are rolling down assembly lines once devoted to passenger automobiles, believe the Jeep's uses are still relatively unexplored. They think it can be converted to do an even greater number of necessary military chores. Here are some of the ideas that have been proposed: a portable power-plant for aircraft searchlights; a smoke screen spreader; a mobile dump truck for filling holes made by enemy bombers on airfield runways; a field radio car; a field telephone exchange; a mobile anti-aircraft unit to protect land convoys and combat parachute troops; a water supply car to service desert outposts; a medical unit for front-line surgery and first-aid; a fuel supply car for tanks; a food supply unit for front-line fighters; a mobile combat unit for protecting bridges and railroad junctions; an auxiliary fire fighting unit; and a mobile air-compressor to pump up deflated tyres.

THE SALVAGE FRONT.

by

*Hamish F. Simpson.**(From a Recent Talk broadcast from A. I. R., Madras).*

I understand that most of the talks in this series have been devoted to telling listeners what is being done for the war effort and to-night I am not going to enlarge on what is being done. I am in fact going to suggest a few little things which can be done without any trouble to anyone. Simple things which probably have not appeared to be sufficiently important till now. I frankly confess, thinking over what I have done for the war effort, that a great deal more is certainly to be desired and I rather think, that habit is largely the cause of my various neglects.

Let me give you a few examples of what I have not done for the war effort. I am too lazy to sharpen my razor blades knowing that they can last for three more days if I sharpened them. We all know that the price of razor blades has increased tremendously, but still rather than take trouble to sharpen them, I prefer to pay the extra price for a new blade. When I write letters I do not really pause to think that possibly a telephone call could avoid a letter, and thereby help to conserve paper. I do not make use of old envelopes, but throw them in the wastepaper basket. I buy copies of daily newspapers, but I do not preserve them as I ought to, and so many other minor points. But rather than deal at greater lengths on my personal faults let us see what is best to be done about it.

USELESS ODDS AND ENDS.

There have been many appeals in the press, in the radio and in posters in the city for Salvage. And by Salvage, I think, is meant all sorts of odds and ends of things that are no longer useful to us. I am sure you must all remember how when you have to shift from one bungalow to another and have to empty your almirahs, writing desks, chest of drawers, and book cases, you have been almost amazed at the amount of junk which accumulated, and it is this type of junk that the Salvage people are appealing for, and if we only take the time to search through the house, I have no doubt whatever that an enormous quantity could be collected.

I am very keen on playing my gramophone, and there have been few occasions when inadvertently either myself or one of my servants has stepped on a record and broken it, but I never thought to keep the broken parts and send them to the Salvage depot. But broken gramophone records and old records for which there is no use are very welcome indeed.

What about all the negatives that one collects over a period of years? I am very keen on photography, and I must have hundreds and hundreds of negatives which I probably never used for making prints, and in fact, through carelessness I have lost as many negatives as I now possess. These too are very welcome in a Salvage depot. When we require new batteries for our torches what happens to the old ones? I think they are easily thrown away, instead of being preserved. Empty match boxes, your old car batteries, if you are fortunate enough to have sufficient petrol still to run a car, empty bottles, silver paper, in fact, practically everything that you find in your house is not by any means valueless but just the contrary. All the junk that you send to the Salvage depot is turned into some highly useful and who knows, even essential, article for the war. So really the junk in our homes that we can collect is another of the many ways in which we can help to crush our enemies.

HOW WOMEN CAN HELP.

So far, I have dealt with many ways in which men would be able to collect salvage in their homes. Now let us turn to the ladies of the house. I wonder if I dare suggest that I think they can assist in the common cause. I understand, on good authority that the various paraphernalia necessary for permanent waving is not only very difficult to get these days, but is also very useful for war machines. So perhaps one might do without a permanent wave, or have one less frequently than before. There is no one who can doubt the popularity of the various coloured nail varnishes which are largely used to-day by ladies in India. They have in them chemicals which, I feel sure, have other uses, and I do know for certain that the polish remover, though it be sold in attractive bottles at expensive prices is largely acetone, which is very vital to the war effort. Quite a number of ladies are cigarette smokers, and in certain countries cigar smokers, but I am glad to say that I am still perfectly safe in leaving only pipe and tobacco pouch about. Well, the necessity of conserving paper cannot be better emphasised than the present arrangement which makes it necessary for one to produce empty cartoons before further supplies are effected.

I should imagine that the ladies do collect the odds and ends around the house, but I wonder if they take the trouble of sending them to the Salvage depot. I rather think that a great deal of it finds its way to the store-room especially now that people will be leaving for the hills, and naturally like to give their houses a clean-up before leaving them in the charge of their husbands, or perhaps completely locked up.

CHILDREN'S OLD TOYS.

Now we come to the children. What about the old toys which are broken, especially celluloid toys, or an old perambulator and the various things which had at one time been necessary for the child's happiness, but now are no longer in use, but stored away probably in the storeroom? A large number of babies are fed on tinned preparations, these empty tins are very valuable as salvage. And the school children must have left at home many old exercise books now that the schools are closed, and all sorts of things which are useful as salvage, and it is now an excellent opportunity to collect these things together and send them to the Salvage depot. And now what can be done in the office. Old typewriter ribbons, which cannot be further used, old files, some of the last year's calendars, unnecessary books, and so many other things which constantly litter up the desk. What about the old electric bulbs which are very welcome to the Salvage depot.

So far I have tried to give an idea of various articles which are really valueless to us, and yet are so welcome to a Salvage depot. And now let us think of a few ways other than collecting junk which would go to help in the common cause. There are many ways by which we could minimise the use of certain materials which would come in useful for the war effort. Again here I mention my faults as they have struck me. I am sure we can always remember to switch off the fan when going out of the room to avoid wastage of electricity, and as you all know electricity has to be conserved as much as possible by seeing that no lights and fans are switched on unless absolutely necessary. Perhaps there are still many who enjoy writing on costly paper, because they think it lends certain dignity to the letter, but at the present time any scrap of paper is good enough to send a note. And visiting cards which, in this country, are considered very important in social life need not be lavishly used, and no one would mind if you wished to have the cards returned after they had served their purpose of introduction. For those who are very keen on bridge it is not necessary to open a new pack of cards. It does not really matter if cards do get a little soiled. After all, the ace of spades is still the top card in bridge whether it is new or soiled.

SEND THEM TO SALVAGE DEPOT.

I have tried to think of a number of various ways to-night as to how salvage can be collected, but I have no doubt that many other ways will strike you, and after all, we in

this part of the world have so much to be thankful for that any way whatever in which we can assist the Allies in winning this war ought to be our first consideration, and the various ways that I have mentioned to-night do not cause anybody any difficulty financially. All we have to do is to collect the articles for which we have no further use and send them to the Salvage depot, and by doing so now especially in view of the present emergency you are helping the war effort more than you probably realize.

I am sure that I am by no means the only offender in not collecting salvage, but let us to-night make a resolution that at least we shall not hereafter be lazy and careless, which, after all, is the only excuse I can offer for my not collecting things and sending them to the depot. I feel certain that none of us deliberately neglect our duty in collecting salvage, and the default in this direction is, I am sure, largely due to our not fully realizing how very important these little articles can be. In peace time we never cared or thought of what happened to them and they were probably just thrown out for a bonfire. To-day they help to kindle those fires which will bring the enemy to his doom. Remember every little counts.

WORKING PARTIES.

(From the South Indian Bulletin of the European Association).

At the beginning of the war there was little that any woman in this Presidency could do to help, except sewing and knitting; the working parties and St. John Ambulance classes practically summed up the war effort of the women of Madras. And even those took quite a lot of faith and perseverance in the months of the "phoney war". Much gratitude is due to those who stuck steadily to their knitting and sewing in spite of all the stories that went round about their work being sold in the bazaar, or their knitting all unravelled and sent out again by some mysterious Penelope sitting at Headquarters, and of the discouraging attitude of those who proclaimed that they would not work to make things that only went into a store. How a war was to be carried on without stores was not clear, nor how it was to be arranged that every pair of pyjamas went straight from its maker's hands to the back of a wounded soldier.

But most of the women of Madras stuck steadily to their work in spite of these discouragements, and were triumphantly justified by the results. Their work was shipped overseas to Malaya and to the Middle East; men shivering with cold in Iran and North Africa had cause to bless our knitting parties and the stocks of warm garments which they had built up during the months of discouragement. It is true that, partly owing to the efforts of the story-mongers, the stocks have never been large enough to meet the demand, and some units who wanted warm clothes have never got them. For some unknown reason, this fact is used by the purveyors of these tales as an argument against knitting, instead of being, as it is, a proof of the urgent need for everybody this year to do just twice as much knitting as she did last.

Nowadays, the working party is not almost the only war activity for a woman in South India. She may become a W. A. C., she may do canteen or hospitality work for the troops; there is much she may do, and there is a danger that the working party may be regarded as something rather humdrum and out of date. But it is still a vital part of the Madras women's war effort and it must not be disregarded. It is true that the nature of the work has changed somewhat; there are large stocks of the simple things like bandages and dressings laid up ready for the need that must come. What we chiefly need is the experienced worker who can make pyjamas and shirts, of which there are never enough; and the need for Red Cross garments is supplemented by the crying need of the troops for extra clothing, which we supply through the Joint War Charities Canteen Stores Department. Last year the troops here suffered appallingly from prickly

heat, due chiefly to the fact that they had only two shirts and two pairs of shorts each for wear all the 24 hours, and so in the hot weather they were never properly clean, the most potent cause of prickly heat. We help by providing shirts, pants and pyjamas, which, owing to the efforts of the working parties, are sold at an extremely cheap rate, much below market prices. We can never get enough of these to meet the demand; here the garments really do go almost at once from the worker on to a man's back. And those who cannot make garments can still hem handkerchiefs; the demand for these, khaki and white, is quite insatiable, and they cost far more in the bazaar.

The knitters, too, are wanted more than ever. We have a special order just now for quantities of white stump stockings for an All-India limb-fitting centre, and the troops here in South India are all crying out for stockings; but we are supplying these, as far as possible, with cotton yarn stockings, especially those units which do not have to walk much, since we must not let the man overseas go cold next winter. Unfortunately the discouraging stories are still handed about, and only occasionally does a public-spirited person write and ask what the real facts are, in order to counteract them. There is the ancient story, which never dies, that all the woollies go into a vast store. So they do—in the hot weather. Nobody wants them then; but nothing could be more short-sighted than to stop knitting because nobody wants woollies in the hot weather. That is our great chance to build up stocks, so that we may have some chance of having enough next cold weather to meet the demand. The woollies are all kept in India, cry the objectors. Of course they are; General Alexander can hardly want to be bothered with them in Tunis just now, and by next winter the war may be somewhere else; we trust it will be, and surely the most sensible thing to do is to keep all the warm garments here till we see where they are going to be wanted next winter, and then send them straight to that place.

The Penelope myth, too, is not dead; some people picture all the headquarter depôts as places where the district knitting is all pulled to pieces, and this quite unfounded story is still doing a great deal of harm. Like all the most dangerous stories, it rests upon a very small modicum of truth; all depôts do occasionally get garments made by people with more enthusiasm than experience, stockings only wearable by a man in an advanced stage of elephantiasis, pull-overs suitable for a child of six. Wool and shipping space are alike precious, and neither must be wasted by forwarding such things which the recipient can only use to clean his lorry. They must be remade; but no knitter likes reknitting. It is a distasteful task which is never undertaken except when it is absolutely unavoidable; the unholy glee of destruction pictured by some people is the purest fabrication.

The working parties are doing a great job, and the people who try to discourage them should be treated in the same way as all other discouragers of the war effort.

BULLOCK SHOES AND MOTOR CAR TYRES.

Motor car tyres suffer more than ever before from cuts and bursts due to bullock shoes. The amount of cart traffic has increased considerably with the introduction of petrol and tyre rationing, and the natural result is that there are now more "cast" bullock shoes on the roads than there were in the days just before the war. A tyre which is cut by a bullock shoe is generally useless, for it is seldom that it can effectively be repaired, and with such a great shortage of tyres a more intensive drive is necessary to rid the roads of this trouble. Military vehicles suffer as much as private cars, and public conveyances.

The Government have offered to pay an anna for every six whole bullock shoes collected from the roads.

FUSILIER, EXHAUSTED, WALKS OFF INTO JUNGLE. AFRAID MIGHT BURDEN COMRADES.

Growing weaker and weaker through privation, Fusilier Duner, of the 1st Inniskilling Fusiliers, feared that he was becoming a burden to his companions—a small party of British and Indian soldiers trying to make their way back to our lines through the Jap-infested hilt country on the Mayu Peninsula in Arakan.

When the party—after an epic 10 day trek—was only two days from safety, Duner fell that he could go no further without hampering the others.

But he did not tell them this. When they sought to encourage him, he replied with a smile, "I can take it."

A few minutes later, he slipped quietly away into the jungle. When the absence was prolonged a search was made, but eventually, the party had to go on without this hero, who, without doubt, preferred to face death alone that the rest might have a better chance of living.

The story of this "Capt. Oates of the jungle" was told me by one of the British members of the party the day after they and eleven Indian companions had struggled into a British camp.

WITHOUT FOOD FOR A WEEK.

They had been without food for a week, their limbs were scratched and torn, they were as nearly exhausted as men can be without collapsing, yet the indomitable spirit which had kept them going was as strong as ever.

When Japanese infiltration made it essential for the British and Indian forces east of the Mayu Range to cross the hills and join up with the main body on the western side, the force split up into small groups as the best method of outwitting the enemy.

The little party that included Fusilier Duner set out, eight strong and swelled to 14—of whom all save one reached their goal—though hope for them was growing thin by the time they did so.

TRIBUTE TO MURREE SUBADAR.

By general consent the man to whom they owed most was Subadar Mohammed Yusuf, a hill man from the Murree district who showed a genius for finding the safest and best routes. "Without him I don't believe we'd ever have managed it; he is, indeed, a stout-hearted fellow" said the British leader of the party. It was a tribute that went for all of them.

Rations consisted of two tins of condensed milk, two tins of bully beef, 4-lbs. of broken biscuits and 1-lb. of tea—some of these being picked up in the early part of the journey.

Although the distribution of bully was limited to a mouthful per man, morning and night, food gave out a week before the end. After that they marched 12 hours a day on no more than half a cup of tea, without milk or sugar, before setting out and before halting for the night to get what sleep was possible in spite of hunger, the near presence of Japs and—not least—mosquitoes.

Five times the party emerged from the hills on to the coastal plain only to find Japs in possession. At last, striking the road leading to Maungdaw, they walked up it unopposed until a British voice signalled the end of their ordeal.

YOUNG NAIROBI CLERK READS OF I. A. F. AND WRITES TO BOMBAY TO JOIN.

An 18-years old Indian railway clerk in Nairobi opened a magazine and read there about the stirring deeds of the I. A. F. in the battle of the Burma skies. The article's illustrations, showing young Indians—keen, modern-minded young fellows very much like himself—learning to become pilots and observers and technicians, fascinated him.

India's own Air Force! What an idea! What a future that would be—to grow up with India's own Air Force!

And why not?

There and then, the young railway clerk took up his pen and wrote a letter to the authorities in Bombay.

"I am 18 years of age and a Muslim by birth," he wrote. "I am physically sound and my sight is normal. I am a keen and all-round sportsman. It has always been my ambition to serve in the Air Force."

And now, from the desk of the Technical Recruiting Officer, in Bombay, a letter is on its way out to the young railway clerk in Nairobi. It tells him that his offer to join the I. A. F. is greatly appreciated. It invites him to come to Bombay to join as a technical trainee.

India has need of many young men with the spirit of this young man of Nairobi.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU. PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CXLVIII (Batch 2).

29- 5-43 Municipal Office	... 6.00 p.m.	2- 6-43 Mirattunilai	... 7.00 p.m.
30- 5-43 Kiranur	... 7.00 "	" Arimalam	... 7.30 "
" Nanjur	... 7.30 "	3- 6-43 Pungudi	... 7.00 "
31- 5-43 Puvarasakudi	... 7.00 "	" Satyamangalam...	... 7.30 "
" Venkatakulam	... 7.30 "	4- 6-43 Udayalippatti	... 7.00 "
1- 6-43 Perungalur	... 7.00 "	" Killukottai	... 7.30 "
" Adanakkottai	... 7.30 "		

LECTURE CXLIX. (Batch 3.)

5- 6-43 Municipal Office	... 6.00 p.m.	9- 6-43 Kodumbalur	... 7.00 p.m.
6- 6-43 Kudumiyamalai	... 7.00 "	" Viralimalai	... 7.30 "
" Parambur	... 7.30 "	10- 6-43 Kalamavur	... 7.00 "
7- 6-43 Vengalur	... 7.30 "	" Nallur	... 7.30 "
" Konapattu	... 7.30 "	11- 6-43 Panayappatti	... 7.00 "
8- 6-43 Nachchandupatti.	... 7.00 "	" Rangiyam	... 7.30 "
" Virachhilai	... 7.30 "		

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

29- 5-43 Ponnamaravathi.	5- 6-43 Tirumayyam.
30- 5-43 Embal.	6- 6-43 Virachobilai.
31- 5-43 Konnaiyur.	7- 6-43 Kiranur.
1- 6-43 Ramachandrapuram.	8- 6-43 Kudimiyamalai.
2- 6-43 Kilanilai-Puduppatti.	9- 6-43 Karambakkudi.
3- 6-43 Alangudi.	10- 6-43 Kilanilai.
	11- 6-43 Pudukkottai.

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PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

JUNE 5, 1943

[No. 149

LECTURE CXLIX.

MR. EDEN ON ITALY AND THE AIR WAR.

The Allies will bomb the Fascist and German military machine wherever it was to be found. Italy now lies wide open to air attack.

That attack will be pressed home by all the means in our power, for we are relentlessly determined to destroy Fascism, and to prosecute the war against Italy with all the force we possess, so long as Italy fights Hitler's War.

What the Italians are enduring now, and what they are about to endure, has been brought upon them by Mussolini and his Fascist associates.

It is because of their treacherous act in attacking helpless France that we are at war with Italy to-day. It was Mussolini who asked Hitler for the privilege of sharing in the bombing of London. We have not forgotten that.

It is he and his corrupt Fascist régime which first, needlessly, exposed the Italian people to the horrors of modern war as invented by their German allies.

It is for the Italian people to decide whether they are to endure this bombardment to the bitter end, and when it is to stop.

Our own new construction of merchantships is still mounting, our merchant shipping losses are still decreasing, the sinkings of U-boats are still increasing. These are most important matters, and this favourable trend fortunately continues. More than that I cannot say. The battle of the U-boats still rages. It is not yet decided, but at least we feel better about it than we have done.

REALISED TOO LATE.

We are not prepared to lend an attentive ear to suggestions from any quarter that bombardment from the air as a weapon shall be given up. Least of all are we impressed by belated conversions to this view.

Some of those who cry out against bombing were conspicuously silent when the cities of Britain were being bombarded and destroyed by all the power which the Luftwaffe could muster. To-day, it is the turn of Germany and Italy.

We did not start this business. It was Goering who gloated over the destruction of Warsaw and Rotterdam. The Nazis were so pleased that they even made a film about it, and tried to frighten future victims with a forecast of their fate. Now it is checked.

Now the biter is bit, and the process will continue until the utter defeat of the Nazi and Fascist régimes, and all that they stand for. Let no one have any illusions about that.

M. STALIN ON THE DISSOLUTION OF THE COMINTERN.

The dissolution of the Communist International is proper and timely because it facilitates the organisation of the common onslaught of all freedom-loving nations on the common enemy—Hitlerism. The dissolution of the Communist International is proper because:—

(A) It exposes the lie of the Hitlerites to the effect that 'Moscow' allegedly intends to intervene in the life of other nations and to 'Bolshevise' them. An end is now being put to this lie.

(B) It exposes the calumny of the adversaries of Communism within the Labour Movement to the effect that Communist Parties in the various countries are allegedly acting not in the interests of their people but on orders from outside. An end is now being put to this calumny, too.

PATRIOTS HELPED.

(C) It facilitates the work of patriots in freedom-loving countries to unite the progressive forces of their respective countries, regardless of party or religious faith, into a single camp of national liberation—for the unfolding struggle against Fascism.

(D) It facilitates the work of patriots of all countries to unite all freedom-loving peoples into a single international camp for the fight against the menace of world-domination by Hitlerism, thus clearing the way to a future organisation of a companionship of nations based upon their equality.

I think that all the circumstances taken together will result in the further strengthening of the united front of the Allies and other nations in their fight for victory over the Hitlerite tyranny.

I feel that the dissolution of the Communist International is perfectly timely because it is exactly now, when the Fascist beast is exerting its last strength, that it is necessary to organise the common onslaught of freedom-loving countries to finish off this beast and to deliver the peoples from Fascist oppression.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

29—5—43 to 4—6—43.

Germany and Italy.—The air war over GERMANY and ITALY has gathered momentum. Every day and every night, the Axis targets are being raided and blown up. On May 21,

Captain Harold Balfour, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Air, announced 'We have ticked off on our city-by-city Calendar DORTMUND and DUISBURG, and there are many more ticks to go on it yet.' The statement has come true. DORTMUND was raided on May 23; DUSSELDORF on May 25; JENA and ESSEN on May 27; and LEGHORN, FOGGIA and LUCERA in ITALY on May 29. Four-engined bombers dropped 4,000 lb and 8,000 lb bombs, causing great damages. DORTMUND is an important centre of German heavy industry; ESSEN is the home of Krupp's works, and JENA of GERMANY's glass works. LEGHORN is the centre of ITALY's fuel supplies.

Russia.—Rome Radio announced on May 26 that 800,000 men have been massed in 200 divisions from LENINGRAD to the Black Sea for the coming struggle. Patrol activity prevails over the whole front, with local encounters, as usual, at the key-points.

The Aleutians.—According to the latest reports American troops have captured FISHHOOK Ridge on ATTU Island. The ridge is south of ATTU village.

China.—In CHINA, a fierce struggle is in progress for the rich rice districts of HUPEH Province—known as CHINA's rice bowl. The Japanese, driving along the south bank of the Yangtse, below ICHANG, have seized YUYANGKUAN and CHANGYANG. Their final objective is CHANGTAH, a town near lake Tengtung. If they take it, they will cut the CHANGSHA—CHUNGKING road and control the 'rice-bowl.'

Arakan.—The position in the ARAKAN remains unchanged.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

24—5—43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

NIGHT:—

No information available.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy ports and air-fields in SARDINIA.
Vessels in harbour, installations, warehouses
and dumps at LA MADDALENA and

TERRANOVA.
A supply ship in the CARLO FORTE harbour
(Sardinia).

Barracks at IGLESIAS (Sardinia).

Air-fields at PANTELLARIA.

A tanker at REGGIO DI CALABRIA.

Railway yards at SAN GIOVANNI.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at ATTU.

KISKA (Aleutians).

Jap positions in the SHORTLAND Island
area and at MUNDA (Solomons).

Jap installations at MONYWA (Burma).

Railway yards at THAZI (Burma).

Enemy barracks near KAMAING and
WASHAWNG (Burma).

Jap troops at UDAUNG (Burma) and
KHOMALIN (Burma).

25—5—43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

The enemy air-field at ABBEVILLE.

Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE
(4 Allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—

The industrial area of DUSSELDORF (Germany).
ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Docks and Naval base at MESSINA.

The harbours at LICATA, EMPEDOCLE and
PORTO SCUSO (all in Sicily).

Air-fields at TERRANOVA and BOBBA
DIFALCO (Sicily).

Air-field and docks at PANTELLARIA.
The seaplane base at PREVEZA (Greece).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap bridges near GAVUYU (N. Britain).

Jetty and port areas at GASMATA (N. Britain).

The air-field at CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).

Air-fields at MADANG and FINSCHHAFEN
(N. Guinea).

Jap objectives in UPPER CHINDWIN (Burma).

Transport near BUTHIDAUNG (Burma).

26—5—43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field at COMISO (Sicily).

Other air-fields in SICILY and at PONDU OLIVO.

Quay and shipping at PORTO PONTE

ROMANO (Sardinia).

A supply ship at GOLFO ARANCI (Sardinia).

Barracks at VILLACIDRO (Sardinia).

Power station at TRISO (Pantellaria).

Shipping off CAPE MALEA (Greece).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

Gun emplacements and the camp area at KISKA (Aleutians).

The Chicagof area in ATTU.
Villages on the AKYAB Island.

27—5—43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (German occupied).**DAY:—**

Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE and BELGIUM (3 enemy planes destroyed; 1 Allied plane missing).

NIGHT:—

KRUPP'S armament works at ESSEN (Germany).
Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-fields at DECIMOMANNU and PANTELLARIA.
Axis vessels off GREECE and in the AEGEAN Sea.

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

The air-field at MADANG (N. Guinea).
The air-field and supply installations at LAB (N. Guinea).
Jap positions on ATTU Island and KISKA (Aleutians).
A Jap village on the AKYAB Island (Burma).
Enemy positions south of BUTHIDAUNG (Burma).

28—5—43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).**DAY:—**

Coke ovens at ZEEBRUGGE (Belgium).
(2 Allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—

Enemy R-boats off CHERBOURG Peninsula (France) (6 R-boats sunk and 3 R-boats damaged).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field at FOGGIA (Italy).
The port of and oil refineries at LEGHORN (Italy).
Air-fields in SICILY and PANTELLARIA.
A small ship off GREECE.

RUSSIA.

The railway junction of VITEBSK.
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

The Jap base at WEWAK (N. Guinea).
Heho air-field in Burma.
Motor vehicles and huts near BUTHIDAUNG (Burma).
Jap troop positions in the KALYMYO area (Burma).
Marshalling yards at MANDALAY (Burma).

29—5—43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).**DAY:—**

U-Boat bases at LA PALLICE, ST. NAZAIRE and RENNES (all in France).
Air-fields at CAEN and MAUPERTUS (18 Allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—(33 Allied planes missing; 2 Axis planes shot down).
The industrial centre of WUPPERTHAL (Germany).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Docks, shipping, air-fields, ammunition dumps and railway installations in SICILY, SARDINIA and PANTELLARIA.

RUSSIA.

(For the week 22—5—43 to 29—5—43 Russians lost 118 planes; Axis lost 456 planes).

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

The railway junctions at GOMEL and KARACHEV.

FAR EAST.

A Jap convoy off HANSA BAY.
A cargo ship in BANDA SEA.
Jap bases at RAMBANG and in Dutch SUNDA Island and Dutch New GUINEA.
Enemy installations in HUKAUNG valley (Burma).
Huts at SUMPRA BUM (Burma).
Buildings at KAMAING (Burma).
Enemy positions at NANYSEN and SINGBHAN areas.
Locomotives at THAZI (Burma).
Air-field at MEIKTILA (Burma).

30—5—43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied).**DAY:—**

Steel works at MONDEVILLE.
Intruder patrols over BELGIUM.

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field at FOGGIA (Italy).
Aircraft factory and the air-field in NAPLES (Italy).
Ports, railway communications air-fields and other military targets in SICILY, PANTELLARIA and SARDINIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap base at WEWAK (N. Guinea).
Air-field at CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).
Wharf area at GASMATA (N. Britain).
Jap barges in TALA Sea.
Water front and shipping at KENDARI (Celebes).
KISKA (Aleutians).
KALEMYO and other enemy positions in that area (Burma).
Jap troop positions near BUTHIDAUNG (Burma).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

25—5—43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

A town on the south-east coast of ENGLAND.

RUSSIA.

Air combats over the KUBAN area.

26—5—43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

FAR EAST.

Air combats over ATTU Island.

27—5—43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No air raid anywhere in BRITAIN.

RUSSIA.

Russian air-fields behind the forward areas.

FAR EAST.

The harbours at MOROBE, MAMBARE and DOUGLAS (all in New Guinea).

28—5—43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

Russian communications behind the lines.

FAR EAST.

MILLINGIMBI (Australia) (3 Jap planes shot down).

29—5—43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area (only an alert).

RUSSIA.

Air combats over KUBAN.

FAR EAST.

No information available.

30—5—43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity over BRITAIN.

RUSSIA.

Air combats over the KUBAN bridgehead.

FAR EAST.

The air-field at CHITTAGONG (India).

31—5—43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area (only an alert).

RUSSIA.

LISICHANSK area.

SIDE LIGHTS.**MOSCOW'S MOVE.**

The word has gone forth to disband the Comintern—the organisation which Lenin set up in 1919 to revolutionise the world's political structure, and to change the economic and cultural foundations of society. The Bolshevik bogey, with which the Nazi sought to disrupt the Allied world and to frighten his satellites, has been laid low. The terror has vanished.

By doing this Stalin has proved himself again a supreme realist. This time he has won a success, which, in its diplomatic results, may rival STALINGRAD. In both the cases, the Nazi has been worsted, this time, the lying Goebbels.

The Third International, otherwise called the Comintern, is the third attempt of its kind (the first two being Marx's, started in 1862 and the French Socialist, in 1889) made by theorists and doctrinaires to establish a working-class paradise on earth. But while the earlier movements were more or less reformist and ideological, the third, definitely revolutionary and political, aimed at the founding of a world State directed from Moscow. It was to cut across national and political frontiers, and merge the world into a single organisation, to be built on the ruins of capitalism and the existing order of society. The Comintern was to dominate the world, and MOSCOW (the Soviet) was to dominate the Comintern.

In fear, the Nazi and the Fascist entered into an Anti-Comintern.

MOSCOW'S present decision, influenced no doubt by BRITAIN and AMERICA, is the culmination of a historical development. Since the defeat of Trotsky, 15 years ago, aggressive Bolshevism had shown signs of decline. Under Stalin, its present protagonist, it has shifted its emphasis from cultural world-conquest to domestic reform.

MOSCOW'S gesture is important. Stalin's contribution in this way to the war effort is very real. Since the last Russian winter advance began, Hitler has been making frantic attempts to organise an anti-Comintern front in occupied EUROPE, by trotting out the Bolshevik Bogey. The MOSCOW declaration has undone Hitler.

THE WASHINGTON TALKS have now ended. 'Complete agreement' we are told, 'has been reached in regard to the future operations.' This is all we know. Earlier, Mr. Churchill, speaking to a Press Conference, made the following points:—

1. The side has turned. The fear of losing the CAUCASUS has turned into 'the joy of STALINGRAD'. The fall of TOBRUK has ended in Axis obliteration in North AFRICA. 'Instead, as hitherto, getting somewhere, very late, with very little, we are now arriving first, with most'. Increased Allied production has augmented Allied strength. The Allies now prefer a knock-out blow, the application of 'Physical stimuli'. It is an all-out war, which will end only with the complete surrender of the enemy.

2. RUSSIA is a grand ally 'in heroic fashion'.

3. If ITALY capitulates it would be a windfall, and ITALY may expect a place in New EUROPE.

4. American precision daylight bombing combined with the British mass night bombing will be continued in a 24-hour service. Hitler, who conceived the air-war, will have 'poetic justice'.

5. The war on JAPAN will be intensified, limited at present to island to island conquest.

6. The killing of the U-boats, which was never better, will continue.

It is generally believed that simultaneous attacks on the eastern, western and southern fronts of EUROPE are imminent. An assault may be made on the BALKANS, combined with landings in FRANCE and 'elsewhere'. The invasion of ITALY may lie over, as it would not lead to an attack on the heart of GERMANY, owing to the interposition of the Alps. The attack on JAPAN, will be dovetailed into the plans for EUROPE, even as the strategy of the attack in the east of EUROPE will be fitted into the 'clawing tactics' on the western front. Allied propaganda will be intensified, and under-ground EUROPE will be armed to be in readiness for the Zero hour.

It will be a mistake to think, however, that allied preparations are waiting, pending the WASHINGTON decisions. As Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, the Commanding General of the U. S. Forces broadcast on May 23, 'the far-reaching decision reached at Washington should not be confused with the plans to carry them out. The plans, made with vision, months ago, cover many eventualities, and the decisions now reached have to do only with the selection of the most effective plan. The Allies have not waited until this late hour to lay the foundations. The strategy and the plans have been in process of being perfected during the past year, and are sufficiently elastic to cover the ever-changing conditions of the global war'.

THE AIR WAR.

Mr. Henry J. Kaiser, AMERICA's building Wizard, tells us that it will take at least 21 months to repair the damaged Mohne and Eder dams, and a further period of six months will be necessary to re-erect destroyed machinery and plants. If so, the RUHR valley war-industries will be out of commission for a long while.

Meanwhile, a BERLIN broadcast announces that the British 8,000 lb. bombs have rendered even the cellars unsafe, in which the German public used to take refuge during raids. If so, Hitler is having a very bitter taste, indeed, of his own medicine.

We do not wish to enter into the controversy whether air-raids by themselves, can win victory, but we desire to draw attention to Mr. Churchill's recent remark 'Why not give them a trial, there is no harm in finding out'. Euthusiasts like Alexander Seversky of AMERICA have held the view that air war will bring the enemy to his knees. Air Chief Marshal Harris says that with 20,000 bombers the war can be brought to an end. Now, Mr. Churchill says, 'Well, now that AMERICA and BRITAIN make aircraft to your hearts' content, many more than GERMANY can ever produce—try them on the enemy: win, if you can'. So the blasting goes on at DORTMUND, DUSSELDORF, ESSEN, JENA, over SARDINIA and PANTELLARIA. They are not merely raids, but major battles—waged by night and by day, all around the clock and all round the map.

PLANS TO RAID JAPAN.

A related question has been asked, 'why not make a similar experiment on JAPAN. Whether aerial war will win final victory or not, why not try it on JAPAN also. JAPAN, with her smaller homeland and crowded factories is more vulnerable than the expanses of GERMANY. ARAKAN and PAPUA have shown that the hide-and-seek jungle and mountain fighting is not the best way of beating JAPAN. Hitler tried to overthrow BRITAIN from the air but failed, because his *Luftwaffe* was not strong enough for that, but Allied air superiority in respect of JAPAN is overwhelming. The invention of the long distance bomber has eliminated distances; why not try?'.

ATTU.

But one handicap is the want of bases. CHINA may be one, but ATTU seems better. American operations against ATTU, which, significantly enough, have been intensified since the fall of TUNISIA, were started, in fact, many months ago. First, the ANDREANOFs, in the Rat Group, to which KISKA belongs, were occupied; the next advance was on AMCHITKA, which was taken in January, and the present operations in ATTU are intended not only to occupy this island but to catch KISKA between two fires. ATTU is only 800 miles from the town of PARAMASHIRA in the KURILE Islands, north of JAPAN. The bomb-TOKYO programme will reach yet another stage when ATTU has been seized.

Japanese broadcasts attribute the use of poison gas to the Americans. It is of course a monstrous lie.

AXIS PROPAGANDA.

All is over with TUNISIA, bar the shouting. The Allies have gained a victory, greater even than they hoped for. The prisoners of war have exceeded the expected number, which means that not a single Axis soldier has escaped who could be taken alive. The defeat has reached the dimensions of STALINGRAD.

But the Axis try to play down the event, by describing the defeat as a gain. BERLIN's propagandists aver that during the six months the campaign lasted the last

holes in the 'Atlantic Wall' have been closed and a new 'Mediterranean Wall' has been erected—The rear, shouts Hitler, has been made safe for the next Panzer attack in the East. The logic is not clear—If anything the Anglo-American threat to Hitler's EUROPE has now increased—The Allies have now a double front to invade, the western, as well as the southern.

Let us strike the balance-sheet—Hitler has had his 6 months, no doubt, in which to prepare his defences; but the Allies also have had the same period for preparations. If Rommel had evacuated say, at BENGAZI, it would still have been too early for the Americans to land in N. AFRICA, for the French to gather there, and for the new Allied N. African armies, to gain battle experience. The six-months interval has been of help to both sides, but to Hitler, at a terrible cost.

One other important result should not be forgotten. Hitler has lost the Mediterranean and the Allies have won it. The route from GIBRALTAR to PORT SAID, is now open, with more complete command of this sea. By this freedom, Allied Forces have gained in mobility and striking power, and Hitler's European citadel has become more vulnerable. The Persian Gulf, the Indian coast and the Japanese occupied countries can now be reached more quickly and much more effectively. To quote the *Times*, 'It means that armies in EGYPT, SYRIA and PERSIA can be set in motion with a facility hitherto out of the question; that TURKEY can be offered new buttresses in case of Axis aggression, and that CRETE and the BALKAN Peninsula must be reckoned by the enemy as among his vulnerable points.'

It may be added, that the oil of IRAQ and IRAN can now be better distributed and more quickly, that supplies to RUSSIA can be expedited, with less tonnage, that Allied shipping to INDIA, by taking the Suez route, will be saved to the extent of two million tons, and that a considerable number of British submarines now operating in the Mediterranean can be transferred to operate in the Japanese sea-lanes in the Far East.

ITALY.

Mussolini, has resolved upon continuing his resistance.

The decision, it is reported, was reached in consultation with his party on May 28. Rumours are to hand of the repatriation of Italian workers in GERMANY that they may return home to defend their country, and of Hitler rushing his troops into SARDINIA in fear of an Allied invasion.

Mr. Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary has on behalf of the Allies warned Mussolini. He has announced that the bombing offensive on ITALY will go on until the Nazi and Fascist régimes and all they stand for are utterly defeated. Mussolini once asked Hitler for the privilege of bombing LONDON. Now the boomerang will strike back. Let the Axis remember WARSAW and ROTTERDAM.

BIG BOMBS VERSUS

LITTLE BOMBS.

One of the discoveries that have been made in the recent raids is the superiority of big bombs to little bombs.

It is not merely that a 1,000 lb bomb is four times as effective as four 250 lb bombs, but that the result are even more disastrous. Let us take the case of a bomb-pit. The cavities, four in number, which four 250 lb. bombs will make

can be easily filled up and if it is a Railway area new rails can be immediately laid and the traffic resumed. But the single big crater formed by a 1,000 lb. bomb will take four days to fill. This is a calculation based on actual experience in the Western Desert.

But demolition power is not the only advantage that goes with big bombing. Another is this; while as shown above 20,000 lb of big bombs will do the work of four times the weight, or 80,000 lb. of small ones, the bigger bomb can be carried in a quarter as many planes as the small ones. This is great economy. It means also that a quarter of the crews will do; a quarter of the aviation spirit, and the possible casualties will be but a quarter.

Since Sept. 1942, the R. A. F. has dropped 8,000lb bombs on German and Italian centres. The dropping of 4,000lb bombs began as early as March, 1941.

RUSSIA.

An uneasy lull broods over the Russian scene, where, we are told, 800,000 men (200 divisions) are massed for a death grapple. Both sides are jockeying for position: the storm may break out at any moment.

May 26 was the first anniversary of the Anglo-Soviet Treaty, signed in LONDON last year, for full collaboration between BRITAIN and RUSSIA during and after the war for a period of 20 years. When the treaty was first signed the situation was gloomy. The German march on STALINGRAD and BAKU had begun. The Hitlerite Army had entrenched itself in a position from which it could strike at the MIDDLE EAST. It was in these critical days that Churchill saw Stalin at MOSCOW—a visit which resulted in the Anglo-Soviet Treaty.

To-day, after a year, the situation is much better. The heroic Russian winter offensive, the Tunisian Victory and the air-war over Hitler's EUROPE, have changed the shape of things. The pattern of Allied strategy has changed from defensive to offensive warfare.

RECRUITING FIGURES show that the Indian Air Force is growing rapidly. The number of airmen recruited for March is 600 per cent higher than the average for 1942. We are glad to learn that MADRAS is providing a large number. R. A. F. officers training Indian recruits declare that the quality has increased with the quantity, that many more men of good family and with college education are entering the ranks.

AIR POWER IN WAR.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal.

The conquest of the air has revolutionized the art of war. It has changed the whole way of life of every combatant people.

These facts were widely recognized before the outbreak of the present war. Most of the countries of Europe, feeling themselves threatened by the ever-more aggressive attitude of Nazi Germany in the late 1930's, organized air-raid defence measures on a large scale.

Those responsible for the equipment and conduct of the armed forces of a great State must necessarily move with caution, for complete defeat may be the dreadful price of a mistake. That is why the application of newly discovered weapons is almost invariably slower than the potentiality of those weapons would warrant. There are dangers in technical conservatism as well as in experimentation, and victory may reward that nation which most rapidly adapts the theory and practice of its armed forces to the use of some crucial new weapon.

Germany gained devastating successes at the beginning of the present war, successes which brought her within an ace of final victory, before effective resistance could be organized. That she made a fuller use of the air weapon than any of her opponents was one of the main secrets of her success.

BEFORE THE WAR.

Owing to her slowness to re-arm, Great Britain began the war against Nazi Germany in an air inferiority of one to four. Not only could the Germans put four aircraft into the sky for every one which could be flown by the Royal Air Force, but the Royal Air Force were also compelled to continue using large numbers of aircraft which were already obsolescent.

In the months preceding the war the most strenuous efforts had been made to provide us with modern aircraft. These efforts, as all the world knows, bore fruit just in time to turn the tide at a later stage in the war, but at first the Royal Air Force possessed only a fraction of the resources required to guarantee the security of Great Britain.

On the one hand, our force of fighter aircraft was inadequate for the air defence of the most vital objectives in Britain, including London, the largest and most vulnerable target for air attack in the world. On the other hand, we possessed a totally inadequate striking force of bombers with which to hit back at the enemy.

It is important to emphasize these facts to-day, not in order to revive dead controversies, but to explain the conditions under which the Royal Air Force had to work in the past, and under which to a considerable extent it still works. Our air resources have never approached our requirements, and we have therefore had to decide how best to distribute what we have.

Naturally, the first need has been to defend our base. Not only was the security of this country vital if the war was to be continued in Europe at all, but it was essential to ensure that production was not unduly interrupted in what is one of the main sources of supply of armaments to the United Nations throughout the world.

We have therefore had to concentrate on the building up of our fighter force and of Coastal Command, which assists the Navy in the vital work of keeping open the sea-lanes to this country. Then, after the entry of Italy into the war, we had to build up strong forces in the Middle East to prevent the enemy overrunning Egypt, and securing access to all the Middle Eastern countries and the Indian Ocean, which form one of the main bastions in the defence of our Empire.

SITUATION IMPROVES.

We could not be strong everywhere. All we could do at first was to ensure that we were strong at the essential points, and we had to accept that this could only be achieved

at the expense of weakness elsewhere. Our relative weakness was accentuated by the strategical advantage possessed by the enemy with his central position and short lines of communication.

As a result, we have met with many grave reverses, which have given rise to severe criticisms of the Royal Air Force. To our great regret we have been unable to provide the air forces required in all places throughout the world, and have thereby exposed land and sea forces to fighting under the disadvantage of inadequate air assistance.

Unfortunately this has been inevitable. If we had dispersed our resources more than we did, we should have been weak everywhere, and we should probably by now have lost the war.

I am glad to say that the situation is now quickly improving. On the one hand, Germany has undertaken a great new campaign against Russia, involving the dispersal of her air resources over a very large area, and the addition of the powerful Soviet Air Force to the strength of the United Nations.

On the other hand, large numbers of aircraft, which have for some time been flowing to the Royal Air Force from the American factories, are now making their weight felt. These factors, coupled with our own efforts, are bringing us rapidly to the time when the United Nations will have decisive air superiority over the Axis in all parts of the world.

The importance of air superiority in battle was realized by many before the war. Our experience has shown it clearly for all to see. In a battle between two otherwise equal opponents, it is the side with air superiority that will win. This is as true for land and sea battles as it is for purely aerial ones.

Finally, air superiority plays an essential part in the destruction of the enemy's will to make war, which is the final aim of our strategy. The achievement of general air superiority over the enemy must therefore be one of our cardinal aims.

REQUIREMENTS IN INDIA.

The entry of Japan into the war created vast new requirements in India and the Far East; the increasing threat to our positions in the Middle East compelled us to increase our forces there considerably; the intensification of the U-boat war against our shipping has meant that an increasingly large proportion of our resources has had to be devoted to reconnaissance and to the hunting down of submarines.

As the range of our aircraft increases, the area of sea which they can patrol increases still more, so that it is necessary to employ a far larger number of aircraft to cover it completely. Moreover, experience of this war has shown that Naval forces can rarely operate in narrow seas within the range of powerful shorebased air striking forces, so that more and more of the work previously done by the Navy is now being taken over by the Royal Air Force. In this sense more and more seas are becoming "narrow seas"; the Mediterranean as a whole is rapidly coming into this category.

Another need created by the present war has been for long range aircraft for transport. Here the enemy had the advantage of a large stock of obsolete bombers, and these he used with great effect to transport supplies and men. Because we re-armed later than the enemy, we had no such stock of obsolescent aircraft; we have had

to make do with an inadequate number of transports, supplemented where necessary by operational aircraft diverted from their proper rôle. It will be a long time before we have all the transport aircraft that we need.

The development of air-borne forces has meant that much work has also now to be done in adapting aircraft for the release of parachutists, and for the towing of gliders. The building of gliders, and the training of their pilots, detract from the resources which, we should otherwise have for operating powered aircraft.

BASIC AIRCRAFT.

It is our constant endeavour to increase the adaptability of the basic types of aircraft to enable them to undertake efficiently the many calls that are now made. A heavy bomber can be used as a heavy transport and communications aircraft, as a long distance aircraft for sea reconnaissance, as a mine-layer, as an ambulance, etc. What is basically a fighter can be used also for high altitude reconnaissance, tactical reconnaissance with the Army, low-level bombing and cannon-fire attacks on ships and land targets. The very adaptability of aircraft means that the demand for them must go on increasing, and that we can never have all that we need.

The Royal Air Force has been fortunate in having behind it great productive resources. The British aircraft industry had been growing fast before the war and has made great strides since, until it has become directly or indirectly the greatest single employer of labour in the whole country.

For a long time it had to give particular attention to the production of modern fighters, which alone could secure our base against enemy air attack. Thanks to the makers of Hurricanes and Spitfires, the Royal Air Force was able to achieve a decisive victory in the Battle of Britain in 1940. Fighters are still required in very large numbers, but it is now possible to give greater attention to the production of heavy bombers, and large numbers of four-engined heavy bombers are being produced every month.

AMERICAN ASSISTANCE.

The Royal Air Force could never have become what it is to-day without American assistance on a large scale. For some time Lockheed Hudson medium bombers have been providing much of the reconnaissance over the sea carried out by Coastal Command. American Curtiss fighters and Douglas and Glenn Martin bombers have played an essential part in air-operations in the Middle East.

The reinforcement of the Royal Air Force with these and other types of aircraft was already taking place on a large scale before America entered the war. With the enormously increased scale of production that has become possible now that she is in and with the aid of the American crews and ground personnel now taking their place in the fight beside those drawn from all parts of the world who have hitherto manned the air units of the United Nations, we can hope to build up combined forces far greater than those which the Royal Air Force could have dreamed of achieving alone.

The demands for air forces for defensive purposes are numerous and compelling; as I have explained, many of these are essential and have to be met. Nevertheless, one of the soundest rules in war is to allot the minimum for defence in order to keep the

maximum for attack. It should soon be possible to say that the minimum necessary for defence has been provided, and we can then concentrate our efforts on building up the mighty striking force which alone can pave the way to victory.

The large scale bomber offensive against Germany has been in all our minds since the beginning of the war. Until recently our bomber force has been a comparatively small one. Even so, it has been able to deal many heavy blows at ports and centres of German industry and communications. It has also been largely instrumental in compelling the Germans to maintain in the West a considerable force of long-range bombers, and well over one-third of their fighter force, at a time when she could ill spare them from the Eastern front.

It has thus made an important contribution to maintaining the strategical position of the United Nations. However, what they have achieved is as nothing compared with what they are now beginning to achieve, and what with the help of the American bomber force destined for this country they soon will achieve.

Now that the Royal Air Force is beginning to build up a large force of bombers capable of carrying a really heavy load, it is possible to develop a new technique of delivering highly concentrated and destructive raids on vital enemy targets. The results so far have been most successful.

These enormous raids have brought home to the people of Germany, perhaps for the first time, their vulnerability to air attack. The effects must have extended far beyond the immediate neighbourhood of the Rhineland. No town in western Germany can now consider itself safe.

The time is not very far off when the British and American bomber squadrons in England will be able to destroy the industry and power of Germany at a rate which outstrips repair. When that time comes, will the average German long resist the conclusion that the war is no longer profitable, and the Fuehrer no longer worth following?

AXIS ON THE DEFENSIVE IN EUROPE.

The inescapable realities of war have made necessary many a surprising *volte-face* on the part of the Nazis. Their attitude towards the people of the countries they occupy is the measure of their reaction to the military situation which confronts them from time to time, and during the last twelve months they have shown clear signs of being forced more and more on to the defensive. While the general pattern of Allied activity is to-day definitely of an offensive character, the long procession of puppets and Quislings, who went to Hitler's headquarters recently, only reflected the Fuehrer's extreme anxiety about the possible attitude they might adopt in the event of an Allied invasion of the Continent.

The stages by which the Nazis reached their present unenviable position are set out below:—

1. *The beginning of the summer of 1942 still found the Nazis extolling the virtues of the NEW ORDER. But already they were encountering difficulties.*

They Told the World.

"European solidarity seems to us already natural and orderly. No headstrong behaviour can stop the growing enthusiasm of the European nations for the New Order."—*BERLIN RADIO, May 1942.*

"If millions of workers are ready to work in the Reich, this is due to the fact that they have now come to know the Germans personally, and have realised that enemy propaganda about Germany is untrue."—*HERR SAUCKEL, Nazi Manpower Chief, March 18, 1943*

2. Russian resistance brought new hope to the peoples of the occupied countries. Nazi propagandists at once trotted out the "Bolshevik Bogey", helping to show that Germany was fighting, not for her own aggrandisement, but to protect Europe.

Nazis Want Europe to Believe.

"Whether the incredulous believe it or not, whether they know it or not, Germany at this critical period is the sole defender of Christian values. For Christianity, Germany is the last hope in Europe."—*BERLIN RADIO, April 21, 1943.*

"The culture that has accumulated in Europe since the ages is being defended to-day by Germany against the Bolshevik barbarians."—*BERLIN RADIO, April 1943.*

3. Finding that their "Bolshevik Bogey" is nothing but a damp squib, the Nazis now try to persuade the enslaved peoples that it is futile to base their hopes on the Allies for there is a series of rift in the United Nations camp.

Directed to Occupied Europe.

"The Soviet-Polish difference is a symptom of the growing rift among the Allies."—*BERLIN RADIO, April 1943.*

But They Said Among Themselves.

"People now loudly cheer the Red Army whenever a communiqué announces further Soviet progress. It is hopeless trying to make them realise that by fighting Bolshevism Germany is fighting the battle for Europe."—*BERLIN RADIO, April 8, 1943.*

"What a spectacle to see a detachment of Polish, Czech, Russian or Jewish labourers at work! They appear to have entered into a tacit agreement to do as little work as possible. When a dozen of these men have to lift a rail it looks like a slow-motion picture."—*DAS SCHWARZE KORPS, Himmler's journal.*

But Europe Remembers.

"Christianity has been a kind of soul malady, not only paralysing all natural psychical powers, but finally causing a vast number of German people, as a result of its depreciation of the body, to become pitiable wretches."—*DAS SCHWARZE KORPS, June 15, 1939.*

"It is absolutely wrong to assume that Germany is fighting Russia to save Europe from Bolshevism. We are not fighting to save culture, civilisation or democracy, but simply to save Germany."—*DAS SCHWARZE KORPS, July 1942.*

"In the past we have fought for sham aims. This time we fight for coal, iron, petrol, and above all, for wheat."—*JOSEF GOEBBELS, October 18, 1942.*

For Home Consumption.

"It would be great weakness and self-deception to think that the Polish-Russian episode will become a cause of dissension between the Anglo-Saxons and their Soviet ally."—*ROME RADIO, May 1, 1943.*

4. The thesis that the Allies are divided and hence unreliable is supplemented by a bribe to the peoples of Europe. If they will behave, the Nazis promise them their liberty.

Now They Say.

They will recognise the right of all European states to liberty and independence, freedom of national economic development, etc., etc.

But Their Intentions Remain.

Hitler said to Rauschning: "We must have Europe and its colonies.....The day of small nations is past. We do not seek equality, but mastery."—*HITLER SPEAKS.*

"We actually have in mind a modern form of mediaeval slavery."—*RICHARD WALTHER DARRE, Nazi Agriculture Minister, May 1940.*

"After the victorious conclusion of the war, the problem of war-indebtedness can be solved in a relatively short time, since we can count on cheap labour and raw material, for the German economic system on a large scale."—*DR. FUNK, April 25, 1942.*

5. Finally, Nazi propaganda harps on the invincibility of the European Fortress.

Fortifications Described.

"The Atlantic Wall is 200 kms. longer in circumference than the Great Wall of China and of greater depth—the greatest building prospect since the Pyramids. There is not a yard which is not fortified."—*BERLIN RADIO, April 1943.*

But We Know This.

"With the piercing of the Maginot Lines the conception of the invincibility of a defence line has collapsed."—*BERLIN RADIO, June 15, 1940.*

THE BALKAN STATES.

Leonard Kirschen.

Speculation grows as to where the Allied invasion will take place. The majority think that Italy will be the target. Hitler's "Fortress of Europe" is also open at the two extremities of the Mediterranean, where there are two neutral bridgeheads: Portugal and Turkey. Two years ago it was the Allies who were wondering whether Hitler had any designs on these two countries; now it is Hitler who is worried. There is, however, a slight difference. The Allies were uncertain two years ago whether Hitler would care to overrun an unwilling Turkey, whereas to-day Hitler is afraid that a willing Turkey may perhaps join the Allies as an active military partner. This uncertainty on Germany's part has led to febrile political activity which takes all sorts of curious forms. Among them is the usual peace offensive, although this time we have a derivative of the usual major peace offensive coming from the leading Axis powers, for this time we have had minor ones coming from the Balkan satellites. Even these minor peace offensives have not taken the form of a solitary undertaking, but of individual feeble feelers from official and unofficial emissaries.

It would be wrong to think, now that we know the interdependence which binds all the Axis countries together, and especially the smaller ones to the big bosses, that these small countries can think or act on their own. No one here believes that the smaller Balkan States will be able, even in the distant future of the war, to free themselves from the obligations they have undertaken towards the Axis leaders and to make a separate peace of their own. There is quite another motive behind these comings and goings; for if the German Police on the Bulgarian-Turkish frontier prevent travellers from taking with them uncensored letters, they are not likely to allow the passage to and fro of people acting against their own interests. No; there is something else behind all this.

In the first place, it may be a political and strategical smokescreen to give an illusion of weakness, and thus invite the Allies to invade the European continent at a point where the Germans are likely to be ready and expect them. Then there is the possibility that by sending people to and from the Balkans to Turkey, they might be able to find out what Turkey intends to do. What is more, by throwing out a formula of Balkan solidarity, much cherished in Turkish political and diplomatic circles, the Axis is perhaps thinking of neutralizing Turkey for the time being, by giving her something to busy herself with.

There may be honest men in the Balkans who are sincerely hoping for a future Balkan co-operation, in which Turkey as the strongest remaining nation of the Balkan group is intended to play an important part, but as long as these countries continue to serve the Axis cause, it will be impossible for these men to take action unless it is to overthrow their own Governments first. Turkey feels that she cannot negotiate with régimes which after the war will have to answer a series of accusations before the tribunals of their own peoples and of the United Nations.

Consequently these feelers obtain no results. But they help to give Turks a picture of the indecision within the Axis camp. When Germany was strong and Italy was still in a position to boast, there were no emissaries or peace offers of a humble nature such as there are to-day. Sincere or insincere—most probably insincere—these peace feelers do nothing but tell the Turks that something is wrong in Europe. And indeed something is wrong.

As the time for invasion of the European continent draws near, heralding the beginning of the real end, Turkey must begin to think of her future. That is why I said at the beginning that Turkey is now interested in the political consequences of the future as the war develops.

THE 4TH INDIAN DIVISION.

THIS IS THE STORY OF ONE OF THE TOUGHEST FIGHTING FORMATIONS EVER TO BE FORGED IN THE FURNACE OF WAR.

It is the story of the men of Sidi Barrani and of Keren, of Tobruk and Damascus and the Ruweisat Ridge; the story of the men who in one mighty blow shattered a great army, thrice their number, poised to strike down an easy prey; of the men who in Eritrea first shook the foundations of Il Duce's New Roman Empire, whose steadfastness, in disaster as in triumph,

caused Rommel to discover engagements more pressing than his scheduled drive through the streets of Cairo; and whose heroism pierced the Mareth Line, stormed Tunis and captured Gen. Von Arnim.

Mostly they were Indians, these men, simple cultivators from the villages and wheat-fields of the Punjab, stately, bearded Sikhs—magnificent figures of men—proud Rajput Riflemen, worthy inheritors of a great martial tradition, hawk-eyed Pathans from the bleak, sun-blistered hills of the North West Frontier—Infantry, Mechanised Cavalry, Ordnance, Supplies, Engineers, Medical Services—all were Indian. Only three battalions and the gunners were Britons.

MEN OF THE MULES AND MOUNTAINS.

When, in August 1939, the 4th Indian Division disembarked in Egypt, not a single one of its officers or men had ever handled an anti-tank rifle or mortar. Still on a mule-transport basis, the internal combustion engine was for most of them a Great Unknown.

Yet by the winter of 1942, these men of the mules and mountains had shattered two great armies, and helped to set in train the destruction of a third—the redoubtable Afrika Korps. They had taken 100,000 prisoners and destroyed well over 100 aeroplanes and tanks.

They had, in the words of Field Marshal Wavell, "fought in the dusty wastes of the Western Desert, in the bush of the Abyssinian border, on the dry, scorching plains of the Sudan, in the towering rocky mountains of Eritrea and Abyssinia, and amid the softer and greener hills of Syria."

When the Italian jackal sprang upon the bleeding corpse of France, Field Marshal (then General) Wavell's relatively small force holding Egypt suddenly found itself caught between Graziani's mighty host of 300,000 preparing in Libya to strike down an easy prey, and another great army of 250,000 in Italian East Africa. In this difficult situation, the Commander-in-Chief must have been greatly comforted by one thought—he had the Fourth Indian Division.

VICTORY IN A SANDSTORM.

Within two short months, in a series of sharp hammer blows, it had smashed Graziani's army, which had been preparing for months for a triumphant advance into Egypt. In one hour and twenty-five minutes, in the midst of a thick sandstorm that raged without ceasing for three days, these men, by a brilliant combination of shock tactics and surprise, had taken 4,000 prisoners and the huge perimeter camp of NIBEIWA, the key which unlocked the gates of Sidi Barrani, where the Division added to its bag an Italian Corps Commander and all his staff.

In this moment of triumph, leaving General Wavell's army to sweep on to Sollum, Bardia, Tobruk and Benghazi, and reap to the full the fruits of their great victory, the men of the Fourth Division experienced a bitter disappointment. They were withdrawn from the fray.

But there was other work for them to do. They had destroyed one great army on the West. Now they turned and shattered another 2,000 miles to the East.

Operating in some of the most difficult country in the world, in almost unbearable heat, against positions considered impregnable, it took them just 2½ months. The epic

story of the battle on the peaks and among the clouds for the mountain fortress of KEREN already belongs to history.

On the map of this grim and desolate place, which has been likened to "a great medieval castle whose portcullis has fallen down and drawbridge has been pulled up in the face of the triumphant enemy," famous Indian and British regiments inscribed their names in imperishable letters of blood.

'Rajputana Ridge,' 'Sikhs Spur,' 'Cameron Ridge,' bear testimony to almost superhuman feats of endurance, handfuls of men clinging desperately to the steep craggy sides of these towering razor-edges of pure rock, blasted almost all the time by enemy artillery from still unconquered peaks, showered with grenades from above, fired down upon by an enemy invisible behind huge boulders, ensconced behind forests of barbed wire.

This time the Division would have given a great deal to have back the mules it left behind in India. From each battalion, one company had to be detached for the dangerous, back-breaking, unspectacular work of hauling water, ammunition and food up the mountain-sides to their comrades fighting among the clouds.

CLEARING MINES AND DÉBRIS.

Superhuman efforts were called for from the Sappers, clearing mines and débris from the mountain roads which wound through narrow gorges. So speedily did the Sappers work one night lifting mines that it is said that dawn broke next morning to reveal the Italians busy laying them only 300 yards ahead.

It was an exploit of this nature, involving "sheer, sustained, cold courage," that earned Lieut. (now Captain) Premindra Singh Bhagat of the Indian Engineers the Victoria Cross.

When, at last, after weeks of clinging grimly to the steep sides of shell-racked ridges, the last pinnacle had fallen, the bodies of Indian riflemen, bayonet in hand, were discovered under the topmost boulders. And in the last resort, it was just such desperate bayonet charges against overwhelming odds by mere handfuls of men which finally broke open this "impregnable" natural fortress—a fact recognised in the posthumous award of the Victoria Cross to Subedar Richpal Ram of the Rajputana Rifles leader of one such valiant little band.

BENGHAZI.

Back again in the Desert, the Division proved itself as steadfast in disaster as it had been aggressive in attack, earning time and again the tribute a French Officer had paid to it for its part in the deliverance of Damascus from the Vichy force—*Vos Indiens sont vraiment formidables*.

Cut off by the Nazi onrush at BENGHAZI, its 7th Brigade forced its way through Rommel's ring of steel to fight a brilliant rearguard action, inflicting considerable casualties, leaving behind only wrecked harbours and smoking ruins.

For the Division's 11th Brigade, Destiny had in store the task of holding half the perimeter of TOBRUK against Rommel's onrush. It was not found wanting. To the last round, it struck limpet-like to its line, adding one more inspiring chapter to the magnificent story of the 4th Division's part in this war.

RUWEISAT RIDGE.

The wheel had come full circle. Once again the enemy onrush from Tunisia had been halted. At one period during the battle of EL ALAMEIN in October 1942, the 4th Division was responsible for the defence of some 25,000 yards of the Ruweisat Ridge. By ceaseless patrolling and daring ruses it kept Rommel's forces continual

Almost two years before, at Sidi Barrani, it had been the 4th Division which had wrecked the Italian Army. Now it fell to the lot of this same Division's 5th Brigade, on the night of November 3, to force its way for some five miles through the enemy's well-prepared defences, open up a way for our armour, and contribute to the decisive victory at El Alamein, to the pursuit of the enemy out of Tunisia, out of Africa.

BRITISH COMRADES' TRIBUTES.

No greater monument to the efficiency and valour of the Indian soldier has been raised than the story of the decisive rôle played by the 4th Division in Tunisia. Let these men's British comrades speak.

".....if anyone ever suggests to you that Indian troops are not all that is desired," wrote a young officer of a British battalion, "just you cli

once. They are damned good fighters.....Although our fellows can't talk like them, they get on together in first-class style. The Indians are so pleasant, and yet such MEN."

In more than two years of fierce dingdong encounters over thousand miles in Africa, of exhausting advances and gruelling withdrawals, through countless hardships, unspectacular, unreliable campaigning and discomfort, this great fighting force, the 4th Indian Division, by its steadfastness and its superb skill, set the seal on the great events now in train on the Mediterranean shores—where once again, without doubt, will have no small rôle in store for it.

R. A. F.'s ADVICE TO ITALIA

To the Italian people: You are doomed to destruction as long as the Germans are in Italy. The Air Force of the Allies will cover the skies of Italy. All that the Italian navies and air forces are waiting for is the order to march into Europe through Italy.

As long as Italy continues to be the instrument of the Germans, your industry will be bombed without respite. We know that the Italians want peace, but they must first make peace and start demonstrations for peace.

TOJO'S PILGRIMAGE TO THE PHILIPPINES.

Far East News Letter, May 13, 1943.

General Tojo has followed up his "unprecedented" visits to the puppet states of Manchukuo, Nanking and Hsinking with a visit to Manila, "in view of the decisive part played by the Philippines in the Greater East Asia War." A Tokyo communiqué on May 6th explains his purpose as "to strengthen co-operation between Japan and the Philippines, which is an

element in Greater East Asia, and to make the 16 million people there wholly united for the construction of a new Philippines for the successful prosecution of the Greater East Asia War."

The cumbersome phrase exposes Tojo's dilemma. The Filipinos are thinking only of independence and the hardships imposed upon them by Japan's war exactions. The Japanese are thinking only of the war crisis and of how they may exploit still more the Islands' resources in man-power and natural riches.

Behind Tojo's visit also is a fear—a rising fear that the totalitarian unification of the Filipinos that they have promoted may become a powerful instrument for the prosecution, not of the Japanese war, but of Filipino independence. The Kalibapi has absorbed not only all the political parties but over half a million of the most energetic youth of the nation, in "the cause of the new Philippines which it champions." Tojo asks for the co-operation of the Filipinos "as a whole body." The day of the levy en masse and of forced labour, at full noon in Nazi Europe, has also dawned in East Asia. Chinese workers are even being drafted in Shanghai for the war factories in Japan, and Manchurian youth for forced labour in the fields and swamps.

Against the unconditional grant of independence by America, to come into effect on July 4, 1946, Tojo offers only a period of arduous probation in the spheres of political unity, already achieved; economic rehabilitation; and cultural reform. The Filipinos are asked to allow their lives to be completely upset and their former high standards of living reduced to one between that of the beggar and the peasant, in the interests of Japan's war aims. The third condition of independence demands that the proud Filipino discard the Christian culture of over three centuries in order to recreate himself in the image of a slave and satellite of the Japanese master-race.

"AUSTERITIES"

As the Allied armies prepare for a European second front, locomotives are being specially adapted for war service. The result is the "Austerity"—a light-weight locomotive which can burn any kind of fuel and can be adjusted to run on any gauge track.

Built with only four tons of steel against the 21 tons used in pre-war British locomotives, these little "Austerities" will haul munitions and troop trains weighing 700 tons at 30 to 40 miles per hour. They have many other emergency devices, including out-size tenders for holding extra large quantities of fuel and water.

It is considered probable that the Germans have already perfected their own version of the "Austerity" locomotive, seeing that Mosquito bombers are destroying their heavy ones at the rate of 150 a month.

"SILENT SPEECH"

Recent reports reveal that one-man wireless sets combining transmitters and receivers have proved extremely useful in the dogged hand-to-hand mountain fighting of Tunisia.

The operator is not required to raise his voice even to normal pitch; the two pads pressing against his throat transmit the voice impulses of his otherwise inaudible speech. This has proved an important discovery, as these "silent speech" transmitters can report to base from within hearing distance of the enemy.

Employment of a throat microphone leaves both of the operator's hands entirely free, so that he is able to use his weapons even when making transmissions.

"Delivery Men of the Air" Save Many Lives FREIGHTING BY PARACHUTE

"ANY PLACE ANY TIME, ANYWHERE"...This is the slogan of the practitioners of the very newest branch of military science—freighting by parachute.

From the time when the lives of thousands of famished men on Dunkirk's bomb-wrecked beaches were saved by biscuits dropping from the skies, this rapidly developing R. A. F. service has grown to the point where in China entire communities are provisioned by parachute.

Attached by slings to specially-constructed "food parachutes" of cotton, the cases of provisions lie in position at the head of the flare-launching chute as the planes take off on their life-giving mission.

For one emergency "rescue" operation recently, 3,000 such special food 'chutes were made by 6,000 Indian tailors working against time.

As the plane reaches a carefully calculated distance from the "customer's doorstep"; the "delivery man" pilot opens the door, and the "goods" go hurtling into space. Watched by hungry eyes below, the "food 'chute" opens, and the case sways slowly to earth.

Even should the case burst on striking the ground, no great damage will be done, for the food—which is mostly of a hard and non-perishable sort—is securely packed in tins.

On urgent calls, food must sometimes be dropped without the aid of parachutes, and then, indeed, the "delivery men of the air" need a degree of skill not one whit less than that of their comrades of the bombers.

To-day this "life-saving bombing" has been brought to such a pitch of perfection that by parachute from the clouds descend not only men, ammunition, guns, collapsible bicycles, and even small tanks, but also on one occasion an entire field hospital, complete with dressings, orderlies, doctors and beds.

TONGUE-TWISTERS—BUT THEY DO MEAN SOMETHING!

By general consent, war communiqués from Burma are awarded World prize for their richness in tongue-twisters, polysyllabic place-names baffling even to the most practiced radio-announcers. But however incomprehensible place-names in Burma may seem, they mostly mean something—to a Burmese.

For instance, MYITKYINA may sound like nothing on earth to the European way of thinking, but in fact it means, quite simply, NEAR BIG RIVER, MYIT—river, KYI—Big, NA—Near. Which is a pretty concise description since Myitkyina is situated on the left bank of Burma's greatest waterway, the Irrawaddy river.

And here are a few more guideposts through Burma's phonetical jungle:

PWIN-BYU	...	...	<i>Blossom, White.</i>
THAYET-MYO	...	...	<i>Mango Town.</i>
MYIN-GYAN	...	...	<i>Horse Farm.</i>
SHWE-GU	...	...	<i>Golden Cave.</i>
KYAUK-PYU	...	...	<i>Stone, White.</i>
MYO-HAUNG	...	...	<i>Town, Old.</i>
SIT-TAUNG	...	...	<i>Battle Hill.</i>
SIN-GAUNG	...	...	<i>Elephant's Head.</i>
MYE-BON	...	...	<i>Earth Mound</i>
NGABYAW-CHAUNG-WYA	...	...	<i>Banana Stream Mouth.</i>
BUTHE-DAUNG	...	...	<i>Calabash Mountain.</i>

BURMA AUXILIARY FORCE.

Former Burma civilians, battle-ried "veterans" of the Burma Auxiliary Force, now embodied in the regular army, are undergoing intensive training in the various methods of modern warfare, patiently awaiting the day when they will take an active part in the grand offensive to retake their homeland.

Composed of bank clerks, accountants, students and men from a dozen different walks of life, this entirely voluntary formation is being put through a toughening-up process at a training centre "somewhere in Central India."

All of these men fought side by side with regular troops in the Burma campaign—in the artillery (both Field and heavy A. A.), in the infantry, with the armoured cars, and in coastal defence. Many have had to leave friends and relations behind in Burma, and not a few have lost their own folk through disease and privation on the trek from Burma.

"ROUGH STUFF."

Unarmed combat is taught to all personnel by skilled instructors. Enthusiasm shown for the "rough stuff" in the initial stages of training was so great that several B. A. F's went into hospital with broken collar bones and ribs.

The B. A. F. won the majority of the contests at a recent boxing tournament with the neighbouring Officers' Training School.

Thirty-mile route marches with full packs over difficult country, involving the climbing of steep hills—the whole day without food or water—are a regular weekly feature.

Men of the B. A. F. are to-day manning some of the most modern coastal defence guns in India, while others have been commissioned in the Indian Army for specialist jobs.

ARMY HAS PLANS FOR SOLDIERS' FUTURE.

Squatting with a crowd of V. C. O.s and sepoy in the shade of a lorry, a kindly, greyhaired Indian Army officer talked to them in their own language.

The men's faces shone—for it was of their future after the war that the officer was talking, telling them of the preparations the Army was making to help them build new lives for themselves and their families in the world after the war.

The Army, he told them, was their "village university". It provided for them courses in poultry-keeping, wool-processing, fruit-farming and preserving, and a score of cottage industries. There were, he said, four secrets of post-war happiness in India. They were brains, labour, money, and co-operation with each other.

"Use this free education," he said, "and you will continue to enjoy the pleasures of the cinema, the radio, and the harmonium. Your army welfare fund, which is increasing by 25 to 30 lakhs every month, will help you."

Guiding, inspiring these men who must play so large a part in building the India of the future, this 61-year-old "friend of the Indian Army" has in the past fourteen months travelled a distance almost equal to once round the world, giving advice to over a quarter of a million Indian soldiers in Iraq, North Africa, Burma, and most parts of India.

TATANAGARS.

"Safer than slit-trenches during a bombing raid," was a Gunner officer's tribute to the 'Tatanagars'—the armoured cars made in India which have been doing remarkable service in the Eighth Army's forward drive.

The officer went on to describe how while he was moving his Observation post forward, a 75 mm. shell burst on one side of his Tatanagar. The metal plates were buckled, but nowhere pierced. The four occupants of the car emerged unscathed.

"Only a direct hit from a bomb or shell will knock these Tatanagars out," went on the officer. "And as for shelling, they are the ideal thing, because if enemy guns register near us, all we have to do is to move some five hundred yards and the enemy gunners have to start all over again. And as for machine guns, they hardly scratch the paint off the Tatanagars."

An Indian Army Observer with the Eighth Army reports that units possessing Tatanagars swear by them. Many stories have been told me, he writes, of how Tatanagars saved the lives of men under shell fire and bombing. Indian craftsmen can be proud of their Tatanagars.

PRODUCER GAS PLANTS.

As a result of direct war requirements or of lacunae in imports, a number of new industries have sprung up in India during the last three years. Of these the manufacture of producer gas plant occupies a prominent place, since it has enabled road transport to be maintained despite petrol rationing.

Prior to the war, private interests in South India had carried out experiments on imported gas producer plants for vehicles, and had actually commenced manufacture of plants. A number of bus fleets was in operation before the war.

In 1941, a special survey of the development was carried out at the instance of the Transport Advisory Council by Mr. N. C. Watney, an officer of the Railway Board. Mr. Watney made an extensive tour of India and saw the stage which manufacture had reached. There was then a considerable number of makers, both in a large way and on a small scale. Mr. Watney reported on the situation generally, and as a result Draft Model Rules and Specifications were prepared by the late Department of Communications (now Department of War Transport) and circulated to Provincial Governments with the object of laying down standards to prevent deterioration of vehicles owing to cheap and inferior plants.

These Draft Model Rules, after consultation with Provinces, were finally published as Additional Model Rules under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, and have been generally adopted by all Provincial Governments.

They embrace regulations for the safety for the travelling public, the drivers and pedestrians, as well as laying down safe standards of construction by defining where necessary the minimum thickness of material.

ASSISTING MANUFACTURERS.

In order to assist manufacturers, a quota of controlled steel has been obtained, against which licences are issued by the War Transport Department to approved manufacturers who obtain their supplies from stockyards at different centres.

In order further to ensure the standard of plants being manufactured, a system for testing the actual gas generated by any particular plant was recommended to all Provincial Governments. This test is to determine the amount of dust concentration in the gas. A testing plant is in operation in Madras, and one is practically completed at Delhi, while arrangements are being made in Bombay and Calcutta for suitable testing plant.

There are at the moment some 50 manufacturers in India participating in this Department's quota of steel.

At present, there are upwards of 10,000 vehicles converted to the use of producer gas in India. As 600 conversions per annum represent a saving of one million gallons of petrol per annum, it will be seen that the use of charcoal fuel is a great

factor in the conservation of motor spirit. India is particularly fortunate in her large resources of charcoal which from the point of view of producer gas plants is an ideal fuel and superior in many ways to other alternative fuels.

It has not been the policy of the Government to endeavour to introduce a standard of "sealed pattern" model of producer plant, but rather to leave the development to individual initiative. Thus, each maker is free to develop his plant according to his experience and to the experiments he is able to undertake, and this is hoped to have the effect of creating healthy competition and rivalry, so that the best type of plant will automatically come to the front.

It is expected that in the first half of current year about 3,000 motor vehicles will be available to India from America under Lease-Lend. An important condition of sale of such vehicles to approved civil operators will be that the War Transport Department of the Government of India may require any Lease-Lend truck to be fitted with a producer gas plant, approved by the Provincial Transport Controller concerned. The object is to save petrol as much as possible and encourage for this purpose conversion of vehicles to gas.

As Lease-Lend material is given solely for waging war and for maintaining the essential civil life of the community, the Central Government hold themselves as "trustees" of this material. In order to fulfil this trust, the War Transport Department have drawn up a scheme of controlled distribution of Lease-Lend vehicles.

Hire purchase will be excluded, and profiteering through the device of allowing an inadequate price for a vehicle taken in part exchange will be guarded against.

The owner of a Lease-Lend truck or chassis will have to make it available for war work, as directed, anywhere in India.

WAR AND PAPER ECONOMY. HOW OTHER COUNTRIES VIEW PROBLEM

Indian Information, May 1, 1943.

The new familiar problems of paper economy in India recall the economy and control measures imposed in other countries. These are generally more stringent.

Thus in Canada and America, production of paper and paper products, including newsprint, has been frozen at the level approximating to the average production in the last six months, in order to release machine capacity, labour and power for other industries.

IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

In the United Kingdom only 20 per cent of the paper mills have machines which can produce pulp from natural raw fibres, and it is quite impossible to expand and recondition

the plants on account of the high priority for iron and steel for the munitions industries. Paper mills keep to full production only by using old and waste paper.

Fines ranging up to £ 100 are imposed in England on anyone who burns paper. The use of paper as wrappers is forbidden by law. All waste paper must go back to the mills for repulping.

Advertisements and posters are strictly regulated. No business circulars or catalogues can be printed. Newspaper allocations for advertisement space are ruthlessly limited. There are limits imposed also on the size of each advertisement.

The 'Strand Magazine', for example, has scaled down to 20 or 30 pages from roughly 300 pages, and the size to a pocket book.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CXLIX. (Batch 2)

5- 6-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	9- 6-43 Kulipirai ... 7.00 p.m.
6- 6-43 Kudumiyamalai ... 7.00 "	" Sevalur ... 7.30 "
" Parambur ... 7.30 "	10- 6-43 Kalamavur ... 7.00 "
7- 6-43 Vengalur ... 7.30 "	" Nallur ... 7.30 "
" Konapattu ... 7.30 "	11- 6-43 Panayappatti ... 7.00 "
8- 6-43 Nachchandupatti. ... 7.00 "	" Bangiyam ... 7.30 "
" Virachchilai ... 7.30 "	

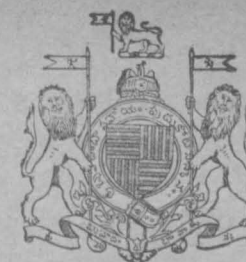
LECTURE CL (Batch 3).

12- 6-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	16- 6-43 Ramachandrapuram... 7.00 p.m.
13- 6-43 Mullankurichchi ... 7.00 "	" Rayavaram ... 7.30 "
" Kottaikkadu ... 7.30 "	17- 6-43 Kodumbalur ... 7.00 "
14- 6-43 Annavasal ... 7.00 "	" Viralimalai ... 7.30 "
" Kilakkurichchi ... 7.30 "	18- 6-43 Valaramanikkam. ... 7.00 "
15- 6-43 Malaiyur ... 7.00 "	" Embal ... 7.30 "
" Karambakkudi ... 7.30 "	

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

5- 6-43 Tirumayyam.	12- 6-43 Vettamviduthi.
6- 6-43 Virachchilai.	13- 6-43 Tittanviduthi.
7- 6-43 Kiranur.	14- 6-43 Viralimalai.
8- 6-43 Kudumiyamalai.	15- 6-43 Vadakadu.
9- 6-43 Karambakkudi.	16- 6-43 Rayavaram.
10- 6-43 Kilanilai.	17- 6-43 Kulipirai.
11- 6-43 Pudukkottai.	18- 6-43 Pudukkottai.

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai. 750—5-6-43.



PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

JUNE 12, 1943

[No. 150

LECTURE CL.

PÆAN.

(The National War Front Supplement).

THE National War Front has done a year's work and many who have studied its effects regret that it did not come into being 3 or 5 or 15 years ago. They wonder why the sharp goad of its propaganda was not unsheathed long ago, and why the virtue in its creed was allowed to moulder in obscurity until the hounds of war were unleashed upon us. The same observers commonly add a rider. The National War Front they say, should now be more than a transient war organization. Instead of bending all its energy to girding the country for the filthy business of war, why should it not become the spear-head of its reconstruction after the war? Why should it not turn its now undoubted power to unifying and strengthening India, as she looks anxiously into a strange but mighty future? We echo, why not?

THE circumstances surrounding the birth of the National War Front may be recapitulated. Everything looked black. Mere survival was in doubt. Sparks of hope and volumes of prayer notwithstanding, no rational mind could hold a clear vision of Victory. For two and half years (except in Russia) a precarious defensive roll had been the lot of the Allies. The ears of India were filled with noise of the over-running of Europe, and her eyes beheld the tentacles of the Japanese octopus crawling through her eastern gates. Within the land, a powerful caucous, preferring political ascendancy to patriotism, huckstered their way to violent revolution, while the mass of simple, unread, peace-loving people grew more puzzled, more fearful and more hungry.

THE founders of the Front then said: "If the men of India are men and not morons, this shall not be. We must attack the tapeworm of apathy and ignorance, and the were-wolf of defeatist rumour. To the students we will recall the glories of the Mauryan and the Moghul, of Ujjain and Vijayanagar. We will ask the builder and the craftsmen if the beauties of Bhuvaneshwar or Ajanta, of Mohanjadaro or Halebid are to crumble under the guns of the invader. To adventurous youths we will recall the triumphs of Chand Bibi, Sivaji, and Clive. To the pious we will ask whether the Gods are deathless or not, and whether there are no Rakshasas left for the Lord Rama to destroy. To the aesthete

we shall say: We summon the minstrels and the bards, the poets and the playwrights, to resurrect the arts of Kalidasa and Thulasidas and Abdul Fazal, and from the materialist we will enquire what right has any other than an Indian to the wheat-prairies of the Punjab, the coal-fields of Jharia, the oil-wells of Attock or the rice-fields of the Cauvery?"

THIS the National War Front set out to do, and in its first year achieved enough to establish itself for a generation or more. There have been failures and shortcomings; there is a mass of human material even now unstirred and unharnessed; there are a hundred untried directions for forethought and enterprise; but morale in this country and this Presidency has been mightily strengthened and the National War Front has obtained a hold on the imagination of the Madrassi which withstands the sneers of doubters, the captiousness of critics and the attacks of enemies.

THE principal themes of the National War Front have naturally changed with the changing fortunes of the war. Last year and early this year people had to be told that "This is India's War," that "The Power of the Axis Must be Broken," that "India's Honour Must be Maintained," that "We must Suppress Rumours For They Destroy Strength." As prospects for Victory for the Allies grow brighter and brighter the undertone of the slogans changes. "Victory Lies Ahead But We Must Work For It," "This is India's Industrial Opportunity," and "Through Victory to Freedom" are the clarion calls to-day. The switch over is significant.

A new confidence suffuses the national effort. Our feet are on the path to Victory, and only jealousy, suspicion and the obscuration of our objective can cause our feet to slip from it. At a time when the outlook was black, and when fear and mistrust and treachery were rampant, the ideals of the National War Front were embodied in a noble Pledge, not a word of which need be repudiated by any honest man of whatever political complexion. But some day soon when that "Sure and certain hope of Victory" materializes, a mind of equal genius must contrive for us a new Pledge, limning the prospect of the National War Front as it gazes over the last grim barriers of War into the brave new world.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

5-6-43 to 11-6-43.

Russia.—Nothing is known as yet as to when the Russian Campaign will begin, or which side will strike first. A few days ago it was prophesied that MOSCOW would be the scene of a renewed German offensive; now the Donetz and the Kuban are mentioned. Meanwhile fierce air-battles are raging, and local engagements are reported on the KALININ, OREL, LISICHANSK and KUBAN fronts.

Attu Island has been occupied by the Americans. The Japanese forces of occupation have been wiped out.

China.—The Chinese have retaken YUYANGKUAN described as the gateway to CHUNGKING, and after a 5 days fight near SHIHPAI, have expelled the enemy from CHANGYANG, CHIHKANG, ITU, TANGYANG and KUNGAN. The Japanese drive on CHUNGKING has failed.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

31-5-43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—(2 Axis planes shot down; 1 Allied plane missing).

The air-field at CAEN.

The docks at CHERBOURG (France).

Targets at FLUSHING and ZEEBRUGGE (Belgium).

Air combats over NIEUPOORT.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field, administrative buildings and marshalling yards at FOGGIA (Italy).

Docks, power station and barracks in SARDINIA. PANTELLARIA.

Axis shipping in the AEGEAN SEA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

FAR EAST.

KISKA (Aleutians).

The air-field at RANGAAR (Kai Islands).

FINSCHHAFEN (N. Guinea).

The waterfront, town area and air-field at LAE (N. Guinea).

Enemy railway installations at MANDALAY (Burma).

Air-fields at MANYWA, and TUMBONGHKA (Burma).

A road bridge near KAMAING (Burma).

A military dump at SHINGBAN (Burma).

Suspension bridge at SHWELI (Burma).

1-6-43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

5 Small supply ships off the coast of HOLLAND.

Railway targets in Northern FRANCE.

Air combats over N. FRANCE (5 enemy planes shot down).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Supply vessels, railway and dock installations in SARDINIA.

Seaplane base at STAGNANE Island.

PANTELLARIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

The railway junction of SMOLENSK.

The railway stations at KARACHEV and KRASNYYBOR (all in German occupied Russia).

FAR EAST.

Jap base at LAE (N. Guinea).

FINSCHHAFEN (N. Guinea).

KISKA (Aleutians).

The main Jap base of ICHANG (China).

The railroad installations at MANDALAY (Burma).

2-6-43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—(5 Allied planes missing).

Railway targets and armed trawlers in occupied territories.

EVENING:—

Air combats over the BAY of BISLAY

(5 Axis planes shot down).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Targets on the Island of SAN ANTIOCO (near Sardinia).

PANTELLARIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircrafts all along the RUSSIAN front.

Railway junctions of KIEV and ROSLAVI (3 Soviet aircraft destroyed).

FAR EAST.

KISKA (Aleutians).

Jap aerodromes in WEWAK area (N. Guinea).

BULLDOG area (N. Guinea).

The air-field at CAPE GLOUCESTER.

HOLLANDI (Dutch N. Guinea).

Shipping off LANTEM (Timor).

Jap positions in the TUNGTING Lake and YANGTSE areas (China).

ICHANG (China).

Warehouses in the SALWEEN area (Burma).

Enemy radio installations on Diamond Island (S.W. of Rangoon).

3-6-43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

*NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

PANTELLARIA.

Air-fields in SARDINIA.

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

Railway junction at OREL (German occupied Russia).

FAR EAST.

Jap bases in TIMOR, Dutch N. Guinea and N. BRITAIN.

KISKA (Aleutians).

Warehouses and railway yards on the CANTON-HANKOW Railway (China).

Pailoki air-field near YCHOW (China).

ICHANG (China).

Warehouse at AKYAB (Burma).

Supply sampans in the MAUNGDAW-BUTHIDAUNG area (Burma).

Military objectives at KALEMYO (Burma).

4-6-43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY and NIGHT:—

No information available.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field at GROTTALGLIE (Italy).

PANTELLARIA.

CATANZARO (Italy).

The air-fields at SYRACUSE and MILO (Sicily).

Machine gun positions on FAVIGNANA Island (near Sicily).

RUSSIA (German occupied).

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

The Ry. junction at BRYANSE.

The railway station at KARACHEV.

FAR EAST.

Air-fields, ammunition dumps and grounded aircraft at WEWAK, BUT, DAGUA and BORAM.

Oil installations at CHAUK (Burma).

A factory at MYAUNG (Burma).

BUTHIDAUNG area (Burma).

Supply dumps at TANGYANG (China).

ITALY (China).

5-6-43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY and NIGHT:—

No information available.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The Italian Naval Base of SPEZAI

(Workshops and other ships hit).

Workshops and the air-field at MONSERRATO (Sardinia).

Air combats over PANTELLARIA (4 Axis planes destroyed).
The harbour at PORTO RAMANO (Sardinia).
The landing ground at LAPOERRO (Sardinia).
Enemy shipping in the AEGEAN Sea and off the west coast of GREECE.

RUSSIA.

(For the week 29-5-43 to 6-6-43 Russians lost 212 planes; Axis lost 752 planes).

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

DOBO (Aru Islands).

Air-fields at LAHA (Amboina Island) and LANGGOER.

Jap installations at KHALI (Burin).

A destroyer in the BOUGAINVILLE area.

KISKA (Aleutians).

ALON (Burma).

Jap targets at CHAUK and MANDALAY (Burma).

Buildings at PAUKKAN and at WETLET (Burma).

Barracks at MONYWA.

Jap remnants at OTU (China).

ICHANG (China).

6-6-43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied)

DAY:-

Minesweepers in the STRAITS of DOVER (2 minesweepers set on fire).

Railway targets in Northern FRANCE.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Railroad yards at MESSINA (Sicily); The harbour area at REGGIO DI CALABRIA; SANGIOVANNI; PANTELLARIA (2 axis planes destroyed).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

The railway centre of UNECHA (German-occupied Russia).

FAR EAST.

Air-fields at KOEPANG and PENFOCI (Dutch Timor) (3 Jap planes destroyed).

Jap positions at CHOISEUL Island;

Jap installations at MUNDA (N. Georgia); KISKA (Aleutians); Objectives at KALEMYO (Burma)

The air-field near YOCHOW (China);

A railway bridge at PUCHI (China);

Shasi air-field near ICHANG (China);

Trucks at TANGYANG (China).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

1-6-43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

A town on the south-east coast of ENGLAND (5 Axis planes shot down).

Another town on the south coast of ENGLAND.

RUSSIA.

Russian airfields behind the forward lines.

2-6-43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

Places on the East ANGLIAN coast (1 axis plane destroyed).

RUSSIA.

KURSK (162 axis planes shot down).

3-6-43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

MEDITERRANEAN.

MALTA (only alerts).

RUSSIA.

KUBAN area (3 enemy planes shot down).

4-6-43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

A place on the south-east coast of ENGLAND.

MEDITERRANEAN.

MALTA (1 Axis plane destroyed).

RUSSIA.

Russian air-fields and supply centres behind the forward lines.

5-6-43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity anywhere in BRITAIN.

RUSSIA.

Air combats over the KUBAN peninsula.

6-6-43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

A town on the south-east coast of ENGLAND (1 axis plane shot down).

RUSSIA.

KUBAN area.

FAR EAST.

Wau air-field (1 Jap plane shot down);

Towns near CHUNGKING (China).

7-6-43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

RUSSIA.

GORKI.

FAR EAST.

LIANGSHAN (N. E. of Chungking).

Other great results have followed. One of them, either accidentally or by design, is the transfer to Allied service, of the French Fleet at ALEXANDRIA, consisting of 1 battleship, 4 cruisers, 3 destroyers and 1 submarine.

Secondly, the situation in TANGIER has altered. Time, there was, when, with Rommel on one side, and the Spanish forces at TANGIER on the other side, the Allied forces at ALGIERS feared a treacherous attack from TANGIER in the rear. But the present Allied possession of TUNISIA has forced Gen. Franco to revise his attitude.

Thirdly, French unity talks have reached a definitely satisfactory stage. Gen. de Gaulle has met Gen. Giraud at ALGIERS and a committee of National Liberation, with both of them as Presidents, has been set up, invested with sovereign powers. It will continue the common fight till the laws of the French Republic are restored, and FRANCE has regained her traditional place in the comity of nations.

Italy.

Fear of invasion has gripped ITALY. Her Newspapers betray panic. Landings are expected anywhere and everywhere. There is little confidence in the defences. The massing of an invasion fleet of 146 merchant ships at GIBRALTAR is rumoured. As a German Commentator has observed, ITALY's position is difficult. Her empire is lost and an enemy, 'numerically and materially stronger' stands ready to land. Once PANTELLARIA is occupied and the shield that SICILY forms is pierced, ITALY will collapse helpless and fall to the invader. Frantically Mussolini has changed his cabinet ministers and army chiefs. To quote his own words he is now fighting, not for the Axis, but for ITALY.

But ITALY will not be the only point of invasion. As Mr. Morby Richards writing in the *Daily Express* has pointed out, if the island screen of PANTELLARIA, SICILY and SARDINIA falls, the Allies can pick the best of three invasion lines against EUROPE. It will be either (1) the occupation of the whole of ITALY or (2) the invasion of southern FRANCE by way of SARDINIA and SICILY or (3) the invasion of YUGOSLAVIA across the boot of ITALY, with a possible attack on GREECE through CRETE.

Thus, in the words of Sir Stafford Cripps the stage is set for the next Act in this great drama of victory. We wait with expectancy to see the curtain rise. The enemy has been put on the defensive, points for attack have been gained, and the initiative has been seized, so that the enemy does not know where the next blow will fall.

The change from the offensive to the defensive attitude is nowhere better seen than in the hesitant stand of the Germans on the Russian front. Here, in spite of an early spring, the Germans have not started an offensive yet. Dr. Goebbels states, 'It would be too much to expect from me that I should say even one word about the immediate intentions of the German High Command in the East. Our command will not be provoked to break its persistent silence'. Silence betokens fear—fear of an eventual Italian collapse, fear of the R. A. F. whose attacks are increasing in violence every day, fear that the U-boat piracy is not going as well as GERMANY would like, fear of the decreasing stocks of oil, and last, but not least, the need to maintain defensive forces along the entire European Coast line. So GERMANY thinks that it is the better part of valour to be on the defensive, and it is not improbable that the Germans may continue to maintain a general defensive-offensive in RUSSIA all through the coming months. Says the German military spokesman General Dittmar, 'Those who must attack are our opponents, not ourselves. The question of who is able to attack is less important at present than the question of who is forced to attack. After the painful experience of TUNISIA our enemy must not come nearer.'

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE TUNISIAN VICTORY.

Its Significance.

As the days pass, the importance of the great victory won in North AFRICA, becomes more and more apparent. As Gen. Eisenhower and Field Marshal Smuts have together pointed out in a recent B. B. C. talk ("All-Africa Calling Europe", May 29) the result is not only the 'jolting' of the enemy morale but the whole battle technique has changed. The initiative has not only been wrested from the enemy, but the Allies can now exploit the element of surprise. It is not only that the British and American armies have gained in technique and professional ability, but it is now possible for them to concentrate and command overwhelming resources upon the European theatre of war.

RUSSIA.

Stalin's gesture to the Allied world showing that he does not intend to interfere with the internal economic and political structure of other countries, which is the meaning of his promise to dissolve the Comintern is, as we pointed out last week, a great statesmanlike move. It has not only knocked the bottom out of enemy propaganda but has knit the Allies more closely. It also takes Stalin himself and RUSSIA a stage further. In his November 7th speech Stalin looked forward to Victory in War only, but his latest letter on the subject of the abolition of the Comintern shows that his vision now extends further to the winning of the peace as well, for which Russian co-operation with other Allied states is essential. If the Anglo-Russian Treaty has laid the foundations of post-war economy, Stalin's disbandment of the Comintern lays the foundations of political amity in a post-war world.

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THE U-BOAT.

In recent weeks and months the U-boat attacks have definitely declined; more Allied ships have crossed the Atlantic, and more U-boats have been killed, than for the corresponding months of last year. To this several causes have contributed—increase in the number and effectiveness of convoy escorts, and of air patrols and air escorts. The mid-Atlantic gap where air cover had hitherto been absent no longer exists—the result is that a shipping pool is being slowly built up for a great overseas offensive. A succession of such successes in the Battle of the Atlantic, by saving shipping, will add tremendously to the striking power of the Allies when the time for invasion comes.

Mr. Churchill has returned to LONDON. He flew from the U. S. to GIBRALTAR and thence to ALGIERS, where he met Generals Eisenhower, Giraud and de Gaulle. Here Mr. Eden joined him. He visited the Tunisian battle-area and addressed 3,000 soldiers in the ruins of the ancient amphitheatre at CARTHAGE, congratulating them on the glorious Victory they had won and the large number of prisoners they had taken.

THE FALL OF ATTU has evidently increased the Japanese fears. Speaking on June 2 Gen. Tojo observed, 'the situation is too serious to be described by words. There is not one single Japanese to-day who would not be prepared to forfeit his life spontaneously for Victory and the greatness of the country in the spirit of the 2,000 Japanese killed on ATTU Island.'

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ARAKAN.

'The breaking of the Monsoon' says the *Times*, 'has brought down a curtain of rain and mist on the Indo-Burmese front. In the south, the Arakan campaign has reached its expected but disappointing close. We retired toward the starting point. The Japanese are again in occupation of BUTHIDAUNG and MAUNGDAW. All that can be said of the six months' obstinate fighting is that our offensive, although unsuccessful, may well have prevented the Japanese from raiding CHITTAGONG and the Province of BENGAL. Our battle casualties are not excessive considering the numbers engaged and the bitterness of fighting. Malarial fever however, has probably taken a heavier toll from both the armies than machine-gun and mortar. Its extreme prevalence in the ARAKAN during the rains seems to rule out the employment of more than the minimum troops in operation by either side for several months to come.'

TUNISIA : HITLER'S GAMBLE

By LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

The first lesson I learn from Tunisia is the indivisibility of war. This victory will not only have psychological repercussions all over the world, but what is perhaps more important, it will have a quick practical effect many miles from the north coast of Africa.

The Mediterranean now is open to our fleets and convoys. The Far East is brought some 5,000 miles nearer to our home ports; and a very large proportion of the Royal Naval escort craft immediately becomes available to swell the protection given to our Atlantic convoys. Thus in one fell swoop, the Atlantic U-boats have their task made far more difficult and the Japanese see their enemy's lines of communication with Europe shortened by 5,000 miles.

A VICIOUS INCLINATION

The effect closer to the scene of victory, of course, is more immediate. For the second time, Hitler has gambled and lost. But we must remember that gambling is a vicious inclination and not a mere slip into a momentary temptation. Stalingrad has proved to have been no isolated mistake from which a lesson could be learnt; it has shown a tendency to take risks unwarranted by circumstances. And I detect the continuance of this tendency at the present moment in the Kuban.

We can take great comfort that we have forced the enemy into a large and sudden surrender, and one for which there is little explanation unless it be that the German Generals, after Rommel had left, realized the folly of their High Command, and knew that there was no purpose in continuing to fight for a régime which had so grossly let them down.

RETENTION OF A BRIDGEHEAD

I am not going to speculate on where the Allied blows will first fall in Europe, but instead I want to turn for a moment to another place which bears close resemblance to Tunis and Bizerta—the Kuban.

Here we see the Germans struggling to maintain another bridgehead, and the Russians endeavouring to reduce it. I have sometimes seen the retention of such bridgeheads likened to the occupation by Wellington of the lines of Torres Vedras. But the analogy is false, because Wellington had one ingredient in his strategy that the Germans have lacked in theirs. Wellington was fighting for a nation which had assured him the command of the sea at his back. Germany has never provided this advantage to her armies fighting on foreign beaches and foreshores.

Modern war has also introduced the air arm which now assists surface ships to maintain command of sea routes; and Germany has now lost command in this element. Thus we see that her armies overseas (and the Kuban is strictly speaking overseas for the Germans) have no security of regular supplies, and have little chance of escape by the way they came, should things go ill with them. The Kuban is, therefore, much more of a gamble than Torres Vedras.

PATTERN FOR GERMAN DEFEATS.

London commentators observed that the dramatic capture of Tunis and Bizerta indicates the pattern for German defeats of the future. Forty-eight hours before, the Germans were standing on a line which had considerable natural strength. Behind them was a powerful fortress.

We had been attacking steadily for some weeks, and our progress had been slow though steady. Yet our pressure had been so inexorable on land, and the battle of attrition for the enemy's supplies so severe, that taken together they had deprived him of essential stores, equipment and ammunition, and robbed him of his capacity for resistance and shattered his morale.

After a facade of stubborn resistance and savage counter-attack, the Germans must be crumbling for days. A single powerful tank thrust at Massicault was enough to break them. Their resistance disintegrated with terrifying suddenness and completeness. Not even the powerful fortress of Bizerta could be defended. These casemates and redoubts were formidable as ever; it was the enemy who was too weak to hold them.

HARD BUT BRITTLE

It is believed in London that this pattern of defeat will be repeated again and again as the war goes on. Hard resistance will be followed by collapse, without any intermediate period of slow, discernible deterioration.

No one can tell when the Germans will collapse, all one knows is that they are certain to do so, but only after the toughest fighting.

Much earlier in the war, astute observer, expressed the opinion that the German resistance tended to be hard—but brittle. The collapse of Tunisia vindicates this opinion.

CAN JAPAN SAVE THE GERMANS?

by
LIBERATOR

The Axis Ace has not turned up. Last summer both Rommel and the Japanese were preparing to play their Middle Eastern trumps. The Japanese were to come up through the Indian Ocean; Rommel was to cross the Suez Canal; and von Kleist was racing to keep up the Caucasus end of this great converging strategy.

The Axis meeting did not take place. Japan's sun failed to rise over the Indian Ocean; Rommel's star did not shine along that last sixty miles to his Alexandrian goal, and the now dead von Kleist's Caucasian force is retreating in a desperate effort to save itself. This Allied achievement brought about on three vital battle-fields, divided from each other by over 3,000 miles in two of the three cases, is greater than is sometimes appreciated.

GREATEST OPPORTUNITY.

The firmness of the Indian Army under Wavell, the offensive hitting power of the Eighth Army under the Alexander-Montgomery combination, and above all the unbending defence of Stalingrad and the Caucasus, have collaborated to transform the sombre scene of four months ago into one which presents the Allies with the greatest opportunity yet for combined and synchronised action.

We may hail this new situation with just pride—so long as we do not forget to appreciate also its essential realities. For what has happened is that grim stubbornness, and far-seeing determination of the Russians was added to our own planned determination to build up the striking power of the Eighth Army at all cost, and that during this crucial period the Japanese remained strikingly inactive. The present opportune

situation has arisen therefore to a large extent not from any central design but from a fortunate outcome of loose collaboration. Moscow planned its counter-offensive; London was responsible for the Egyptian campaign; and Washington was mainly responsible for the directing lines of the North-West African invasion. In the Indian Ocean however, it was Japan's own choosing that decided her prolonged inactivity.

Nevertheless, from this variety of planning and distinctive development springs the present opportunity of the Allied Nations. In place of the threatened merger of Japanese and German troops in the Middle East, the possibility of joint fronts between the Allies and the Soviet Union becomes *the great opportunity*. The natural meeting place for such a strategic union would be on the flanks of Hitler's European fortress: in Scandinavia and the Balkans.

In many ways the enemy is perhaps to-day more conscious of this latent possibility than are the Allies. And therefore is it strange that German attention is being focussed on Japan, the one important Axis partner who still enjoys comparative freedom of action? It must now be the one overriding axiom of German strategy that *the more the United Nations concentrate their effort on the approaches to Hitler's fortress of Europe, the greater must be the part played by Japan in diverting and dispersing Allied efforts*.

On our side, therefore, full understanding of the rôle Japan intends to play within the Axis concert becomes essential to the exploitation of our present favourable situation.

It is sometimes suggested that the Japanese do not care overmuch about the fate of their partners in Europe. That is a false conclusion drawn from correct premises. Japan's policy will be not to do anything which might go against her own interests. She will therefore not embark on any venture merely to satisfy the demands of her allies. But, on the other hand, Japanese interests dictate very definitely that the two naval Powers and the one land Power which can challenge her hegemony in Asia shall not be triumphant in Europe. To that extent therefore she is vitally interested in a German victory, and will go to great lengths to prevent a German defeat at the hands of the United Nations. In doing this, however, Japanese policy pursues at the same time its own ends, with the same deliberateness which characterised her opening moves of the war against Britain and America.

THE PATTERN IN OUTLINE.

The pattern of this policy is now becoming recognisable, and repays following in outline.

The first striking fact of this last phase of Japanese policy is that it is now based on Japanese rule over an Asiatic population of about 400 million people; three times the population of the Soviet Union. Yet with this vast reservoir of man-power—even allowing for its limitations—at its disposal, Japanese policy has not increased the army in any appreciable form. The strength remains as it was at Pearl Harbour: 100 Divisions, about two million men. And of these 100 Divisions only a fraction has been employed in warfare since last April. In fact, there have been numerous reports of parts of the army being engaged on industrial, agricultural, and road-building jobs in Japanese-occupied countries. Everything points to the single fact that the Japanese have been utilising the pause in the fighting to mobilise the greatest possible amount of industrial strength.

It cannot, of course, be compared with the industrial efforts of the United States or this country. But it would be folly to try and do so. So far, the Japanese have shown one common trait in their strategy and their tactics: they have learnt from the West, but they have not simply copied the West. They have in fact shown extraordinary adaptability to the needs of fighting in the Pacific, its islands and along its shores. Add to this trait the recovery of a great amount of vital raw materials, of which the Axis countries—and Japan in particular—had gone short, and the ruthless temperament of the Japanese at war. The result must produce an impressive effort to build the economic base for the type of war Japan will have to face in the days to come.

HITLER'S URGENT NEED.

In the Solomons, and in New Guinea, Japan is fighting a grim defensive war. It is evident that she is not seeking a show-down yet, but that she is prepared for considerable sacrifices in order to maintain the protective girdle of islands behind which to prepare the 400 million Asiatics under her rule. But this can only be a temporary phase while she exploits and consolidates her gains. Japan cannot feel secure behind her islands once the hope of Germany's break-through to the Middle East has faded. She cannot feel safe so long as Australia and India serve the Allies as bases for reconquest.

For the next six months it will be the main Axis object to prevent the United Nations from concentrating shipping which will enable the building up of a great Allied striking force for the assault on Europe. Hitler's urgent need is to create a second front against our shipping while the U-boats are most damaging in their onslaughts. His one great hope is Japan. It is evident that the Allies have given priority—rightly—to the European theatre of war. Such forces as are in the Pacific are maintained on the basis of strict economy of force. Only a major Japanese attack either on India or Australia could lead to an alteration in the present distribution of Allied shipping and armed forces.

Germany must tide over the next critical eight months. She needs time. Her hopes are staked on Japan. She alone can delay the great concentrated effort of the United Nations on the offensive. Zhukov, Montgomery, Alexander, Cunningham, Wavell and Eisenhower are concentrating Allied strength. But just at this moment when everything points to Europe let us watch the connection between Tripoli and Trincomalee. Germany is looking to Japan for help. We can refuse the Germans this comfort by refusing them the time which they need now so much.

SEVEN SEAS STRUGGLE.

A YEAR AGO.

1 Air and surface patrols over the Western Atlantic were not completely organized and U-boats took heavy toll of Allied shipping in the Caribbean Sea and off the U. S. east coast.

NOW.

With the speed-up of Allied ship and plane production, convoys are assured of escort in considerable strength both in the air and on the surface. The increased range of aircraft has made air cover possible throughout the voyage across the North Atlantic.

A YEAR AGO

In the first four months of 1942 Berlin Radio claimed the sinking of 352 Allied ships (2,217,300 gross tons).

American shipyards in the same period built 106 new ships (887,390 gross tons). Even with the output of the United Kingdom and Canadian yards, sinkings (though fewer than the Germans claimed) exceeded replacements.

Apart from convoys for Malta, Allied merchant shipping was excluded from the Mediterranean the short route to Russia, the Middle East and the Far East.

In June 1942 Japanese forces seized Attu and Kiska, in the Aleutian Islands.

In April 1942 a powerful Japanese naval squadron appeared in the Bay of Bengal and carried out air bombardment of Ceylon, Coconada, and Vizagapatam. In May a similar force was engaged in the Coral Sea, off N.W. Australia. In June the Japanese sent an armada against Midway Island, in the Central Pacific.

NOW

Despite the much advertised "Doenit" offensive, and the considerable increase in the number of U-boats at sea, the Berlin radio claims for the first four months of 1943 total only 383 ships (2,448,600 gross tons).

American shipyards alone have replaced, not only all the ships lost in the first four months of 1943, but also those falsely claimed sunk by Berlin, with an output of 539 new ships (3,800,720 gross tons).

The United Nations Merchant Fleet is now at least THREE MILLION GROSS TONS bigger than it was nine months ago. Admiral King and Colonel Knox hope the U-boat will have been mastered by autumn 1943.

The Allied armies having cleared the last vestige of Axis might from Africa, Allied shipping can now travel throughout the length of the Mediterranean with air cover all the way.

In May 1943 American forces landed on Attu. In recent months Kiska has suffered an aerial bombardment which is beginning to measure up to Malta's ordeal.

In February 1943 the Japanese were obliged to evacuate the key air-base island of Guadalcanar, in the Solomons.

The loss of six aircraft-carriers has curbed the over-ambitious Japanese Admirals.

Since two were sunk in the Solomons six months ago, nothing has been seen or heard of Japan's capital ships.

Shortage of merchant shipping (222 vessels have been sunk, probably sunk or damaged by U. S. submarines alone) has called a halt to Japanese overseas expeditions.

GROWING CRESCENDO OF AIR BOMBARDMENT

A YEAR AGO

Raids on Lubeck, Rostock and Cologne so annoyed the Nazis that Goering launched a series of "reprisals" against the Cathedral cities of England.

NOW

R. A. F. raids on Germany are so heavy that "reprisals" have no value, even as propaganda.

A YEAR AGO

On Lubeck (March 28, 1942) the R. A. F. dropped 340 tons of bombs at the rate of two tons a minute.

The heaviest bomb dropped on targets in Germany weighed 4,000 lbs.

R. A. F. minelaying operations were on a comparatively small scale.

No U. S. aircraft were operating from bases in Britain.

During 1941 America had built planes at an average rate of 1,500 a month.

By structural weight, aircraft production in America during 1941 totalled 87,000,000 lbs.

Joachim von Ribbentrop declared on September 27, 1942: "The time will come when we will deal finally with this aircraft carrier in front of Europe—BRITAIN".

Raids on Italy were spasmodic, and during the home-based offensive which coincided with the first five weeks of Montgomery's advance from El Alamein, the R. A. F. dropped bombs on Northern Italy at the rate of 300 tons a week.

NOW

On April 26, 1943, the R. A. F. dropped 1,360 tons of bombs on Duisburg at the rate of 30 tons a minute.

The heaviest bomb dropped on targets in Germany weighs 8,000 lbs.

On the two succeeding nights of April 27 and 28, 1943, the R. A. F. laid more mines in enemy waters than would normally have been laid in a whole month.

U. S. aircraft have been operating from Britain since July 1942. They have bombed Germany heavily by day—a new experience for the Nazis.

The average for 1942 was 4,000 a month. In March 1943 U. S. factories turned out 6,200 planes.

By structural weight, aircraft production in America during 1942 totalled 291,000,000 lbs. The estimated output for 1943 is 911,000,000 lbs. and for 1944 it is 1,417,000,000 lbs. The output of heavy bombers from Britain's factories is $2\frac{1}{2}$ times what it was a year ago.

By liquidating the Axis forces in North Africa the Allies have acquired a second "aircraft carrier" in front of Europe—TUNISIA. And there is no sign of the Nazis "dealing finally" with either.

On May 9, 1943, four hundred Allied bombers based on North Africa dropped 450 tons in a single raid on the Sicilian port of Palermo. "That happy, abject, subject province of Germany which used to be called Italy will have its fair share too." That was Churchill's promise on July 14, 1941. Italy is beginning to get her "fair share" now.

COUNT CIANO.

A smooth, smug face, with not a wrinkle, not a line in it. Rich black hair above a forehead never marked by the pains of thought or care, a big sensuous mouth, naive brown eyes, and spread over it all the constant, confident, complacent smile of a spoilt child. A male beauty of the kind which is so cheap and frequent in the south. He might be a tenor in vogue, a middle-weight boxer, or just a young man about town. But he is

the newly-appointed Italian Ambassador to the Vatican, formerly for six fateful years Italy's Foreign Minister, a European figure, and unbelievable, a protagonist in the great world-tragedy through which we have been living.

Count Galeazzo Ciano's career has been as smooth and unbroken as his face. Son of a man who had made fame, a fortune and a title in the last war, he found every door open to him from the start. His father had, moreover, been one of the earliest sponsors of Mussolini's Blackshirt movement, and young Ciano had a grand time as a schoolboy playing, with full paternal backing, at the revolutionary. It brought him neither wounds nor dangers, but it gave him a share in the myth of Fascism's years of struggle.

When this hopeful young man embarked upon a diplomatic career, quick advancement was easy to predict. What could not be predicted was that already as an attaché he would bring off the big coup. Actually, he did. Back from his first post at Buenos Aires and attached, for the first time, to the Italian embassy at the Holy See, he married Edda Mussolini. The alliance was valuable to both parties. To the Mussolinis it gave a foothold in aristocratic society; to the Cianos—whose social rank was of recent date—a foothold in political power. Young Ciano, still under thirty, was now clearly earmarked for high office. After a short spell as Consul-General in Shanghai, he became head of his father-in-law's public-relations office, which was soon elevated to a fully fledged ministry: the Ministry of Popular Culture. Then came the Abyssinian war, and for the first time Ciano caught the attention of the world.

He went out as leader of a bomber-squadron, high-soundingly named "La Disperata." He bombed defenceless Abyssinian village crowds, and he made himself the bard of his own exploits: "A beautiful experience," he wrote. "The movements of the crowds which dissolved at the approach of our birds reminded me of the unfolding of a flower."

This utterance has been much quoted and pondered on. Like almost nothing else, it epitomises the type of which Ciano is the perfect example: that Nazi and Fascist jeunesse dorée which, while the world burned, had a thoroughly good time—enterprising young upstarts, almost disarming in their native callousness and vanity, buying a cheap sensation of artistic refinement out of the sufferings of others.

Feeling on top of the world, one of the "victors over fifty nations," Ciano came back from Abyssinia—and was at once appointed Foreign Minister of the King of Italy and Emperor of Abyssinia. He was thirty-three.

From now on for six years he was a figure in the great game of world-politics. His first mission was to Berlin to negotiate the foundation of the Axis. Since then few European capitals have not seen him. He was generally considered—most of all by himself—as the Crown-prince of the Mussolini dynasty and the second man of Fascist Italy. At the same time, he did not succeed in developing what might be called a political personality.

What personal traits he developed during these years were not connected with his office. He became notorious for his pleasure-seeking and greed. His innumerable amorous affairs were the most common gossip of Rome. He did nothing to hide them; he displayed them with the same naive, self-satisfied vanity with which he had boasted of his Abyssinian exploits.

At the same time, he showed the fervour of a hero from a Balzac novel in pursuing his own enrichment. Using the information to which his office gave him access, he

gambled most successfully on the Stock Exchange. He acquired large estates in Tuscany, corporations, private railway companies. Rich from birth, he was well on the way to becoming the richest man in Italy.

And now? He has fallen from eminence, but he has fallen on his feet. As Ambassador to the Holy See, he occupies probably the only place in Rome out of reach of the Gestapo. He may still be of some service to his father-in-law at this listening post. As to the future, he scarcely views it with undue alarm. His fortune is well scattered. Some of his assets have recently been frozen in Brazil, but enough should remain in Argentina and Switzerland to assure him a comfortable exile, from which to look back on a perfectly enjoyable time.

HOW JAPAN WAGES WAR. TOUGH FIGHTERS AND THEIR TACTICS.

by

Hanson W. Baldwin — From the Times Feb. 24, 1943.

In less than four months of war the Japanese conquered an empire. They swam, waded, walked, bicycled, and flew more than 400 miles down the Malayan Peninsula in 69 days. The golden Indies, richest archipelago in the world, was theirs in three months. The *Prince of Wales*, *Repulse* and *Hermes*—battleship, battle cruiser, and aircraft-carrier—were sunk by Japanese planes in the first month's action, achievements unparalleled by the Germans in more than two years of war. In Burma they drove toward the storied city of Mandalay at an average rate of better than five miles a day; and, as Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, the American Commander, put it, "we took a hell of a beating."

None of these things was expected; all of them were as surprising as the German panzer charge across Europe. The best military and political minds of the United Nations were fooled by the Japanese enemy, and their victories were a harsh awakening.

The Japanese are not merely psychologically tough—tough in the primitive way of feudalistic and semi-barbarous peoples—but tough physically. With a few balls of *nigurimeshi* (rice rolled up into balls, "sometimes with a salted plum in the centre") a Japanese soldier can be self-sufficient for about six days. He has no field kitchen and no hot food—sugar is a luxury. He can live off the country; he needs no canteens or recreation or athletic facilities; he slakes his thirst at any pool or stream by using a water filter he carries with him. He is in many ways animalistic man, but his primitive instincts, which serve him well in war, are carefully directed by the cunning brains of his leaders.

A BRITISH HANDICAP.

The Japanese Army is not a mechanized army. "Shank's mare", bicycles, horses, ships, sampans are important means of transportation; motor transport is used, and, so are railroads when there are any, but the Japanese do not depend upon them. General Alexander, who commanded the British forces in Burma, attributed the British defeat there in part to dependence upon motor transportation in a country ill adapted for it.

The Japanese [he said] had ideal light equipment carried on pack ponies and coolies, and soldiers specially trained for jungle fighting. To be dependent on motor transport, and therefore on roads, was far too serious a disadvantage for the British to overcome.

There is probably no nation in the world that has had so much practice, or is so skilled, in the operation of making a landing under fire as Japan. Once ashore in the hot lands fringing the South-Western Pacific, the Jap is really in his element. For his performance shows he has no peer in jungle warfare. Some of our Panama-trained troops, the Philippine Scouts and the Thirty-first Infantry, which fought on Bataan, were probably as well trained and as fully acclimatized and accustomed to jungle fighting as the average Japanese unit, but as an army the Japanese have mastered this form of fighting as no other army has.

Like the Germans, from whom their concepts of the art of war are derived, the Japanese are nurtured on offensive tactics, and prefer to attack enemy flanks and envelop them if possible. With this goes a perpetual process of infiltration through the front. Taken together, these two processes invariably result in building up a force behind the enemy front line, thus threatening his conventional supply lines. This is what happened time and time again in Malaya; the British made the mistake of trying to fight an Occidental war in the Orient.

BARRAGE AT SINGAPORE.

The infiltration process, conducted by thousands of individuals—many of them in the costume of the invaded country—aided by Fifth Columnists and malcontents (another leaf from the German book) is often sufficient to force an enemy withdrawal. When it is not, the Japanese attack from both flanks and from the front, and are aided by the groups that have seeped through into the enemy rear. Field artillery may aid the assault; it was a material factor in the storming of Singapore Island, when the Japanese laid down what was probably the heaviest barrage ever fired in the Orient. The object is still the same—to close with the enemy.

To meet such tactics the recipe is simple. We must be better than the enemy at their own game. What is wanted is a reversion to the ways of the American woodsmen; we need to study the Indian wars again. But that is not enough. The Jap is at his best at amphibious war and in the "green hell" of the jungle (and that is what the war in the Pacific is), but he is tough wherever he is met. He has weaknesses. His platoon, his division, has far less fire-power than our own, and the Japanese Army is but little mechanized; there is not a single organized tank division (though there are tank regiments). On open terrain, where the internal combustion engine that has revolutionized war can exploit its tactical possibilities to the full, the Japanese would probably be at a disadvantage with Western armies. And when we start out-guessing them, and giving them some more surprises like the raid on Tokyo, the nature of their temperament may induce excitement and faulty judgment.

PADDED UNIFORMS.

But we cannot count upon it. The Japanese Kwantung Army in Manchuria, with its padded uniforms, has long been acclimatized to the Russian cold and used to operations on relatively open terrain, and Japan has trained ski troops and mountain troops. At Chankufeng Hill, one of the 3,000 engagements or skirmishes that have been fought in the "unknown war" along the Russo-Japanese frontier, the Japanese lost

heavily in men and equipment to the Russian soldiers, but showed their typical pertinacity and determination. And we must not forget Port Arthur. They took Port Arthur with blood; time and again the attacking ranks of the little yellow men were obliterated, but others came on. The enemy took shocking punishment at Midway, but their defeat did not change their ambitions; they landed in the Aleutians and are there to stay. And they will stay—until we kill them.

It is high time we discarded that old shibboleth that the Japanese will fold up when the Germans lose. They will not. They have already conquered an empire; they are eyeing new worlds; if allowed to go too far Japan can win the war for Germany. Even when Germany is defeated it will take a long time to smack the Oriental enemy out of his stolen holdings.

THE MASSACRE OF THE JEWS.

by

Sir William Beveridge.

In February of last year Hitler announced that "the Jews will be exterminated." Only within the past few months has it come to be generally realised outside Germany that this was no mere figure of speech, that wholesale destruction of human beings for no reason other than that they were of Jewish race had long been proceeding in some of the lands under Hitler's rule, and that in the latter part of last year the process of extermination was being organised with German thoroughness.

The House of Commons, receiving on December 17 from the Foreign Secretary both the first full and responsible statement of the facts and the declaration of protest on behalf of the United Nations, stood in silence to signalise in a way seldom, if ever, preceded, their recognition of horrors hitherto beyond belief. Mr. Eden's announcement, in declaring the condemnation by the United Nations of the bestial policy which they placed on record, proclaimed also our determination to bring retribution upon all those responsible for these crimes, and to press on with the necessary practical measures to this end.

Promise of retribution was necessary and inevitable. But retribution must wait on victory, and the threat of retribution will not of itself save any lives or any pain in Germany, or in lands now under German rule. No one can be content, no one is content, with threatening retribution. Since the facts were formally acknowledged, since they must have been known to those in authority before then, the question has become daily more insistent in the minds of all feeling men in Britain and elsewhere—what can be done to save from death and torture as many as possible of those condemned to it by the Nazi mania.

THE OPEN DOOR.

This, of course, includes persecuted people of all kinds, whatever their race. The Jews are receiving special cruelties, but do not ask for special treatment. The political martyr has as much claim on our merciful protection as the racial one.

The answer to that question is not simple or very cheerful. Each of the nations that has joined in the declaration of protest at German action can, and should, revise its existing regulations for entry of refugees, so as to ensure that these cannot throw back into German hands any Jew who is able to make his escape. Knowledge that the door to

safety, if it could be reached, would be found open and not barred from the other side, would no doubt encourage efforts to escape, and thus increase the number of escapes. But, however much increased by this hope, the number that can make their way without special aid to any of the countries at war with Germany is trifling. The announcement by the Secretary of State for the Colonies of hastened admission to Palestine affects, in the first instance, refugees not from Germany itself but from Bulgaria.

The doors of escape for nearly all refugees lead first to some neutral country like Spain or Switzerland. To keep those doors open as wide as possible, more positive action is required of the United Nations than a revision of their own regulations. Immediate help may be needed in feeding and transport. More important than that is a binding declaration of future policy. The thing most urgently needed to save the lives of Jews to-day is an announcement on behalf of the United Nations that they accept, as part of their joint responsibility after victory, the making of a permanent and adequate settlement of the future of Jewry in Europe and the world.

HELP FOR THE HELPERS.

The making of such a declaration would be just. In one sense the whole war is a war about the Jewish problem. Hitler describes the war as started by Jewry to overcome the Aryan peoples. Hitler's treatment of this particular people is only the extreme case of that disregard of all human rights outside Germany which makes the Nazi creed. To destroy that creed, to re-establish the right of all human beings of all races to live unmolested while they live peaceably, is the object for which the United Nations fight. To win the war, and leave the problem of Jewry unsettled for the future, would be to fail in one of the objects of victory.

Threats of retribution on Germany can have little effect. The saving of lives now threatened depends upon influencing other minds than those of the Nazi leaders. First, there are Jews in peril, not only in lands directly controlled by the Nazis, but in satellite countries like Hungary and Rumania or Vichy France. To all these countries the threat of retribution, if they follow the German example, should be extended. Second, the only people who can give first aid to any numbers of Jews now in Germany are the neutral countries—Spain and Switzerland—to whose borders Jews in small numbers are escaping, to which, if the suggestion considered below for direct approach to the German rulers proved feasible, much larger numbers might come. But these countries cannot be expected to shoulder the whole burden of humanity. They need, first, help in feeding those who may escape; second, a firm undertaking on behalf of the United Nations that the help they give is first aid only, that the United Nations will find a permanent home elsewhere for these temporary sojourners.

CHALLENGE TO HITLER.

When all this has been done, those who have any chance of escape while Germany pursues a policy of extermination are but a tiny fraction of all those now under threat of destruction. With a view to saving lives, not by the hundred, but by the hundred thousand, the suggestion has been made that the United Nations through the Protecting Powers should ask Germany, in place of exterminating the Jews, to set them free to leave Germany and lands under German control. This request might be refused. In that case, it is argued, no harm has been done, and, at least, every effort will have been made; the conscience of those who make the request will be clear, and the record of Germany will

be blacker still. The request might receive a favourable reply; Hitler might think he saw an advantage in throwing a large mass of people upon the resources of the Allies to use their food and transport; in place of sending the inhabitants of the ghettos to slaughter-houses in Poland and Germany, he might send them in train-loads to the borders of neutral countries and leave them there to the responsibility of the United Nations; he might use the Jews in this stage of the war as his armies used the civilian refugees of invaded countries to impede their opponents, as a weapon to stave off defeat.

Is that a reason for not making the request? That is a question which can be answered, with a full sense of responsibility, only by those who are in a position to survey the whole field of war, and all its problems of feeding, transport and supply. Only by making such a request can the United Nations hope to save any large numbers of those otherwise doomed.

Whatever the numbers that can be saved from German fury, whether trifling, as now, or swollen by more vigorous efforts to escape, or made a flood because Hitler's desire to embarrass his enemy outruns his hate of Jews, first-aid to the threatened men, women and children, depends mainly on neutral countries. But the power and the readiness of neutrals to give that aid depends on the United Nations, for they will control the world after the war, they alone can give a guarantee that first-aid need only be temporary, that for all those rescued to-day a permanent home will be found elsewhere.

FINDING A HOME.

Where can this home be? What should be the ultimate settlement of the problem of Jewry? The problem itself is not a great one. Outside the boundaries of Russia there are not likely to be after the war more than three or four million Jews. It may be assumed that with Hitlerism exorcised finally from Europe most of these could be left or resettled as citizens of the countries to which hitherto they have belonged. But if for their future happiness and the peace of the world it appeared better that most Jews should be gathered together into one community, the finding of space for a community of this size, whether in Europe, Asia, or Africa, could not be regarded as one of the major problems of the peace. There are many other and more difficult problems.

But none of these things can be done by one only of the United Nations. The refugee problem is a test both of the humanity of all the United Nations and of their capacity as a Grand Alliance to make up their minds upon the problems for whose solution the Alliance exists, and in hopes of whose solution it fights.

SIAM'S SOUR FACES.

(*Far East News Letter*).

Broadcasts from Bangkok to the Siamese people studiously avoid all reference to relations with Japan and continue to harp on the theme that culture will make Siam a Great Power. It is obvious that the long-suffering public are fed up with the constant stream of advice to dress better and to wear modern trousers, hats and skirts, when clothing is almost unobtainable even by the few who can afford to pay for it; to put

a smile on their "sour faces" when they are at work or are serving customers; and to abandon faith-healing, when they are unable to buy medicines. In the cultural talk on May 10th the speaker admitted that there was much grumbling about the sartorial injunctions of the Premier as President of the Institute of National Culture, that a book could be filled with the Premier's instructions, and that many people did not want to follow the Government's advice. But, said the speaker, "our Leader has led the country rightly not only in small but also in big matters, and there is no doubt his leadership will make the nation a Great Power."

Thereafter, however, the interminable cultural talks took a different line. On May 11th the speaker breathed fire and thunder upon unnamed enemies. Both men and women loved their nation, said the speaker, and would "destroy entirely anyone who is an enemy of the nation." "The Thais are Buddhists and love truth and straightforwardness. Should anyone try to steal our Emerald Buddha or our holy relics, we will not rest until we have been avenged.....The Thais will carry on till good conditions return."

Next day another talk was broadcast in which the speaker insisted that the Siamese had always been strong and brave fighters. He mentioned several Kings who had been national heroes, and said that the Defence Ministry was arranging a Remembrance Day for King Phra Naresuan, "who was a great fighter for the freedom of Siam, just as our Ministry of Defence is now." Can it be that these warnings, like the defensive cultural talks, were directed against the proprietors of Greater East Asia, who have now "acquired" the Angkor Wat relics?

THE MAN WHO FIGHTS IN THE RED ARMY. OUTLOOK OF THE MODERN RUSSIAN SOLDIER.

(*London Times*.)

The fighting men of Britain and America would not feel strangers beside the Red Army man. Differences of temperament, of course, there are, and many would perhaps find it strange that members of non-Russian nationalities—Mongols, Uzbeks, Turkmen and Kazakhs—fought with equal rank and prestige beside Russians and Ukrainians. Over one-third of those awarded decorations during the war were non-Russians.

HOME AND FAMILY.

In company they would find the Russian soldier quieter, more reserved, more formal in his attitude towards his fellows than they are used to; and in intimacy more impulsive, articulate, and emotional. In moments, of grief, anger and triumph he is more exalted, but in the humdrum everyday experiences of life perhaps a little more patient. He smiles less, rarely laughs, but sighs more; cynicism is far from his nature, and his favourite songs like the popular "Dug-out" and "Let's have a smoke", are wistful and tender, his thirst, for education is unquenched by his experiences, and many go into battle with text-books in their pockets; his taste is extraordinarily high.

Their feeling for home and family is intense, and the exchange of letters is felt to be vitally important. The young Russian poet Eugene Dolmatovsky told me that on a sector of the Stalingrad front which he visited there was a craze for writing verse extending from the General to the Red Army men. Russian novelists and playwrights can always count on a host of critical letters from the front after their works have been published in the newspapers. The power of the word is strong, and the meetings before battle, at which commanders and their political assistants address the men, have a profound effect.

The growth of patriotism has been striking; to-day patriotic motives are probably more out-spokenly expressed in the songs and literature of the Red Army than anywhere else in the world. Some of the rousing marching songs you hear on the lips of Russian soldiers and sailors have the sturdy quality of "Hearts of Oak" and "John Brown's body." It is significant that of all British poets Rudyard Kipling is the one most read at present in the Red Army.

A LAND TO FIGHT FOR.

There has been no revival of 'flagwagging' patriotism. Rather has it been a discovery of all that is valuable and significant for the present time in Russia's heroic past, and the men who are fighting for the federation of Socialist republics have been made conscious that behind them, as they take their places in the trenches and gun emplacements, lie not only the great factories on the slopes of the Urals and wide cultivated plains in Siberia, Moscow with its still incomplete planning, a host of new cities beside the rivers, and on the forest edge, of buoyant, aspiring, dogged workers and farmers of contemporary Russia, but also the cathedrals and the Kremlin and ancient tulip-domed churches; poets, musicians, and novelists, and those who fought for a land ordered by justice and reason, knowing no slavery—a Russia ever renewing herself by the fruitful talent of her much-enduring people.

It was in the period of retreat that the Red Army man learned to know how dear his land was to him. "It is a fact, Comrade Commissar," says the hero of that remarkable interpretation of the Red Army's mood during the 1941 retreat, Vassili Grossman's "The people immortal"; "It is as if I have become a different person in this war; only now I have seen Russia honestly. You walk along and you become so sorry for every river, every bit of woodland, that your heart aches. Life was not always easy for the people, but then the difficulty was their own and ours. To-day I was walking along a glade and there a tree was rustling and trembling. It suddenly hurt me as if something was tearing at me. Can it really be that this little tree will go to the Germans? I thought."

UNGATHERED HARVEST.

This is no idealization of the Red Army man. It happened that that long desperate withdrawal through the Ukraine and Byelorussia took place during a summer of unwonted beauty and abundance, and as the heavy boots trampled down the ungathered harvest and rain pattered steadily down, as the shells shattered the trunks of the maple trees in the primeval forests, and the Germans rode roughshod through the orchards of black cherry, tearing down the white Ukrainian cottages where flowers ran riot and

sunflowers stared and nodded, the Red Army man learned to feel that this was his Russia and his blood ran cold to think that the intruder could remain here.

The Red Army is a thinking army, in whose minds you find the unquenchable curiosity of Russian people as you find their richness of talent and their great-heartedness. Proud indeed may the Soviet Union be to-day of its sons who fight so nobly, simply, and thoughtfully on the vast battle-fields.

THE GUARD WHO KNEW HINDUSTANI

— but "overheard" only home-truths

When the recently repatriated Indian prisoners of war from Italy were landed at a Turkish port recently, they had some interesting stories to tell about their Italian captors. Here is one of them.

Soon after they had settled down in their Italian prisoners of war camp, one of the Indian soldiers discovered by accident that one of their guards could understand Hindustani. This man was always fixing on the flimsiest pretexts to linger among them in the hope that, not knowing that he knew their language, the men would give away some useful information.

The Indians held a hurried council—and came to some quick decisions. And when next time the spying guard found an opportunity to linger amongst them, this is the sort of 'secret' he overheard.

"Of course, I like the Italians, but what a pity they have been so badly let down by their leaders. And now they've lost their Empire to us, and Italy to Hitler."

And next time—"Such nice people the Italians, but why should they have fought against their allies of the last war."

And the guard's ears must have burned when he heard this choice bit of 'information'. "I wonder when we shall go to Germany?"

"Why should we go to Germany?" "Oh, well, the Germans are taking over everything that Italy has—and they might as well take the prisoners, also."

It was not many days before the disgusted guard decided that his knowledge of Hindustani was not going to win him a comfortable job in the Italian Intelligence service in this camp at least.

BAGHDAD GIVING YOU NEWS OF HOME!

"This is Baghdad, giving you news of home."

Wherever Indian troops are gathered in Persia and Iraq this announcement brings a hush, as radio sets are turned on full blast, and thousands of men listen eagerly for news of their families, their villages, and the life they used to know.

From a special studio at the Baghdad Broadcasting station an Indian Army officer conducts a daily programme for Indian soldiers, instituted recently with a talk in Hindustani by the new Commander-in-Chief for Persia and Iraq, Lieut-Gen. Sir Henry Pownall.

SONG-HITS.

Cables from India bring news of the villages, tell the men of the state of the crop and their cattle back home. Interspersing the news is music to suit all Indian tastes, with the latest film song-hits in Tamil, Telegu, Marathi, Bengali or Hindustani.

Sometimes the men themselves are called upon to provide the entertainment. So keen, in fact, are many of them to try their hand before the "mike" that the Radio Officer is kept busy with auditions.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU. PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CL (Batch 3).

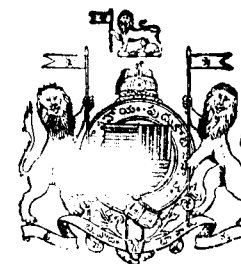
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13- 6-43 Mullaikurichchi ... 7.00 "	" Rayavaram ... 7.30 "
" Kottaikkadu ... 7.30 "	17- 6-43 Kodumbalur ... 7.00 "
14- 6-43 Annavasal ... 7.00 "	" Viralmalai ... 7.30 "
" Kilakurichchi ... 7.30 "	18- 6-43 Valaramanikkam. ... 7.00 "
15- 6-43 Malaiyur ... 7.00 "	" Embal ... 7.30 "
" Karambakkudi ... 7.30 "	

LECTURE CLI. (Batch 4)

19- 6-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	23- 6-43 Nartamalai ... 7.00 p.m.
20- 6-43 Nirpalani ... 7.00 "	" Uppiliakkudi ... 7.30 "
" Avoor ... 7.30 "	24- 6-43 Andakkulam ... 7.00 "
21- 6-43 Karaiyur ... 7.00 "	" Killanur ... 7.30 "
" Idaiyattur ... 7.30 "	25- 6-43 Konnaiyur ... 7.00 "
22- 6-43 Vadavalam ... 7.00 "	" Melaveguppatti. ... 7.30 "
" Sammattividuthi ... 7.30 "	

RECRUITING-ADVERTISEMENT-4 p. m.

12- 6-43 Vettamviduthi.	19- 6-43 Ponnamaravathi.
13- 6-43 Tittanviduthi.	20- 6-43 Marudankoneviduthi.
14- 6-43 Viralmalai	21- 6-43 Arimalam.
15- 6-43 Vadakadu.	22- 6-43 Perambur
16- 6-43 Rayavaram.	23- 6-43 Karambakkudi.
17- 6-43 Kulipirai.	24- 6-43 Kilanilai.
18- 6-43 Pudukkottai.	25- 6-43 Pudukkottai.



PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

JUNE 19, 1943

[No. 151

LECTURE CLI.

UNITED NATIONS' FLAG DAY-14-6-43.

ADDRESS

DELIVERED BY

SIR ALEXANDER TOTTENHAM, C. I. E.,

Administrator, Pudukkottai State.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The outlook is immeasurably brighter now than it was when I addressed you a year ago. Then I had to try to keep up your courage. I told you to disregard incidents and episodes—even major episodes—to consider the general trend of events and take a long view. I hope you will all now realise that the faith I held has been justified by events. During the early stages of the war, Britain had to fight the Axis alone. We were quite unprepared, but Germany had for years been equipping herself with enormous numbers of men and huge supplies of material. She had built up a very large Air Force and a strong Submarine fleet. France collapsed. There were the dark days of Norway and Dunkirk, and country after country in Europe was overrun.

2. The battle of Britain was fought and won by British doggedness and determination. But Germany was still extending her conquests. Then what happened? Hitler attacked Russia. This brought that undefeatable country into the war on our side. We must thank Corporal Hitler for this. We have many things to thank him for, as Mr. Churchill has well said. Then the folly and perfidy of Japan brought America also into the War, so that the most convinced Isolationist, unless he were really a fifth columnist, could no longer oppose her entry. China, against whom Japan had for years been waging an unprovoked and also unsuccessful war, of course, became our ally. To-day, we stand united with a far

brighter outlook, as I said before. The position in a nut-shell is that the Allies are everywhere on the offensive now and the Axis on the defensive. What a change from the position even a few months ago! Our present favourable position is due to the fact that four of the most powerful nations in the world, assisted by others, have made common cause to crush the Axis aggressors. We are assembled here to-day to celebrate this happy state of affairs. We call to-day "United Nations' Flag Day." The successes that the United Nations have achieved shed a special significance on this Day.

3. In the Far East, Japan's rapid advance at one time so remarkable, has for some time been at a standstill. The United Nations Forces are advancing in Eastern Asia where China struggles bravely. In the Pacific, American forces ceaselessly pound the Japanese positions. British, French and American armies have driven the Axis out of North Africa. In Russia, the German lines are being battered on the ground and in the air. Germany, Italy and the Japanese occupied areas are now feeling the devastating power of the United Nations.

4. In China, the Japanese advance has not merely been checked; they have been forced to retreat. With the flow of American aid to China, time is now working for the Chinese. The Chinese have captured several important strategic centres. One such is Itu, from which the Japanese have been driven out. Ichang is another vital point. The Chinese are now attacking Ichang from both sides of the great water highway of Central China, the Yangtse. The resounding defeat that the Japanese have suffered in Central China during the past fortnight marks the opening of a new phase in China's six years' struggle with Japan. The 14th United States Air Force is supporting the Chinese Army operations.

5. In the North Pacific, the Japanese who had occupied some of the Aleutian Islands, have now been driven out of the Island of Attu, which the American forces have occupied. The Island of Kiska has now become the next target of American attack. When Kiska is occupied, it will form a base from which the Japanese mainland can be attacked. In the South Pacific, it is true that the Japanese have concentrated their forces in some of the islands that form an arc north of Australia, with the object of attacking the Australian mainland. But we are assured that plans have already been laid to pierce this arc of bases, to force their withdrawal or isolate them in sections for later destruction. The Australian and New Zealand Air forces are now delivering effective blows on the Japanese bases in these islands.

6. You all know about the splendid co-operation of the British, American and French forces in North Africa, and the catastrophe that overtook the Axis army. It has been estimated that Axis prisoners amounting to 248,000 were taken in North Africa, besides a large number of men killed and wounded. Enormous quantities of material were captured. The fortresses of Bizerta and Tunis fell practically intact. The German morale cracked. After the expulsion of the Axis from North Africa, the British, American and French forces are concentrating on the task of ceaselessly pounding the Mediterranean islands of Sicily and Sardinia. Pantellaria, Mussolini's miniature Malta, has already been smashed into submission. As usual, the Italian Navy is lurking in harbours—a target for our bombers. Many important military centres on the mainland of Italy have been bombed. Mussolini's dreams of a mighty Italian Empire in North Africa have vanished. It will soon be more than he can do perhaps to hold Italy itself. The land, naval and air forces of the United Nations are massed in North Africa, ready to land in Europe. Malta is now almost free from air raids, and has become a base from which aircraft are delivering their blows on Italy and Sicily with devastating effect. The threat of an invasion of India from the West has disappeared. The Mediterranean, which is the shortest sea route from India to England, is once again open to Allied shipping, and this means a great decrease in the strain on our Navies.

7. In Russia, the Germans have made no advance. The summer during which they had hoped to deal a heavy blow to Russia is fast passing away. They had concentrated their forces for an all-out attempt at a break-through. There is however little room for doubt that the Russian forces will once again firmly hold their ground as they have done so far, especially when Hitler is faced with an invasion of Europe, West, South or North, by the United Nations. The Royal Air Force is devastating the industrial and military centres in Germany. The R. A. F. recently bombed and breached two very important dams in Germany, flooding vast industrial areas and seriously crippling the war industry of Germany.

8. The R. A. F. and the American Air Force are in action night and day over Germany and occupied France in such numbers that they can be reckoned in terms of Army Divisions. The U. S. alone are now building 6,000 planes a month. The bases of the Allied air forces spread from the rocky slopes of Iceland to the sands of Egypt. Air attacks such as are now being made on Germany are unparalleled in their continuity and weight. Anything that England suffered during the Battle of Britain was mere child's play by comparison. Germany pinned her faith—as in

the last war—on her U-boats. As in the last war she is doomed to disillusion. The U-boats on which she relied are now fighting a losing battle. There has been a great increase in sinkings of U-boats lately, as a result of the increase in the number of Allied warships and aircraft, and of new anti-U-boat devices. The ports where U-boats are built have been constantly bombed and damaged, and the rate of production of U-boats has fallen. The Allied shipping losses by U-boats have decreased. Not only their actual losses but even the exaggerated German claims of sinkings have been much more than compensated for by the number of new ships built. The rate of Allied shipbuilding has been more than doubled. The American Navy is nearly twice as strong as it was. The United Nations are also speeding up the production of submarines. The U-boat menace, though it still exists, is causing far less anxiety than it did. Before long it may disappear. The Japanese are also having trouble with the United States submarines in the Pacific, and there is plenty of evidence that the Japanese are badly pinched for ships.

9. These Allied successes have not been without their reactions. At last the French fleet at Alexandria, which has been lying idle there since the days of the French Armistice, has voluntarily joined the Allies. In Argentina in South America, the pro-Ally factions successfully revolted against the pro-Axis President, who had to resign and flee to Uruguay. The new Argentine Cabinet is certainly not pro-Axis, though for the moment it proclaims itself neutral. In France, Hitler's war machine is being paralysed by patriot saboteurs. Thousands of locomotives and hundreds of lorries have been destroyed. Hundreds of enemy depôts and installations have been put out of action. German soldiers have been killed by saboteurs. Germany's man-power is fast dwindling. In Denmark, a big factory has been blown up by saboteurs. There have been serious riots in Holland, and Martial Law had to be proclaimed. Thus everywhere the outlook has changed in our favour, and final victory seems to be in sight.

10. But what I specially wish to emphasise is the solidarity of the Allied Powers, their unity of aim and purpose. Look at the position and relation of the Axis Powers. Does Japan in her heart of hearts wish Germany to win, or Germany wish Japan to win? No! Each is making use of the other to further her own ambitions. What can Germany with her fanatical belief in the superiority of the Nordic race and her contempt for Orientals, have in common with Japan? Each of them hopes, or hoped, to rule the world. As for Italy, her only chance of surviving as an independent power lies in Allied victory. What can the satellite nations whom Germany has pressed into the war and sacrificed on the Russian

front, hope from a German victory? The nations whom Germany has overrun are groaning under her tyranny. But all the Allied Nations have a common interest in the overthrow of Germany and Japan, and they are waging war not with any selfish aim but in the interests of humanity, and for the liberation of the human race from the worst tyranny in history. The abolition of the Comintern is a guarantee of the collaboration of Russia with the other Allies after the war.

11. The future was never so bright. But the war is not yet won. Do not think that you need not bother about it any longer. Hard fighting for the men at the front, privation for those at Home lie ahead of us. There will be reverses and disappointments, but the end is certain. Let every one of us then go on doing what he can to help the Allied cause. All of us can do something by reporting mischievous rumours, profiteering and hoarding (Only the public can check these. A handful of officials can do nothing without public co-operation.), by growing more foodstuffs (the State has made a splendid response to our drive for more food over 26,000 acres more under cultivation this year), by investing in War Loans and Savings Certificates, by economy in personal expenditure—you can help even by collecting waste-paper—even by simply keeping cheerful when times are hard. In all these ways everyone of us can do something however small, to hasten that Victory and that Peace for which we are all longing and praying.

THE UNITED NATIONS.

Serial No. and Name.	Area in Sq. Miles.	Population in Lakhs.	Serial No. and Name.	Area in Sq. Miles.	Population in Lakhs.
1 Abyssinia ...	350,000	20	20 Iraq ...	117,000	36
2 Australia ...	3,000,000	70	21 Luxemburg ...	990	3
3 Belgium ...	11,775	84	22 Mexico ...	780,000	165
4 Bolivia ...	506,000	32	23 Netherlands ...	12,000	87
5 Brazil ...	3,285,000	450	(Holland).		
6 Canada ...	3,695,000	104	(Netherlands	789,000	602
7 Chile ...	297,000	47	Empire).		
8 China ...	4,481,000	4,580	24 New Zealand ...	100,000	15
9 Costa Rica ...	23,000	6	25 Nicaragua ...	60,000	12
10 Cuba ...	44,000	420	26 Norway ...	125,000	30
11 Czecho-Slovakia ...	52,000	150	27 Panama ...	32,000	4
12 Dominican Republic.	19,000	16			
13 Free France ...	...	...	28 Poland ...	150,000	350
14 Great Britain and N. Ireland.	94,000	475	29 Salvador ...	13,000	18
(British Colonial Empire).	2,075,000	468	30 Union of S. Africa.	473,000	96
15 Greece ...	50,000	63	31 United States of America.	3,700,000	1,510
16 Guatemala ...	45,000	33	32 Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.	8,144,000	1,800
17 Haiti ...	10,000	30	33 Yugoslavia ...	95,000	140
18 Honduras ...	44,000	11			
19 India ...	1,800,000	3,900	Total ...	34,442,765	15,830

UNITED NATIONS' DAY MESSAGES.

Gen. CHIANG KAI SHEK.

"To-day, when we honour the British flag, and the flags of all the United Nations, I, in the name of the Chinese army, and people, greet you, the British people, and the British fighting forces, and express to you our gratification at the growing strength of the United Nations, which is making more certain, each day, the ultimate victory to which we have unreservedly dedicated ourselves. The grim determination, and indomitable spirit which you impart to the direction of your war efforts in all the theatres of war evokes our sincere admiration. The brilliant victories gained by British arms, and the significant successes achieved by the other United Nations, are clear indications that this stupendous struggle, in which we are engaged, will surely end with the unconditional surrender of our enemies."

Gen. EISENHOWER.

"Autocracy has cause to tremble when free nations join their minds, their resources, their hands, and their hearts to maintain their common ideals. This age-old truth has again been demonstrated in the N. African campaign. On land, at sea, and in the air the forces of the United Nations pooled their resources in N. Africa, planned together, worked together, and fought together toward a single goal, to rout the forces of enslavement. In the face of Allied battle unity the Axis forces in Tunisia went down to humiliating defeat, with devastating effect upon the dictators, whose purpose is to eliminate from the earth respect for those principles of liberty, and human rights in that area, inspiring the United Nations to supreme effort. The enemy's first battle objective was to tear us apart. The Tunisian victory therefore stands as a monument to the perfection of our unification, and double defeat for Hitlerism. We face the future with confidence, because we are as one in purpose and action. Through unity the forces of freedom will bring forth from this war a triumphant peace."

GENERAL DE GAULLE.

"The battle of Africa is over. The battle for Europe is beginning. Once more, France is at her post in this battle."

"The enemy is deporting the best of her youth. If he increases his oppressions and repressions in France, it is because he knows that, at the very first word of command, our people will rise in national insurrection. He also knows that he is being stalked, and surrounded by the active, and silent hostility of Frenchmen, who are opposing him clandestinely, pending the day when they will be able to fight him openly."

"To-day, a hard and united France takes her place at the side of the British Empire of America and of Russia, and all her Allies. France is determined to subordinate everything to a war of liberation and renovation."

GENERAL GIRAUD.

"The French Committee for National Liberation has taken the pledge that, in close collaboration with her Allies, France will fight for the complete liberation of France and of the Allied territories, until total victory is achieved. The French colours are flying again in the burning skies of battle—they are flying by the side of those of the United Nations. They will go to Rome, Berlin and Tokyo."

G. O. C. IN CHIEF, EASTERN ARMY.

"Seldom, if ever, in history have Allies so subordinated their individual interests to those of the common cause as the United Nations have to-day. The spirit which has prompted our common sacrifices is unconquerable. Victory is assured."

"The nomination of June 14 as United Nations' Day will remind us, though no reminder is really needed, of the aim and determination of the United Nations to defeat the common enemy in Europe, and in the Far East."

"The age-long hatred of man for tyranny, injustice, and cruelty has welded the nations together to oppose and conquer those who are trying to subjugate Europe and Asia for their own selfish ends."

COMMANDING GENERAL, INDIA AIR TASK FORCE (10TH U. S. AIR FORCE).

"Speaking for the India Air Task Force we are proud to be a member of the United Nations, a unity conceived through necessity of self preservation, and the preservation of those ideals which peace-loving democracies have always advocated."

"Just after Pearl Harbour, and during the organisation of the United Nations, the future outlook was dark indeed. Our country was ill-prepared for an out-and-out conflict with the Axis powers, who had been preparing for this conflict since the last world war."

"It took such a catastrophe as Pearl Harbour to awaken our country to the realities of modern warfare. Although the price was costly, such action dispelled the complacent attitude prevalent in our country, and aroused patriotism to a heated tempo, sufficient for an all-out building and training programme without dissension."

"The efforts of the United Nations are increasing day by day, as material and training personnel become available. The overwhelming defeat of the Axis powers in N. Africa, is just an example of what is in store for our enemies."

"There are still dark days, and hard times ahead. However, with the continued combined effort, and co-operation of the United Nations, the ultimate defeat of our common enemies is assured."

H. E. THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

"It is unity that has got us now, after 3½ years of war, so much more forward to victory; it is unity that has to get us final victory sooner or later; and it is unity that is going to cleanse the world of Nazism, Fascism and Japanese military aggression."

"I hope and pray that by this time next year we may be able to celebrate perhaps the finishing of the war, or the finishing of a major part of the war. I hope that China will be liberated from Japan, Greece will get her freedom from Germany, France will be restored to complete unity among her people, and that the world will be free from the greatest menace known in history."

"In India you have a similar duty. You want to defeat the Axis powers; and I may assure you, in the presence of many, that we in India, we in the British Empire and we in every country of the United Nations will not falter and will not stop until final victory for all those countries is gained, and the world is made a fit, a proper and a happier place to live in."

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

12-6-43 to 18-6-43.

The Royal Visit.—His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor has arrived by air in N. AFRICA on a surprise visit to the British First and Eighth Armies, the American Armies and Air Forces, and the new French Armies, which have won memorable victories in the recent campaign. He will also use the occasion to invest Gen. Eisenhower with the insignia of Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath. The appreciation which the gracious visit implies is a great encouragement to the armies now standing ready to storm Hitler's European Fortress. It is an act which will cause the greatest satisfaction throughout the British Empire and the Allied world.

The Syrian-Turkish Frontier was closed by the British authorities on Tuesday and reopened on Thursday.

The Radio has announced the appointment of Field-Marshal Wavell as the next Viceroy of INDIA, from October, in succession to Lord Linlithgow, and of Gen. Auchinleck who will take charge immediately as Commander-in-Chief of INDIA. A separate East ASIA Command will be created, from which INDIA will be separated.

The Battle of the Italian Islands in the Central Mediterranean is the chief event of the week. Four islands—all standing in or near the Sicilian Narrows—PANTELLARIA, LAMPEDUSA, LINOSA and LAMPIONE have surrendered unconditionally. All of them are parts of Metropolitan ITALY, first bits of enemy territory to be occupied by the Allies.

Pantellaria—'Mussolini's Malta' surrendered with 20,000 prisoners on Saturday (June 11) after a merciless bombardment and shelling from air for three weeks. LAMPEDUSA, which fell 36 hours later collapsed after 24 hours of bombing. It surrendered to a young R. A. F. Sergeant, who accidentally descended on the island for lack of petrol. LINOSA was captured on the 13th by the British destroyer *Nubian*, and capitulated to a British Navy Warrant Officer, who riding a donkey presented the terms of unconditional surrender. LAMPIONE was captured on the 14th by a British Flagship.

On June 6 Spezia harbour was bombed, and three Italian battleships, a heavy cruiser and a merchant vessel were damaged.

Germany.—DUSSELDORF, MUNSTER, BOCHUM, BREMEN, KIEL and OBERHAUSEN were among the places raided by the R. A. F. during the week. The attack over DUSSELDORF lasted over an hour. Over BOCHUM in the Central RUHR 4,000lb bombs and thousands of incendiaries and high explosives were rained. BOCHUM is an important coal and iron centre. Naval installations in BREMEN were raided on the 13th. OBERHAUSEN, RUHR's 5th important industrial town was attacked on the 14th.

Russia.—An uneasy lull still hangs over RUSSIA, and the eastern front is the object of much speculation on the part of military 'experts' and commentators. From ANKARA first came a report that Hitler was going to make a bid for MOSCOW. This was followed by Dietmar's statement that the Germans had now passed to the defensive. Surely the Russian weather no longer stands in the way of any Nazi offensive. Though it is true that Hitler's offensive in 1941 and 1942 were on June 22 and June 19 it is now a month since the ground has become passable in RUSSIA. What is going on at present is an air duel at strategic centres like OREL, SARATOV, LISICHANSK and ROSTOV.

China.—Following the expulsion of the Japanese from ITU, the Chinese have attacked TAOSHIH, YUNMANG, HSUCHSIN, YINGCHANG and HWATUNG, along the banks of the Yangtse. They have also taken KUNGAP, SUNGTZE, MICHITAI and PEILICHOW in the same area. PEILICHOW is an island in the Yangtse.

Chin Hills.—A 6-day battle for the Chin Hills, in BURMA in the last week of May, in which the Japanese suffered 500 casualties, is reported. The battle took place in the wild mountainous country near KALEMYO, 200 miles north of ARAKAN. The Japanese objective was TIDDOM, one of the chief towns on the Chin Hills. The first attack was on an outpost called Signal Ridge, lightly held by the Gurkhas and the Chin levies. After a lull lasting a day, our troops counter-attacked the forward Jap-position of Basha, a heavily wooded steep hill. Two attacks were made and the hill was held for 6 hours. Finally, as the Jap fire from the adjoining areas became intense our troops were ordered to withdraw. This was the end of the 6-day battle. Casualties being very large the Japanese could not advance further; they have only secured a precarious footing on the border of the hills.

In S. W. Pacific the work of piercing the enemy arc to the north of AUSTRALIA is proceeding. Air attacks on CHOISEUL, MUNDA, KISKA, and RUSSEL Island are reported.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

7-6-43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

Enemy shipping off the DUTCH coast.
Barges in HOLLAND
Locomotives in BRITANNY (5 Allied planes missing).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN

Axis targets in PANTELLARIA and SICILY.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

German air-fields in the BRYANSK area.

FAR EAST.

Air combats over RUSSELL Island (19 Jap planes destroyed; 6 more damaged).

KISKA (Aleutians).

Jap encampment at WAHSI (Burma).

8-6-43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Axis targets in PANTELLARIA.

Enemy bases in South SARDINIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

Axis air-fields in occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

A Jap convoy off KAVIENG (in the BISMARCK sea).

Jap air-fields in Dutch New Guinea.

DILI (Portuguese Timor).

Jap positions at MUNDA (New Georgia Island).

9-6-43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

No information available.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy shipping in the AEGEAN SEA.

PANTELLARIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN front.

German air-fields on the central front in RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

The air-field at NABIRE (D. N. Guinea).

Objectives at KALEWA (Burma).

10-6-43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE and BELGIUM.

Armed trawlers off the DUTCH Coast.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Air-fields at GERBINI and CATANIA (Sicily).

PANTELLARIA.

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

Air-fields in German occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

The air-fields at RABAU (New Britain).

The Jetty at RATHEDAUNG (Burma).

Buildings at BUTHIDAUNG.

Motor transport and Sampons at BUTHIDAUNG (Burma).

Jap base at KALEWA (Burma).

Rivercraft between KALEWA and MYINGYAN (Burma).

Sampons off RAMREE Island (Burma).

11-6-43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

U-boat yards at WILHELMSHAVEN (Germany).

The harbour installations and submarine base at OUXHAVEN (Germany).

Coke ovens and benzol plant at ZEEBRUGGE (Belgium).

Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE and the Dutch coast (5 Axis planes shot down and 1 Allied plane missing).

NIGHT:—

The industrial centre of **DUSSELDORF** (Germany).
The communications centre of **MUNSTER** (Germany).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Italian island out post of **LAMPEDUSA**.
A factory at **POZZALLO** (Sicily).
Railway sidings at **MILAZZO** (Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.
German air-fields, fuel and ammunition in occupied **RUSSIA**.

FAR EAST.

Air-field and power house at **KOEPANG** (Portuguese Timor).
Venakanau and **Rapope** air-fields at **RABAU** (N. Britain).

BABO (Dutch N. Guinea).

DILLI.

Jap targets at **MADANG** and **SALAMAU** (N. Guinea).

GASMATA (N. Britain).

Objectives on the **AKYAB** Island (Burma).

Enemy positions at **PHEIZANG**.

Storage tanks, rivercraft and road transport along the **CHINDWIN**.

12—6—43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).**DAY:—**

Axis targets at **ROUEN** and **CAEN** (both in France).

NIGHT:—

The big industrial city of **BOCHUM** (Ruhr).
Transport in **HOLLAND** and Northern **FRANCE**.
Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Axis base of **LAMPEDUSA**.

Air-fields at **CASTREL-VETRANO**, **MILO** and **BOCCADI FALCO** (all in Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

German air-fields and communication centres in occupied **RUSSIA**.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

8—6—43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

RUSSIA.

The air-field near **GORKI**.

9—6—43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

No air raid anywhere in **BRITAIN**.

RUSSIA.

Supply centres behind the Russian lines.

10—6—43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

The air-field at **YAROSLAVL**.

11—6—43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

The air-fields at **GORKI** and other places.

FAR EAST.

KISKA (Aleutians).

Jap bases in New Guinea.

River Jetty near **BUTHIDAUNG** (Burma).

A bridge near **KALEWA** (Burma).

Marshalling yards at **MANDALAY** (Burma).

Railroad bridge at **MYTINGE**.

Boats on the **IRRAWADDY**.

Rolling stock at **SAGAING** (Burma).

13—6—43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied)**DAY:—**

Axis objectives at **FLUSHING** (Belgium).

NIGHT:—

Military objectives in the **RHINELAND** (Germany).

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-fields at **GERBINI** and **CATANIA** (Sicily).

Enemy shipping in the **AEGEAN** Sea and off the west coast of **GREECE**.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

The railway junction at **OREL**.

FAR EAST.

The **Venakanau** air-field at **RABAU** (N. Britain).

The air-field at **GASMATA** (N. Britain).

DILLI (Timor).

The town of **KOEPANG** (Timor).

Jap positions in the **KAHILI-BUIN** area (Solomons).

KISKA (Aleutians).

Railroad bridges at **MEZA** and **KYUNGON** (both in Burma).

Enemy installations at **NYAUNGBINWUN** and **ALLAGAPPA** (Burma).

The air-field at **NANCHANG** (China).

Warehouses at **PUCHI** (China).

Air combat over **CANTON** (China).

12—6—43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area (a few bombs dropped).

RUSSIA.

Russian air-fields in the central Front.

FAR EAST.

HENGYANG (China).

13—6—43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

Residential port of a north-east coastal town in **ENGLAND**.

RUSSIA.

Air battles over **KUBAN** and other fronts.

FAR EAST.

GOODENOUGH Island.

14—6—43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

Two towns on the east coast of **ENGLAND**.
LONDON area (only an alert), (5 Axis planes shot down).

RUSSIA.

Russian railway and communication centres behind the Russian lines.

FAR EAST.

Port **MORESBY** (N. Guinea).

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE UNITED NATIONS' DAY. News of the celebration of the Day on a world-wide scale comes from different centres, from **FIJI** and **SYDNEY** from **CHUNGKING**, **CAIRO**, **ADDIS ABBABA** and **BEIRUT**, from **LONDON**, **MOSCOW** and **NEW YORK**.—In **LONDON**, one of the biggest crowds ever assembled, witnessed the 'Empire cavalcade, as it passed, and gave special cheers to the Indian stalwarts who formed part of the procession. In **MOSCOW**, the Soviet Flag, the Stars and Stripes and the Union Jack were flown together, while in **CAIRO**, flowers were showered on the thousands of Allied troops, as they marched past in a 100-minute parade. At **ROBERT HEIGHTS** (near **PRETORIA**) **SOUTH AFRICA** celebrated the day, and the veteran statesman Field-Marshal Smuts said:

'To-day is a new day in our human calendar. No one can measure its future significance in the history of man. It may even become the most significant day in the history of human civilisation.'

'Union—the idea of the United Nations has been born in fiery affliction. The old league and the old alliances and associations, have thus been replaced by a new bond, that of the United victims of aggression, and we intend to make this union a lasting landmark, a new beacon in history.'

All **INDIA** observed the Day as an occasion of rejoicing for the great victories won by the Allies' joint efforts, and for a renewal of the nation's resolve for continued effort. **PUDUKKOTTAI** too, celebrated the Day, with an imposing procession and a public meeting presided over by the Administrator. His speech, at once a message of hope and faith and a comprehensive survey of the war situation, is printed on another page.

To those looking with the eye of faith the Day is a symbol of a new world in the making, of the emergence of a future dreamt of by poets and envisaged by prophets, to which, through the travail of war the world is moving, for the establishment of peace and goodwill on earth. At any rate, such is the joint resolve of at least 33 nations who have joined in a holy alliance to end the evil thing called the Axis. Elsewhere we print a list of these countries, giving their areas and population. A glance at it will show that it comprises not only the biggest and most powerful States of the world but the smallest and the weakest. It represents a union of hearts as well of hands, of immense resources and gigantic forces, of co-ordinated strategy and common leadership. For variety of men and interests it is the strangest combination, but considering the singleness of purpose it is also the closest partnership, and their number, calculated in States, and not in nations only, is not 33 but more than a hundred, seeing that some of the partners, like the **U. S. A.**, the **U. S. S. R.**, and **SOUTH AFRICA** are unions of States. For every man who marches under Hitler six march against him. Against 273 million men under the Axis yoke stand arrayed 1,645 million free men of the United Nations. For every square mile owned or seized by the Axis the United Nations have eight.

What a contrast it makes to the Axis—the league of quislings and marauders, built on fear and terror, and run by the gestapo and the fifth column! The United Nations is a partnership, a free companionship, born in the hour of danger of the deepest gloom, when **BRITAIN** stood alone and fought alone, when Allies came in one after another, seeing the

justice of the cause, and the interests at stake. It is an organisation, that slowly but inevitably has come into existence; but it is a growing family, growing daily in strength as well as in number.

June 14 dedicated last year by President Roosevelt to the cause of the United Nations has thus become a red letter day in the calendar of the world, and let us in the words of Mr. Churchill pledge now, to each other, one for all, and all for each, 'not merely support and succour till victory comes, but that wider understanding, that quickened sense of human sympathy, that recognition of the common purpose of humanity, without which the suffering and striving of the United Nations would not achieve its full reward.'

Let us pray, with Roosevelt :—

'God of the Free, we pledge our hearts and lives to-day to the cause of all free mankind; grant us Victory over tyrants who would enslave all freemen and nations; grant us the faith and understanding to cherish all who fight for freedom as if they were our brothers. Grant us brotherhood in hope and union, not only for the days of this bitter war but for the days to come, which shall and must unite all the children of the earth. Most of all, grant us brotherhood, not only for this day, but for all our years.'

Mr. CHURCHILL'S SPEECHES, after the Washington talks, though pitched in a subdued key, have the terseness of aphoristic utterances added to his usual literary grace. Speaking to the Allied soldiers assembled in the ruins of the amphitheatre at CARTHAGE, he made the mordant observation, 'Corporal Hitler helped the Allies from ALAMEIN onwards throughout the whole N. African campaign. This self-made, self-unmade man has added sauce to the goose you have caught and eaten.' Here are other extracts taken from his speech of June 8 before the House of Commons.

'The mellow light of Victory now begins to play on the entire expanse of the World War.'

'Vast armies have come into being in this African war—a most powerful and finely tempered weapon.'

'Amphibious operations of peculiar complexity and hazard on a large scale are approaching.'

'Stalingrad and Tunisia are the greatest military disasters that have ever befallen Germany in all the wars she has made, and they are many.'

'Hitler expected his Tunisian army to hold out at least till August. The sudden collapse is characteristic of German psychology, which was evidenced after Jena, and also at the very end of the last war.'

'We are prepared to win this war by hard fighting, and if necessary, by hard fighting alone.'

'It may well be that these guilty races that trumpeted the glories of war will be extolling the virtues of peace before the end.'

HITLER'S QUANDARY.

We must also add that Mr. Churchill has, in his House of Commons speech, most successfully managed to play the part of Sphinx to a baffled enemy. He has kept Hitler guessing and guessing frantically what the Allies will do now. In one place he refers to 'amphibious operations of a peculiar complexity and hazard'; and in another place, to 'complete destruction by

bombing from the air.' Whether it is possible to finish the war by aerial bombardment alone is an open question, but beside our present point. The crux of the matter is Hitler is kept guessing. 'To attack or not to attack', 'to take the offensive or to be on the defensive', 'to be or not to be', these are the questions that harass and worry Hitler now. If the Allies are not going to invade Europe at present, he must attack RUSSIA to seal his eastern flank. Supposing the Allies have completed their invasion plans, he must give up his Russian adventure and reserve what forces he has to guard his European fortress. The fact is, any move he may now make may prove disastrous. Hitler has paid enough already for his 'infallibility.' He has been disgraced at STALINGRAD and in TUNISIA. He dare not make another mistake. Thus, Mr. Churchill's war of nerves is most successful. At the beginning of the war Hitler waged this war on the Allies. Now it is the turn of the Allies. Hitler is undecided and indecision is the parent of demoralisation.

AIR WAR

While the Allied ground-armies are resting for a while after the strenuous N. African campaign, and are getting ready for the next assault, and the Navy is skirmishing and waiting for its prey, the air arm, as the Air Correspondent of the *Daily Mail* has put it, has taken over the war for the present, and the exponents of Win-the-war-by-bombing are trying out their theory. Whether they are able to establish their thesis or not, the Allies will meanwhile gain their supreme objective of 'softening' the enemy, even if he is not beaten, preparatory to the Allied invasion which will follow. This is the meaning of the apparently unrelated attacks ranging from 'the icy slopes of ICELAND to the sands of EGYPT'. Large forces of the size of army divisions are operating day and night. The primary factor now is not the frequency but the weight of the attack, the aim being the obliteration of the enemy's industrial centres. In support of his statement Mr. Colin Bednall, the *Daily Mail's* Air Correspondent has made certain startling disclosures about the Battle of the RUHR. He says:—

'We are striking far deeper into the vitals of the entire German war machine than most laymen can imagine. Whatever the German plans were for the campaign against Russia, they will have to be changed to meet the certainty of a decrease in the flow of munitions to the Front. Even if reasons of internal morale force Hitler to launch some form of attack in Russia, it is certain now that it will be considerably less formidable than was contemplated even 3 months ago.'

'The recent enormous destruction of the factories at Essen, Dortmund, Dusseldorf and elsewhere has imposed almost an immediate influence on the military situation. One result of the attacks on Essen was that over 300 workshops of the Krupps works were seriously damaged, and that the complete destruction of 200 out of these 300 has deprived the Germans of nearly 1,000 military trucks and at least 150 locomotives every day. When Dortmund was photographed after the attack on May 23, it was completely clear of industrial smoke. The town was dead. It is no exaggeration to say that if the R. A. F. should succeed in wiping out the industries of the Ruhr it would be the greatest victory the Allies have won since the war began'.

CASCADE RAIDS.

The chief method now adopted by the Strategic Air Force is what is known as the Cascade Raid, by which heavy attacks are delivered on heavily defended areas with minimum loss to the attackers.

It is done by concentrating a large number of aircraft on a limited target in a very short space of time, so that the enemy has no time to use his anti-aircraft, or night fighters, or civil defences to effect. So rapidly do the swarming attackers move that the anti-aircraft can only aim at a single plane, while half a dozen others drop their deadly bombs, unattacked. For this the *Mosquito* is the ideal plane. For speed and for its rapier thrust, it is the fastest military machine in the world.

WATER-BOMBING.

The R. A. F. has also specialised in water-bombing, as was witnessed over the Ruhr dams. The technique is to drop a tremendous weight of explosives at the right place and the right level so as to split the dam's water-face.

THE DECLINE OF THE LUFTWAFFE.

The *Luftwaffe* no longer maintains its superiority either East or West or South. Driven out of N. AFRICA, being driven out of the Mediterranean, and pounded in the West, it is now beaten on the Eastern Front also. At present the military operations in RUSSIA are chiefly air offensives on German-occupied centres. Junctions like GOMEL, KARACHEO and SMOLENSK have been heavily attacked. The German raid on KURSK with 500 planes on June 2 ended disastrously with the loss of 163 machines, while the Russian attack on the German supply base of OREL on June 4 with 520 planes was successful, with the loss of one plane only.

REAP WHAT YOU SOW.

The Nazis are now being destroyed with the very weapons which they forged for themselves, and though they must reap what they sowed Goebbels has been loud in his complaints about the inhumanity of the attacks, and on every wave-length, every hour is appealing to pity knowing that the British heart is soft even in the sternest hour. The British bombers, partly for humanitarian reasons and partly to avoid waste, have always carefully avoided residential areas not mixed up with industrial centres. It is no part of the British plan to kill German civilians.

SOB STUFF.

Decrying this kind of sob stuff, indulged in, of late, by Axis propaganda M. Esmer, the Turkish journalist writes in the *Ulas* 'It is impossible that every conscience should not be pained at the tragedies caused by air raids. But the same conscience revolts when attempts are made to exploit its distress for propaganda purposes. It was the Axis States which first built up a large air force and used it on a large scale and which first bombed large cities. Now that their enemies are using the same arm with equal effectiveness they forget the past and scoff at other peoples' reason. We are not aware that before the summer of 1940, the British raided or destroyed in GERMANY cities of the size of LONDON, BRISTOL, LIVERPOOL, COVENTRY or CANTERBURY. The truth of the matter is that at the time the Germans never dreamt that their enemies would one day be in a position to bomb German cities. The German complaints prove that the Germans have realised for themselves how terrible air-raids can be, but what a pity it is that this belated realisation can be of no avail.'

A FATAL ANNIVERSARY.

The third anniversary, on June 10, of ITALY's entry into the war has synchronised with Mussolini's unconditional surrender of his island of PANTELLARIA, to be followed by the surrender of LAMPEDUSA within 36 hours to an young R.A.F. Sergeant who happened to make a forced landing for lack of petrol. Two more islands—LAMPIONE and LINOSA have since capitulated. The last 3 islands, known as the ISOLE PALAGIE, and standing half-way between SICILY and TRIPOLI, control the narrows, and their occupation, together with that of PANTELLARIA, opens up the sea route between the western and eastern basins of the Mediterranean. The bombing of SICILY, and of objectives in the Aegean waters and metropolitan ITALY are in progress. The hour of doom is near. The Gothard Alpine tunnel, ITALY's life-line from central and northern EUROPE, the land route from which her main supplies of food must arrive, has been damaged. Daily 150 trains traverse this pass, one every 10 minutes. A week's stoppage would halt a thousand trains.

ITALY's fate is sealed. It is all due, as Mr. Roosevelt observed on hearing the news of the fall of PANTELLARIA, to the evil genius of Mussolini. 'He has been,' to quote Mr. Cordell Hull, 'false to all his people and false to every law and rule of organised society.'

THE GIRAUDISTS AND THE DE-GAULLISTS.

It is time, we think, that the followers of Giraud and de-Gaulle, together with their leaders, made up their differences without more delay, and set to work on the supreme task of winning the war. The present squabbles for place and power are to say the least unseemly. It is something that a new committee—not a Government yet—of National Liberation has been set up, which is striving to weld the discordant elements. It is possible that in the new arrangement Giraud will be C-in-C, with de-Gaulle as War Minister. The latest news foreshadows an agreement.

EGYPT AND RUSSIA.

If proof were needed of the death-blow given to Dr. Goebbels' Bolshevik Bogey propaganda by Stalin's announcement of the dissolution of the Comintern, it is furnished by EGYPT's recent declaration of the restoration of her diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

JAPANESE REVERSES IN CHINA.

The expulsion of the Japanese from ITU, and from Central CHINA generally, apart from being a Japanese humiliation, opens a new and brighter chapter for CHINA in the war now already 6-years old. For the first time the Chinese fought under a powerful air-umbrella provided by the U. S. Mr. Soong has gratefully acknowledged the help. He has declared, 'China, for the first time, has an air-umbrella. What a world of difference it makes! Chungking is now safe.'

CHUNGKING is also jubilant. A Japanese force, no less than 160,000 strong, moving towards but, perhaps not on CHUNGKING, and intent on capturing the rice-fields and the fortifications along the Yangtse, has been driven back a hundred miles with the loss of 30,000 men. JAPAN's hold on the upper reaches of the river has weakened; the rice-fields have been rescued.

MR. CURTIN'S CONFIDENCE. Mr Curtin, AUSTRALIA's Prime Minister, is not the kind of person to be easily convinced or satisfied. It is therefore an assurance doubly assured, which he gave on June 6 about AUSTRALIA's safety and challenging position, when he said:—

‘I had a meeting with the C-in-C. of the Allied forces in the S. W. Pacific at Sydney on Monday. It was a good day, and from the Australian point of view I feel that pressure on this country is going to be thrown back on the enemy.

‘The conclusions of President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill for the prosecution of the war in the Pacific, with as much vigour as the war in Europe, have ruinous portents for the discomfiture of the Japanese.

‘I don't think the enemy can now invade this country...we can hold him at bay. I believe that we can hold Australia as a base from which to launch both limited and major offensives against Japan.’

WAR EFFORT IN PUDUKKOTAI.

In view of the inability of the State to produce sufficient paddy to meet all the needs of the public, in spite of 26,000 acres newly brought under cultivation as the result of the Grow-More-Food drive, the PUDUKKOTAI Government have urged the people to supplement their rice diet with Ragi, Cholan and Kambu. An order has also been passed prohibiting forward contracts in respect of current cotton crops, (that is, sown before 1st March 1943), after 16th June. Every contract outstanding on that date will be deemed closed at a rate fixed by the Government.

ROOSEVELT'S TRIBUTE TO THE GREEKS.

The people of Greece, who having been “given 3 hours in which to decide whether to accept Axis slavery,” decided to fight and are fighting on.

“If they had been given 3 years instead of 3 hours, their choice would have been the same. To-day Greece is a land of desolation, stripped bare of all essentials of living. Thousands have died of hunger. Thousands are dying. To-day Greece is gaunt and haggard, a sample of what the Axis is so eager, and willing to hand to all the world. But within their own land, and upon other shores, Greeks are fighting on. They will never be defeated. The day will come when liberated Greeks will again maintain their own government within the shadow of the Acropolis and the Parthenon.

“As an expression of our hopes and prayers that this day may be hastened, the Government and people of the U. S. offer a token of our warm friendship for the Government and people of Greece.”

JAPAN CANNOT INVADE AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Curtin.

The conclusions of President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill for the prosecution of the war in the Pacific, with as much vigour as the war in Europe, have ominous portents for

the discomfiture of the Japanese. The holding war imposed on us under circumstances of great difficulty has been an obligation under global strategy, which has been discharged.

As in the case of Britain, we had a close call at one stage. The Battle of the Coral Sea was deliverance, and the return of the Australian Imperial Force enabled us to stop the Jap advance in New Guinea just in time.

I don't think the enemy can now invade this country. We have proved that with the resources we have had, together with the command of the sea established by the gallant U. S. Navy by its decisive victories at Midway and in the Solomons, we can hold him at bay.

We are not yet immune from marauding raids, which may cause damage and loss. I believe, however, that we can hold Australia as a base from which to launch both limited and major offensives against Japan. This conception must be the pattern to govern the nature and extent of Australia's war effort, as part of the plan of the United Nations in the Pacific.

My discussions with Gen. MacArthur were marked with the greatest degree of cordiality, as has always been the case. This country can feel most grateful to Gen. MacArthur, who came here at a crucial time, and has applied himself in such a distinguished way to ensure the security of Australia as a base, so that the cause of the United Nations in the Pacific will not fail.

AIR WAR—THE WAY TO VICTORY.

(Maj-Gen. Ralph Royce, Commanding the First Air Force of the U. S. Army Air Forces.)

We will win the peace by bombing Germany. For the first time in their long history of aggression, the Germans are learning what war really means. We are going to pound and pound Hitlerland, until the Germans beg and cry for the only terms we shall give them—unconditional surrender.

Many German cities lie in ruins even now. But let me tell you; Germany has not seen anything yet. Wait until we really put into action the great fleets of Fortresses and Liberators—wait till the gigantic bombers, which will replace them, start flying over Berlin and Hitler's other centres—wait till the bigger bombs we are making begin to fall.

If we invade the Continent with the powerful armies we are building up, thousands of lives will be saved because of the softening which our bombers and fighter-bombers have been giving Germany and Italy for many months.

I firmly believe the more we can destroy Germany from the air before the war ends, the better will our chances be for a lasting peace.

NO SPARING OF JAPS.

The man who has his eyes plucked out by an eagle whose nest he is robbing, is not likely to rob the eagle's nest again. We solemnly intend to inflict upon Japan so many Pearl Harbours, that the children of Japan's war-lords will shudder at the very mention of the name. Major-Gen. Doolittle carried out his gallant raid on Japan with 16 aircraft. I predict that you will calculate the strength of the final raids against Japan by adding not just one cipher but 2 ciphers to that number.

The Japanese boast that they have never lost a war. That was one reason they felt so ready to jump on us. But, we intend not only that they shall lose this war, but that they shall lose it so crushingly—with their cities in ashes, and their people driven into the mountains—that they will remember it for ever, and never try it again.

HAVOC ON WINGS.

(Middle East Review.)

The steady destruction of Axis air power has not halted with the cessation of land fighting in North Africa. During the last days of Axis resistance in Tunisia, the Germans and Italians were made to take a greater punishment from the sky than they inflicted on Poland in 1939 and France in 1940. It has been stated by eye-witnesses that at times the Allied air supremacy was so complete that the operation looked more like a display than a battle. During those days the largest number of sorties ever flown by Allied aircraft in a day—more than 2,500—was recorded.

Following immediately on the collapse of the Axis in Tunisia, the Allied air-forces were free to turn their whole weight against Italy in the Mediterranean. In Italy, Sicily, Sardinia and Pantellaria, Mussolini's airfields, harbours, railways and other military targets began to feel the weight of Allied bombs. On May 20 alone, a total of 113 Axis aircraft were destroyed, and between May 20 and 24, the Axis lost 300 machines against the Allied loss of 16. Twenty enemy planes for every Allied aircraft. That is the ratio of losses.

The *Luftwaffe* and the *Regia Aeronautica* are being swept from the Mediterranean skies and islands. And the pressure of Allied bombing has by no means reached its peak. But its devastating effects are already apparent. After a week of terrible battering from Allied bombers, the Axis Air Command in Sicily is now making desperate efforts to save the Island's ports, bases and airfields from complete destruction. But despite all Axis attempts, American Flying Fortresses continue to get through by day and R.A.F. Wellingtons by night. This day and night air offensive in the Central Mediterranean will eventually shake Italy from end to end.

"It is the settled policy of our two staffs," said Mr. Churchill in Washington, "to make it impossible for Germany to carry on any form of war-industry on a large scale either in Germany, Italy or the occupied countries....." That policy pursued with devastating effect against Germany in Europe has now been extended to the Mediterranean. The Axis is only just beginning to learn what bombing on an immense scale can do.

NEW R. A. F. BOMBER COMMAND TECHNIQUE.

The seventh R. A. F. raid on Essen this year, and the 56th of the war, was unlike any previous raid on any other target in Germany. The attack was carried out in ten big waves, which suggests that Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Harris is experimenting with a new technique.

Two years ago bombers were sent over the target, a few at a time, at intervals of seven hours or so. The effect was to keep people in their air raid shelters all night, but the slow rate at which the bombs fell did not present a very serious problem for defence workers.

A year ago, when the production of big weight-lifters was well advanced, the technique of concentration was introduced. From 5 to 15 tons of bombs were dropped every minute, and the raid was all over in one crowded hour or so. In recent weeks, concentration has reached a very high level, with bombs falling on the target at the rate of 30 tons or more every minute continuously for three-quarters of an hour.

Now it seems, Bomber Command's Chief has decided to combine the two techniques—long duration and concentration. The main purpose of concentration is to swamp the defences. The main purpose of long duration is to keep the Germans underground and sleepless. 200 tons of bombs dropped in six minutes can probably swamp the defences just as effectively as 2,000 tons in sixty minutes. By dropping ten instalments of 200 tons at intervals of, say, half an hour, the Germans can be kept out of bed for at least five hours, and their defences can be swamped simultaneously. There is the added advantage that the intervals give fires a chance to take hold, and increase the effect of following loads.

ATTACKERS ARE NOW HUNTED.

ATLANTIC GAP CLOSED TO U-BOATS.

(The Daily Sketch.)

Naval officers say that the Atlantic gap has been closed. It is now a graveyard for U-boats.

The weapon of U-pack has been turned against the men who devised it. The locating of one U-boat has usually served as a signal for the hunting of many.

When figures for recent convoy actions are finally assessed, it is confidently expected that May will prove to be the most disastrous month U-boats have ever experienced.

After one recent convoy action, the sea in the area was littered with floating fragments of shattered and crippled enemy submarines.

To-day every mile of the Atlantic from America to Britain is protected. The gap has been wiped out by the use of pocket aircraft-carriers carrying *Seafires* and *Swordfish*. These planes now control the gap—the area which could not previously be covered by long-range shore-based aircraft.

Gradually U-boats have been herded into a steadily narrowing strip, and instead of being the attackers they are now more often the hunted.

GERMANY BUILDING MERCHANT SHIPS NOW.

SIGNIFICANCE OF MOVE.

(The Daily Mail.)

Germany is now switching some of her overworked industry to merchant ship-building. The significance of this is better realised against the fact that she began the war without any such programme.

Her rapid conquests gave her control over such quantities of Norwegian, Danish, Dutch, French and Mediterranean tonnage, that she was able to consider merchant ships as a capital asset, on which she could draw without any need to find replacements, at least until after the war.

It is another of her calculations that have gone wrong. The reason is twofold. Her losses have been heavy owing to the brilliant work of our fleet, minelayers, the Coastal Command and ever-increasing attacks of our light coastal craft. In the meantime, she needs a larger fleet than she estimated originally, because of the wear and tear on her internal rail transport outstripping its economic rate of repair.

We have already heard how she had cut priorities in U-boat construction, to try to make up the loss in locomotives destroyed by R. A. F. sweeps. Now she is to cut into them further to find building yards, raw materials and machinery to construct the type of merchant vessel particularly suited to her Baltic trade.

It is rather a misnomer to call it the Baltic nowadays. To-day Stettin, the chief Baltic port, is no longer a commercial proposition. The Baltic trade in iron ore now has to come through the Kiel Canal into the waters of the North Sea, and ships then have to creep down the coast of Holland, dodging our reconnaissance as best as they can, until reaching the Rhine mouth.

Cargoes are next transferred to the Rhine barges, to make their way in the face of fire and flood to places like Duisberg and Dortmund. Even these hazards are considered more practicable than the overland haul.

MR. CHURCHILL'S WASHINGTON PRESS CONFERENCE. PRIME MINISTER AT HIS BEST.

The *Daily Mail* Washington Correspondent describing Mr. Churchill's Press Conference says:—

He was frank—very frank. Words poured effortlessly from his lips, which most of the time he kept pursed over his cigar. He had no notes, and never consulted either the Ambassador or his Secretary. A Canadian next to me said, "He talks blue streak". He did.

He was in tremendous form and made one biting joke after another. His phrases were brilliant and dazzling. I found myself almost incapable of criticism, or even objectivity. This man held the entire room, and we sat there as if mesmerised.

His manner was most gracious, without the slightest trace of arrogance. He did not talk down to us or at us, and once, when a young correspondent asked a somewhat stupid question and then flushed with embarrassment, the Prime Minister noticing his discomfiture put him at ease by a light, easy reply. If he had been our host at dinner he could not have been more charming.

I asked my question, and he answered lengthily. I thought Lord Halifax winced a little at the Prime Minister's frankness, and his Secretary kept glancing anxiously at his watch. Churchill talked on unperturbed. He skipped from one continent to another and vaulted over the oceans as questions shifted from one theatre of war to another.

SECOND FRONT PROBLEMS.

By Liberator (From the Observer).

A new note of appeal has been noticeable in all Axis-inspired comment on the Grand Strategy of the war. It has made an outspoken appearance in the Rome correspondence of Swiss and Swedish Right Wing newspapers, and also in the German comments on Ribbentrop's visit to Rome.

"The solidarity of Germany and Italy means the solidarity of all European people"—so runs the inspired story—"regardless of whether they already recognize this fact or not." Rome correspondents of neutral conservative newspapers argue similarly; and not without inspiration. The visit of Monsignor Spellman to the Vatican is taken as the peg on which to hang the following interpretation of the feeling in Rome's "official circles": Russian successes have for the moment created a certain agreement of interests between the Allies and the Axis, and though this momentary concordance does not signify that the Axis is begging for peace, *it would be a good thing if the Allies took the situation into account and did not open a Second Front in Europe.*

This is the Axis invitation to the Allies for a limited contribution to the anti-Bolshevik front. The Allied answer was given unequivocally and unconditionally at Casablanca. One cannot stress this too often. The Second Front in Europe was underwritten, by implication if not in so many words.

FIGHT FOR TIME.

The half-year which now lies before us may be the most fateful that mankind has ever faced. The Axis leaders know it. With every means at their disposal they seek to delay the tide of events. No sacrifice was too great. The German Sixth Army was the first. It won a short respite for its more fortunate comrades-in-arms. The attempt of Rommel and Von Arnim to halt the tide of Allied attack in Africa has ended in disaster.

The U-boats likewise aim at delaying Allied concentration. They sink our ships and delay our equipment moving into the battlefronts. But they also draw upon themselves—and Occupied France—a large proportion of the bombs.

We are racing against time now in every sense, just as much as we did after Dunkirk. Six months we have at the most. And at this moment the Axis launches yet one more delaying offensive. This is conducted through its diplomatic channels.

DIVIDED AUTHORITY.

On the military side of our affairs, we have expressed our determination to act,

On that score alone, we might rest content with the solemn undertaking of action underwritten at the Casablanca Conference. But good intentions and urgent desires are not enough to turn it from a threat into a reality. *And these conditions for achieving the Second Front are not only military.*

We have yet one more task: one that was not tackled at Casablanca and one that does not brook further delay. When the Armies of Liberation land on the Continent they may descend on any of the lands from Norway to Greece. On their shores, as we touch land, we shall find the greatest accumulation of political dynamite since the days of the French Revolution. We must know how to handle it.

When our troops land, stripped of all in essential auxiliary forces, labour gangs, and equipment, where shall we turn for support? In Norway it may be comparatively simple; but nowhere else. In Holland, Belgium, and France we shall find a Nazi Quisling administration carrying on the daily life of the country. In Italy we shall find the Fascist civil administration in charge.

What are we to do? Are we going to follow the North African example and leave these people in office on the ground that we do not seek to interfere in their domestic affairs, or that we cannot be bothered with civil administration in the midst of battle? Or are we to instal the London Emigré Governments to take over, backed by our military strength?

"THIS NEED NOT BE"

General Giraud has informed his new Economic Council that he is a fervent believer in the Corporate State—there can be no other interpretation of his speech. His Radio Station is plugging the news to France that Giraud's army is the leader in the liberation of France. To whom, then, do the Allies appeal when they land in France?

The familiar problem is equally acute in Italy where there is no lack of claimants for the office of turncoat-in-chief. If we go further east to Yugoslavia and Greece we shall find the problem even more serious. Here we come into conflict not only with local interests but also with movements having the diplomatic support of the Soviet Union.

All this need not be. We can state now categorically that not only have we no interests in common with the Axis in Europe, but also that we have none in common with any collaborators and satellites of the Axis. *There is no concordance in Europe but a deep division; we shall deal only with those who have not worked with the Axis, and we shall back only those whose democratic intentions for the future are "sans peur et sans reproche".*

AND STILL MORE BUNDLES FOR RUSSIA.

There are two main routes by which British supplies pour into Soviet territories: one is the perilous Arctic route to Murmansk, through waters dominated all the way by an enemy-occupied coastline; the other is across thousands of miles of ocean to the Persian Gulf, and then by land across mountain ranges and desert.

Nineteen great convoys have navigated the waters of the North, bearing thousands of tanks and planes for Russia. Each convoy has been the equivalent of a major naval engagement. Murmansk has been turned into one of the busiest ports of the world, and the Germans have thrown massed air attacks against it, realising its vital importance to Russian resistance.

Figures of the aid supplied speak for themselves. In July, 1942, the British Minister of Production asked, "Has Britain fulfilled the actual contract which she entered into with Russia for the delivery of supplies.....?" The answer was 'yes.' Britain was then shipping tanks to Russia at the rate of 50 a week. At the end of May, the British had also shipped 11 per cent more aircraft than had been promised up to the end of June. For every 100 aircraft Britain promised, she shipped 111.

In the last 12 months, a total of over 3,000 aircraft, 4,000 tanks and 3,000 vehicles have been sent to Russia from England and the United States. The figure for miscellaneous cargo, machine tools, metals and so on is 831,000 deadweight tons. In addition there were 42,000 tons of aviation petrol and 66,000 tons of fuel oil.

Russians have appreciated what the British have done. In the critical days of November, 1941, when the Germans were hammering at the gates of Moscow, the British rushed planes and tanks to the vital front.

It was a turning point in the war against Germany, and in the following spring when the Germans were being pushed back, Litvinov spoke Russia's thanks: "We appreciate the material help so loyally rendered, and still being rendered, by Great Britain to our Red Army."

Britain has had world-wide commitments, and has fulfilled them. Without hesitation, she took on the great task of supplying the Soviet Union with weapons to defeat the common enemy. The tide is now turning in favour of the Allies, and the heartening news is a tribute not only to Russian courage, but to British workers and British ships, Russia won the battle of Stalingrad, and Britain won the battle of the convoys.

WAR DEMANDS ON SHIPPING. CONTROLLING THE ALLOCATION OF TONNAGE.

From The Times

Our Shipping Correspondent, in an article describing the operation of the control of shipping resources, writes:—

This control is practised by Civil servants and experienced shipping men, working in the closest co-operation at the Ministry of War Transport, under the leadership of Lord Leathers. These men are constantly planning; yet the results of their labours are liable to be disturbed at any time, not only by what the enemy may do but also, and probably to a greater extent, by what the allied nations may wish to do. The outstanding example of interference with original plans was the preparation for the North African campaign.

Clear-cut divisions between types of ships in peace-time cannot be maintained in war. So the tramp of to-day becomes the liner of to-morrow. She may not have the speed usually associated with a liner, and her holds may not be divided up like those of a liner designed for carrying innumerable description of goods, many of them in small packages, instead of cargo of commodities in bulk, such as grain or coal, for which the tramp was built. As many British liners have been withdrawn from their regular services for other purposes, vessels of the liner class belonging to allied nations are employed to replace them in their trades, and also many ordinary British cargo vessels.

POOLING OF RESOURCES.

The pooling of shipping resources is exemplified in the arrangements made between this country and the United States. These ensure that if one country is unable to meet the needs of a particular programme it can arrange to draw on the tonnage of the other. These and other adjustments are made, as required, by the Combined Shipping Adjustment Boards sitting in London and Washington. The principle is carried a stage farther in the

work of the Combined Production and Resources Board, concerned with the planning of the production of the two countries in such a way that the utmost economy is secured in the use of shipping.

A notable example of the diversion of ships from one specialized service to another is the employment of British and Norwegian vessels specially built to bring fruit from southern ports, in conditions which meant that in relation to the actual weight of the fruit the cubic capacity was extraordinarily high. During the war, these ships have been used instead to carry heavy deadweight cargo, together with lighter and more bulky goods. Some of them, small in comparison with the giants, have withstood heavy weather remarkably well.

The need to economize in tonnage often results in a ship sailing in one capacity for parts of the voyage, and on another performing quite different service. A vessel may carry a cargo from North America, including aircraft or vehicles for the Eighth Army, and may return to this country with a mixed cargo of oil-seeds, copper, and pig-iron. Liners which have transported troops and military stores to the Middle East, have been directed to load refrigerated meat on the return voyage. Advance planning of this kind would be impracticable if the work were to be attempted in watertight compartments.

HARD-WORKED SHIPS.

Part of the planning to use the available tonnage most effectively, includes arrangements for fuelling ships rapidly at depôts throughout the world, discharging and loading vessels quickly in port, salving lame ducks, and repairing those that become casualties. It is imperative that ships should be turned round in port in the shortest possible time. This matter is the constant concern of the Ministry, whose Shipping (Operation) Control is specifically charged with its supervision. Vessels are worked hard nowadays. Gone are the days of comfortable stays in port, while machinery was almost leisurely overhauled; and inevitably the ships feel the strain of the present rush. Repairs, other than those essential for safety, are frequently deferred till opportunities can be made for the work to be done.

When hostilities cease, the travelling public will miss many fine ships and some that remain will bear war scars in one shape or another. Work like the transport of heavy tanks, and the equipment for landing them at small ports, often leaves its marks on structures. Accommodation which has been torn out of vessels will need to be reinstated, engines will want extensive repairs and worn-out parts will have to be replaced. The places of many ships planned for special trades and no longer afloat, have been taken partly by vessels of simple design, built mainly to serve the country in time of emergency and with the need for rapid production always in mind. The mercantile marine which survives hostilities will be very different from the fine fleet that the nation had at the outbreak.

LOOTING BY JAPAN.

SYSTEMATIC PILLAGE IN THE FAR EAST.

(From a Times Correspondent, lately in China).

It is only natural, perhaps, that with the publication of the United Nations' statement regarding the "plundering by the enemy Powers of the territories which have been

overrun or brought under enemy control", commentators should have devoted most of their attention to looting in Europe. There is, however, another part of the world, the Far East, in which systematic plundering, direct and indirect, by an enemy Power has now been in progress for over 10 years.

The Japanese Army from the date of the invasion of Manchuria in 1931 has been a predatory force. To all protests about the uprooting of Third Power interests and the monopolizing of all the more important branches of trade and commerce, Japan opposed the specious pretext that these were the work of the independent "Government" of "Manchukuo," for which it had no responsibility.

MONOPOLIES.

The process gathered impetus in April 1935, with the establishment of a petroleum monopoly, which drove the American and British oil companies out of business. It was extended in subsequent years to the monopolization of salt, the manufacture of matches, and the distribution and sale of opium, and agricultural products, insurance business, and the export and import trade. All communications were taken over and exploited by Japanese concerns, and the foreign banks were crippled by currency and exchange restrictions. Japanese concerns monopolized the exploitation of Manchuria's mineral wealth.

The outbreak of hostilities in China in 1937 gave the Japanese Army scope for extending the policy of systematic looting within the Great Wall. Shanghai, in particular, appears to have been regarded from 1937 onwards,—as Blucher is reported to have regarded London—as a magnificent city to loot. Those areas of Shanghai, including a portion of the International Settlement north of the Soochow Creek, which were under Japanese occupation were looted of everything the Japanese fancied. Chinese-owned industrial undertakings were seized by the army, and where possible operated under its control. Where British and American industries were not actually seized, and many of them suffered the carrying off of valuable machinery and other plant, they were in most cases crippled by restrictions upon the delivery of raw materials and the transportation of their finished products. In some instances, as in the case of the egg industry, which had been developed by British and American companies, the Japanese did not even stop at pillaging their eggs in the streets of Shanghai.

"CO-PROSPERITY".

Shanghai had a vivid example of what "co-prosperity" really meant in the latter part of 1940, when the Municipal Council was compelled to arrange for the import from Rangoon, Saigon, and Bangkok of thousands of tons of rice to save the Chinese population from starvation. The Japanese Army, paying in worthless military yen, had requisitioned the surplus rice of the Yangtse area, from which Shanghai had formerly derived the bulk of its rice supplies, for export to Japan. There was a similar situation in regard to coal, because Japan was monopolizing the output of China's collieries, many of which she had seized.

Rice and coal constituted only a fraction of Japan's loot from China. Special official companies were organized to exploit the resources of North and Central China, regardless of their previous ownership. The Central China Development Company, for

example, established subsidiaries to operate or exploit iron and coal mines, railways, telecommunications, inland navigation, bus routes, public utilities, fisheries, and silk. Among the railway enterprises it took over were the Nanking-Shanghai Railway, in which British investors had a stake of about £ 3,000,000, and the Tientsin-Pukow line, in which British investments amounted to about the same figure. The Central China Railway Company, which claimed the ownership of these railways, ignored British protests, and was reported to be making huge profits out of their operation.

AFTER PEARL HARBOUR.

The opportunity for unrestricted looting of Shanghai came with the extension of hostilities to the Far East. Japanese naval and military forces occupied the International Settlement on December 8, 1941, and almost immediately demanded inventories of all local stocks of petrol, metals, machinery, leather, cotton, rubber, chemicals and drugs, automobiles, and paper, which were in due course seized. All "enemy" undertakings were placed in the hands of "liquidators," and either closed down or handed over to Japanese concerns to operate. Locally printed "Central Reserve Bank" notes, without any backing, were forcibly substituted at a ratio of 1:2 for Chinese national currency. Private and business premises of "enemy" nationals were seized and occupied by Japanese, including such noteworthy buildings as those of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the Cathay Hotel. "Enemy" municipal councillors were forced to resign, and most British members of the councils' staff, including nearly 100 members of the police, were dismissed or called upon to resign.

THE DAY OF RECKONING.

Add to the wholesale plundering of Occupied China, intensified now that war with the United Nations has removed the last obstacles, the looting of Hongkong and Malaya, Burma and the Netherlands East Indies, Borneo, Siam, and French Indo-China, and the total cannot fall very far short, in volume or in value, of the Nazis' plundering of Europe. It is well that the Japanese should be told in no uncertain terms that a day of reckoning is coming. It is equally important that China should realize that the United Nations intend to associate themselves with her in securing reparation for her losses.

TO CHIN HEAD-QUARTERS THE POSTMAN BRINGS—

LETTERS from "PEN PAL" YAMATA.

TO ALL CHIN RACES, CHIN HILLS.

Our brethren, you all Chin races,

Awaking and rise up now! It is time for your Chin races to co-operate with the present Burmese Government.

Our Japanese troops have determined to attack the British troops those are now camping at your Chin Hills. Therefore we deeply advise you better to co-operate with us now.

Do you know that the British and American Governments have lost heavily their forces during the battles such as Hong-kong, Phillipines, Malaya, Singapore, etc.

You all Chin races, being included in Asia, must carry your duties high spiritedly, to co-operate with us quickly.

Signed, YAMATA.

This was one of the letters the Japanese Postman delivered to a Chin unit recently.

They get quite a lot of such letters, for the Japanese Postman is a frequent visitor at the Chin Forces Headquarters. In fact, officers have been known to say jokingly that they get more letters from the Japs than they do from the folks at home.

FLOWERY.

Couched in an odd sort of flowery English, these letters are full of threats of what the Japs are going to do to the Chins, who under British and Anglo-Burman officers have ever since the Burma withdrawal been holding them back over hundreds of miles of hill country.

Other letters are all honeyed words and Japanese "politeness". Officers are generally addressed as "Respectable Officers" and "Honourable Gentlemen". One letter which arrived was addressed on the outside to the "Honourable Cornel Commanding the Chin Hills."

PROLIFIC.

Unfortunately, the Colonel in question had left the Chin hills months before. But his successor read with the greatest interest the warning that dreadful retribution would be surely visited upon him by the victorious Japanese Army.

Most prolific of the Japanese letter-writers is a gentleman who signs himself "Yamata", and follows the signature with the designation "Commander of the Burma Frontier Japanese Army for attacking the Chin Hills". So far Yamata's only attacks have been by post.

The Japanese Postman makes his deliveries in a number of ways. Sometimes captured Chins are sent up into the hills with the letters. Or Burmans may be sent. Patrols find letters waiting for them on the tables of houses in evacuated villages. Others are placed on jungle tracks which the Japs think our troops will use. But, however delivered, the letters arrive with the greatest regularity. Officers of the Chin units now call Yamata "Our Pen Pal".

"NON-COOPERATORS" TIED UP BY HEELS—

THIEVE-RICE TO MAKE SAKÉ.

The Burmans are sick of the Japs, who are ruling the country with distilleries and printing presses.

Everywhere the Jap troops go they set up a distillery for making saké, the Japanese rice liquor. They use the printing presses to reel out worthless notes to pay the Burmans —when they do pay them.

Reports flowing in daily to our forces in the Chin hills show how badly the Japs are treating conquered Burma.

I have seen bundles of these spurious rupees, writes an Indian Army Observer. They look like American dollar bills, and are printed, strangely enough, in English, except for a few Japanese characters in the border. The English reads: "The Japanese Government: One Rupee" The notes are adorned with a picture of a pagoda. Sometimes, just for a change, they read "The Japanese Government—One Dollar" with pictures of mangoes all over them.

DRUNKEN ORGIES IN BEST HOUSES.

When a Burmese headman learns that Jap troops are approaching his village, he at once sends all the women off into the jungle. The first things the Japs do when they arrive is to demand cattle and chickens to eat and rice beer. Then they take possession of the largest houses, and sit in them eating and drinking till most of them are unconscious.

It is when Japanese troops are drunk—which is very often—that Burmans have learned to fear them most. Then there is no bestiality they will stop at.

Villages have often become short of rice because the Japs have commandeered their supplies for making saké. Often the cattle seized are plough animals—which means that the Burmans cannot work their fields.

SLAVE LABOUR FOR TRENCH DIGGING.

Those reluctant to "co-operate with the New order in Asia", by handing over everything to which the Japs take a fancy, are often tied up by the heels or roped to trees for days in the blazing sun.

The Japs also demand slave labour from the Burmans—digging trenches and manning sampans.

Just recently, Japanese whims have taken another odd turn. Japs troops are now stealing the pretty skirts which the Burmese women wear. These they send to their favourite geisha girls in Japan.

TWENTY-FOUR.

In the Middle East to-day there are to be seen at least twenty-four different uniforms, each belonging to a different Women's Service organisation.

Nurses, cipher-officers, clerks, draughtswomen, tele-printers, drivers, from South Africa, New Zealand, India, America, Poland, Greece, Great Britain, their members are a remarkable testimony to the part which women are playing in this war.

The largest of the 24 women's services is the A. T. S., which in the Middle East draws about 85 per cent of its recruits from Palestine, Cyprus and Egypt. Many of the officers and NCOs., however, have come out from England.

The smallest of the Services is the Southern Rhodesian Women's Auxiliary Military Service. It has only five representatives in the Middle East, running a club and canteen in Cairo for Rhodesian servicemen.

BEVIN BOYS-SKILLED WORKERS FOR INDIAN INDUSTRY.

An average increase of 227 per cent is evidenced in the earnings of Bevin Boys who have returned to India after completing their training in the United Kingdom.

Out of 354 men sent to England under the Bevin Scheme, 203 have returned to India and a large number of these men have secured employment in the various technical branches of civil and defence industries. Four Bevin Boys, whose previous salaries were between Rs. 40 and Rs. 70 per month, are now commissioned officers in the corps of Indian Engineers, on a starting salary of Rs. 445 per month. A Jig and Tool Draftsman, formerly earning Rs. 2/10 a day in an Indian railway, is at present the head of the Jig and Tool Department of a Calcutta firm, on Rs. 300 per month. A fitter from the Punjab, who used to earn Rs. 70 per month, is now an Assistant Inspecting Officer in the Indian Stores Department, on Rs. 350 per month. A former tin and copper smith from the Punjab, getting Rs. 35 per month, is now a foreman earning Rs. 200 per month.

RISE IN AVERAGE EARNINGS.

Of the returned trainees, 164 are holding supervisory jobs in ordnance factories or private industrial concerns, on salaries ranging from Rs. 75 to Rs. 385 per month. Fifteen technicians, trained under the Bevin Scheme, are employed as instructors in training centres under the Technical Training Scheme, while 16 hold technical posts in the army, and four have been absorbed in industry as skilled workers.

Sometime ago the figures for the average increase in the earnings of returned Bevin Boys stood at 165 per cent. At present they are earning, on an average, 227 per cent more than what they were earning before going to England; and this percentage rises with the growing appreciation of the value of the men's training, and with steady increments in their salaries after appointment.

ENLIGHTENED WORKING CLASS.

All these men are between the ages of 20 and 30 years. They are mostly drawn from the working classes of India, for whose benefit the Scheme was originally initiated by Mr. Bevin, the British Minister for Labour. As batches of Bevin Boys return to India from time to time, a new type of enlightened working class is coming into existence in this country. For these men, during their stay in England, not only receive training in specialised engineering trade side by side with British workmen, but also acquire an appreciation of the principles of trade unionism and merits of industrial organisation. Side by side with the men trained under the Technical Training Scheme, the returned Bevin Boys are providing a nucleus of skilled workers, who are furthering the war effort as well as the industrial progress of India.

EXTENSION OF TRAINING PERIOD.

The Bevin Boys who have so far returned to India had to undergo intensive training in the United Kingdom for a period of six months, as was originally laid down in the Bevin Scheme. As a result of requests from returned trainees and certain employers, this training period has recently been extended from 6 to 8 months; and the new arrangement applies to the sixth and all subsequent batches of Bevin Boys.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU.

PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CLI. (Batch 4)

19- 6-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	23- 6-43 Nartamalai ... 7.00 p.m.
20- 6-43 Nirpalani ... 7.00 "	" Uppiliakkudi ... 7.30 "
" Avoor ... 7.30 "	24- 6-43 Andakkulam ... 7.00 "
21- 6-43 Karaiyur ... 7.00 "	" Killanur ... 7.30 "
" Idaiyattur ... 7.30 "	25- 6-43 Konnaiyur ... 7.00 "
22- 6-43 Vadavalam ... 7.00 "	" Melaveguppatti. ... 7.30 "
" Sammattividuthi ... 7.30 "	

LECTURE CLII (Batch 5).

26- 6-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	30- 6-43 P. Puduppatti ... 7.00 p.m.
27- 6-43 Alangudi ... 7.00 "	" Vendampatti ... 7.30 "
" Rasiangalam. ... 7.30 "	1- 7-43 Vellanur ... 7.00 "
28- 6-43 Tirumayyam ... 7.00 "	" Sembattur ... 7.30 "
" Melur ... 7.30 "	2- 7-43 Puliur ... 7.00 "
29- 6-43 Pallivasal ... 7.00 "	" Kannangudi ... 7.30 "
" Pillamangalam. ... 7.30 "	

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

19- 6-43 Ponnamaravathi.	26- 6-43 Tirumayyam.
20- 6-43 Marudankoneviduthi.	27- 6-43 Embal.
21- 6-43 Arimalam.	28- 6-43 Mullangurichehi.
22- 6-43 Perambur.	29- 6-43 Konapattu.
23- 6-43 Karambakkudi.	30- 6-43 Kilanilai-Puduppatti.
24- 6-43 Kilanilai.	1- 7-43 Alangudi.
25- 6-43 Pudukkottai.	2- 7-43 Pudukkottai.

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PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

JUNE 26, 1943

[No. 152

LECTURE CLII.

WHEN BRITAIN RULED SICILY.

(From the Illustrated Weekly of India).

A GRATEFUL PEOPLE.

Sicily has been ruled in turn by Greeks, Romans, Mahomedan Saracens, Germans, British, Spanish and French, until Garibaldi annexed the island to the Italian Empire. The people cherish memories of Britain's rule even to this day, and the island contains a larger number of people opposed to Mussolini's Fascist rule than any other Italian province or island.

United Nations troops would be certain to receive a warm welcome from the populace of Sicily, for since the Napoleonic Wars the people of Sicily have regarded Britain with affection and respect. For a period during the Napoleonic Wars Sicily was controlled by England, while Napoleon's aide, Marshal Murat, was made King of Naples. Sicily remained free from Napoleon and favoured the British. The people even accepted a constitution on the British model in 1812, which was abolished after the island was returned to the Bourbons.

Moreover, the Fascist régime in Italy has made more enemies among the liberty-loving Sicilians than anywhere else in Italian territory.

In spite of Fascist promises of reforms, absentee landowners continue to keep the people of Sicily in semi-serfdom, and the once powerful secret society, the Mafia, is functioning in spite of ruthless suppression by Mussolini. Many Sicilians see in the Allied successes the beginning of their liberation from the Fascist yoke.

EASIER TASK.

The invasion of Sicily would probably be an easier military task than the seizure of Crete by the Germans. Crete was taken by air—albeit against poor ground defences—while the British Navy controlled the seas. Thus, the enterprise was extremely costly to the Germans, with losses from which their parachute battalions did not easily recover. The United Nations should be able to attack Sicily with an advantage both in the air and at sea. But they would find it far more heavily defended than was Crete.

United Nations' occupation of the narrow Italian Peninsula which stretches from Sicily towards the north-west like a funnel might be costly and hardly necessary. After control of the Mediterranean and the Adriatic seas is achieved through the establishment of a diagonal line from Tunisia to Albania through Sicily, southern Italy, the Gulf of Taranto, and the Straits of Otranto, Italy will have been bottled up, its Navy rendered

useless, and direct Allied contact established with the Chetniks of Yugoslavia, who are carrying on such a plucky fight.

The path of successful invasion of Europe may not lead through Italy. Most invasions, which used Sicily as a stepping-stone in the past, went from Italy into Africa, but never in the opposite direction.

Even control of the rich northern Italian plain would be of little strategic value for the conquest of Germany behind the wall of the Alps. The arc of the Alps from Genoa to Trieste surrounding the Italian plain has created a natural barrier, which protects the German-controlled territories behind this wall.

Once Italy is more or less cut off, a logical road to Germany would be through Yugoslavia, Hungary, and Austria. The Straits of Otranto separating Italy from Yugoslavia are only 50 miles across. With the support of Serbian and Slovakian guerillas, an invasion force could penetrate the Dalmatian coast until it reached the plains of Zagreb, and the road of the old amber trade-route which leads from the Adriatic Sea to Vienna, the Moravian Gate, the Oder Valley, and the Baltic Sea.

This route strikes more dangerously at the Nazis than in the narrow valleys of the Alps which would give so many natural advantages to the defender. There, in eastern and south-eastern Europe, Germany would be deprived of raw materials without which she cannot exist.

Sicily contains about one-tenth of the Italian population. There are 400,000 agricultural establishments which produce olive oil, wine and subtropical fruits. The Italian mainland receives some wheat surplus from Sicily and most of Italy's fruit and wine exports come from there.

ROLE IN PAST WARS.

Sicily has had a greater share in Mediterranean culture than most other places. As the natural land-bridge between Africa and Europe it has been the stepping-stone from north to south and *vice versa* for about 3,000 years. It was colonised by the Greeks in 734 B. C. When Xerxes, the Persian king, prepared his conquest of Greece, the Carthaginians of Africa attempted to seize Sicily but were defeated. The Romans came into possession of the island and held it from 241 B. C. until 826 A. D., over a thousand years. Rome fought its Punic wars from Sicily as a base, and was able to expand into Africa and destroy Carthage because of its control of Sicily. Caesar, Augustus, and other Roman emperors carried their conquests deep into Africa from Sicily. Prior to the conquest of Egypt, the island was the granary of Rome, and supplied food for the hungry masses of the then world-capital.

Before the Eastern Empire of Constantinople took control, the Franks, Vandals and Ostrogoths took temporary possession of the island. Constantinople was able to retain its control for 300 years because of its powerful fleet.

MAHOMEDAN CONQUEST.

Then came the Saracens in 826, and under their rule the island prospered. In 950, the population was estimated at 3,000,000, half of whom were Mahomedans. The first modern State was built in Sicily under the German Hohenstaufen family at the end of the 12th century. Conrad, last scion of this dynasty had not much luck and was executed in 1268.

The subsequent French rulers of Anjou were not successful either, and were massacred at the Sicilian Vespers in 1282. Spanish, and later Bourbon rule dominated Sicily until its liberation by Garibaldi in 1860.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

19-6-43 to 25-6-43.

Italy.—From April 15 to June 15 Allied aircraft in N. AFRICA and the Middle East destroyed 685 Axis aircraft in air-combats, in addition to 252 destroyed on the ground. During the same period 118 Axis ships were destroyed in the Mediterranean.

A message from ZURICH discloses that orders have been given to evacuate all the larger towns in SICILY.

Mussolini has declared the provinces of FOGGIA, BARI, BRINDISI, LECCE, TARANTO, COSENZA and CATANZARO as operational zones.

The process of 'softening' the Italian outposts is proceeding relentlessly, as the following list of targets bombed during the week will show:—

June 15—5 important Sicilian air-fields.

June 18—SYRACUSE and MESSINA; air-fields in MILO and COMISO in SICILY; docks and shipping at OLBIA and GOLFO ARANCI in SARDINIA.

June 19—MESSINA, CASTELVETRANO, BORIZZO and MILO, REGGIO DI CALABRIA and SAN GIOVANNI. The last two are in the 'toe' of Italy, and received nearly 250,000 lbs. of high explosives and incendiary bombs.

June 20 & 21—NAPLES, CANCELLO, SALERNO, BATLIPAGLIA and FERRA ANUNCIATA, Wellington bombers attacked NAPLES on the 20th and 100 Flying Fortresses on the 21st. Considerable damage was done to the industrial centres, the Royal Arsenal, a torpedo factory, a gasoline plant, an aviation depot, several buildings and a railway track.

A 52-hour battle near SIATISTA in MACEDONIA between Greek patriots and Italian forces, in which 17 Italian officers and 482 soldiers were captured, is reported.

Germany.—Reconnaissance photographs show that the R. A. F.'s May 19 attack on WUPPERTAL was one of the deadliest. The whole town, covering over 1,000 acres, has been wiped out.

The devastation of DUSSELDORF on June 17 was equally severe. All the main sheds of the DUSSELDORF-DURENDORF marshalling yards have been burnt out.

The destruction of the armaments plants of the RHINE and the RUHR is proceeding ruthlessly. Important factories at ESSEN and DUISBURG making guns and shells, the Mannesmannrohren Werke, making submarine parts, the J. G. Schuitzke plant making torpedoes have been severely damaged.

COLOGNE was raided on June 16 for the 115th time. The chief target of June 19 was the Schneider factory of 270 acres at LE CREUSOT in C. FRANCE, making guns and locomotives for the Germans. The Luftschiffbau Radio factory at FRIEDRICHSHAVEN was raided on the 21st, and also KREFELD where 4,000 lb bombs were bombed at the rate of 5 every minute. On the same day, the U. S. Army 8th Air Force attacked the synthetic rubber factory at HULS, and the general motors factory near ANTWERP, while the R. A. F. raided the shipyards at ROTTERDAM.

A Sea-Victory.—Details are now available of the 5-day Atlantic battle last month in which the Royal Navy and the R. A. F. in combination won a decisive victory over the German U-boat packs. As a result, 2 enemy submarines were sunk for certain, 3 more

were probably sunk and many more were damaged. In addition to escort ships, ship-based aircraft, a new weapon played an important part, forcing the U-boats to fight many miles away from the cargo ships in the convoy, with the result that not a single cargo ship was injured.

Russia.—The chief event of the week is the Russian capture of the OREL bulge in the MTSSENSK sector, which the Germans, in spite of 50 counter-attacks, and the loss of 2,000 men, have been unable to recover. Russian troops are within gun range of NOVOROSSISK. The Red Air Force is shelling the air-fields behind the enemy lines.

The Pacific.—Allied raids were carried out on KAHILI, SHORTLANDS, VILA, KOLOMBANGARA, SALAMUA, VITIAZ Strait, the CELEBES, TIMOR, BUKA, CAPE GLOUCESTER, MARKHAM VALLEY, ATTU, KISKA and TABERFUNE.

American aircraft scored a smashing victory over 120 Japanese raiders, which attempted to raid GUADALCANAR on June 16, 77 enemy planes were destroyed.

Allied bombers carried out a heavy raid on a Japanese-held Dutch oil-field at PORT BOILA, north of AMBOINA in the DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Japanese planes raided PORT MORESBY, and MUBO with little damage.

British Spitfires mauled a formation of 43 Japanese aircraft which attempted a daylight raid on PORT DARWIN on the 20th. The raiders were intercepted 50 miles away from DARWIN and 22 of them were destroyed or damaged. This was followed by an Allied attack on the Japanese base of RABAU, where 41 tons of high explosives and incendiaries were dropped. The whole area was in flames, which could be seen 50 miles away. In the LAE area 23 Zeros were destroyed out of 86 which attempted a raid.

China.—In the battle which lasted 40 days in HOPEH and HONAN 40,000 Japanese had been killed. Chinese forces have carried out a series of bombing raids on Japanese positions on Lake Tungting, and have recaptured TOUHUTI, SUATANG and CHIHUA. The position in W. HOPEH has been restored to what it was when the YANGTSE battle began.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

14—6—43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).
NIGHT:—(18 Allied planes missing).
Industrial targets in OBERHAUSEN (Germany).
Laying mines in enemy waters.
Barges, trains and air-fields in the LOW COUNTRIES and FRANCE.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
Dispersal areas, runways and barracks at BOCCADI BALCO and CASTEL VETRANO.
Airfields at SCLACIA and BORIZZO (Sicily).
Targets at MARSALA (16 enemy planes shot down and 7 Allied planes missing).

RUSSIA.
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.
Enemy railways, stations and dumps in occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.
Jap cargo ship in HUMBOLDT BAY.
The towns and air-fields at KAIMANA and BABO (Dutch New Guinea).
Jap ground installations at VITIAZ STRAITS.
Jap barges off HUON Peninsula.
KAHILI and SHORTLAND Island.
Air-field at VILA (Kolombangara Island).

The wireless station and jetty at AKYAB (Burma).
Japanese troop positions on the MAYO Peninsula and the KALEMYO area (Burma).
Railroad bridge over the MU River (Burma).
Workshops at MAYMYO (Burma).

15—6—43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).
Day:—
Shipping off CHERBOURG (France).
Railway targets near DIEPPE (France).
Air combats over the FECAMP area (3 Axis planes shot down).

NIGHT:—
Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.
ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.
Enemy airfields in SICILY including that at COMISO (11 Axis planes destroyed).
Coastal installations at CAPE PASSERO (Sicily).
Road and rail communications in SICILY and Southern ITALY.
Enemy schooner in the AEGEAN Sea.

RUSSIA.
Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Lakunai and Rapopo air-fields at RABAU (N Britain).
The air-field at CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).
Jap villages of BOANA and KAIAPIT (N. Guinea).
Storage building in AKYAB town (Burma).
Enemy motor transport and stores at MAUNGDAU (Burma).
Enemy transport at BUTHIDAUNG (Burma).
Jap positions at THEIZANG and SIHAUNG MAUK (Burma).
Main Mandalay railway line between PYINMANA and KYAUKTSE (Burma).

16—6—43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—
Locomotives in northern FRANCE.
Axis communications over Northern FRANCE.
(11 enemy planes shot down, 2 Allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—(15 Allied planes missing).
Military and industrial objectives at COLOGNE and elsewhere in the RHINELAND (Germany).
Targets in HOLLAND and BELGIUM.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Axis air bases and grounded aircraft in SICILY.
Axis shipping in the AEGEAN Sea.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.
Nazi air-fields in occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

The air-field at KENDARI (Celebes).
KOEPANG (Timor).
The air-field at CAPE GLOUCESTER.
BONA village.
Jap territory near MUBO.
The railway yards at MANDALAY (Burma).
The enemy base at INDAINGGY (Burma).
BUTHIDAUNG (Burma).

17—6—43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—
Enemy convoy off the DUTCH Coast.
NIGHT:—
Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Axis bases in SICILY and SARDINIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.
German air-fields in occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

Dutch oil-field at PORT BOILA (Dutch East Indies).
Jap installations at SALAMUA (New Guinea).
The wharf area in ROOKE Island.
KISKA (Aleutians).
BALLALE Island (Shortlands area).
Enemy barracks and installations at LASHIO (Burma).

18—6—43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY and NIGHT:—
No information available.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The power station and railway yards at COMISO (Sicily).
The air-field at MILO (Sicily).

Shipping and docks at OLBIA (Sardinia).

Docks and railway yards at GOLFO, ARANCI (Sardinia).
Communications in South SARDINIA (39 Axis aircraft shot down; 8 Allied planes missing).
Railway communications in South ITALY.
Axis vessels on the west coast of GREECE.
The dock at SYRACUSE.

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.
German air-fields in occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

Jap barges in HUON GULF.
Allied positions in the BUNA area (N. Guinea).
BINA (N. Guinea).
Railway yards at YAMETHIN.
Oil wells at YENANGYAUNG (Burma).
Railway installations at MYINGYAN (Burma).

19—6—43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—
Axis ships off the NORWEGIAN coast.
Targets over FRANCE and HOLLAND.

NIGHT:—
SCHNEIDER works in Central FRANCE.
Military objectives in the RUHR and RHINELAND.
Air-fields and railway targets in FRANCE.
Air combats over BAY of BISCAY.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The docks at MESSINA.
Shipping in the MESSINA STRAITS.
Air-fields in western SICILY.
Shipping off the coast of SICILY.
The harbours at SANGIOVANNI and REGGIO DI CALABRIA (Italy).
Axis shipping in the AEGEAN Sea.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.
Air-fields in occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

Vunakanan airfield at RABAU (New Britain).
Enemy held villages along the FINSCHHAFEN coast of New Guinea).
KISKA (Aleutians).
SHORTLANDS area.

20—6—43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—
Locomotives and barges over FRANCE and HOLLAND.
Supply ships off the coast of FRANCE.

NIGHT:—
Radio factory at FRIEDRICHSHAVEN.
Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Air-fields in SICILY and SARDINIA.
Railway communications and installations in SICILY and South ITALY.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.
Axis airfields in occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

Enemy air-fields at RABAU (New Britain).
Air-fields at LAE and SALAMUA (New Guinea).
Jap barges in the BISMARCK Sea.
Villages in the AKYAB area.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

15-6-43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

RUSSIA.

Russian air-fields behind the Russian forward lines.

FAR EAST.

GOODENOUGH Island (New G.)

GUADALCANAR (Solomons).

16-6-43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

Russian communication centres in the rear of the Russian army.

FAR EAST.

The BENA area (New Guinea).

The air-field at DOBODURA (New Guinea).

The air-field at GUADALCANAR (Solomons).

(77 enemy aircraft shot down).

17-6-43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

A town in south-east ENGLAND.

RUSSIA.

Russian air-fields behind the Russian lines.

FAR EAST.

Villages along the RAMU River.

CAPE SUDEST (New Guinea).

18-6-43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON district.

RUSSIA.

Russian communication centres in the Central Front.

FAR EAST.

Port MORESBY (New Guinea).

19-6-43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area.

A place in South ENGLAND.

RUSSIA.

VOLKOV (near Leningrad).

FAR EAST.

ORO BAY and SOPUTA (New Guinea).

20-6-43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

A place in South-east ENGLAND.

RUSSIA.

A populated point on the upper reaches of VOLGA area.

FAR EAST.

Allied position in BENA-BENA (New Guinea).

21-6-43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area (only an alert).

RUSSIA.

An air-field near LENINGRAD.

FAR EAST.

Port DARWIN (Australia) (21 Jap planes destroyed; 2 Allied planes missing)

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE ROYAL VISIT.

His Majesty has had a busy time from the day he landed in N. AFRICA two weeks ago to the day of his return to England, yesterday (Friday—25th). He received Generals de Gaulle, Giraud and Catroux, inspected Allied armies and fleets, and saw war-scarred Tunisian cities and Italian prisoners from PANTELLARIA. He has visited convalescent homes, placed wreaths to the memory of the dead in cemeteries, British and American, and mixed and talked with soldiers—in a manner reminiscent of Henry V on the eve of Agincourt. We imagine he met his Corporal Nym, and Lieutenant Bardolphs, his Ancient Pistols and William Bateses on the Tunisian sands and beaches, and fraternised with them as his ancestor did. We are told he visited one day the soldiers enjoying a Sunday swim, and on recognising him, they sang, 'For He's a Jolly Good Fellow.' In another place he lunched in a pine-grove, on rough, wooden tables, served by Negro cooks, from aluminium mess tins. Private Dominic Albonizio cuts up an old Khaki shirt and makes long sleeves and cuffs for His Majesty to prevent sun-burn. He walks from 'camp to camp from watch to watch, from tent to tent.'

'Forth he goes and visits all his host,

Bids them good morrow, with a modest smile,

And calls them brothers, friends and countrymen.

.....With cheerful semblance and sweet majesty.

That every wretch, pining and pale before,

Beholding him, plucks comfort from his looks,

A largess universal, like the sun,

His liberal eye doth give to everyone.'

His Majesty's present visit is but a continuation of the kindly contact which he has always kept with the war Services and industries, since the war began, of the visits he has continually made to the fighting armies at Home, to the Home Guards, the British Expeditionary Force, the U. S. Forces: of his kindly visits to the bombed areas during the Battle of BRITAIN.

By his sympathy, and his own sufferings, the King has demonstrated that it is a total war we fight, in which the distinction between King and peasant is lost. Buckingham Palace was *blitzed* as East LONDON was. In the death of the Duke of Kent he too has had his bereavement; and his present contacts in N. AFRICA have forged the bonds of affectionate loyalty stronger than ever, and braced his men for the strenuous days to follow, for the victory in sight.

Yet, the visit was much more than a social affair. It was not only gracious for its kindness, not only a tribute to the magnificent feat of arms of the Allies to their achievements in N. AFRICA. It was the signal for the starting of new offensive operations. The King's previous visit to his armies, outside Great BRITAIN was to the British Expeditionary Force in FRANCE in 1940. It was the prologue, as it were, to the great struggle which has lasted now for three years. His present visit is, so to say, the epilogue to the horrible world-drama now drawing to a close.

His Majesty arrived in MALTA on Sunday and while touring was cheered lustily by large crowds of troops and civilians, church bells ringing. One of the pleasant functions he performed during his stay here was to present Viscount Gort, MALTA's Governor, with the Field-Marshal's baton. On leaving he left the following message to MALTA:—

"It was with great eagerness that I seized the occasion of my visit to N. AFRICA to come to MALTA and to bring to the armed forces, and to the MALTA people a message of good cheer on behalf of all other peoples of the British Empire. The warmth with which I have been received to-day has touched me more than I can say. It has been for me further proof of the loyalty which has inspired the island fortress to withstand the fiercest blows that the cruel enemy could inflict upon her. I thank the people of MALTA from my heart, and send them by best wishes for happier times that surely lie ahead."

THE WAR OF NERVES.

which GERMANY started years ago is now working in reverse, and His Majesty's visit has added new terrors to the already existing invasion fears. Her propagandists have now adopted a new line of propaganda, in a vain attempt to get at the Allied intentions. *Allehanda*, a pro-German Swedish newspaper, in a special edition dated June 16, put out a story, as coming from a reliable source, of secret peace-negotiations in a hotel in STOCKHOLM between GERMANY and RUSSIA, the representatives being Madame Kollantary, Soviet Minister to SWEDEN and certain 'High German officers'. The 'negotiations' though 'agreed to' by RUSSIA, in respect of the German retention of PRUSSIA, were reported to have broken down owing to RUSSIA's unwillingness to part with the UKRAINE. The funniest thing about the story is the denial of the story subsequently by the newspaper itself, and the fact that Madame Kollantary had been absent for months from STOCKHOLM where the conversations are supposed to have taken place, and had herself characterised the report as 'an insolent, ridiculous, propaganda lie'. Stalin, of course, has promptly exposed the lie. In a message of June 17 to the Congress of Polish patriots assembled at MOSCOW he stated, you can rest assured that the Soviet Union will do everything possible to hasten the,

defeat of the common enemy—Hitlerite GERMANY, strengthen the Soviet-Polish friendship and assist in every way in the restoration of a strong and independent POLAND.'

The war of nerves works, rattling the enemy. News of the closure of the Turco-Syrian frontier and concentration of British forces on the Turkish frontier and in CYPRUS, and of 75 ships at GIBRALTAR, including a battleship, two aircraft-carriers and 10 destroyers, and reports such as those of the *Daily Mail*, that 'powerful armies are in position from SCOTLAND to SYRIA and may strike simultaneously or consecutively, and that SICILY may be either objective number one or it may be well down the list,' have all tended to puzzle and unnerve him.

Earlier, that is at a time when the invasion was distant and only probable, and not so imminent and certain as now German propaganda took the line of boasting and spoke of the impregnability of the European defences. 'Let the enemy come', said the Radio Zeesen, on April 13, 'he will find a new Dieppe, he will get a terrible beating. We have fortified the coast of EUROPE from North Cape to the Mediterranean, and supplied it with the 20th century's deadliest weapons. Even the hardest and bitterest enemy attack is doomed to failure. On another date it said, 'the extensive fortifications are based on the experiences of the Western Wall and the Maginot Line as well as those of the campaign in the East. While the gun turrets of the Maginot Line operated only through 180 degrees, the present turrets cover 360 degrees.....To give you some idea of the Atlantic Wall, the steel would be one uninterrupted bar from the earth to the moon and back, while the concrete would suffice to build a road from BERLIN to the SOLOMONS', 'the Wall itself is 200 Kilometres longer than the Great Wall of CHINA' and so on and so forth.

Since the fall of the Mediterranean islands the propaganda tune has changed EUROPE, we are now told, has no 'southern wall', ITALY is 'a sensitive point', that TURKEY's intentions are 'debatable', and that the Atlantic Wall itself is vulnerable and may go the way of all ramparts in modern warfare, though, and this is the consolation, there is plenty of fighting space between the Atlantic fortifications and the borders of the REICH.

With the decline of confidence and the adoption of a defensive attitude, the fear of the enemy outside has been increased by the fear of the enemy within. Remarking on the foreign workers inside GERMANY, a Correspondent of the Swedish paper *Arbättet*, who had lately visited BERLIN, LEIPZIG and DRESDEN says:—

'One feels as if one were visiting the tower of Babel; prisoners of war are to be seen every where...There are many political germ-carriers among the 5 million foreigners working in Germany. One does not have to talk very long to a German industrial leader in order to realise that the great influx of labour has irritated the labour market.'

THE LUFTWAFFE.

In several respects, air-war is like sea-war. A TRAFALGAR in the sea, or in the air must, it seems to be generally agreed upon, be followed by a WATERLOO on land, to finish the war, and just as no body denies that TRAFALGAR paved the way for the victory of WATERLOO, so it seems to be generally agreed that the present Allied successes in the air are preparing the way to a land victory. Let us explain. The *Luftwaffe* is like a fleet at sea, manoeuvring to defend its base against a containing Allied air force hemming it in from the East, North, and South. For this purpose it works in 5 sections—Luftflotten.

Sector.	Commander.	Strength.
No. 1—N. Russia ...	Keller ...	1,250 planes.
No. 2—The Mediterranean ...	Kesselring ...	800 "
No. 3—Germany and Western Europe. ...	Sperrle ...	1,500 "
No. 4—S. Russia ...	Von Richtofen ...	1,250 "
No. 5—Norway and Finland ...	Stumpf ...	200 "
		5,000 "

What with the growing Anglo-American and Russian aircraft production, the strain on German production owing to the Allied air-raids, and the strain imposed by the increasing rate of German air-losses, Kaller and Richtofen (Luftflotten 1 and 4) have enough to do to keep the Russians at bay along the 1,000 mile Eastern front, and would be thankful for any transfer of reinforcements from some other sector. Sperrle (Luftflotte No. 3) has multiple tasks. He must maintain a defence force in anticipation of invasion at any, of all the possible Allied bridgeheads from DENMARK to the Pyrennees; defend the armament factories and communications in DENMARK, HOLLAND, FRANCE, and the RUHR, besides the Baltic ports and CZECHOSLOVAKIA, and spare planes for the dawn-to-dark patrol of the 400 miles of the Bay of Biscay containing the U-boat bases, in the absence of which the U-boat war would collapse. Stumpf (No. 5), with his strength perilously cut down to 200 planes, must defend not only NORWAY but FINLAND, while Kesselring (No. 2), with a bare 800 is now saddled with the colossal task of holding the huge Anglo-American air-forces based on N. AFRICA, and MALTA. With his limited strength he must now defend ITALY and GREECE, not to speak of SICILY, and SARDINIA, CRETE and the DODECANESE. If he withdraws from the Aegean, or the Balkans, GERMANY's Achilles' heel will be exposed. Thus, German air strength is pinned down at different points and fully engaged everywhere, so that increased help for any sector by transfer from another sector is impossible. It has been calculated that since ALAMEIN Luftflotte No. 2 must have been replaced twice over—the loss sustained by this section in the Mediterranean in May alone was 337. With declining German production, the gap between the German and the Anglo-American forces steadily widens. Moreover, Luftflotte No. 2 has been forced into a losing battle on the Italian front, which it cannot break off short of losing Italy itself. Luftflotte No. 3 is also undergoing a similar process of attrition by the R. A. F.'s ceaseless battering of the German centres. In these ways an air TRAFALGAR is being fought and the air situation, as it develops, will soon hasten the day of a WATERLOO on land.

WHERE IS THE ITALIAN NAVY?

The Italian Navy Day was celebrated, as it turned out, on the day of the surrender of PANTELLARIA, by an exchange of vapid congratulations between Grand Admiral Doenitz and Admiral Riccardi, by a lavish distribution of medals and by adulatory broadcasts. According to the BERLIN Radio (June 11)-Grand Admiral Doenitz 'expressed his conviction that the historic struggle of ITALY and GERMANY against the common enemy would lead to the freedom and greatness of the Fascist Empire. The unshakable determination and the fine soldierly spirit displayed by the men of the Italian Navy proves this to be a certain victory.....The Italian Navy had inflicted enormous losses on the Allied Navies and had fulfilled many other tasks for which it deserved a special place in the history of the second world war.'

But where is the Italian Navy? Hitherto it has preferred to evade battle action and on the rare occasions when it came into touch with the British Navy it escaped under cover of darkness or smoke. It has had its reasons. It had neither fighter cover, nor destroyer screen. But with the loss of her African Empire her destroyer escorts, no longer on duty to escort supplies to N. AFRICA, may be diverted to protect her battleships. Her capital ships will no longer cross the Mediterranean nor venture beyond the limits of the Adriatic, the Tyrrhenian or Ligurian seas. But it is possible that under force of circumstances, she may now change her strategy from a fleet 'in being' to a fleet 'in action.' A fleet in being remains in harbour, ready for action, thereby keeping the opposing fleet always on the alert. But this passive attitude will no longer suffice. Now that invasion threatens the mainland, the Italian fleet is bound to come out when the Allied armada arrives.

THE EASTERN FRONT.

With June 22nd, Germany enters on her third year of war against RUSSIA. Two years ago, she treacherously fell on her eastern friend and neighbour in the hope of an easy victory. The boast then was that RUSSIA would be overrun in six weeks. The Russian winter campaign of last year, crowned by the STALINGRAD victory which forced the Germans to retreat from the Terek and Volga over 700 kilometres, was the turning point. The German losses during the two years were colossal, 6,400,000 men, 56,500 guns, 42,400 tanks and 43,000 aircraft. The German position has now declined in other respects also. The capacity of her munition production has fallen, owing to air-raids. Her rear is cracking, with patriot risings. The Italo-German bloc has deteriorated, and Goebbelsian attempts to create disunion among the Allies have failed. TUNISIA has upset Hitler's time-table, with the result that he may prefer to wait and be on the defensive on the Eastern front. At any rate it is significant that the 1943 offensive, so prominent in Goering's Jan. 30, and Goebbels' Feb. 18, speeches, is now so entirely absent from German propaganda.

Perhaps it is wrong to say that Hitler has made the decision himself. Perhaps Hitler no longer counts. Since STALINGRAD none of the German moves bears the personal mark of Hitler. Though Hitler may still be in nominal command, he must be a very chastened and sobered man, ready to listen to expert advice. The German High Command, with their experience, must now clearly envisage the hopelessness of the situation, at least, the impossibility of finishing off RUSSIA and turning next to the West. They must know that any further attempt to force a decision in the East would precipitate a general breakdown; and must have told Hitler that GERMANY's present strategy was to reserve what strength she still had for home defence, and seek peace by political means.

This is our hour to strike at GERMANY and strike hard.

INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES.

The appointment of Field-Marshal Wavell as the next Viceroy, and of Gen. Auchinleck as the Commander-in-Chief, coupled with the creation of a new East Asia Command, which we reported last week, initiates a new Far Eastern Strategy. The entrusting of INDIA to the foremost soldier of the Empire and the age, the man most dreaded by the enemy, added to the organisational ability of Gen. Auchinleck, the General who had the honour of stopping Rommel at EL ALAMEIN, ensures INDIA's safety. Her

separation from the East Asiatic zone of war gives her freedom to complete her defences and develop as the chief arsenal of the Empire. The creation of an East-Asia Command initiates the change-over from the defensive to the offensive in the FAR EAST.

ARAKAN.

The present monsoon months, which will stand in the way of an invasion campaign, will be used, however, for preparations for an attack in the months which follow the rains. The recent British drive into ARAKAN was not, in any sense, a major move into BURMA. An operation against BURMA to be successful must be sea-borne, and directed against RANGOON, MOULMEIN and LASHIO, to reach the Burma Road. The ARAKAN campaign had a strictly limited objective—AKYAB, and nothing more. It was intended to take over a base, from which CALCUTTA could be bombed, which the Allies could use in turn for the bombing of RANGOON and MANDALAY. This attempt failed on account of the factors of distance, terrain, and communications.

The rainy months will be used to build air-posts, roads, bridges, and docks, in preparation for an ensuing winter campaign.

WAR EFFORT IN

PUDUKKOTTAI.

A PUDUKKOTTAI notification dated 17-6-43 prohibits forward contracts, after 16th June 1943, in respect of oil-seeds (ground-nut, linseed, mustard seed, rapeseed or toriaseed). Any old contract outstanding after the date shall be deemed closed at such rate as the Government may fix.

Another order of the same date prohibits the disposal, by sale or otherwise, except, as Government direct, of

- (1) Slubbing tubes, (2) Roving tubes, (3) Ring Rabbeth, (4) Ring Weft Pirns (including Universal and Wadia Pirns), (5) Ring doubler bobbins, (6) Warper bobbins, (7) Paper tubes cones and (8) Ring-travellers, used in the textile industry.

In an order dated 6-6-43 the prices of papers are fixed as in the following schedule:—

	Whole price per lb	Retail price per lb
1. Bleached woodfree M. F. Writing and M. F. printing paper 14 lbs. demy and above, including creamlaid, cream wove and account book M. F. paper and pulp boards but excluding imitation art, super-calendered, typewriting, duplicating, map printing and blotting paper.	0 8 0	0 9 0
2. Brown wrapping and cartridge paper 22X29. 30 lbs and above.	0 7 3	0 8 3
3. Ordinary badami paper 14 lbs demy and above.	0 7 5	0 8 5
Additional prices:—		
(a) For coloured M. F. Printings and pulp boards.	0 1 0	
(b) For light weights—foregoing qualities under 14 lbs demy.	0 1 0	
4. White printing paper, green label demy under 14 lbs.	0 9 0	0 10 0
5. White printing paper green label demy 14 lbs. and above.	0 8 0	0 9 0
6. Writing creamlaid 6 lb.	0 9 0	0 10 0
7. Do. 8 lb.	0 8 0	0 9 0
8. Do. Conquest Azure laid.	0 10 0	0 11 0

THE AIMS OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

EXTRACTS FROM LEADERS' SPEECHES.

General Sikorski, Prime Minister of Poland, said in London (July 2, 1942): "The second world war provoked by Germany is no ordinary war in more than the technical sense of the word. It is a universal revolution, the consequences of which will be permanently and deeply felt throughout the whole world."

"This struggle of national races and systems is but the birthpangs of a new order and things based on the highest universal human values which, for better or for worse, will determine the future of the world."

Joseph Stalin, Prime Minister of Russia, said (November, 6, 1941): "Unlike Hitlerite Germany, the Soviet Union and its allies are waging a war for liberation—just a war for the liberation of the enslaved peoples of Europe and the U. S. S. R. from Hitler's tyranny. Therefore, all honest people must support the armies of the U. S. S. R., Great Britain and other Allies as the armies of liberation. We have not, nor can we have, such war aims as the seizure of foreign territories or the conquest of other peoples, irrespective of whether they are European peoples and territories or Asiatic peoples and territories. We have not, nor can we have, such war aims as the imposition of our will and our régime on the Slavic and other enslaved peoples of Europe who are waiting for our help. Our aim is to help these peoples in their struggle for liberation from Hitler's tyranny, and then accord them the possibility of arranging their lives on their own land as they think fit with absolute freedom. Russia's first aim is to free her own territory and her second aim is to free the enslaved peoples of Europe, and then allow them to decide their own fate without any outside interference in their internal affairs."

Major Attlee, the Deputy Prime Minister of Great Britain, said in New York (October 29, 1941): "As against the conception of a world drilled and dominated by a self-styled master race, to which all others are inferior and subservient, we stand for democracy among nations. We wish to see free peoples freely co-operating to make their particular contributions to our common civilisation, but we recognise that just as in a city or a State freedom of the individual is secured by the enforcement of the rule of law, so in the modern world, so closely linked together, the acceptance of the law superior to the will of the individual State is a condition of freedom. Our task is to work out a system by which economic and political freedom is preserved by preventing its abuse."

President Roosevelt said in Washington (January 6, 1941): "In the future days which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded on four essential human freedoms, first, freedom of speech and expression everywhere in the world; the second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way everywhere in the world; the third is freedom from want, which translated into world terms means economic understanding which will secure every nation a healthy, peacetime life for its inhabitants everywhere in the world, and the fourth is freedom from fear, which translated into world terms means worldwide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such thorough fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbour anywhere in the world. That is not a vision of a distant millennium, it is a definite basis for the kind of world attainable in our own time and generation. That kind of world is the very antithesis of the so called new order of tyranny which the dictators seek to create with the crash of bombs."

Generalissimo Chiang-Kai-Shek said in Chungking (December 10, 1942): "The aim we and our Allies have set before us in the present war is freedom and security for humanity and its civilisation. We are not concerned with the selfish interests of a single nation or country. In contrast with the ambition of the Axis to subject other races to the tyranny of one that claims superiority, our desire is to see proper importance attached to the interests of all races."

UNITED NATIONS' SHIPPING SITUATION.

On June 2 the First Lord of the British Admiralty (Mr. A. V. Alexander) had encouraging news for the House of Commons. Here are the main points of his report:—

1. The number of U-boats sunk in May, 1943, probably exceeded the number brought into service in the same period.
2. For every four U-boats sunk in the six months ended November 30, 1942, five have been sunk in the six months ended May 31, 1943.
3. In the past 12 months more U-boats have been destroyed than in the whole preceding war period of 33 months.
4. In each of the first five months of 1943 there has been a substantial reduction in merchant shipping losses compared with the corresponding months of 1942.
5. The improved situation in the Battle of the Atlantic reflects the growing size of the Allied escort forces, and the growing total of new weapons and devices.
6. The number of U-boats operating has undoubtedly been affected by the British and American air bombardment of U-boat bases and building yards.
7. "We must still be prepared to encounter setbacks and periods of heavy loss. The enemy is bound to make great efforts to alter the present situation."

In his address to the American Congress in Washington on May 19, Mr. Churchill said: "The prodigious output of new ships from the United States building yards has for six months past overtaken and now far surpasses the losses of both Allies. And, provided no effort is relaxed, there is every reason to count upon a ceaseless, progressive, expansion of Allied shipping available for the prosecution of the war." On May 28, in a speech at Portsmouth, Mr. Eden said: "The news of the Battle of the Atlantic continues to be encouraging. Our own new construction of merchant ships is still mounting, our merchant shipping losses are still decreasing, and the sinking of U-boats is still increasing. The Battle of the U-boat still rages. It is not yet decided, but at least we feel better about it than we have done."

A HITLER BOAST.

On April 26, 1942, Adolf Hitler declared: "What our submarines are capable of accomplishing will be continually shown more clearly month-by-month." The German U-boat, he said, was the "principal weapon" against Britain. In the four months of 1942 which preceded Hitler's statement the monthly claims made by Berlin Radio had averaged 554,325 gross tons. In the remaining eight months of 1942 they averaged 855,785 gross tons. In the first five months of 1943 they have averaged 575,720 gross tons. It looks very much as though the "principal weapon" has been blunted in recent months.

It is interesting to compare the Berlin claims for the past two months with those for the corresponding months of 1941 and 1942:—

	1941	1942	1943	
April ...	1,000,000	585,000	423,000	gross tons.
May ...	861,460	924,000	430,000	gross tons.
Totals ...	1,861,460	1,509,000	853,000	gross tons.

It is also interesting to note that during April and May of 1943 U. S. shipyards added 2,413,600 gross tons to the United Nations Merchant Fleet, as compared with 748,440 gross tons during the corresponding period of 1942.

In other words, Berlin claims have fallen by 44 per cent, and American output has increased by 222 per cent. Whereas a year ago Berlin claims exceeded American output by 102 per cent, to-day American output exceeds Berlin claims by 183 per cent.

THE OLD STORY.

Until quite recently, Berlin Radio kept up the pretence that the German U-boat arm, was an invincible weapon, which was destined to achieve ever greater success month by month until decisive victory was won. The following series of extracts from broadcasts is representative of this theme:—

October 16, 1942: (*Berlin in English*)—

"The German attacks in the convoy battle of the North are still going on as strong as ever, and are not in the least affected by rough weather or anything else."

November 22, 1942: (*Berlin in Hindustani*)—

"Axis submarines are successfully operating in all the waters of the world, destroying Allied shipping almost every minute of the day. The British and Americans cannot stand these heavy losses for long."

December 30, 1942: (*Berlin in Hindustani*)—

"In spite of bad weather, our U-boats achieved magnificent successes during November, and this month their activities have considerably increased."

January 1, 1943: (*Berlin in English*)—

"The German U-boat arm is becoming a more fearful weapon from month to monthIt certainly does not look as if the German U-boats are going to be the first to give up the race."

January 13, 1943: (*Berlin in English*)—

"No satisfactory method of combating the U-boat has been devised; neither direct defensive measures nor the building of new ships have had the desired results."

February 1, 1943: (*Berlin in English*)—

"The U-boats have again had good success. But in the months to come—and, above all, after February—it must be expected that their achievements will be ever higher in point of tonnage sunk."

February 6, 1943: (*Berlin in English*)—

"The British Empire is in danger of being annihilated by the periscopes. Allied shipping losses are increasing day by day."

CHANGED TONE.

There has been a marked change of tone in recent weeks. The comparatively small claims for April and May have had to be "explained away." On May 2, Berlin informed

us that the claim for April was much lower than that for March because there were fewer Allied ships at sea. Mr. A. V. Alexander has refuted that contention by announcing that imports into the United Kingdom in April were higher than in any of the preceding 15 months. Here are other recent statements:—

May 6, 1943:—(*Berlin in English*)—

(Quoting a commentary by Vice-Admiral Luetzow) "It is *not* to be hoped that the submarine successes will mount steadily, in view of the fact that after a month of intense activity some of the U-boats usually have to return to their bases.....the enemy left no stone unturned to defend himself successfully against the submarines."

May 31, 1943: (*Berlin in German*)—

(Quoting the *Voelkischer Beobachter*) "Even in times of fewer sinkings our submarine arm forces the enemy to fight incessantly.....Even should there be some fluctuation in the figures of vessels sunk, the U-boat war still goes on."

June 1, 1943: (*Berlin in English*)—

(In a talk entitled "Facts and Fiction") "There is no denying the fact that there has been another let-up in the figures of enemy tonnage sunk.....Any and every chance is being used to increase defence measures. This has resulted in a drop in U-boat successes."

It is particularly significant that the bulk of this talk on June 1, which ostensibly reviewed the war at sea, was devoted to recalling the Japanese victory over the Russian Fleet 38 years ago.

SUMMING UP.

To sum up, statements by Allied leaders, to the effect that the current news of the war against the U-boats is encouraging, are in large measure confirmed by the enemy radio. It is possible that the U-boats will have better luck in the months ahead; any attempt at prophecy in this respect would be futile, from which Allied leaders wisely refrain. But whatever happens in the future, the failure of the U-boats in recent months has in effect increased the United Nations Merchant Fleet by a substantial margin. In the past six months U. S. shipyards alone have built enough ships to replace all those *claimed* sunk by Berlin in the same period, and at the same time to increase the size of the United Nations Merchant Fleet to the extent of 285 vessels (2,311,720, gross tons). If the output of U.K. and Canadian yards is taken into consideration, it may be said that to day the United Nations possess about 3½ millions gross tons more than they did six months ago. Far from crippling our offensive power, the U-boats have so far failed to prevent it from increasing.

"MINES WERE LAID IN ENEMY WATERS."

[How often have you heard this phrase in the B. B. C.'s news bulletins? You may have thought that minelaying by air was a picnic for R. A. F. pilots. Carl Olsson reminds you in this article from "London Calling" that it is a job calling for a high degree of courage, great coolness, and resolution.]

"Last night aircraft of Bomber Command laid mines in enemy waters." Behind that familiar terse phrase in R. A. F. communiqués, there is a story of brilliant planning and of super-flying by R. A. F. pilots under extremely hazardous conditions, a story

which began almost when this war started, the story, furthermore, of a secret but most potent weapon in our operations against the enemy.

On many nights, and especially on those nights when the weather makes bombing attacks on German cities too chancy and expensive, our Stirlings, Lancasters and Wellingtons set out with their loads of death-dealing mines which they drop in the sea lanes used by German transport. They are planted in canals and coastal waterways all the way from Norway to the French Atlantic coast, in the Baltic, Kattegat, Kiel Canal, and, indeed, in all Axis waters, even as far away as the Mediterranean.....in all waters where it would be risky for our naval minelayers to penetrate.

This minelaying from the air was the first and probably the best example of co-operation between two Services. The Royal Navy decides where, when and what types of mines shall be dropped, and the R. A. F. does the job.

MAGNITUDE OF THIS HIDDEN TASK.

You can get some idea of the magnitude of this hidden task by some figures recently disclosed in a joint R. A. F. and Admiralty bulletin. In fifteen months ending September last our minelaying aircraft had flown a total of 3,000,000 miles, and since the beginning of the war the number of mines laid runs well into six figures (against the total of 128,652 laid by the navy for the whole of the last war).

The actual effects of all this difficult and dangerous work cannot be gauged exactly. The enemy does not report his losses. But our combined Intelligence Services estimate that for every enemy ship known to be sunk by mines there is at least another that has suffered the same fate.

Ships sunk are of course a direct return for the effort involved. But it is the indirect effect of this aerial minelaying that probably pays the best dividends to our war strategy.

With Hitler's forces strung out over Russia and Europe, from the Don to the Atlantic, and from North Cape to the Mediterranean, his supply and transport services are strained to the uttermost. The continual onslaught made by Bomber and Fighter Commands on the German and French railway systems has driven a lot of his supply transport into seaborne coastal traffic.

When we mine those routes and keep on mining them we cause tremendous delay and dislocation that affect in turn all the enemy's war plans.

Minelaying from the air diverts German sea traffic to other routes where it becomes vulnerable to other forms of attack. Lastly, an enormous amount of the enemy's available man-power and tonnage is diverted to running the large numbers of minesweepers he requires to keep hundreds of miles of sea lanes continually swept.

And the men he must use for this work are of a type he can ill afford to spare. He cannot use cripples or children or women on minesweeping work.

It is well known now that most mines dropped from the air come down with a parachute device to lessen the impact shock, a shock which might upset the mine's mechanism when it strikes the water. But mines, too, are of many different types, each suited for a particular kind of operation. There is a continual battle of wits going on between our scientists on the one hand and the German minesweeping services on the other.

MOST DIFFICULT KIND OF FLYING.

What is minelaying like from the pilots' and air crews' points of view? First, it involves the most difficult kind of flying and extraordinary navigation skill. It is no use sowing mines any-old-how in enemy waters. They must be laid in specific spots decided upon by the Admiralty from its knowledge of the sea routes used by the enemy. And those spots must be found in the dark, over water and without the help of those landmarks that guide the crews on their way to a bombing target. It is mostly low flying, and the pilot has to do his best to conceal his presence by glide approaches with engines cut off. Remember that spotters from sea and shore are continually on the look-out and ready to warn their minesweepers of suspect positions.

Such low-flying penetration, often into the enemy's very backyard, into heavily defended places, such as the Kiel Canal, also calls for a high degree of courage, great coolness, and resolution.

From the point of view of the average bomber pilot it is also very monotonous, boring work, and work without any immediate reward to the eye or feelings. When he attacks a land target, even though he may have to fight his way through a lot of flak and air opposition he has at least the satisfaction of seeing his bombs hit the target; he sees the fires and the angry attempts of the enemy to confuse him and drive him away. But with minelaying there is none of that relief. After the strain of finding the exact spot in the dark he presses a button or pulls a lever and the mine vanishes silently into the shadowy waters below. And that is that. No bangs or flashes. He doesn't even know whether the deadly thing he has sown will have any direct effect or not.

Aerial minelaying is an invisible front which we are putting up against the enemy. But to those engaged on this dangerous, thankless, and quite unspectacular task there is at least the satisfaction of knowing that it is one of the most valuable fronts of all.

INDIAN TROOPS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

TRIBUTES TO GALLANTRY.

"The record of the Fourth and Fifth Indian Divisions, the Third Indian Motor Brigade and others in the war in Africa as a whole has been outstanding and one for which India, the Empire and the United Nations have reasons to be grateful", declared Gen. Sir Alan Hartley, Deputy Commander-in-Chief, in the Council of State on February 15, 1943.

Since then, the Indian troops have gained fresh laurels in Tunisia. In a message to Field Marshall Wavell on April 8, General Alexander bore witness to the "conspicuous dash and vigour" of the Fourth Indian Division in turning the Mareth positions. And the gallantry subsequently displayed by this Division has evoked universal praise. "We have watched with admiration", said Mr. Churchill in a message to H. E. the Viceroy, "the splendid achievements of the Fourth Indian Division in the battle of Mareth and in the recent victory of Wadi Akarit. The high renown of India's soldiers and of the redoubtable Gurkha troops has been enhanced by the outstanding performance of the Indian Army in all the campaigns of the Middle East.....We take pride that India's fighting men should now share in the success which has crowned the long uphill contest in which they have played so valiant a part."

FROM ERITREA TO TUNIS.

During the last three years Indian troops have covered themselves with glory in the various theatres of war in the Middle East. Whether in Italian Eritrea or British Somaliland, in Abyssinia or Syria, in Libya or Egypt, their performance has been worthy of India's great military tradition, and the place-names of Keren, Kissone, Mezze, Sidi Barrani, Libyan Omar, Angila, Jalo, Bir Hakeim, Benghazi, Mareth, Wadi Akarit and Tunis will ever bear testimony to their heroic performance.

The Fifth Indian Division, together with other formations from this country, played an outstanding part in the conquest of Italian Eritrea. Many of their deeds of gallantry in storming the heights of Keren were recorded for award. Many a deed must unfortunately have passed unnoticed on the rugged hill sides of Eritrea. The deeds of valour of Indians at Kissone, and in the epic defence of Mezze, contributed not a little to the successful conclusion of the Syrian campaign.

THE FAMOUS "FOURTH."

The capture of Libyan Omar by the Punjabis during Gen. Auchinleck's November offensive of 1941 ranks among the finest achievements of Indian arms. Advancing through a bullet-swept inferno, they stormed its defences. The Libyan oases of Angila and Jalo, 200 miles west-south-west of Giarabub, were similarly stormed and the Italian defenders captured. And it was the Fourth Indian Division which in this campaign formed the spearhead of the 8th Army's thrust into Cyrenaica from Tobruk onwards. "No praise" said Gen. Ritchie at the time, "could be too high for their achievements."

The Seventh Indian Infantry Brigade, trapped in the Benghazi area in January 1942, battled its way successfully through the steel ring of Rommel's columns, and after a 200-mile desert march through enemy occupied territory rejoined the 8th Army.

When Rommel started his offensive in May 1942, an Indian Field Regiment, as part of the Third Indian Motor Brigade, took on the entire Panzer forces of the German *Afrika Korps* east of Bir Hakeim. It smashed 51 enemy tanks before its positions were over-run. Referring to this exploit, Gen. Auchinleck in a message to Field Marshal Wavell described it as "a glorious achievement which may well have saved us from a reverse on May 27" (1942). At El Alamein the Fifth Indian infantry Brigade held on to the Ruwisat Ridge, despite the aggressive onslaughts of Rommel in June and July 1942, and contributed its full share in the Allied break-through in October last year.

CAPTURE OF ARNIM.

At Mareth and Wadi Akarit the Indian troops again demonstrated their mettle. Later, the Fourth Indian Division played a conspicuous rôle in the capture of Tunis, and as a crowning deed they captured the commander of the Italo-German forces in Tunisia, Gen. Von Arnim. In a telegram to H. E. the Viceroy General Eisenhower said: "We are indeed proud to have had your gallant Indian troops fighting with us in Africa."

Apart from these exploits of Indian forces in the actual theatre of war, Indian units are also helping to garrison other parts of the Middle East from Eritrea to Cyprus, and form a large proportion of the forces under Gen. Pownall in the Persia-Iraq Command. And Indian skill and labour has played a major part in building up the vital line of communications and supply to Russia from the Persian Gulf.

IN THE LAST WAR.

It may be recalled that in the last world war Indian troops played an equally, if not more, important part. Within a month of the declaration of war a trained corps had

sailed for France, where they helped gallantly to fill the breach in the Allied line until it could be reinforced. When the activities of the Indian troops were concentrated in Eastern theatres of war, they again distinguished themselves in Mesopotamia, Gallipoli and Palestine. Nearly a million and a quarter men, combatants and non-combatants, left for service abroad and took part in widely scattered theatres of war—in France, Belgium, Gallipoli, Salonika, Palestine, Egypt, the Sudan, Mesopotamia, Aden, Somaliland, the Cameroons, East Africa, North-west Persia, Kurdistan, South Persia, Trans Caspia and North China.

"No troops have better earned the title of veterans" wrote the *Daily Telegraph* last month about the Indian troops' contribution in the present war. They have fought in Norway, they have fought in Flanders, they have fought in Greece, in Crete, in Malaya and in Burma. And they have after an impressive and ceaseless struggle in Africa and the Middle East cleared the enemy from African soil. By maintaining a heroic struggle against Axis forces, both in the outlying theatres of war and on the outer bastions of India's defence, Indian soldiers have added one more brilliant chapter to a glorious past. "Wherever human daring is honoured among men", wrote the London *Evening Standard* on May 19, 1943, "the valour of Indian troops has made fighting Indians a legend."

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION IN THE SUPPLY FIELD TO NORTH AFRICAN VICTORIES.

The story can now be told of India's contribution in the supply field to the victories in North Africa.

Apart from the men and the machines of the Allied Forces, India was almost wholly responsible for the supply of bulk stores to this theatre—from railway wagons to landing craft, and electric torches to trouser buttons—long before the full force of American aid gave the promise of victory. Many hundreds of steel huts and sheds for housing troops in training, and similar structures for military garages, hospitals and aeroplane hangars were fabricated in India, from Indian steel. Their total area would be well over a thousand acres.

Steel was also supplied from Indian workshops for the provision of water supply in the arid, waterless desert, and the length of the water-pipes alone would reach many thousands of miles.

As the victorious army passed on, behind the lines Indian Engineers and Pioneers were joining up the last link of the vital railway line from Mersa Matruh to Tobruk. At one time, India was solely responsible for the supply of rolling stock, locomotives, trucks, sleepers, wagons and all ancillary equipment.

It reflects the confident ability of the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force that this line happened to be built on the promontory of Libya in the full gaze of Axis shipping and air bases.

Then, timber for the railway sleepers, for jetties, lorries, vehicles, packing stores, ammunition boxes, telegraph poles, and a hundred and one other uses came from India, and it is estimated that India supplied all, or nearly all, of Mid-East requirements.

ASSAULT CRAFT FROM INDIA.

From the naval yards of India came many assault and self-propelling landing craft. These played an important part in the provisioning of our troops along the North African coast, and in spectacular raids on enemy-occupied villages.

Much could be written of the way in which Indian manufacturers developed new industries to meet the vast needs of the armies overseas. Examples of new products are electrical cables of many kinds, electric fans, and water valves and pumps, while the ceramic industries of India began for the first time to produce porcelain cleats, insulators and fuse-holders. Similarly, India developed a new industry of plastics to make bakelite lamp-holders and ceiling roses.

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION.

An outstanding contribution in this field was the supply of dry batteries and cells. Communication between aircraft from air to ground and *vice versa* depends largely on the efficiency of the batteries the planes carry. Shipments to the Middle East from the United Kingdom by the long Cape route impair the batteries' effective life. Arrangements for the production of a particular type of batteries required for the R. A. F. were therefore begun in India during the latter part of 1941, and since then India has supplied for the R. A. F. alone nearly five million cells. If other services are taken into consideration, the number of batteries supplied would reach astronomical figures.

The Battle of El Alamein, it is said, was won largely through effective camouflage. Large quantities were despatched from India of camouflage paints, nets, and hemp. Stretched end to end, the nets would loop the world eight times.

These camouflage nets are not all the product of India's high power factories, but are being made by the thousands in the villages and the little known parts of India. They play an important part in the concealment of troop concentrations, particularly of artillery before an offensive.

A certain type of mountain-gun, which was used with marked success in the Eritrean campaign and will find more uses in other campaigns to come, has been "adopted" by India, and India has undertaken full responsibility for the equipment and maintenance of these guns.

Nearly 90 per cent of the tents which protected the troops from the torrid heat, the canvas and ground sheets which kept the pernicious sand out of the tanks, planes and motor vehicles, went from India. Indian pattern tents gradually replaced other pattern tents in the Middle East, while troops wore clothes made in India, and to a lesser extent walked in boots supplied from Indian factories. And of the food they ate, a large proportion came from India. Scientific dehydration, one of the first developments in India since the war, enabled India to supply 40,000 tons.

MEDICAL STORES.

Among medical stores, equipment and comforts for troops, India supplied over 50,000 stretchers, over 1,000,000 blankets, 250,000 mosquito nets, 1,500,000 water tasting tablets, and 160 tons of anti-mosquito cream, to say nothing of 336,000 ounces of castor oil. 1,500 different items of medical stores were supplied from India, and of field dressings, over 1,250,000 of the 2½ inch wide bandages, which are part of the first-aid

equipment for every soldier in the field, and if stretched from end to end, would extend well over 2,000 miles.

INDIRECT HELP FOR RUSSIA.

The most important and far-reaching effect of India's contribution—outstanding as it has been—was the enormous saving in shipping tonnage which was effected. Had it been necessary to supply from the United Kingdom, it would have taken so much more shipping away that it is doubtful if on the other front so much tonnage could have been spared for Russia. Along the shorter supply route India pumped steadily over 1,500,000 tons of stores, which may be regarded as so much extra tonnage released for Russia.

The safe conveying and delivery of supplies rested on Indian convoy ships, while on the Persian Gulf and on the North African ports an enormous amount of material, labour and technical supervision supplied by India helped to extend port facilities in Egypt and Iraq. In the later stages of the campaign, these ports were thus able to cope with the vast amount of supplies, especially from the Eastern Group and the U. S. A.

Several times during the North African campaign, when supplies expected from the United Kingdom and America were lost *en route*, India supplied from her own resources. In one of these instances, 7,000 tons of steel sheets rolled in India were shipped to the Middle East for the manufacture of anti-tank mines—when these could not arrive from England without dangerous delay—and enabled the vast mine-fields to be laid which proved so invaluable during the defensive war of last year.

ECONOMIC AID.

(The following is an extract from a recent speech by Mr. C. H. Masterman, C. I. E., I. C. S., at Vizagapatam).

Why should you subscribe to Defence Loans? For three reasons. Firstly, the most important reason, you will be lending your money to Government to carry on the war. Secondly, the least important reason, you will be making a good investment for yourselves, and thirdly, because in putting money into Defence Loans, you will be helping a great deal to solve this difficult and important problem of inflation and rise in prices. The first two reasons require no explanation, but the last perhaps does.

Put in the simplest words possible, and avoiding the use of the economists' technical terms, the position in India is that there is a scarcity of certain commodities, and at the same time, a very large amount of money in circulation. These two factors together inevitably lead to a general rise in prices. The first factor—the scarcity of commodities—requires no proof. You all know that things are difficult to get. That is due entirely to the war. It is due partly to the fact that Japan is in occupation of places like Burma and the Dutch East Indies from which, before the war, we used to get such commodities as oil, rubber, rice and so on, and partly to the fact that shipping to this country cannot be spared, except to bring in essential war materials. Nothing very much can be done about it. It is an inevitable consequence of a world-wide war.

DIFFICULTIES OF TRANSPORT.

Scarcity in particular places within the Province is a different matter. This is largely due to the difficulties of transport within the country. Everything possible is being done to organize better distribution within the Province, but you must remember that, in war time, transport both by rail and by motor transport *must* be very difficult. I am myself a member of the Regional Board of Transport, and I know that the difficulties are great. I can only assure you that everything possible is being done to ease the situation.

The second factor—that there is a large amount of money in circulation—does, I think for some people at any rate, require some proof. Well, I can give you a few homely instances to show that this is so. Land Revenue collections have never been better. People want to pay their income-tax in advance while the going is good, because at the present time they have plenty of money with which to pay. The consumption of arrack and toddy has almost doubled. All of which instances clearly show that people of all classes have money to spend.

It is important, then, to divert as much as possible of that large amount of money in circulation by inducing people to *save*, instead of spending their money on non-essentials, or on a larger quantity of essentials than they really need. I feel sure that many people are still spending in war time much more than is necessary, on entertainments, marriages, festivals, and the like. If you put all the money you can spare, over and above what you, really require for the necessities of life, into Defence Loans, you will be doing a real service, not only by lending to the Government money with which to carry on the war, but by diverting some of the surplus money in circulation into channels where it cannot be spent on non-essentials, and in the long run you will be doing much to check the general rise in prices.

PROBLEM OF HIGH PRICES.

This question of high prices is greatly exercising people's minds at present. So many pronouncements have been made about the question that people begin to say, "We do not know where we are." Well, the shortest and I think, the best answer, to those people is, "You are in the middle of a worldwide war, and in the middle of such a war you cannot expect everything to run like clock-work." You must expect some scarcity. You must expect difficulties in transporting things from producing centres to where they are needed for consumption, and you must expect that commodities will be dear. As I have already explained, the high price of commodities is due to two factors—a decrease in the amount of goods for sale and an increase in the amount of money with which to purchase things. Both are due primarily to the war. The scarcity of some goods is due, as I have explained, to the fact that some producing countries, such as Burma, are in enemy's hands and to the fact that ships cannot be spared to bring things to this country; the increase in the amount of money in circulation is due largely to the amount of money which the Government have had to pay out for war supplies and wages to those working on military works.

"SAVE BY RATIONING OURSELVES."

The question is what the ordinary person can do to remedy things. I am suggesting this evening that we can all help by living more economically, by refusing to hoard, and by putting what we thereby save into Defence Loans. In other words, I am suggesting that we ration ourselves and put what we save by rationing ourselves into War Loans.

THE SETTING SUN IN THE PACIFIC.

JAPANESE NAVAL AND SHIPPING LOSSES.

The following table gives Japanese naval and shipping losses in the Pacific from the start of the war to June 11. These statistics are compiled from U. S. Naval communiqués as well as reports issued by General Mac-Arthur's headquarters. Because of possible minor duplications, which cannot be determined at the time that the reports are issued the two totals cannot accurately be combined.

SUMMARY FROM NAVAL COMMUNIQUÉS.

Combatant Ships.	Sunk.	Probably Sunk.	Damaged.
Battleships ...	... 2	...	9
Aircraft-Carriers ...	... 6	1	7
Cruisers ...	... 24	4	44
Destroyers ...	... 60	19	60
Submarines ...	... 6	1	6
Tenders ...	... 1	1	4
Unspecified Types ...	... 21	2	17
Totals ...	120	28	147
Non-Combatant Ships ...	195	23	96

SUMMARY FROM GEN. MACARTHUR'S COMMUNIQUÉS.

Combatant Ships.	Sunk.	Probably sunk.	Damaged.
Battleships ...		...	1
Aircraft-Carriers ...	... 1	...	2
Cruisers ...	... 10	...	20
Destroyers ...	... 14	...	20
Submarines ...	... 10	...	2
Tenders ...	... 1	...	...
Gunboats ...	... 4	...	...
Torpedo Boats ...	... 1	1	1
Unspecified Types ...		1	1
Totals ...	41	2	47
Non-Combatant Ships ...	99	9	171

In addition to these ships reported as sunk, probably sunk and damaged by General MacArthur's forces, there are 243 miscellaneous small craft such as barges, fishing boats, etc., which have been "sunk or damaged."

"THE CRAWLING DEATH".

GERMAN NAME FOR THE R. A. F. MUSTANG.

Der Kriechende Tod—"the Crawling Death"—is the name given by the Germans to the Mustang, the American-built fighter plane used by the British Royal Air Force for low level attacks on Nazi transportation and communications in Europe. Every line, provision and device in this ship was built for high speeds at low levels, and it flies so low that it appears to be crawling on the ground—if 'crawling' can be applied to a plane which moves through the air at 400 miles an hour. Mustangs fly across the English Channel at wave-top level, sometimes kicking up a wake with their propellers.

They fly low to avoid radio detection, and often complete their missions and are winging their way home before the enemy's alarm system has sounded. The secret of the Mustang's phenomenal performance is its stubby wing design. A new contour prevents turbulence and drag from developing in the denser air at sea levels.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU. PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CLII (Batch 5).

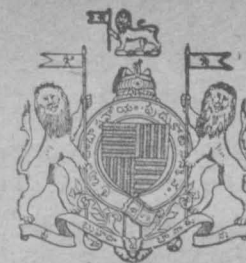
26- 6-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	30- 6-43 P. Puduppatti ... 7.00 p.m.
27- 6-43 Alangudi ... 7.00 "	" Vendampatti ... 7.30 "
" Rasiamangalam. ... 7.30 "	1- 7-43 Vellalur ... 7.00 "
28- 6-43 Tirumayyam ... 7.00 "	" Sembattur ... 7.30 "
" Melur ... 7.30 "	2- 7-43 Puliyur ... 7.00 "
29- 6-43 Pallivasal ... 7.00 "	" Kannangudi ... 7.30 "
" Pillamangalam. ... 7.30 "	

LECTURE CLIII. (Batch 6)

3- 7-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	7- 7-43 Annavasal ... 7.00 p.m.
4- 7-43 Kilanilai ... 7.00 "	" Kilakkurichchi ... 7.30 "
" Kilanilai-Puduppatti.. 7.30 "	8- 7-43 Malampatti ... 7.00 "
5- 7-43 Perumanadu ... 7.00 "	" Perambur ... 7.30 "
" Pulvayal ... 7.30 "	9- 7-43 Alavayal ... 7.00 "
6- 7-43 Sadayampatti ... 7.00 "	" Ammankurichchi ... 7.30 "
" Oliyamangalam ... 7.30 "	

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

26- 6-43 Tirumayyam.	3- 7-43 Vettamviduthi.
27- 6-43 Embal.	4- 7-43 Kodumbalur.
28- 6-43 Mullangurichchi.	5- 7-43 Viralimalai.
29- 6-43 Konapattu.	6- 7-43 Ramachandrapuram.
30- 6-43 Kilanilai-Puduppatti.	7- 7-43 Karambakkudi.
1- 7-43 Alangudi.	8- 7-43 Kulipirai.
2- 7-43 Pudukkottai.	9- 7-43 Pudukkottai.



PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

JULY 3, 1943

[No. 153

LECTURE CLIII.

INDIA IS NOW MUCH STRONGER.

F.-M. WAVELL'S FAREWELL ORDER OF THE DAY.

H. M. the King-Emperor has been pleased to call upon me to become Viceroy and Governor-General of India in succession to H. E. Lord Linlithgow, in October next. I have therefore, laid down the office of C.-in-C. in India, but I look forward to the opportunity, which has thus been given to me, of rendering further service to India and I shall endeavour to the utmost of my ability to discharge faithfully my new responsibilities to the King-Emperor and to the Indian people. I shall, naturally continue to have always at heart the interests of the sailors, soldiers and airmen of the Forces in India whose magnificent work and qualities I have known and appreciated during all my military career, and particularly in the years of this war, when they have served me so well and faithfully in the Middle East, India and elsewhere.

Gen. Auchinleck, who is now again your C.-in-C., is well known to you all by his achievements on the battlefields of this war and by his long service with the Indian Army. No one could be more fitted, by gifts and by experience, to be your C.-in-C., and his return will be as welcome to all of you, as it is to me.

INDIA STRONGER.

During the 2 years in which I have had the honour to be your Commander, India has faced greater perils from without than at any time in the past 200 years. Although these dangers have not been entirely removed, they have been held in check, and Indian soil has been preserved from enemy invasion.

"Meanwhile, as a result of your exertions, and of the victories won by the United Nations in other theatres of war, India has become immeasurably stronger. Substantial reinforcements, both of men and supplies, and many squadrons of modern aircraft have been brought to India's shores.

The Indian Army, reinforced by troops provided by the Indian Princes and by H. H. the Maharaja of Nepal, has grown into a great Force equipped with modern weapons and trained in modern war.

The Royal Indian Navy and Indian Air Force, both vastly increased in numbers have rendered notable service beside the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force.

The efforts of civilians of all classes in many varied fields of activity have made possible the creation of the large Forces which India now disposes. India's war production has grown to great dimensions. A well organised Civil Defence Organisation has been created.

FOR VICTORY.

India is now strong. If, then, all continue, with undaunted will, to do their duty, there need be no fear for India's safety. Great efforts are still needed to bring the war to a successful conclusion and to remove from Asia the threat of Japanese domination. We will all work together to bring this about.

I thank you all for the loyal service which you have given under my Command, and I send you my good wishes in whatever tasks you may be called upon to undertake.

To the British troops in India serving so far from their homes, I can send a message of assurance that the importance of their work in defending India and in preparing to defeat Japan, is fully realised by their comrades in the United Kingdom.

The reward of long endeavours, of British and Indians alike, will come in the sure and last victory of a righteous and just cause.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

26—6—43 to 2—7—43.

Germany.—The air-raids on the RUHR are continuing. Aerial photographs show that the recent attacks have been devastating, particularly on the factories at DUSSELDORF, HULS and ANTWERP. On June 22, MULHEIM, the steel town was attacked. On June 24, changing the strategy, giant, multi-engined bombers, flying from British air-fields bombed the radio location plant at FRIEDRICHSHAVEN and instead of returning home, flew on, to N. AFRICA, and after resting there for a while, visited ITAAY and bombed SPEZIA, before finally returning to their base, ELBERFIELD (the W. half of WUPPERTAL) and ANTWERP were raided on the 24th; the BOCHUM-GELSENKIRCHEN area on the 25th; ABBEVILLE, BERNAY and LA TREPONT on the 26th; and COLOGNE on the 28th.

Italy.—The Allied air-attacks on the Italian mainland and islands continue with devastating effect. All the important towns are under orders of evacuation. The principal targets of the week were NAPLES, CANCELLO, SALERNO, BATTIPAGLA, FERRA ANUNCIATA, REGGIO DI CALABRIA, MESSINA and CATANIA.

Middle East based bombers making a round trip of 1,100 miles across the Mediterranean and over Axis occupied territory smashed the air-field at SEDES, south of SALONIKA. On June 29, the air-fields at ELEUSIS and HASSANI near ATHENS were bombed. On the 28th LEGHORN, SAN, GIOVANNI, OLIBA, VENAFIONITA and ALGHERO FERTILLA were raided.

Russia.—There is accumulating evidence, says a special correspondent in the *Daily Express* that German troops are being transferred from central GERMANY and the East to meet invasion threats in W. and S. EUROPE. The chief attack of the week has been in the Orel region. Fighting also flared up on the KALININ and KARELIAN fronts, and in the SMOLENSK, SYEVSK, DONETZ and KUBAN areas.

The Pacific.—Between May 1 and June 26, 455 Japanese aircraft were destroyed or damaged, at the cost of 17 Allied aircraft, the average Japanese loss being about 8 a day during the past 8 weeks. On June 24, Allied Liberators attacked a Japanese cruiser and a merchantman in the Macassar Straits. On the same day Japanese positions in WOODU Island in the MUBO area, were attacked; as also an escorted convoy of 3 Japanese ships near Cape St. George (N. IRELAND). On the 25th Japanese bases in MADANG (N. GUINEA) and the SOLOMONS, in the KAHILI, BUIN and MUNDA areas and BUKA Island were raided. Later, BALLALE, VILA, KISKA, MARKHAM, RAMU, KAHILI, REKATA were attacked.

News has come of a large scale Allied offensive in S. W. Pacific. American forces have occupied RENDOVA in the SOLOMONS, VIRU in the NEW GEORGIA Islands, and TROBRIAND and WOODLARK island groups off the south coast of, and NASSAU Bay on the N. coast, of N. GUINEA; and are shelling MUNDA (N. GEORGIA). Australian patrols are attacking Japanese forces in the SALAMUA area in N. GUINEA.

China.—The 14 U. S. Army Air Force raided a number of Japanese-held towns in the S. HUPEH battle area and damaged a Japanese warship on the Yangtse.

The Chinese have captured TIKO, the Japanese stronghold in E. HONAN and attacked SHUKANG and YANGTICHLING in the same area. By capturing TOUHUIT, east of KUNGEN, near the S. bank of the Yangtse, they have cut off the Japanese supply line between MITOSSU and ONCHIKOW. They have also beaten back a series of enemy thrusts along the Yangtse in the ANHWEI, HUPEH and HUNAN provinces. The Chinese offensive along the N. W. shores of Tungting Lake on the Yangtse front is making rapid progress. Further south they have reoccupied the Yangtse crossings, S. W. of SHIPHOW and are storming HUAYUNG.

The Japanese are reported to be moving their troops westward from NANKING into the HANKOW area for a fresh drive up the Yangtse.

Burma.—The general situation in the Chin Hills is one of quiet. In three encounters severe casualties were inflicted on the enemy. A successful action was carried out in the Kabaw valley. A number of heavy attacks were made in the KALAMYO area. The railroad yards at MANDALAY, railway sheds at KANBYU, railway tracks at TRIDEINVAN, the Shweli bridge, and the railroad installation at KINUA were raided early in the week. On June 25 air attacks were made on a train at THANBYUZAYA, on buildings at MONYWA and railway installations at YWATUNG. On June 27 the objective was AKYAB Island. On June 27, the cotton mills of MYINGYAN, the railway station at SEDAW, the railway installation at MONYWA, the railroad construction base at THANBYUZAYAT, DIAMOND Island, railroad yards at PYINMANA and SAGAING and the cantonment at MAIKILA were raided. On June 28, IAKYAB and MYOHAUNG were attacked and 50 sampans and sandoway boats were hit and damaged.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

21-6-43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—(2 Allied planes missing).

Shipping off TEXEL.

Railway engines in Northern FRANCE.

NIGHT:—(14 Allied planes missing).

The industrial town of KREFELD (Germany).

Railway targets in FRANCE and BELGIUM.

Enemy air-field at POIX.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Railway yards at REGGIO DI CALABRIA and SAN GIOVANNI.

Road transport in SICILY.

Rail communications in South ITALY.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

Enemy air-fields and fuel dumps in occupied RUSSIA.

FAR EAST.

Enemy air-field and barracks at KOEPANG.

Jap barges off RAGUNEN Point (N. Britain).

SALAMAUA area (N. Guinea).

Jap installations at MUNDA (N. Georgia).

The engine sheds at THAZI (Burma).

The railway junction at MYINGYAN (Burma).

22-6-43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

The synthetic rubber factory at HULS.

The General Motor plant near ANTWERP.

Ship yards at ROTTERDAM.

NIGHT:—

The Ruhr steel town of MULHEIM (Germany).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Marshalling yards at SALERNO (Italy).

An Axis vessel in the AEGEAN Sea.

Targets in SICILY.

The docks at OLBIA (Sardinia).

The air-field at COMISO (Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

Enemy air-fields and the railway junction of PSCOV.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at KIETA (Bougainville Island) and KAHILI (Buin area).

The Japanese sea plane base at TAHERFANE (Arae Islands).

Jap position in the MUBO area (N. Guinea).

Enemy installations at MONYWA (Burma).

23-6-43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The Italian naval base of SPEZIA (Italy).

An enemy tanker off the coast of SICILY.

Railway sidings at POZZALLO.

Marshalling yards at CATANIA (Sicily).

Railroad junction at CHILIVANI (Sardinia).

The air-field at VENAFLORITA (Sardinia).

Shipping at ARANCI (Sardinia).

Landing grounds at CAPOTERRA (Sardinia).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

Trains at ORSHA.

Ammunition dumps at KARACHEV.

FAR EAST.

A Jap cruiser and a merchantman in the MACASSAR Straits.

The town of and docks and shipping at

MACASSAR.

Jap held towns in South HUPUH area (China).

Railroad yards at MANDALAY (Burma).

Railroad sheds at KANBYU (Burma).

Railway tracks at TINDRIVAN (Burma).

Railroad installations at KINU (Burma).

24-6-43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

Oil storage tanks and docks at FLUSHING

(Belgium).

The air-field at CHERBOURG (France).

Marshalling yards at ST. OMER (France).

Air-fields at FORT ROUGE and ABBEVILLE.

Offensive sweeps over BELGIUM and HOLLAND.

NIGHT:—

The German industrial area of ELBERFELD

(Ruhr).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field at SEDES (Greece).

The railway junction of CHILIVANI (Sardinia).

The port of OLBIA (Sardinia).

Air-fields in SARDINIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

Supply and fuel dumps at SALAMAUA (New Guinea).

Jap positions in the MUBO area and WOODU Island (New Guinea).

A Jap barge off VANGUNU Island.

KISKA (Aleutians).

Diamond Island (Burma).

25-6-43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

Targets in Northwest GERMANY (18 Allied planes missing).

The air field at CAEN (France).

NIGHT:—

Rich German coal centre of BOCHUM (Ruhr).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Railway yards and docks at MESSINA (Sicily).

REGGIO DI CALABRIA (Italy).

Docks at OLBIA (Sardinia).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

The railway junctions of BRYANSK (occupied RUSSIA).

The railway station at NAVLYA (occupied RUSSIA).

FAR EAST.

Jap held villages in the MADANG area (New Guinea).

A Jap cargo ship off New IRELAND.

Jap installations at BUKA, KAHILI and MUNDA BAY area (all in Solomons).

KISKA (Aleutians).

Enemy barracks at THANBYUZAYA (Burma).

Radio installations on the Diamond Island (near Rangoon).

Buildings at MONYWA and MANDALAY Ghats (Burma).

Railway installations at YUATAUNG (Burma).

26-6-43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

Air-fields in Northern FRANCE.

Marshalling yards at LE TREPOT.

The air-field ABBEVILLE (France).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

Air-fields in Northern FRANCE.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Patrolling around SICILY and Sardinia (2 Axis planes shot down).

Dock area and marshalling yards at NAPLES (Italy).

RUSSIA

(For the week 19-6-43 to 26-6-43 Russians lost 74 planes; Axis lost 211 planes).

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian Front.

The railway junction at OREL.

Axis air-fields around OREL.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions on BALLALE (Shortlands) and POPORANG (Shortlands).

MUNDA (N. Georgia Island).

VILA (Kolombangara Island).

KISKA (Aleutians).

Villages in the AKYAB area (Burma).

Diamond Island (Burma).

MOULMEIN (Burma).

27-6-43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied)

DAY:—

Enemy shipping off the DUTCH coast.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

FAR EAST.

Allied position in the MUBO area (N. Guinea).
American position on the RUSSEL Island.

26-6-43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

Reconnaissance over the OREL Sector.

FAR EAST.

A light surface craft off the SOLOMONS.

27-6-43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

DAY:—

LONDON area (only an alert).

NIGHT:—

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

A locality near LENINGRAD.

FAR EAST.

No enemy air activity.

28-6-43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

RUSSIA.

Dog fights over the approaches to LENINGRAD.

FAR EAST.

PORT DARWIN (Australia) (6 Jap planes destroyed).

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE INVASION FEAR.

'The avenging shadow', said Mr. L. S. Amery, Secretary of State for INDIA, speaking at BIRMINGHAM, on June 26, 'is cast far over the enemy's land. Our enemies, once so arrogant are now cowering behind their breast works, disturbed and apprehensive, not knowing where to meet the blows that are soon to rain on them.'

Dr. Goebbels, too, is well aware of the impending catastrophe. Of late his lies have turned to wails. Speaking at Munich on June 25, he lamented, 'Europe's very life-roots are being attacked'. Writing in the *Das Reich* he has warned his countrymen. 'The Anglo-American invasion attempt may well be a prelude to a decision in the war. GERMANY has no wish to doubt that the Anglo-American powers possess enough shipping and armed forces to land at any given point in EUROPE.'

German military circles believe that Allied Middle East preparations are nearing completion and that the British 8th Army is being transferred to this area, to augment the strength of the 9th and 10th Armies. In ROME, Italian newspapers have issued the warning that the preparations for an invasion of ITALY have been completed.

The world is agape and expectant, wondering where the blow will fall but for ourselves we would prefer to stand a little apart from the multitude of war speculators and star-gazers and ask the reader to contemplate the Herculean task on which the Allies are about to enter.

Continental EUROPE is neither PANTELLARIA nor LAMPEDUSA; nor even N. AFRICA. Since PANTELLARIA and LAMPEDUSA fell Italian resistance has stiffened in SICILY and SARDINIA. It took the Allies six months after EL ALAMEIN to conquer N. AFRICA, though they had their own landing-grounds and overland communications. For an assault on EUROPE Allied forces and supplies must be carried across the sea. There are only two positions—either BRITAIN or N. AFRICA, from which the Axis could be invaded. Opposite to BRITAIN, which is the nearer and better equipped base, the enemy has been building up his fortifications for the past three years. Southern EUROPE—the Axis underside—though more vulnerable, is also more distant from the N. African base. Further an attack on ITALY, or southern FRANCE or the BALKANS cannot be an end in itself but only be the prelude to an invasion of Hitlerite GERMANY. Thus, if the Allied invasion has not come off yet and preparations are still being made there are good reasons.

THE AIR WAR.

Hans Von Platow, the German war reporter, broadcasting on June 24 on Allied air raids on GERMANY, said:—
'I saw Warsaw after it was conquered. I saw Calais after every single house had had to be stormed, one after another. I saw many Russian towns, which the Soviets had transferred into fortresses, and which were bombed and shelled accordingly. But what I have seen at every stop in western Germany is worse than anything I have seen anywhere'. Another German reporter speaking over the radio on the same day observed, 'the raids on the RUHR are real blows; the battle simply goes beyond human description. Multi-engined bombers are now dropping thousands of tons of bombs over places where, a year ago, only scores of tons fell; and yet, heavy as these attacks are, we are told that

they are going to be intensified by 45% more from next month. New bombing techniques are being employed. The other day—June 24th, bombing history was made when R. A. F. bombers flying from British air-fields bombed the radio location plant at FRIEDRICHSHAVEN on the shores of lake Constance, crossed over to N. AFRICA and raided SPEZIA in ITALY on their return journey.

The RUHR is the worst sufferer. It is attacked every-day now. 100,000 people are awaiting evacuation from the area. The aim of these vertical attacks is various—to destroy the coal production of the area, and thereby, the steel and arms production. Since March 5, when the systematic attack of the RUHR, began with the raid on ESSEN, 21 big assaults have been carried out, on the 1,000 to 2,000 tons scale and at least 11 important industrial centres have been put almost out of production.'

THE RUHR.

Western GERMANY on which the R. A. F. raids are now concentrated—the RUHR, as it is vaguely termed, is the home of German coal and iron production. Most of the targets mentioned in the news are inside a circle in the Rhine basin, some 40 miles in diameter and with its centre at WUPPERTAL. Inside this circle lie COLOGNE, GELSENKIRCHEN, DUISBURG, DORTMUND, BOCHUM, ESSEN and OBERHAUSEN. Of them, the last four belong to the valley of the Ruhr river which joins the Rhine near DUISBURG. The RUHR area includes the iron and steel works in the *Ennepe Strasse*, the valley of the river Ennepe—a tributary of the Ruhr and here stand BOCHUM and DORTMUND, at the centre of coalfields, while a little farther away, lies HAMM, the main junction of the Ruhr railways. In the Rhine valley proper lie COBLENZ, COLOGNE, WUPPERTAL (BARMEN-ELBRFIELD), SOLINGEN, DUSSELDORF and KREFELD. DUSSELDORF is the nerve-centre of the Ruhr and Rhine armament plants.

The Ruhr—Rhine industrial area is less than two hours' flight from BRITAIN and produces three-fourths of GERMANY's iron, steel and coal. Here are also situated important chemical works. Though the Germans may transfer their junkers aircraft industry to far away DESAU and the Hermann Goering works to LINZ in AUSTRIA, though they may frantically reopen closed factories in POLAND or build under-ground workshops, they can, by no means, transfer their smelting and blasting furnaces from the RUHR. Thus the destruction of the RUHR is, in a way, the conquest of GERMANY.

RUSSIA.

June has come and gone and yet there is no sign of a German offensive. By this time, last year, the Germans had started on their mad adventure against STALINGRAD and GROZNY. Hitler's operations on the Eastern front are still confined to local clashes and these, too, have been costly. In the period of comparative quiet, after the Russian winter offensive, in two months, Hitler has lost, in dead alone, 3 to 4 divisions, along the Russian front from LENINGRAD to the Black Sea.

The enemy's delay is no doubt due to hesitation and fear, to bitter experience and to the growing Russian strength. Experience has brought the realisation that even conquests, do not pay. Last winter the Russians wiped out the German gains of the preceding summer and inflicted casualties totalling a million men. Another ground for apprehension, now presenting itself terribly, is the fear of an Allied invasion on the southern and western flank.

RUSSIA, now aided, more than ever, by the Allies enters the third year of war, with more confidence than ever. This time, last year, though she had prevented the *blitz* on MOSCOW, she was nervous and uncertain. To-day, with her winter triumphs, and with the Allied victories in N. AFRICA, she awaits the enemy with confidence and hope.

THE ALGIERS COMPROMISE. Thanks to Allied intervention and pressure the differences between Generals de-Gaulle and Giraud seem to be on the way to a settlement. A decree issued from ALGIERS on June 22 announces the setting up of a permanent, Military Committee for Fighting France composed of the two Generals, and their Chiefs of Staff. Giraud will continue to be the Commander-in-Chief of the N. and W. African armies, and de-Gaulle, of the armies in other French territories. The two Commanders will work in association and their forces will receive their pay from a common exchequer, and be under the French Committee of National Liberation.

We welcome the agreement, with relief, coming as it does, after months of unseemly squabbling for place and power; we welcome it, as none too early, at a time when the decks are being cleared for an invasion of EUROPE and united action among the Allies was never so vital. We do not mean that the Generals have closed their ranks now and settled all their differences. There are still difficulties about the future constitution of Metropolitan France; the Generals have also their different plans for the improvement of the French army; de-Gaulle advocates immediate mechanisation and the appointment of youthful officers; Giraud favours a gradual reform. The supreme question, who is to be, eventually the Commander-in-Chief, also remains.

Let us hope that in spite of the dual control the complications of a double government will not appear. We are glad that so far common sense has prevailed and led to a compromise.

THE MEDITERRANEAN, rightly called the Waters of Destiny, is now playing a fateful part in the war. The American Fleet is reported to have arrived here to assist the Royal Navy. German and Italian submarines are being recalled to the Mediterranean. Since Paris stole Helen and took her to TROY the Battle of the Mediterranean has decided the fate of nations and States. Along its shores have risen and perished the Persian, the Phoenician, the Grecian, and the Roman empires. Here rose and fell VENICE and GENOA. Here came the Goth, the Vandal and the Arab. With the opening of the Suez canal it became the highway between the East and the West. Here again is now fought the battle of freedom against the Axis.

Royally, in the midst of it, stands MALTA, symbol of BRITAIN's enduring strength on the sea. This tiny island, barely a hundred square miles in area has braved and braves the combined might of GERMANY and ITALY. It has withstood aerial attacks of greater weight and persistence than any other area of similar size has known. Up to October 1942, 3,000 air-raid alerts had been sounded, 1,666 bombing attacks had been made, 1,400 persons killed and 6,600 buildings destroyed, while she herself shot more than a 1,000 enemy bombers from the skies. Still MALTA carries on; from the defensive she has now changed to the offensive, pounding the Axis Mediterranean bases. Proud recipient, among the territories of the Empire, of the Victoria Cross, she has now had the rare honour of His Majesty's visit.

THE BALKANS.

While ITALY is the most obvious MEDITERRANEAN invasion area, the BALKANS, for strategic reasons, would appear to be the more suitable. Let us not forget that two years ago, the Germans, prior to their invasion on RUSSIA, sealed this front and that, in order to come to the relief of RUSSIA, the Allies will now have to break open this door. Moreover, the BALKANS are now the softest spot in EUROPE's underbelly, where ITALY cannot maintain its hold without Nazi help, and where the *Luftwaffe* is at its weakest. Here the Allies may also expect a landslide. Following the first Allied successes in this area, BULGARIA, RUMANIA and HUNGARY may desert the Axis, one after another. HUNGARY is inside the Axis only under duress. Discontent is rife in RUMANIA. CROATIA has an economic crisis. Insurgent risings are reported from SLAVONIA, SERBIA and BOSNIA. The defiant attitude of GREECE is known. In the words of *Ulus*, 'the German military might is still formidable, but the difficulties and responsibilities besetting it to-day have assumed proportions admitting of no comparison with those of 4 years ago. The occupied countries are now nothing but a series of ambushes. In case of invasion, the Germans will have to take measures, not only against the invading armies but against acts committed by the subjugated peoples.'

THE MIDDLE EAST.

Significantly enough, important things are happening in the MIDDLE East, which blocks the German eastward expansion by being linked up with TURKEY and RUSSIA, and where exist the great Persian-Iraq sources of oil supply delivering 15,000,000 tons annually. It has now been converted into a powerful base from which may be launched an invasion of South-Eastern EUROPE. Four months ago, Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, Commander-in-Chief in the MIDDLE EAST, reported on the completion of the base installations here. Last month, Civil and Military Chiefs assembled in CAIRO, declared that 'the United Nations have great forces in the MIDDLE EAST and the MIDDLE EAST is an armed camp and a great base.' Here the 9th Army based on PALESTINE stands ready for action; the 10th Army waits in PERSIA and IRAQ; and to this area the 8th Army, it is reported, is being transferred. The Royal Navy has its bases at HAIFA and BEIRUT.

THE U. S. COAL STRIKE.

The coal miners' strike in the U. S. A. which has been in progress during the past three months has assumed unhealthy proportions to the detriment of war production. The dearth of coal has affected the steel industry. Mr. John L. Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers' Union, agitating nominally for wage increase, is politically challenging the U. S. President's authority. He has refused to accept the jurisdiction of the War Labour Board. He has defied Mr. Harold Ickes, the States Coal Administrator. The Axis gloats over the situation. Mr. Lewis's attitude is treason. To make matters worse, the Congress has taken an attitude which may aggravate the evil. But President Roosevelt is a strong man. The miners are reported to be reverting to common sense, and to show a tendency to return to work.

SALUTE THE BRAVE.

During his recent N. African visit His Majesty pinned the Victoria Cross on Subedar Lalbahadur Thapa of the 2nd Gurkha Rifles, for 'outstanding gallantry'. He won his fame at RASSI-Zondi when regardless of his own safety he reached and killed his enemy. The official citation says his leadership and gallantry had 'a decisive effect on the success of the whole operation.'

The latest tribute to the Indian soldiers is from Field Marshal Wavell, Viceroy Designate. In his statement on June 22 he said, 'I should like to take this opportunity again to pay a tribute to the valour and loyalty of the Indian forces in the war. It is to the troops from INDIA that I am largely indebted for such military successes as I have been able to win.'

WAR EFFORT IN

PUDUKKOTTAI.

In order to conserve the produce of grain in the State and regulate its distribution, the Darbar have ordered the freeing of grains in excess of the personal needs of the peasants. They are to be released only under Darbar's orders.

Owing to shortage of pie pieces in the State Treasuries the Government have ordered that all amounts due to, and all payments made by, the Government shall be rounded to the nearest half-anna, the exceptions being the amounts fixed by statute or contract, and transactions by book transfer.

"AFRICA STAR" AND "1939-1943 STAR."

HIS MAJESTY'S MESSAGE TO GEN. EISENHOWER.

Will you kindly convey the following message to the three British Commanders-in-Chief and to the British forces under your supreme command:

During the long years of the N. African campaign—with its fluctuating fortunes—it was my constant hope that I might one day be able to come and see for myself the scenes of some of the famous, and hard fought battles—and, still more, those who had taken part in them.

My wish has now been gratified and it has been my happy experience to be the bearer of the congratulations of all the peoples of the Empire on a victory which will shine in military history.

This victory, I have decided to commemorate by the issue, in the near future, of a Star to be known as the Africa Star while another, to be known as the 1939-43 Star, will be the reward of those in all my services who have taken part in hard fighting in other theatres of war.

CONFIDENCE IN VICTORY.

Throughout my tour it afforded me intense pleasure to see the war-hardened men of the three British services, veterans of the Libyan Desert, as well as their comrades from the west, in such high spirits and good health—and to realise that they are working in the closest harmony, not only with each other, but with the forces of our Allies, both in, and out of battle.

Moreover, everything that I saw when I was privileged to be the guest of our United States and French Allies, has served only to strengthen my confidence in the complete and final victory of the United Nations.

Heavy tasks still lie before the armies of N. Africa, but it is plain to me that nothing will stop the gallant men of the United Nations who have already triumphed over so much.

To these men and to their skilful commanders, I would ask you to express my gratitude for the past, and my heartfelt good wishes for the future.

VICTORY IS IN SIGHT.

Field-Marshal Smuts—June 26.

We now have developed our full resources for the fight and the enemy has passed his zenith and is on the down grade. But the Nazi and Fascist leaders are desperate men when appalling fate is staring them in the face and they will drive their peoples on to the fight with the courage of despair before the final knock-out takes place.

Even if they have lost all hope of victory, as they probably have, they will continue to fight for the sake of universal exhaustion, stalemate, and a compromise peace, which would give them a breathing space, before resuming the struggle later under more favourable conditions for them.

For the stability and progress of western civilisation nothing could be worse than an armed peace followed by another desperate conflict.

Victory complete and unconditional, is in sight for us, but the main struggle on the Continent of Europe is still to come—this year and, perhaps to be continued to its conclusion next year.

For that struggle the Allies are now marshalling all their man-power and material resources. The great hour is approaching. There is a hush of expectancy in men's hearts.

CONQUEST OF SICILY MAY TAKE TIME.

HARD LAND FIGHTING INEVITABLE.

(The Daily Express).

The force of the air "softening up" of Sicily—together with the island's geography—suggests that Sicily is next on General Eisenhower's list.

It may be a pointer that our bombers are concentrating on the western side of the island because it is on this part of the coast that landings could most easily be made. At the same time assaults on the Messina Strait train-ferry crossing are being continued because that is the one regular supply link that the island has with the Italian mainland. The way our bombs are being distributed could be a pattern for the Allied invasion.

Suppose that this is the plan (and of course, it is a surmise) what is the task for our forces?

It is one of great difficulty. Sicily is almost as big as Belgium and its territory, mountainous and rocky, is practically all above sea level. The western shores are the most vulnerable because they are nearest to the Allied bases and are fairly flat. But even then there are only two reasonably good ports—at Marsala and Trapani—and a bridge-head established at either of these would be the farthest possible points from Italy's coast.

German technicians directed fortifications of the island which include underground aircraft hangars and many batteries of guns. There are probably *Luftwaffe* troops on the island and from four to six Italian divisions—a force up to 100,000 men. Given good fighting qualities that army in theory should be large enough to repulse initial landings. There is little doubt that the enemy is husbanding air-strength.

The success of an invasion attempt might be dependent on two factors: (1) knocking out batteries and airfields by sea and air arms; (2) severing the Messina Strait lifeline.

It is, to put it as an understatement, unlikely that sea and air power could conquer Sicily. Hard land fighting appears to be inevitable. Some experts have calculated that we might lose up to 50 per cent of our landing craft in the initial landings. Grounding of a large part of the enemy's aircraft seems a necessary preliminary to invasion and that takes time. Any attack that may be coming is, therefore, perhaps scheduled for a date which may be some little time yet ahead.

JAPANESE DEFEAT IN HUNAN.

A drive on Chungking through the tumbled mass of wild mountains south of the Yangtze is hardly feasible. The more obvious route is *via* the Han Valley and to descend into the Szechuan plain through the Hanchung Pass, on the Shensi border. But there were vital objectives nevertheless in the offensive south of the Yangtze which ended in a defeat for the invaders. The chief of them was political. The Japanese offensive synchronised with the appointment of Shigemitsu as Foreign Minister and was primarily designed to test the reaction of the Chungking forces to the "New China policy," to the surrender of Pang Ping-hsun and his 70,000 troops, and to the Allied strategic policy of "Europe first."

The offensive was launched as an experiment, in much the same way as the Japanese employed the purge and other crises in Russia to try out the Red Army in the Far East. It was accompanied by a propaganda offensive, mostly in Chinese. Tokio in Chinese on May 14th proclaimed that the social order under Chungking was jeopardised, that bandits operated in large groups all over the South-West, that crisis had developed between the Szechuan militarists and Chungking and that the Szechuan, Sikang and Yunan militarists had formed an anti-Chiang League; and that there had been a rupture of relations between Chungking and the Communist régime at Yen-an. This form of propaganda was also carried on at the front, for propaganda units followed the troops and distributed handbills among the Chungking troops. Planes were used for the same purpose.

Tokio in Chinese followed up with a broadcast on May 19th stating that Pang-Ping-hsun's circular had caused a panic in high Government circles, and hinting at further large defections by the former Kuominchun and Tungpei troops.

The reasoning on which the Japanese Military acted was clearly given in Tokio broadcasts on June 3rd, quoting military observers in English and "world opinion" in Chinese as holding the theory that Chungking had lost its excuse for the war of resistance since Nanking had declared war on Britain and America, and Japan had adopted the new China policy.

Tokio has had its answer in a definite reverse which has left the Japanese position very much where it was before the offensive was launched, and the "peace move" which was predicted for "not later than September" has already been completely nullified. And most of the Hunan "rice-bowl" remains with Chungking.

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S YEAR. STRATEGIC GAINS IN PACIFIC DEFENCE.

(The Times.)

When General MacArthur arrived in Australia a year ago he was confronted with the urgent problem—How could Australia be defended? Plans existing in Australia at that time envisaged the loss of New Guinea and the islands north of Australia, the loss of Queensland and the Northern Territories, and the establishment of a defensive line running westward from Brisbane—the so-called Brisbane Line. The Japanese strategic objective was the severing of Australia's line of communication with America so that this continent should never become a base for offensive operations. New Guinea at that time was garrisoned by a handful of Australian Militia and native troops. Port Moresby's one airfield was little more than a refuelling station for transports.

Nevertheless General MacArthur determined that the future battle for Australia should be fought in New Guinea and not on Australian soil. The first phase was constructional. American and Australian engineering units and American negro and Papuan labour units went to work with modern machinery. In less than a year the allies had a garrison of many thousands of troops in New Guinea and an elaborate system of airfields from which hundreds of aeroplanes could operate. The capacity of the harbour at Port Moresby had been increased manyfold. It has been a remarkable, almost an incredible, transformation. If much of the credit is due to thousands of nameless workers who toiled night and day, not a little is due to the vision and courage of the Commander-in-Chief.

JAPANESE OBJECTIVES.

The Japanese advance southward was checked in a series of decisive engagements. Early in March a concentration of warships and transports in Huon Gulf was so mauled by bombers from Australia that the drive was delayed for two months. Early in June a much larger concentration, a veritable invasion fleet aiming at the seizure of Port Moresby, the establishment of bases on the Cape York peninsula, and possibly the occupation of New Caledonia, was completely disrupted in the Battle of the Coral Sea by American shorebased and carrier-based bombers.

Still the Japanese High Command would not relinquish their objective. As part of a co-ordinated plan aiming at the occupation of all New Guinea, Japanese forces landed at Gona on July 21 and began to press inland. Others landed near Milne Bay on August 26 to seize that vital strategic point at the south-east tip of Papua. But we had beaten the Japanese in the race to Milne Bay. We were there first. We had seasoned troops there, and we had landing strips and aeroplanes. Moreover, the expedition which the Japanese landed was a weak one, possibly because much of their striking power originally intended for this area had been diverted to the South Solomons, where Marines had landed on August 7.

At Milne Bay the Japanese suffered an unqualified defeat. But that defeat did not prevent them from pushing on with their overland drive towards Port Moresby. They reached a point 32 miles from Port Moresby and then, after an interval of some weeks, were forced to withdraw by three factors—by supply difficulties, by the exhaustion of their troops, and by our local superiority in the air. They fell back towards the north coast only to find that their positions there were threatened from the south-east by

American troops who had been transported, and were being maintained, by air. Unable to evacuate or to escape, the forces of Lieutenant-General Tomitaro Harii were virtually annihilated.

REMARKABLE ENGAGEMENT.

More recently a Japanese attempt to capture Wau, our main advanced base in north-east New Guinea, has been successfully repelled and attempts to supply and reinforce the Japanese garrison in the Lae area have been repelled in a victory so complete that it constitutes one of the most remarkable engagements of the entire war.

One of the main factors which brought Japan such phenomenal success in the early stages of the war was her superiority in the air and the integration of the air with the land and sea arms. Japanese aeroplanes achieved Pearl Harbour, and sank the *Prince of Wales* and *Repulse*, the *Cornwall*, the *Dorsetshire*, and the *Hermes*. Japanese convoys and advanced Japanese armies fought under an air umbrella. Conversely Japan's defeats have without exception been caused by her failure to achieve that air cover. General MacArthur's strategy in the air has been to push the bomber line forward. A year ago our Fortresses were operating from bases on the Australian mainland. Although they refuelled at Port Moresby, Rabaul was as far from their base as Rome is from London. Later they began to operate from Port Moresby.

The chief strategic objective of the Papuan campaign has been the gaining of air bases on the north coast which would still further increase the range of our aircraft. With each step forward the striking power of the Allied air force has been doubled. It has been like doubling the number of aircraft in this theatre. We learned, too, during the Papuan campaign that aircraft can be used for more than bombardment and strafing; more than the occasional transport of troops or the emergency dropping of supplies. We learned, even with the limited numbers at our disposal, that they can transport whole divisions and keep them supplied with food and munitions day after day and week after week.

A "MAGINOT LINE"

As a result of the checks which Japanese forces have met in the Solomons, in the Central Pacific, at Midway, and in this theatre, they appear to have abandoned, at least for the time being, their former objective of trying to isolate Australia. Instead they are concentrating on building a "Maginot Line" of impregnable defence reaching from Timor through the islands of the Arafura Sea, along the northern littoral of New Guinea, through New Britain and the northern Solomons, then due north to the mandated islands—a line which will be as difficult for us to pierce as the Allied line has been difficult for them to pierce. Night and day they are making landing strips, developing airfields, building blast bays, improving harbour facilities, reinforcing garrisons, and preparing fixed defences. Such beaverlike consolidation serves defensive and offensive needs alike. With each day that passes the task before the Allied nations becomes harder.

The Japanese to-day are in a strong position. They have access to all the essential raw materials they need. They are working on interior lines. They have a powerful army trained in the field and at present nowhere engaged in major operations. In the patriotism and hardihood of the ordinary Japanese soldier and sailor they have a great defensive asset. They have the vast and industrious labour reserve of Asia at their command. They need use few, if any, first-line troops for maintaining order in the occupied regions, and can concentrate their strength on their perimeter. They have a chain of air

bases which permits fighters to be flown from the factories to the Pacific front in less than a week, or a fleet of bombers to be transferred from Manchuria to Burma in the same period.

THE WAY TO VICTORY.

But if the Japanese are strong in most respects they are weak in others. There are chinks in their armour. First, there are reasons for supposing that Japan's reserves of merchant shipping, on which she depends for the maintenance of these hundreds of garrisons in the Pacific, are not unlimited. Secondly, and far more important, there are good reasons for thinking that Japan's potentialities in the air do not begin to compare with those of the Allied nations. We can invent better types; we can build 10 planes to Japan's one; we can turn out more and better pilots.

How can we best turn this weakness to our advantage? The Japanese themselves would dearly like to know the answer to this question, which is properly one for the experts and commanders to answer. It will be remembered that General MacArthur himself, when asked to comment on the lessons of the Papuan campaign, declared that the way to victory lay through new and broadened strategic and tactical conceptions; that air-power, combined with land-power and supported by seapower, permitted the application of "swift, massive strokes," and that such new methods would eliminate the necessity for costly island-to-island advances.

The south-west Pacific has been a holding front during the past year. If territorial advances have been made both in the South Solomons and in Papua, they have been in the nature of defensive offensives, aiming at the consolidation of the Allied defence line and the protection of vital lines of communication south of it. The forces under General MacArthur's command and those in the south Pacific have done no more than halt the Japanese advance. Whether this front continues to hold will depend on two things—on the strength which the enemy is able to build up against it, and on the forces made available to this area. If the Commander-in-Chief and the generals under him have achieved so much with so little, big things may be expected when eventually it proves possible to assemble the full measure of Allied striking power in this part of the world.

BRITAIN'S CONTRIBUTION TO DOMAIN OF IDEAS,

Life.

Unless the United States unscrambles its present confused thinking about the post-war era, British influence will be the predominating influence in peacetime.

Britain cannot match the huge resources of Russia in materials and man-power, but she has outmatched Russia and everyone else with her wits.

One of Britain's biggest contributions towards the war has been the export of ideas, some of them indispensable to victory. The most obvious British ideas have been technological—that is, ideas in applied science.

The list of British inventions and technical developments during the last few years is amazing. In the early days of the war, for instance, the Germans took to planting magnetic mines in British waters, but in an incredibly short while, the British had devised what they called a degaussing apparatus, which completely countered this threat.

The British Spitfire broke new ground in designs of fighting planes and the Rolls Royce engine remains the most highly developed, liquid cooled power plant in the world. The British have invented a new type of delayed action bomb, mine detectors and lifesaving devices, and a new kind of still to make drinking water from sea water in life boats and so forth.

They have made enormous advances in the science of explosives and their most spectacular development is radio location by means of which it is possible to 'see' ships and aeroplanes far beyond the range of the most powerful binoculars and even through mist and cloud.

The United States has shared in the development of radio location but the British pioneered it. And Britain's germination of ideas goes farther than technology. Her contribution to the United Nations strategy is evidently very great. Then too she has put forth various political ideas. She has a 20 year's pact with Russia, the keystone to almost any future European settlements.

Mr. Churchill has been a potent spokesman for the Allies, especially in his characterisation of the war as a great struggle against the forces of evil, and on the practical side as a possible solution for the future, he has suggested setting up of councils for Europe and Asia.

In addition, the British have developed various economic ideas which are bound to influence the future. The Beveridge Plan for social security from the cradle to the grave puts social security on a scientific basis instead of a political basis which made shambles of it in the United States. The British have learned to give labour a real position in the Government and the British labour in its turn has accepted the incentive system in certain vital industries which enables those who produce most to earn most. Finally, the great British economist Lord Keynes has presented a new plan for stabilising international exchange, to the end that small war-stricken countries may rehabilitate themselves without disastrous inflation.

ITALY'S THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR.

"War is to man as maternity is to woman."

"The legend that Italians are not fighters must be dispelled."

—Mussolini's Speeches

(A) MUSSOLINI'S HOPES.

When Italy entered the war on June 10, 1940, the Fascists counted on a short war and an early victory. The blow was well-timed, for France lay prostrate at the feet of the invader and the position of the British Fleet seemed precarious in the Mediterranean. Italy could strike out in the African continent to conquer Egypt and to oust the British from Somaliland. Strongly entrenched in Albania and the Adriatic coast, Greece and all that lay beyond in the east, seemed within easy grasp.

HOPES ARE DUPES.

(1) Africa

BRAGGING CAESAR.

"Italian success in Haifa, Zeila, Kenya, Sudan and British Somaliland have dealt a death-blow to the British."

—Rome Radio, 12-8-40.

LIES COME HOME TO ROOST.

"The Emperor of Abyssinia sits again on the throne from which he was driven by Mussolini's poison gas."

—Mr. Churchill, 19-5-43.

BRAGGING CAESAR.

"Italy is now able to occupy Aden and to cut Britain off from her Eastern Empire."

—Rome Radio, 12-8-40.

"Mussolini has started an offensive against Britain's overseas Empire. He wants to destroy British prestige. It is Mussolini's aim to establish an Italian Empire between the Mediterranean and the Equator."

—Berlin Radio, 13-8-40.

"Only a miracle can save England from defeat in three weeks."

—Berlin Radio, 29-8-40.

(2) The Mediterranean

THEN

"It is prophesied that the British fleet will soon leave the Mediterranean."

—Rome Radio, 3-8-40.

"Italian aircraft have brought to an end all British navigation in the Mediterranean."

—Berlin Radio, 29-8-40.

"Italy will be heiress of all possessions which border on her colonies in the Mediterranean and the Near East."

—Sgr. Signoretti, 1941.

"Italy is the mistress of the air and sea in the Mediterranean."

—Giornale d'Italia, 12-2-42.

(3) The Balkans

DUCE'S DAY DREAMS.

When Italy seized Albania and treacherously invaded the brave little nation of Greece, Mussolini hoped to turn the whole of South Eastern Europe into a Fascist sphere of influence.

LIES COME HOME TO ROOST.

"All the vast territories from Madagascar to Morocco, from Cairo to Casablanca, from Aden to Dakar are under British, American and French control."

—Mr. Churchill, 19-5-43.

The African excursion of the two Dictators has cost them

950,000 ... men in killed and captured.

70,000 ... trucks

8,000 ... aircraft

6,200 ... guns

2,550 ... tanks

2,400,000 tons... of shipping.

Mussolini has lost an Empire in Africa thirteen times the size of Italy, at the cost of some 700,000 men.

NOW

Estimated tonnage of Italian merchant shipping sunk since the beginning of the war to Feb. 1943 is 4,027,000 gross tons.

—Lord Bruntisfield in the House of Lords, 1-4-43.

Taranto and Matapan are recurring nightmares for the Italian Navy. Mussolini's seven shy battleships dare not appear in the open.

Out of the 24 million tons of merchandise which Italy imported before the war, only four million were received by land. Of the 20 million, 16 million came through the Straits of Gibraltar, two million through the Suez Canal, and the rest either through the Black Sea, the Adriatic or the remaining ports of the Mediterranean. Today both the Straits and the Suez Canal are closed by the Allied Navy and the Mediterranean is no longer safe for navigation.

HOW THEY HAVE VANISHED.

Italian casualty figures in Albania, Greece and Yugoslavia reach the four figure mark nearly every month. Italian official figures for 1942 show that the number of killed in the Balkans is slightly higher than those in North Africa and only just below the number of killed in Russia.

The Duke of Spoleto has not dared sit on his throne in Croatia.

In Rumania Hitler has taken away the much needed oil.

Hungary has become a German sphere of influence.

The coast of Dalmatia is contested by the Nazis.

(B) MUSSOLINI AT BAY.

Having lost an Empire and seen the elimination of a very large army in North Africa, and the virtual destruction of another on the Russian front, and being aware that still another is doing police work in the Balkans, Mussolini cuts a miserable figure before his own people and the rest of the world. But yesterday his word might have stood against the world: now he lies and there is none so poor to do him reverence. With bitter irony he has to eat back the words he so defiantly flung before the world: the alliance with Germany has brought his country to a sorry pass.

Invasion Fears

CONFIDENT CAESAR.

"Great Britain has not revealed a marked warlike tendency for the past few years."

—Mussolini.

"The Second Front will be opened neither here nor in any part of the world."

Mussolini, 3-8-42.

"Sicily is so well defended on land, at sea and in the air that it would be folly for anyone to attempt to invade her. One of the happiest epochs in her 4,000 years of history now begins for her as the geographical centre of the Empire."

—Mussolini in 1936.

"We have noticed that for some time spirits have been somewhat low in England Between fear of invasion and fear of famine, the English do not know what to do or what to choose."

—Commentator Aldo Valori, on the Rome Radio 15-1-43.

"It would be a bad day for Germany's future, if she had to rely on a nation like Italy in her hour of need."

—Hitler to Rauschnigg.

"It may be permissible to count on the aid of an eventual ally, but it is not wise to count as well on every possible assistance from him."

—Marshal Badoglio, December 23, 1940.

DEFLATED DUCE.

"The Eighth Army represents the most modern and most powerful force to be found to-day in the different chess boards of this world war."

—Rome Radio, 14-4-43.

"The situation is grave—The War zone is gradually getting nearer Italy. We must be prepared to face very hard times."

—Rome Radio, 12-4-43.

"The two islands of Sicily and Sardinia constitute the strategic outward wall of Southern Europe and the key system of the Axis defensive position of the European Continent in the war against the Anglo-Saxon Empires."

—Rome Radio, 6-4-43.

"Nobody can deny that Italy's position is difficult. Her Empire is lost and a materially stronger enemy stands on the southern coast of the Mediterranean."

—The Nazi Count Hans Reiskhack, May 1943.

SUMMER OFFENSIVE: WHY GERMANY IS DELAYING

(1) The Daily Telegraph.

For some time past both Russia and Germany have seen indications of large-scale attack by the other on different parts of the long front.

Yet, according to the standard of the last year, the 1943 campaign is several weeks late. It was May 8, 1942, when the Germans started the offensive which captured the Crimea and penetrated across the Kerch Straits into the Caucasus.

No student of Hitler's intuitions can deny the possibility that he still hopes to reach the Caucasus oilfields, but a sounder reason for the German defence of the bridgehead is that its loss might well enable the Russians to recover the Crimea and strike at the German rear in the Ukraine.

All over Russia the season is earlier than last year. Why have major operations been delayed?

From Leningrad to the Black Sea, the Russians have harassed German forces continuously and effectively by guerilla action and air attacks on supplies and communications. The Luftwaffe has also been busy, though its decline is apparent in such figures as those from the recent Kuban fighting in which 131 German planes were destroyed against 35 Russian.

To concentrate forces for a grand offensive is more difficult than ever for both sides. Germany's enormous losses of men and material cannot be made good with the German industry mutilated. Russia also has grave problems, though her own factories, beyond the reach of the Wehrmacht, are working well and she has received a flow of supplies from her allies.

Germany has still 190 divisions on the Russian front. There was, therefore, the clear reason that the Washington discussions should make it the first principle of the American-British strategy "to take more weight off Russia." The coming storm of the German desperation is likely to be violent, but the Allies have air and land strength which can stretch the Wehrmacht to the breaking point.

(2) The Daily Express—Istanbul correspondent.

TUNISIA UPSETS GERMAN PLANS.

There are indications that Axis agents are busy preparing the Axis public for the delay in Hitler's much publicised summer offensive against Russia.

While this may be bluff, confidential reports reaching here from Bucharest suggest that Axis offensive plans for 1943 were based on the calculation that Tunis and Bizerta would be held until the end of July. There is ample evidence from the same source that the German High Command had estimated that at least two months must elapse after the completion of Allied conquest of Tunisia in resting, regrouping and refitting before the invasion of Italy or Greece is possible.

OFFENSIVE ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

By that time, it was hoped, that Russia, following an offensive, originally planned to be launched as early as May 16, would have been badly knocked about. This would have permitted safe withdrawal of large forces from the eastern front to defend the Mediterranean frontiers of Hitler's European fortress.

The fall of Tunisia at least two and a half months before the date calculated by the German High Command brought forward the estimated date of Allied invasion to July instead of September. It left only two months for the delivery of the blow against Russia that was a necessary preliminary to the safe withdrawal of troops to the south.

There is a widely held belief among the Balkan military experts to-day that following the events in Africa, Hitler's generals, in particular Keitel, Chief of Staff, have sought to veto the Fuehrer's original plans for an all-out offensive against Russia. They favour a series of heavy local attacks aimed primarily at preventing development of a major Russian drive.

NEW LINE OF PROPAGANDA.

There is no evidence yet as to whether these counsels have prevailed over those favouring the original offensive, but the appearance of a new line of propaganda during the last few days suggests that the Keitel group may have got the upper hand.

This new line is that Russia's internal situation, in particular shortage of food, is such that the German armies have only to continue to hold the present front line with strong local attacks for internal collapse to do their work for them without heavy human sacrifices. As an evidence too of the alleged decline in Russian factory production, it is asserted that lately little but British and American material has been in use on the eastern front.

(3) *The Daily Express.*

NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO STRIKE.

Explanations differ but the fact remains that for some reason the enemy is anxious to stress that he will remain on the defensive in Russia.

It could of course be an elaborate bluff to persuade the Allies that the German army is being redispersed to meet new threats in Europe in the west and the east. It is known—Mr. Churchill recently disclosed it—that there are 190 German and 29 Satellite divisions facing the Red Army. Any changes on a big scale in this massive total would quickly become obvious to the Russians.

ATTACK DID NOT COME.

The Russians expected an attack west of Moscow three weeks ago and they were ready to meet it. With a milder winter, the ground was fit for big-scale operations then and the enemy was in a position to attack. The attack did not come. Instead, the German resistance in Tunisia unexpectedly collapsed with the mass surrender of a well-equipped army. That may have been the immediate cause of the postponement of the offensive. The mighty air offensive now being waged by Anglo-American forces plus the sustained attacks by the new long-range Russian bomber force on rail communications may be the reason for the continued postponement.

The fact remains that there is no evidence of a general switch round of German troops. Hitler has some 45 divisions in France, the Low Countries and Norway; 10 in the Balkans and 50 held as a strategic reserve in Germany and Poland. To replace the Italians leaving the Balkans, he is drawing on the strategic reserves.

TELLING THE TRUTH.

In addition there were more than 1,000,000 *Luftwaffe* ground personnel spread over Western Europe and Germany. The Todt Labour organization strengthening the defences of Europe—this is an able-bodied labour of military rejects—totals 1,400,000 men. It may be, therefore, that the Berlin propagandists are telling the truth when they announce that there will be no Russian offensive—for the reason that they are not strong enough to undertake it.

A more likely explanation, however, is that the Wehrmacht, now immensely strong in defence, is waiting in the hope that the Red Army will open a full-scale offensive, and so weaken itself that the Germans will then be able to strike back with a good chance of success. But that is not so much dependent on the Russians as on the other Allies.

Invasion at selected points, south and west, would dictate to the Germans their future strategy. It is the Allies main aim to make the Wehrmacht fight sectionally on the battlefields of our choosing. The length of the war depends on our being able to bring that about.

TECHNICAL STRUGGLE BETWEEN FIGHTER AND FIGHTER.

Oliver Stewart

(From a B. B. C. Talk).

Whenever the struggle for air superiority boils up, attention concentrates on the fighter. That is the machine that plays the chief part in deciding whether the bombers will be able to work in the daylight; whether the aerodromes will be kept working; whether the land forces will have protection from enemy bombing; whether the supply columns will get through without serious damage.

In France in 1940 the call was for fighters to hold down the German air force. It was the same in Greece and Crete, the same in the Western Desert, the same in Tunisia.

The first step towards command of the air must be taken by the fighters. The whole of the struggle for air supremacy in this war has revolved round this small, fast machine. We learned the value of a good fighter in the Battle of Britain, and we have never forgotten the lesson.

During that battle, work was being done and plans were being laid, the results of which we are only now beginning to see. Recently, for instance, the Ministry of Aircraft Production released some details of the new Merlin engine. This engine gives more power and gives it higher up than the Merlins of the Spitfires and Hurricanes of the Battle of Britain. It gives the Spitfire yet another step up in performance and keeps it ahead of the enemy's fighters.

TO DESIGN AND DEVELOP.

It is a tremendous technical struggle this, between fighter and fighter. So much depends on it that all the countries at war lavish their treasure without stint on those who can give a little more power and a little more speed and a little more climb to the fighters. But no amount of government encouragement can produce better fighters unless the ability exists in the country to design and to develop. And of the two things I would say that development is not only the more laborious and the more trying to those engaged on it, but the more difficult.

R. J. Mitchell gave us a piece of sheer inspiration in the Spitfire. It is, perhaps, the supreme example of design in all aviation history. You only have to look at a Spitfire to know that it is right. But the Germans, with their excellent Focke-Wulf 190, would have gone on ahead of the Spitfire and would have challenged our fighter supremacy by now had it not been for the development work done on the Spitfire and more especially on the Merlin engine.

FASTER HURRICANES.

The Hurricane has also been intensively developed since the Battle of Britain days, but in a different way from the Spitfire. It has been developed so that it can undertake all kinds of special jobs, such as bombing and low-level attack. To do these things its weight has had to be put up more and more. But although bombs have been hung on it, the development work has been so sound that to-day it is a good deal faster than in its original form.

Development, then, is the thing on which the Royal Air Force has largely relied to maintain its fighter supremacy. The engine and aircraft companies have never ceased from trying to squeeze more speed and more climb from their machines. New types are

of course in production. But although some of them are wonderful pieces of design, they have to take a huge step forward if they are to surpass the highly developed old types. In fact, some fighter pilots have expressed the view to me that at the end of the war the Spitfire with its Merlin engine will still be the best fighter in the sky.

The battles that are fought with speed and climb in the upper air are fought by the engineers and designers as well as by the pilots. And upon them depends the outcome of all other air operations.

THE FIRST ATTACK.

Nearly always, when an attack is launched on an enemy formation, it is first directed at the escorting fighters. That happened when Allied fighters attacked enemy air convoys between Tunisia and Sicily. It happens in the opposite sense over France when formations of Allied machines go out to attack war industries. When the enemy tackles our fighter-escorted bomber formations he goes for the fighters before, or at the same time as, he tackles the bombers. The fighters always determine the pattern of the tactics. They are the mainspring of air superiority and supremacy.

I don't think that it is underestimating the enemy or failing to recognize the work of the German engineer, Kurt Tank—who designed the Focke-Wulf 190—to say that they have never yet surpassed Spitfire standards.

I sometimes wonder whether future historians will not place the part played by the fighter in this war—and especially by the Spitfire—on an even higher level of importance than we put it to day. This much can be said: that where there have been Spitfires, the Allies have always had air superiority. That has applied right up to the North African landings, when the Seafires—which are simply the naval version of the Spitfire—covered the operations.

If it is true that in air war it all depends on the fighter, then the Allies have been and are well placed.

EMERGENCE OF OUTSTANDING ALLIED GENERALS.

L. S. B. Shapiro.

(From a B. B. C. talk).

Such names as Rommel, von Arnim, von Bock, von Mannstein and von Rundstedt have become familiar words, and they have been endowed by our imaginations with powers and abilities they hardly possess. It is a curious circumstance, but it is perhaps true, that German generals were better known to the people of the Western democracies than our own field commanders.

The importance of discussing our military leaders lies in the remarkable manner in which the Western democracies have developed outstanding generals during the last two years. We are fortunate, because in peacetime we pay little attention and give small encouragement to our promising soldiers. We go into war therefore with a definite inferiority complex about our field commanders.

NEW LEADERS.

To-day, after three years of war, there is no longer a basis for our inferiority complex; out of our quickly developed armies have emerged military leaders in whom we can place the fullest faith, and to whom we can entrust the lives of our finest youths.

At the outbreak of war, so far as the public was concerned, Britain had only one field commander with a reputation high enough to stand against the legendary Germans: he was *General Sir Archibald Wavell*. When Pearl Harbour brought the United States into the war, the Americans had only one general with capacity to hold the public imagination. He was, of course, *General Douglas MacArthur*, now Allied Commander in the South-West Pacific.

To-day, we can look upon the list of our field commanders with vast comfort. We have, for instance, the man who exploded the legend of Field Marshal Rommel and left it strewn all over the Western Desert: he is *General Sir Harold Alexander*, the fighting North Irishman who looks like Clarke Gable, organises with the genius of a Henry Ford and can hit like Dempsey.

It was Alexander who organized the last desperate stand before Dunkirk; he was the last general officer to leave the French shore, and he may well be the first Allied general to step once more upon the battlefield of Europe.

The story of Alexander's rise to greatness has been paralleled by the development of *General Montgomery* of the Eighth Army. He too is a product of the emergency of this war. Virtually unknown a year ago outside British military circles, Montgomery has become probably the most popular British general in the last 30 years. The cheers his name attracts in Britain are paralleled by the terror it invokes among the Germans and Italians he has defeated.

As a result of the unprecedented smoothness with which the vastly complicated Allied landing in North Africa was effected, America's *General Eisenhower* joins the gallery of great Allied commanders. He, too, is an emergency development. Two years ago he was just a Colonel in the War Department in Washington; to-day he is a full General in charge of the whole North African theatre.

CANADIAN HERO.

Another Allied commander who has come to grip the imagination of the British public is Canada's *Lieut. General MacNaughton*. He has not yet directed action against the enemy, but the manner in which he has built the Canadian Army into a mechanized force of immense striking power has made him a prominent figure in all our military speculation.

There are many other fine soldiers who have come to earn the respect and confidence of our free people. All of them prove, I think, that our cause has been favoured by that same grand stroke of fate which placed two such men of destiny as Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill in posts of leadership at a moment of history when our civilization was most gravely threatened.

WILL THE AXIS ATTACK TURKEY?

by

LEONARD KIRSCHEN.

"What is Turkey going to do?" must be the question that everybody is asking in the Axis camp. Turkey's main policy remains unchanged, that is, if other countries' policy towards Turkey also remains unchanged. There is a Turkish proverb: "Chase a trapped cat in a locked room with a stick, and it becomes a tiger." This cat is now Germany. Germany's satellites are also mad cats.

What are the chances of an attack on Turkey by the mad cats of Europe? In any case, there can be no talk of Turkish aggression, and therefore it is an Axis attack that is most likely to bring Turkey into the war. Germany is in no position to do this herself. Decidedly, Hitler himself cannot do it. Can Mussolini do it?

HE CAN'T.

It is known here that Italy has for some time been trying to bring her own occupation armies back to Italy, and leave the butchering and policing of the occupied Balkan countries to the Germans and Bulgarians. But Germany is not inclined to take all this upon herself. The returning Italian armies may also demoralize the Italian population, and form the nucleus of a ferment which could lead to open revolt. Italy cannot spare more troops. She cannot send more troops to the Russian front; she has to defend herself. She cannot, therefore, spare any for an attack on Turkey.

This is the time and place to recall an anecdote which is told here of Kemal Ataturk. During talks with his friends, he tried always to lay down some hard and fast rules which constitute his political testament. He once said: "If Turkey wants to become a great Power she must war with a great Power and obtain a smashing victory. The only Power that I can see we could attack and smash is Italy." The Italians know this only too well. With the example of the Greek campaign behind them, they know what their fate will be if they attack Turkey.

But there is Bulgaria, and it is just possible that Hitler told King Boris at Salzburg to try and probe Turkish reactions, and see what the chances are. Bulgaria can put about 30 divisions in the field, and with German air support and technical co-operation may give Turkey a fight.

Germany is trying to give the Allies the impression that she has lost her grip on the Balkan satellites. She is trying to create the illusion that the Balkans are the weakest spot in Europe's underbelly, because she knows that a successful invasion of Italy may spell disaster.

POWERLESS SATELLITES.

At the same time a new conflagration in the Eastern Mediterranean might help to postpone any Allied plans for the rest of Europe. That is why the possibility of Bulgaria attacking Turkey is not excluded from Turkish calculations. Of course, they all know that the game is up, but all the satellite countries are so firmly in the grip of the Axis that they cannot move and cannot fight without their help, without German arms and without the *Luftwaffe* behind them, or, as the case may be, against them.

None of these diversions are likely to make either the United Nations or Turkey go out of their set course. From here, we cannot say what the Allies intend doing, but we know that Turkey is not likely to change her active policy in the next few weeks. It all depends, of course, on what Turkey's neighbours will do.

But one thing is certain, and that is, that Turkey is now more prepared than ever. Turkey is now spending more than £ (T) 2,000,000 a day on her army, navy and air force. Before attacking Turkey, King Boris will have to consider these figures, and if by chance he comes to the wrong conclusion and attacks, Turkey will be ready, and—who knows—perhaps Turkey's contribution will help to finish the war a few days earlier.

"RED" MEANS "BEAUTIFUL."

I had always thought that the word "Red" in Red Army had some specific association with the traditional redness of revolutionary politics. It seems, however, that this is not so. Walter Duranty, who has long experience of Soviet Russia as a newspaper correspondent, makes that point very clear in his 'The Kremlin and the People', a book I have just been reading.

The word in Russian is "Krasny" which has the same root-derivation as the word "Krasevy"—"beautiful"—because red is the colour of life and sun, and warmth in the blood, on the ice-bound Russian plains; and white is the colour of death and mourning and frozen snow.....That is why they call it the "Red Army", meaning the "splendid and glorious army."

Its record has become a good deal more splendid and glorious since those words were written in 1941. But on that explanation of the adjective which attaches to it even the most timid of Right-wingers need have no hesitation in saluting the wonderfully successful Soviet forces under their generally accepted name.

Strictly speaking, it appears to have no more to do with revolution than the phrase "a thin red line topped with a streak of steel" which a newspaperman created for British troops in the Crimea.

BULLOCK SHOES. MADRAS PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

(23rd June 1943).

The attention of Government has been drawn to a recent magazine article in which it was suggested by a correspondent that the campaign instituted by Government to encourage the collection of bullock shoes from the roads of the Presidency by school children and boy scouts was not meeting with success and that difficulties were made in granting the reward of one anna for six bullock shoes when the shoes were not whole shoes.

This suggestion is not borne out by the facts. In February, when the scheme was started, rewards were paid for 25,055 shoes collected, in March for 115,108 and in April for 131,994. Recently the permanent advances of all Secretaries of Road Traffic Board, have been trebled in order that they may have ample funds from which to pay rewards. Soon after the scheme started Government issued orders that whole bullock shoes need not be blindly insisted on and that the reward should be paid so long as shoes had not obviously been cut in two to make a double claim, and local authorities have recently been reminded of this.

The Government are glad to note that the efforts of members of the NATIONAL WAR FRONT have greatly contributed to the success of the scheme.

The Government would also remind the motoring public that it is very exceptional for a bullock shoe to damage a tyre very seriously unless the vehicle is travelling at high speed, and that a speed limit of 35 miles per hour has recently been imposed to secure economy in tyre consumption.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU. PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CLIII. (Batch 6)

3- 7-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	7- 7-43 Annavasal ... 7.00 p.m.
4- 7-43 Kilanilai ... 7.00 "	" Kilakkurichchi ... 7.30 "
" Kilanilai-Puduppatti.. 7.30 "	8- 7-43 Malampatti ... 7.00 "
5- 7-43 Perumanadu ... 7.00 "	" Perambur ... 7.30 "
" Pulvayal ... 7.30 "	9- 7-43 Alavayal ... 7.00 "
6- 7-43 Sadayampatti ... 7.00 "	" Ammankurichchi ... 7.30 "
" Oliyamangalam ... 7.30 "	

LECTURE CLIV (Batch 1).

10- 7-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	14- 7-43 Pungudi ... 7.00 p.m.
11- 7-43 Kiranur ... 7.00 "	" Satyamangalam.. ... 7.30 "
" Nanjur ... 7.30 "	15- 7-43 Mirattunilai ... 7.00 "
12- 7-43 Puvarasakudi ... 7.00 "	" Arimalam ... 7.30 "
" Venkatakulam ... 7.30 "	16- 7-43 Udayalippatti ... 7.00 "
13- 7-43 Perungalur ... 7.00 "	" Killukottai ... 7.30 "
" Adanakkottai ... 7.30 "	

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

3- 7-43 Vettamviduthi.	10- 7-43 Ponnamaravathi.
4- 7-43 Kodumbalur.	11- 7-43 Virachobilai.
5- 7-43 Viralimalai.	12- 7-43 Arimalam.
6- 7-43 Ramachandrapuram.	13- 7-43 Kudumiyamalai.
7- 7-43 Karambakkudi.	14- 7-43 Rayavaram.
8- 7-43 Kulipirai.	15- 7-43 Alangudi.
9- 7-43 Pudukkottai.	16- 7-43 Pudukkottai.



PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

JULY 10, 1943

[No. 154

LECTURE CLIV.

MR. CHURCHILL'S GUILDHALL SPEECH.

(June 30, 1943)—

The general progress of the war is satisfactory. Two great battles have been won by the Allies. Everyone has heard of the battle in Tunisia, when 350,000 Germans and Italians were made captives or slain, and immense quantities of war material captured or destroyed. There was another victory no less notable, the battle which was fought in the Atlantic, against U-boats in May.

BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC.

In May, the German Admiralty made extreme exertions to prevent the movement to Great Britain of enormous convoys of food and materials. Long lines of U-boats were spread out to meet these convoys, and 15 or 20 U-boats concentrated in each attack.

To meet this, British, American and Canadian forces of the sea and air hurled their strength at the U-boats. The fighting ended in a total defeat of the U-boats, attack.

More than 30 U-boats were certainly destroyed in the month of May, floundering, in many cases, with their crews, into the dark depths of the sea. Staggered by these deadly losses, the U-boats have recoiled to lick their wounds, and mourn their dead.

Now as a result of the May victory and the massacre of the U-boats, we have had in June the best month we have ever known in the whole 46 months of the war.

The prodigious shipbuilding exertions of the United States, and the considerable contributions of Britain and Canada have produced an output of new ships somewhere between 7 and 10 times as great as our losses from enemy action in the month of June.

Since the middle of May, scarcely a single merchant ship has been sunk in the whole N. Atlantic. In June, although convoys are not being seriously attacked at the present time, the U-boat losses have been most solid and encouraging.

The disasters of the U-boats in May and June have a bearing on another phase of our offensive war.

THE AIR WAR.

These two months have seen the heaviest discharge of bombs on the munition, and industrial war centres of Germany.

In the first half of this year, the R. A. F. alone have cast on Germany 5 times the tonnage of bombs which in the same six months have been discharged on this island. In one single night, nay, in one single hour, we cast on Dusseldorf 2,000 tons of terrible explosive and incendiary bombs, for the loss of 38 aircraft, while in the whole of the first half of this year, the enemy has discharged on us no more than 1,500 tons of bombs at the cost of 245 aircraft.

In addition, the United States air fleet in this country by precision daylight bombing, has inflicted a grave injury upon the most sensitive nerve centre of the enemy's war production, and American crews and pilots are continually performing feats of arms of the highest skill with dauntless audacity and devotion.

This force will be remorselessly applied to the guilty nations, and their wicked leaders who imagined that their superiority in air power would enable them to terrorise, and subjugate, first of all Europe, and afterwards, the world. Never was there such a case of the biter bitten.

During the summer our main attack has been upon the mainspring of the German war industry the Ruhr; but as the nights become longer, and as the United States Air Force becomes more numerous, our strong arms will lengthen, both night and day, and there is no industrial or military target in Germany that will not receive, as we deem necessary, the utmost application of this exterminating force.

The war industry of Germany has already, to some extent, been dispersed to numerous smaller towns. When the big cities are disposed of we will follow those industries to their new homes. Presently, the weight of the Russian air attack, now mainly absorbed by their long front-line, will contribute an additional quota to the total blitz.

The heavy defeats recently sustained by U-boats play their part in the general attack upon the German morale. Apart from his mysterious promises of revenge, one of the hopes which Goebbels holds out to the German people is that, though they suffer the extreme tribulation of air bombing, the U-boats are inflicting equal, or even more, deadly injuries upon British and American power to wage total war.

When that hope dies, and die it will, it will appear to the most dispassionate observer that a somewhat raw and bleak outlook is beginning to open itself up before Hitler's accomplices and dupes.

I may therefore say that our affairs are in a considerably better position than they were some time ago, and we intend to remain steadfast and unwearied in doing our duty and our best, whatever may betide.

ITALY.

So far the Italians have only been subjected to preliminary and discursive bombardments, but they are already speculating feverishly where the blow will fall, and what will be its weight.

It is no part of our interest to relieve them of their anxiety. They may remember how they themselves struck at Tripoli, and Abyssinia, and at Albania; and how they fell upon the Greeks and set out to conquer Egypt.

I can do nothing to help them to resolve their fears. But I have some words of caution to say to our own people. First of all, great military operations are dominated by risks and turns of fortune. Any mood of over-confidence should be severely suppressed. All large amphibious operations, especially if they require the co-operation of two or more countries, require long months of organisation.

I cannot go further to-day than say this—very probably, there will be heavy fighting in the Mediterranean and elsewhere, before the leaves of autumn fall.

We, the United Nations, demand from the Nazis, Fascists and the Japanese unconditional surrender. By that we mean that their whole power to resist must be completely broken, and they must yield themselves absolutely to our justice and mercy.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

Of all the wars we have ever waged, in the long continuity of our history, there never has been one which more truly united the entire British people and British races throughout the world than this present fearful struggle.

We were sure of our duty, and we have discharged and will continue to discharge it without swerving or slackening, to the very end.

We seek no profit, we want no territory or aggrandisement, we expect no reward but we will accept no compromise. It is on that footing that we wish to be judged, first in our own consciences, and afterwards by posterity.

This unique association of races is built up, partly by conquest, largely by consent, but mostly unconsciously, and without design, within the all embracing golden circle of the Crown.

It is an overpowering influence, and impulse that makes Canada, Australia, New Zealand and S. Africa send their manhood across the ocean to fight, or to die.

INDIA.

In the vast sub-continent of India, which we trust will presently find full satisfaction within the British Commonwealth of Nations, the martial races, and many others have thronged to the Imperial Standard.

More than 2,000,000 have joined the armed forces, and have distinguished themselves in many cases during the fiercest conflicts with the Germans, Italians and Japanese.

All the great countries engaged in this war count their armies by the millions, but the Indian Army has a peculiar characteristic, not found in the armies of Britain, the United States, Russia, France, or in the armies of our foes, in that it is entirely composed of volunteers. Not one has been conscripted or compelled.

THE COLONIES.

The same thing is broadly true, throughout the great colonial empire. Many scores of thousands of troops from immense tropical spaces, or drawn from lonely islands nursed by the waves, have come overseas.

The ardour of the colonial empire to join this awful conflict, and continue in high temper through its ups and downs, is the first answer I would make to those ignorant envious voices who call into question the greatness of the work we are doing throughout the world, and shall continue to do.

The time came when this loosely, variously knitted, world-spread association was confronted with the most searching test of all. The Mother Country, the home of kingship, this famous island seemed to enter the very jaws of death and destruction.

THE EMPIRE'S SOLIDARITY.

Against the triumphant might of Hitler, with the greedy Italian at his heels, we stood alone, with resources so slender that one shudders to enumerate them even now.

Then surely was the moment for the Empire to break up, for each of its widely dispersed communities to seek safety on the winning side, for those who thought themselves oppressed to throw off the yoke, to make better terms betimes with the conquering Nazi and Fascist power. Then was the time. But what happened?

In the dark and terrific, but also glorious hour, we received from all parts of His Majesty's dominions, from the greatest to the smallest, from the strongest to the weakest, from the most modern and the most simple, assurances that we would all go down or come through together.

You will forgive me if on this occasion, in the very heart of mighty London, I rejoice in the soundness of our institution and proclaim my faith in our destiny."

ANGLO-U. S. CO-OPERATION.

The power of the United States arouses no fear, excites no jealousy in British bosoms. Upon the intimate alignment of the policy of the United States and the British Commonwealth and the Empire depends, more than upon any other factor, the immediate future of the world.

If they walk, or if need be march, together in harmony in accordance with the moral and political conceptions to which the English-speaking peoples have given birth, and which have been frequently referred to in the Atlantic Charter, all will be well.

If they fall apart and wander, or stray from the path of their destiny, there will be no end or measure to the miseries, and confusion which will mark modern civilisation.

This is no rhetorical extravagance. It is the hard, cold, indicative truth. Yet there are many light wayward spirits in both countries who show themselves, by word or action, unmindful of this fundamental fact.

It is a fact in no way derogatory to that mighty nation now fighting by our side, or to any nation, great or small, making its way through the perils of the present age.

ALLIED UNITY.

We nourish the warmest feelings of fellowship towards the valiant Russian people, with whom we have made a 20 years' treaty of friendship and mutual aid.

We foresee an expanding future to the long enduring republic of China. We look forward to a revival of the unity and true greatness of France. We have the loyal and faithful comradeship of all.

Nevertheless, the tremendous awe-inspiring fact stares the British and American democracies in the eyes that, acting together, we can help all nations safely into the harbour, but that if we divide, all will toss and drift for a long time on dark and stormy seas.

Should Hitler's Germany and Mussolini's Italy collapse under the flail of Soviet Russia, and the not inconsiderable exertions of the British and American armies in the Mediterranean, and elsewhere, and should the war industries of Germany be blasted out

of existence by British and American air power, should this victory be achieved before Japan is laid low, I stand here to tell you to-day, as I told the Congress of the United States in your name, that every man, every ship, and every aircraft, in the King's service that can be moved to the Pacific will be sent there, and maintained in action by the people of the British Commonwealth, and the Empire, in priorities for as many years as are needed to make the Japanese in their turn submit, or bite the dust.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

3-7-43 to 9-7-43.

The Pacific.—An Allied, land, sea, and air offensive has been launched in the S. W. Pacific, with LAE, SALAMUA and MUNDA as the immediate, and RABAU, as the ultimate objectives. In the course of the operations which are 5-pronged, American forces have occupied NEW GEORGIA, RENDOVA and VENGUNU Islands in the SOLOMONS; TROBRIAND and WOODLARK Islands, off NEW GUINEA and Nassau Bay in NEW GUINEA itself. Simultaneously, Australian forces, already in strength, in MUBO (N. GUINEA) have moved up and joined the Americans who have landed at Nassau Bay. They are advancing towards SALAMUA. Clashes at BOBNI near SALAMUA are reported.

Air battles are proceeding along a length of 2,000 miles from N. GEORGIA to the CELEBES.

U. S. and Japanese naval forces in the area first came to grips on June 30. On July 3, a Japanese force of 3 cruisers and 4 destroyers which attempted to shell RENDOVA, on being engaged, made off 'in short order.' A naval action, started in Kuba Bay near N. GEORGIA on July 4-5, has ended in the loss of 9 Japanese warships.

Russia.—The 1943 Summer offensive has started. On July 5 the Germans launched a triple attack on OREL, KURSK and BYELGOROD sectors, and gained an isolated wedge or two at the cost of 1,500 tanks 7001 planes and 30,000 men in 3 days.

Simultaneously, the Russians have launched a mass assault near VELIKIYE LUKE, not far from the Latvian frontier.

Air War.—The ruthless bombing of GERMANY, ITALY and occupied EUROPE continues. COLOGNE was raided for the 117th time on June 28, and CRETE was attacked on July 5. Other places raided during the week were NAZAIRE, LE MANS and LILLE in FRANCE, IJMUIDEN in HOLLAND, GHENT and COURTRAI in BELGIUM; MESSINA, CALABRIA, BISCARI and PALERMO in SICILY, LECCE in S. ITALY; and KYLLENE in GREECE.

China.—Heavy fighting is reported at OUCHIHKOV, which is one of the four important Japanese bases on the South bank of the Yangtse, west of Tungting Lake.

Burma.—On land the general situation remains unchanged. The R. A. F.'s harassing attacks continue, but regular patrols are being carried on. An enemy party was ambushed at BUTHIDAUNG. At SUMPRABUN the enemy was engaged by the Kachin levies. The following targets were raided: AKYAB, AKYAB Island, the PROME-TAUNGYUP Road, barges and sampans on the Irrawaddy, stores near KALEMYO, refineries in SYRIAM, warehouses in CHAUK, oilfields in YENANGYAT, barracks in PYAWBWE, enemy buildings in NYANUNGYAN, the Mytinge railway bridge, the railway construction base in THAN-BYUZAYAT.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

28-6-43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

U-boat installations at ST. NAZAIRE (France).
The air-field at BEAUMONT-LE-ROGER
(6 Allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—

The great industrial city of COLOGNE (Germany).
U-boat yards at HAMBURG (Germany).
Laying mines in enemy waters.
Enemy shipping in the ENGLISH CHANNEL.
Railway targets in FRANCE (25 Allied
planes missing).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

(2 Allied planes missing; 12 enemy planes
shot down).

The Italian Naval base at LEGHORN.
Barracks, administrative buildings and
hangars at OLIBA, VENAFIORITA
and ALGHERO FERTILLA (all in Sardinia).
Air-fields at MILLIS and DECIMOMANNU
(Sardinia).

Factories at LICATA (Sicily).
The air-fields at COMISO and MESSINA (Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
RUSSIAN Front.

Station buildings and trains at OREL.

Trains at KARACHEV.

Stores, equipment and vessels at TAMAN
(no Russian airlosses).

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at REKATA BAY (Santa
Irabel Island).

MUNDA (N. Georgia).

Jap Naval units in central SOLOMONS.

Jap positions at KISKA and Little KISKA
(Aleutians).

Enemy railroad yards at PYINMANA and
SAGAING (Burma).

Jap troops on AKYAB (Burma).

Enemy hutments near MYOHAUNG (Burma).

Water transport on the IRRRAWADDY
and KALADAN Rivers.

29-6-43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Military objectives at LE MANS (France).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Patrolling over the central MEDITERRANEAN
(2 Allied planes missing).

The ferry terminus at REGGIO DI CALABRIA
(Italy).

A train in GREECE.

Marshalling yards and a ferry terminus at
MESSINA (Sicily).

Air combats over GREECE (1 Axis plane
shot down).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

KISKA (Aleutians).

MUNDA (N. Georgia).

REKATA BAY (Santa Irabel).

Sampans and other craft South of AKYAB
(Burma).

30-6-43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

Locomotives in Northern FRANCE
(20 locomotives destroyed).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Barracks at PALERMO (Sicily).

The air-fields at SCIACCA, BORIZZO

and MILO (all in Sicily)

The railway station at CAGLIARI (Sardinia).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions along the NASSAU BAY shore
and BITOL River (N. Guinea).

Jap positions and air-fields at SALAMAU
(N. Guinea).

Enemy air-fields at RABAU (N. Britain).

Jap positions on the RENDOA Islands.

Jap ships at CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).

Jap troops near MYOHAUNG (Burma).

River craft along the IRRRAWADDY (Burma).

1-7-43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE
and HOLLAND.

Enemy shipping at the HOOK of HOLLAND.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field at BISCARI (Sicily).

A vessel in LEVKAS Channel.

Patrolling over the central MEDITERRANEAN
(4 Axis planes destroyed).

Railway yards at CATANIA (Sicily)

(5 Allied planes missing).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
RUSSIAN Front.

The port of KERCH and SENNAYA (Taman).

FAR EAST.

Jap position at MUNDA (N. Georgia) and
VILA (Kolombangara).

Venakonan and REFORO air-fields at

RABAU (N. Britain).

The air-field at SALAMAU and LAE
(New Guinea).

Storage buildings and army hutments in AKYAB
(Burma).

Supply craft on the ARAKAN coast (Burma).

PROME-TAUNGUP road (Burma).

Enemy shipping and sampans along the
IRRAWADDY (Burma).

Railroad extension to BANGOK at THANBYUZAYAT
(Burma).

Rail road installations at KYUNGON and
KAWLIN (Burma).

2-7-43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied)

Day:—(5 Axis planes destroyed, 5 Axis planes
damaged, 1 plane missing).

An oil storage plant near IJMUUDEN (Holland).

Railway lines near GHENT (Belgium).

Railway junctions at COURTRAI (Belgium) and
LILLE (France).

Offensive sweeps over the LOW COUNTRIES and
FRANCE.

NIGHT:—Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field at LECCE (Italy) (12 axis planes
shot down).

A schooner in KYLLENE harbour (Greece).

2 Dredges in the LEURAS channel.

Air-fields at GROTTAGLIE and SAN PANCRAZIO
(both in Italy).

Offensive sweeps over South east SICILY
(2 axis planes shot down, many damaged).

Marshalling yards at OLBA and TRAPANI
(Sicily).

Coastal targets near ROME (Italy).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front.

German troops and reinforcements on the
KUBAN bridge head.

FAR EAST.

The air-fields at RABAU (New Britain) and
SALAMAU (New Guinea).

Jap positions at MUNDA (New Georgia).

Enemy stores near KALEMYO (Burma).

Sampans along the CHINDWIN and IRRRAWADDY
(Burma).

Army huts on the MAYU Peninsula (Burma).

Oil refinery at SYRIAM (Burma).

Buildings at CHAUK (Burma).

Oil derricks at YENANGYAN (Burma).

Enemy barracks at PYAWBWE and
NYANUNGYAN (Burma).

Enemy railway construction base at
THANBYUZAYAT (Burma).

3-7-43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

Locomotives, signal boxes, oil tanks and factories
in FRANCE, BELGIUM and HOLLAND
(2 Allied planes missing).

NIGHT:—

The industrial city of COLOGNE (Germany).

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

Patrols over the LOW COUNTRIES (32 Allied
planes missing 1 Axis plane shot down).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

(10 Axis planes shot down 9 Allied planes
missing).

The air-fields at CHILIVANI, ALGERO, MILLIS,
CAPOTERRA (all in Sardinia) MILO, SCIACCA
and COMISO (all in Sicily).

Wireless stations, gun emplacements and other
targets in Sardinia.

The air-field at BISCARI (Sicily).

Railway yards at CATANIA (Sicily)

RUSSIA.

(For the week 26-6-43 to 3-7-43 Russians
lost 18 planes; Axis lost 66 planes).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

FAR EAST.

U. S. positions at RENDOVA Island.
Allied positions on New GEORGIA Island.

3-7-43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

KALININ Sector.

FAR EAST.

U. S. troops on New GEORGIA Island and
RENDOVA Island.

4-7-43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

KURSK Sector.

FAR EAST.

U. S. positions on New GEORGIA and
at NASSAU BAY.

5-7-43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

OREL-KURSK-BYELGOROD area.

FAR EAST.

No information available.

SIDE LIGHTS.

OURSELVES.

With the appearance of this number the Pudukkottai N. W. F. Bulletin completes its third year of service.

Three years they have been in which the struggle of the Allies for survival has ended with the demand for the unconditional surrender of the enemy; three years in which Axis treachery has been punished by the extinction of the Italian empire, the annihilation of the Afrika korps, and the devastation of the RUHR.

During these three years the Bulletin has served in hope and faith, fair to friend and foe, neither down-hearted by reverse nor elated by success, confident always in the sure, if slow, coming of Victory.

They have been three years of hard campaigning against malignant propaganda, against 'Quit India' and other forms of mischief; three years of intensive propaganda, in town and village, resulting in the joyful change of the public mind from doubt and fear to reliance and hope.

Our Motto is 'Unconquerable Hope', as pictured by the poet, in the following lines:—

'Say not the struggle nought availeth,
The labour and the wounds are vain,
The enemy faints not, nor faileth,
And as things have been they remain.
If hopes were dupes, fears may be liars;
It may be in yon smoke concealed,
Your comrades chase e'en now the fliers,
And, but for you, possess the field.
For while the tired waves, vainly breaking,
Seem here no painful inch to gain,
Far back, through creeks and inlets making,
Comes silent, flooding in, the main.
And not by eastern windows only
When day light comes, comes in the light,
In front, the sun climbs slow, how slowly,
But westward, look, the land is bright.

MR. CHURCHILL'S GUILD- HALL ADDRESS.

On June 30, his first public speech since his return from WASHINGTON, was in every way worthy of the occasion. The Freedom of the City of London which he received on that day was symbolic of the Freedom for which the world is fighting under his leadership. The ruins of Guildhall, roofless, but with its 500 year-old stone walls still standing four-square, in spite of the 1940-blitz, were a reminder of the strength which is Britain's; while the pictures of WATERLOO and TRAFALGAR, of Nelson and Wellington and Pitt in the hall, were a reminder that the men who defeated Napoleon were now out to defeat Hitler.

MAY AND JUNE.

While Mr. Churchill's forecast, in the Guildhall speech, of 'heavy fighting in the Mediterranean and elsewhere, before the leaves of autumn fall' was most delightfully vague, and was no doubt meant to

tantalise the enemy, his observations on the naval and aerial victories of May and June were most heartening. The enemy's U-boat war in May to prevent the arrival of food convoys to BRITAIN has ended in total defeat and the loss of 30 U-boats. In June, there were no U-boat attacks at all. They were hiding in their bases, 'licking their wounds and mourning their dead,' as Mr. Churchill put it.

May and June have also proved the months of the heaviest Allied bombing. The German Air Force, says the Air Correspondent of the *Sunday Times*, is in imminent danger of extinction. Its June wastage has exceeded its new air-craft production. The reserves, already running low will be used up at the end of summer, when the *Luftwaffe* will be down and out.

GHOST RAIDS

formed a special feature of the May-June attacks on GERMANY. Small forces of R. A. F. Mosquitos, the fastest in the world, penetrated far into the Reich, carrying out nuisance raids. Owing to the constant alarms which they raised, their effects have been nerve-shattering.

MORE AND EVER MORE PLANES

will be constructed to confound and destroy the enemy. A 71,500,000,000 dollar 'Decisive War Bill,' as it is called, has been signed by President Roosevelt for spending thrice as much as last year on armaments construction including 99,740 aircraft. Mr. Oliver Lyttleton has announced that in ENGLAND aircraft construction, already in excess of the Axis, is going to be still further increased by slowing the production of other armaments.

STUPEFACTION.

Stupefaction has evidently come over Nazi propaganda. Judged by the confusion and the contradiction which have characterised it of late, the air-raids must have had a damaging effect on the nerves. German broadcasts which claim for GERMANY the best ack barrages, search light batteries and camouflage devices in the world, also complain of the mounting British terror-raids. Sometimes it is stated that British bombers do not injure German factories at all, because they cannot take accurate aim. At other times we are told that they aim perfectly on churches, hospitals and orphanages. While warning the British that they are wasting their machines in aimless raiding, they also assert that their factories have been removed to safer areas.

STIMMUNG AND HALTUNG. There are two forms of morale, according to Goebbels, Stimmung (short-term), and Haltung (long-term). Some months ago, when a town suffered from a heavy attack, he consoled the sufferers with the reflection that the loss of Stimmung did not matter, so long as there was Haltung. Now that both Stimmung and Haltung are collapsing, he is consoling the bombed cities by telling them that there are still other, unblitzed, cities in GERMANY which will labour hard for their relief.

THE PACIFIC WAR.

'It is my proud privilege', declared Mr. Curtin, AUSTRALIA's Prime Minister in an Independence Day broadcast to AMERICA, 'to say that the enemy advance has been stopped, the pressure on this country (AUSTRALIA) has been thrown back and offensives against the enemy progress. JAPAN

is going to feel blows carrying dynamic punching power from American, Dutch and Australian fighting men to such effect that they will have repercussions in TOKYO itself. If I liken the Pacific war to a football match I can say the first half is over. We have kicked off after the interval, and we are going to carry the ball into the enemy's territory for a smashing victory'

So, the holding war hitherto waged in the S. W. Pacific is over. American and Australian forces, on land, in sea and in the air have launched a combined attack along a 1,000 mile front, piercing the Japanese arc north of AUSTRALIA. It is a continuation of the initial battles fought, months ago, in the GUADALCANAR, PAPUA, and GONA-BUNA-areas. In the present operations which are 5-pronged, American forces have occupied RENDOVA and NEW GEORGIA in the SOLOMONS, and TROBRIAND and WOODLARK off NEW GUINEA and Nassau Bay, 15 miles south of SALAMUA in NEW GUINEA. Meanwhile, Australian forces in MUBO (NEW GUINEA) have advanced and linked up with the Americans who have landed at Nassau Bay. Japanese bases over a front of 2,000 miles from NEW GEORGIA to TIMOR and CELEBES have been raided. General MacArthur is in personal charge of the operations.

In the battle of Kula Gulf on July 4-5 9 Japanese warships have been destroyed.

Writing on the Pacific offensive the *London Times* observes:—

'The U. S. forces have made an encouraging beginning in their bold and enterprising venture in the S. W. Pacific. The U. S. has in fact, issued a challenge to the Japanese naval power. If that challenge is not accepted before the Allies close in upon RABAU, then there can be few greater certainties, in an element so uncertain as war, than that RABAU will fall relatively soon.

'If the glove is taken up the resulting fight must be momentous. Failure to defeat the Japanese would have incalculable consequences, but success would mark the beginning of the end.

'Sooner or later Japan must try conclusions with the American Navy, which means that she must risk her main battle fleet; and American naval strength in the Pacific is still growing. It has been too easily assumed that the struggle in the Pacific would be decided virtually by air power alone, with sea power playing altogether a subordinate part.

'It will be decided by all arms in concert, but there exists no theatre of operations, in which naval forces will play a bigger part, though of course in the closest concert with the air arm. Here, amid this multitude of Islands, great and small, is indeed the ideal field for the exploitation of naval power backed by that of air. Here it becomes all pervading, because there is no position which it cannot turn and no flank which can be secured against it.

RUSSIA.

At long last, after a lull of 101 days, the 1943 German summer offensive has begun in a three-pronged attack along a front of 180 miles, extending from OREL and KURSK to BYELGOROD. The attempt seems to be to isolate MOSCOW. But judged from the cost paid by the Germans in the very first three days of the battle—1,500 tanks, 700 aircraft and 30,000 men, it does not look as if the offensive could be continued long.

A PARTY SPEECH AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE.

Mussolini's address to his Party Directorate on June 24, broadcast by the ROME Radio on July 5, reveals, as nothing else does, Mussolini's fears for the future of his country. In the speech Mussolini warned his Fascist hearers of the coming invasion, which, he thinks will be in 3 stages—first, landing, which must be resisted by the coastal inhabitants; second, penetration, which will have to be opposed by what reserves they had, and third, invasion which must be fought by what army they could put into the field. To ITALY it was a war of life and death, which may end in capitulation—capitulation which meant shame, disarmament and the destruction of industries. Mussolini betrayed his anxiety also for the future of the Fascist régime, which still awaited consolidation in spite of the recent drastic purges, pleaded for greater 'moral unity', and called for more energetic measures to enforce conscription, and to suppress strikes, the black market and all 'institutions of luxury.'

NECESSITY.

Admiral Robert, MARTINIQUE's High Commissioner, has persuaded himself at last to change his masters and has applied to the U. S. A. for terms. The broadcast giving the news adds that Robert's decision sprang from a wish to avoid 'blood-shed.' We know what that means; it is the fear of a rising of the inhabitants of MARTINIQUE, who have already demonstrated their unwillingness to continue under VICHY. Another factor which may have influenced the decision was the French National Committee of Liberation of FRANCE, recently set up in ALGIERS. But the most compelling reason, we believe, was the famine which has come to stay, forcing the people 'to live on herbs.'

THE B. B. C.

A recent broadcast has summarised the war record of the B. B. C., which is one to be proud of. It now conducts a 71-hour daily programme in 47 languages. We welcome the announcement that it is going to open a new service in Japanese, which will bring real news to the Japanese and awaken them from the hallucination into which they have been drugged by the lying propaganda of their leaders. The B. B. C. has grown from small beginnings. In 1939 it spoke in English only and to the Empire Countries only. But even then, with but one news bulletin a day, a 24-hour service was by no means easy. Every one wanted to 'listen' just at the time of the setting sun, and the trouble was that in the British Empire, the sun, not only never sets, but it is always setting. A year later, with LONDON blitzed, with transmitters cut off, premises wrecked, and staff killed, the B. B. C. continued its mission without interruption, its service still heralded by the actual stroke—not a recording—of Big Ben. On the other hand, it was at this time of trial, that the B. B. C. actually extended its service to the U. S. A., Latin AMERICA and to North, East and South EUROPE. The number of languages in which it spoke was increased to 9 in 1939 and 47 in 1942, and the single service with which it began has been split into the African, the North American, the Pacific, and General Eastern services. Its broadcasts to Occupied EUROPE and ASIA now number 120 a day. Thus the B. B. C. has proved a powerful link among the United Nations, and the only source of reliable information to the Occupied Countries, and we may add, to the people of the enemy countries also, who dare to listen. In the fateful days of the Battle of BRITAIN it faithfully relayed the very sounds of the invading machines, the crash of bombs and planes, the wail of the

sirens and the report of the a-a guns, not omitting even the small talk of the *blitzed* inhabitants and the rescue parties. But, as the *New York Times* puts it, it did not 'waste time in fairy tales'. The B. B. C. alone cannot win the war but nothing has equalled the B. B. C. in helping to win the war.

FORWARD CONTRACTS.

The recent orders passed by Indian Governments prohibiting forward contracts in commodities like cotton, cotton cloth and yarn, oil seeds, wheat and sugar require a word of explanation. It may be remembered that forward contracting in stocks and shares has already been prohibited. A forward contract is an arrangement to buy or sell, at a certain price, goods to be delivered and paid for in future. The transaction may be either legitimate or illegitimate. A mill owner obviously cannot buy cotton from day to day but must contract forward this is legitimate.

A man, not a regular cloth dealer makes a forward contract to make an easy profit out of the difference between the present and future prices: this is illegitimate. It is a gamble. Most of these 'futures', as they are called, are cases of gambling, like betting, depending on speculation, on the contingency that in war time prices are bound to rise. But unlike other gamblers the forward-contractor need not put his own money into the transaction; nor hold actual stocks: he requires no go-downs and need not possess a bank-balance. It involves no actual delivery of goods. Its speculator need not even have an idea of the commodity which he is supposed to buy or sell. It is business jugglery, faked trading, or as Sir Jeremy Raisman put it 'economic sabotage.'

THE END OF A GREAT SOLDIER-STATESMAN.

We regret to report the death of Gen. Sikorski, the Polish Premier and C-in-C in an air-crash on July 4, while taking off from GIBRALTAR. In his death the United Nations have suffered a most grievous loss, and POLAND has lost a gallant soldier and statesman. He was as Mr. Churchill has pointed out, the symbol, the embodiment of the spirit which has borne the Polish nation through centuries of sorrow and agony.

STANDARD CLOTH.

Pudukkottai will be supplied with standard cloth at 1,100,000 yards for every 6 months. Its distribution will be entrusted to co-operative organisations.

SOFTENING-UP.

(The Daily Mail).

Many pictures of air raid damage have been published in Britain, but none like those of Dusseldorf. This is not damage but devastation. This is not "raiding" either. Even the word "battle" is inadequate. No battle yet fought between armies inflicted such destruction as can now fall upon a great city in a single hour. It is more like the aftermath of some cataclysm of nature.

We may recognise the appalling power of this weapon without abating a jot of our determination to use it to the full against our ruthless enemies. They knew the force of it and wielded it without mercy. But it remained for more ingenious minds on the Allied side to realise that here was something new and startling in warfare, and to use

it as such. What we are seeing now is a strategical "softening-up" before the final assault, which may be compared with the tactical "softening-up" which preceded the infantry advances of the last war. It is as if the Allies, to save the lives of their soldiers, are reaching out with a huge mechanical arm to crush and demoralise the enemy. Hence Duisberg and Dusseldorf, Krefeld and Mulheim. Towns are being wiped out as effective organisms at one stroke.

Yet let us recollect that the process is not entirely mechanical. When we read of the loss of 30 or 40 bombers, we should remember that it means the loss also of hundreds of fine men. The task of these men is not to drop their bombs upon some defenceless Rotterdam, Warsaw or Belgrade. They have to fight their way out and back again through miles of massed anti-aircraft fire and against fleets of night fighters. They are the bravest of the brave.

Our enemies are crying out against a retribution that became inevitable when they first used the *Luftwaffe* as a threatening instrument of power politics, and there are fools in this country who echo these cries. We may sympathise with their soft-heartedness without sharing their soft-headedness. For, if we do not finish this thing, it will finish us. If we held off now and allowed the Axis Powers to rebuild their declining air strength, there could be no future for civilisation. As the Archbishop of York has wisely pointed out, the real justification for continuing this bombing of military objectives is that it will shorten the war and may save many hundreds of thousands of lives.

IN DEFENCE OF BOMBING.

The Archbishop of York, Dr. Garbett, in a letter to his diocese, published in the *York Diocesan Leaflet*, writes: "I am receiving letters asking me to protest, as a Christian, against the bombing of German and Italian towns.

"War is always horrible, and this is true of war from the air. Most of us would wish to see aerial warfare totally abolished: for the non-combatant is almost certain to suffer with the combatant. In its most hateful form it was used by the Germans when they bombed undefended Rotterdam, Belgrade and other cities, murdering thousands, with the deliberate intention of striking terror into the hearts of the civilian population.

"This kind of bombing has not been undertaken by the Allies. They have aimed at military objectives with the purpose of breaking down the military opposition of the enemy, though unavoidably many civilians have also had to suffer.

"The real justification for continuing this bombing is that it will shorten the war and may save thousands of lives. Those who demand the suspension of all bombing are advocating a policy which would condemn many more of our own soldiers to death, and would postpone the hour of liberation, which will alone save from massacre and torture those who are now in the power of the Nazis.

"Often in life there is no clear choice between absolute right and wrong; frequently the choice has been made of the less of two evils, and it is a less evil to bomb war-loving Germany than to sacrifice the lives of thousands of our own fellow countrymen who long for peace, and to delay delivering the millions now held in slavery."

BRIGADIER WINGATE ON THE BURMA EXPEDITION.

The Japanese thought that they had found a technique of warfare in the jungles of the Far East to which the United Nations had no answer. With characteristic thoroughness and assiduity they had not only studied the effect of jungle of all types on modern tactics but had also trained large numbers of their best troops in the practical application of their approved methods.

They boasted that the self-indulgent and ignorant troops of the United Nations would never equal them either in skill or endurance in the conditions of warfare that prevail and must continue to prevail throughout their 'co-prosperity' sphere. From Japan to India, from Manchuria to Australia, jungle and mountain predominate and make penetration, the premier weapon in modern war, everywhere possible.

But they were mistaken. The British soldier has shown that he can not only equal the Japanese but surpass him in this very war of penetration in jungle. And the reason is to be found in the qualities that he shares with his ancestors—imagination: the power to give of his best when the audience is smallest; self-reliance and power of individual action. The Indian soldier, too, has shown himself fully capable of beating the Japanese in jungle fighting where individuality and personal initiative are the qualities that count.

Believing that this was so, Field Marshal Wavell gave me the task, in the Autumn of 1942, of raising and training a formation designed to carry out penetration of the enemy's back areas far deeper and on a far larger scale than any he had practised against us.

Essential to Wavell's plan was air power, not only superior to that of the enemy but capable of operating in new ways and fulfilling hitherto unheard of demands. *We had such air resources and the R. A. F. never failed us.*

In fact, seeing in us an ideal opportunity of driving home their own strategic attacks on the enemy, they supplied R. A. F. contingents for every column, commanded by officers until recently fighting the enemy in the air, and it was largely the presence and work of these R. A. F. elements that made the operation a success.

Let us consider for a moment the composition of the force that was to enter the heart of Japanese-occupied Burma and singe the Mikado's beard. It was not composed of selected troops. It consisted of ordinary British and Indian infantry, sappers, signalmen, etc. Each column had its quota of Burmese troops, without which these operations would have been impossible.

What was it then which made these ordinary typical troops, born and trained for the most part to factory and workshop, capable of feats that would not have disgraced Tarzan, and able on many occasions to punish all enemy attempts at interference with a vigour that caused him to draw off and hesitate to come again?

In general, it is true to say that one soldier in a column was occupying profitably the attentions of ten or more of our enemies throughout the period of operations. The answer to the question is that, given imagination and individuality in sufficient quantity, the necessary minimum of training will always produce junior leaders and men capable of beating the stereotyped and unimaginative Axis soldier. Although incapable of the sombre and humourless self-immolation of the Japanese, the British soldier can nevertheless beat him on his own chosen ground, provided he gives scope to his greater intellectual powers and stronger, saner character.

WHAT THE FORCE ACCOMPLISHED.

Finally what did the force do? While all that it accomplished cannot be revealed, this much can be said.

Early in February we crossed the river Chindwin, across which the British and Japanese forces faced each other; distracting the enemy's attention by a successful feint and pressing on through Japanese occupied territory towards the North and South railway line.

Throughout the operation the force never occupied a space of less than ten thousand square miles and, moving rapidly forward presented the R. A. F.—our only means of supply—with a totally novel problem which they solved completely to our admiration.

Columns began to reach the railway joining Mandalay to Myitkina early in March and their attacks on it lasted until the middle of that month. We left it pretty thoroughly messed up and the Japs have not used it since.

The force now astonished the enemy by moving on instead of back, and crossing the Irrawaddy, presently to appear far to the South, not so far from the Japanese main centres. Here certain things were done and, having attracted large enemy forces to our immediate neighbourhood, we carried out a dispersal and return in small groups in accordance with our training.

Most of us are back and waiting to renew our experience of this dull, ferocious and poverty-stricken little enemy at the earliest possible moment. Some of us will never come back. They have done something for their nation. They have demonstrated a new way in war, the combination of the oldest with the newest means. They have not been thrown away.

TRIBUTE TO BURMESE.

Lastly, remember that were it not a fact that all over the theatres of war human beings feel that the United Nations are fighting for something that means more to them than the severe and macabre ideals of the Axis, that liberty of conscience and person are dependent on the defeat of the Axis, we should not have succeeded in penetrating so deep and delivering our attack.

To the Burmese and, in especial, to the brave and devoted Burma Rifles who went with us, must belong the main credit for what success we enjoyed. And as here, so will it be else where.

AN AMERICAN SALUTES THE TOMMY.

(The Daily Telegraph).

An inspiring account of the heroism of British soldiers in North Africa is contained in a letter written by a 22-year-old American from Staten Island, New York, which is published in the New York *Herald Tribune*. His name is withheld, but it is stated that he was with the American field service near El Alamein in November.

"I'd like to say something about the British Tommy", he wrote. "Believe me, I can't speak too strongly about this, and I am speaking not only for myself but for every American who has seen active service with the British, as well as for those newspaper

men who have passed years here. I don't want to give the impression that I've turned into an Anglicised American, because I haven't. But, for my money, there is no finer or braver fighting man in the world than the Tommy.

"For sheer guts and ability to keep coming back time after time, he has no superior. I remember vividly one night at El Alamein, just before the push, which to me exemplifies the fighting qualities of the British. It was in the southern sector, and the Jerries were tucked in snugly behind three minefields. We were trying to get through the minefields. The idea was that tanks were to blast their way through the minefield gap, spread out on the other side of the fields and work their way forward. We were being followed up by units of light infantry. Well! The tanks got through the minefields all right, and the medical officer and I stopped on the other side of the third gap about 300 yards behind the tanks.

"Then all hell broke loose as Jerry opened up with everything he had, 88 Bofors and heavy ack-ack fires along the ground, small arms and everything. The tanks were forced back on us, and we had so many casualties that we couldn't back up.

"And then, in face of the worst barrage I've seen, British infantry came up to us and started through. I've never witnessed anything like it.

"At a steady walk with their rifles at port and looking straight ahead, they marched into it. I saw men with their heads blown off as they walked, men with arms and legs shot away. There was no hope of getting through, but they kept on, wave after wave of them, and they marched in, singing. Usually you could just sort of feel the beat of it under the barrage, but occasionally for a few brief seconds the noise of the firing would lift and you would hear their voices rolling out. I don't think I've ever felt such pride in fellow men. I was just mighty proud of mankind in general.

"The medical officer I was with that night was killed and another one who rushed up to take his place was wounded. It ranks with the worst night I've spent, but the thing that stands out for me is the rifles and bayonets and the magnificent courage of men walking in to face that point-blank barrage and singing as they walked. After witnessing that and a few things like it, I will not take any criticism of the Tommy from anyone."

GERMAN PREPARATIONS TO DEFEND NORWAY.

The changed position in the Mediterranean has opened up the possibility of building up Iceland and Northern Scotland into spring-boards for attack against Norway. The German High Command is fully aware of this danger, and though recent news would indicate its preoccupation with the defences of Southern Europe, it is clear that it is no less worried about the possibility of an Allied attack directed against Norway. The way defence preparations are being rushed in Norway to-day shows that the Germans are not leaving anything to chance in the north.

NAZI DEFENCE MEASURES.

The construction of an airfield, which it is claimed will be the largest in Europe, is being hastened at Trondheim. In all parts of Norway further sea defences are being erected. At Sandnessjoen in the north, the harbour has been mined. Land mines have also been laid on the beach. Hundreds of miles to the south, in the comparatively

sheltered Oslo Fjord, block-houses are being built in the streets of the town of Larvik. Barbed wire and other defence works prevent the use of many busy streets. At Dobrak, about twenty miles from Oslo itself, forests are being razed in order to give the Husirk fortress a clear view for their gunners. The Todt organisation is tackling its most difficult task in Norway. Owing to the exceptional length and the unique configuration of the Norwegian coast, the task of defence has meant a substantial drain on German resources of labour and equipment. Unlike the other occupied countries, Norway is receiving an influx of workers rather than experiencing an exodus of Norwegian workers to Germany.

FACTORS FAVOURING AN ATTACK.

Amongst the factors that would probably influence Allied strategy in selecting Norway as a theatre for an attack, the purpose of joining up with the Soviet forces in the far north, and giving protection to British-American convoys *en route* to Archangel and Murmansk, would perhaps be one of the foremost. Northern Norwegian territory has, in fact, acquired an immense strategic significance since the Germans began using it as an air base for attacks on Allied Convoys to Russia. Finmark, the northernmost province of Norway, is separated from the Red Army by only about 20 miles of Finnish territory. The Russians have lost hardly anything in this region and Norwegian patriots, on their side, are doing everything in their power to give them active support.

It is possible that if direct contact were established with the Finns, and they were assured of Anglo-American food supply, they might even decide to abandon the war, with important results for the Leningrad sector of the Russian front.

GERMAN IRON SUPPLY.

Yet another advantage of attack against northern Norway would be to cut off the important German iron ore supply route from Narvik to Germany. Narvik is a Norwegian seaport on the Ofoten Fjord, and is used by the Germans to export iron ore to the Reich. The German sea lanes between North Norway and the South, and between Norway as a whole and Germany, are being already subjected to heavy pressure by the Allied navies and air forces in the Barents Sea, the North Sea and the Baltic. The Germans have been forced to fall back on small fishing boats for much of their transport, and a further pressure on the sea-routes would yield rich dividends. Such pressure would also have the advantage of forcing the German fleet to come out into the open and give battle to the British Fleet.

Finally, of course, the attitude of the population in Northern Norway would be a source of strength to an invading army. The Norwegian people themselves are naturally the most hostile element in the country; but they are supplemented by thousands of foreign workers, by the Russian prisoners-of-war encamped in Norway, and even by German elements who have been sent to Northern Norway as a measure of punishment by the German High Command. The German newspaper *Munchner Nueste Nachrichten* recently described something of the life led by the Germans on this Polar Front which "once seen is never forgotten". Nature in North Norway can make people "heavy spirited". "If one lives here for long, one becomes insane.....Many soldiers have come to terms with Nature by turning their gaze inwards. They hardly ever take note of their environments".

DIFFICULTIES OF ALLIED INVASION.

An invasion of Norway now will not suffer from some of the handicaps that frustrated a British landing in 1940, when the British force was small and was overwhelmed by superior numbers and heavier armament. The Allies, preferring to act legally, were unable to anticipate the lawless Nazi coup. But for their scruples, they could have occupied Trondheim and other ports and aerodromes. Norway, although obviously threatened then, declined assistance, till too late. To-day the Allies can put a much bigger force in the field, better armed and better served from the base. Both the Norwegian government in London and the people inside Norway would welcome and help such a venture.

There would, however, still be many difficulties in the way. The Nazis are well entrenched in the country; the possession of aerodromes and the proximity of Denmark and Germany assures them of well-protected supply lines. The Allies would have to maintain a sea line of supply of over 400 miles, and their invading forces during the initial assault would have only limited fighter cover (although heavy bombers operating from bases in Scotland and the Shetlands could maintain a continuous bombardment).

BRITAIN'S RECIPROCAL AID TO U. S. PLANES, GUNS AND MINES SUPPLIED.

From the day a U. S. soldier embarks from a U. S. port, British equipment and services buttress his progress into camp, through battle school, and into battle. He sails probably in a British ship. In Britain, he lives on camps and airfields put up at record speed with British labour and materials, or on stations from which British units were removed so that the base with full equipment, down to the last light bulb and blanket could be turned over to the Americans.

This is Lend-Lease in reverse—Reciprocal Aid which Britain has been giving America since her great armies began moving about the world.

HUNDREDS OF SPITFIRES.

The Eagle Squadron's station and its full complement of Spitfires were transferred to U. S. Army Air Force command when the pilots said goodbye to the R. A. F. last November. Hundreds of Spitfires have been lend-leased to the Americans this side of the Atlantic, and 13,000 bicycles—vital equipment for air crews operating from Britain's highly dispersed airfields. Aircraft pouring across from U. S. factories or returned from operations for repair, are reassembled and overhauled at a vast depot comprising repair shops, storage space, hangars and an airfield, long since machine-tooled up and running smoothly on similar work for the R. A. F. but now America's under Reciprocal Aid. The Ministry of Aircraft Production has put millions of feet of floor space at the disposal of the U. S. Forces, and the War Office is providing 20,000,000 feet of storage space.

SAVING SHIPPING SPACE.

To save hundreds of thousands of tons of shipping space, the Americans' military hospital system in Britain has been built up on Reciprocal Aid, which provides fully furnished premises, with dispensaries stocked with drugs and medicaments specified by

U. S. army medical authorities, and operating theatres equipped with the most up-to-date surgical and X-ray apparatus. Construction and adaptation of hospital buildings alone cost £ 15,000,000.

All heat and light consumed by the U. S. forces in Britain is chalked up to Reciprocal Aid. Their basic rations, such as frozen and canned meat and fish, come from the U. S., but Britain's larder is well enough stocked to save convoy after convoy for munitions by providing all fresh vegetables, flour, bread, pickles, the doughboy's beloved coco-cola, and many other accessories consumed in American messes here.

DEFENDING THEIR CITIES.

Reciprocal Aid is not confined to these islands. Six thousand barrage balloons, many anti-aircraft guns, and 12 complete shell-producing plants have been shipped to America during the past year. Millions of rations, millions of rounds of ammunitions, quantities of 25 pounder guns and half a million anti-tank mines and grenades were among War Office stores that went to North Africa with General Eisenhower's troops. Two-thirds of the warships and transports from which they made their original landing there were British.

The bookkeeping of Reciprocal Aid is so scattered that no Whitehall or Washington official can guess the total bill to which the Treasury has so far written "Paid." In any case, dollars and pounds are no just measure. For the American spirit that initiated Lend-Lease in Britain's darkest hour, and for the blood and sweat and tears that brought her through to the day when she could reciprocate, there is no cash equivalent.

"PRIEST."

Tank-busting equipment is now the main concern of the Allied armies preparing for an all-out offensive. The 105-mm., "Priest" anti-tank guns, mounted on the General Grant chassis, helped shatter Rommel's *panzers* during the Axis retreat from El Alamein to Tripoli.

This high velocity gun is particularly suited to fast-moving advances. Its carrier has a speed of 30 m. p. h., and the gun's fire-power is supplemented by a .5 calibre machine-gun, a tommy-gun and a browning auto-rifle. Each of the crew is equipped with a rifle.

Mr. Churchill, referring to the "Priest," described it as a "most useful weapon for contending with the 88 mm., high-velocity guns of which the Germans have made so much use."

INDIAN SOLDIER'S CHANGE IN OUTLOOK.

The Indian Soldier to-day has a very different outlook from his father of the last war. He has more sophisticated tastes, more money to spend and more inclination to spend it.

So report the Canteen managers whose business it is to give their Indian soldier customers what they want. The Manager of a Canteen Depot in North-Western India

reports that the British Tommy's 'fag' is taking the place of the home-made 'beedi' in the Indian soldier's favour. He still likes to buy "hair-oil, cocoanut, perfumed," but he is now demanding modern brands of hair-cream also.

An increasing portion of his pay is going in the purchase of note-books and writing-pads—for the Indian soldier of to-day is a better educated man, too.

The traditional Army barber is being threatened—for, following the example of his European comrades-in-arms, the Indian soldier is increasingly buying shaving soap and razor blades to shave himself.

Mounting sales of watch straps show that he is becoming time-conscious as never before.

WANTED BY DR. GOEBBELS; A MAP OF INDIA.

If Dr. Goebbels kept a map of India on his desk, the news items he invents for broadcast to listeners in this country would sound a little more convincing. Here is his latest blunder:—

In a news bulletin broadcast in Bengali on June 13, 1943, the Berlin announcer said: "A troop train was derailed near Srinagar, in Kashmir, and more than one hundred people were killed and about 250 received serious injuries."

Srinagar is well over 100 miles from the nearest Railway. Is it just possible that the Doctor was thinking of the scores of German troop trains that have been derailed by the R. A. F. bombs and cannon fire in recent weeks?

"TEN COMMANDMENTS" FOR FIRST AID PARTIES.

"Do not adapt the patient to the treatment, but adapt the treatment to the patient" this is the advice contained in a Medical Manual* on the training and work of First Aid Parties published recently.

Here are the other 9 rules for the guidance of first aid workers:—

(ii) Be gentle and kind to the casualty. (iii) Try to earn your patient's confidence. (iv) Never discuss the condition of the casualty in his hearing. (v) Be as quiet and composed as you can. (vi) If you feel nervous, never let the casualty see it. (vii) Do your best to impress him with your courage, confidence and capabilities. (viii) Do not find fault with a fellow worker when there are casualties within hearing. (ix) Do not fail an injured person who has trust in your efficiency. (x) Remember that the extent and appearance of an injury may not be a true indication of its severity.

It is emphasized that members of First Aid Parties have definite and important responsibilities as individuals, but that they are at the same time members of a team which is part of an organised service. Efforts of individuals, however great in number or skilled and devoted, will be less effective than those of a service organised into disciplined parties or teams.

* Air Raid Precautions Medical Manual No. 2 (India) issued by the Civil Defence Department, Government of India.

EAT MORE VEGETABLES AND GROW SOME YOURSELF. SELF-HELP TO CHECK HIGH COST.

by

T. K. Menon.

Rationing, lack of full co-operation from the masses, misunderstandings and even frank disbelief—these and many other problems face the Food Department of the Government of India to-day. As the days go by, however, it is becoming clearer and clearer to the average Indian that there is really very little food shortage in this country. Rice, wheat and bajree are now available in larger quantities than during the past few months.

But a nation must eat well—and, preferably, wisely—to keep well; and rice, wheat and bajree alone won't help us do this. Our thoughts must now turn to the next most important feature in our food scheme—vegetables.

SOARING PRICES.

The public is somewhat dazed at the increasing prices of vegetables in this land of plenty—dazed and resentful! Although, in fairness to them, it may be said that they do not blame the Government, it must also be said that they have never attempted the simplest way of obtaining the cheapest and, at the same time, the best vegetables.

What is this "simplest way", you ask? The answer is, *grow vegetables yourselves, in your own gardens, by your own efforts.* Grow more vegetables—and still more vegetables—and kill the black market that sells the golden cabbages.

The private gardens in India's cities and suburbs, if taken together, comprise thousands of acres of ideal cultivable land. It is almost a crime to let flowers bloom in these gardens to-day; till there is peace on earth and good will among men, these acres must grow food. These gardens are vitally important theatres of war, and it is up to us to fight and win the Home Front's greatest battles here valiantly and successfully.

Vegetables are, indeed, the answer to our food prayers; they contribute to a more balanced and nutritive diet. Unfortunately, in this country, in feast and in famine, our traditional diet contains a very high proportion of cereal foodstuffs. To-day opinion is unanimous that one of the best ways of improving India's national health is to introduce more vegetables in the diet.

It will not be out of place here to quote statistics in support of the above. A heavy manual worker must eat food containing at least 2,800 calories each day, but all this cannot be taken in the form of cereal. Such a diet would be lacking in the vitamins and mineral salts now known to be so vital for cent per cent health. One small cauliflower, three or four tomatoes or carrots contain as many calories as two eggs, two ounces of meat or one glass of milk and this analysis may be used as a rough guide to introducing in the menu lighter vegetables in place of heavier foodstuffs. Incidentally, it has been calculated that the basic requirement of vegetables in India is 228 lb. per head per year, whereas the actual supply is only 30 lb. per head per year. No wonder that national health is so poor!

Higher, higher, and still higher soar the prices of bazaar vegetables. Thus, growing more vegetables means saving more money. The war boom has resulted in money being plentiful to-day. But in the post-war world—in the likely slump to come—what you can save now will come in useful. It is hence a good motto and a wise motto: "Let's grow more vegetables and save up money for a rainy day."

The very pertinent question is likely to be asked by certain middle class people: "Most of us get enough vegetables for ourselves to-day. Why should we bother about growing more?" The answer is simple enough; in these times of emergency it is not sufficient if every man looks to himself. Co-operation is the only possible key to a successful social and economic set-up in both wartime and post-war worlds.

Lettuce, carrots, celery, spinach and most green vegetables help sufferers from rheumatism. The sulphur that is needed by the body is found in cabbage, onions and carrots in an easily assimilable form, provided they are cooked in the right way. Lettuce, cabbage, tomatoes, carrots and spinach are richer in certain vitamins than milk, beef, mutton, chicken, wheat and rice!

Anyway, it's up to us to see that no one will ever have to go hungry in our country. Considering the sacrifices our countrymen are making, doesn't this seem a small enough job for any one of us to undertake?

And now, in the monsoon, is the time to get busy.

THE FOURTH WAR SERVICE EXHIBITION

Will be held

AT THE PUTTUR MAIDAN, TRICHINOPOLY

From

16-7-43 TO 26-7-43.

ADMISSION FREE.

THE EXHIBITION.

The Trichinopoly War Services Exhibition, will be opened on July, the 16th by Sir P. T. Rajan, Regional Leader, National War Front and will last ten days. It is the fourth of a series of such exhibitions. The first exhibition was held in Delhi in March; it was opened by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Wavell, and was acclaimed an outstanding success, drawing approximately 300,000 visitors in seven days. The second Exhibition was held in Bombay from April 20 to May 7 and attracted over 1,000,000 spectators. The third Exhibition concluded recently in Bangalore; it was opened by His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore and attracted 500,000 people.

ITS AIMS.

The War Services Exhibition is organised on an educational basis. It is not the intention to show the large quantities of material which the Allies can command, but rather to show the fact that Indians are being taught useful trades in the services, and that these trades can very easily be adapted to peacetime requirements. The primary purpose is to strengthen morale by giving the general public a comprehensive visual demonstration of the country's war effort. The bias of the exhibitions is technical.

THE SECTIONS.

The Exhibitions are divided into five sections:—Royal Indian Navy, Indian Army, Indian Air Force, Labour Department and Civil.

Royal Indian Navy.—The main exhibits are a 21 inch torpedo, a mine complete with sinker, naval guns (including a 12 pounder such as the one which was mounted on the "Bengal"), depth charges, a paravane, ammunition and models of various warships. The forepart of an Indian warship, complete with bridge and guns, was constructed in Bombay and now travels with the Exhibition.

Indian Army.—This section is well represented with tanks (including General Lees and General Grants), several armoured cars and a variety of anti-aircraft guns. The tanks take part in "charges" and the guns fire blank shells. There is also a variety of captured enemy equipment. Separate Army sub-sections are devoted to Sappers and Miners, Engineers, Inland Water Transport etc.

Labour Department.—The Labour Department have erected a model machine workshop, which will be worked by trainees who will be shown actually producing trade test work. In addition, every other trade which is being taught under the Technical Training Scheme is represented.

Indian Air Force.—A Hurricane fighter was displayed in Delhi and Bombay; this was replaced by a "made-in-India" aircraft in Bangalore. A smashed up Japanese bomber and a German fighter (almost intact) are part of the "permanent equipment". There is also a model aerodrome and a good working model of a Blenheim bomber, showing the mechanism of the under-carriage and safety device. Other exhibits comprise parachutes, cameras, bomb-sights, gun-turrets, etc.

Civil Section.—The following are represented in the Civil Section of the Exhibition, the Red Cross, the Supply Department, the National War Front, the W. V. S. the W. A. C., Civil Defence, Grow More Food, etc.

CINEMA AND BAND.

A permanent feature is an open-air cinema, which will start functioning at 8 p. m., daily. A military band will be in daily attendance.

ADMISSION.

Admission to the Exhibition, and to each individual stall, is free.

SCALE OF EXHIBITION.

On the same large scale as the Exhibitions which have gone before, the Trichinopoly show will have all the usual features—tank battles, gun duels, bridging operations by Indian Engineers, displays by Sappers and Miners, and a host of other spectacular demonstrations. There will again be displayed a variety of equipment, Allied and enemy, including aircraft, barrage balloons, tanks and guns of every description, naval armaments and models, together with a complete reconstruction of the actual forepart of a warship.

SPECIAL FEATURES.

The special features of the Trichinopoly War Services Exhibition will be :—

(a) A visual demonstration of improved agricultural methods, including the manufacture and use of compost (manure), and the nutritional values of various foodstuffs.

(b) A Railway Repairs Workshop of Indian Engineers, where the many processes involved in the repair and maintenance of engines and wagons will be demonstrated.

(c) Several armoured vehicles of new types. It is asserted that the Trichinopoly Exhibition will provide the greatest and most comprehensive display of armoured fighting vehicles yet seen in this part of India.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CLIV (Batch 1).

10- 7-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	14- 7-43 Pungudi ... 7.00 p.m.
11- 7-43 Kiranur ... 7.00 "	" Satyamangalam... * ... 7.30 "
" Nanjur ... 7.30 "	15- 7-43 Mirattunilai ... 7.00 "
12- 7-43 Puvarasakudi ... 7.00 "	" Arimalam ... 7.30 "
" Venkatakulam ... 7.30 "	16- 7-43 Udayalippatti ... 7.00 "
13- 7-43 Perungalur ... 7.00 "	" Killukottai ... 7.30 "
" Adanakkottai ... 7.30 "	

LECTURE CLV. (Batch 2).

17- 7-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	21- 7-43 College A English ... 10.45 a.m.
18- 7-43 Kudumiyamalai ... 7.00 "	" College B Tamil ... 10.45 "
" Parambur ... 7.30 "	" Kulipirai ... 7.00 p.m.
19- 7-43 Vengalur ... 7.00 "	" Sevalur ... 7.30 "
" Konapattu ... 7.30 "	22- 7-43 Kalamavur ... 7.00 "
20- 7-43 Nachchandupatti ... 7.00 "	" Nallur ... 7.30 "
" Virachchilai ... 7.30 "	23- 7-43 Panayappatti ... 7.00 "
21- 7-43 C. S. M. High School... 10.00 a.m.	" Rangiyam ... 7.30 "
" Rani's High School ... 10.45 "	

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

10- 7-43 Ponnamaravathi.	17- 7-43 Tirumayyam.
11- 7-43 Virachchilai.	18- 7-43 Tittanviduthi.
12- 7-43 Arimalam.	19- 7-43 Mullangurichchi.
13- 7-43 Kudumiyamalai.	20- 7-43 Vadakadu.
14- 7-43 Rayavaram.	21- 7-43 Kilanjilai-Puduppatti.
15- 7-43 Alangudi.	22- 7-43 Kilanilai.
16- 7-43 Pudukkottai.	23- 7-43 Pudukkottai.



PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

JULY 17, 1943

[No. 155

LECTURE CLV.

PUDUKKOTTAI NATIONAL WAR FRONT IN ACTION.

THE PONNAMARAVATHI MONSTER MEETING.

THE RESIDENT'S ROUSING ADDRESS.

Ponnamaravathi was *en fête* on Friday, July 9th, to meet Mr. H. J. TODD, Resident, Madras States, when, during an all too brief tour, he visited this important Nagarattar village to address a crowded and enthusiastic meeting organised by the National War Front. In welcoming him, Mr. V. Rm. Lakshmanan Chettiyar, Chairman of the Reception Committee, referred to the value of the British connection, the loyalty of the State and incidentally, to the timely steps taken by the Administrator, that 'Friend of the ryot' to ease the food situation.

The meeting was noteworthy for more reasons than one, for the large attendance of women, the presence of an able lady-speaker, the announcement of a subscription of over a lakh of rupees for the Defence Loan by the Nagarattars and last but not least, for the rousing speech of the Resident.

"If this is a fair indication of what is going on all over the State" observed the Resident, "then the Darbar and the voluntary helpers are all to be warmly congratulated." The War Loan, he continued, is a safe investment, even if India is invaded, and an effective check on inflation. In England, Italian prisoners of war, who were permitted, under a League Convention, to work on land and earn their wages, preferred to invest their savings in British War Bonds, though they knew that the money would go to the making of bombs to be dropped on their own country. Their view was that their country was foredoomed and the only way of keeping their money safe for the rainy day was to invest it in British bonds. While this was the outlook of the enemy himself, it was superfluous to point out the value of War Loans to the Pudukkottai Public.

The present war was a total war, without distinction between King and peasant, or for the matter of that, between one set of politicians and another. During the Battle of Britain, he was an A. R. P. Warden in London. One morning, after a blitz, when he was attending to his duties, clearing the debris and rescuing people in the bombed area, the King and Queen appeared on the scene and went about consoling and comforting the sufferers.

All sorts of men live in London. There was, for instance, at the time, a Congressman from South Malabar, who was also an A. R. P. Warden. He was attending to an unexploded bomb. When asked why he had come to London to save the lives of Englishmen, his reply was, 'First things first. When war is over there is time enough to urge the claims of independence for India.'

To take another instance, there was the case of Jesudasan, a mere lad of 18 or 19 from Trichinopoly, who was employed in the steamer in which he sailed back to India. The vessel was torpedoed and was sinking. Passengers and crew were being transferred to rescue boats, but Jesudasan would not abandon his post of duty until the last passenger and the last officer had left. There were 45 women and 75 children to save. During the evacuation of the ship, there was no panic, no noise; everyone did his duty. Finally, when one of the rescue boats got stuck, it was Jesudasan who freed it, at the risk of his life. Here is an example of brother-hood, between men of different nationalities, in the presence of a common danger. Here was no caste or creed. It was a case of one for all and all for one, the sole object being to help one another and everyone out of the common danger. It was now more than a year ago that all this happened. Jesudasan, he was happy to add, was now a Lieutenant in the Royal Indian Navy, in charge of a mine-sweeper, somewhere in Persian waters.

Hitler, Mussolini and Tojo, the Resident added, were a menace to democracy, civilization and the world. This was the opinion not only of the Allies but even of many Germans. He knew a German, for instance, a Geologist, who had written a book on Indian minerals—one who had fought for Germany in the last war, but now, hating Hitler like poison, preferred a life of exile in England. Hitler's ambition, said this Geologist-soldier, is world domination, the only obstacle, as he thinks, being a universal faith in God. In Hitler's Germany children are therefore given a Godless education. Once when Hitler visited a school of happy children, he asked 'Who made you happy?' and was disconcerted when straight the reply came that they owed their happiness to God. 'No' screamed Hitler, 'If it is God, will he give you comforts now.' 'No' was the confused answer. 'What God cannot give, I can,' shouted Hitler, producing a packet of sweets from his pocket. This is the New Axis education.

This German Geologist was ordered by Hitler to divorce his wife because she was a Jewess. As he refused he was put in a concentration camp, where he had the misfortune to witness the flogging to exhaustion of an old man by a youth of 17. No wonder the Geologist is now more eager than any other to see the overthrow of Hitler's régime.

So, the duty of everyone, high or low, whatever his race, is to do his or her best for the successful termination of the War. Indian politics can wait. Men do not dispute and quarrel when their village is burning but lend a hand to quench the fire.

THE BATTLE FOR EUROPE.

ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE TO THE POPE.

(Washington, July 10).

By the time this message reaches Your Holiness, a landing in force by U. S. and British troops will have taken place on Italian soil.

Our soldiers have come to rid Italy of Fascism and all its unhappy symbols, and to drive out the Nazi oppressors who are infesting her soil.

There is no need for me to reaffirm that respect for religious beliefs, and for the free exercise of religious worship, is fundamental to our ideals. Churches and religious institutions will, to the extent that it is within our power, be spared the devastations of war during the struggle ahead.

Throughout the period of operations, the neutral status of the Vatican City, as well as of the Papal domains throughout Italy, will be respected. I look forward, as does Your Holiness, to that bright day when the peace of God returns to the world.

We are convinced that this will occur only when the forces of evil, which now hold vast areas of Europe and Asia enslaved, have been utterly destroyed. On that day, we shall joyfully turn our energies from the grim duties of war to the fruitful tasks of reconstruction, in common with all other nations and forces imbued with the spirit of goodwill towards men, and with the help of Almighty God, we will turn our hearts and our minds to the exacting task of building a just and enduring peace on earth.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

10-7-43 to 17-7-43.

Sicily.—Early on Saturday the 10th, Allied forces, British, American and Canadian landed in Sicily along a hundred-mile front, under cover of a heavy bombardment from air and sea. 3,000 vessels were employed in transportation, and para-troops and gliders preceded the landing. The forces which disembarked at several points have linked up and advanced 30 miles inland. The entire district of FLORIDIA has been occupied and the troops are fanning out into the central CATANIA plain. SYRACUSE, LICATA, AVOLO, POZZALLO, ISPICA, NOTO, AUGUSTA, RAGUSA, FLORIDIA, COMISO and NARO have fallen. The Allies are advancing towards AGRIGENTO and a fierce battle is raging east of GELA.

Allied fighters are carrying out protective sweeps over Allied shipping, beaches and the advancing troops. Intermittent enemy attempts to interfere with landings and shipping have been frustrated.

During the course of these attacks on enemy shipping in the Tyrrhenian Sea and elsewhere in the Mediterranean two merchant vessels, two destroyers and 28 aircraft were destroyed and two large troop-ships were probably hit.

Large forces of home-based heavy bombers of the R. A. F. raided TURIN and NAPLES on the Italian mainland.

Russia.—There is nothing particular to report except that the battle of OREL-KURSK-BYELGOROD has passed into the second week, without appreciable results. The German attacks on the BYELGOROD—OREL battlefield have slowed down. The Red Army has made breaches in the German defences at OREL.

Air-War.—1,000 tons of bombs were dropped on COLOGNE on July 8 during its 119th raid. GELSENKIRCHEN was raided on July 9 for the 47th time. The Bethune area was bombed on July 11.

The Pacific.—During the week, the Allies made landings at ZANANA near BAROKO and Rice anchorage near MUNDA. These forces have pierced the Barik River defences. A third force was landed near ROKO, in NEW-GEORGIA. A road-block has been established between MUNDA and BAIROKO. The ENOGAI INLET, N-E of BAIROKO has been taken. Japanese, naval forces, which came near BAIROKO Harbour to land reinforcements, made off on being sighted. In a new naval engagement in the Kula Gulf one Japanese cruiser and 3 destroyers were sunk and 2 other destroyers were probably sunk. According to the latest reports MUBO has fallen.

China.—Japanese troops which invaded HUPIEH have been repulsed. Fighting is proceeding in KOTANG. Patrol clashes in S. ANTWAI are reported. The U. S. Air Force in CHINA bombed Japanese installations and shipping in WHAMPOA Harbour. HAIPHONG, HONGAY and CAMPHA in INDQ-CHINA were raided 5 times.

Burma.—During the past few days British and Indian troops have carried out a successful raid on MAUNGDAW. The enemy were driven out on July 8 and the town was also held for several hours; but after inflicting casualties the invading forces withdrew. Among the places raided from the air were PADU, WATBIT, YWATAUNG, ZIGON, KINU, OYINGATHA, TAODON, NADAUNGHLA, SHWEBO, BUTHIDAUNG, THAUNGARA, AKYAB, SAMPRABUN and MAUNGKAN.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

5—7—43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

Railway engines, sheds and goods trucks
over Northern FRANCE.
Mine sweepers and an armed trawler off
DENHELDER.

Enemy shipping at BOULOGNE
(6 Axis planes shot down and 1 Allied
plane missing).

NIGHT:—

No information available.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Landing grounds in South ITALY.
Targets at MARSALA, LICATA, GERBINI
and SCIACCA (all in Sicily).
Harbour installations at MESSINA (Sicily).
The air-fields at COMISO and BISCARI (Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

A Jap sea-plane base at REKATA BAY
(Santa Isabel Island).
VILA (Kolombangara).
Jap positions at BAIROKO harbour (N. Georgia).
A barge off AROE Island.

The air-field at SALAMAU (N. Georgia).

Jap installations on BALLALE Island
(Shortlands).

6—7—43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY and NIGHT:—

No information.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field at BORITSO (Sicily).

Air-fields in SARDINIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
RUSSIAN Front.

Railway junctions and air-fields behind
the German lines.

FAR EAST.

Jap Naval units in KULA Gulf (Solomons).

BAIROKO harbour (N. Georgia).

Jap air-field at SALAMAU.

7—7—43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

No information about day and night air activity.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy air-fields in SICILY.

Communications in SICILY.

The air-field at MILO (Sicily).

Military objectives at MAZARA, BIZARI,
EMPEDOCLE, COMISO and BORITSO (Sicily).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

The air-fields at SALAMAU (New Guinea) and
VILA (Kolombangara).

BAIROKO harbour (New Guinea).

The air-fields at KAVILI and BALLALE.

The air-field at CAPE GLOUCESTER

(New Britain).

Jap installations at LAE (New Guinea).

Jap positions at BOBDUI.

The air-field at SELARU (Tanimbar Islands).

Railway yards at PADU, WETLET, YWATAUNG,

ZIGONKINU, OYINGATHA, TAODON,

NADAUNGHLA and SHWEBO (Burma).

A river boat near MANDALAY (Burma).

8—7—43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

NIGHT:—

The industrial centre of COLOGNE (Germany).

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

Enemy air-fields and railway targets in Northern
FRANCE.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Air-fields in SICILY and SARDINIA.

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap installations at KELA Point (New Guinea).

A building at FINSCHHAFEN (New Guinea).

VILA (Solomons).

The air-field at GATHELI (Buin-Faisi).

The air-field at KOEPANG (Timor).

Railway junction at THAZI (Burma).

The bridge on the MU River (Burma).

Jap supply dumps at KAMAING and SETON
(Burma).

Storage building at BUTHIDAUNG (Burma).

Army hutments at THAUNGARA (Burma).

Objectives at AKYAB (Burma).

9—7—43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

Targets at ST. OMER (France).

Shipping off the CHERBOURG peninsula.

Locomotives in Northern FRANCE

NIGHT:—

The Central RUHR including GELSENKERCHEN
(Germany).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Axis targets in CRETE

The air-fields at COMISO and BISCARI (Sicily).

Railroad tracks at CALTANISSETTA.

Shipping at PORTO EMPEDOCLE.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at MUNDA (N. Georgia) and
SALAMAU (N. Guinea).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

RUSSIA.

OREL-KURSK-BYELGOROD Sector.

FAR EAST.

Port DARWIN (Australia) (9 Jap planes
shot down; 7 Allied planes missing).

8—7—43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity

RUSSIA.

BYELGOROD area.

KISKA (Aleutians).

Buildings at MAUNGDAW (Burma).

MYITGNE bridge (Burma).

10—7—43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

Air-fields at CAEN, ABBEVILLE (France)
and MAUPERTUS (France).

Targets at ST. OMER (8 Allied planes
missing; 1 Axis aircraft shot down).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Air umbrella over allied shipping off SICILY.

Air-fields in SICILY.

Marshalling yards at CATANIA (Sicily).

Enemy shipping off CRETE.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Light cruiser and destroyers near N. GEORGIA.

Targets at KOLOMBANGARA and
GANANGGA Islands (Solomons).

MADAUNG and SALAMAU (N. Guinea).

Military objectives at AKYAB (Burma).

Rivercraft on the IRRAWADDY (Burma).

PROME-TAUNGUP Road (Burma).

11—7—43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:—

Several power stations in the BETHUNE area
in FRANCE.

Locomotives, tugs, barges and lock gates
in BELGIUM and FRANCE.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Air-fields at REGGIO DI CALABRIA and
VIBO VALENTIA (Italy).

Shipping off SICILY.

Air-fields in SICILY.

Air combats over CRETE.

Air support to allied ground troops advancing in
SICILY.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Front.

FAR EAST.

Penfoel air-field at KOEPANG (Timor).

The sea plane base at TABERFANE (Aroe
Island).

The air-field at BABO (Dutch New Guinea).

The air-fields at RABAU (New Britain).

Supply barges in HUON Gulf.

Enemy positions in the SALAMAU area
(New Guinea).

The air-field at BOUGAINVILLE (Solomons).

MUNDA (N. Georgia).

VILA (Kolombangara).

KISKA (Aleutians).

AKYAB (Burma).

MAWLAIK (Burma).

Steamers on the IRRAWADDY (Burma).

Targets in BUTHIDAUNG area (Burma).

FAR EAST.
RENDOVA Island (Solomons).
 9—7—43 (Friday).
BRITAIN.
 No enemy air activity.
RUSSIA.
BYELGOROD area.
FAR EAST.
 Air combats over the Central SOLOMONS.
 10—7—43 (Saturday).
BRITAIN.
 No information.
RUSSIA.
KURSK region.
FAR EAST.
 Allied positions in the SALAMAUA area
 near NASSAU BAY (N. Guinea).

11—7—43 (Sunday).
BRITAIN.
 No enemy air activity.
RUSSIA.
 Russian air-fields behind the
 OREL—KURSK—BYELGOROD area.
FAR EAST.
 No information.
 12—7—43 (Monday).
BRITAIN.
 A town on the South-east coast of ENGLAND.
RUSSIA.
BYELGOROD area.
FAR EAST.
RENDOVA Island (Solomons).

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE DESCENT ON SICILY. The Battle for EUROPE has begun. The die has been cast and the long-heralded Second Front has been opened at last. The amphibian operations foretold by Mr. Churchill were started when Allied Forces, British, American and Canadian were landed along the length of a hundred miles on the coast of SICILY in the early hours of the dawn on Saturday, July 10. First, airborne troops and gliders were dropped in the enemy's rear. 'It might have been a picnic party', said an eye-witness, who was present at the take-off, 'the troops chatted, laughed, smoked, chewed gum and cracked jokes.'

1,000 Allied planes bombarded the coastal defences, and 3,000 vessels of different nationalities, but chiefly British and American, made the landing. The Royal Navy silenced the shore batteries, while mine-sweepers cleared the anchorages. A few Italian E-boats in the vicinity made off on sighting the armada. Despite the difficulties of weather and a swell the timing and the technique of landing were perfect.

Bridgeheads have been secured, the beaches are firmly held, and the troops which landed at different points have linked up and advanced some 30 miles already. The great naval base of SYRACUSE, and the important harbour-towns of LICATA, AVOLA, POZALLO, ISPICA, NOTO, COMISO, AUGUSTA and NARO have been taken.

The British 8th Army is attacking CATANIA, the key port of SICILY and infiltrating towards MESSINA.

Axis resistance is slowly increasing. The main body of enemy forces, about 300,000 Italians and 100,000 Germans, has not yet joined issue. The country is mountainous, and all Allied supplies must come by sea and air. It is an operation of great complexity and considerable hazard.

The enemy has greater difficulties. There are only two railways to the 'heel' of ITALY, both of which are open to attack from the air. The Straits of MESSINA are controlled by the Royal Navy.

The blow has been struck, as it looks at the right moment, when the enemy has weakened but has not yet accepted defeat. He is just now speculating how to get out of a tight corner, by building reserves and imposing delays, hoping, meanwhile, to profit

by any division in the Allied camp or error in Allied strategy. But a Cannae is possible only when there is a Varro. If there is a Varro now it is Hitler, the amateur strategist who has brought the Axis to its present plight. The Allies have struck truly and well at Hitler's underside, while his throat is in the deadly grasp of the Russian bear. Sicilian mountains, like Hitler's U-boats, may delay but cannot prevent a victory.

The invasion is only the forerunner of the Battle of EUROPE. The Axis Powers know it. ITALY, anxious to defend her homeland, still keeps some of her divisions in YUGOSLAVIA, ALBANIA and GREECE, fearing an attack on the BALKANS. Mr. Stimson's visit to LONDON is believed to be in connection with new operations. The liberation of GREECE is reported to have received priority of consideration. Speaking at a dinner in honour of Gen. Giraud, President Roosevelt observed, 'I tell you, Gen. Giraud, that we will have the opportunity of going in different directions, and that we have not forgotten that FRANCE is one of the directions, and the ultimate objective is not merely to deliver the people of FRANCE in the southern parts but the people of N. FRANCE—PARIS.'

THE PUZZLE OF THE EASTERN FRONT.

What is happening on the Russian Front? The German offensive started in 3 directions on July 6 and 7 has dwindled. The German High Command has changed from Saul to Paul. Instead of attacking they have changed to the defensive, and declare that it is the Russians, not they, that launched the offensive. What is it—a feint, a swindle, or a defeat?

The large number of tanks, planes and men that the Germans have thrown into the fray, and the months of preparation which preceded the stroke, show that the German aim was initially to strike a telling blow. If the Germans belittle the operations now it may be because of their lack of success, or they may wish to get the best of both worlds; to advertise success, if they succeed, or to play down a Russian Victory, if it comes to that.

The configuration of the battle-line in the present scene of operations is that of a reversed S—that is, S. The upper bulge pointing eastward is OREL held by the Germans, from which they hope to advance on MOSCOW. The lower bulge is KURSK, the salient which the Russians hold and from which they hope to advance on KHARKOV. It is therefore possible that the German attack is only a counter-offensive, to ward off or forestall a Russian thrust held in readiness.

It is also possible that the German drive, even as an offensive, has only a limited objective, that of pinching out the KURSK salient, so dangerous to their safety, at a time when their forces may have to be transferred to the West or South, in view of new fronts opening.

As time passes, indications are increasing that the Germans may adopt a defensive policy, to consolidate their rear and communications in occupied RUSSIA. One such indication is the conciliation of the UKRAINE, and the newly started drive against the guerillas.

But whatever the motive, it is certain that the German attacks, so far, have been expensive, without a return. The German reports of the battle indicate disappointments. It is however safer to assume that the Germans are still strong enough to throw their weight if the Russians happened to weaken at any point, while there is also every possibility that if the German casualties continue at the present heavy rate they may break off the operations on some face-saving pretext.

IS HISTORY GOING TO REPEAT ITSELF?

'The U-boat war has been lost. Do not sail in the floating coffins. Let us end the war. Down with Hitler'.
this is the text of leaflets distributed recently in KIEL.

Matinies in KIEL, rioting in MUNICH and strikes in the RUHR are reported. Is History going to repeat itself? The naval mutiny at KIEL in the last war was the forerunner of the surrender of Imperial GERMANY. On Nov. 3, 1918 BERLIN ordered the Imperial Navy to join battle with the British Grand Fleet in the North Sea. The German Navy refusing, mutiny broke out, and revolution followed. On Nov. 9, William II abdicated.

We do not wish to suggest, however, that GERMANY is on the brink of a revolt just now. The Prussian junkers and militarists will still hold on, and Nazi administration will no doubt try to put down unrest ruthlessly, but what we mean is, that the unrest now reported from KIEL, MUNICH and the RUHR is symptomatic, and may be the simmerings of a disorder which may end only with the overthrow of the Nazi régime.

THE SHIPPING WAR.

Broadcasting on July 7, Admiral Luetzow lamented, 'the battle of the U-boats has become very hard. We have to endure much grief. The enemy has got the upper hand. He is trying to develop his means of defence still further'. Admiral Doenitz, we are told, has refused to risk his U-boats in the Mediterranean, and the Italian navy, for its own reasons, has declined to interfere with Allied shipping in the same sea, with the result that not only the Allied landing in SICILY was uncontested but the whole Mediterranean route is now open for Allied convoys. The Mediterranean route being 9,000 miles shorter than the Cape route, the control of the Mediterranean has resulted in a saving of 2,000,000 tons of shipping.

Not a merchantship, as Mr. Churchill pointed out in his Guildhall speech, was sunk by U-boat action in June. The reaction on sailings has been immediate. War risk insurance rates have fallen for sailings from AMERICA to INDIA. BRAZIL has cut down her coastal shipping rates by a third. Now, for the first time, bottoms exceed cargo. This means, militarily, that the munitions, that have accumulated at production centres for lack of shipping, can now be increasingly transported. The coffee of BRAZIL, the tea of CEYLON, the sugar of CUBA and the cocoa of S. AMERICA, rotting in warehouses for want of shipping, can now be exported. In the words of the Secretary of the Research Institute of AMERICA, 'the hardened arteries of international trade are being rapidly softened, and the blood which sustains many of the small nations is starting to flow again. The tide has turned, and the waves are literally washing up on countless shores mounting supplies of meat, potatoes, flour, milk, cheese, eggs, and wheat, of tanks, motors, machine-guns and planes.'

The change that has thus come over the sea front is one of the marvels of the war. The U-boat was launched as a weapon to starve BRITAIN. There were grievous shipping losses at first, in the Caribbean, the N. Atlantic and the Arctic waters. In those critical days, we remember, the Prime Minister was the target of incessant sniping by the woe-mongers and the Shinwellites, as though the menace could be mastered by a legislative vote. Now has come the turn of the Prime Minister to point the finger of scorn at his revilers. This, it would seem, was the reason why he made the U-boat the subject of his opening remarks in his Guildhall address.

THE TRIPLE-SEVENTH.

The Sino-Japanese war entered on its seventh year on July 7. In China, months and dates are shown by numbers thus: September 4—Nine-Four and January 6—One-Six. Consequently, the seventh year of the war happening to fall on Seven-Seven has been called the Triple-Seventh. It is significant that while CHINA celebrated the anniversary, JAPAN did not. The reason is apparent. For JAPAN it is 6 years of shame and humiliation; for CHINA it is 6 years of heroism. After 6 years, the prospects of victory for the Chinese were never brighter and the hour of liberation of a hoary civilisation from the clutches of barbarism never nearer. Torn by domestic feuds she has held an unscrupulous foe at bay for 6 years. Lacking weapons, Chinese strategy devised the guerilla warfare, delaying action, and a retirement to the mountains in the interior. With the Revolution Modern CHINA was born, and with it a new life came to her. Old factories were shifted and new factories were built. A new social order sprang up. The results of these changes are now apparent. Her 6th year has been a success. The Japanese drive in CHEKIANG-KIANGSI has been foiled, the 'rice-bowl' has been saved, the Japanese have been driven from the Yangtse, and CHINA itself is being converted into a base of operations against JAPAN. For the first time, in the recent operations, Chinese armies fought under their own air-umbrella. CHINA is no longer Laputa, a nation of philosophers, plunged in thought. She looks to action. She has stayed the barbarous hordes of the FAR EAST, and with her 450 millions bids fair to take an important part in saving the world for herself and humanity. Fittingly have the United Nations shown their appreciation in their recent tributes of praise. Mr. Churchill's message to Chiang Kai-Shek is typical of the rest:—

"At the opening of China's seventh year of war, I send you the greetings of the British people. Since the day 18 months ago, when China and Britain became Allies in name as well as in spirit, our two countries have been through many vicissitudes together. Now, with the victories in N. Africa, and the successes on the Yangtse, we have tangible evidence, in the East and the West, of what is to come.

"Neither Great Britain nor China is very likely to underestimate the difficulties and immense battles which still lie before us. The pattern of events is now becoming clear; the initiative is being wrested from the grasp of the enemy; and we can look forward with confident hope to the time when all over the world the aggressors are driven to unconditional surrender.

"Then, when we face the gigantic task of reconstruction, and the civilised arts can once again be practised, I have no doubt that Anglo-Chinese collaboration, tested and tempered in the fire of war, will play its rightful part in the solution of the problems of peace."

THE BATTLE FOR BASES.

The Austro-American drive on MUNDA and SALAMAUA continues slowly and steadily. Japanese efforts to reinforce their garrisons have been thwarted by the naval engagements in the Gulf of Kula. Allied naval and air superiority has been established in the area, and TOKYO is now left with the alternative of risking a major sea action or abandon her S. W. Pacific bases one after another. Last year, it was GUADALCANAR, BUNA and GONA. Now it will be MUNDA, SALAMAUA, LAE and RABAU, but with a difference.

The campaigns of last year, though tactically offensive were strategically defensive their main aim was the defence of AUSTRALIA rather than an attack on JAPAN.

After GUADALCANAR, but for an attack on RUSSELL Island, the tactical offensive died down for lack of men and supplies. But the interval was not effortless altogether. During the year, bases like NEW CALEDONIA, the NEW HEBRIDES, TULAGI, GUADALCANAR and RUSSELL Islands were developed; troops were rested and reinforced and new air bases were built.

The present offensive has proceeded from these bases; and is gradually changing from an offensive-defensive to a defensive-offensive. Incidentally a force has been built up, large enough to neutralise the enemy's power in the S. W. Pacific, and the bases already captured and to be captured give a choice of routes to JAPAN, the ultimate Allied objective.

BRIBERY.

JAPAN is reported to have made a present to SIAM—

'ceded' is the word—of KENTUNG and MONG PAN

in the SHAN STATES, and of KEDAH, PERLIS, KELANTAN, and TRENGANNU in Unfederated MALAYA. It is a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul. Asked in the House of Commons, Mr. Anthony Eden reminded his hearers that it was British territory. What is JAPAN's motive behind the present move, to reward a faithful ally, to placate Pibil Songram, who lately quarrelled with them, or, as seems more likely, to bribe a neighbour who might prove a turn-coat during the coming Allied offensive? Whatever may be the answer, nobody will be deceived by the gift. These SHAN STATES were ceded to BRITAIN in 1909 by SIAM as of no use. Now they will be a liability rather than an asset to SIAM. The 'ceded' MALAY STATES are poorer still.

THE FOOD FRONT.

Food conferences at DELHI and debates all over the country,

show that the food problem has not only reached an acute stage now but its solution is by no means easy. It is evident that the law of supply and demand, sufficient in normal conditions, has failed. The establishment of free zones, as at CUTTACK, has not been successful. Some form of control is necessary if the nation is not to suffer from insufficiency of food and clothing. The drift is towards rationing, that is towards Governments becoming shop-keepers directly or through agents. Not only prices but quantities also will be fixed. But let us not forget that quality is an elusive factor. In the absence of quality the rationing shops will be deserted. Rationing also means a sufficiency of commodity, and the building-up of large stocks to last for months, huge go-downs, and a transport system that will guarantee unfailing replenishment. But after other attempts fail, the last resort is rationing, if people must live and not famish, and if the industrial population, so necessary for the war effort, is not to be driven from urban to rural areas.

AN UNSUNG SAGA.

As we contemplate these difficult times, our meed of praise

and sympathy goes to the ungrudging poor, whose silent endurance and fortitude constitute an unsung heroism. Armed with an age-old philosophy, they compare the worse days of famine which their forefathers knew with the brighter days to come after the enemy has been vanquished, and have cheerfully reconciled themselves to the present hardships. Many habits, which were once necessities have

now been relinquished—tea and tobacco for instance. They lie down with the lamb and forego the luxury of a lamp. The goodwoman pounds her own paddy. Weddings and festivities are celebrated with austerity. The problem of clothing is solving itself by the operation of the law of diminishing lengths inversely to the prices.

This is the home front of the poor, heroic, steady and confident of victory.

WAR EFFORT IN PUDUKKOTTAI.

A recent notification provides for the control of cotton cloth and yarn. Under the order, Government may fix the maximum prices both ex-factory and retail, and prescribe the markings to be compulsorily made on the products, after 31st July, 1943. Cloth and yarn, so marked must be despatched from the place of manufacture within a month of the date of packing in the case of full bales, and within 45 days, in the case of bales not in full; nor may they lie at a place, other than that of manufacture, after 90 days from the date of packing.

All Cloth and yarn so marked shall be finally disposed of by retail sale within 6 months of the date of packing.

No cloth or yarn manufactured before the 1st August, 1943 may remain in full bales after the 31st August, and all such cloth and yarn must be finally disposed of by retail sale not later than 31st October, 1943.

Manufacturers and dealers must declare their stocks held on 31st July, 1943 not later than August 15, 1943.

No person other than a dealer or manufacturer will be permitted to possess any stock in excess of normal requirements. A manufacturer's stock will be limited to 3 months production if cloth, and to 2 months' production, if yarn.

THE SINO-JAPANESE WAR.

SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY—7—7—43.

MESSAGES.

1. Mr. ANTHONY EDEN.

There is in our hearts a fixed and grim resolve to teach Japan, once and for all, the lesson 'that co-prosperity' is not achieved by cruelty and oppression, and that he who draws the sword shall perish by it. We have a duty towards our Allies, and in particular, our Chinese Ally, to destroy the present Jap menace in the Far East, and to join in making a contribution to create a better order in which all just men may live in peace. Without such an order and such standards, the peaceful development of commerce, which always has been the chief interest of British policy in the Far East, is impossible. I have no doubt that our united efforts will bring about the defeat of Japan. But we, in this country, have no illusions about the magnitude of the task.

In Europe the tide of aggression is ebbing. Our great bomber offensive is the prelude to heavier blows.

Every thrust against the Axis in Europe brings us nearer to the day when the full force of the United Nations can be brought to bear against Japan.

2. LORD AILWYN.

In China to-day was an atmosphere of discipline, quiet confidence, a sense of achievement, a steady march, throughout every section of the people, towards progress, and improvement and development of the country's resources. Above all, was the spirit of unity, and indomitable determination to endure until the hated aggressor was finally ousted.

3. FIELD MARSHALL LORD WAVELL.

I am proud that the duties I have been called upon to perform have enabled me to see, at first hand, something of China's great qualities and have permitted me to make friends among her brave people. I rejoice that, as Viceroy-designate, I shall be able to continue that association. The associations between India and China are close. They have shared dangers that make for mutual confidence and understanding, and I am sure that during the coming years of my Viceroyalty I shall see firm bonds forged between the two great Asiatic peoples.

4. Mr. JOHN CURTIN.

With the resolute maintenance of the spirit of resistance in your country and the increasing strength of the United Nations, it is my fervent hope that the night of China's long ordeal will soon pass.

5. Mr. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW.

When I was born China was the despair of the civilised world. Now that I am old, she is its hope. Do not let the hope be disappointed!

6. Mr. LLOYD GEORGE.

The resistance of China to Japanese aggression marked the beginning of this world war of rapacity by great nations. It will, please God, mark its end.

AN ISOLATIONIST'S VIEW OF THE WAR.

(SENATOR TAFT'S ADDRESS AT CINCINNATI).

(From *Mysindia* June 12, 1943).

My own belief is that the United States went to war in order that this country and its people might enjoy peace now, and in the days to come; in order that they might be left free to work out the destiny of the American Republic. We did not go to war to establish liberty throughout the world, except as such a world condition might affect our liberty. We did not go to war against Japan when they attacked China. We did not go to war with Germany when they attacked Poland or Czechoslovakia. War came only when our people came to believe that aggression was so dangerous, and so likely to be successful, that our own safety was threatened. That led, first, to aid to Britain, and, finally, it led to war itself. I was opposed to entering the war, because I did not believe that aggression in Europe was so dangerous as to threaten our own safety, even if it

attempted an attack upon us. As I analyse the public opinion which led us gradually to war, it was an opinion that disagreed with this view. Perhaps it was correct. When Japan attacked Hawaii, there was no course except to enter the war against aggression all over the world. Now that war has been undertaken, our people are determined to carry it through to a severe punishment of the aggressor, not only for our present safety but to discourage aggression for all time to come. They are determined further to attempt again an organization of the world which will prevent aggression in the future, and ensure peace for the people of this country by ensuring peace throughout the world.

MILITARY CONSIDERATIONS FIRST.

If I am right in my analysis of our reason for going to war, how should that affect our conduct of the war? I believe, first, that everything must be sacrificed to winning the war. That is the only way aggression can be punished, and it is a prerequisite to any future planning in which we participate. I do not understand those who criticise our policy in Africa or in Spain. It was estimated by the War Department that the capture of Dakar by attack might cost 50,000 casualties and many months of delay. Surely it was well worth our while to make a deal with Darlan, whether we liked his politics or didn't like his politics. We are shipping gasoline to Spain in order to obtain more chrome and other minerals from Spain and prevent their going to Germany. What difference does it make if Franco is a Fascist or a Communist, so long as the net result of the transaction is a direct aid to our military effort? There is a school of Russian sympathizers who object to our short-wave broadcast policy of trying to separate Italy from Germany, because it slants in the direction of a separate peace with Italy. If we could take Italy out of the war on reasonable terms, I believe we should do so to-morrow, Italy and its 'opera bouffe' Mussolini have never been a real menace, and they have suffered a severe penalty now and for their future. Such a peace might well shorten the war against Germany by a year in time and half a million casualties. Surely the military considerations outweigh every political consideration.

I regret the attitude of those who insist on interfering with the British handling of the situation in India. That handling may be right or it may be wrong. But in the first place, the British are in control of India, and we cannot interfere with that control without dissension and disunity. In the second place, they have been in control of India for several hundred years, and they probably know a good deal more about the proper way to handle the situation in the present emergency than any American novelist or American professor. The important thing is to prevent any Japanese entrance into India, and make India a solid base for operations in China and against Burma.

IS IT A CRUSADE?

On the other hand, I have just as little sympathy with those who hesitate to send aid to Russia simply because the Russian Government is a Communist dictatorship. That Communist army has done more to bring about a German defeat than any other army in the world, and for that Russian aid we shall be eternally grateful.

The theory of those who criticise our course in Africa, Spain and India is that we are not merely interested in winning the war, but that we are engaged in a crusade to spread the ideals of the New Deal throughout the world; that we are battling to establish everywhere the principles of the Atlantic Charter; that as our armies proceed they must carry the 'four freedoms' on their banners to every continent and island in the world.

I do not believe that any war can be justified as a crusade. If we prevail in it is undoubtedly true that the principles for which we stand will be stronger, and that we will have an opportunity, by example, to show that they should be adhered to by all free people. But if we admit that the United States can properly go to war to impose our ideas of freedom on the rest of the world, then it seems we must admit that the Soviets have a right to crusade to impose Communism on the rest of the world, because they believe Communism to be the final solution of the world's problems. We would even have to admit that Hitler, however deluded he might be, had a right to crusade to impose his ideas of National Socialism on the rest of the world. A crusade is by its very nature an aggressive act. Our purpose in this war is to punish and abolish aggression. Even if a crusade could be successful, its success would be far out-balanced by the terrific horror, the terrific sacrifices, the terrific destruction of war. If war can be justified as a crusade, the world will face perpetual war. The whole crusade idea is absolutely inconsistent with the purposes for which this war is being fought.

What are the four freedoms? The first two, freedom of speech and freedom of religion, have to do with the internal government of the country in which the individual lives. Freedom from fear and freedom from want have also been construed as rights we are fighting to guarantee to every individual throughout the world, no matter what his government may be. I believe the last two freedoms are reasonable goals as applied to the situation of entire nations in relation to other nations; but if the four freedoms are construed as freedoms for individuals everywhere in the world, we would certainly be engaged in war from now till doomsday before those goals could be obtained. We would not only have to defeat our enemies and establish governments in those countries with American constitutions and New Deal Administrations, but we would have to interfere with the governments of our allies. This is no war of democracies against dictatorships. There is no freedom of religion or freedom of speech in Russia. There are benevolent dictators in Brazil, in Cuba, and in China. There was a dictator in Poland. In Greece, which made one of the most magnificent defences against Mussolini that has been seen in this war, the people fought under a dictator, Metaxas, who was so benighted as to prohibit the reading of Plato's Republic.

FREEDOM FROM WANT.

Surely we are not going to interfere with the internal governments of Russia and China and other nations, in order to insist upon all of their citizens enjoying freedom of speech and freedom of religion. If so, we will have to have a permanent army a good deal larger than 11,000,000 men, and we will have to suspend for all time any renewal of freedom in the United States. It is absolutely impossible for one country to dictate the internal organization of another country.

When we come to freedom from want, it is even more impossible to give any assurance to the peoples of the world. I was recently in Puerto Rico, and saw a condition of abject poverty among thousands of people after 15 years of American rule. Under New Deal auspices, in 1935 and 1936, the Puerto Rico Reconstruction Administration spent \$ 100,000,000 to make a new world out of Puerto Rico and assure them perpetual freedom from want. In spite of that expenditure, and \$ 200,000,000 more poured in since 1932, there is little result apparent to the casual visitor, with the exception of a few public works which don't do the slum dweller the slightest good. There are 2,000,000 people in Puerto Rico on an island which cannot possibly support that number

poverty and unemployment can be abolished. Let us devote ourselves to abolishing poverty and unemployment in the United States before we distribute milk to every Hottentot.

THE INNER AND OUTER DEFENCES OF EUROPE.

(The Times May 12, 1943).

SEA AND AIR POWER IN INVASION.

From the North Cape to the Aegean the enemy has been busily fortifying the Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts. This is not a new process: work on the French coast in the neighbourhood of the Straits of Dover began immediately after the Germans had reached it. It has, however, quickened considerably since the balance began to swing against the Axis, and the prospect of invasion turned what had been formerly only a reasonable precaution into an urgent necessity. The strongest defences are now probably those of Holland, Belgium, and France, especially where they lie within range of British based single-seater fighter aircraft; but those of Sicily may approach those of the Pas de Calais itself. They include minefields—in the water and on beaches—heavily protected coast-defence artillery, heavy and light anti-aircraft artillery, barbed wire, anti-tank obstacles, road-blocks, machine gun casemates, and entrenchments.

REASSURANCE.

The Germans have not been modest about the strength of these defences, and have indeed taken the unusual course of displaying it to Press correspondents. Their object in so doing can only have been to reassure their people and their satellites, who are bewildered by the turn affairs have taken, though a secondary aim may have been to impress the allies. There can be no doubt that the work has been done thoroughly and competently. At most important points the coast defences are likely to provide means for a stiff resistance, and their rupture may prove costly. Yet if the length of the European coastline be taken into consideration, it will appear that the notion of heavy and continuous fortification all along it, in which the Germans want us to believe, is greatly exaggerated. The fortifications may be immensely strong at the most vulnerable and accessible points; at others they will be very much less so; and over long stretches they will not exist, though the greater part of these may lie within the range of a gun or even a battery.

The coast defences constitute the outer *enceinte*. There is an inner fortress, which does not cover France, or Germany's nominally equal partner Italy, but does include her subordinate partner Hungary. Its defences are provided by the "West Wall," the Rhine and the Black Forest, the Alps, the Dinaric Alps, the Balkans, the Carpathians, and several systems of artificial fortifications behind the Russian front. Were Germany to be driven inside this keep she would still not lack the means to maintain the struggle. Yet

I do not believe that any war can be justified as a crusade. If we prevail in the war, it is undoubtedly true that the principles for which we stand will be stronger, and that we will have an opportunity, by example, to show that they should be adhered to by all free people. But if we admit that the United States can properly go to war to impose our ideas of freedom on the rest of the world, then it seems we must admit that the Soviets have a right to crusade to impose Communism on the rest of the world, because they believe Communism to be the final solution of the world's problems. We would even have to admit that Hitler, however deluded he might be, had a right to crusade to impose his ideas of National Socialism on the rest of the world. A crusade is by its very nature an aggressive act. Our purpose in this war is to punish and abolish aggression. Even if a crusade could be successful, its success would be far out-balanced by the terrific horror, the terrific sacrifices, the terrific destruction of war. If war can be justified as a crusade, the world will face perpetual war. The whole crusade idea is absolutely inconsistent with the purposes for which this war is being fought.

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at any reasonable standard of living. But if we can't solve freedom from want in Puerto Rico, how could we expect to solve the problem in China and India, with twice as many people as the resources of the country can support on a decent standard of living? In fact, we haven't solved the problem of freedom from want in the United States, and as yet we cannot even furnish an example to the world as to how poverty and unemployment can be abolished. Let us devote ourselves to that problem in the United States before we distribute milk to every Hottentot.

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just as seizure of some of the outworks afforded the attacker of one of the old fortresses a great material as well as moral advantage, so a strong footing in western France, or Italy, or Greece, or better still in two of them, would intensify the threat to the inner fortress and afford opportunity for surprise assaults upon it.

TACTICAL RESERVES.

These defences, natural and artificial, are very powerful, but their value depends largely upon the strength of the tactical and strategic reserves and of the air forces behind them. In essence, every defensive position represents a hide; and even a thick hide—that is, a deep position—can be pierced within a relatively short time. It is the tactical reserves which have the function of sealing the breaches; the strategic reserves must be called in to defeat a strong attack and to expel the attacker. The tactical reserves will probably have to stand to the forces in the coast defences in the proportion of two to one. In emergencies small numbers of the coast defence forces, drawn from other sectors, may be used as tactical reserves; but they are virtually fortress troops, to a large extent armed with fixed weapons, so that, apart from the risk of moving them, their employment can only be on a limited scale. When we begin to measure the length of coastline held, and consider that two out of every three men holding it must be mobile troops disposed at key points in rear, we begin to see that, strong as is the German situation, the problem is by no means easy. With far more troops in proportion to coastline, this country did not find it so when it was preparing to resist invasion.

As regards strategic reserves, this country's problem was also simpler than that of Germany because distances were relatively short. German strategic reserves might have to move from the Rhineland to southern Italy, and they could not all be sent south while there was a threat to France. Moreover, it is by no means certain that all the divisions now held in Germany itself are as mobile and as well equipped as those situated on the active or potentially active fronts. Much, perhaps all, depends upon the strength of the German strategic reserves and upon their dispositions. One of the most vital tasks confronting the allies must be that of limiting the numbers thrown in at the decisive points, by means of deception, feints, and interruption of communications.

The biggest problem of all in invasion is that of shipping. It has been stated that 2,000,000 tons were used in the expedition to French North Africa, that is the equivalent of 500 ships of 4,000 tons apiece. These transports and supply ships were loaded in accordance with the requirements of the forces for landings in face of opposition. It is the least economical method, because in a completely strategic move the loading of stores is much tighter. Equipment is for the most part packed in convenient cases, and a great deal of it now comes from the factory designed to be broken down to save space on shipboard. All combined operations, however, involve tactical loading, however expensive, and every invasion is necessarily a combined operation. On the other hand, no continental invasion need now require a voyage under tactical loading as long as those carried out by the forces which landed in North Africa, because it would start from bases already stocked nearer the scene of action.

There will be losses in shipping, perhaps very heavy losses. But there seems no reason why a large proportion of the ships should not make several trips even as part of the tactical operation. If all has gone well, and a deep bridgehead with a workable port

or ports has been secured, strategic loading would be practicable at least in some cases later on. That the convoy escorts would have to be heavy and complete goes without saying, but again the relatively short distances become a favourable factor.

THE THIRD ELEMENT.

Then there is the third element, the air, meaning protection at sea, protection during landing, protection for subsequent operations, and for the ports and lines of communication continuously. From this point of view the most suitable landing sites are those which can be covered by fighter air-craft—as the enemy is also well aware. Where this is impossible, air-craft carriers will have to be employed while landing grounds are seized. But many of the possible allied objectives, while outside the operational range of fighters, are well within their range of flight for an outward run only. In such cases they could be flown straight from their own airfields as soon as the captured landing grounds were ready for them. In the capture of these, airborne troops may play a part as well as in "jumping" the coast defences.

German fighter strength is exceedingly formidable in the west as well as in the Mediterranean. It may be less widely known that the enemy has by no means denuded himself of bomber strength in the west, even though for the moment he is employing little of it against the United Kingdom. It can be hardly be doubted that he is saving it as a precaution against just such allied combined operations as have been envisaged above, hoping to damage the bridgehead, smash the port facilities and shipping making use of them, and generally cripple the power of the expedition, especially during the crucial period when it is recovering its wind after the exertions of a forced landing. The best counter to these tactics is speed in the organisation of the new air bases and of anti-air craft defences, and that can be achieved only by the most meticulous preparation.

GOVERNING FACTORS.

An attempt has been made to set out some of the factors which must govern the decision to invade the Continent. It cannot be said that one objective is preferable to another, because that depends upon the resources and dispositions on either side, though it can be said that, if resources were overwhelmingly in allied favour, northern France would provide the best landing-places. Looking at the problem through the enemy's eyes, the strategic reserve is vital. Suppose for the sake of argument that this consists of 45 divisions, the whole situation would be altered if the enemy were enabled to withdraw 15 or 20 more divisions from the Russian front. It might then be that the allies would have to proceed by slow steps, securing first of all, say, a bridgehead in southern Italy. The same applies to air strength. Yet, the problem is by no means insoluble. Defence of such an area as the enemy holds at present is barely within his means now, and in the long run may prove beyond him.

BITER BIT.

Neutral observers latterly have been freely expressing their opinions about the hollowness of German protests against Allied bombing, and they have been contrasting the cool and purposeful manner in which the R. A. F. offensive against Germany has

attacks on London in September, 1940. These are some of the German comments on those days which neutral observers now quote:—

"Devouring fires and immense palls of smoke spread the misery of the dying British capital. It is a symbol for the destruction of the whole world. Should England continue to resist, the German *Luftwaffe* will not leave one wall standing."

A few days later a German radio eye-witness said: "London can be said to offer a sight of terrifying beauty as our bombers approach their objective. So terrible was the scene that we felt acutely how good it was to be up in a plane. Eight million Londoners are facing destruction or starvation".

On September 20 the *Voelkischer Beobachter* carried the gloating headlines: "Increased fury of German attacks on London: Huge fires: London shops in ruins: Huge casualty lists"; and the next day: "Hail of bombs on all parts of London: Londoners live like rats underground"; and later still: "More than 100,000 homeless in London: Annihilation of most important district in London is only the beginning".

Recalling these and other similar outbursts from the German Radio and Press, neutral observers point out that the present R. A. F. offensive is all the more impressive since it is not accompanied by any such hysteria. Britain, they stress, with her 100,000 casualties from air attacks, has simply made up her mind to finish the job by resolutely setting about the task of destroying Axis war-making industries.

THE CHUNGKING SPIRIT.

Hawthorne Cheng.

Chungking is often referred to as one of the world's most bombed capitals. Chungking residents have become so much inured to bombing that they are no longer startled at alarms. But bombing has not been the only thing to make life hard. There is the Scylla of the depreciation in the purchasing power of the Chinese dollar, and the Charybdis of the increase of commodity prices.

Come what may, Chungking people carry on. Under most hazardous and difficult circumstances, they carry on with increasing vigour and stamina. In London, the slogan after each bombing is "business as usual". Chungking goes a step further. Its slogan is "life as unusual".

THE SECRET.

What is the secret about this unusual life in Chungking? A recent British visitor hit the right word. "Everybody here smiles," he commented, puzzled. Yes! "Smiles" is the right word underlying life in Chungking—they just take it with a smile. They have learned to co-operate with the irresistible—co-operate but not compromise. With this spirit, co-operative but uncompromising, they face life's hardships, chin up, and eventually turn stumbling blocks into stepping stones.

thousands of years up to to-day.

A MORAL FORCE.

In the Western Chow Era, 1027-771 B. C., Chungking was the capital of the State of Pa. Once Pa was besieged by the forces of an aggressive neighbour and General Pa asked the feudal lord of another neighbouring State for help. The latter consented to send troops on the condition that three cities of Pa must be conceded to him as reward. When the siege was lifted, the three cities were demanded. "If I give you the three cities", General Pa told his benefactor, "I shall be unfaithful to my people; if not, I shall break my promise to you. So the only thing I can do is to die." With that General Pa unsheathed his sword and killed himself.

That spirit to die rather than yield still exists. General Pa's tomb on the Seven-Star Mount has existed up to this day as one of the most important landmarks of Chungking. It is more than a landmark. It is a moral force by which Chungking, the nerve centre of China at war, faces the present unprecedented crisis triumphantly.

SPIRIT OF ENDURANCE.

Thus Chungking manages to overcome its difficulties. Through the worst bombing days of 1939, 1940 and 1941, it lived and thrived, not so much with pursuit and fighter planes and anti-aircraft guns, as with an ever-hardening spirit of endurance and perseverance, plus a good sense of humour. For every old house, shop, factory, school or Government office building bombed, a new one was always built post-haste.

In some cases, Chinese architecture has reverted from the reinforced concrete to the primitive age of bamboo and mud. It is the work to be done that counts, and during air raids work of office, of factory and of school was often done in the dugouts. In the meantime, people continued to get married and new generations continued to arrive. Weddings were solemnised and children born in shelters during the black-out hours.

COST OF LIVING.

The cost of living in Chungking has increased considerably. The consequent difficulties, however, are all relative rather than absolute in character. The expenses for clothing, eating, lodging and travelling can all be reduced to the minimum.

In China, few people are born with a silver spoon in their mouths, and no rich man can remain rich all the time. The mode of living, for the majority, therefore, is one of economy and frugality. What is needed to meet the wartime conditions is just a little ultrameasure of these virtues, commonly practised in time of peace.

Old, worn-out clothes are patched and re-patched; meat is eaten only on very rare occasions; mud cottages take the place of modern living quarters and the legs serve as the best vehicles for travelling. Thus Chungkingites reduce their buying to the absolute necessities of daily life. Chinese ingenuity searches for substitute materials for the sake of economy.

LIVING MORE SPARINGLY.

This spirit of going through suffering with triumph, so characteristic of the wartime capital of China, is reflected in the daily life of people in all walks of life. Among the chief sufferers are the public functionaries. They are probably the lowest in the Chinese strata as far as earning power is concerned. Salary, rice-allowance and living subsidies put together are hardly sufficient to meet their minimum requirements. The only way to bridge the gap is to live more and more sparingly.

Students suffer no less. In most of the schools removed to Chungking from the coastal provinces, they are housed like an army. Their dormitories are mat-sheds, and their beds are like the bunks in a ship, one above the other. Their daily food is 99.9 per cent vegetarian. The practice of ancient poor scholars, of studying under the sun or the moon, has been revived in modern China, as even an oil lamp is too expensive for students.

WARTIME TRADE.

In some respects, the war has not been entirely impartial to all concerned. Merchants, for instance, fall under the category of "favoured classes". Because of increases in commodity prices, profits are counted by the thousands. Those who indulge in the get-rich-quick practices of hoarding and profiteering make millions. But to make millions in this way may mean to lose one's life, for in addition to law there is the whip-lash of public opinion against such practices.

In general, merchants have a contribution to make to the nation. In Chungking, they do business at great risk. A whole shop with its full array of valuable goods may be wiped out and a rich business man or banker may go bankrupt overnight. But the irrepressible spirit of the merchants is bomb-proof. So business in the wartime capital goes on and money is kept flowing.

"MOUNTAIN CITY".

Built on a ridge of hills, Chungking is generally known as a "mountain city". High and steep stairways built of stone steps mark many of its alleys and thoroughfares. The services of sedan-chair carriers, therefore, prove indispensable. Except for them, travelling on many Chungking streets is a drudgery, too much for the weak and old. While most young men prefer to walk, there are still many who have to rely on sedan-chairs. Many high officials of the Government have private sedan-chairs in which they travel between home and office.

The war, and the great migration westward of Government organisations, factories and educational institutions have done much for the Szechwan labourers, if the views of a Chungking sedan-chair carrier can be taken as representative. "Business is better now than before the war," says Li Yung-an. Li and his partner earn about \$ 100 a day.

Out of his half, he pays \$ 6 rental to the sedan-chair hong, and spends about \$ 10 for a meal at one of the cheap food booths. A pair of straw sandals lasting two or three months costs him only \$ 4. The tariff for sedan-chair riding is fixed at \$ 2 per Chinese $\frac{1}{2}$ (one-third of a mile).

Thus people of different occupations in Chungking carry on, each group contributing in its own way to the abundance of life in Chungking. Throughout the vast land, swept by a cataclysmic war, many feel there is no better place to live in than Chungking.

WAVELL'S NAVY.

TWO words, "The Navy," have been heard a great deal during recent months of campaigning in Arakan. The words cover not only the Royal Navy but also the Royal Indian Navy, the Burma Navy and even the little fleet of cargo and passenger-carrying river steamers skippered by Army Officers and sometimes known as "Wavell's Navy".

All these, in their different rôles, have rendered gallant service along the coast to Akyab and beyond, or in broad tidal rivers like the Naf and the Mayu. Their achievements have provided some of the brightest episodes in the past season's operations against the Japanese, writes an Indian Army Observer.

From a spectacular point of view, pride of place goes to the swift hard-hitting launches of coastal forces of the Royal Indian and Burma Navies, which have scored success after success against the enemy, scourging his coastal shipping and occasionally raiding key points on land.

Low, rakish-looking craft, powerfully motored and packed with weapons, some are constructed in Indian yards. They have British, Indian and Burmese officers and crews, who have proved their courage and the soundness of their training over and over again.

SUCCESSFUL ENCOUNTERS.

High-lights of their activities have been a smashing raid on Japanese-occupied Myebon, Hunter's Bay, 50 miles south east of Akyab; the definite sinking of one, and probably two ships laden with Japanese reinforcements and ammunition in a night action off Ramree Island in the same area; a moonlight battle off the Mayu Peninsula in which an enemy launch was rammed and sunk and another driven ashore; and two or three sharp bombardments of Japanese land positions at Donbaik.

In between times, they have harried the enemy in many daring ways, killed several scores of Japanese, and brought back valuable prisoners who were saved from the water when their ships were blown from under them.

TRANSPORT WORK.

Less spectacular, but doing a vital job with great efficiency, the little ships of "Wavell's Navy" have carried up and down the Naf river and elsewhere thousands of tons of supplies and large numbers of men. That their Indian crews possess the fighting spirit if the need and the opportunity occur, was shown only a few days ago, when two 120 feet vessels were attacked by ten Japanese aircraft, and hit back with their machine-guns so vigorously that one bomber was sent crashing into the river and another made off damaged.

In all this fine record of achievement, which has done much to help our British and Indian land forces, few casualties and only minor damage to craft are entered on the debit side. The balance has been overwhelmingly in our favour.

FRENCH GUERRILLA ARMY : WOMEN'S BRANCH. WOMEN DROPPED BY PARACHUTE.

(From the Daily Herald.)

Women are being dropped by parachute in France for underground work and guerilla warfare, declared Douglas Smith, American-born captain of the French Foreign Legion, in an interview in New York. Smith, who is just back from Algiers, said that almost every day men and women were being smuggled into France, some by parachute, others by transport planes and still others by submarine. "We train them to get them into France under cover of darkness and maintain radio communication with them", Smith said. "They ambush small parties of troops, destroy bridges, blow up roads and kill sentries. Among other tasks, they wreck trains and railway junctions, burn ammunition and petrol stores."

Captain Smith is in the U. S. A. on a mission for General Catroux, Governor of Algiers. He says that only recently have the Allies appreciated the real scope of operations by the underground guerilla troops of France.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

(From The Daily Mail).

Eighteen thousand sick and wounded Allied officers and men were flown from African battlefields in giant transport planes for treatment. This revelation was made by Brigadier General David Grant, Air Surgeon in the U. S. Army Air Forces. General Grant was speaking in New York. He said:—

"Use of aerial evacuation of wounded will be greatly increased in future. Air evacuation is a great saver of lives. Because this is a mobile war, we soon discovered that the evacuation hospital of the World War days would not do in this present war. A large evacuation hospital is practically immobile, and therefore vulnerable to capture by a quick breakthrough of armoured enemy forces.

"We converted giant cargo planes into flying ambulances, equipped and staffed to carry the sick and wounded to hospitals back home. Our pilots flew their cargoes into the combat zones—and then loaded human cargo into the same planes on the return trip.

Aboard each of the plane ambulances there is either a flight surgeon or an army nurse, and also one non-commissioned officer of the medical department. They provide medical attention, administering blood plasma and oxygen. Some days we moved as many as 600 patients—three times as many as can be carried by a hospital train on any one trip.

"Apart from medical efficiency brought about by the removal of wounded from fighting zones to relative peace and quiet, an important psychological element is involved. If a wounded man knows that he is soon to be in a safe and friendly area, clean and comfortable, with all the skill and equipment of modern medicine at his side, his will to recovery is much greater. For troops to know that means are at hand for their care if they are injured increases their morale.

"Planes, apart from evacuation, also flew a complete 250-bed hospital from one African battlefield to another when shifting of hospital facilities was necessary".

General Grant recalled that out of 91,000 U. S. casualties those dead were only 15,000. He went on: "There are four chief factors for this low death rate—blood plasma, quick evacuation to medical treatment, sulpha drugs, and surgery".

ROYAL INDIAN NAVY.

One of India's contributions to the United Nations' War effort consists in placing the Royal Indian Navy's dockyard facilities at the disposal of warships of other Navies. These facilities have been fully utilized since hostilities began, but the fall of Singapore greatly increased their importance.

SHIP-BUILDING IN INDIA.

Men-of-war, like those that fought in the European conflicts of the period, were built and repaired in India as long ago as the seventeenth century. In one port the site of the dockyard was chosen by the first of a distinguished line of Parsee shipbuilders 200 years ago, and in it were constructed warships both for India and the Royal Navy.

During the present war, the Royal Indian Navy's dockyard facilities have been used not only for its own vessels but also for repairing and refitting warships of the Royal Navy and the fleets of Allied nations. On a working day some time ago the flags of several of these countries were seen, as well as the White Ensign, while beneath them rose the clang of tools and machinery, as Indian workmen applied their technical knowledge to the ships' needs. There has been so much to do in recent months, that some orders have been diverted to private firms, which, in carrying them out, act under the supervision of R. I. N. dockyard staff.

The more complicated types of machinery needed to refit a modern warship come to India from Europe, but a great quantity of Indian material and Indian-made equipment is used every month, including hundreds of tons of Indian steel, and large stocks of timber and stores. Orders are also carried out for naval shore establishments, and launches and other craft are built.

WELL-KNIT ORGANIZATION.

A dockyard is a well-knit organization, and in India each branch has brought its skill and technical knowledge to bear on the problems raised by the increase of work. The Constructive Department deals with repairs to hulls; the Engineering Department attends to engine and boiler rooms, as well as to some extent to armament.

In warships of to-day electricity plays a most important rôle; this side of dockyard activities is the concern of the Electrical Department. The stores organization provides a multitudinous variety of items, but those for ships' armament are the responsibility of the Ordnance Group.

The army of workmen is divided into a large number of skilled trades. For these employees' benefit there is a welfare organization supplying free medical treatment and other facilities.

OWN HOSPITAL.

The Royal Indian Navy is to have its own hospital at Bombay. It will be staffed by naval doctors and nurses assisted by 'sick-bay attendants,' the Navy's term for hospital orderlies.

The hospital will have ear, nose, throat, ophthalmic and X-ray departments and a laboratory service, and there will be a full complement of specialists. The new hospital will be located in the vacant buildings of the Ramesh Premchand Sanatorium.

SPORTS IN THE NAVY.

In the Royal Indian Navy facilities for sport and recreation are provided for all. Men are encouraged to play team games, such as football, hockey, cricket and net-ball. Indoor games include boxing, wrestling, badminton and gymnastics. Swimming is also encouraged.

Each naval establishment has its sports officer, always on the look out for likely talent. Take hockey for instance. Although a recruit may not know how to handle a hockey stick, he is shown how to play, receives plenty of practice, and is given every opportunity of developing into a thrusting forward, or a pillar of strength in any other position for which he may be suited.

You will see officers and ratings in the same team, for in the Navy the officer not only plans for the men's recreation but also takes part in it.

In one large city, in particular, the Royal Indian Navy has a well-equipped and most picturesquely situated sports ground. Framed in a back-ground of palm trees and grass-land, and only a short distance from the sea, is a newly built pavilion with all the amenities that a sportsman could desire.

Naval establishments run a Hockey League of their own. Each has a number of teams raised from its own personnel, and these frequently take the field against one another.

Football is also a great attraction in men's leisure hours. H. M. I. Signal School recently won the Navy's Inter-Establishment competition.

Ships and training establishments run literary and dramatic societies, and ratings are encouraged to take part in the performances. In one well-known R. I. N. warship, the honorary secretary of the literary society was until recently a Punjabi Petty Officer from Gujarat district. To entertain the men while at sea, the society arranged lectures, concerts and dramatic performances.

In one Indian city, ratings in training establishments are invited to a cinema show once a week at one of the local cinemas, where they are provided with light refreshments. A local Hospitality Committee has also arranged concert parties and cinema shows in one of the training establishments, in addition to the programmes organized by the Recreation Officer.

GROW MORE FOOD. ✓

To-day, in the midst of war, no garden-owner must be seen to be growing flowers when he could be growing vegetables. It is his duty to supply his own kitchen from his own soil, so that others who are dependent on the bazaar may have enough.

If you have a garden, take steps at once to organise it as a defence against shortage. Vegetables and quick-growing fruits cost little to raise, and in months to come you may be very glad of them. Interest your children in the garden and its possibilities as a source of nutritious food. Children should be taught to love and value the land, even if it is only a patch of soil in the middle of a city.

An acre of Potato gives twice as much real food as an acre of Wheat.

3 oz. of Bean seed will yield 100 to 150 lb. of Beans.

Vegetables protect you against "deficiency" diseases, enrich the blood and increase vitality.

According to season and the type of soil, the following Vegetables and fruits can be grown successfully in town gardens:

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes.	Peas.	Artichokes.	Marrows.
Sweet Potatoes.	Beans.	Cauliflowers.	Lettuce.
Radishes.	Cabbages.	Carrots.	Cucumbers.
Beetroot.	Brussel Sproats.	Turnips.	
Onions.	Lady's Fingers.	Spinach.	
Celery.	Arvi (or Ghoyan).	Brinjals.	

FRUITS.

Bananas.	Papayas.	Guavas.	Melons.	Pineapples.
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PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU.

PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CLV. (Batch 2).

17- 7-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	21- 7-43 College A English ... 10.45 a.m.
18- 7-43 Kudumiyamalai ... 7.00 ..	.. College B Tamil ... 10.45 ..
.. Parambur ... 7.30 ..	.. Kulipirai ... 7.00 p.m.
19- 7-43 Vengalur ... 7.00 ..	.. Sevalur ... 7.30 ..
.. Konapattu ... 7.30 ..	22- 7-43 Kalamavur ... 7.00 ..
20- 7-43 Nachchandupatti ... 7.00 ..	.. Nallur ... 7.30 ..
.. Virachchilai ... 7.30 ..	23- 7-43 Panayappatti ... 7.00 ..
21- 7-43 C. S. M. High School... 10.00 a.m.	.. Rangiyam ... 7.30 ..
.. Rani's High School ... 10.45 ..	

LECTURE CLVI (Batch 1).

24- 7-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	28- 7-43 College A English ... 10.45 a.m.
25- 7-43 Surakkadu ... 7.00 ..	.. College B Tamil ... 10.45 ..
.. Kottaikkadu ... 7.30 ..	.. Ramachandrapuram... 7.00 p.m.
26- 7-43 Tiruvarangulam ... 7.00 ..	.. Rayavaram ... 7.30 ..
.. Vamban ... 7.30 ..	29- 7-43 Viralimalai ... 7.00 ..
27- 7-43 Malaiyur ... 7.00 ..	.. Poruvai ... 7.30 ..
.. Karambakkudi ... 7.30 ..	30- 7-43 Valaramanikkam. ... 7.00 ..
28- 7-43 C. S. M. High School... 10.00 a.m.	.. Embal ... 7.30 ..
.. Rani's High School ... 10.45 ..	

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

17- 7-43 Tirumayyam.	24- 5-43 Vettamviduthi.
18- 7-43 Tittanviduthi.	25- 6-43 Marudankonviduthi.
19- 7-43 Mullangurichehi.	26- 5-43 Konnaiyur.
20- 7-43 Vadaikadu.	27- 6-43 Perambur.
21- 7-43 Kilanilai-Puduppatti	28- 6-43 Karambakkudi.
22- 7-43 Kilanilai.	29- 7-43 Kulipirai.
23- 7-43 Pudukkottai.	30- 7-43 Pudukkottai.



PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

BULLETIN]

JULY 24, 1943

[No. 156

LECTURE CLVI.

WILL ITALY CAPITULATE?

WILL ITALIANS DIE FOR MUSSOLINI AND HITLER?

THE ROOSEVELT-CHURCHILL MESSAGE—JULY 16, 1943.

This is a message to the Italian people from the President of the United States of America and the Prime Minister of Great Britain. At this moment the combined Armed Forces of the United States, Great Britain, and Canada, under the command of Gen. Eisenhower and his Deputy, Gen. Sir H. Alexander, are carrying the war deep into the territory of your country.

This is the direct consequence of the shameful leadership to which you have been subjected by Mussolini and his Fascist regime.

Mussolini carried you into this war as the satellite of a brutal destroyer of peoples and liberties. Mussolini plunged you into a war which he thought Hitler had already won. In spite of Italy's great vulnerability to attack by air and sea, your Fascist leaders sent your sons, your ships, and your Air Forces to distant battle-fields, to aid Germany in her attempt to conquer England, Russia and the world.

This association with the designs of Nazi-controlled Germany was unworthy of Italy's ancient traditions of freedom and culture—traditions to which the peoples of America and Britain owe so much.

Your soldiers have fought not in the interests of Italy, but for Nazi Germany. They have fought courageously, but they have been betrayed and abandoned by the Germans on the Russian Front, and on every battle-field in Africa, from El Alamein to Cape Bon.

BLASTED ON ALL FRONTS.

GERMANY FACES DEFEAT.

To-day the German hopes for world conquest have been blasted on all fronts. The skies over Italy are dominated by the vast air armadas of the United States and Great Britain. Italy's sea coasts are threatened by the greatest accumulation of British and Allied sea power ever concentrated in the Mediterranean.

The forces now opposed to you are pledged to destroy the power of Nazi Germany—a power which has ruthlessly been used to inflict slavery, destruction, and death on all those who refuse to recognise the Germans as the master race.

The sole hope for Italy's survival lies in honourable capitulation to the overwhelming power of the military forces of the United Nations. If you continue to tolerate the Fascist régime, which serves the evil power of the Nazis, you must suffer the consequences of your own choice.

YOU HAVE THE CHOICE.

We take no satisfaction in invading Italian soil and bringing the tragic devastations of war home to the Italian people; but we are determined to destroy the false leaders and their doctrines which have brought Italy to her present position. Every moment that you resist the combined forces of the United Nations—every drop of blood that you sacrifice—can serve only one purpose; to give the Fascist and Nazi leaders a little more time to escape from the inevitable consequences of their own crimes.

All your interests, and all your traditions, have been betrayed by Nazi Germany and your own false and corrupt leaders; it is only by destroying both that a reconstituted Italy can hope to occupy a respected place in the family of European nations.

The time has come for you, Italian people, to consult your own self respect, and your own interests and your own desires, for the restoration of your national dignity, security, and peace. The time has come for you to decide whether the Italians shall die for Mussolini and Hitler or live for Italy and for civilisation.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

17-7-43 to 23-7-43.

ITALY.—Half of SICILY is now in Allied hands. The Allies are within 20 miles of the northern hills, the backbone of the island. The Axis centre is crumbling and there is a general retreat of the enemy towards the N-E.

In the Western Sector NARO, PONTA, OLIVIO, COMISO, ARGENTINO, PORO, EMPEDOCLE and PALERMO, the capital of SICILY have been captured. In the centre, CALTANISSETTA has fallen and ENNA is threatened. In the Eastern Sector the British 8th Army is engaging the Germans in a fierce battle around CATANIA.

More than 500 bombers raided NAPLES for an hour and a half on July 17, damaging the Royal Arsenal, a torpedo factory, air-fields and railway communications.

ROME was raided in daylight for two hours and a half on July 19, sparing the Vatican. 350 tons of bombs were dropped. Prior to the raid, warning leaflets were dropped. The Littorio and San Lorenzo marshalling yards, the Ciampino and Labriao air-fields, the

Tabnelli steel-plant, petrol tanks and railway communications were damaged. Photographs indicate that in the case of the Littorio marshalling yards an area of 400 yards by two miles has been blasted and is strewn with a mass of twisted rails, gaping bomb craters and the wreckage of rolling stock.

RUSSIA.—The earlier German offensive has died down, followed by a Russian offensive. In a twin drive, the Russians have encircled OREL, the German hedge-hog base in C. RUSSIA. MTENSK, VOROSHILOVO and GORDISCHE, near OREL, have fallen. The OREL-BRYANSK railway, GERMANY'S life-line has been cut.

The Russian offensive is extending to other sectors, from the KARALIAN front in the north to NOVOROSIK in the south. In the Donbas area, Red troops have crossed the North Donetz and the Mius.

The Pacific.—The Japanese base of MUBO, near SALAMAU in N. GUINEA has been recaptured. During the operation, it is reported, cliffs had to be scaled and the Allied troops had to quench their thirst with the juice of bamboo trees. Patrol clashes occurred near Mt. Tambee and ORODUBI near SALAMAU. Nine Japanese counter-attacks against the Allied position at Mount Ambu, in the MUBO area were repulsed.

The investment of MUNDA continues. The beleaguered garrison is deteriorating owing to the difficulty of getting supplies.

An enemy force of 3 cruisers, 6 destroyers and 2 transports attempting to run into Vila, with reinforcements and supplies were scattered by Allied bombers, sinking a cruiser and 2 destroyers, probably sinking a third destroyer and damaging a fourth. The remaining vessels withdrew.

In a night engagement, 3 Japanese destroyers were hit off KOLOMBANGARA. In N. BRITAIN a Japanese cargo ship was sunk at CAPE OXFORD and barges were strafed at MONTAGU harbour in CAPE CUNNINGHAM.

Burma.—There has been no change in the situation. Regular patrolling clashes continue in the ARAKAN Chin Hills and in the SUMPRABUM area. During the first 15 days of July, in spite of the monsoon, American aircraft carried out raids, regularly, except on the 5th, 6th, and 15th. During the week, the following targets were raided:—MEIKILA, SHWELI bridge, coastal craft in the Hunter Bay area and ELIZABETH Island, cotton mills at MYINGAN, railroads at MONYWA, the Mu bridge, supply dumps at CHAUMAWNGGA, KALUMGA, KAWAN, KADRANGYANG, river craft on the KALADAN, the road bridge at NSOPZUP, KALINIYO, RATHEDAUNG, MINBYA; and Sampans off W. BORONGA Island.

A single enemy aircraft approached the E. coast of CEYLON early on July 19 but dropped no bombs.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

12-7-43. (Monday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

Day:—

Transport and industrial targets in

Northern FRANCE.

A minesweeper off the DUTCH coast

(2 Allied planes missing; 1 Axis plane shot down).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

SAN GIOVANNI and REGGIO DI CALABRIA

(both in Italy).

Enemy troop columns and lines of communications in SICILY.

Shipping in the TYRRHENIAN Sea.

The harbour at MESSINA (28 enemy planes shot down; 11 Allied planes missing).

TURIN (Italy).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

Camp areas in KISKA (Aleutians).

Jap positions at SALAMAUA (N. Georgia).
The air-fields at RABAU (N. Britain).
Railroad installations at YWATAUNG (Burma).
Jap base at NANYA-HEIK (Burma).
SAGUN, MINGAN, MOGAUNG, SETON,
TARO and TAGANKU (all in Burma).

13-7-43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

NIGHT:-

Targets in North-western GERMANY.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN

The air-fields at MILO and CATANIA (Sicily).
Enemy vessels north of SICILY (2 vessels sunk).
Communications centre of ENNA
(42 enemy planes shot down; 7 Allied planes missing).

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
RUSSIAN Front.

FAR EAST.

The air-field at VILA (Kolombangara).
The air-field at BALLALE (Bougainville Island).
The air-field at SALAMAUA (N. Guinea).
3 Jap barges off SAIDOR area.
The air-fields at LAE (N. Guinea).
LANGGOER (Kai Islands) and DOBO
(Aroe Islands).

Enemy railroad installations at MYINGYAN
(Burma).

14-7-43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

No information available about day and night
bombing.

Post and railway communications at MESSINA
(Sicily).

ENNA (Sicily).

Patrols over Allied shipping, beaches and the
battle areas.

Airfields in South Italy.

Enemy shipping in the TYRRHENIAN Sea.

Marshalling yards at MESSINA.

Shipping off GREECE.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front.

The railway junction at OREL.

Ammunition dumps at VOLKHOV.

FAR EAST.

Jap positions at KISKA (Aleutians).

Enemy installations at MEIKTILA and MYING-
YAN (both in Burma).

15-7-43. (Thursday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

(9 enemy planes shot down, 7 Allied planes
missing).

DAY:-

Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL
and Northern FRANCE.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Docks and railway communications at (NAPLES)
(Italy).

Docks at PALERMO (Sicily).

Intruder operations over Sicily and S. Italy.

Air-fields at FOGGIA (Italy).

MEIAPONTA (Gulf of TARANTO).

Air-fields at VIBO VALENTIA, CROTONE and
REGGIO (all in South Italy).

The ferry terminus of SANGIOVANNI (Italy)

(18 Axis planes destroyed; 4 of ours missing).

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

Jap base of MUBO (New Guinea).
The air-fields at KAHILI and BALLALE.
The town area of KOEPANG (Timor).
Shipping in BEAGLE channel.
KISKA (Aleutians).

16-7-43 (Friday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:-

The railway yards at ABBEVILLE (3 Axis planes
destroyed; no Allied loss).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The air-field at BARI (Italy).

Switching and Transformer stations at BRUGHE-
RIO and CISALAGO (Italy).

Targets near BOLOGNA.

Railways round MILAN (Italy).

Communications and air-fields in SICILY.

RUSSIA

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front

FAR EAST.

The air-field and Jap positions at MUNDA.

Jap positions in KISKA (Aleutians).

A Jap occupied village on the AKYAB
Island (Burma).

17-7-43 (Saturday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

NIGHT:-

Air-fields and railway targets in FRANCE,
HOLLAND and BELGIUM.

Shipping off the DUTCH coast (1 Allied
plane missing).

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

(21 enemy planes shot down).

The Royal Arsenal at NAPLES (Italy).

Marshalling yards at NAPLES.

The harbour at CATANIA (Sicily).

Communications in SICILY.

Air-fields at MONTE CARVINO and

POMIGLIANO (Italy).

RUSSIA.

The railway junction at OREL.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

KISKA (Aleutians).

NAURU Island.

River and coastal craft in the HUNTER
BAY area (Burma).

Sampans near MYEBON (Burma).

Troop positions in the SINOI area (Burma).

Army huts near KALYMYO (Burma).

Cotton mills at MYINGYAN (Burma).

Warehouses, tracks and rolling stock at MONYWA.

A river steamer in the IRRAWADDY.

Enemy forces at CHAUMAWNGGA and
KALUMGA (Burma).

18-7-43 (Sunday).

EUROPE (German occupied).

DAY:-

The air-field at ABBEVILLE (2 Axis planes
shot down).

Air combats over the DUTCH coast (2 Axis
planes shot down).

Enemy convoy off DENHEIDER.

ITALY and the MEDITERRANEAN.

The docks at CATANIA.

Communications in SICILY.

Shipping in the TYRRHENIAN Sea.

The sea-plane base at PREBEZA (Greece).

Goods train and trucks in South ITALY.

Shipping north off SICILY.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the
RUSSIAN Front.

The Ry. junction at OREL.

The town of NAVILIA.

FAR EAST.

The air-field at KAHILI (Bougainville).

The air-field and Jap positions at LAMBETH
(N. Guinea).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

13-7-43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

One place in the coastal area in North-east
ENGLAND. (3 Axis planes shot down).

RUSSIA and FAR EAST.

No information available.

14-7-43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

BYELGOROD area.

FAR EAST.

REDOVA (Solomons).

WAU area (New Guinea).

BENA-BENA area (New Guinea).

15-7-43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity

RUSSIA.

No information.

FAR EAST.

REDOVA Island (Solomons).

16-7-43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

No information.

RUSSIA.

BYELGOROD area.

FAR EAST.

Air combats over the Central SOLOMONS.

17-7-43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

The railway junction at OREL.

FAR EAST.

No information available.

18-7-43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

RUSSIA.

No enemy air activity.

FAR EAST.

ENGOI inlet (New Guinea).

Reconnaissance over Port DARWIN (1 Jap plane
shot down).

19-7-43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

No enemy air activity.

RUSSIA.

BYELGOROD area.

FAR EAST.

Reconnaissance over CEYLON (No bombs
dropped).

SIDE LIGHTS.

SICILY.

'The eyes of the whole Empire will be upon us once the battle starts. We will see that they get good news and plenty of it'—so said Genl. Montgomery to his men on the eve of invasion, and the words have not proved bumptious. News from SICILY could not be better. One half of the island has been occupied. The Allied front is now a straight line across the heart of SICILY. The American advance in the western sector has led to the spectacular occupation of AGRIGENTINO and PALERMO, the capital of SICILY; in the eastern sector, on the outskirts of CATANIA the bitterest battle of the campaign is being fought between the British Eighth Army and the German forces. The fall of CATANIA is imminent.

SYRACUSE and AUGUSTA which have already fallen are two of the most important ports on the E-coast facing the Aegean. CATANIA stands on the edge of a fair and fertile plain—the centre of production of 90 % of Italian Sulphur.

THE MAGNITUDE OF THE
OPERATIONS.

The invasion of SICILY is not the simple operation that the parachute descent on CRETE was to the Germans. Compared with SICILY, NARVIK and DIEPPE are

bagatelle. Even the N. African landing, marvellous as it was, was only a surprise affair, on a territory of Darlans, where resistance, if any, was negligible. Not so SICILY, where an invasion was hourly expected and an enemy, equipped with the most modern weapons, had been preparing for months to meet the invader.

SICILY—THE GATEWAY OF EUROPE.

The enemy, as usual, is trying to minimise the importance of the Sicilian operations. He states that SICILY is not the European continent, nor an attack on SICILY an invasion of Festung Europe. But he has forgotten that SICILY is the gate-way of EUROPE—one of its few entrances.

THE TWO STAGES.

The Sicilian operation is in two stages. The first or the amphibian stage, consisting of landings, and the mastery of the sea-lanes, beaches, and bridgeheads, is over. The second or the land battle is proceeding far more rapidly than could have been expected.

THE ENEMY'S CONFUSION.

The different versions of the invasion put out by the BERLIN and ROME Radios indicate the confusion and terror that have seized the enemy. According to BERLIN, Allied paratroops have been annihilated, the rear has been cut and the invaders are retreating. According to ROME, the same paratroops have now joined the Anglo-American troops at RAGUSA, and the Allies are enlarging the bridgeheads at SYRACUSE, LICATA, GELA, PACHINO and AUGUSTA.

THE ROOSEVELT— CHURCHILL MESSAGE.

But, fortunately for the campaign, its fate does not depend on Axis mendacity over the ether. The fall of SICILY is certain, and the time has come for the Italians to choose between Mussolini and ITALY, between extinction and survival. The Allied march is irresistible. Either Mussolini and his Fascist tribe must go or ITALY will. Is it to be life and security, to the Italians, with honour; or defeat and death, with dishonour? Such are the alternatives which Churchill and Roosevelt, in a joint broadcast on July 16, placed before ITALY. The message, it should be noted, was addressed to the people, not to Mussolini who had long ago forfeited the regard of the Allies and was now losing fast his place even as a tyrant. The broadcast is both an appeal and a warning. It does not humiliate; far from being vindictive, it promises to save. The capitulation demanded of the Italians is honourable, and the reward 'a respected place in the family of European nations'. The message further recognises 'ITALY's ancient traditions of freedom and culture'; and 'the valour of her soldiers' though 'betrayed and abandoned'. The Allies seek no satisfaction in invading Italian soil and bringing on it the tragic devastation of war.

The official reply that, though the war was one of life and death there is no question of capitulation, has come from the Rome Radio.

But the voice of the radio is not the voice of the people of ITALY. They know that ITALY is lost, and that it is nemesis which is now at work, retribution for former felonious attacks on FRANCE, ALBANIA and GREECE. It is rather the voice of Fascist tyranny, of Carlo Scorza, the Fascist Party Secretary who broadcast on July 18:—

'Resist, resist, and resist. This is the Order of the Day for every Italian. Italy would feel that her past was in vain if she were not to do this duty.

'Italy is to-day in danger, more than at any time in her long history—Two empires—the richest and greatest—are bearing down upon Italy: they want to destroy her territorial and political unity'.

The voice of real ITALY, of the Italian people is very different as the following account, given by *Reuter*, of the liberation of a Sicilian town will show:—

"A town freed from Fascism.

Terrific welcome to Allied troops.

Political prisoners set at Liberty—Sicily—July 18.

"Our troops had a real taste to-day of the pleasures of liberating a town from Axis domination.

"They had passed through politically unconscious areas where there was an apathetic, and largely illiterate, population. But a small town this afternoon provided a sample of the reception, and demonstration awaiting the troops of the United Nations on the mainland of Europe. The population from children to the aged, lined the narrow streets, and clapped, cheered, smiled, and waved handkerchiefs as the British continued the chase of the fast retreating Germans towards Catania.

"There was nothing sham about the welcome, this was no feigned joy. The people smiled through their tears, and shouted "Viva Inglese" with emotion in their voices. It was a welcome which amazed to silence the arriving troops. A Greek village a Dutch town—any area in occupied Europe—could not have shown greater delight or been more vociferous. As our car slowed down a Sicilian man jumped on the running board, and shouted into the car in the most violent idiomatic Italian saying, in effect, 'Beat hell out of the Germans.'

"When the vehicle came to a stand-still it was the signal for the crowd to attempt to mob the car. It is astonishing how many heads, and hands can be squeezed through the window of an ordinary passenger car. For several minutes all three of us shook hands in all directions, receiving hundreds of pats on the back, while excited shoutings went on unceasingly.

Prisoners Released.

"A new note then crept into the shoutings, smiles faded, gesticulations increased, and with difficulty it was slowly possible to make out that they wished us to liberate their prisoners. At first we thought they meant captured British prisoners but they referred to Sicilians and I had the extreme pleasure of participating in the release of some of the first political prisoners in Europe to regain their freedom. The crowd led us to a forbidding-looking building, the custodian of which anticipated the knock and opened the door. Inside, confined in small cells—several in each—there were about 30 men whose ages varied between 18 and 60. They had been locked up in these wretched conditions for several months, and when freed burst into tears. Each man was seized by relatives, and embraced fiercely. Though called political prisoners they are better described as hunger rioters. "Fame" (hungry) was a frequent word upon the lips of the crowd. The crew of a passing tank threw out bars of chocolate, which were scrambled for and before we pushed on every cigarette in the car had been handed out. A young and pretty girl stretched an arm through the car window encircled the neck of an observer officer and pressed her cheek against his. It would be wrong to suggest the town had refound its soul. Two decades of Fascism had made too strong an imprint to

be wiped out in one afternoon. But the people realised, somehow, that something had been lifted from them, and as each political prisoner stepped into the street at least one of the four freedoms had been given to them. The right to grumble was acknowledged—freedom of speech had come back."

CARLO SCORZA.

The following portrait of Carlo Scorza is from the *Times of India*:—"Political gangsters now deputise for the deflated Mussolini. Party Secretary, Carlo Scorza, an old stalwart and a 'perfect fascist' has come into prominence as the newly appointed Czar of the much-threatened Italian front. Mussolini is making certain that those who helped him to power and those who fattened on his favours do not desert the cause. Fascism, threatened from within and without, needs tough, ruthless and more courageous men to run the administration. Scorza is the very man for the task. Well-versed in the arts of gangsterdom, he has been described as a 'killer and terrorist by nature, completely ruthless, completely brutal.'"

AMGOT.

An *ad hoc* Government has been set up in conquered SICILY, with General Sir Harold Alexander as Governor. The administration briefly termed Amgot (Allied Military Government of Occupied Territories), the first of its kind, is a military Government, without any political implications and is directed by the Combined Chiefs of Staff at WASHINGTON, through General Eisenhower. It sets the pattern for similar administrative agencies the Allies will set up as other occupied territories are liberated. The Amgot officers are drawn from British and U. S. posts as remote as BURMA and CALIFORNIA.

General Alexander's first proclamation as Military Governor orders the dissolution of all Fascist Party organisations in SICILY, annuls discriminatory laws and guarantees personal and property rights.

THE TABLES TURNED.

The Red Army has turned the tables on the Wehrmacht. On July 5, the Germans launched their three-pronged offensive on OREL, KURSK and BYELGOROD, but chiefly to straighten the Russian bulge at KURSK, which threatened their centre. Failing in their attempt they relapsed into the defensive. Ten days later it was the turn of the Russians to take the offensive, which has now resulted in major breaks-through, N. and S. of OREL, comparable, we are told, to those at VORONEJ and the Don Steppes near STALINGRAD last year. Von Kluge has lost 60,000 men in the 10 days' battle, with hundreds of Tanks and Air-craft. The approaches to the BYELGOROD front, where the Germans made an initial impression, have been transformed into a defensive Russian fortress. Thus the battle of the KURSK bulge has recoiled on the enemy. And matters are getting worse. According to the latest reports the Soviet thrusts are extending to the Mius-Donetz and Kuban sectors.

BURIDAN'S ASS.

Hitler's position is that of the proverbial ass placed equally between two haystacks. The beast, we are told, died of starvation unable to decide on which haystack it should feed first. Attacked in RUSSIA and SICILY, he is willing to wound but afraid to strike. All through April we were told that the Fuehrer possessed the 'strategic freedom' to strike where he would—the freedom of the donkey in the fable, but that the Fuehrer was waiting for the heaven-sent spark—the inspiration, to decide. But whether he decided or not the oracle finally

refused to declare its intentions. Then came the *Volteface*, the denial of any German intention to take the offensive, followed by the statement that it was rather the Russians that contemplated an offensive which would synchronise with the invasion of SICILY. But, nevertheless, the Germans did take the offensive at KURSK on July 5 and having failed, now put out the legend that they have 'succeeded in staying the Russian attacks.' The explanation of this amazing *Volteface* is that Hitler is afraid of misfortune. He is trying to save himself not only from the Russian guns but also from the 'cat-calls' of his own countrymen. If he succeeded in stemming the Russian advance, he would say 'you see we never thought of taking the offensive, we were only waiting to throw the Russians back.'

CHANGE IN GERMAN PROPAGANDA.

Since the invasion of SICILY the earlier propaganda that the European fortress was impregnable has receded. It is even admitted that the Allies possess enough tonnage to land and enough forces to break through. Even Goebbels is forced to confess that "in certain circumstances a British-American invasion attempt *can* lead to the decision of the war". So another line of propaganda has been substituted. The outer or coastal wall of EUROPE's fortress may go but the inner wall of land mines and barbed-wire round the Reich, CZECHOSLOVAKIA and POLAND will remain. But nothing is said of what is to become of the BALKANS, of ITALY, of FRANCE, the LOW COUNTRIES and NORWAY. Will not GERMANY then become another PANTELLARIA, when its outer defences are smashed?

THE WRITING ON THE WALL.

A new appeal is also made to rouse German vanity. GERMANY must be defended at all costs—GERMANY 'the citadel of European culture in a sea of barbarism', the home of arts and civilisation, which the British and the Americans were deliberately seeking to destroy. So goes the sentimental sob stuff. But the fate which has now overtaken GERMANY is the sequel to WARSAW and ROTTERDAM, to what the Nazi said on Nov. 22, 1940, 'May God grant the destruction of ENGLAND. Every German should remember that this is the mission of the German people.'

ALLIED STRENGTH.

The following figures of Allied strength, quoted by the *Indian News Letter* of July 17, 1943 are taken from the *Soviet War News*:—

ARMY.—British Empire, 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 men available for the European theatre; U. S. 1,500,000 to 2,000,000, French, 500,000.

TANKS PRODUCTION PER MONTH.—Britain, 2,000; CANADA, 500; U. S. 3,000; GERMANY and her satellites, 3000.

ARTILLERY PRODUCTION PER MONTH.—BRITAIN, 3,000; CANADA, 1,000; U. S. 3,000; enemy, 4,000.

PLANES PRODUCTION PER MONTH.—BRITAIN, CANADA and U. S. 10,000 to 11,000; Enemy, 4,000.

SHIPS PRODUCTION PER YEAR.—BRITAIN and CANADA, 3,000,000 to 3,500,000 U. S. 8,000,000 (The U. S. figure gives the production of last year; this year it is rising in the ratio of 1,000 : 800 tons a month).

ARCHIPELAGIAN WAR-**FARE.**

BERLIN and TOKYO belittle Allied strategy in the Pacific as island-hopping and declare that it has led to no results. But what about Japanese aims and results?

The nature of the terrain in the Pacific islands is such that spectacular results, for one thing, are impossible. Land fighting, such as is taking place near MUNDA and SALAMAUA now is through trackless jungle. The Allied aim is as much to prevent the enemy from advancing as for themselves to advance. A summing up of the results of the past months will show how, though slowly, the Allies have already achieved appreciable results. In North Pacific the enemy is in the process of being driven out of the ALEUTIANS, from which he hoped to command land and air communications to the U.S.; in the Central Pacific he has been kept out of MIDWAY, from which he aimed at HAWAI; in South Pacific, the Torres Straits have been secured, and the way to AUSTRALIA blocked. Further more, AUSTRALIA has been converted into a base of attack and the successes in the SOLOMONS and NEW GUINEA have not only pierced the Japanese perimeter but are forcing the enemy to sea action. Worst of all, Japanese armies are so much tied up in these island fights that they could not be spared in any strength to liquidate the six year old war in China.

Archipelagian war is different from war on mainland. In RUSSIA it is a wholly land war; in NORTH AFRICA it was a war with a sea flank; in the Pacific the sea surrounds and interpenetrates the land area; the sea itself is a theatre. To a large extent, it is air-war also, but aircraft alone cannot command the sea-lanes; nor can the warships, where the lanes are too narrow. An undefended Archipelago can be taken by surprise but cannot be retained without sea power. The Japanese have a fleet in being, which they are afraid of bringing into action. But if they hold back the Allies will creep from island to island and if the fleet come out, there will be a Taranto.

The key to the Pacific is the sea itself. Japanese losses in men are already high, which a nation obsessed with the cult of Hara-Kiri may belittle; but the losses in ship and plane, which are mounting high, cannot simply be ignored.

MARTINIQUE.

Admiral Roberts, the Vichy Governor has resigned; rather he has been forced to capitulate to a revolt of the army garrison in Front de France, on June 18, and to street-demonstrations. He leaves behind 40 million dollars of French gold, which will be taken over by the French Committee of National Liberation. Henri Hop Penout, who has succeeded him to the Governorship, is a member of the French Military Mission in WASHINGTON. The new Government has declared its willingness to place all it has, including shipping, at the disposal of the Allies.

THE DEFENCE LOAN.

The call has come to the nation to put its savings into the Defence Loan. We do not wish to expatiate learnedly on inflation and deflation, paper currency, speculation and profiteering. We appeal by referring to the plain and simple fact that for INDIA's war, for INDIA's safety, INDIA herself must pay, and that it is a blessing, and a fortunate circumstance, that, instead of being asked to pay, a way has been found to find the money. The Defence Loan is only a loan, not a tax, not a gift but, just a loan that will come back, saved and secured, in these difficult times and with interest.

The investors need not be the moneyed rich only. Many a middle class family has a saving and the Defence Loan is the best way to save the saving. The practice of a little austerity, not necessarily miserliness, would enlarge the saving. Feasts and festivities need not be lavish; in dress and food austerity may be practised as a virtue. An anna saved is an anna gained, besides being a bullet cast for victory.

SEA POWER CRACKS HITLER'S FORTRESS.**BASIS OF INVASION FORCE.**

(A. J. Mc Whinnie).

Sicily shows how the Allied sea power can crack Hitler's supposed fortress. The Axis know now that shore batteries, mines and traps of all descriptions cannot keep the invaders from landing.

They know that the so called "iron ring" round Europe is far from invincible. But they still do not know where the next blows will be struck. The invasion of Sicily seems to have come about suddenly, but it is in fact the effect of steady and relentless pressure of sea power that made it possible. That this force must have its complement in the air is a truism to-day, just as it is a truism that capital ships must have screening light forces on the surface, and that armies must have air cover, tanks and artillery.

But the landings with all their complications of supply have been made possible by the naval power of two of the greatest naval nations in the world—Britain and America claiming Mussolini's "*mare nostrum*" for the Allies.

It has been a long job for the Allies. It will be a long job even now. It would be foolish to paint too rosy a picture of the immediate future. Dictators cannot—dare not, if they value their lives—give up until they have to.

SWARMING LIKE FLIES.

It has been stated that there were more than 2,000 ships, big and small engaged in this mammoth operation. From the air, these ships looked like vast swarms of flies. Yet the Axis sea and air power was powerless to stop them.

British minesweepers, which led the way, mastered the Italian minefields. The big guns ashore were silenced from the air and by the big naval guns which covered the invasion forces. Axis aircraft could not cope with the tremendous air umbrella over the biggest armada of all time.

Observers should watch for indications of Axis alarm at the passive attitude of their naval units during the invasion. I am against any suggestions of crack appearing in either the German or Italian navies. But it must be a fact that the higher the morale of those navies the more dissatisfied the Axis naval men must feel that they were not allowed to make any move against the invaders.

It seems certain, now that the rôle of the small but powerful German navy is precisely that of the bigger and even more powerful Italian navy, that they are both being held back to defend vital parts of the long 12,000 miles of Axis coastline against new invasion moves. Meanwhile, the U-boats are lining up for their next campaign. They too failed during the most critical period of the war.

Reports from London and Washington indicate that by their inability to intercept record numbers of pre-invasion convoys during May and June, U-boats failed to affect the Allied shipping strength required for the invasion of Sicily.

TWO MILLION MORE TONS FOR INVASION.

The vital fact is that though there must be lulls in the U-boat warfare, there are no lulls in the Allied shipbuilding. The Allies during May and June probably built 2,000,000 tons of shipping over and above even the exaggerated sinking claims of Axis propagandists. The importance of that figure is that it means 2,000,000 more tons of Allied shipping, not only for the present operations but for the next invasion moves.

Mussolini imitated the inspiring call of Churchill. When Britain seemed to be in imminent danger of invasion, Churchill told the people of Britain. "We shall fight them on the beaches". As the zero hour drew nearer for the invasion of Sicily, Mussolini said: "We shall fight them on the beaches".

GERMANY'S FATAL NAVAL WEAKNESS.

But there does not appear to have been much fighting on the beaches of Sicily. There was no need for fighting on the beaches of Britain. The German invasion forces had neither the shipping strength nor the naval power to cross the 20 miles of water separating France from the white cliffs of Dover. Hitler, who thought that air power had bridged the seas, so that there were no longer any islands, realises to-day that only sea-power in the last resort can join the islands to the Continent.

Pounding by bombers of vital targets is a very effective softening process. But only ships can land supply and maintain invasion armies in sufficient strength to ensure victory. The world is no longer in any doubt now—when the Allies use more than 2,000 ships to penetrate Hitler's fortress—that the Allied formula for victory is working out. The basis of that formula is thousands of ships working with clockwork precision in the closest co-operation with armies and aircraft.

BELGIUM CONTINUES TO FIGHT THE AXIS.

We take the opportunity to review briefly the heroic and valuable Belgian contribution to the cause of the United Nations.

The first task of the Belgian government, which had taken up its quarters in London after the Franco—German Armistice, was in the sphere of foreign policy. On November 29, 1940, following the torpedoing of the steamship *Kabalo* by an Italian submarine, the Belgian government announced that in view of this and other acts of hostility, Belgium intended in future to put her relationship with Italy on a similar basis. This was, in fact, tantamount to an official declaration of war. This was followed by breaking off relations with Finland, Denmark, Hungary, Bulgaria and Rumania. Belgium was represented at the two meetings of the Allied Powers held on June 12 and September 24 1941 and became a signatory to the Grand Alliance of Washington.

THE ARMY.

In the Allied war effort against the Axis powers, the Belgian armed forces have played a notable part. The calling up of Belgians was decided by a decree of December

3, 1940 when hundreds of Belgian citizens from Argentine, China, Uruguay and the Dutch East Indies and elsewhere travelled thousands of miles to join the Belgian Army in England. Soon the Belgian Army was fighting shoulder to shoulder with the British in Abyssinia, and Asosa, Gambela and Saio bear witness to its gallantry and enterprise. Gen. Cassera, commanding the Italian troops of Galla Sidano capitulated to the Belgian Colonial Forces in July 1941, bringing over with him 15,000 troops and a considerable amount of war material. Belgian colonial troops, according to the Radio-Leopoldville, are now waiting in Egypt to share in the invasion of Europe and to bring about the liberation of their motherland.

THE AIR FORCE.

By March 1943, there was a Belgian Spitfire Squadron with the R. A. F. Fighter Command and a Belgian Fighter Squadron in Africa. Five British Fighters Squadrons are commanded by Belgians. The nucleus of the Belgian Air Force in Britain was formed by Belgian airmen who were in France and crossed over to England to join the R. A. F. The Belgian Air Force played a heroic part in the Battle of Britain, took part in the raid on Dieppe (August 19, 1942) and by February 15, 1943, had shot down 75 enemy aircraft, in the course of fighter "sweeps" over German occupied territory.

THE NAVY.

More than 200 trawlers and one hundred light boats found shelter in British ports after the capitulation of Belgium, and since then have continued their work without flinching at the danger of mines, or torpedoes and aeroplanes. After the invasion, the Government instructed all Belgian ships to proceed to Britain—a measure which put at the disposal of the Allies not only a supplementary tonnage which can be estimated at 350,000 tons, but also brought to Britain valuable raw materials and foodstuffs. Ever since, the Belgian mercantile fleet has played its part in maintaining the vital supply lines of the Allies, and its ships manned by Belgian crews have plied regularly the high seas.

BELGIAN CONGO.

The part played by the Belgian colony in Africa forms a remarkable chapter of the Belgian war effort. The Belgian Congo covers an area of nearly 100,000 sq. miles, as much as 80 times the size of Belgium, to which must be added the mandated Territories Ruanda-Urundi with an area of 25,000 sq. miles. The natural resources of the Belgian Congo are numerous and immense, and its mineral production includes most of the metals that are useful to the war industries. The Katanga Mines bear comparison with the most advanced installations in the world. The Congo basin lends itself admirably to the production of rubber, a commodity whose importance cannot be overrated today. Since the beginning of the war, the whole of the exportable resources of the Congo have been placed at the disposal of the Allies, in accordance with commercial agreements which have been successively renewed and are still in force.

The Congo is becoming more and more a great cross-road in the world's communications, whether by air, river or land. Its airfields are multiplying in number, and the amount of material carried by railways, road and water is constantly increasing.

Belgium is suffering the agony of war for the second time in twenty years in a manner to which there is no parallel in Europe today. But the Government in London and the population in Belgium have shown that they are still unvanquished. The strength and organised resistance of the Belgian people has evoked the admiration of all

freedom-loving people in the world. It was Napoleon who said of the Belgians: "In a duel between the sword and the spirit the latter will inevitably triumph." Today both the sword and the spirit are united in a finely tempered weapon to drive back the invader from the native soil.

GREECE UNVANQUISHED.

Heavy Liberator bombers have visited the Greek airfields of Sedes, Eleusis and Hassini, and have given point to Axis fears of an Allied invasion through Greece. Sedes lies south of Salonika, and Salonika has been a sore point with the Germans ever since that fateful month of September in 1918, when Allied forces including the Greeks operating from the Salonika front, broke into the Vardar valley and caused the collapse of the Central Powers on the Eastern Front. The Cairo report that all Greek guerilla bands are to come under the direction of a supreme Allied Command in the Middle East, will be yet another source of irritation to the Germans in their plans to defend Greece from an Allied assault.

NAZI DEFENCES.

The Axis is really getting worried about its position in Greece, and is busy fortifying the island bases into outer bastions calculated to slow up an Allied attack against Greece. Crete bristles with formidable coast-defence fortifications, interlocking defences in depth, casemates, tank and parachutist traps, barbed-wire and minefields. In rugged Scarpanto a highly trained garrison keeps watch from head-quarters established in deep rock caves in the mountain sides. Rhodes is strongly fortified, and shelters behind minefields under the protection of Italian shore-batteries, a flotilla of boats, submarines, light bombers and fighters. Leros and Samos have strong defences, and beyond the island of Chios, north-westward toward the bridgehead of South-Eastern Europe, lie strong Thracian coast defences, the imposing batteries and casemates of Salonika Gulf. On the mainland itself the port of Dedeagatch has been turned into a first class base, and has been connected with the Salonika-Cavalla military highway. A full dress conference of Axis generals was recently held in a village near Salonika, and latest reports speak of German troops replacing the Bulgarians on the coastal stretches of Greek Thrace.

GREEK GUERRILLAS.

But while the Axis is busy strengthening the outer ramparts of Greece, within the fortress itself is a gigantic Trojan horse which is an incessant nightmare to the occupying authorities. Some 30,000 Greek guerillas, aided by 3,000 Britons, Australians and New Zealanders, who remained after the main Allied forces evacuated Greece in 1941, are waging constant warfare on Axis troops from mountain hide-outs and inflicting substantial losses.

One group of guerillas under Maj. Douras concentrates its attention on German and Bulgarian convoys passing through Macedonia and Thrace, and is in contact with Mihailo vitch's forces in Yugoslavia and Albania. He and Capt. Pappas, who operates near Thermopylae, manage to cause enough derailments on the Athens-Salonika route to keep this link in the Axis supply line from running more than a few days at a time. Another group is gathered near Sparta, but the strongest force is in Crete under Gen. Mantakas, who specialises in kidnapping German officers and holding them as hostages for the good behaviour of their brethren.

The number of active guerillas is small, but measured by the amount of trouble they give the Axis soldiery their number might well be 300,000. German aeroplanes recently dropped leaflets signed by the Quisling premier promising amnesty to those who laid down arms by May 20, and threatening severe action against those who continued to resist. The Greek guerillas will lay down their arms only when they, and the liberators from abroad, have driven back the invaders from the native soil, and when the blue and white flag on the Acropolis flutters once again in the breezes from the Aegean Sea.

POLES IN GERMAN UNIFORM.

GLAD TO SURRENDER TO ALLIES IN SICILY.

Behind the railing of the flower-filled public gardens of Licata, a little knot of German prisoners was sitting in the shade, cables Reuter's Special Correspondent from Licata in South Sicily.

This afternoon when spoken to in German they answered in Polish. All were Poles, except two Yugoslavs. They were all wearing German uniforms. Most of them came from the Polish Corridor, or Danzig or Upper Silesia.

Because of their German names, they were listed as *Volksdeutsche* or racial Germans. That meant that they were forcibly conscripted into the German army and had the honour of fighting for Hitler's "New Order", which had already destroyed their homes and killed their parents, and flung their brothers into prison camps.

They were sent to Sicily. It was obvious that they could not be trusted to garrison any occupied country, because it was obvious where their sympathies must lie. As soon as possible they got across to the Americans, and could scarcely find words in German to express their delight at being captured.

The Yugoslavs too were members of some alleged German minority. It would be dangerous to deduce too much from this, but it is another glaring example of Hitler's shortage of manpower.

THE JAPANESE IS NOT A SUPERMAN.

BY HENRY KEYS.

The Japs have continued to fight in the South-Eastern Solomons with a persistence and desperation which would be the height of reckless waste, if it were not for the fact that if they fail to establish a strong base here their plans will be thrown out of gear.

In essence, the war in the Pacific has developed into a struggle for bases. Island-to-island warfare seems to be inevitable for some time to come. The reason—the limited range of our aircraft, bombers as well as fighters, and the acute shortage of ships.

Even so, it is these island struggles that will kill Japan, for in the first place she has not yet learned about discretion sometimes being the better part of valour. In the second place she has committed herself so far that she has now no option but to fight to a finish.

And for Japan, fighting to a finish has meant disastrous fighting.

Look at her five months' record in the southeastern Solomons—25 combatant craft, including two battleships, sunk, ten others probably sunk, 46 damaged, 26 transports and cargo ships sunk, seven others damaged.

In the land fighting on the islands of Florida, Tulagi, Gavutu, Tanamboga and Guadalcanar she has lost, on a conservative estimate, a total of 30,000 of her best soldiers. The figure is probably as high as 35,000.

In her efforts to send reinforcements to Guadalcanar she has lost at sea at least another 30,000 troops.

Her air losses have reached an enormous figure—more than 1,000 counted planes.

Of more consequence than this record, however, is the fact that the Japanese have failed utterly in their primary objective, to wrest back Guadalcanar, in spite of tremendous effort and an unstinted willingness to pay whatever price was demanded.

The importance of Guadalcanar to the Japanese is that it is the last of the eastern Solomon Islands suitable for use as an air-base. The other two, Malaita and San Cristoval, are wild and mountainous, their jungle-clad hills tumbling right down into the sea.

The next step was the occupation of the New Hebrides, and the invasion of the Fijis. Our convenient supply line would then be convenient no longer, aerially it would have been impossible.

BEATEN—BY DAYS.

The Americans must have beaten Japan in the race for the complete occupation of Guadalcanar by a little more than a couple of weeks at the most.

This partly explains the tedious fighting that has since taken place. Speed was obviously essential, the organization for the supply of the invading troops had to be spontaneous and as necessity demanded, rather than prepared long beforehand.

The upshot has been that the Japs have found themselves unable to make any radical alteration in their Pacific blueprint, hence they have gone into New Georgia, established a good air base there, and flooded the island with troops.

The Munda field must be regarded as more than a mere aerial interception base. Actually in significance it is a second Guadalcanar, although without the same degree of threat, but none the less dangerous in the long-range scheme of things.

The only reasonable approach to Munda is through the narrow channel between Arundel Island and Georgia, a hazardous passage to-day if ever there was one.

TRICKS BETTFRED.

The Japanese to-day, and I am speaking particularly of Japanese soldiers, are labouring under a terrific handicap in their so-called Indian style of warfare, for which every one of them has been trained and equipped.

Their handicap is that they are committed to it, and that the Americans, who are doing the bulk of the fighting in this area, have mastered it to the extent that they are better at it than the Japs themselves.

The United States marines were the first men to attack and beat the Jap in a big way. They proved that those little barbarians could be beaten in their chosen style of warfare, that the determined ruthless white men were not only as good as, but superior to the Jap.

They proved something else, too, something that has often made me wonder again about the conquest of Malaya and Singapore—that if the Japs were robbed of the initiative and opportunity to practise their beloved outflanking movements they could not break a defensive line.

CAN'T BREAK LINE.

I have yet to see the Japanese break a well-planned line, but I have seen their own lines broken, and strong pockets of resistance cut off and annihilated.

I have seen the Japs exert every effort in their power to batter their way through, seen a few make it, only to have the line closed behind them again.

In the East the Jap revealed himself for what he was—a killer. He lost no sleep over the slaughter and massacre of thousands upon thousands of innocent, inoffensive civilians of his own color.

In fact, he deliberately drove the battleground into the cities and towns of Asia, knowing the disorganization and strain imposed in caring for the wounded and sick, knowing also the white man's ingrained inability to put up for long with the sufferings of these non-combatants.

THEY RUSH BLINDLY.

I think the explanation of their success and their failure is that they still believe that merciless punishment would break the spirit of the white man. That is why on their banzai bayonet charges, few and far between now, they rush blindly into machine-gun fire, through a rain of artillery shells, stupidly shouting, "Malini, you die tonight. Malini, surrender." But to the men who have their measure there is not any terror, and certainly no death, in plunging into a mob of yelling fools.

That is why they have fallen, their bullet-riddled bodies piling high on one another.

They will continue to fall like that because it is too late for them to be taught differently. As a matter of fact, on paper, and in the field, Jap tactics are not impressive.

Indeed, the only real value they ever seem to have had was their novelty and surprise with which, like children frightened in the dark, we obligingly terrorized ourselves.

While no soldier or officer fighting the Jap is prepared to underestimate him in any way, few are prepared to concede he is very good. Certainly not the "superman" of a year ago.

The only thing that makes him tough and hard to deal with is his fanatical determination to die rather than surrender.

SIAM'S PLIGHT.

Since her occupation by the Japanese, Siam's national debt has increased by about 300,000,000 bahts. Government bonds of all kinds have been issued, in order to meet the recent large yearly deficits caused by the heavy expenditure incurred to meet the various requirements of the Japanese invaders, such as the construction of strategic roads, aerodromes and railways for the convenience of the Japanese military operations. The bonds cannot be absorbed by the public, who are bled white by high taxation and

high prices. Hence they must be absorbed by the banks and other institutions, including the savings banks, whose funds have already been used—to the inconvenience of their depositors—in various semi-Government enterprises.

Prices have gone up by leaps and bounds since the occupation. Rice is now over 100 per cent higher than in pre-war days. This must be due to two factors, namely, shortage (in the land of plenty) and inflation. The shortage is brought about partly by feeding the invaders and the people in the newly acquired territories, and partly by growing cotton in place of rice at Japanese orders. Whilst devaluation of the baht to the level of the yen sent up prices of imported goods, heavy note circulation to meet excessive expenditure, contributes to inflation. Needless to say, the Central Bank is used by the Siamese Government to issue more notes against Government bonds and credit to meet the requirements of the Government.

THE MITCHELL MEMORIAL AWARD.

Maj.-Gen. Claire L. Chennault, Commander of the U. S. Army 14th Air Force, and organiser of the famed Flying Tigers squadron of American volunteer fighters in China, has been named the U. S. citizen making the outstanding individual contribution to aviation during the year. In recognition, he has been presented with the Gen. William E. Mitchell Memorial Award.

General Chennault went to China in 1937 to help train Chinese flyers. There, he organised the American volunteer Group among former U. S. servicemen, and the success of the group won him acclaim. The Flying Tigers destroyed almost 400 Jap aircraft, before the group was disbanded last year upon the formation of a U. S. Army Air Force in the China theatre.

The Mitchell Memorial Award is named after the famous American pioneer of air power, and former chief of the aerial fighting forces of the American Expeditionary Forces in the last war.

AIRBORNE SURGICAL UNITS OF I. A. M. C.

It is now disclosed that the Indian Army Medical Corps has airborne surgical units. Fully trained and equipped, this airborne counterpart of the field ambulance, has a staff of doctors, orderlies, and stretcher-bearers, who can stand the strain and stress involved in parachute jumping, and ready to go into action wherever required.

The training has been carried out with paratroop formations, of which these flying surgical units form an integral part. At any time these units can be detached from the paratroop formation for rush jobs in forward areas, where they and their equipment can be parachuted, thus bringing medical aid to forces operating in areas where normal methods of transport are impossible. Where the nature of the ground permits, aircraft can land to take off serious cases requiring urgent hospital attention, as was done in Burma recently, when 17 sick and wounded members of the Wingate Expedition, were skilfully moved by air to hospital in India.

CHEMICALS IN WAR.

By F. C. Cross.

I fear that to a great majority of people the word 'chemicals' still conjures up a mental picture of those rows of small bottles which line the chemists' shops.

For me to say that those bottles do not contain chemicals would, of course, be nonsense—but they are pharmaceuticals or pharmaceutical chemicals—and they are dealt with in pounds or ounces. Real chemicals, the chemicals which are the basic raw materials of war industry, are thought of in thousands of tons.

Now, so that you can understand just how greatly war is dependent upon chemicals, I am going to run through a list of the basic equipment of the fighting services. First of all our soldiers, sailors and airmen alike are dressed in clothes of cotton or wool. Chemicals are needed to make that cloth, and more are needed to make the khaki, dye with which they are coloured. Then there are leather belts and boots and so on. Leather cannot be made without chemicals. Each man is concerned with the firing of some gun or weapon which is made of various metals, and these metals cannot be refined without chemicals. To fire the gun some explosive is needed, and all explosives are merely mixtures of chemicals.

Guns and soldiers are dependent upon transport which runs on rubber tyres; rubber cannot be made without chemicals, and don't forget that the guns and the transports are painted with paints which are dependent upon chemicals for their production.

I could go on with the list by mentioning every single item of equipment if I had the time, and in every case I should have to tell you that production at some stage or another is dependent completely and utterly upon certain industrial chemicals. There is not an industry that I can think of which does not handle bulk chemicals in some part of its process and which, in fact, could never live without such chemicals.

This may surprise some of you, but it may make you realize just how fundamentally an important part chemicals do play at all times, particularly in times of war. No vital industry, such as those which refine the natural products of the earth and shape them into weapons of war—iron and steel—none could operate successfully unless we had first manufactured the chemicals with which they carry out their work.

NATIONAL WAR FRONT. FROM TOWN TO VILLAGE.

Do you, an educated person, ever try to give the farmer any help? Does not the whole future of India depend upon the willingness of the townsman to share his wider, and more progressive knowledge with the conservative people of the villages?

To-day there is a special opportunity both to help the farmer and help yourself. Get in touch with anyone you know on the land, and spread the urgent message to *Grow More Food*. So that you may see ample supplies of food in the towns this year preach the Five-Point Plan for increased Food-production:—

1. Stop growing cash crops for which there is now no export market; change over to food crops;
2. Repair old irrigation works and build new ones;
3. Use only the best seed;

4. Cultivate every foot of waste soil;
5. Dispose of surplus cattle which are a burden on the land.

Now is our chance to ensure that the soil of India is made to yield not only enough food for our wartime needs, but permanent *abundance of food*, so that all our people may always have enough to eat.

GOOD INVESTMENT.

To-day, with an unlimited demand for food crops, guaranteed by the needs of a world starved and ruined by war, investment in wells, tanks, bunds, and all other aids to irrigation will pay a handsome dividend. Government is committed to the policy of ensuring adequate prices to the cultivator.

BAD INVESTMENT.

Grain hoarded in the villages or elsewhere is a bad investment now, for Government is going to smash speculators and hoarders. The effect of hoarding has been to force prices up beyond what the consumer can afford. Reasonable and quick profit is the wise farmer or middle-man's policy to-day.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU.

PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CLVI (Batch 1).

24- 7-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	28- 7-43 College A English ... 10.45 a.m.
25- 7-43 Sarakpani ... 7.00 "	" College B Tamil ... 10.45 "
26- 7-43 Kottakkadu ... 7.30 "	" Ramachandrapuram... 7.00 p.m.
27- 7-43 Tiruvarangulam ... 7.00 "	" Rayavaram ... 7.30 "
" Vamban ... 7.30 "	29- 7-43 Viralimalai ... 7.00 "
27- 7-43 Malaiyur ... 7.00 "	" Poruvai ... 7.30 "
" Karambakkudi ... 7.30 "	30- 7-43 Valaramanikkam. ... 7.00 "
28- 7-43 C. S. M. High School... 10.00 a.m.	" Embal ... 7.30 "
" Rani's High School ... 10.45 "	

LECTURE CLVII. (Batch 2).

31- 7-43 Municipal Office ... 6.00 p.m.	4- 8-43 College A English ... 10.45 a.m.
1- 8-43 Nirpalani ... 7.00 "	" College B Tamil ... 10.45 "
" Avoor ... 7.30 "	" Nartamalai ... 7.00 p.m.
2- 8-43 Karaiyur ... 7.00 "	" Uppiliakkudi ... 7.30 "
" Idaiyattur ... 7.30 "	5- 8-43 Andakkulam ... 7.00 "
3- 8-43 Vadavalam ... 7.00 "	" Killanur ... 7.30 "
" Sammattividuthi ... 7.30 "	6- 8-43 Kodumbalur ... 7.00 "
4- 8-43 C. S. M. High School... 10.00 a.m.	" Viralur ... 7.30 "
" Rani's High School ... 10.45 "	

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

24- 7-43 Vettamviduthi.	31- 7-43 Ponnamaravathi.
25- 7-43 Marudankonviduthi.	1- 8-43 Embal.
26- 7-43 Konnaiyur.	2- 8-43 Kiranur.
27- 7-43 Perambur.	3- 8-43 Konapattu.
28- 7-43 Karambakkudi.	4- 8-43 Rayavaram.
29- 7-43 Kulipira.	5- 8-43 Alangudi.
30- 7-43 Pudukkottai.	6- 8-43 Pudukkottai.